

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP:

Ted Diehr  
(713) 301-8684  
tdiehr@comcast.net

# "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 57 No. 9

September 2025

## September President's Message

Hello folks hope this finds you enjoying the last days of summer. Seems like fall is right around the corner. This month we will be back in the College for our General Meeting. Thanks to all who pitched in last month to make our Ice Cream social a huge success. We had lots of goodies and enjoyed some really tasty huckleberry ice cream. Thank you Ruth and the apple pies were to die for Jeannie Freeland!



Sue has a neat program lined out for us on tumblers. Cody Easom with Extreme Tumblers will be giving a demonstration. I look forward to seeing them as I have heard lots of positive comments on his machines.

Our field trip this month is to one of our claims the Blue Egg claim. John will be meeting you at the Homedale Park at 8am leave at 8:30am. This is a fun area to explore so I hope you will all take the time to support John in his endeavor to bring you to sites that are filled with new treasures.

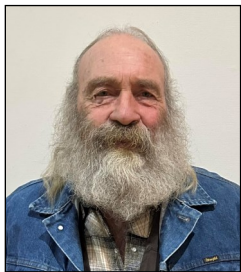
This month we will be voting on show themes and there are some good ones. As always, we hope you are tumbling gems, sewing grab bags, and collecting a few extra rocks for the silent auction. It really does take a village to put on our Annual Show. We certainly couldn't do it without your volunteering and donations. Our club is strong because our members are so giving!

Ted's roadside cleanup is coming up so be planning on helping out with it. We will need about 10-15 to make short work of this event. There is usually a surprise fieldtrip after so come have some fun.

I look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Boone Science bldg..

Willa Renken 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. Check with the Field Trip Chair before you go.
- 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.**

For further information contact John Wright at 208-571-6873 or David Korn at 208-250-7739



### 2025 OGMS Field Trip Schedule

#### September 20—Blue Egg Claim—Blue Opal Thundereggs

Meet at Homedale Park (by the tank) at 8:00 a.m., leave at 8:30 a.m.  
(E Idaho Ave and S 2nd St E)

#### October 18—Pink Plume Claim—Pink Plume Agate

Meet at Owyhee Junction Hwy 201 and Owyhee Ave, at 8:00 a.m., leave at 8:30 a.m.





Photos: submitted by John Wright through Facebook



## 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 Sue at (603) 548-8822, [pypnhot@comcast.net](mailto:pypnhot@comcast.net)



Sue Cassidy

### Monthly Meeting Topics

If you have an idea for a presentation or information session, please contact Sue.

September – Cody Easom from Extremetumbling.com – "Tumbling and Tumblers"

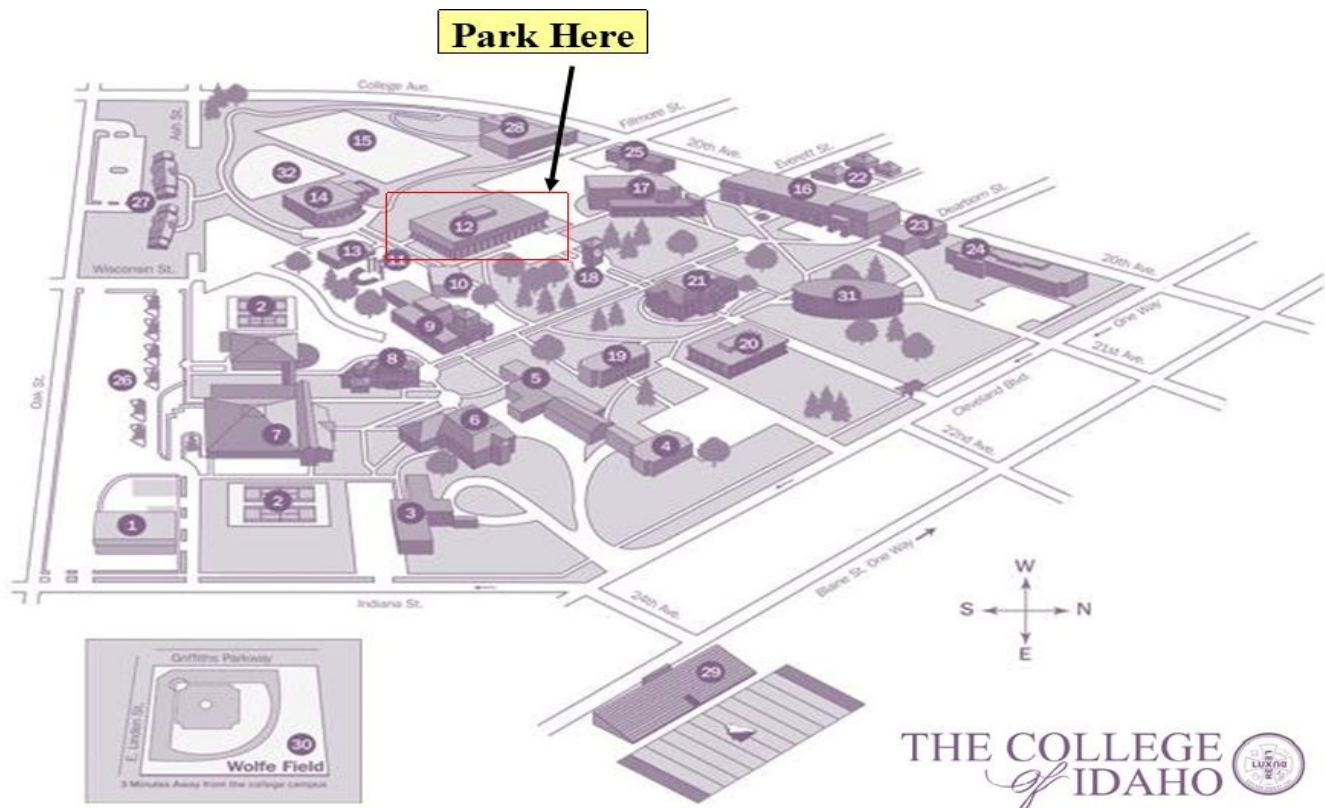
October: Ted Diehr, Topic: "Red Oak"

November 20, 2024: Annual Silent Auction

December 2024: Christmas Banquet and Party

## General Meetings at The College of Idaho— September 17, 2025

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



## Show Report — Voting on Theme this month at General Meeting

### Show Theme:

It's time to VOTE on a theme for the 2026 show, (theme should rhyme with 6). If you have an idea not listed below, Please come to meeting and share your submission

### Currently, we have the following:

"Puttin' on the Ritz for 2026"

"Discover Ritz & Glitz in 2026"

"Glam & Glitz in 2026"

"Grab your picks in 2026"

**Wait List** – Review is complete and finalized. Waiting for questionnaire responses and pictures

**Silent Auction** - Please be thinking about collecting rock for the silent auction as you are out and about rockhounding. This is an important part of the show and attendees really love it and we go through a lot of it!

**Tumbled Stone** – Remember, we pay \$125 per 5 gallon bucket of nice tumbled stone! We will need some for the show.

If anyone is good at designing posters, we would appreciate the help. We have been challenged to "step up our game" on our posters by the O'Connor field house.



SHOW COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Sue Cassidy

(603) 548-8822

[pypnhot@comcast.net](mailto:pypnhot@comcast.net)

### Fall Road Side Clean-Up– TBA

Ted Diehr will be setting a date soon. All who can, please join in this event.

We meet at Walter's Ferry boat launch, at 9am for instructions and to get your safety vests and garbage bags. Please bring your own gloves.

Please email or call Ted so he can have an approximate number of who can help. After we have completed the pickup there will be a short mystery field trip as a reward!

If you have questions, contact Ted at: (713) 301-8684, [tdiehr@comcast.net](mailto:tdiehr@comcast.net)



Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology

2455 Old Penitentiary Road, Boise, ID 83712 (Next to the Old Pen)

Saturdays Only: 1—4 p.m.

Free Admission—tours and other programs available

[contact.us@idahomuseum.org](mailto:contact.us@idahomuseum.org)

[Idaho Museum of Mining & Geology – Free Admission](#)

**General Meeting — August 20, 2025**

The August 2025 General Meeting of the Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by OGMS president, Willa Renken at 6:55 pm on 08/20/25 at Memorial Park in Caldwell Idaho.



Chris Merrell-Rawson

Willa asked the members if they enjoyed our inaugural "Junk in the Trunk" event preceding the meeting. There was much applause among the club members. She then called for a motion to accept the July meeting's minutes as printed in the August OGMS newsletter. Kim Bashford made the motion to accept the minutes and Barbara Korn seconded. All the members were in favor with no objections or further discussion and the motion passed.

**Secretary's Report** – Chris Rawson announced and distributed the mail.

**Vice President** – Sue Cassidy announced that Cody Easom from 'Extreme Tumblers' will be the guest speaker during the September OGMS general meeting

**Treasurer Report** – Ken C- Ken asked Willa to address OGMS members with a special announcement. Willa announced that the board members recently voted in favor of purchasing all new tables for our vendors to use at our annual shows. Ken then resumed his report discussing deposits, expenses, and account balances. We are still solvent. He reminded the members that to remain transparent, OGMS financial records are always available to members for viewing after OGMS meetings or by appointment with him.

**Federation Report** – Keep saving and bringing your postage stamps.

**Field Trip Chair** – John Wright announced the upcoming field trip for hunting Owyhee Picture Jasper. Meet-up at the Extra-Mile gas station on hwy 55/95 @ 7:00 am. Leave as a group @ 7:30.

**Show Chair** – Sue announced that we still need tumbled rock donations for the grab bags and rough rock donations for the silent auction.

**Old Business** – David Schmidt discussed on going claim work being done.

**New Business** – None

SLAB DRAWING

Meeting Adjourned Meeting minutes transcribed from notes taken by Chris Merrell-Rawson

**Board Meeting Minutes—August 25, 2025**

Officers present: Kim Bashford, Willa Renken, Sue Cassidy, Ken Christensen, Steve Narkus, John Wright, Don Dixon

August 25, 2025 OGMS Board Meeting was called to order @ 7:20 p.m. by President Willa Renken in the Caldwell Public Library at 1010 Dearborn in Caldwell Idaho. Willa called for a motion to accept the July board meeting minutes in the OGMS news letter as printed. Sue Cassidy motioned to accept the minutes as printed. John Wright seconded the motion, all the board members were in favor, there was no further discussion and the motion to accept the minutes passed.



Chris Merrell-Rawson

**Secretary** – No secretary report at this meeting.

**Vice President** – Sue Cassidy – announced that Cody Easom from Extreme Tumblers will be our guest speaker at the September OGMS general meeting.

**Treasurer** – Ken Christensen –No real changes since the last meeting to report.

**Membership Chair** - Kim Bashford – Kim announced a membership application for Jacob & Miki Bigley. Ken motioned to accept new members. Sue seconded the motion. All members were in favor with no further discussion. The motion passed to accept the new members.

**Field Trip Chair** – John Wright- There was a good turn out for the Picture Jasper field trip. September 20<sup>th</sup> is the Blue Egg Claim field trip. Meet up at the Homedale Park begins at 8:00 am and leaving for the claim as a group at 8:30.

**Federation Report** – Keep saving stamps

**Sunshine Report** – Possible replacements.

**Webmaster** – No report

**Junior Geologists** – Steve Narkus – 9/8 Museum at the Old Penitentiary, 9/14 geode cracking event, 9/20 from 10:00 – 12:00 Tony Funks & BBQ at noon. 10/4 Orma J Smith then to the library for the rest of the meeting

**Show Chair** – Still need rocks for the silent auction and the sand dig.

**Old Business** –None.

**New Business** – Voting new directors in at the October OGMS general meeting

Meeting adjourned @ 8:25

These meeting minutes were transcribed and prepared by Chris Merrell-Rawson from the notes taken by Kim Bashford at the August 28, OGMS board meeting in her absence. THANK YOU Kim!!!

## Membership—Kim Bashford

### We are accepting payment of 2025 dues

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 \$3 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.

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 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



**Welcome  
New  
Members!**

**Bigely, Jacob &  
Miki**

## 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 the Northwest Federation Jr. 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.

Website:

[Northwest](#)

[Federation](#)

[Mineralogical](#)

[Society](#)

**Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History**  
**College of Idaho—Boone Science Hall basement— Caldwell, Idaho**  
[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 Reviews.

You can check them out on [Facebook](#) and also on [Instagram](#) or call (208) 459-5507.

### September Birthdays

|    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 1  | Jason Evans       |
| 5  | Jennie VanCampen  |
| 7  | George Davila     |
| 7  | Denise Eason      |
| 7  | Teresa Ohge       |
| 9  | Zoey Ingram       |
| 12 | Mary Clark        |
| 12 | Jeannie Freeland  |
| 12 | Natalya Hazen     |
| 12 | Selina Lankford   |
| 12 | Koda Sudweeks     |
| 14 | Andrea Sawyer     |
| 19 | Doug Merrell      |
| 20 | Jamie Baker       |
| 22 | Bill Franklin     |
| 25 | Eva Roberts       |
| 26 | Brent Stewart     |
| 27 | Becky Fisher      |
| 29 | Lisa Elliott      |
| 29 | Daniel McCann     |
| 29 | Christine Rednour |

### September Anniversaries

|    |                           |
|----|---------------------------|
| 1  | Wayne & Barbara Herbel    |
| 3  | Darell & Janie Ehlers     |
| 10 | Mike & Kathie Powers      |
| 11 | Jeff & Paula Hales        |
| 11 | Doc & Linda Morgan        |
| 12 | Steve & Barb Narkaus      |
| 15 | John Coleman & Kris Davis |
| 18 | Loren & Luva Francis      |
| 20 | Mark & Jeannie Freeland   |
| 20 | Earl & Jennie VanCampen   |
| 24 | Caleb & Ashley Gans       |
| 24 | Dan & Diane Stevens       |
| 28 | Rod & Shauna Marceau      |
| 29 | Kip & Teisha Adams        |

### Sunshine Report



Hi, I am Jewels Haines and I am your Sunshine Chair.

If you hear of anyone needing a get-well card or visit, please give me a call at (760) 331-3443.

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

### Newsletter Editor

If you have articles or information for the newsletter, please submit to [robertmurfheyogms@gmail.com](mailto:robertmurfheyogms@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 here?

You can buy an ad like these 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.murheyogms@gmail.com

(Ads are subject to Board approval)

## Owyhee Junior Geologist Program (OJGP)

September 20- Tony Funk Rock Hunt and BBQ in Gooding, ID. All Club Members Welcome, Please RSVP

October 1-31 — Caldwell Public Library — Rock and Mineral Show Set-up

Oct. 1 @ 4 p.m., All Junior Geologists welcome to help setup

October 4- College of Idaho Museum Tour and Trilobite Exhibit (Orma J. Smith Museum) We will be splitting Shale for Trilobite Fossils. All Junior Geologists will keep all Fossils they find.

Stay Tuned for our Monthly E-Mails and Learning Projects.

For more information call Steve Narkaus, 503 931 9763, or email: Steve.OJGP@gmail.com

John Clement, brother of Tom Clement, wishes to thank everyone who has donated to make the Junior Geologist Program a success. Rest in peace, Tom.

You may still enroll to become a Junior Geologist. Cost is \$10 per year in addition to an OGMS family membership.



Steve Narkaus



## 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



Special Rocks  
Come view  
the collection



Of Steve Narkaus

All Rocks and Minerals

Are for sale

Please call 503-931-9763

For your own Special time

See the entire collection



ENJOY,  
LEARN,  
BUY



## OWYHEE GEM &amp; MINERAL SOCIETY—2025 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to: PO Box 1053 I Caldwell, ID 83605--1053

Family—\$25

Couple—\$20

Single—\$15

Child—\$5

Jr. Geology Program — \$10 per child

(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

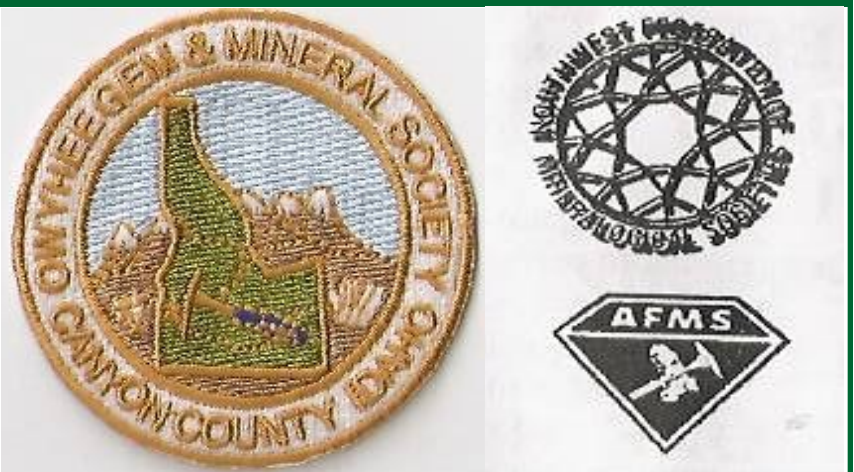
The Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was established in 1938 at the College of Idaho in Caldwell, Idaho.

**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/>**