Board of Directors / Officers:

PRESIDENT:
Sue Cassidy
(603) 548-8822
pypnhot@comcast.net

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chrismerrellrawson@gmail.com

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(208) 250-3815
kenscorn@hotmail.com

FEDERATION DIRECTOR:
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edmoser15@gmail.com

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blackwolfjdw1954@yahoo.com

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PREVIOUS PRESIDENT:
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Wlr_dkr@msn.com

Committee Chair Members:

OJGP CHAIR—Steve Narkaus
(503) 931-9763
steve.ojgp@gmail.com

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SUNSHINE:
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(208) 202-9357
kimzstones@gmail.com

HISTORIAN:
Kim Erb
(208) 202-9357
kimzstones@gmail.com

WEBMASTER:
John Merritt

"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. 10 October 2026

October President's Message



In October we will be voting on board members. All current board members will be running for their positions again. If you are interested in running for a position, please contact Willa Renken or Kim Bashford (they are the nominating committee). If you can let them know if you are interested, we can create the ballot ahead of time, otherwise we will need to do it manually at the meeting.

The Fall Craft show is being finalized. Please contact John Wright or Hildy Langewis if you are interested in participating. They are finalizing table space and have information to distribute. It looks like we will have a full show with a lot of fantastic crafts and gifts.

We are winding down on field trips, so please plan on participating while the weather has cooled and enjoy getting some beautiful pink plume agate this next trip!

If you need to reach out to me, 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

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

Legend:

* (meet @ 8am – leave @ 8:30)





Vice-President's Corner—Deana Ashton



Deana Ashton

October Program will be a presentation by Ellie and Ed Pitts and Scott Schlagel : Owners/ Miners at Yellow Pine, Idaho

The Idaho Yellow Opal Mine



Join us for a great discussion!

That's all folks!

Deana Ashton

General Meetings at The College of Idaho — October 15, 2025

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



Fall Road Side Clean-Up- Saturday, October 10, 2026— Led by Ted Diehr

Photos by Miranda

We will be having our fall Roadside Cleanup on October 10th

Meet at the Walters Ferry boat ramp @ 9AM

People can call or text Ted @ 713-301-8684 or email Ted @ tdiehr@comcast.net if you have any questions



Show Committee Chair Report

Show Report



SHOW COMMITTIE CHAIR:
Sue Cassidy

These next few months are relatively quiet for the show, but rest assured there is work going on. Dealers are all set for the show.

As always, tumbled stones are sought after, and you would get paid $125 for a 5-gallon bucket of nicely tumbled stone.

Any funds spent on behalf of Annual show must be pre-approved by the Show or Assistant Show Chair to allow for proper tracking against project plan and budget. Non approval will be considered a donation.

All Donations:

With the new workshop build and the junior geology program, several have asked about making donations and we are happy to accept whatever you can give. The donations, however, must go through the Treasurer and Secretary for IRS reporting purposes. Monetary donations will go to Ken who will segregate the funds to be used for the specific project(s). Equipment donations will go initially to Sue or Dale and then be distributed to the appropriate project. Rock donations can be given to the intended recipients directly but let us know so that we can report value and provide a letter. All donors will receive a letter of contribution that can be used for IRS reporting purposes. We need to report all donations received to maintain our 501 c3 status.

OGMS Mobile Workshop:

This is a club project, and we would like to involve as many club members as possible. If you have any skills in trades such as HVAC, please get in touch with Dale. Rough demolition has been completed. Rebuilding is underway. Some water damage was found that is a bit more extensive than expected. We are working with the appropriate people to resurface the roof as well as the water damaged areas. We are, however, still on schedule for the project. It will get busier as we get closer to the holidays.

Several people have asked about what they can do to help. This is the current list of items that we are looking for:

Safety Equipment –
- N95 masks,
- Respirators,
- Hearing protection,
- Various sizes of rubber gloves

Dopping materials and supplies
Trim Saws (4),

If you are interested in providing any of these items or interested in selling equipment at a discounted price, please contact Sue so she can track and avoid duplication of items.

General Meeting — September 17, 2025


Chris Merrell-Rawson

The September 2026 General Meeting of the Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by OGMS president, Sue Cassidy at 7:03 pm on 9/16/26 in Idaho at the College of Idaho's Boone Science Building in room # 203.

Sue called for a motion to accept the last meeting's minutes to be accepted as printed in the OGMS news letter. Willa R made the motion which was seconded by Ed M. There were no objection or further discussion and the motion passed. Sue also asked visitors and new members to stand and introduce themselves.

Program – Deana introduced Guy DiTorrice. Guy spoke about thunder eggs and geodes that can be found in the Pacific Northwest. Thank you Guy!

Treasurer Report – Ken C discussed last month's deposits and disbursements as well as our money market, CD's, and bonds earnings and activity. We are solvent.

Field Trip Chair – Ken C volunteered to chaperon the Blue Egg Claim field-trip. Participants will meet-up between 8:00 - 8:30 at the park in Homedale leaving together as a group at 8:30.

Vice President – Deana said nothing new to report

Membership-Kim B announced that membership dues will be due next month (October) and that shell star taking payments for the Christmas banquet next month too. The individual price is $10.00 and for couples is $20. The banquet will be held at the Nampa Elks Lodge on December 16th, 2026.

Secretary Report – Mail was picked up and distributed appropriately

Federation Report – Ed M welcomed the visitors and emphasized that we keep collecting postage stamps. He will be taking them to the next Federation meeting in Walla Walla, Wa. (Sue added that Jay Er will be standing in for Don to assist Ed)

Sunshine Report/Historian – OGMS scrapbooks are available for viewing.

Junior Geologists – Next event will be in Gooding on September 26th.

Old Business- "Fun Show" John W said vendor contracts are available for show participants. Tax ID number is 933560320. Vendors are responsible for determining their own tax requirements. Two tables per vendor. The first table is $25, the second table is $15. There may or may not be additional tables available.

Sue gave an update on the mobile workshop's project plan and said were right on schedule.

New Business- Ted Diehr said there's a sign-up sheet available for the Oct 10, roadside clean up. We'll meet at the boat ramp at 9:00 am and we'll do some rockhounding after the clean up. Bring gloves and your trash grabbers.

-David Schmidt said all our necessary paperwork for our claims has been filed.

-Sue stated that most of the vendor contracts for next years show are in.

-Sue also said we need ideas for 2027 annual show theme.

-If any, new nominees need to be made in October for the November election. The nominee commitee members are Kim Bashford and Willa Renken.

Door Prize Winner – Jay Erb

Meeting adjourned @ 8:44

Board Meeting Minutes—September 28, 2026



Present: Chris Merrell-Rawson

September 28, 2026 OGMS Board Meeting was called to order @ 6:35 p.m. by President Sue Cassidy in the Caldwell Public Library at 1010 Dearborn in Caldwell Idaho. Officers present were, Chris Merrell-Rawson, Sue Cassidy, Kim Bashford, Willa Renken, Ed Moser, Ken Christensen, John Wright, Dale Rawson. Willa called for a motion to accept the August board meeting minutes as printed in the OGMS news letter. John W seconded. The members were all in favor without any further discussion so the motion passed.

Secretary – Chris Merrell-Rawson stated that the mail was picked up from the post office and distributed appropriately.

Vice President – Deana was not present

Treasurer – Ken Christensen stated that the trailer insurance is now paid. He also said that he deposited the interest earned on the bond/cd's. He said too that the interest earnings on the money market account has significantly dropped and he advised that we a better location to make our money make more money.

Membership Chair - Kim announced four new members. Ed M made a motion to accept Kevin & Monetto Ralston, Kelwin Hutchison, Kim Nelson, Chad & Jamie Winn as new OGMS members. Dale R seconded the motion. There was no further discussion & all the members were in favor so the motion passed.

Federation Chair – Ed Moser said he didn't have anything new to report.

Field Trip Chair – John Wright asked Ken to talk about the last field trip, since he was the chaperon. Ken said everyone seemed to have a good time at the Blue /egg Claim and found something to take home.

We'll be going to search for Pink Plume October 24. We'll meet-up at the gas station/store on Hwy 201/ Owyhee Ave and we'll leave as a group at 8:30

Show Chairs – Sue said OGMS received a rock donation from Melody Greer for the silent auction. THANK YOU Melody. She also said Jeff Hill will not be vending at the 2027 show. She'll look over the wait list and contact a replacement vendor.

Dale made a motion for the club to set aside a $1,500 allocation to ripp the Big Egg Claim. After considerable discussion Ken seconded the motion. The members were in favor and the motion passed.

Old Business – Dale said there is much more water damage to the work-shop's trailer than what was found during the buyer's inspection which will require more repairs than what was revealed during the pre -purchase inspection.

New Business – Ken made a motion to purchase Willa's Diamond Pacific Genie for the workshop tailer for $1,000 & to spend an additional $150 on a 280 wheel. John seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the members were in favor so the motion passed.

OGMS Board meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Membership—Kim Bashford



We are accepting payment of 2027 dues

Just a reminder dues are due the month of October. Also our club Christmas Party is coming up. It is being held on December 16th at the Elks Lodge in Nampa. They will have roast , ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, rolls and salad. Desserts are spice cake, and cheesecake. The cost is $10 per person $20 for a couple and guests are $20 a person. I will be taking payments for the party during the Oct. and Nov. meetings. Please let me know by Dec. 6th if you are planning to attend.

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!

Dakota & Haley Corta
Richard & Sarah Wallace
Kevin & Monette Glenn
Kelwin Hutchison
Kim Nelson
Chad & Jamie Winn

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

October Birthdays

1	Chris Larson
1	Brian Willey
2	Robert Ingersoll
5	Joe Klug
7	Cal Fisher
10	Alan Ballinger
10	Jeannie Johnston
10	Cameron Sponseller
11	Will Eason
11	Vickie Wise
13	Kip Adams
14	Steve Oakes
14	Kerry Thomas
14	Marilyn Troyer
15	Garry Davis
15	Liz David
16	Dee Huntley
16	John Wright
18	Jody Ford
18	Daryl Hood
18	Christine Newman
19	Caleb Gans
20	Sadie Mendoza
21	Stanley Grove
25	CJ Mansfield
26	Dennis Waller
28	Don Ferreira
28	Lucas Sudweeks
29	Brad Larson
29	Sandi Johnson
30	Aubrey Kopp
30	Dan Stevens

October Anniversaries

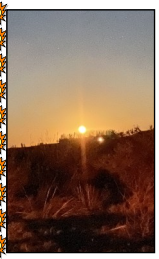
10	Justin & Jamie Baker
11	Jay & Kim Erb
12	Kenneth & Joyce Christensen
20	Patrick & Janet Hanrahan



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) 202-8410.

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.

Would you like to see your ad here?

You can buy an ad like these for one month for 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.murheyogms@gmail.com

(Ads are subject to Board approval)



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



Owyhee Junior Geologist Program (OJGP)



Steve Narkaus

Upcoming Events

OCT 24th GOLD PANNING

1pm in Nampa.

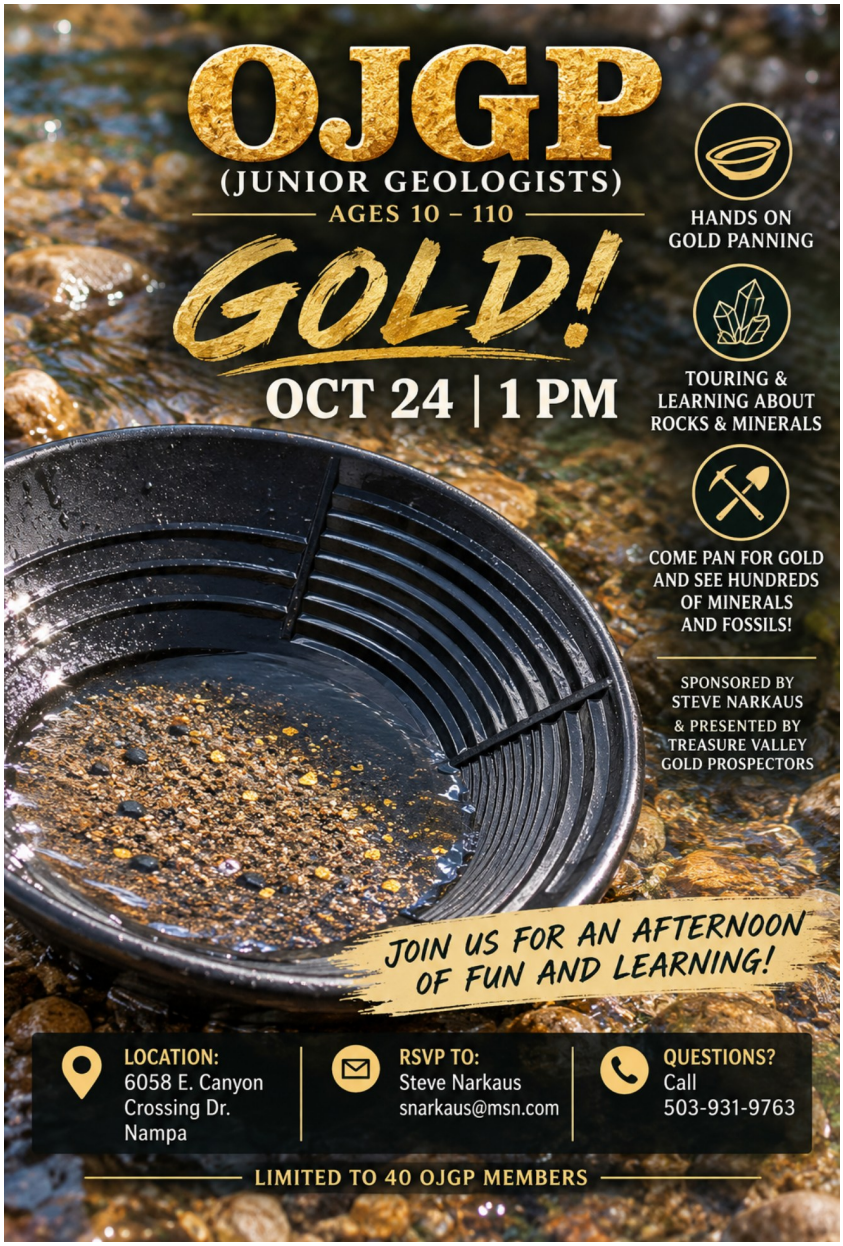
All Junior Geologists will

receive a real speck of Gold.

Tour The Narkaus Collection

Add to your Rock & Mineral Collection

All sales go to support Junior Geology



DEC 7th GEMOLOGY & FACETING 7PM

Learn how stones are Faceted

Caldwell Public Library

REMEMBER TO RSVP to ALL EVENTS

RSVP to snarkaus@msn.com

EXCITING PLANS FOR 2027

Will be announced in January!!

Watch for the Newsletter

Steve Narkaus

OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY—2025 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 I Caldwell, ID I 83605--1053**

Family—$25 Couple—$20 Single—$15 Child—$5 Jr. Geology Program — $10 per child

(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.

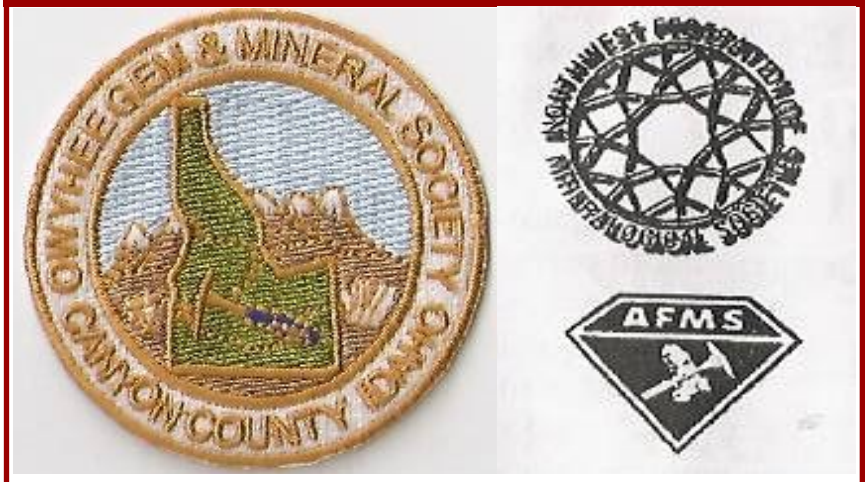
MEMBERSHIP DUES:
Family - $25.00 per year
Couples $20.00 per year
Singles—$15.00 per year
Children (under 19) - $5.00 per year
Jr Geology Program—$10 per year

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/