



“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
362-3941, Wlr_dkr@msn.com

VICE-PRESIDENT: Nancy Farrell
914-3236, giddeyupgirl@live.com

SECRETARY: Debbie Lawrence
453-1496

TREASURER: Janie Ehlers
674-1213

FEDERATION DIRECTOR: Ed Moser
340-8060, edmoser15@gmail.com

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455-7960, ithelk@gmail.com

ASST: Gene Alvey
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674-1213, ddehlers@fmtc.com

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459-4139

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466-8817, 16654JRHopkins@q.com

ROAD CLEAN-UP: Ithel Kildow
455-7960, ithelk@gmail.com

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546-1897, nuggetcollector@yahoo.com

WEBMASTER: Brad Larson
idrockman@gmail.com

December President's Message

Happy Holidays to everyone, hopefully this finds you all enjoying this holiday season with family and friends. Wow what a great meeting we had last month. Thank you to all that donated items for our Annual Auction. It was a huge success. We took in over \$900 all together. About \$108 of it is to start up our new juniors programs. I am excited for the kids to finally have a chance to do things that interest them.

I look forward to December as I really enjoy the Christmas party and hope you have all made a point to come share some time and have another great time with our friends and get to know one another. It is always good food and great fun for a night out. Don't forget there will be a gift exchange so if you want in be sure to bring a gift marked male or female. The price cap is ten dollars so put your thinking caps on as I know there are a lot of fun things to give and receive. We will be drawing for the quilt so make sure to purchase your last chance tickets form Nancy.

There will be sign-up sheets available for the various show venues so if you have not signed up a few times for the different areas please do so as the chairmen of each station really need to know how to plan for the hours we are open at our Annual Gem show. On that note the showcases are filling up so get your hat in the ring if you haven't signed up to fill a showcase and don't forget we always need black light cases for our fluorescent display along with the special display stand. Be sure to let Ithel know what field trips you are wanting to go on next year as he is busy setting up the tentative agenda for 2015.

I am requesting 2014 field trip photos. Brad is trying to update our website and is in need of more current pictures of all the fun places we went this last year. If you could help him out please email him some of the photos you would like to share. Lots of folks really enjoy seeing where we have been and it is a good recruiting tool for our website.

Just a reminder for those who weren't at the last meeting we will be meeting on January 14th at the Best Western in Caldwell. The time will be the same just the date will be one week earlier.

On that note I will put this year to rest. I look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas party at Orphan Annie's at 801 Everett St in Caldwell. No host starts at 6:00pm and we will eat by 7:00pm. If you haven't gotten your tickets never fear there will be plenty, come join us and pay at the door.

See you there!!

-Willa Renken, OGMS President



OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES November 19, 2014

General Meeting: The meeting was held at the Best Western Hotel in Caldwell, and was called to order by our President Willa Renken at 7:30 pm. Willa asked if there were any corrections to the minutes as printed in the newsletter. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to accept them. Brad Larson made the motion and was 2nd by David Schmidt. Guests were asked to stand and introduce themselves and all were given a warm welcome.

Program: Thelma showed the group examples of critters she made to be used for prizes at the gem show in the spring. She encouraged everyone to use their imagination and make a few.

Secretary: Read a flier from the Natrona County Rockhounds regarding their show featuring Wyoming fossils. The show will be July 11 and 12, 2015 at the Parkway Plaza in Casper Wyoming. The club also received postcards from University Press of Kentucky showing pictures of specimens collected from the state. The photos are a preview of their new book *Kentucky Agate*.

Vice President: Nancy reminded us to purchase raffle tickets for our club quilt. The tickets are \$1 each.

Treasurer: Janie gave a report of the club's finances.

Show Chair: Susan passed out sign-up sheets for the gem show venues. Hurry to sign up to help at your favorite. If you would like to be a demonstrator at the show, please contact Willa.

Federation Chair: The Federation Show will be in Ogden, UT on April 10-12, 2015. Ed reminded us to continue to collect postage stamps. Sales from these stamps go to cancer research.

Membership: Pick up your current membership card from Kathi Larson If you haven't already. The club currently has 90+ members, and counting.

Field Trip: Ithel is planning the field trip schedule for next year. If there is a place you would like to go hunt rocks, let him know. He is looking forward to the coming year working with Randy and Gene.

Website: Submit photos you would like to share from rock trips or interesting articles you have read to Brad Larson's e-mail: idrockman@gmail.com

Refreshments: Ruth thanked all of the volunteers who brought goodies. She also has a sign-up sheet for January.

Unfinished Business: Start thinking about something you can put on the Special Display at the gem show. The Christmas Party will be held at Orphan Annie's in Caldwell on December 17. There will be a no-host bar starting at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m. Hurry to buy raffle tickets for the quilt drawing.

New Business: The Best Western Hotel double booked the conference room in January. It was decided to have the January meeting on the 14th instead of our regular meeting time. The board meeting will be at Caldwell library in November and at the Museum (914 Elgin) in December.

Myrt Alston won the door prize.

There was a very successful auction! Thanks to Ed Moser for being the auctioneer.

Respectfully submitted Debbie Lawrence



December Birthstone—Turquoise



There are three birthstones for those who born in December; turquoise, [zircon](#) and [lapis lazuli](#), but the most popular one is turquoise, which is also the accepted gem for the 5th and 11th wedding anniversaries. Turquoise is one of the oldest known gemstones. The word "turquoise" is derived from the French, which means "Turkey stone", for it originally was thought to be a product of Turkey. Turquoises do not occur in Turkey but was traded at Turkish bazaars to Venetian merchants who brought it to Europe. The finest turquoises are found in Iran although is challenged by the American Southwest.

Turquoise is chemically a hydrated copper/aluminum phosphate, of aggregate, cryptocrystalline structure. Turquoise is formed, over a span of millions of years, it occurs by chemical reaction when water leaks through rocks which contain specific minerals such as aluminum and copper. The percentages of those various minerals in the rock dictate the gemstone's shade. They are found as an opaque deposit in veins, or nodules within host rocks, or as shallow crusts on the surface of rocks. In general, a high proportion of silicate minerals decreases the porosity of the stone and increases hardness, while a high content of clay minerals, give the opposite effect. Mohs scale hardness: 5-6

The gems are mostly mixed together with black, dark gray or brown veins of other minerals or of the hosting rock (like opal or chalcedony, brown limonite, white kaolinite or black chert). Those stones are called Turquoise matrix.

Turquoise is found in many different forms: turquoise deposited in cracks in rocks (vein turquoise), turquoise formed as nuggets, turquoise formed in a cavity lined with quartz crystals, and turquoise formed in cracks in rock to form disc-shaped or flattened nuggets. They generally form in arid climates such as the American Southwest.

Spider web turquoise is made up of small nuggets cemented together with natural rock or matrix. Most mines produce some spider web turquoise. When cut through, its aggregate mass of nuggets resembles spider web.

Sea form turquoise is a descriptive term applied to a kind of knobby, foam-looking nugget that can be polished without cutting, except for flattening the back to mount in jewelry.

Turquoises are one of the most valuable non-transparent minerals, the color ranges from light green to dark green, light blue to dark blue or mixed between the two colors. Most of turquoises are green in color but blue turquoises are more valuable. Variations in color are due to the presence of metals, such as copper impurities in the case of blue turquoise, chromium or vanadium impurities in the case of green turquoise, and iron impurities for yellow turquoise. There are also rare specimens of blue-violet color, which contain strontium impurities.

Because turquoises are fragile, just slightly stronger than window glass, special care must be taken. Turquoises are also easily disturbed by heat, oil, sunlight, moisture, perspiration, dryness so they should not come in contact with strong perfumes, or chemicals. This is because of their porosity so they easily absorb dirt, grease and smell for long period.

Turquoises need to "breathe" to conserve its deep natural color. Lack of air will eventually turn the stones greenish, contributing to them losing their value. Some are highly prized for their unique veins, like red-color to dark-red veins are believed to be sacred one and are widely looked for. Turquoise has been used by kings and rulers of the past, in sculptural works, and has been fashioned into beads and pendants.



December Birthdays

- 1 John Scherer
- 3 Terry Prince
- 3 David Schmidt
- 4 Lorene Alley
- 4 Dana Stowell
- 4 Shannon Tharp
- 5 Darell Ehlers
- 5 Barbara Hanson
- 5 Neil Roberts
- 6 Gene Babbitt
- 8 Lillie Rogers
- 10 Cheryl Link
- 11 Tom Evans
- 12 Douglas Olsen
- 15 Bill Anderson
- 17 Steve McConnel
- 17 Carolyn Whipple
- 18 Dan Phillips
- 18 Josh Sackett
- 19 Doug Renken
- 22 Natasha Atwood
- 24 Darlene Emry
- 30 Tony Griffin



December Anniversaries

- 2 Richard & Bonnie Coulson
- 4 David & Cindy Schmidt
- 12 Everett & Evelyn Ensley
- 20 Roy & Pat Bethel
- 23 Andy & Helen Krivy
- 26 Paul & Donna Dole

Refreshments

We wish to thank all those who brought refreshments to the November meeting.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Dinner on December 17th.

Here are the volunteers for refreshments for January:

- Bill Anderson
- Deanna Moser
- Myrt Alston
- Carolyn Whipple

Thank You, Ruth & Jim



Please let me know if I don't have your correct information, or if you are not on the lists above and should be.

Email me at: denisemstringer@gmail.com

Rock -N- Gifts

942 South Lincoln • Jerome, Idaho 83338

(208) 324-8860

Bruneau Jasper

Cabs - Slabs - Specimens - Rough

Gerald & Joy Scarrow

(208) 324-4024

Rocky & Kelley Scarrow

(208) 324-1034

rockingift@cableone.net

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

Idaho Indoor Farmers Community Market

Across from the Idaho State Fairgrounds
4977 Glenwood, Garden City, Idaho
Corner of Glenwood and Chinden Blvd

THIS FLYER GOOD FOR 15% OFF
ANYTHING AT
UNIQUE CREATIONS ROCK BOOTH
GEMS, MINERALS, GIFTS OF ALL KINDS

Lots of veggies, Raw Milk, Fresh Eggs,
Hydroponic Garden

26 Unique Independent Vendor Shops
Special Services available

Watch Repair, Custom Engraving, Piano Sales, & Repair
Computer Sales Setup & Repair, Knife Sharpening
We can do it all!! Gift Certificates are Available!!
Coins, Antiques, Jewelry, Furniture, Lots, New & Used!!

Wed-Sat 10am-6pm Sun 12n-5pm Closed Mon-Tues
Vendor Spaces Available Call Willie 208-850-0451

Would you like to see your ad here?

You can buy a 1/4 page ad like
this for one month for only
\$5.00.

A 12-month ad is only \$50.00!

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

To place an ad, please email:
denisemstringer@gmail.com

OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY Board Minutes

November 24, 2014

Business Meeting: The meeting was held at the Caldwell Library and called to order by President Willa Renken at 7:10 p.m. Willa asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes as printed in the newsletter. Hearing none she asked for a motion to accept the minutes as printed. Ed Moser made the motion and Gene Alvey 2nd. Motion carried.

Secretary: Had a discussion regarding the keys to the post office box.

Vice President: Had a discussion about speakers to do programs for the meetings next year. Nancy would like photos from field trips to put a calendar together to sell at the gem show.

Treasurer: Absent

Show Chair: Susan reported we are in good shape and about half way there on donations for venues. All of the dealer spaces are full.

Federation Chair: The Northwest Federation Show is April 10-12 in Ogden, UT. The AFMS will be in Albany, OR July 27-Aug1. Last August \$5,900+ was earned from collecting postage stamps. The money will be donated to cancer research. A great job to all who collected. Ed gave a big thank-you to all who donated and bought items at the auction during the general meeting.

Unfinished business: A reminder the date of our general meeting will be on January 14, 2015 at the Best Western Hotel in Caldwell. The change of date is due to the conference room being double booked. Discussion on Big Egg Claim.

New Business: Discussion regarding life-time members.

Meeting adjourned 8:03pm.

Respectfully submitted Debbie Lawrence

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/>

Federation Director

Bring your postage stamps to this month's meeting. Remember to *cut 1/2 inch all the way around the stamp*. The money raised will go to help support cancer research. Thank you all for this. It helps others and it might just help someone you know.

-Ed Moser, Federation Director
340-8060, edmoser15@gmail.com



OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
61st Annual Gem & Mineral Show—"We Will Rock You"
March 7 and 8, 2015
Caldwell Event Center—2200 Blaine, Caldwell, ID

Request for Showcase Space

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Name of Club: _____

How many cases would you like to reserve? _____

Exhibit Material: (must be gem or mineral related)

Are you a: Dealer _____ Amateur _____ Junior _____ (All Junior cases must be prepared by Juniors.)

List name(s) for exhibitor badges:

Set-up day: Friday, March 6, 3:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Show Dates: Saturday, March 7, 10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 8, 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Take-down time: Not before 5:00 p.m. on Sunday

The Show Committee Members will help you locate your space.
Displays shall remain for the duration of the show unless prior authorization
from the Show Chairman is received.

Send your completed application by February 17, 2015 to:
Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society,
Attn: Thelma Brown, PO Box 1053, Caldwell, ID 83606-1053
or bring to the next general membership meeting.

2015 Show—We Will Rock You!

The venue chairs for the 2015 show are:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Chili Feed—Myrt Alston 739-8185 | Sand Dig—Jody Atwood 801-791-7228 |
| Front Door—Randy Whipple 585-5910 | Silent Auction—Red Larson 465-8083 |
| Membership—Jarri McClarin and Kathi Larson 465-8083 | Showcases—Thelma Brown (509) 846-3136 |
| Demonstrators—Willa Renkin 362-3941 | Wheel of Gems—Denise Stringer 283-1903 |
| Historic Display—Pauline Prather 459-4139 | Special Display—Nancy Farrell 914-3236 |
| Grab Bags—Joan Alvey 440-3067 | Advertising—Darell Ehlers 674-1213 |
| | Show Banker—Janie Ehlers 674-1213 |

WE NEED HELP

- *Faceted stones* for prizes at the sand dig and wheel of gems—*small stones* for the sand dig and *larger stones* for the wheel of gems.
- *Rock to tumble*—bring your donations to the meeting or call Susan or Darrel
- *Prizes for Wheel of Gems and Grab Bags*—If each member donates 20 items we would have enough prizes to expand our advertising effort! Bring your donations to the meeting or call Susan or Darrel
- *Special Display items*—Showcase your unique non-rock related talent!
- *Scrapbook repair and rejuvenation*—Call Pauline!
- *Raffle gift(s)* for volunteers that sign up and work at venues

We will be asking people to sign up for day/time at venues at the November meeting. If there is a venue that you want to work at and you need to reserve your favorite time now, please call the chair person for that venue.

Upcoming Events

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society Holiday Dinner

December 17, 2014.

Social: no-host bar starts at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Orphan Annie’s Bar & Grill

801 Everett St, Caldwell, ID 83605

Bring a present for the gift exchange (\$10 value) and tag it to let us know if it is for a male, female, or general.

Please R.S.V.P. to Mary Fitzpatrick by Dec 10th at: 369-3173

The cost is \$7.75 for members and \$15.50 for non-members.

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society Board of Directors Meeting

December 29, 2014— 7:00 p.m.

Location: Dinosaur Museum, 914 Elgin, Caldwell

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society January Meeting

January 14, 2015—7:30 p.m.

Location: Best Western Hotel , Exit #29, 908 Specht Ave, Caldwell



Membership Report

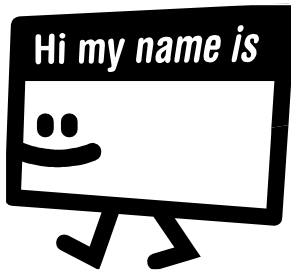
Membership forms are available at every meeting, so invite your "rockhound" friends to our next one!

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 the meetings, as it makes it so much easier to identify you.

Your yearly dues cover membership privileges from October 1st through the following October 1st . You can either pay at a meeting or by mailing the form below to P.O. Box 1053, Caldwell, ID 83605-1053.



-Kathi Larson,
 Membership Director
 465-8083, redkatnthat@gmail.com

OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY DUES Year: 2015

Family	Couple	Single	Child
\$20	\$18	\$12	\$3

LAST NAME: (Please Print) _____ Date Paid: _____ Amount: _____

FIRST NAME(s): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ ANNIV: _____ - _____ BDAY: _____ - _____ / _____ - _____
Day Month Day Mo. Day Mo.

EMAIL: _____

RENEWAL _____ NEW _____ CASH _____ CHECK # _____ RECD BY _____

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. 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!



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