

“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

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July President's Message

Hello OGMS members! Hoping this finds you all well and enjoying the summer as much as you can. We are striving to move forward as a club and are trying to provide some interaction as allowed in these days. This month is our Annual Picnic and Auction. It will start at 6:30pm and will be in Caldwell at Memorial Park under the shelter. We are proceeding as normal and are asking that you bring a dish to share but please be sure to provide a serving spoon with your contributions. As usual please bring your own table service and silverware and a chair to sit in. The club will be providing water and ice cream for the occasion. We will be having an auction so if you have something rock related or something that you have created that you could donate it would be greatly appreciated. Please we ask that you wait till after the auction to pay for your purchases as it is too hectic for the Secretary and Treasurer to get the correct information from the auctioned items and collect money at the same time. These proceeds go towards our Annual Christmas/Business meeting held in December.

Our fieldtrips are turning out splendidly with the first one having been to Texas Springs for the pink limb casts. The next one was to McDermitt for all kinds of different jaspers, agates, and sea fossils. Robert and Dale have been having a lot of fun helping our members to find some really nice material this season. We would also like to thank the Caldera Rock Shop for all their help and would encourage all that are looking for some nice jaspers and agates to stop in and see what they have available for purchase. This month's excursion is to our Pink Plume claim first then on to the Haystack Butte jasper area to collect treasures. There will be more information and examples of the rock to be found at our picnic.

Since we will still not be able to get into the college in August we have reserved the park again for our August meeting. We would like to do something a little different and have an old fashioned ice cream social. I will be polling the membership at July's meeting to see if this is something that you would like to do. So come prepared to voice your opinion. As always I look forward to seeing you all on July 15th at 6:30pm at the Memorial Park in Caldwell under the shelter. Be sure to remember to bring a chair so we can social distance. - Willa Renken, OGMS President



OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**June 17, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by OGMS **President Willa Renken** at 07:05pm at the Caldwell Memorial Park, 618 Irving St, Caldwell, Idaho. Ed Moser made the motion to accept all previous minutes from the February, March, April, and May newsletters as printed; Red Larson seconded; the motion carried. All attendees were given a warm welcome.

Willa then explained that members Bill and Andrea Sawyer came up with the idea for a new program to be included at the general meetings. They call it "**My Favorite**"... sort of like 'show and tell'. There is a form to follow (included in the newsletter), to help you provide information about your favorite stone, mineral, etc... Anyone, including our younger members, can volunteer to share with the membership, information about a favorite rock, show a specimen, a collection, history, etc... You can be as elaborate as you want... should be fun... and we can all learn from each other's experience. Bill presented his favorite, 'Hematite', including his extensive collection, lots of history and facts about it. Did you know that Hematite is a sedimentary rock... iron oxide? I would never have guessed!... well, maybe if I did the research... but thanks to Bill, we all learned a lot! Great idea, great presentation!!!

Secretary, Chris Deveau forwarded an OGMS First Interstate Bank statement to Debbie Lawrence - Treasurer via US mail and gave her two insurance statements and an IRS letter at the meeting; two memberships were given to Kim Bashford – Membership.

Vice President, Roxanne Franklin was glad to be back to our meetings (following the COVID-19 shut down). She will resume scheduling presentations as things get back to normal.

Treasurer, Debbie Lawrence gave a summary of our March Rock Show! Great show, great turnout!

Show Chair, Kathi Larson said we already have 575 grab bags filled for next years' show...The club will pay \$120 for a full five- gallon bucket of tumbled rock... it needs to be well polished. We need tumbled rock and material for the silent auction. We also have 11 out of 15 dealers confirmed for next year.

Federation Chair, Ed Moser reminded us all to save stamps (cancelled or not) for donation to the NW Federation. The stamps are sold to collectors and the funds are then donated for Cancer Research. The Federation Show in April was cancelled, as were all others in the following months due to COVID-19.

Sunshine Chair, Jewels Haines could not be at the meeting, but she wants everyone to let her know if anyone needs a little 'sunshine' sent to out. We have lost members, good friends... had illness...and Jewels lets them know they are in our thoughts and prayers.

Membership, Kim Bashford has received several memberships while our meetings have been on hold.

(Continued on Page 3)

OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**June 17, 2020**

(Continued from Page 2)

Field Trip Chair, Robert Murphey shared information about the trip to Texas Springs, Nevada... good trip... lots of great material. The field trip chair from Salmon, Gary Moore met up with our club and shared great information on the area. Thanks, Gary! There was much discussion about the next field trip, June 19-21 to McDermitt, Nevada. Some members will go as a caravan, others to meet Robert at the Caldera Rock Shop on Saturday. Looks like the rest of our rock trips will occur as scheduled.

Unfinished Business – NONE

New Business: Willa had a special announcement that Ed and Deanna Moser were celebrating their 62nd Anniversary at the end of June. WOW, CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU BOTH! She surprised them with wonderful cupcakes for all! Thank you, Willa!

Margaret Nelson will be unable to continue as the Editor of the Newsletter. Thank you, Margaret for all your hard work... the newsletters have looked great, very professional... thank you from 'all' the membership!

The July General Meeting will be our annual picnic and fundraising auction. It will take place at the Caldwell Memorial Park, 618 Irving, Caldwell, Idaho. It will be an hour earlier than a regular meeting, starting at 06:30 pm on July 15th, 2020. It will be our usual potluck (bring your favorites)... the club will provide water and ice, ice cream... bring your own place settings... a serving spoon for your dish... if you are uncomfortable with sharing the potluck, then bring your own picnic... but do come, this is always a fun event. Bring a lawn chair to find a comfortable spot in the shade. Please bring items for the auction... rock related, white elephant...this is a fundraiser to help defray the cost of our Christmas Meeting/Party in December.

The August General Meeting will also be in the park on Wednesday, August 19, 2020. It will be an ice cream social... if you have an ice cream freezer, please fill it up and bring it to help make this a success.

We need someone to step up and fill the Newsletter Editor position on the Board. Willa will assist you with the information necessary to help you do the job.

“THANK YOU” to everyone who took part in the drive-by birthday held by Denise Stringer and her family for her dad, Bill Stringer!!!

Don Dixon announced that there will be ‘Thunder Egg Days’ at South Park (south of the A&W) in Nyssa, Oregon. Mark your calendar for July 9-11 from 10:00am to 9:00pm each day.

Steve Narkaus won the door prize... a beautiful sphere, that came from the last winner, Dan Stevens! If you want to take part in the door prize drawing, remember to sign up on the attendance sheet (Chris will have it)... we draw the winner at the end of the meeting... the new winner, brings the door prize for the next meeting.

The OGMS Board Meeting will be at the park at 07:00pm on Monday, 29 June 2020.

The general meeting was adjourned at 08:35pm. Thanks to everyone for attending... we've missed you!

Respectfully submitted, Christine Deveau, Secretary

OGMS 2020 Field Trips

July 18th: (morning) Pink Plume for plume agate, (afternoon) Haystack Butte for Red Jasper
Meet Owyhee Junction (Hwy 201 & Owyhee Ave), meet @ 7am – leave @ 7:30

Aug 22nd: Wagon Town for Bog Wood
Meet at Gem Stop/Extra Mile (Hwy 55&95), meet @ 7am – leave @ 7:30

Sept 19th: Blue Egg Claim for Blue Opal Thunder Eggs
Meet in Homedale, ID City Park with Tank (just east of four corners), meet @ 8am – leave @ 8:30

Oct 24th: Graveyard Point for agate and Jasper
Meet at Gem Stop/Extra Mile (Hwy 55&95), meet @ 8am – leave @ 8:30



**Robert
Murphey**

For further information,
Contact Robert Murphey (208) 590-1848
or Dale Rawson (208) 283-7990

**Dale
Rawson**



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

USEFUL ITEMS TO BRING ON YOUR 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, 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.
Remember, when you are finished, fill in all holes that are dug at the site.

June 19—21 Field Trip—McDermitt, Nevada

Hello fellow Rockhounds, As some know from the last newsletter we visited Texas Springs early on in June and had a fun trip but got rained out on Saturday. Two weeks later we visited McDermitt Nevada for another exciting campout rockhounding adventure. Thirteen people joined us over the weekend. We arrived in McDermitt on Friday to visit with Leanne at the Caldera Rock Shop. Leanne was very excited and willing to show us what the area could provide us as well as giving us some updated rockhounding maps, we were also invited to visit the operation they were working at the former Gary Green location. Several of us purchased some specimens and rough rock and we were off to setup camp. The sun was shining with occasional clouds that were welcome as the desert was starting to warm in in the late afternoons. Bob and Kim were a blessing to have along as they were familiar with the area and passed on a lot of what they knew and good locations to get some petrified, opalized, Bog Wood and many other cool rocks. We visited the Sagenite area as well and some took home some interesting specimens. The nights were cool and the scorpions were everywhere which provided some good long wave UV entertainment after the sun went down. There was no moon and clear skies leaving one to enjoy the non-polluted star lit night. On Sunday we did one last outing and found the sea life fossil area which provided some interesting specimens. All in all it was a great trip and want to give a special thanks to Leanne and her father for the great information and welcoming at the rock shop, Deanna Ashton for helping to arrange with Leanne since the shop is mainly closed due to the COVID-19 epidemic as well as to all those that attended and made this a trip to remember for years to come. Cullen Anderson from the Boise club found a respectively sized limb sticking out of a drainage bank, Dale found the Septarian nodule and fossil area but Roxanne spotted where the fossils were of great size. Bob and Kim showed others where to get agate pieces large and small but some were big enough to make spheres out of. I visited the Gary Green excavation, Dale Huett and others welcomed me in and shared information on the future of the property as well as allowing me to choose some newly dug rough for a very reasonable cost (and this stuff was amazing with colors and orbs too).

Our next outing will be to the club's Pink Plume claim on July 18th. We will be meeting at the Owyhee Junction, at the corner of Hwy 201 and Owyhee Ave between Adrian and Nyssa at 7:00 AM leaving at 7:30AM. Please bring plenty of water and snacks. Sun screen may be necessary and remember, the desert gets hot this time of the year so please be prepared and I hope to see you all there. We will be optionally going to Haystack Butte in the afternoon for those interested as this is a two-part outing. Thank You, Robert Murphey (see page 9 for photos)

July Birthdays

- 2 Pat Erichson
- 6 Howard Emry
- 8 Leta Collord
- 10 Susan Beattie
- 11 Georgia Moody
- 12 Loren Francis
- 13 Aftan Sweeney
- 14 Linda Waller
- 16 Tia Call
- 16 Doc Morgan
- 26 Mark Rednour
- 17 Anna Stafford
- 18 Carlene Badillo
- 19 Paul Crompton
- 20 Pat Bethel
- 22 Tom Rogers
- 26 Larry Ridley
- 27 Miers Johnson
- 29 Kenneth Grove
- 29 Catherine Parsons
- 29 Elizabeth Vakalala

July Anniversaries

- 1 Dick & Jarri McClarin
- 4 John Benedict & Teresa Nebeker
- 7 Craig & Judy Holladay
- 8 Randy & Carolyn Whipple
- 9 Doug & Willa Renken
- 14 Mel & Louise Channer

In Memoriam

Bruce Everett Markus passed on 2/22/2020.

Mark & Cindy Kochanek were members for four years. Cindy passed on 10/13/2019; Mark passed 3/13/2020.

Community Corner

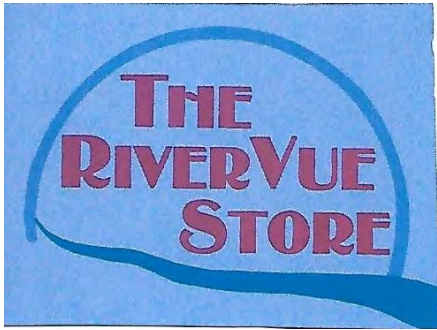
If you are presenting to the community or working with the community on behalf of OGMS, please submit a summary of what you are doing for our "Community Corner". This helps us maintain our non-profit status and gives you a recognition for a job well done.

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, jewelsmalia@yahoo.com



Stone from Arizona

Anderson Mine—Agate
 Brenda—Agate & Jasper
 Burro Creek—Pastelite & Agate

Stone from Australia

Noreena
 Mookite

Stone from Idaho & Oregon

Owyhee Picture Jasper
 Green Moss Agate
 Tumbled Stones

Amethyst from Uruguay
 Slabs & Rough
 Hammers/Tools/Gold Pans
 Brazilian Agate

Located at the corner of US 95 & Homedale Road
 26736 Homedale Road, Wilder, Idaho
 Phone (208) 861-8229 or Text: (208) 258-4250
 rivervu1@msn.com
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 April—October

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 1812 West Orchard
 Nampa, Idaho 83651

Halfway between Midland
 and Middleton Roads

(208) 466-5169

M-F 1:30-5:30 pm
 Other Hours By Appointment

**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 is open to all visitors:
 Monday-Friday from 1—5 p.m.
 and the first Saturday of every month
 from 8 a.m.—5 p.m.

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

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 only \$5.00.

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

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OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**June 29, 2020**

President, Willa Renken called the meeting to order at 7:00pm at the Caldwell Memorial Park in Caldwell, Idaho. Roxanne Franklin made a motion to accept the minutes from the last board meeting as written in the newsletter; Ed Moser seconded; motion carried.

Secretary, Chris Deveau had one letter of advertising from the post office box, which was given to Willa.

Vice President, Roxanne Franklin and **Show Chair, Kathi Larson** had nothing new to report.

Treasurer, Debbie Lawrence gave a report of expenses and deposits from the past four months... OGMS is very solvent.

Federation Chair, Ed Moser reported that Don Dixon brought in over 35 pounds of stamps to be donated to the NW Federation. Thanks Don! Ed is waiting for information from the Federation as to when the next meeting will be.

Newsletter... Willa advised the Board that **Denise Stringer** will temporarily be taking over the newsletter until October... thank you Denise... OGMS still needs a permanent Newsletter Editor. Hopefully one of you will step up and fill that position on the Board.

Membership Chair, Kim Bashford gave the names of several new members to the Board: Allen Beck; Crystal Best; Ryan Boring & Tia Call and family; Paul Crompton; Brian & Karen Davis; Brent & J. Ann Ferro; Bill & Patty Hanley; Randy & Monica Hey; Tim & Tanya Hoekstra and family; Russell & Jackie Hone and family; Joe & Maddie Lundgren and family; Doug Merrell & Trisha Kelsoe; Conner McCuiston; Kenneth & Barbara Neufeld; Terry & Marybeth Prince; Seth Ruhter; Robert & Linda Schaffer; Dana & Rebecca Schuck; Dariya & McKenzie Sehorn; Patrick & Afton Sweeney and family; Bill Todd & Amanda Coble and family; Saki & Elizabeth Vakalala; Martin & Bev Vance; Jonathan & Alexa Medema and family; Walt & Janice Holton and family; Dan & Leslie Bonney; Bill Campbell; and Rick & Rose Edvalson. Roxanne Franklin made a motion to accept all the new members; Ed Moser seconded; the motion carried! **Welcome to each and every one of you from OGMS!**

Field Trip Chair, Robert Murphey highlighted the overnight field trips to Texas Springs and McDermitt, both in Nevada. Good turn outs from our club, also members from the Boise club and at Texas Springs they were joined by Gary Moore from the Salmon club. He said special thanks to Bob and Kim Bashford for assisting with the trip to McDermitt as they are very familiar with the area and shared their knowledge with the group. He also added thanks to Leanne at the Caldera Rock Shop for all the information, maps and contact with mine owners in the area. He shared that the UV lights were very cool, as there is lots of fluorescent material in the area (along with the scorpions... they glow in the UV light too)!!!
The next field trip will be on 18 July 2020 to the club's Pink Plume Claim and Haystack Butte. We will meet at Owyhee Junction at the intersection of Owyhee Avenue and Hwy 201 just north of Adrian, Oregon at 7:00am, leaving at 7:30am.

Unfinished Business: OGMS passed the audit from the IRS. **Assistant Show Chair, Paul Deveau** is working with the Treasurer on expenses and cost comparisons of past shows.

New Business: A discussion of ongoing problems with e-mail scams, please make sure who you are talking to on the internet, both the OGMS and the Boise club have been targeted. Willa will also cover this in the next general meeting.

July 15th, 2020 is the OGMS potluck and fundraising auction at Caldwell Memorial Park at 618 Irving Street, Caldwell, Idaho. It starts at 6:30 pm (an hour earlier than our normal meeting to have social time and auction). Please bring your favorite dish, a serving spoon for your dish, your own place settings... the club will provide water, ice, and ice cream. If you don't want to do the potluck, bring your own picnic... but please come, it is a fun event. Bring your rock related items or white elephants for the auction, the money is used to defray costs of the annual Christmas Meeting/Dinner in December. Bring a lawn chair, to find a more comfortable spot in the shade.

The August General Meeting will be held at the same location in the Caldwell Memorial Park, starting at 7:00pm on Wednesday, August 19th, 2020. We are planning on an ice cream social. If you have an ice cream freezer... make some... there's no such thing as too much homemade ice cream!!!

Kim Bashford is checking with the College of Idaho to see when we can resume using the lecture hall for our meetings.

Willa shared a nice e-mail regarding Robert Murphey and the great field trip he led to McDermitt. It came from new members...Rick & Rose Edvalson, and they were so thoughtful to share their positive comments about Robert, the trip, and the club.

The next Board Meeting will be in the Park on Monday, July 27th, at 7:00pm.
The meeting was adjourned at 08:00pm

Respectfully submitted, Christine Deveau, Secretary

**Show Chair
Kathi Larson**



**2021 Show Dates: March 6 and 7
O'Connor Field House, Caldwell, Idaho**

Thoughts for Silent Auction

As you go out hunting rocks, please keep in mind our yearly show's Silent Auction! If you find a nice sample for our auction, place it in a bucket labeled "OGMS". By the end of the year, your bucket could be full of great rocks and ready to donate for our show. It is amazing how just a few rocks can add up if every "rockhound" contributes!

Tumble Those Rocks!

Every person who donates a 5-gallon bucket of tumbled rocks for grab bags for the rock show will receive \$120.00!

Donations Always Accepted

Silent Auction
Critters and Critter Making Supplies
Wheel of Gems Prizes
Grab Bag Prizes
Polished and Faceted Stones for Sand Dig

July Meeting—Pot Luck and Auction!

**The July 15, 2020 general meeting will be at the
Memorial Park in Caldwell on the corner of Irving and Kimball**

See you there at 6:30 p.m.

- Break out your favorite recipes and let's see how many wonderful dishes we can share with each other.
- Please bring your own paper plates and silverware, and serving utensils for your dish.
- Bring a comfy lawn chair to sit in.
- The Club will provide water and ice cream.
- This is also our Auction so if you have something to donate it would be greatly appreciated.
- The monies collected go towards off-setting our December Banquet costs, so anything you can do toward that helps.
- Ed Moser will be our auctioneer again this year and as you all know he is a lot of fun. We appreciate his help as he does such a good job.

Upcoming Events

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society August Meeting—Ice Cream Social—August 19, 2020—7:00 p.m.
Location: Caldwell Memorial Park, corner of Irving and Kimball

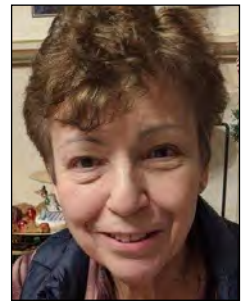
Vice President's Corner

Leave a Rock, Take a Rock

If you have lucked out and found some nice rocks 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.



Monthly Meeting Topic

If you have an idea for a presentation or information session, please contact me: Roxanne Franklin - (208) 577-7095, rocksfrank@cableone.net

Photos from the June Field Trip

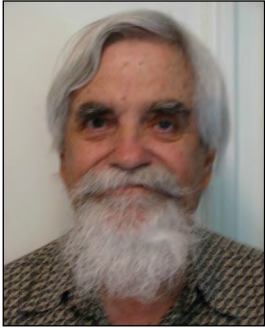


Federation Director

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.

Please Respect the Rules when you are out collecting rocks, be careful of ticks and snakes, and have fun.
 -Ed Moser, Federation Director (208) 340-8060,

My Favorite - Show and Tell



Bill Sawyer introduced a new segment for our meetings at the June 17th meeting.

You can sign up to give a short 5 -15 minute talk about your favorite rock/mineral/gem.

A list of questions will be provided to you to help you talk about your choice.

Bill started us off with a presentation about Hematite that was very educational.



My favorite (rock) (mineral) (gem) is Hematite.

Why I like it: It is usually an attractive metal color, and inexpensive

Did you find it or purchase it? I bought all of the specimens I have.

Are there other names for this material? Iron oxide, kidney stone

It is (igneous) (metamorphic) (sedimentary) in origin. Sedimentary

What form is it found in? (crystals) (nuggets) (rock) Crystals, Rock

What is its relative hardness? Mohs hardness = 5 to 6, but hematite can be brittle

It is made up of (which element or mineral compounds): Fe₂O₃, only iron and oxygen

Where is it found? Worldwide, and on Mars

Is it common or rare? Common, but best specimens are from U.S., Morocco, Brazil, Russia

What are its uses? (manufacturing) (jewelry) (medicine) Manufacturing, jewelry, novelty carvings

Is it safe to handle or work with? It is very stable, very safe

Are there any special characteristics? (Radioactive) (Fluorescence) (Toxic) (Large Crystals)

(Used by ancient humans) (rare fossil) (newly identified).

1) Used in Africa 160,000 years B.P. for art and body decoration

2) Neanderthal burials

3) Early Iron Age metallurgy

4) Few stone tools by North American indigenous peoples

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/>