



# Owyhee Gem



# Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society

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## Board of Directors

### **PRESIDENT:**

Willa Renken 362-3941

### **VICE-PRESIDENT:**

Melissa Jones 340-4545

### **SECRETARY: /**

Sylvia Foreman 459-4554

### **TREASURER:**

Janie Ehlers -674-1213

### **FEDERATION DIRECTOR:**

Ed Moser 340-8060

### **FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN:**

Larry Beattie 466-6184

ASST: Gene Alvey 440-3067

### **SHOW CHAIRMAN:**

Susan Beattie

### **ASST. Chairman**

Darell Ehlers -674-1213

### **BULLETIN EDITOR:**

Joan & Gene Alvey 409-2410

E-mail fosselmoss@msn.com

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Neava Haney 899-1519

### **HISTORIAN:**

Pauline Prather 459-4139

### **REFRESHMENTS:**

**Jim & Ruth Hopkins 466-8817**

### **ROAD CLEAN-UP:**

Lloyd Summers 461-2140

### **Sunshine**

RoseMary Peterson 546-1897

## June President's Message

Hello everyone it is already June and the year is half over it seems that our years continue to progress so rapidly. I trust you all had a great Memorial Day and found time to respect those love ones and service-men who have past on before us. We spent ours with our special friends in southeast Idaho. What a great time we had fishing, shooting, and enjoying some awesome bonfires. I love spring time as you don't have to worry as much about burning the place down so the height of the fire makes it a challenge to see how high it can become before you can't stand the heat long enough to put more wood on it.

If you are new to our group we have a few events through out the year and July is a special month as we have our Annual Picnic. It is a pot-luck and auction so please start planning on a fantastic dish to make and share and something fun to donate as an auction item. Our auction is always a lot of fun so hope you will all make plans to attend.

June is a regular meeting and will hopefully be in our regular room. Last month was a little close but we really had a good turn out. A quick thank you to all who donated slabs as we sure had a great time finding out who bought the lucky tickets.

We are still looking for a roadside cleanup chairman. We usually do this activity twice a year and need someone to step forward and help organize this function. It is not hard all you have to do is pick up the signs, bags, & jackets from the highway dept. Then notify the club of the date and ask for volunteers. Most times the members chip in and it takes about an hour or two then you can go for a mystery field trip. The club does get recognition for the stretch of road we keep clean. Please let us know if you can support us in filling this position.

As always I look forward to seeing you all on June the 19<sup>th</sup> at the Boone Science hall. Thanks again for all the support you all provide our club.

Willa Renken  
OGMS President

**Happy Birthday**

- Myrt Alston 6/2
- Freda Babbitt 6/30
- Chris Blickfeldt 6/16
- David Butler 6/18
- Janie Ehlers 6/17
- Curt Smith 6/15
- Bradley Stephens 6/15
- Robyn Turner 6/20
- Isaac Ward 6/4
- Nancy Farrell 6/27
- Linda Fosnaugh 6/19
- Lloyd Summers 6/19
- Richard Coulson 6/19
- Judith Hart 6/3
- Amber Kiester 6/20
- Kathi Larson 6/



**Happy Anniversary**

- Curt & Jan Smith 6/17
- Karissa & Robert Sudweeks 6/18
- Linda & Dennis Waller 6/8
- Neva & Ernest Haney 6/2
- Ruth & Jim Hopkins 6/5
- Steve Jewell 6/12
- Amanda & Keyyy McConnell 6/17
- Deanna & Ed Moser 6/29
  
- Dan & Patricia Stowell 6/2
- Robert & Karissa Sudweeks 6/18



I truly hope I Haven't missed any one if I have I am very sorry

**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY****MAY 15,2013**

**GENERAL MEETING:** held at College of Idaho in room 103 was called to order by President Willa Renken at 7:30pm. Willa asked if there were any changes to minutes as printed in May newsletter. Hearing none Willa asked for a motion to accept the minutes as printed, Jim Hopkins made motion to accept minutes as printed 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gene Alvey and approved by general membership.

**EVENING ACTIVITY:** There was not a program for the evening.

**SECRETARY:** Sylvia Foreman had two show files to report.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Melissa Jones was not present.

**EDITOR:** Joan Alvey would like information for newsletter by June 1.

**TREASURER:** Janie Ehlers gave treasurer's report.

**SHOW CHAIRMAN:** Susan Bea was not present due to illness.

**FEDERATION CHAIRMAN:** Ed Moser did not have a report from Brad Larson on the Federation Show. He asked all to keep saving stamps for Cancer Research also remember to cut ¼" around the stamp.

**HISTORIAN:** Pauline Prather was not present.

**SUNSHINE:** RoseMary Peterson had nothing to report.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Neava Haney had prospective memberships wishing to be a member. Joan Alvey made motion to accept the new members into our club 2<sup>nd</sup> by Judy Tucker and carried by general membership.

**FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN:** Larry Bea reports that the May field trip will be to the Thunderegg Claim on Succor Creek, May 18, meet at Homedale Park at 7:30am and leave at 8am. Need good wheels this trip; 4-wheel or hi-clearance, and lots of water and a shovel, etc. He asked all rockhounds that dig holes to remember to fill them after their fun of digging them.

**WEB REPORT:** Brad Larson was not present.

**REFRESHMENTS:** Ruth and Jim Hopkins thanked the May cookie crew and asked for 1 volunteer for June and 2 for August.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Larry Ridley thanked all volunteers that helped repair show equipment on work day.

Darell Ehlers has not found a trailer for storing rocks yet, more information later.

**NEW BUSINESS:** No new business.

**SLAB DRAWING:** Willa had Mike Tuckers help drawing slab tickets.

RoseMary Peterson won the door prize donated by Ithel Kildow.

**MEETING ADJOURNED and REFRESHMENTS enjoyed by all**

sfs

# MARY & LARRY RIDLEY



## HONORING TWO ROCKHOUNDS

Larry & Mary Ridley have put so much of their time & efforts over the last three decades into working for and helping out the Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society that is a pleasure to honor their dedication.

They weren't always rockhounds, Larry spent a lot of his time on the end of a fishing pole before getting bit by the rock bug. Mary is just as bad, you should see her digging through the rough material watching for that special piece. They joined the club in the early '80s with no more knowledge than the rest of us have when we first start seeing rocks in a different way. Now just ask about any of the jaspers or agates and they can go on forever.

Most of you know what Willow Creek Jasper looks like. Larry spends a great deal of his time working at getting out the material from his claim. He says that the best part of finding the jasper is sharing it with fellow rockhounds so they can have some really good material to cut & polish. We can remember one of the first times of going to Willow Creek and checking out the then abandoned claim. Mary, Larry, Gene & myself down on our hands & knees trying to break off a little piece of jasper about the size of a silver dollar from a large nodule. We were so happy to be pounding on that rock, we had really found a piece of jasper. That was the start of it all. Now Willow Creek Jasper has been featured

Larry served as Field Trip Coordinator for the club for several years. During this time he built an outhouse to take out on all the trips so the ladies could have their privacy. Here would be Larry & Mary driving down the road with this collapsible wooden Out House riding in the back. That just goes to show that they were really thinking of the club members as well as the environment, wanting to make the trips very comfortable & enjoyable. As part of his responsibilities as coordinator Larry kept up the work of filling paper work on the clubs claim each year.

One of the Field Trips that really stands out in our minds was when Larry led the trip up to Dismal Swamp for Smokies. It was an overnigher so many of us drove our trailers or motorhomes up on the dirt roads past Featherville. At the top of the hill before going down into the Smokie area is a place large enough for several to camp. Larry organized the people along the creek showing them what to look for and how to find the crystals. By the end of the day we were all very wet, from wading in the water, and tired from digging; like our lives depended on it. Back at camp all was well & comfortable as we snuggled down in our beds. That is until the sky turned to water with a deluge that wouldn't stop. Some of our fellow Rockhounds were in tents so you can imagine their fates as the rain came down in buckets. Room was made the the motorhomes & campers etc and by the next day everyone was ready to hunt for more crystals. Larry had given us another great memory of rock hunting.

The biggest challenge the Owyhee Gem Club has each year is putting together the Gem Show. Over the years Larry & Mary have been working to make each show a success. They are dealers so everyone gets a chance to see and buy Willow Creek Jasper but they are much more. Each year they are busy helping to get the display cases up & down as well as helping to organize all of the club activities. Larry was in charge of the show for several years and is still the one to take care of the clubs trailers, overseeing the construction and purchase of new trailers to hold the set up and display materials.

Now that Mary & Larry are retired they can spend part of their winters in Quartzsite, Arizona. They were able to buy property and get out a few times to look for rock or just ride around on their ATV. Larry has a booth at the Desert Gardens location so that takes up most of his time. He enjoys swapping stories and showing of rocks to everyone who stops to visit. Who knows, you might be the one who takes home a pound or two of Willow Creek with just the most perfect orbs or find just that right shade of jasper you have been wanting.

This is a way of thanking Mary & Larry for all the hard work they have volunteered for the club over the last 30 years.

## May Field Trip to the Succor Creek Thunder Egg Claim

Well, Mother Nature finally caught up with us on one of our field trips. The rain came in and made that wonderful Owyhee clay nice and sticky. So, we put plan "B" into effect. I would like to thank everyone for pulling together and turning what could have been a "rain out" into a successful field trip. Some nice petrified wood was gathered and some very nice leaf fossils were found. It turned out to be a pretty nice day in spite of the moisture turning McIntyre Ridge road to mush.



## June 22<sup>nd</sup> Field Trip

With the dry conditions around the Big Egg Claim this year I think we would be better off making a second attempt at the Succor Creek Thunder Egg Claim. Let's meet in Homedale, at the city park across from the school near the tank, at 7:30 am. We will leave by 8:00 am. If you don't like going in that way, we can just meet you at McIntyre Ridge Road, providing I don't miss the turn off. Bring all the usual stuff; food, water, bug spray (ticks), picks, shovels, buckets, and a solid vehicle. The road into the claim is very rocky, so at the very least high clearance and 4WD is recommended. And let's not forget, if you dig holes, and you will, fill them in when you are through.

Thank you! Larry (hey I'm just the field trip guy!) Beattie

**Gigantic Rock Sale for all you Rockhounds**

Complete Rock collection for sale all Materials have been really discounted in price for quick sale. There are well over 400 slabs such as Old and New Biggs, Carr site, and many many other varieties.

Lots of Rough Rock, Garnets, Fire Agates, Thunder Egos, Putrefied Wood, and Oregon Sun Stones. There is a huge amount of Rock in good size for Spheres. And numerous polished specimens.

**Date: June 28,29,30**

**Time: 9am to 6pm**

**Address: 8345 Stetson Drive Boise Idaho** Joe Neilson



**Big News**

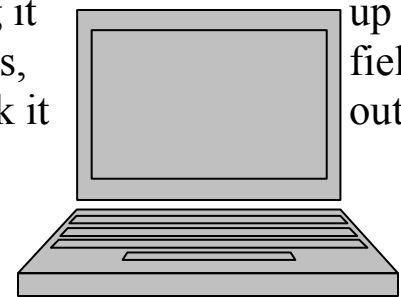
Bill Stringer has ask that I put this article in the news letter to stop all the rumors HE **IS NOT CLOSING HIS SHOP.** He is however down-sizing his rough rock so come one come all. Business will be like usual...

Thank you Bill Stringer



**Have You ever visited our Club Website**

Lets Check out our most awesome Web site . it always has great information on it ,there are some great pictures of our outings and our news letter is posted on it. If you have computer access take a look at it sometime it really is amazing and you can see the News letter in **FULL Color** it really makes it look more interesting I think. The fact that it is too expensive to publish it in Color we can't do it but it cost no more to show it in Full Color on the web site so come on and check it out . Brad Larson our Web Master does a great job of keeping it up to date with all kinds of information. Like upcoming shows, field trips dates , times and much much more. So lets go check it out at.



[www.owyheerocks.com](http://www.owyheerocks.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

(Landstrom's & Stamper)

Bolos & Buckles

Bookends & Specimens

Birthstone Jewelry

Tumblers & Equipment

## WHITES METAL DETECTORS

**W.A. (Bill)**

**& Anna Stringer**

1812 West Orchard

Nampa, Idaho 83651

1 Mile South of Karcher Mall

### **WE Still NEED A VOLINTEER!!!!!!**

We need one of our members to step up and Volunteer for a position that has been vacated due to Lloyd Summers resigning. IT is not a job that requires a lot of time just two times a year one in SPRING and one in FALL you would have to get signs and bags from the Highway department and set up the date of the clean-up, get volunteers to help and then maybe join them on a field trip after if that has earlier been decided. Since this is our responsibility as a club it is all our jobs to help. **Come on members we need one person to step up and take charge.** **Our little skunk has to keep its presents in this spot until someone volunteers.**

IF you are willing to take on this job please contact our President Willa Renken by Person, phone or email

362-3941 or [wir\\_dkr@msn.com](mailto:wir_dkr@msn.com)

Ja



Yumm Yumm this months refreshments folks are Janie Ehlers, Myrt Alston and Joan Alvey. Just a little reminder our Annual Club picnic is coming up real fast. It is a auction and also a Pot Luck this is a great time to share your favorite receipts and also a chance to purchase a neat gift or have the ability to bring a item to auction off. More information on this FUN Event will be in next months news letter.



You're Refreshment Chairmen  
Ruth & Jim Hopkins

**Sunshine Report**

If any of you become aware of the need of any get well wishes or other communications needed by one of our members please give me a call !

Rosemary Peterson 546-1897.  
Thank you all for your help and hope this finds you all healthy and happy .

Your Sunshine chairman  
RoseMary Peterson.



Well it is now June and the weather is finally warming up! Hope everyone is getting the opportunity to get out on the field trips. Look forward to seeing YOU at the next meeting!

The General Body welcomed Dan & Maureen Escobar of Wilder, Anna Stafford of Jordan Valley, Rodney Sharp of Meridian, and Dave Young of Nampa at the May Meeting.

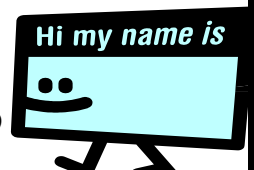
If you have not received your name badge and/or membership card, my contact information is listed below. Please contact me either by phone or email so I can have it ready for you at the next meeting.

Reminder: You get with "New Membership" – A membership card, a small patch and your name badge at no charge. With your "Renewal" you will get your membership card for the New Year. (Usually you can pick up your name badge at the next club meeting while enjoying refreshments and meeting new friends after the meeting)

We have had some inquires for replacement of Name Badges or small patches that have gone astray. You can purchase the Name Badge for \$2.00 and/or the small patch for \$3.00 each. We also have the big patches for \$10.00.

Remember to wear your name badge so everyone knows who you are.

Neava Haney 899-1519

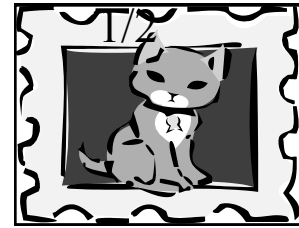




Stamps to this months meeting.  
Remember to *cut ½ inch all the way around the stamp.*

Give them to me at the OGMS meeting.  
The money raised will go to help support  
**CANCER RESEARCH.**

Thank you all for this it dose  
help others and it might just  
Help some one you might know..



### June Birthstone

Hey did you know that the Moonstone is one of the modern June Birthstones and an accepted gem for the 13<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary , The Moonstone belongs to the Feldspar family It is an opalescent stone that can range any where from complete colorless to blue, peach, green, pink, yellow, brown or gray with a silvery sheen. This iridescence is known as stiller but in moonstone it is called adularescence.

Moonstones can be found all over the world Brazil, Germany, India, Madagascar, Mexico Myanmar, Sri Lanka ,Tanzania and yes right here in our vary own United States. It is said it has some real healing properties. Just to list a few like the cure of Headaches, Nose bleeds, and it is said they can even help prevent Sun Stroke.

The Modern Birthstone is the PEARL There are many kinds of Pearls, Natural, Cultures, Biwa Blister, Fresh Water, and several more. Something very important to know about your Pearls is that you never use Ultrasonic cleaners on them it great for cleaning your other jewelry but not you Pearls

**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 with it.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

**Family— \$20.00 per year**

Couples - \$18.00 per year

Singles - \$12.00 per year

(18 and under)

Children - \$3.00 per year

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



**GENERAL MEETING:** The club meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the Boone Science Building at the College of Idaho, except for the July picnic and the December party. Field trips are scheduled once a month. Visitors are welcome at all these events!

Bring a friend—Wear your name tag  
Bring an identified slab



Joan & Gene Alvey  
94North 29th Street  
Nampa, Idaho 83687

