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(603) 548-8822  
pypnhot@comcast.net

**VICE-PRESIDENT:**

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**FEDERATION DIRECTOR:**

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blackwolfjdw1954@yahoo.com

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Wlr\_dkr@msn.com

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**HISTORIAN:**

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**WEBMASTER:**

John Merritt

# “Owyhee Gem”

Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society

PO Box 1053 | Caldwell, ID | 83605-1053

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society | [Facebook](#), [www.owyheerocks.com](http://www.owyheerocks.com)

Volume 58 No. 3

March 2026

## March President's Message

By the time you read this, we will have held our 72<sup>nd</sup> show. Special thanks to the Lead persons that headed up each of the venues and prepared everything for the show (See show section). Additional thanks to all the folks that signed up at the last meeting and the ones that showed up to help set up and take down. It's always a busy time and many hands help make the tasks much easier and quicker. To make things even more exciting, we experienced Daylight Savings Time for day two of the show!



Thanks to those that filled out the surveys, we had a few more that were completed and returned to us. All the responses are in the process of being compiled and will be a roadmap for us to follow moving forward. I hope to have some of that information available for our April meeting.

Previously we had discussed having a second “fun show” open to the public that would allow club members to sell their crafts. We will be gearing up for this now that the primary show is completed. Anyone wishing to help, please let me know. First thing we need to do is locate a building that is in Caldwell/Nampa with good parking that would be available around the November/December timeframe. If you know of any places that you think would be good, please feel free to get the details and pass that information along to any board member.

See you at the March meeting! If you need to reach out, I'm only a phone call, text or email away.

Sue Cassidy, 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.
- 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.**

### Owyhee Gem Club Field Trips 2026

**March 21st:** \* Rockville for Leaf Fossils, Meet @ Chevron, Hwy 55/95 Junction

**April 18th:** \* Big Egg Claim for Thunder Eggs. Meet @ Chevron, Hwy 55/95 Junction

**May 23rd:** \* Tony Funk Rock Yard with Boise & Idaho Falls Clubs 204 Washing St. Gooding, ID

BBQ pot luck. Everyone can go on their own or meet at the Rest Stop on I-84 East of Boise

**June 20th-21st:** Texas Springs for Pink Limb Casts. Meet @ Cactus Pete's in Nevada @ 9:00 am leave @ 9:30. This is an overnight trip.

**July 18th:** \*\* Graveyard point for moss agate, Meet @ Chevron, Hwy 55/95 Junction

**Aug 22nd:** \*\* Picture Jasper Claim, Meet @ Chevron, Hwy 55/95 Junction

**Sept 19th:** \* Blue Egg for Blue Opal Thunder Eggs. Meet @ Homedale City Park with Tank

**Oct 24th:** \* Pink Plume Claim for Pink Plume Agate, Meet @ the Owyhee Junction, Hwy 201 and Owyhee Ave

Legend:

\* (meet @ 8am – leave @ 8:30)

\*\* (meet @ 7am – leave @ 7:30)

*For further information, Contact John (208)571-6873 or David (208)250-7739*

**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 Deana at (208) 794-5628



Deana Ashton

**Monthly Meeting Topics**

**Vice President** – Deana A announced that both March and April’s program presentations will be provided by Steve Narkaus.

**Web Master Position Filled:** Please welcome John Merritt as our new webmaster.

Please thank Brad Larson for 23 years of devotion to managing and maintaining our web presence. He has done an excellent job.

Webpage Link: [OwyheeRocks.com](http://OwyheeRocks.com)

**General Meetings at The College of Idaho— Third Wednesday of the month –March -June**

Caldwell, Idaho—Boone Science Hall (#12 on map below), Room 103 at 7:00 p.m.



**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 help support youth 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.

-Ed Moser, Federation Director  
(208) 340-8060, edmoser15@gmail.com

Website:  
[Northwest Federation Mineralogical Society](#)

**General Meeting — February 18, 2026**

The February 2026 General Meeting of the Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by OGMS president, Sue Cassidy at 7:03 pm on 2/18/26 in Idaho at the College of Idaho's Boone Science Building in room # 203

Sue called for a motion to accept the last meeting's minutes to be accepted as printed in the OGMS news letter. Willa R made the motion to accept the minutes. Kim B seconded the motion. All the members were in favor, there was no further discussion and the motion passed.

**Secretary's Report** – Chris R said she picked up the mail and distributed it to Kim B.

**Vice President** – Deana A introduced Cindy Woosly and Bill Todd who gave excellent presentations on Native American Artifacts. She also announced that Bill Todd will be back and deliver March's program. He'll demonstrate and discuss flint knapping.

**Treasurer Report** – Ken C discussed expenses and disbursements in addition to the club's accounts balances. He also announced that Dale Rawson successfully sold all the old show tables.

**Federation Report** – Ed Moser told our newcomers about how we collect postage stamps to be sold at the federation gathering and how it benefits youth groups.

**Field Trip Chair** – John announced that in March our first field trip will be to Rockville.

**Membership**- Kim announced our show case sign ups are full.

**Sunshine Report** – Get well card sent to Vickie.

**Historian Report**- Nothing to report this month.

**Junior Geologist**- Steve announced that there are nine events currently scheduled for the Juniors thus far and they'll be listed in this newsletter.

**Old Business**- John Merritt will be our new web-master, THANK YOU John!  
Please fill out the survey if you haven't done so and also let Sue know if you're not receiving your newsletters

**New Business** – Bob B talked about 'Life Flight' services.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:15 followed with our slab and door prize drawings. The door prize drawing winner was Deana Ashton.



**Board Meeting Minutes—February 23, 2026**

Officers present: Sue Cassidy, Dale Rawson, Kim Bashford, Willa Renken, Don Dixon, Ken Christensen

Guests present: Steve Narkaus, Cindy Woolsey

February's 2026 OGMS Board Meeting was called to order @ 7:00 pm by OGMS President Sue Cassidy in the Caldwell Public Library at 1010 Dearborn in Caldwell Idaho. Sue called for a motion to accept the previous board meeting minutes as printed in the OGMS news letter. Willa R made a motion to accept the minutes as printed and it was seconded by Dale R. All the board members were in favor, there was no further discussion and the motion to accept the minutes passed.

**Vice President** – Nothing to report.

**Treasurer** – Ken Christensen – Ken discussed club's accounts and balances and that he sent out NFMS dues.

**Secretary** – Chris R not present. Dale picked up and distributed the mail.

**Show Chair** – Nothing new to report

**Asst Show Chair** – Dale discussed our current need to upgrade to LED lighting for this year's show cases and upgrades that will be needed for junction boxes for future shows. Ken made a motion to allow \$500 for spending on phase one of the lighting upgrades. Ed seconded the motion, all of the officers were in favor without further discussion, so the motion passed.

**Membership Chair** - Kim announced two new membership applications. The applicants are Dave Barclay, Sheri Morris, Brandy Thompson, and Brennon Code. Willa made a motion to accept the new members and Ken seconded the motion. All the officers were in favor with no further discussion so the motion to accept the new members passed.

**Federation Chair** – Ed Moser – No report

**Field Trip Chair** – Nothing new to report

**Juniors** – They have chosen a mascot. The Junior Geologist's mascot is 'Rocky Ron'

February 2026 OGMS board meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.



## Show Committee Chair Report

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At the time of writing this, we have not held the show. We are getting ready and last-minute preparations are being completed. All the tasks are being completed and it looks good.



SHOW COMMITTEE CHAIR:  
Sue Cassidy  
(603) 548-8822  
[pvphot@comcast.net](mailto:pvphot@comcast.net)

Thanks to everyone that signed up at the last meeting and to those we reached out to by phone. Showcase lighting was upgraded and a few layout changes were made based on logistical needs. These may have been a surprise to you when you arrived at the show!

A special thank you to the following Venue Leads that made the show possible:

Dale Rawson, Assistant Show Chair: facilities; trailer preparation and reorganization; maintenance of rock tumblers and storage of a multitude of club items and some other stuff I may have missed!

Kim Bamford: Membership; Showcases; printing; supplies; grand prizes among others

Larry & Kevin Ridley and Ray Vance: Trailer pickup, delivery and return

Darell & Janie Ehlers: Rock Storage Trailer, Grab Bags

Deana Ashton: Raffle baskets

Chris Rawson: Wheel of Gems, Showcase favors

Cindy Woolsey: Grab Bags

Willa Renken: Demonstrators

John Wright: Field Trips, door prize donations

Don Dixon: Silent Auction

Steve Narkaus: Junior Geologists

Barbara Korn: Admissions

Ken Christensen: Money management

Frances Vances: Chili Feed

Sue Cassidy, Show Committee Chair: Administration, Dealers, Advertising, Supplies

We should have some base information for you at the March meeting with more details in April.

### Owyhee Junior Geologist Program (OJGP)

#### OWYHEE JUNIOR GEOLOGIST 2026 EVENTS

**April 11, 2026, 10:00 am to Noon:**

Idaho Museum of Mining & Geology walking tour and museum exhibits

**April 15, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm:**

Geology 101 Practical Uses, at the College of Idaho, Boone Hall in Caldwell, ID

**May 20, 2026, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm:**

Geology 201, Geomorphology, at the College of Idaho, Boone Hall in Caldwell, ID

**June 13, 2026, 10:00 am to Noon:**

Owyhee County Museum tour & presentation in Murphy, ID

**July 25, 2026, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm:**

Narkaus Mineral Collection & BBQ in Nampa, ID. Gifts for Junior Geologists!

**September 26, 2026, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm:**

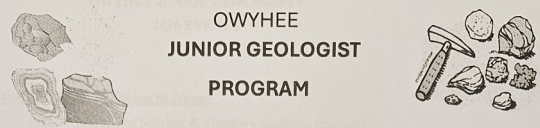
Rock hunt and BBQ in Gooding, ID, with road trip guide

**October 17, 2026, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm:**

College of Idaho Museum tour in Caldwell, ID followed by presentation at the Caldwell Public Library

**December 7, 2026, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm:**

Holiday party and presentation at the Caldwell Public Library in Caldwell, ID



**OWYHEE  
JUNIOR GEOLOGIST  
PROGRAM**

This program is available to everyone who wants to learn more about geology & have fun. There will be approximately 8 events per year for ages 10 to 110.

Requirements are:

- \*1. Family membership in the Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, OGMS, \$25 per year. Plus \$10 per Junior Geologist, OJGP


Benefits include:

- \*1. All OGMS meetings, programs, & field trips
- \*2. All OJGP presentations, field trips and rock samples.

All presentations will include Power Point, handouts, hands-on minerals, & Discussion.

For more info/questions contact: Steve Narkaus, Geologist  
503-931-9763 or email: snarkaus@msn.com

**COME JOIN THE FUN AND LEARN ABOUT GEOLOGY**




Steve Narkaus



**March Birthdays**

- 5 Gene Alvey
- 5 Karissa Sudweeks
- 6 Jean Dingley
- 7 Ron Dingley
- 11 Bill Vermette
- 13 Dan Burnum
- 13 Cyndy Schmidt
- 15 Patricia Goates
- 15 Dana Killian
- 16 Theo Rawson
- 16 Clarence Wright
- 19 Reagan Thomas
- 21 Michele Freeze
- 23 Ellizs Call
- 23 Red Lovette
- 24 Judy Doar
- 24 Christina Wiener
- 26 Brian Greer
- 27 Kelly Gibbens
- 27 Allison Sponseller
- 28 Belmore, Shaughn
- 28 Adam Payne
- 29 Sharon Yeagle
- 30 Jim Hopkins
- 30 Lewis Reyna

**March Anniversaries**

- 1 Ron & Susan Cassidy
- 12 Carolyn Connelly & Robert Ingersoll
- 12 Harald & Gail Villarreal
- 14 Sam & Denise Irwin
- 20 Brian & Melody Greer
- 28 Steve & Sue Oakes
- 31 David & Barbara Korn

*March Birthstone*

• Aquamarine •



A symbol of honesty, loyalty, and beauty. The **aquamarine** is supposed to offer protection from evil and is also said to bring love and affection back into a failing relationship.

**Sunshine Report**



Hi, I am Kim Erb and I am your Sunshine Chair.

If you hear of anyone needing a get-well card or visit, please give me a call at (208) 202-9357.

[kimzstones@gmail.com](mailto:kimzstones@gmail.com)

**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.

Would you like to see your ad in the newsletter?

You can buy a 1/4 page ad 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.murpheyogms@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



## Minerals & Fossils For Sale

Call Steve: (503) 931-9763



## Membership—Kim Bashford

### We are accepting payment of 2026 dues

Memberships are as follows:

Family—\$25, Couple—\$20, Single—\$15, Child—\$5, Jr Geology Program—\$10

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 \$5 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.

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



### Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History

College of Idaho—Boone Science Hall basement— Caldwell, Idaho

Hours: Monday—Friday, 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

[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

**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY—2026 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Family—\$25      Couple—\$20      Single—\$15      Child—\$5      Jr Geology Program —\$10

(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**—\$15.00 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.

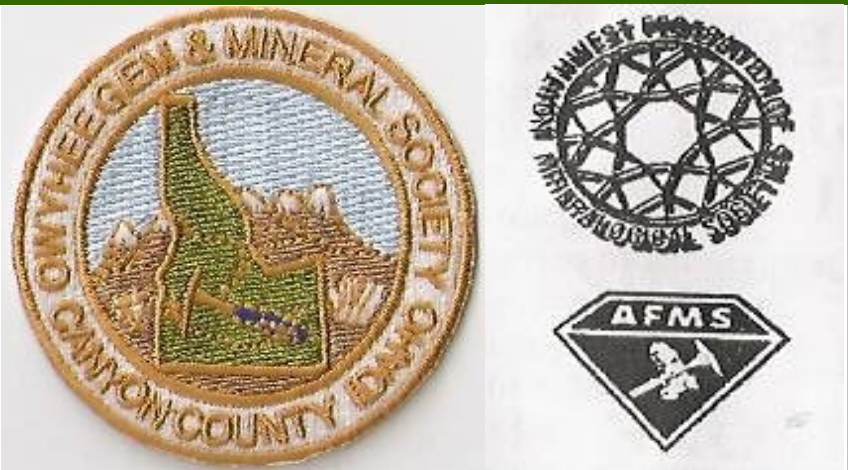
**GENERAL MEETING:** The club meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the Boone Science Hall at the College of Idaho, Room 103, except for the summer months and the December holiday party.

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/>***