



# “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

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(760) 331-3443,  
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**WEBMASTER:** Brad Larson  
ogms.webmaster@gmail.com

### June President's Message

Hello fellow rock hounds. Hopefully this letter finds you all well and enjoying the opportunity to finally get out and look for some wonderful rocks. This time of year, the desert is filled with wildflowers, which makes for some wonderful pictures.

Roxanne has another wonderful program lined out for us so I hope you all will be entertained again this month. Don't forget to bring a rock and take a rock for our new program. We will be having a slab drawing this meeting so if you have a few slabs to share we would appreciate the donation.

We are preparing for the July picnic and Auction so if you can spare something nice to donate for the July Auction it will be greatly appreciated. This is always a fun filled evening so remember to bring your lawn chair, a favorite dish or two and come have some fun. This month's Board meeting will be on June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Caldwell Public Library.

Robert has been chomping at the bit to get you all out there on another field trip this month. This month's trip is to Coal Mine Basin to look for petrified wood. As the days start getting hotter, please be mindful of the grass and stay hydrated. Robert will have more info for you on this trip at the meeting.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 at the Boone Science bldg. Till then keep your head down and find something spectacular.

Willa Renken OGMS President

# OWYHEE GEM

## ***OGMS 2019 Field Trips***

**ALL FIELD TRIPS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER AND ROAD CONDITIONS. Some may also be added.**

**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 @ 8:30.

**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.**

### **The Top Ten Nightmares for Rockhounds**

10. Collecting partner bursting with song.
9. Opening your backpack on arrival at locality and finding kids school books.
8. Sirens!
7. A lovely pond where the pit used to be.
6. Specimen bag is too heavy on way out.
5. Specimen bag is too light on way out.
4. A rattling noise in the rock pile.
3. Your spouse has cleaned up your collection
2. Hammer seeking lightning.
1. A tour bus parked at favorite locality.

Via CMS Tmbler, 8/12; Golden spike News, 6/12 via Rock Chips, 6/12; via Gems of the Rogue 2/12; via Gems From the Redwoods 10/14



**June Birthdays**

- 6/1 Jessica Coleman
- 6/3 Judith Hart
- 6/4 Christie Rettinger
- 6/4 Isaac Ward
- 6/6 Darrell Engelhardt
- 6/7 Madonna White
- 6/12 Jared Kienitz
- 6/12 Norma Lowry
- 6/12 Donna Syme
- 6/13 Justin Tibbetts
- 6/15 Gerri Smith
- 6/17 Jay Erb
- 6/17 Janie Ehlers
- 6/17 Mark and Cindy
- 6/18 David Butler
- 6/18 Sheri Hale
- 6/19 Dave Young
- 6/21 Rick Brose
- 6/22 Kathi Larson
- 6/23 Chris Deveau
- 6/26 Marshall Pickens
- 6/30 Freda Babbitt

**June Birthstone: Pearl**

This enchanting June birthstone originates from oceans, lakes and rivers around the world. It is a timeless wardrobe staple, beloved by women of all ages. The origin of pearls fascinated our forebears. Ancients from the Middle East believed that pearls were teardrops fallen from heaven. The Chinese fancied that the June birthstone came from the brain of a dragon. Christopher Columbus and his contemporaries thought that mollusks formed pearls from dew drops

**June Anniversaries**

- 6/1 Ron and Jean Dingley
- 6/5 Jim and Ruth Hopkins
- 6/7 Kenneth Grove
- 6/8 Bill and Roxanne Franklin
- 6/8 Dennis and Linda Waller
- 6/11 Rick Fleischman
- 6/17 Jeff and Virginia Ramsey
- 6/19 Miers and Sandi Johnson
- 6/21 Edwin and Dallas Budden
- 6/26 Rick and Carlene Badillo
- 6/26 Todd and Misty Joyner
- 6/28 Michael and Gena Kolbo
- 6/29 Gary and Sue Chambers
- 6/29 Ed and Deanna Moser

**Happy Anniversary to Ed and Deanna Moser**

**61 years! WOW!**

*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**

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Rough, Slabs, Cabs, Specimens,  
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 Full Lapidary Lab w/classes  
 Large Mineral Collection  
  
 Located in Nampa  
 Call for appt. and info  
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**OPENING MARCH 2019**

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your ad here?**

You can buy a 1/4 page ad, rock &  
 hobby related, like  
 this 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:  
[carolfarnham@ymail.com](mailto:carolfarnham@ymail.com)

## VICE PRESIDENTS CORNER

### Leave a Rock Take a Rock

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.

I will give a very short talk on the differences between a Geode and a Thunder egg and bring some examples.

## From the Editor

This is the last newsletter I will be putting out. I will be back to being just a member after this. If you need to contact our new editor, her name is Margaret Nelson and her info will be on the front page in place of mine.

Margaret Nelson  
Phone # (319) 610-0729  
Email - 4rose01@gmail.com

## ATTENTION:

It was brought to my attention that Dale Rawson taught a class on rocks and paleontology at the Caldwell High School for special needs children in April. Between 15-18 children attended and had a good time. The teachers said they'd like to have him run the class again next year.

There are always schools and libraries wanting someone to do little events like this. Please let a board member know if you may be interested in helping out. Ed Moser is contacted quite often for someone to do a little class for children or small groups.

## 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





## Attention Rock Hounds!!



**What:** July is our **CLUB PICNIC** (in place of our monthly meeting).

**When:** July 17th at 6:30pm (**Roxanne needs help setting up at 6pm**)

**Where:** Caldwell Memorial Park on the corner of Kimball and Irving. (covered area)

**Why:** Fun and **Auction**, (**Please bring some item(s) to auction off**. Does not have to be rock related but beautiful slabs, spheres or tools are good. Something really nice that will bring money to the club.) A portion of what is taken in will help fund our Christmas Dinner. Bring your money.

**Pot Luck:** Bring one or two food items to share with the club. Meat, casseroles, salads, fruit, desserts, etc. There is always plenty to eat. Water and ice cream to be provided by the club.

Be prepared to bring utensils, plates, napkins, (lawn chairs for sitting in the shade and comfort)

**Stay tuned. More details to come next month.**

## Roadside Cleanup

I would like to thank the people who showed up for the Spring Roadside Cleanup. I apologize for missing the deadline for the last newsletter with this thank you, but your efforts were greatly appreciated. And as always, thank you Janie Ehlers for the wonderful cookies! The weather (as I promised) was beautiful. As I promised, I am working on a field trip to take the place of the one I wasn't able to take you on. Thank you again for the wonderful job everyone did to cleanup our stretch of road.

On a side note, I am interested in turning this duty over to someone new in our club. It is not a difficult job or one that takes a lot of time, so if you are interested in getting more involved in our club, this is a good place to start. If you are interested, contact me and I can give you more information.

Thank you, Larry Beattie

## Chalk In a Box

If you have finished jewelry that is not being used, to keep the gold or silver from tarnishing, add a piece of blackboard chalk to the box. This absorbs the moisture, which is one cause of tarnishing.

Make sure that the jewelry is absolutely dry and that the box is sealed tightly.

## Shop Tips & Handy Information

### Cutting star Garnets

When cutting star garnets be aware:

\* Garnets are extremely heat sensitive, especially to friction.

\* Not all garnets will star.

\* Garnets are usually cut in a hemispherical shape to make the star easier to orient and take full advantage of the star.

\* Stars are usually four ray occasionally six ray.

\* Stars may be very difficult to orient to the top of the stone. Choose a stone that is rather dark, mottled or cloudy when you hold it to the light, and one that has a distinct crystal surface.

*Via Stone Age News via Tumbler-Jan 98 via Mendo Coast Gems via Gems From the Redwoods 03/17*

### Polishing Plume Agate

Plume agate undercuts readily since the plume is softer than the agate. The problem can often be remedied by reducing the speed of your sanding and polishing operations. Also, avoid excessive heat.

*Via Mineral Memo's via Roc Toc 12/03 via Gems From the Redwoods 3/17*

### More About Polishing

When shaping and polishing your stones, do not press hard. Let the machine do the work. By pressing hard, all you do is wear out the wheels, yourself, and cut deep scratches in the stone.

You have better control over your work with a light touch. Grind your stone on high speed, sand on medium speed and polish on a low speed, all with a light touch.

*Via South Gem 10/00 via Roc Toc 12/03 via Gems From the Redwoods 3/17*

## BEFORE YOU BUY A MAGNIFIER

BY ANDREW ALDEN, ABOUT.COM GUIDE

After you get a rock hammer, you'll need a magnifier. The big Sherlock Holmes type lens is a cliché; instead you want a light-weight, powerful magnifier (also called a loupe) that has impeccable optics and is easy to use. Get the best magnifier for demanding jobs like inspecting gems; in the field, for quick looks at minerals, buy a decent magnifier you can afford to lose.

**Using a Magnifier:** Hold the lens up next to your eye, and then bring your specimen close to it, only a few centimeters from your face. The point is to focus your attention through the lens, the same way you look through eyeglasses. If you normally wear glasses, you may want to keep them on. A magnifier won't correct for astigmatism.

**How Many X?:** The X factor of a magnifier refers to how much it magnifies. Sherlock's magnifying glass makes things look 2 or 2 times bigger; that is, it's 2x or 3x. Geologists like to have 5x to 20x, but more than that is hard to use in the field because the lenses are very small. 5x or 7x lenses offer a wider field of vision, while a 10x magnifier gives you the closest look at tiny crystals, trace minerals, grain surfaces, and microfossils.

**Magnifier Flaws to Watch For:** Check the lens for scratches. Set the magnifier on a piece of white paper and see if the lens adds color of its own. Now pick it up and examine several objects, including one with a fine pattern like a halftone picture. The view through the lens should be clear as air with no internal reflections. Highlights should be crisp and brilliant, with no colored fringes (that is the lens should be achromatic). A flat object should not look warped or buckled—move it to and fro to be sure. A magnifier should not be loosely put together.

**Magnifier Bonuses:** Given the same X factor, a larger lens is better. A ring or loupe to attach a lanyard is a good thing; so is a leather or plastic case. A lens held with a removable retaining ring can be taken out for cleaning. And a brand name on the magnifier while not always a guarantee of quality, means you can contact the manufacturer.

**Doublet, Triplet, Coddington:** Good lens makers combine two or three pieces of glass to correct for chromatic aberration—what gives an image blurred, colored fringes. Doublets can be quite satisfactory, but the triplet is the gold standard. Coddington lenses employ a deep cut inside the solid glass, using an air gap to create the same effect as a triplet. Being solid glass, they cannot ever come apart—a consideration if you get wet a lot. *Via Cutting Remarks-1/12 Rocky Mountain News-10/11 Gems From the Redwoods 10/14*

**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY – Board Meeting for May was not held because of the Memorial Day holiday.**

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**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY – GENERAL MEETING MINUTES May 15, 2019**

The General Meeting was held at the College of Idaho, in the Boone Science Hall and called to order by President, Willa Renken. Roxanne Franklin made a motion to accept the minutes as printed; seconded by Ed Moser, motion carried. Dr. Terry Panhorst spoke about mineral twinning. There were no guests present.

**Secretary:** Received an invoice for badges and patches, information from the bank about renewing our CD, information from the Idaho Tax Commission, a statement from the insurance company, one membership renewal and one membership application.

**Vice President:** The Club will continue with the 'bring a rock take a rock' exchange during each of our monthly meetings. Roxanne is working on the presentation for the next meeting.

**Show Chairman:** There are currently 38 vendors on the waiting list for the yearly rock show. Kathi encouraged everyone attending the field trips to pick up and donate a little of the material you find to help the silent auction.

**Federation Report:** Ed gave a reminder to continue to save your postage stamps. The stamps will be taken to the NWF Meeting in the fall and will be sold. The proceeds from the sale will go to help fund cancer research.

**Sunshine:** Contact Jewels if you know of someone who could use a note of cheer. She does an outstanding job sending words of encouragement to all who benefit from a kind word. The Club thanks you, Jewels.

**Membership:** Contact Kim if you need your name badge or patches. She also has a few extra if you would like to have an additional patch or two.

**Field Trip Chairman:** The May field trip will be to Graveyard Point to look for green jasper and plume agate. Meet at the park in Homedale. There will be a joint field trip with the Boise Club on June 8<sup>th</sup> to Beacon Hill.

There was no Unfinished Business or Historian Report.

**New Business:** The General Meeting in July 17 will be the annual potluck. It will be held at the park on Kimball, in Caldwell and everyone is welcome! The event is a great opportunity to socialize and enjoy some fellowship with club members. Bring a dish or two to share, and your own table settings. There are plenty of picnic tables for everyone to sit, but bringing a lawn chair is a good idea so you can find a comfortable place in the shade. The Club will provide a drink and ice cream for dessert. Ed Moser will host a live auction after the picnic. Auction proceeds help fund the annual banquet in December. It would be great if you can bring an item or two that can be sold at the auction. Items do not need to be rock related. There will be no Board Meeting in May due to the Memorial Day holiday.

Slab drawing. Ruth Hopkins won the door prize that was donated by Teri Collett. The door prize was a beautiful jasper and petrified wood pendant and also included a Dairy Queen gift card. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Respectfully submitted. Debbie Lawrence, Secretary



## Membership

### **We are accepting payment of 2019 dues**

Membership forms are available at every meeting. Invite your "rockhound" friends to our next one!

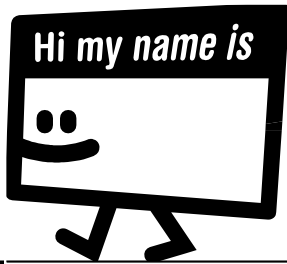
Any member needing a name badge, membership card, or patch, please call me so I can have them ready for you to pick up at the next meeting.

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 31st through the following October 31st .

You can either pay at a meeting or by mailing the form below to:



**P.O. Box 1053, Caldwell, ID 83605-1053**

**Kim Bashford, Membership Chairperson**

**Phone: (208) 454-7287**

**Email: kmcewan1957@msn.com**

### ***PAY YOUR DUES NOW Please!***

#### OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY DUES      Year: 2018

Family \$20	Couple \$18	Single \$12	Child \$3
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LAST NAME: (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME(s): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ ANNIV: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ BDAY: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Day                      Month Day    Month Day

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ NEW \_\_\_\_\_      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.

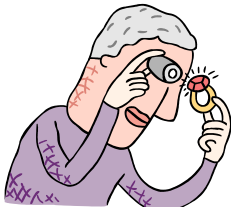
**MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

- Family** - \$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/>

