



# “Owyhee Gem”



## Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society

P . O . B o x 1 0 5 3 C a l d w e l l , I d a h o 8 3 6 0 5 - 1 0 5 3

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT:** Willa Renken  
(208) 362-3941, Wlr\_dkr@msn.com

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Roxanne Franklin  
(208) 577-7095,  
rocksfrank@cableone.net

**SECRETARY:** Debbie Lawrence  
(208) 869-7585, dlaw5@earthlink.net

**TREASURER:** Michele Wiles (208)  
870-5153, shellrocksidaho@gmail.com

**FEDERATION DIRECTOR:** Ed Moser  
(208) 340-8060,  
edmoser15@gmail.com

**FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN:** Robert  
Murphey (208) 590-1848 Email:  
robertmurpheyogms@gmail.com

**ASST.** David Baldwin (208)570-9781  
helenbailey61@gmail.com

**SHOW CHAIRMAN:** Kathi Larson  
(208)465-8083 redkatnthat@gmail.com

**ASST. SHOW CHAIRMAN:** Darell  
Ehlers (208) 674-1213, ddehlers@fmtc.com

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Carol  
Farnham (208) 475-4868  
carolfarnham@ymail.com

**HISTORIAN:** Pauline Prather  
(208) 459-4139

**MEMBERSHIP:** Kim Bashford  
(208) 454-7287,  
kmcewan1957@msn.com

**ROAD CLEAN-UP:** Larry Beattie  
(208) 466-6184, lbeattiejr@aol.com

**SUNSHINE:** Jewels Haines  
(760) 331-3443,  
jewelsmalia@yahoo.com

**WEBMASTER:** Brad Larson  
ogms.webmaster@gmail.com

### April Presidents message

Happy Spring everyone!! The rock collection year has finally arrived. Now we just have to have the right timing to be able to get out into the desert between rain showers. Soon all the beautiful wild flowers will be in bloom. That is when I find the desert to be the most interesting. We have had a bit of a change to our Fieldtrip Leader as Dale Rawson has had to step back in order to keep up with his work. We have asked Robert Murphey to take his place and we are very excited to have him on board. Since he is new I hope all of you who are familiar with the fieldtrip areas we go to will lend him a hand with directions. Robert is very excited about being a part of our group so please lend a hand if you can. This month's fieldtrip will be to the Big Egg Claim for thundereggs. They will be meeting at the Gem Stop outside of Marsing at 8am and leaving at 8:30am. For those who don't know, Marsing has some road construction going on so if you can find an alternate route around the town it may save some time waiting in line. You can get to the Gem Stop by going to Homedale and back or if you know the back roads there are other options just be aware it may require additional time.

Roxanne has been hard at work trying to locate a fun program for us this month. She is really stepping in there and pushing for more people to give presentations. If you know of someone who would be willing to provide an interesting program, please give Rox a call. Roxanne has a new idea for more rock interaction for us all. It is called "Bring a Rock, Take a Rock". If you want to participate bring a rock to share with one of your fellow rock hounds. It sounds like a fun time but be prepared to identify them as well. Most folks are really eager to learn more about the rocks and what they are so this new idea could provide us all with some unknown knowledge.

Our editor Carol Farnham is wanting to let someone take over as editor as her health is starting to become an issue. This could be your lucky day to start interacting with the club by becoming our new Editor. This job is gathering the reports for the month, along with the minutes and some interesting articles. You would organize them within the program and then send them to the printers for printing and distribution. Not to worry as Carol is more than willing to train you in the art of creating a newsletter. It is a very rewarding job and can be a lot of fun as you will get to know the membership better. Please let Carol or one of the Board members know if you are interested in helping your club out in this way.

Since we are always starting to work on next year's show well in advance of its arrival. We are asking for donations of polished rock slabs. Our turtle donation was a big success last year and we would like to do it again this coming year. Carol believes it would be easier to create the turtles with a slab for the shell. If you have slabs you would like to donate please let Carol know.

I just want to thank all of you who have given of yourselves and volunteered to help support the club. We are continually growing because of all of our willingness to chip in and be one big family. I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting which will be on Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> in the Boone Science Bldg. room 103 starting at 7:30pm. Till then keep on rockin!!  
Willa Renken OGMS President

# OWYHEE GEM

## **OGMS 2019 Field Trips**

**April 20th:** \* *Big Egg Claim* for Thundereggs. Meet at Gem Stop (HWY 55 & 95). (Meet @ 8am - leave @ 8:30)

**May 18th:** \* *Graveyard Point* for Plume Agate & Moss Agate. Meet at Homedale, ID Park tank just E of the four corners. (Meet @ 8am - leave @ 8:30)

**June 8th:** *Beacon Hill* for Nodules. We will join with the Boise club! Meet @9am at the Ontario, Oregon I-84 Rest Stop (just across the Snake River). Leave @ 9:30.

**July 20th:** \* *Coal Mine Basin* for Blood Stone & Black Opalized Wood. Meet at the GEM Stop (HWY 55 & 95). (Meet @ 8am - leave @ 8:30)

**August 24:** \* *Rockville, Oregon* for Leaf Fossils, Agate, and Jasper. Meet at the GEM Stop (HWY 55 & 95). (Meet @ 8am - leave @ 8:30)

**September 21:** \* *Blue Egg Claim* for Geodes. Meet at the Homedale, ID Park tank just E of the four corners. (Meet @ 8am - leave @ 8:30)

**October 19:** \* *Haystack Butte* for Red Jasper. Meet at the Homedale, ID Park tank just E of the four corners. (Meet @ 8am - leave @ 8:30)

### **USEFUL ITEMS TO BRING ON YOUR TRIP**

Buckets, Shovels, Rock Hammer, Pick (Large and Small one), Sieve, Gloves, Spray Bottle for Water, Small Scrub Brush, Knee Pad's, Magnifier, Plenty of Drinking Water, Food, Appropriate Clothing, Protective Eyewear, Sun Protection, Day Pack or Back Pack, Umbrella, Pry Bar, Tick Spray. (Shovel and fire extinguisher to put out any fires that may start.)

**For Field Trip Information**, contact Robert Murphey (208) 590-1848 or David Baldwin (208) 570-9781

Trips can last most of the day. Generally, a High-Clearance vehicle and sometimes 4WD or an ATV is required. **Remember, 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.**

### **From our Field Trip Chairman**

An Estwing Rock Hammer was found after the last field trip. Please contact Robert Murphey for return.

Robert also stated that he has a drone he will fly on some of the field trips for that aerial view. Hopefully he can work with Brad our webmaster to put them on our website for viewing.

Dale is also in possession of a bucket that was donated to the club of petrified wood finds. It looks like they all had a great time.

I am sorry but I have been unable to download the pictures to put in the newsletter.



***April Birthdays***

- 4/2 John Benedict
- 4/2 Jim Mangrum
- 4/4 John Curt
- 4/7 Mark Goodell
- 4/9 Charlene Branham
- 4/9 Susie Nash
- 4/11 John Daman
- 4/11 Jewels Haines
- 4/11 John Lane
- 4/11 Darlene Loosli
- 4/13 Ed Moser
- 4/14 Kelsey Rule
- 4/16 Michael Weiskircher
- 4/22 Willa Renken
- 4/24 Jenny Austin
- 4/24 Dick McClarin
- 4/25 Stefanie McClellan
- 4/26 Charmaine Schuler
- 4/28 Roxanne Franklin
- 4/29 Setsuko Church

**April Birthstone:**

Diamond jewelry is an ideal gift for a loved one born in April. As the gemstone with the highest rating on Mohs Hardness Scale, with a score of 10, diamonds have the unique ability to be cut and polished with the utmost brilliance. Their incredible shine and luster have captivated wearers for centuries. Diamonds add light and beauty to any occasion—especially birthdays!

***April Anniversaries***

- 4/3 Mark and Terry Goodell
- 4/8 Daniel Ferguson
- 4/10 Bob and Kim Bashford
- 4/13 Walter and Thelma Barnett
- 4/17 Chris O'Brien and Mary Eberle
- 4/30 John and Carol Farnham

*Congratulations*

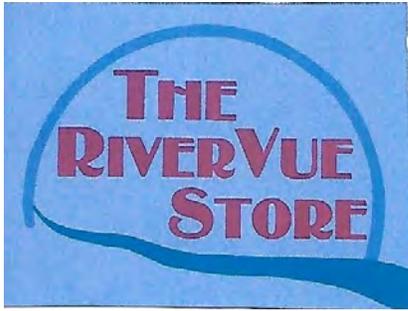
**Sunshine Report**

Hi, I am Jewels Haines and I am your Sunshine Chairman. If you hear of anyone needing a get well card or visit, please give me a call at

760-331-3443

-Jewels Haines,  
Sunshine Chairman





<b><u>Stone from Arizona</u></b>	<b><u>Stone from Australia</u></b>
Anderson Mine - Agate	Noreena
Brenda - Agate & Jasper	Mookite
Burro Creek - Pastelite & Agate	

<b><u>Stone from Idaho &amp; Oregon</u></b>	<b><u>Amethyst from Uruguay</u></b>
Owyhee Picture Jasper	Slabs & Rough Rock
Green Moss Agate	Hammers/Tools/ /Gold Pans
Tumbled Stones	Brazilian Agate

Located at US 95 & Homedale Road  
 26736 Homedale Road, Wilder, Idaho  
 Phone (208) 861-8229 or Text: (208) 258-4250  
[rivervu1@msn.com](mailto:rivervu1@msn.com)  
**Open Saturday 9:00am—2:00pm**  
**April—October**

**STRINGER'S  
GEM SHOP**

**Idaho Opals**  
**Picture Jaspers & Plume Agate**  
**Rough Rock and Slabs**  
**Bolos & Buckles**  
**Bookends & Specimens**  
**Tumblers & Equipment**

**WHITE'S METAL DETECTORS**

**W.A. (Bill) Stringer**  
 1812 West Orchard  
 Nampa, Idaho 83651  
  
 1 Mile South of Karcher Mall  
**(208) 466-5169**  
**M-F 1:30-5:30 pm**  
  
 Other Hours By Appointment

**Steve's Rocks & Gems**

"A little Bit of Science  
and a whole lot of fun"

Rough, Slabs, Cabs, Specimens,  
 Gem Stones  
 Full Lapidary Lab w/classes  
 Large Mineral Collection

Located in Nampa  
 Call for appt. and info  
 (503) 931-9763  
**OPENING MARCH 2019**

**Just a heads up...Polished slabs**  
**for the turtles for our next show**  
**are needed.**

It had been noted that ribbon will be provided for the field trips to put on the cars so we know what group you are with. Sometimes several groups are meeting at one spot to go rock hounding.

—————

It also had been mentioned that the porta-potti will be packed for the next field trips for those that are interested.

## VICE PRESIDENTS CORNER

Our presentation at the general meeting will be by Stan Lutz. Stan is a paleontologist and the curator for The northwest Science Museum.

### Leave a Rock Take a Rock

We're trying out something new. If you have lucked out and found some nice rock bring one to our meeting. You can leave the rock on the table and anyone who brings one can take a rock. At the end of the meeting if your rock is still there take it home with you. If everyone brings something to trade each month we can have the benefit of others' successful trips.

## JOB OPENING

**Do you want to help out in our club but don't know what to do? We are looking for someone to take over the OGMS Newsletter. Due to health reasons, Carol can not continue . She can get you started and it is easy to do. Reports come from the various board members as well as members. All you have to do is put it together and send to the printer. Should you have any questions, please contact Carol or Willa.**

Thank you,

## Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History

The Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History features specimens representing the Biology and Geology of SW Idaho, SE Oregon, and northern Nevada. The focal point of the museum is the Evans Gem and Mineral Collections. The museum hosts a workday and seminar the first Saturday of every month.

The Museum is open to all visitors: Monday-Friday from 1-5 pm, the first Saturday of every month from 8-5 and the third Saturday of every month from 10-4.

The Museum is located in the basement of Boone Hall on the College of Idaho campus. Visit the Museum website at [www.collegeofidaho.edu/cultural-institutions/orma-j-smith-museum-natural-history](http://www.collegeofidaho.edu/cultural-institutions/orma-j-smith-museum-natural-history) to learn more.

### Federation Director

Please save the postage STAMPS for cancer research and bring to this months meeting. Remember to **cut ½ inch all the way around the stamp**. Thanks to all for your help. It helps others and it might just help someone you know.

**Federation Director**-Ed Moser,  
(208) 340-8060,  
[edmoser15@gmail.com](mailto:edmoser15@gmail.com)



## Plan Ahead for the Spring Roadside Cleanup!

The OGMS Spring roadside cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. For those who are new, OGMS has a stretch of highway under the 'Adopt a Highway' program that we are charged with keeping clean. We schedule cleanups in the Spring and the Fall. Our section runs from the top of the hill to the bottom toward Walters Ferry on Highway 45. We have a beautiful view of the Owyhees and the Snake River valley during our cleanup. It is one of the ways we give back to the community that supports us.

We will meet at the Walter's Ferry boat ramp, on Highway 45, at 9:00am for the cleanup. I will have vests, bags, road signs, and we might even have some treats. If the weather is good, we will go on a little field trip after we are finished.

We need a minimum of 12 volunteers, but the more we have, the more fun it is and the quicker we will get done, so we can go play! I will have a signup sheet at the meeting but feel free to give me a call to add your name to the list any time. Due to the nature of the cleanup work, and the proximity to the highway, we don't recommend small children be brought on the cleanup.

Thank you for your support in this effort!

Larry Beattie  
208-466-6184  
[lbeattiejr@aol.com](mailto:lbeattiejr@aol.com)

### My thoughts on the Field Trip to the Bureau woodpile.

The weather was cooperative, not too hot, not too cold, not windy, no rain, a great day to be outside. The drive is long but a nice tour in the country and not much traffic. There was petrified wood and some small fossilized fish parts to dig and find. I am not aware of any Pine cones being found though. There were many new members and wonderful kids that were so excited to be there. The Field Trip Manager was great, my hats off to him and his helpers. Spent time with all the rock hounds, sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm in the search. Rulon will tell you there is wood in the hole I dug. Supervision is always welcome, working is not much fun unless someone appreciates the effort.

Darell and Janie Ehlers



**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY – GENERAL MEETING MINUTES      March 20, 2019**

The General Meeting was held at the College of Idaho in the Boone Science Hall, and called to order at 7:30pm by President, Willa Renken. Jarri McClarin made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter; seconded by Bill Stringer, motion carried. Walter Barnett brought samples of rocks that can be collected on upcoming field trips this year. He and Willa shared stories and gave some information on some of their other favorite locations. Guests stood and introduced themselves and were given a warm welcome.

**Secretary:** The mail box contained 8 membership renewals, deposit information and a returned check from the bank, a statement for advertising and a newsletter from the Wasach Gem Society. BiMart also sent a letter stating they would be interested in contributing to the basket raffle next year. There was also a thank you note from Gene Alvey that was read to the club.

**Vice President:** Roxanne is busy getting presentations lined up for future meetings.

**Treasurer:** A detailed report was given on each of the venues and attendance, from the rock show. The status of the Club's accounts was also reported.

**Show Chairman:** Kathi thanked all of the volunteers that helped put the rock show together this year. She reminded members the rock show would not be as successful without all of the people who volunteer. All of the dealers for next year's show are pretty much secured and some have already paid booth fees or submitted their deposit. She encouraged members to start thinking about volunteering for the show next year.

**Federation Report:** Ed reminded club members to continue to save their postage stamps. The collected stamps are sold and proceeds will help fund cancer research. He reminded members to be mindful of the laws for collecting. For example, if you are collecting petrified wood you are limited to only collecting 25lbs and one additional piece during your outing. ATV's will need a special license to go off-road if you will be taking them with you on your trips.

**Sunshine Report:** Contact Jules if you know of a member who needs a note of cheer. Her contact information is on the front of the newsletter.

There was no Historian Report.

**Membership:** Kim said there were many membership applications submitted during the rock show. The applications will be reviewed and voted on at the next Business Meeting. She also received a membership application during the meeting.

**Field Trip Chairman:** Dale said he would need some additional help with the fieldtrips this year. Robert Murphey volunteered to lend a hand. The March trip will be to Burneau Wood Pile for petrified wood, fossils and hopefully a pinecone or two. Meet at the Walters Ferry Boat Ramp at 8am.

**Unfinished Business:** The UV lights have arrived. If you purchased one, see Dale Brown after the meeting. Display boxes that were built by Lifetime Member Bill Foreman were set out during the rock show. The boxes show collecting locations on a map with a specimen example from each of the locations listed. The displays are small enough and can be taken to presentations to help identify collecting places and materials that can be found.

**New Business:** Bill Stringer reassured members that his rock shop is not closing. He invited members to his shop to pick up needed supplies and/or browse his beautiful specimens. The Club is in need of someone to tumble rocks to use for grab bags. Supplies and tumblers will be provided. The club usually uses 4-500lbs of tumbled stones in rock bags during the rock show. Thank you, Clarence, for all that you do for our club. A new editor is needed to put out the monthly newsletter. Most of all of the content for the newsletter is provided to you each month and you organize it and send it to print. Carol has printing and distribution streamlined and will help you understand the process. She will help you learn how to put it together and walk you through the steps to produce the newsletter.

Slab drawing. Kim Erb won the door prize. Meeting adjourned at 8:58.

Respectfully submitted,      Debbie Lawrence, Secretary

**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY – BOARD MEETING MINUTES****March 25, 2019**

The monthly Board Meeting was held at the Caldwell Library and called to order at 7:10pm by President, Willa Renken. Roxanne Franklin made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting: seconded by Carol Farnham, motion carried.

**Secretary:** There was one membership renewal in the mailbox since the last meeting.

**Vice President:** Roxanne is working on a presentation for the next meeting. She wants to introduce a 'Take a Rock, Leave a Rock' project.

**Treasurer:** A recap of the of the rock show was given. The budget will be presented at the next meeting.

**Newsletter:** Carol is looking for more slabs so she can assemble some more turtles.

**Show Chairman:** Kathi was not present. Susan Beattie said she only heard good reports from the show.

**Federation Report:** Ed was not present. And there was no Historian Report.

**Membership:** A list of new member applications was read: Bob & Diane Atkins, John Brosa (Avery), Jim & Vicki Clark, Jay & Kim Erb, Daniel Ferguson, Michael & Julia Foreman, Fred & Sheri Hale, Steve & Marlena Iverson, Jennifer Katsch & DJ Johnstone, Marsha McDonald, Darryl Kilzer, Mike & Gena Kolbo, Craig & Susan Lacy, Darlene Loosli, Norma & Robbie Lowery, Jim & Felicia MacDonald, Mike & Tammy Markel, Cody Miller, Tom & Connie Morrison, Margaret Nelson, Mary Nelson / Donna Syme, Diane Rhan, Gabbie Rosario, Marshall & Stacy Pickens, Heather Shaddy, Kris Steneck, Robert & Karissa Sudweeks, Eilene Sweeney, Vikki Tibbetts, Delbert & Hazel Trimble, Liz Warner and Anamaria Zavala. Roxanne made a motion to accept these applicants as new members: seconded by Carol, motion carried. Club name tags and patches need to be reordered. There was a discussion about where to purchase the items and to look into pricing. Kim will give the information at the next meeting.

**Field Trip Chairman:** Robert Murphey will lead the next field trip with Larry Beattie's help. Meet at the back of the Gem Stop at 8am. The club will be going to the Big Egg claim to look for thunder eggs.

**Unfinished Business:** Nate gave an update about the Evans Gem & Mineral Collections, Board of Directors and volunteers, and shared some of their history. Katelyn will be an advisor to the club about the Evans Collection. She will provide information about how the donated funds from the club are being used. Money was dispersed to the College to help fund the security system that is being installed in the museum.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lawrence, Secretary



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** - \$20.00 per year
- Couples** - \$18.00 per year
- Singles** - \$12.00 per year
- Children (under 19)** - \$3.00 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 7:30 P.M. in the Boone Science Hall at the College of Idaho, Room 103, except for the July picnic and the December holiday party. Field trips are scheduled once a month. Visitors are welcome at all these events!

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



**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/>

