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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 57 No. 8

August 2025

August President's Message

Hello, all hoping this newsletter finds you all enjoying your summer.

We are trying something new this month with our Junk in the Trunk tailgate event. If you want to sell, some of your rocks come early 5pm and setup under the trees in Memorial park. For those of you wanting to shop for some interesting new materiel be sure to bring your checkbooks and it will start at 5:30pm. We hope this will be well received as everyone needs more rocks right??

August is our Ice Cream Social meeting month. If you can make some homemade ice cream to share, we are always looking for donations. Our meeting will start at 6:30 with a business meeting and slab draw. This should be a nice evening finished off with ice cream and goodies. I hope you will all come out and support your club functions. As always, we thank all of you who step up and donate on behalf of the club.

This month's field trip will be to our new picture jasper claim on the Idaho Oregon border. John will be meeting you at the Extra Mile on the corner of 95/55 at 7am leave at 7:30am. As always, be mindful of the claims around ours and stick to the area John says you can collect in. Have fun and I look forward to see what you find out there.

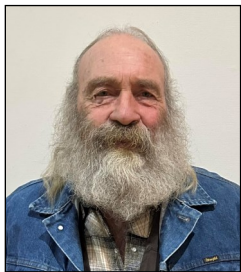
Sue is still taking Show theme ideas so if you have one please reach out and let her know. We will be choosing one soon.

Until the 20th keep on rocking and we will see you at 5:30 if you want to buy rocks and our meeting will start at 6:30pm.

Willa Renken 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



2024 OGMS Field Trip Schedule

August 23—OGMS Picture Jasper Claim

Meet at Chevron-Hwy 55/95 Junction at 7:00 a.m., leave at 7:30 a.m.
(5644 Buntrock Rd, Marsing)

September 20—Blue Egg Claim—Blue Opal Thundereggs

Meet at Homedale Park (by the tank) at 8:00 a.m., leave at 8:30 a.m.
(E Idaho Ave and S 2nd St E)

October 18—Pink Plume Claim—Pink Plume Agate

Meet at Owyhee Junction Hwy 201 and Owyhee Ave, at 8:00 a.m., leave at 8:30 a.m.



Show Report

Wait List – Review is complete and finalized. Waiting for questionnaire responses and pictures

Silent Auction - Please be thinking about collecting rock for the silent auction as you are out and about rockhounding. This is an important part of the show and attendees really love it and we go through a lot of it!

Tumbled Stone – Remember, we pay \$125 per 5 gallon bucket of nice tumbled stone! We will need some for the show.

Show Theme:

Please be thinking about a theme for the 2026 show, (theme should rhyme with 6). Submissions can be made to any board member and will be voted on at the September meeting.

Currently, we have the following:

"Puttin' on the Ritz for 2026"

"Discover Ritz & Glitz in 2026"

"Glam & Glitz in 2026"

"Grab your picks in 2026"

If anyone is good at designing posters, we would appreciate the help. We have been challenged to "step up our game" on our posters by the O'Connor field house.



SHOW COMMITTEE CHAIR:
Sue Cassidy
(603) 548-8822
pypnhot@comcast.net

Photos below from Members on July Field Trip to Wagon Town



Vice-President's Corner—Sue Cassidy**"My Favorite" Presentations**

If you have a favorite rock, gem, mineral, or fossil you would like to talk about and share with the members at the next meeting and in the newsletter, please contact Sue at (603) 548-8822, pypnhot@comcast.net



Sue Cassidy

Monthly Meeting Topics

If you have an idea for a presentation or information session, please contact Sue.

August – Trunk/Tailgate sales 5:30/ Ice Cream Social 6:30

September – Cody Easom from Extremetumbling.com – "Tumbling and Tumblers"

October: Ted Diehr, Topic: "Red Oak"

November 20, 2024: Annual Silent Auction

December 2024: Christmas Banquet and Party

August General Meeting and Ice Cream Social—In the Park

The August 20th general meeting will be at the Caldwell Memorial Park

618 Irving Street, on the corner of Irving and Kimball

See you there: 5:30 p.m. for Trunk Sale, 6:30 p.m. for the Ice Cream Social!

- Bring your lawn chair
- Several club members are making 'homemade' ice cream, but if you have an ice cream maker and want to bring some, PLEASE DO! There's no such thing as too much ice cream!!!
- Members are encouraged to bring their favorite toppings to share with everyone.
- The club will provide bowls and spoons.
- There will be a silent auction! Also, we will have a slab drawing... SO BRING YOUR SLABS!

Owyhee Junior Geologist Program (OJGP)

Welcome Junior Geologists

JULY 26 WAS OUR OPEN HOUSE ROCK TOUR AT THE HOME OF STEVE NARKAUS WITH LEARNING EXHIBITS. EVERYONE WENT HOME WITH KNOWLEDGE. GIFTS WERE GIVEN TO ALL JUNIOR GEOLOGISTS AND RARE SPECIMENS WERE VIEWED AND DISCUSSED.

September 20- Tony Funk Rock Hunt and BBQ in Gooding, ID. All Club Members Welcome, Please RSVP

October 1-31 — Caldwell Public Library — Rock and Mineral Show Setup
Oct. 1 @ 4 p.m., All Junior Geologists welcome to help setup

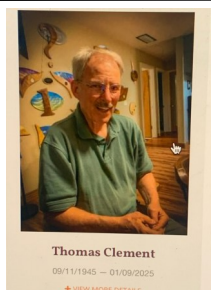
October 4- College of Idaho Museum Tour and Trilobite Exhibit (Orma J. Smith Museum) We will be splitting Shale for Trilobite Fossils. All Junior Geologists will keep all Fossils they find.

Stay Tuned for our Monthly E-Mails and Learning Projects.

For more information call Steve Narkaus, 503 931 9763, or email: Steve.OJGP@gmail.com

John Clement, brother of Tom Clement, wishes to thank everyone who has donated to make the Junior Geologist Program a success. Rest in peace, Tom.

You may still enroll to become a Junior Geologist. Cost is \$10 per year in addition to an OGMS family membership.



General Meeting —July 16, 2025

The July 2025 General Meeting of the Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society was called to order by OGMS President, Willa Renken at 7:00 pm on 7/16/25 at Caldwell Idaho's College of Idaho in rm #203 of the Boone Science Bldg.

Willa called for a motion to accept the minutes. Bob Bashford made a motion for the minutes to pass as printed in the OGMS news letter. Cindy Woolsey seconded the motion. All members were in favor with no objections or further discussion and the motion passed.



Chris Merrell-Rawson

Secretary's Report – Chris Rawson was absent. No secretary report available.

Vice President – Sue Cassidy – August meeting will be in the park in Caldwell and will debut OGMS's first **"Junk in the Trunk"** sale. **Sale starts at 5:30** and our annual ice cream social and the general OGMS meeting will follow.

Treasurers report – Ken C summarized accounts and balances. We are still solvent.

Federation Report- Keep saving and bringing in your postage stamps.

Field Trip Chair, John Wright announced the upcoming field trip to Wagon Town. Meet-up at the Extra Mile Chevron, 10 N Hwy 7:00 am. Leave as a group at 7:30.

Show – Still looking to hear theme ideas for the 2026 show and rock donations for the silent auction.

Old Business – Dale Rawson discussed the new Tumble Rougher.

New Business – Thanks to everyone who brought food for the picnic.

SLAB DRAWING

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting minutes provided by Kim Bashford and transcribed by Chris Merrell-Rawson. (THANKS KIM!!!).

Board Meeting Minutes—July 28, 2025

Officers present: Kim Bashford, Don Dixon, Sue Cassidy, Robert Murphy, Ken Christensen, John Wright, Willa Renken, Steve Narkaus

Guests present: Dale Rawson

July 28, 2025 OGMS Board Meeting was called to order @ 7:10 p.m. by President Willa Renken in the Caldwell Public Library at 1010 Dearborn in Caldwell Idaho. Willa called for a motion to accept the march board meeting minutes as printed in the OGMS news letter as printed. Kim Bashford motioned to accept the minutes as printed. Sue Cassidy seconded the motion, all the board members were in favor, there was no further discussion and the motion to accept the minutes passed.

Secretary – Three pieces of mail distributed to Ken C and two memberships given to Kim B.

Vice President – All set with program speakers for the rest of the year.

Treasurer – Ken Christensen –No changes to report.

(continued on page 7)

Board Meeting Minutes—(continued from page 3)

Membership Chair - Kim Bashford – Sue motioned to accept new members, Ken seconded. No further discussion & the motion passed. New members are- Royce and Katie Davis, Karen Peterson, Mark Johnson/Kathy Dubois.

Field Trip Chair – John Wright- Small, but good turnout. Everyone seemed really happy. Next field trip will be to Jim Whitt's picture jasper claim. 7:30 meet-up at Extra Mile Chevron Station @ hwy 55/95 junction. Leave as a group at 7:30.

Federation Report – Keep saving stamps

Editors Report – Robert Murphey - Question about an ad for newsletter.

Historian – Still need one

Sunshine Report – Possible replacements.

Webmaster – No report

Junior Geologists –

Steve Narkus – Six families came to the open house. Up coming events-

- 1) 9/20/25 Tony Funk trip.
- 2) 2) 10/01/25 library display.
- 3) 10/04/25 Orma Smith Museum.

Old Business –

- 1) Tables for the annual shows. John Wright motioned the club to purchase 100 new tables. Sue seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.
- 2) Bond work needed for the Big Egg Claim.
- 3) New motor needed for vibrator tumblers.
- 4) **John and Dale** picked up donation from the Ensley Estate. Stabilizing will need to be done.

New Business –

- 1) Road clean-up not set yet.
- 2) Extra coverage for the "Junk in the Trunk" sale.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:35

These meeting minutes were transcribed and prepared by Chris Merrell-Rawson from the notes taken by Kim Bashford at the July 28, 2025th OGMS board meeting in her absence. THANK YOU Kim!!!

August Birthdays

3	Rod Marceau
4	Betty Ward
6	Janet Huntley
6	RoseMary Peterson
7	Carolyn Hood
9	Mike Kerns
9	Rick Payne
13	Kalin Sudweeks
15	Bill Baker
16	Sue Oakes
17	Mike Powers
18	Gail Villarreal
19	Steve Narkaus
22	Tammy Payne
26	Deana Ashton
26	Leon Doar
27	Linda Schaffer
31	Steve Kirkeby

August Anniversaries

7	David Dore & Arlene Purchase
14	Rick & Celeste Brose
15	Leon & Judy Doar
16	Tom & Lillie Rogers
21	Jim & Leta Collard
21	Howard & Darlene Emry

Newsletter Editor

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

Sunshine Report



Hi, I am Jewels Haines and I am your Sunshine Chair.

If you hear of anyone needing a get-well card or visit, please give me a call at (760) 331-3443.

jewelsmalia@yahoo.com

August Birthstone

•Peridot•



Symbolizing dignity, fame, and prosperity. Peridots have been used in jewellery through the ages to achieve peace and success, and to attract love and good fortune. Hawaiians believe the traces of peridot found in volcanic ash are the tears of the volcano goddess, Pele.

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.

Membership—Kim Bashford

We are accepting payment of 2025 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!

Mark Johnson
Kathy Duboise
Mary Petersen
Brent Petersen
Joy Petersen
Mark Basel

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](#)

Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History
College of Idaho—Boone Science Hall basement— Caldwell, Idaho
[Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History | The College of Idaho](#)

As the only natural history museum in the region encompassing southwestern Idaho, southeastern Oregon, and northern Nevada, The College of Idaho's Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History is the premier resource for environmental and natural history education in the region. The Museum is listed in the "30 Most Amazing Higher Education Natural History Museums," compiled by Best College Reviews.

You can check them out on [Facebook](#) and also on [Instagram](#) or call (208) 459-5507.

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



**Special Rocks
Come view
the collection**



Of Steve Narkaus

All Rocks and Minerals

Are for sale

Please call 503-931-9763

For your own Special time

See the entire collection



**ENJOY,
LEARN,
BUY**



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 X___

(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—\$12500 per year
Children (under 19) - \$5.00 per year
Jr. Geology Program—\$10 per year

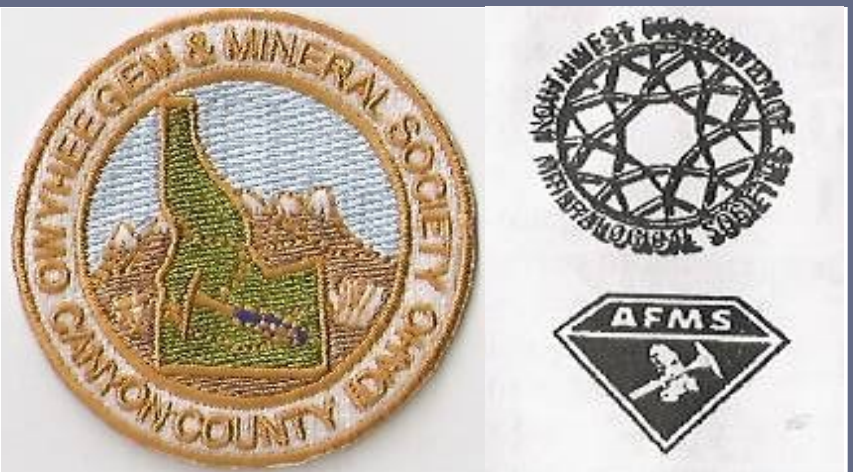
The Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was established in 1938 at the College of Idaho in Caldwell, Idaho.

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/>