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"Owyhee Gem"

Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society

PO Box 1053 | Caldwell, ID | 83605-1053

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society | [Facebook](#), www.owyheerocks.com

Volume 58 No. 6

June 2026

June President's Message



We hope you all had a wonderful Memorial Day weekend and were able to take time to reflect on the sacrifices of the men and women in our armed forces as well as first responders.

The weather was fantastic and allowed us to have a great time at our field trip at Tony Funk's in Gooding. Three clubs (Magic Valley, ID Gem and OGMS) gathered to peruse the piles and lots of happy folks went home with smiles and their treasures! The potluck was wonderful and the Funks provided grilled burgers! It was a pretty good turnout considering it's the first summer three-day weekend of the season. We all got to meet other club's members and compare purchases and share knowledge. A great time, thanks to John Wright for coordinating the event!

Due to the holiday, there was no board meeting, so there will not be any minutes for review.

See you at the June meeting! If you need to reach out, I'm only a phone call, text or email away.

Sue Cassidy, OGMS President



Field Trip Report — John Wright

USEFUL ITEMS TO BRING ON YOUR FIELD TRIP

Buckets, Shovels, Rock Hammer, Pick (Large and Small), Sieve, Gloves, Spray Bottle for Water, Small Scrub Brush, Knee Pads, Magnifier, Plenty of Drinking Water, Food, Appropriate Clothing, Protective Eyewear, Sun Protection, Day Pack or Back Pack, Umbrella, Pry Bar, Tick Spray, First Aid Kit, Protective clothing and sunscreen to

avoid burns.

Shovel and fire extinguisher to put out any fires that may start.

- Trips can last most of the day.
- Generally, a High-Clearance vehicle and sometimes 4WD or an ATV is required. Check with the Field Trip Chair before you go.
- Please remember to not park on tall grass or sagebrush as the fire season is in full swing and watch out for snakes.
- When you are finished, fill in all holes that are dug at the site.

ALL FIELD TRIPS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER AND ROAD CONDITIONS.

For further information contact John Wright at 208-571-6873 or David Korn at 208-250-7739

2026 OGMS Field Trip Schedule

June 20th-21st: Texas Springs for Pink Limb Casts. Meet @ Cactus Pete's in Nevada @ 9:00 am leave @ 9:30. This is an overnight trip.

July 18th: ** Graveyard point for moss agate, Meet @ Chevron, Hwy 55/95 Junction

Aug 22nd: ** Picture Jasper Claim, Meet @ Chevron, Hwy 55/95 Junction

Sept 19th: * Blue Egg for Blue Opal Thunder Eggs. Meet @ Homedale City Park with Tank

Oct 24th: * Pink Plume Claim for Pink Plume Agate, Meet @ the Owyhee Junction, Hwy 201 and Owyhee Ave

Legend:

* (meet @ 8am – leave @ 8:30)

** (meet @ 7am – leave @ 7:30)

For further information, Contact John (208)571-6873 or David (208)250-7739

Field Trip Chair – John announced the upcoming field trip to Beacon Hill on June 13th & 14th. Meet-up is at the Ontario rest area at 8:00 am and we'll leave as a group at 8:30.

General Meeting —May 20, 2026

The May 2026 General Meeting of the Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by OGMS president, Sue Cassidy at 7:05 pm on 5/20/26 in Idaho at the College of Idaho's Boone Science Building in room # 203.



The meeting format has changed, so we began with Steve Narkaus and the latest happenings with the Junior Geologists. Steve introduced the video titled, 'Geology Under Foot'. He spoke about mountain building via tectonic plates and the Cascadia Subduction. Then Kevin Warner and his family talked some about hot spots. We learned that there are only fifty spots in the world and that Yellowstone is one of those hot spots. After a brief break we did the slab draw and moved on to the clubs business meeting.

Sue called for a motion to accept the last meeting's minutes to be accepted as printed in the OGMS news letter. John W made the motion which was seconded by Rulan. There were no objection or further discussion and the motion passed.

It was announced that in July our summer picnic meeting will be at the traditional location. Municipal Park in Caldwell. Bring a dish to share and your paper plates and eating utensils.

Program – Deana announced that we'll have Jeanie's trunk sale at the park from 5:00-6:45. The September program will be about Bruneau petrified wood. There will also be discussion about thunder eggs. October we'll discuss yellow opal.

Vice President – Deana A thanked Steve for the discussion about tectonics.

Treasurer Report – Ken C was not present.

Field Trip Chair – John announced the upcoming field trip to Beacon Hill on June 13th & 14th. Meet-up is at the Ontario rest area at 8:00 am and we'll leave as a group at 8:30. He also announced that the sign up sheet for the fall craft show is available at the front of the room.

General Meeting —May 20, 2026—continued from page 3

Membership-Kim B announced two new members.

Door Prize Drawing Winner- Randy Derian

8:35 pm Meeting adjourned

Junior Geologist- Steve discussed the impressive turn out at their last event. He also said he would be giving members insight into how tectonic plates create mountains at our next general meeting.

Show Report – Sue said all the contracts are out. Dale was not present

Old Business- Ted said the roadside clean-up event was a success, thanks to all those who participated. Ken asked Sue to ask the members by show of hand to vote on whether they want a mobile workshop. Most of the members were in favor.

New Business- Kim asked for volunteers needed on July 8th from 1-2:30 at Pinnacle Library.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:45 followed with our slab and door prize drawings. The door prize drawing winner was Cindy Woolsy

Show Committee Chair Report:

These next few months are relatively quiet for the show, but rest assured there is work going on. There are plans to pull out the silent auction rocks in storage and power wash them. Then there will be the task of grading what we have and culling the rocks that are not likely to draw much attention. With that in mind, please continue to collect rocks for the silent auction. If you have some leftover cut rocks, please consider donating them to the show. This would be helpful for the auction as it gives bidders an opportunity to see the inside of what they will be getting if they win and hopefully beef up the bidding.

As always, tumbled stones are sought after, and you would get paid \$125 for a 5 gallon bucket of nicely tumbled stone. The kids especially love getting them in the grab bags. We have also been giving some out at the entrance to the young kids and their eyes light up with delight.

Board Meeting Minutes—May 25, 2026

There was no OGMS May Board Meeting due to the Memorial Day Holiday! The Board would like to extend warm wishes for a safe holiday to everyone!

Vice-President's Corner—Deana Ashton

June 17, 2026 the General Meeting Program will be about Lapidary Tools.

Once you find a great rock, now what do you do with it? We will demonstrate

Some common tools used to cut the rock into "slabs", and then how to cab a slab!

It is a fun process and easy to do. This is an introduction to Lapidary Arts.

Lapidary is an adjective relating to stone and gems and the work involved in engraving,

cutting and polishing.

When people begin rockhounding, often they aren't sure what part of lapidary will interest them. This will answer some questions you may have. Before investing in Tools, we hope we will have a small lapidary workshop available to teach you skills And educate you on various elements of our hobby.



Deana Ashton

Regarding the pre-meeting trunk sale and swap meet attempted last month, short notice

Prohibited a sale or swap from happening. I thought some sellers would be present, but it

Was only me. I quickly rifled through my car and improvised with 3 bags of tumbled rocks, a black presentation board and spread my tumbles out. It wasn't a grand show but man, thank goodness OGMS sells the best tumbled rocks in the valley, and I could talk about their beauty!!

Hopefully, at 5:00 pm in Boone Science Bldg parking lot, we will have some jewelry and critter makers

Come out and show what you can create! Does not have to be rock related, either! If Barbara decides to bake some goodies to sell, I guarantee she will have some sales! No pressure! It is all to support our members in their crafts. A great chance to visit and talk about rocks!

General Meetings at The College of Idaho— June 17, 2026

Caldwell, Idaho—Boone Science Hall (#12 on map below), Room 103 at 7:00 p.m.



July and August General Meetings—In the Park

**The summer general meetings will be at the Caldwell Memorial Park
618 Irving Street, on the corner of Irving and Kimball**

See you there at 6:30 p.m. on July 15th for the July meeting.

- **Bring a comfy lawn chair to sit in.**
- **We will have a Silent Auction, so bring your checkbook/cash!**
- **The money collected will offset our December Banquet costs.**

July 15—Pot Luck and Auction

August 19—Tailgate Sales (5:30pm) & Ice Cream Social (6:30pm)

Membership—Kim Bashford

We are accepting payment of 2026 dues

Membership forms are available at every meeting and on the next page of this newsletter. Invite your "rockhound" friends to our next meeting!

Any member needing a name badge, membership card, or patch, please call me so I can have them ready for you to pick up at the next meeting. If you need a "replacement" of any of these, there will be a nominal charge of \$2 for the name badge and \$3 for the small patch. In addition, large patches are available to members for \$10.

Please remember to wear your name badge to meetings, it makes it so much easier to identify you.

Your yearly dues cover membership privileges from October 31st through the following October 31st.

You can either pay at a meeting or by mailing the form on the next page to:

Kim Bashford, Membership Director
P.O. Box 1053, Caldwell, ID 83605-1053
Phone: (208) 454-7287 Email: kmcewan1957@msn.com



Welcome New Members!

Ackerman, Cynthia
Kanish, Philip
Ralston, Samuel
Ralston, Nancy
Weed, Chris
Weed, MaryAnn

Junior Geology: Summer 2026 Events

Please RSVP for ALL Events & Watch Your Email for Updates

June 13th 10am-12pm Flint-knapping w/ Chris Siepert @ Owyhee County Museum in Murphy, Idaho

See how Arrow Heads, Spear Points & Artifacts are made. Also, come see numerous types of obsidian & chert.

Demonstration

Free Obsidian Samples for Junior Geologists

Road Guide to See "Melon Gravel" on your Return Home

Tour the museum, see flint knapping demonstration with display of finished works. Also, a display of chert and obsidian specimens.

July 25th 10 am – 12pm Location: Steve Narkaus's Home. Nampa, Idaho

GOLD!! Come Learn About Gold Panning from Treasure Valley Gold Prospectors

Free Rock Specimens for Junior Geologists and a flake of real Gold. Gold Panning @ 10am. Box lunch & Tour Entire Mineral Collection @ 11pm. Grab your Treasures & Ask final questions@ 12pm.

September 26, 2026, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm:

Rock hunt and BBQ in Gooding, ID, with road trip guide

October 17, 2026, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm:

College of Idaho Museum tour in Caldwell, ID followed by presentation at the Caldwell Public Library

December 7, 2026, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm:

Holiday party and presentation at the Caldwell Public Library in Caldwell, ID



Steve Narkaus

Rockhunting Photos—Courtesy of John Wright and Sue Cassidy

John and Sue have taken some great photos while out on our last outing to Tony's Rock Yard. Here is our Facebook Group: [Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society](#) For those without Facebook, enjoy these Pictures:



Federation Director—Ed Moser



Bring your postage stamps to the next meeting. Remember to **cut ½ inch all the way around the stamp**. The money raised will go to the Northwest Federation Jr. Scholarship Fund. Thank you all for this. It helps others and it might just help someone you know.

Please Respect the Rules when you are out collecting rocks, be careful of ticks and snakes, and have fun.

Website:

[Northwest](#)

[Federation](#)

[Mineralogical](#)

[Society](#)

The Northwest Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. was organized in 1938 to bring about a closer association of Clubs and Societies devoted to the study of the Earth Sciences and the practice of the Lapidary Arts and related crafts in the northwest portion of the United States. Beginning with seven "founding" clubs and seven "charter" clubs, the NFMS has now grown to approximately 60 affiliated clubs and societies with a combined membership of well over 5,000 individuals.

The NFMS is a member of the [American Federation of Mineralogical Societies](#), the umbrella association for the seven regional federations in the United States. It joined the [AFMS](#) in 1947.



Jefferson Rockhounds

Lifelong rockhound and collector of earthly treasures, now sharing our passion with fellow rock lovers. Please visit us at a local gun show (follow us on Facebook) and view our treasures at:

Boise: Antique World Mall 4544 Overland Rd.

Showcases 10, 11, & 12

Ontario OR: Vintage Rose, 204 S. Oregon St.

Vendor #41

Weiser ID: Station 30 Collectibles, 30 E. Commercial St.

Vendor #18

Here are just a few of the rocks we have on display:

Amazonite, Amethyst, Azurite, Carnelian, Chrysocolla, Jasper, Kyanite, Labradorite, Larimar, Lepidolite, Malachite, Moonstone, Obsidian, Petrified Wood, Quartz, Rhodochrosite, Ruby Zoisite, Seraphinite, Tiger Eye, Tourmaline, Unakite, and more!

Available in: Stone & Silver Jewelry, Bookends, Cathedrals, Crystal Points, Flames, Obelisks, Towers, Pyramids, Hearts, Spheres, Skulls, Dragon Heads, Free Form, Natural/Rough, Slabs...

Jefferson Rockhounds

Hildy Langewis
jeffrockhounds@gmail.com



Would you like to see your ad here?

You can buy an ad like this for one month,
only \$5.00.

A 12-month ad is only \$50.00!

Your ad will be seen by over
200 club members, plus online
visitors.

To place an ad, please email:
robert.murpheyogms@gmail.com
(Ads are subject to Board approval)

June Birthdays

- 1 Trina Bristow
- 1 Red Larson
- 4 Isaac Ward
- 9 David Korn
- 11 Rick Fleischman
- 13 Ted Diehr
- 17 Jay Erb
- 17 Janie Ehlers
- 18 David Butler
- 18 Sandra Young
- 20 Linda Morgan
- 22 Kathi Larson
- 22 Cliff Metcalf
- 23 Christine Deveau
- 23 Mark Freeland
- 25 David Thomas
- 30 Freda Babbitt

June Anniversaries

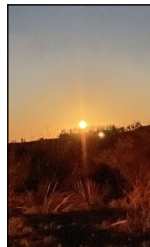
- 5 Dustin & Mary Baker
- 5 Jim & Ruth Hopkins
- 8 William & Mary Clark
- 8 Bill & Roxanne Franklin
- 9 Brad & Theresa Larson
- 11 Andrew & Christina Wiener
- 15 Randy & Vivian Derian
- 26 Todd & Misty Joyner

Newsletter Editor

If you have articles or information for the newsletter, please submit to robert.murpheyogms@gmail.com



Sunshine Report



Hi, I am Kim Erb and I am your Sunshine Chair.

If you hear of anyone needing a get-well card or visit, please give me a call at (208) 202-9357.

kimzstones@gmail.com

Community Corner

If you are presenting to the community or working with the community on behalf of OGMS, please submit a summary of what you are doing for our "Community Corner". This helps us maintain our non-profit status and gives you a recognition for a job well done.

OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY—2026 Membership Application**Rockhounds' Code of Ethics**

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material – matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

I have read and understand the Rockhounds' Code of Ethics: Signed _____

Mail this form to: **PO Box 1053 | Caldwell, ID | 83605-1053**

Family—\$25

Couple—\$20

Single—\$15

Child—\$5

Jr Geology Program —\$10

(Please Print)

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME(s): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

ANNIV: Month _____ Day _____ (Name of Spouse/Other if not a member) _____

BDAY(s): First Name _____ Month _____ Day _____ / First Name _____ Month _____ Day _____

BDAY(s): First Name _____ Month _____ Day _____ / First Name _____ Month _____ Day _____

Renewal ____ New ____ Amount Paid: _____ Date Paid: _____ Cash ____ Check # _____ Recd By _____

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society
PO Box 1053
Caldwell, ID 83605-1053

Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society Purpose:

To promote interest in the wonders of nature and in particular, rocks, gems, minerals, and fossils.

To conduct field trips for exploration and collection.

To encourage as wide a participation as possible in the "Rock Hound" hobby and the many activities that go along with it.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Family - \$25.00 per year

Couples \$20.00 per year

Singles—\$15.00 per year

Children (under 19) - \$5.00 per year

Jr Geology Program—\$10 per year

The Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was established in 1938 at the College of Idaho in Caldwell, Idaho.

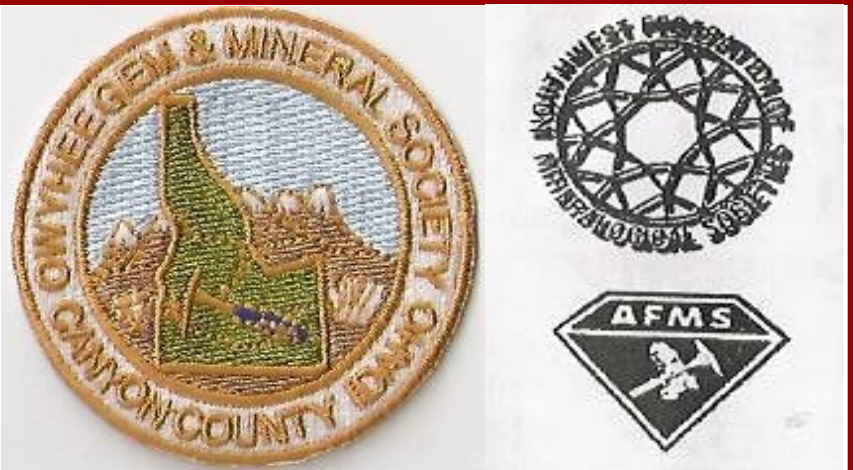
GENERAL MEETING: The club meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the Boone Science Hall at the College of Idaho, Room 103, except for the summer months and the December holiday party.

Bring a friend—Wear your name tag— Bring an unidentified rock and we'll help you figure out what it is!

FIELD TRIPS:

Field trips are scheduled once a month.

Visitors are welcome at all these events!



Have You Visited our Club Website?

Our awesome website has great information on it. There are some great pictures of our outings, and our newsletter is posted on it. Brad Larson, our Web Master, does a great job of keeping it up to date with all kinds of information like upcoming shows, field trip dates, times and much more.

<http://www.owyheerocks.com/>