

# "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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ogms.webmaster@gmail.com

### May President's Message

It's true that April showers bring May flowers as the desert is alive with color. We went out last weekend and visited Steve Schultz and Tom Pearson at Tom's claim the Pink Lady. There was paintbrush blooming all over the place. The desert is beautiful this time of year and I know many of you are escaping the craziness we are experiencing by doing some collecting out in it.

Well we are going to have another month of not being able to gather as a group yet. I am hoping to be able to have our picnic in July but a lot hinges on being allowed to use the park facilities. As of this date that is not possible. If things change for June, we will let you know.

Robert and Dale are getting anxious to get us all out in the field as soon as we can have more than ten people in a group. We are hoping for June to be able to do the overnights to Texas Springs and then to McDermitt. Stay tune, as we will be letting you know, as soon as we are made aware of the regulations.

We would like to congratulate Bill Stringer on reaching 96 years young on May 12<sup>th</sup>! You are just like the energizer bunny as you make it hard for us youngsters to keep up with you. Hope your day is the best Bill!!!

If you are in need of help in any way that the club can fill. Please reach out and we will be there for you. As always stay well and know we are missing your smiling faces as much as you are. Till next month keep on rockin'.

Willa Renken OGMS President



## **OGMS 2020 Field Trips**

**June 5th- 7th:** \*\*\*Texas Springs, NV for Pink Limb Casts. (Please attend May monthly club meeting for more details)

**June 19-21st:** \*\*\*McDermitt NV, for Variety of Agate, Jasper and Pet Wood. (Please attend June monthly club meeting for more details)

**July 18th:** \*\*(morning) Pink Plume for plume agate, (afternoon) Haystack Bute for Red Jasper. Meet Owyhee Junction (Hwy 201 & Owyhee Ave)

**Aug 22nd:** \*\*Wagon Town for Bog Wood, Meet at Gem Stop (Hwy 55&95).

**Sept 19th:** \*Blue Egg Claim for Blue Opal Thunder Eggs. Meet in Homedale, ID City Park with Tank (just east of four corners).

**Oct 24th:** \*Graveyard Point for agate and Jasper. Meet at Gem Stop (Hwy 55&95).

\*(meet @ 8am – leave @ 8:30) \*\*\*(meet @ 7am – leave @ 7:30) \*\*\* (Overnight Trip)

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

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

Go online to <http://www.owyheerocks.com/> and check the most recent newsletter for trip updates.

**For Field Trip Information, contact Robert Murphey (208) 590-1848  
or Dale Rawson (208) 283-7990**

Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

I hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy. I am sure we are all looking forward to when we can meet up as a group again, share stories and do some rockhounding together. For the month of May, we will not be leading any trips as the public gathering limits of 10 people or less are still in effect.

While the stay at home orders are slowly lifted over the next month and if we do not see an incline of new corona cases, we will be leading our June overnight camping field trips to Texas Springs and McDermitt areas.

There will be no monthly meeting due to the college campus closure, please contact Robert Murphey or Dale Rawson for more information for the June Field Trips, to include maps, GPS locations and camping information (must have email or texting capability for me to send you maps, gps locations, etc).

I have made a recent trip to the Texas springs area and there is some good float material in some areas. Much of the wood found does fluoresce orange, red and green under LW UV so, don't forget to bring your UV Lights. Spotty cell service was seen most of the way in allowing some texts to get through (Verizon is my carrier). The road in, 3mi South of Jackpot, to Texas springs is in great shape. (at the time of writing this, Jackpot is still a ghost town however it may open soon and the dig sites are 30+ min away).

I will have information upon request for those that would like to attend. Please remember, at this time everything is still tentative based on the governor's orders but our plan is to get out, have some safe social distancing fun and enjoy what mother earth has created for us to enjoy.

May 23<sup>rd</sup>: ~~Rockville/Maple Ridge~~ **Canceled.**

June 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>: Texas Springs NV, (Pink Limb casts and Petrified wood that fluoresces under UV)

June 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>: McDermitt NV area (variety of agate, jasper and petrified wood)

NOTE: for those looking for more green UV goodness, don't forget to stop at Rabbit Springs (just before you cross the ID/NV border) and collect some of the geodes there. The center of those geodes glows a brilliant green under LW UV. Location information can be found in the ID Rockhounding guide books.

Thank you everyone and we look forward to hearing from those interested in attending our upcoming trips.



- Anamaria Zavala
- Bill Stringer
- Bob Bashford
- Carol Farnham
- Celeste Brose
- Chris McGuire
- Chuck Fawcett
- Dan Doersch
- David Baldwin
- Donna Syme
- Earl Van Campen
- Ed Seid
- Gary Chambers
- Helen Krivy
- Jeff Hales
- Jenifer Katsch
- Jim Collord
- John Farnham
- Kaitlin Maguire
- Kurt Branham
- Marybeth Prince
- Myra Skidgel
- Nick Hardman
- Paul Deveau
- Pauline Prather
- Trevor Hoekstra
- Walter Barnett
- Yvonne Smith

- David & Helen Baldwin
- Dale & Betty Brown
- George & Patrica Davila
- Dan & Alta Doersch
- Keelly Husted & Eric Fontinelle
- Brian & Melody Greer
- Nick & Andrea Hardman
- Dee & Janet Huntley
- Kaitlin Maguire & Martin Saraqueta
- Chuck & Chris McGuire
- Bill & Andrea Sawyer
- Norm & Sharon Seid
- Saki & Elizabeth Vakalala
- Jim & Vickie Wise



**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](mailto:jewelsmalia@yahoo.com)



**Community Outreach**

Birthday Drive-By Celebration for Bill Stringer's 96th!  
(Shhh, it's a secret!)

Drive by Bill's house from 11:15 - 11:30 a.m. on May 12th and honk your horn in celebration of his birthday! You can stop for a minute alongside the road if you want and wish him well from your car, we will surprise him and have him in the front yard at this time.

1812 West Orchard Ave, Nampa (halfway between Midland and Middleton Roads)

Denise M. Stringer





<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
<p>Located at US 95 &amp; Homedale Road          26736 Homedale Road, Wilder, Idaho          Phone (208) 861-8229 or Text: (208) 258-4250</p>	
<p><a href="mailto:rivervu1@msn.com">rivervu1@msn.com</a>  <b><u>Open Saturday 9:00am—2:00pm</u></b>  <b><u>April—October</u></b></p>	

**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

**FOR SALE**

**30 year collection** of cabochons, slabs, tumbled and world wide specimens. Over 25 years at Quartzite, several dozen field trips in California, Nevada, Arizona, Oregon and Utah. Wholesale prices.

Call Dale Brown—Nampa  
for appointment 208-466-9608

**VICE PRESIDENT'S 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.

Monthly Meeting Topic: Roger Beck will give a general talk on micro-mounting. He will bring samples of rough rock material and talk about how he selects the portion he uses for his mounts.

Roxanne Franklin, OGMS Vice-President

**Show Chair**

**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 and label the bucket "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!

Kathi Larson, Show Chair

**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 pm, and the first Saturday of every month from 8-5.

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**

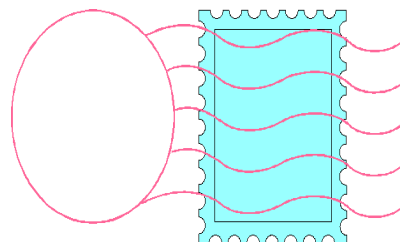
Please save the postage STAMPS for cancer research and bring to this months meeting. Remember to **cut 1/2 inch all the way around the stamp**. Thanks to all for your help. It helps others and it might just help someone you know.

Ed Moser

**Federation Director**

(208) 340-8060,

edmoser15@gmail.com



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**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY - Board Meeting Minutes April 27, 2020  
(cancelled)**

No board meeting in April due to the library being closed to prevent spread of COVID-19.

Christine Deveau, Secretary

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## **2020 OGMS SHOW REPORT**

According to the monies collected at the door, we had 2,482 paying adults in attendance at our show this year! A really good turnout, considering the threat of the virus.

A big THANK YOU to all who pitched in and helped make this another successful year. A special thanks to Paul Deveau for the great advertising and Darrel Ehlers for our new Door Prize Cabinet!

Thank you to the venue Chairmen: Andrea Sawyer, Diane Stevens, Roxanne Franklin, Jody Atwood, Chris Rawson, Janie Ehlers, Don Dixon, Kim Bashford, Willa Renken, and Larry Ridley; Our Treasurer, Debbie Lawrence; Traveling Ambassadors, Jarri Mc Clarin and Bill Anderson. Thanks to all of the volunteers for the "Set-up group" and "Take-down group" for making it an easy transition.

To all those that volunteered to help with one of the venues, a BIG THANK YOU! Just remember how much you enjoyed being an active part of this wonderful club next year when the sign-up sheets are passed around.

Kathy Larson, Show Chair



## OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY - General Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2020

(cancelled)

The month of April 2020 has been similar to March... no meetings. I have gone to the post office many times (it gets us out for a ride!) The receipt from the Northwest Federation for the OGMS membership dues was received and forwarded to Debbie Lawrence (Treasurer); an account statement for show advertising was given to Paul Deveau (Asst. Show Chair); and six more memberships were sent to Kim Bashford (Membership Chair).

The Yakima Rock and Mineral Club cancelled their show last weekend and the Oregon Coast Agate Club Show in Newport, Oregon scheduled for Memorial Day weekend has been cancelled also due to Covid-19.

We miss everyone and all the fun! We hope everyone is healthy and hanging in there!

Respectfully submitted... Christine Deveau, Secretary

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By Roxanne Franklin: Did you know? The color of quartz crystals determines what it is called.

**Amethyst.** Amethyst is a well known mineral and gemstone. It is the purple variety of quartz. Its name derives from the Greek "amethystos", which means "not drunken", as Amethyst in antiquity was thought to ward off drunkenness

**Blue Quartz.** Pure quartz, traditionally called rock crystal or clear quartz, is colorless and transparent or translucent, and has often been used for hardstone carvings.

**Clear quartz.** Pure quartz, traditionally called rock crystal or clear quartz, is colorless and transparent or translucent

**Dumortierite quartz.** Dumortierite quartz can be blue colored. It contains abundant blue dumortierite inclusions. So far no translucent quartz that is blue because of color centers, similar to those found in amethyst or smoky quartz, has been found in nature

**Citrine** is the yellow to brownish-red variety. It is a widely used as a gemstone, and after Amethyst is the most popular Quartz gem. Citrine can be formed by heat treating purple Amethyst. Citrine may also be produced by heat-treating Smoky Quartz from certain localities.

**Milky Quartz** is generally White Quartz. The milkiness is created by many, many bubbles of un-solidified Quartz inside the crystal.

**Rose quartz.** It gets its sweet soft-pink color from the many tiny inclusions of pink fibers known as dumortierite, which is embedded within the glassy stone. It also gives it an opaque quality, which is why Rose Quartz should be kept out of the sun to protect its pretty shade.

**Smokey quartz.** The name is derived from its brown to gray color. Very dark smoky quartz is called Morion. ... Not all quartz that is brown, gray, or black is called smoky quartz. In jewelery, faceted smoky quartz used to be sold as "smoky topaz".

**Prasiolite** (also known as green quartz, green amethyst or vermarine) is a green variety of quartz. Since 1950, almost all natural prasiolite has come from a small Brazilian mine, but it has also been mined in Lower Silesia in Poland. It is a rare stone in nature; artificially produced prasiolite is heat treated amethyst. Most amethyst will turn yellow or orange when heated producing citrine, but some amethyst will turn green when treated. Currently, almost all prasiolite on the market results from a combination of heat treatment and ionizing radiation.

**Red quartz,** also known as tangerine quartz or strawberry quartz, is transparent with an orange or red cast. The color derives from inclusions or encrustations of iron in the making process.



## Nuggets for Rock Hounds

Sometime the unexpected happens and it is a pleasant surprise.



You all may have met Caid Kendall. He comes to the meeting with his Grandma and Grandpa, with the hopes to win a couple of slabs at the drawing. He can look through all the slabs and pick out his no matter how long ago he got them.

The other day Grandma and I were in the shop grinding on some rock. Caid came out to see what we were doing. I had some slabs marked with oval to make cabs. He wanted to try it so I gave him my seat and slid a slab onto the block that I use to make the bezel cut and let him cut down the line and make the shape he was careful and did a fine job. Then he wanted to have one that was mounted to a dop. He picked an opalite, a softer stone, which I find harder to cut because it is so easy to get flat spot if you press a little to long or hard on some place. What the heck it's only a rock. I showed him how to hold the dop and how to turn it and how to get that dome on top. I watched and helped Grandma clean out the other machine. When I came back and asked to see it, it was good, maybe I should say great. I moved him down the grits on the Genie and his touch and turn and stroke was neat. He finished the stone and it looks great. I just wish my first stone I cut, a long time ago, was as nice as his.



And you already know that this was all possible because I was such a great teacher, well at least... maybe?

Darell and Janie Ehlers

**PLUME, MOSS, DENDRITIC, and SAGENITE AGATE**—What are the differences. How are they formed? I don't know about you but I've had my challenges on the correct word for the different agates with inclusions. After some research, I may have it straight now!

The inclusions in agates form when oxide minerals grow in the agate when the agate is in a liquid or gelatinous state rich in dissolved silica. When the solution is highly concentrated with dissolved silica, a silica gel can form on the walls of cavities in igneous rocks.

Plume agate has fluffy inclusions which often appear to be soft and have depth. Sometimes plume agate inclusions resemble feathers, plants, or flowers. Colors may vary. Plume is surprisingly more common than most of us might believe. The oxides which form a plume and other inclusions are quite common. If they are present and conditions are right the inclusions will form from iron oxide, maganese oxide, or other oxides that are present and grow in the gel medium during the rock formation. Plumens can also grow outside the gel medium.

Sagenite agate is any agate having acicular or needle-like mineral growths. These hair like filaments are often arranged in fans or sunbursts. The inclusions come in a wide array of colors. The inclusions grow and are supported by the liquid or gelatinous medium. If sagenite inclusions grow outside of the gel, the tops of the needles resemble a pin cushion. The inclusions come in a wide array of colors.

A little sagenite can be found at most agate fields. A very small percentage of the agate has sagenitic inclusions so when you find one, it offers a rare treat.

In very rare instances, plume and sagenite are found in the same rock while plume and moss are often associated together. Multicolor plumens appear to be more common than multicolor sagenitic sprays.

Plumes or sagenite needles do not penetrate bands in agate. Banded agate forms at a different time. Apparently sagenite and plume are formed in the silica gel after the gel fills or partially fills the cavity.

Dendritic agate has thin, two-dimensional, treelike growths, usually black or dark brown, like what you see in Montana Agate. The iron and manganese ions gain access to the forming stone, while it is a liquid or in a gelatinous state, from neighboring rock. The impurities crystallize inside the agate in branching formations seeping through fine surface fractures to form tree, or fern like, inclusions called dendrites. Dendritic agates are usually colorless, white, or gray. Often dendrites form between flat bands of agate.

Dendrites may also occur in talc, limestone, sandstone, beryl, corundum, and other minerals, ie. jaspers.

Moss Agate - When inclusions in agate are random in pattern, often creating the appearance of seaweed or moss, it is moss agate. Moss agate comes in many colors but is often green. Moss is the most common type of inclusion in agate.

Roxanne Franklin



## Membership

### **We are accepting payment of 2020 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: 2020**

Family  
\$20

Couple  
\$18

Single  
\$12

Child  
\$3

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/>