


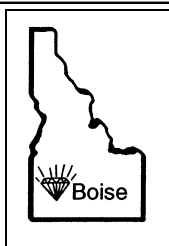
Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 8443  Boise, Idaho 83707-2443

VOL 71 NO 12

December 2011



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brent Stewart
President
863-9336

Willa Renken
1st Vice President
362-3941

Jason Madsen
2nd Vice President
378-4666

Phil Neuhoﬀ
939-4508

Ed Moser
340-8060

Rick Corbett
383-9930

Deana Ashton
794-5628

Dan Phillips
585-3019

Jim Clinton
283-8891

RECORDING SECRETARY
Ben Nunez
853-6710



TREASURER
Kathy Griffin
467-9286

NFMS DIRECTOR
Charles McCreath
344-5085

EDITOR
Tony Griffin
467-9286
highdesert2003@q.com

CLUB WEB SITE
www.idahogemclub.com

President's Message

Congratulations to our newly elected Board members: Phillip Worley, Phil Neuhoﬀ and Ben Nunez! I encourage all to offer their congratulations and full support for the upcoming year. Thank you for allowing me to serve you for this past year and I'm looking forward to being able to continue serving you this next coming year.

This month we'll have an auction and typically this is completed items so you can finish your Christmas shopping. However, if you have "raw" materials to donate, we won't turn them down and someone on your list would just love some new material to work on as their Christmas present.

Our annual Christmas Party Workshop will be held at Doug and Willa Renken's place on December 17th and 18th. Everyone is welcome to attend and SHARE use of the machines, learn some new skills or improve old ones, and generally have a good time. The Club is providing chili and everyone should bring a snack or finger foods so we can eat all day while we learn fun new things, and please help to clean up. Come and join in the Holiday fun.

Remember that the show is just around the corner and sign ups will be at the December meeting.

Tickets for the banquet in January will be on sale at the December meeting and at Stewart's Gem Shop. The Banquet this year will be held at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel.

December is the month for the Project of the Year election. This year there will be two categories, one for the adults and the other for the juniors. The media can be anything as long as the project is related to lapidary and/or earth science.

Thank you to the members and all the help and support that I have received through the year to make this a fantastic club to be a part of! I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to serve, support, and help the members of the club as the president for the 2011-year. I wish everyone Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas!

Brent Stewart
President



MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING November 15, 2011

President Brent Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – not listed

Guests introduced as: David S, Kent, and Miya

Door Prizes: Door prizes were received with week by: Bob T, Marge C, Cameron, Kent, Bill, Shirley, Gene, Richard S, David S, Carl, Klarke, Greg, Melodie W, Rick C, and Delores! Congratulations guys and we hope to see all of you at our next meeting!

Youth Prize: Carson, Faye, Breanna, Andrew, Jackson N, Fara, Miya, Sarah, Boston, Riley, and Dillon

Building fund prize: Marge C, Phil N

Motion to accept the minutes was initiated by Rick Corbett, and seconded by Brent Stewart.

Introduce new membership: Hauns Snyder, Kim Kichol, Craig Kaumans, Stanley Gunn, and Joyce Carlson. Welcome to the club guys! We all cannot wait to get to know you better and hope to see you at the next meeting!

Secretary's report: Ben Nunez: Owyhee, Yellowstone, and Hells Canyon Newsletters! They can be obtained from the librarian if anyone is interested.

Treasurer's report: Kathy G: Discussed the deposits received from the dealers for our annual gem show. We also discussed the balance and disbursements of the gem club funds.

Federation report: Charles McCreath: Positions are still open for the upcoming judges training show, contact Charles McCreath for details, or check online.

Committee Reports:

Field trip: No field trip this month! No field trips until March 2012, weather permitting.

Librarian: Our old librarian Aaron has gone to Afghanistan as a civilian contractor, a new librarian will be announced in the next newsletter!

Juniors: For all the juniors that were absent during the last meeting you will be receiving the rock identification book handed out at the previous meeting!

Annual Banquet: Jim D: On January 17th, at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel, we will be having our annual Idaho Gem Club banquet. Four dishes will be offered including one of the following: Roast Prime Rib of Beef; Chicken Cordon Bleu, Pacific Salmon, and Pasta Vegetarian!

Workshop: No workshop this month, however there will be one on the 17th and 18th of December. It is open the full week-end from 9-5 both days!

New Business:

Rick O has a close friend has fallen upon financial issues, to help make mortgage payments he will be selling a lot of material he has collected over the years. Any contributions are appreciated, contact Rick for more information.

Nominations for board members: Nominations to close the floor: Greg S/ 2nd by Jim S. Motion to accept the slate of directors by acclamation: Willa R/ 2nd by Bill B

Welcome to our new Board Members Phil Neuhooff (reelected), Phillip Worley, and Ben Nunez.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Nunez

Secretary

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB Board Meeting December 6, 2011

President Brent Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:35p.m.

Board members present: Brent Stewart, Willa Renken, Rick Corbett, Phil Neuhooff, Jason Madsen, Ed Moser, Jim Clinton, Dan Phillips, Deana Ashton, and Phillip Worley (incoming Board member)

Officers present: Kathy Griffin, Charles McCreath, and Ben Nunez (incoming Board Member).

Guests: Shirley McCreath, Doug Renken

Willa Renken motioned to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings", Rick Corbett seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Thank you very much to the Tampa Bay Gem Club for their donation of Florida flint, petrified coral, as well as some of their club's t-shirts for us to auction off. There are new Eugene Mineral Society, Owyhee Gem Society, and Montana Gem Club newsletters. They will be made available at the library next meeting! There is also a new copy of Rock and Gem Magazine that will be available in the library.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy Griffin Discussed balance and disbursements of gem club funds.

Federation Report: Quartzite, Arizona has extended their days of operation.

New Membership: Kent Owings, Clinton Chaney, Carrie Kevin Ryan Andrea Kinnaird, Valerie Lesur, Penny Dudley, Rick Bidwell. The motion to accept these new applications was initiated by Willa Renken, and seconded by Ed Moser.

(Board Minutes continued on page 3)

(Board Minutes continued from page 2)

Committee Reports:**Field Trip:** No field trip until March.

Banquet: The Banquet this year will be on January 17th and will be taking place at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel. Remember that it costs 25\$ for non members and 12.50\$ for members. Offered will be either a salmon dish, chicken dish, beef dish, for a vegetarian pasta dish. We can't wait to see you all there!

Juniors: Make sure the kids bring their folders to the meeting!

Building Fund: Discussed new items for the clubs building fund. We are currently working on getting embroidered hats! More information will be given as this matter is progressed.

Workshop: Our annual workshop on December 17th-18th that will take place at Doug & Willa's from 9am to 5pm both days, portable restrooms will be made available!

Old Business: Discussed new options for wire wrapping at the workshops. Soon copper wire will be available for no charge. Gold wrapping will still be an option and will cost the same price it always has. The copper is being made available now as an alternative to all those who don't want to spend the extra money for the more expensive wire wrap, as well as those a bit too novice to use gold!

New Business: Discussed Showcase favor options. Many different items are being considered but we may have decided upon one!

The project of the year award will be voted for at the next meeting, so don't forget to bring the project that you have been working on this year for judging!

*Respectfully submitted,**Ben Nunez**Secretary***For Sale**

Lost Wax Casting Equipment—complete setup \$1200

RIO automatic melting furnace 3 kg - 3 crucibles

5 cfm Robinair vacuum pump with large chamber

Burn our furnace (inside diameter 6 1/4 " h by 9" O by 8 1/2" w

Centrifugal casting machine

Stainless flasks, wax—sprue— patterns-etc., casting gloves, and more

Dan Conley 375-8935

Two Club volunteer positions are available for this coming year

Show Host

Duties include, but not limited to, gathering door prizes from vendors, announcing hourly winners, greeting guests as they arrive at the Show tables and doing the running for various tables. (see page 7 for more details)

Treasurer—"Club Officer position"

Duties include paying all club bills, collecting money at club auctions, membership fees, and making change for tables at our annual show; maintaining a computerized record of all money transactions; yearly filing of club membership with the North West Federation. Other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.

See Brent Stewart for more information and to volunteer!

The NFMS newsletter is now on the web

<http://amfed.org/nfms/newslet2.htm>

Save Stamps For Cancer Research

Cut at least 1/4 inch margin around the stamps. You can turn them into Chuck McCreath at our next meeting. THANK YOU!

Jewelry Tips

Dremel

Many of us have a Dremel motor tool to use at home or when out to a class or workshop. The one thing that makes this tool much more productive is the addition of one inexpensive option, an adjustable chuck.

The basic motor tool as sold typically comes with a collet chuck. This means you have to use a wrench to change every tool bit, you have to switch collets to use different shaft sizes (3/32 or 1/8 inch bits), and you can't use ordinary drills at all - only the ones with a 3/32 shaft.

A simple and inexpensive (~\$10) adjustable chuck solves all of this. It's available in most large local hardware stores or model making outlets. Tightening the chuck is done easily by hand to any size shaft

DEPTH GAUGE FOR DRILLING

Sometimes you need to drill a number of holes all to the same depth. One quick and easy way to do this is to wind some tape around the drill bit so that the tape just touches the part surface when the hole is deep enough. You can do this either by measuring from the tip of the drill to the tape or by drilling one hole correctly, leaving the bit in the hole, and wrapping tape around the bit at the surface level.

CUTTING A BOLT

Whenever you have to cut a threaded bolt shorter, it's always difficult to get the nut to thread back onto it. And the smaller the bolt, the more difficult this is. The problem is easily solved by screwing a nut onto the bolt before cutting it.

So here's how I do it. Screw a nut onto the bolt, grip the bolt by the piece to be sawed off, saw the bolt to the desired length, taper the end with sandpaper or file, and unscrew the nut from the bolt.

Unscrewing the nut over the freshly cut end of the bolt straightens out any damage to the threads. Gripping the bolt by the piece to be sawed off localizes any crushing damage to the piece you're throwing away.

Acknowledgement to be included with each publication:

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

or

[facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips)

Welcome New Members

Rick Bidwell & Cristine Rivera
3104 W. Stewart Ave.
629-6291
Boise, Idaho 83702-2033

Clinton Chaney
1443 Washington
887-8505
Meridian, Idaho 83642-1947

Penny Dudley
P.O. Box 1974
949-4965
Boise, Idaho 83701-1974

Kevin, Carrie, Ryan, & Andrea Kinnaird
411 E. Wakely St.
888-7410
Meridian, Idaho 83646-4433

Valerie Lesur
9220 W. Ben St.
258-3168
Boise, Idaho 83714-5084

Kent Owings
7254 Gillis Dr.
559-3049
Boise, Idaho 83714-6125

THE GRINDINGS

is the monthly newsletter of the Idaho Gem Club, Inc., associated with the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Permission to copy is freely granted when proper credit is given to both the publication and the author. Articles without bylines are written by the Editor or President.

**CHECK OUT THE CLUB
WEBSITE!**

www.idahogemclub.com



Jewelry Tips

MAKE SILVER SOLDER FROM SCRAP

Sometimes you need a lot of silver solder to complete a piece the way you want it to be. For me it was when I was trying to join several castings. But silver solder is expensive, so I found a way to make my own from scrap with a little help from a penny.

First step is finding out what's in a solder. A search through the reference books (Tim McCreight or Erhard Brepohl) or a Google search will turn up recipes like:

Hard - AG 80% CU 13% ZN 7%
 Medium - AG 70% CU 20% ZN 5%
 Easy - AG 63% CU 30% ZN 7%

The silver (AG) and the copper (CU) are easy to come by, but finding some zinc (ZN) has always been my problem until I found out that our pennies are almost all zinc. According to

[http://http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coins of the United States dollar](http://http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coins_of_the_United_States_dollar)

a penny minted after 1982 weighs 2.5 grams and is 97.5% ZN and 2.5% CU.

So all I had to do is add a penny to some copper and a pile of silver scrap. I chose to use Sterling scrap so I adjusted for the amount of copper in it as well as the amount of copper from the penny. Here's what I used for components of Medium solder:

Sterling - 36.90 grams
 Copper - 9.35
 Penny - 2.50

Melt the silver and copper first in a melting dish, mix well with a carbon rod or titanium solder pick, add the zinc (penny) last, mix again, and pour into a small mold. The zinc is added last because melting it causes some to vaporize, and the fumes are a safety problem (They're a nasty gray-green color). Be sure to have

good ventilation.

To check the solder's melting temperature was correct (medium), I put a sample of the homemade solder on a piece of copper sheet along with a known sample of hard, medium and easy solders. I then heated the plate from the bottom and watched as the easy first melted, the medium melted, the home-made melted, and finally the hard.

Additional notes on converting the ingot to sheet, strip or wire form - If you have access to a rolling mill, that will be the fastest way to proceed. Either roll out the ingot into a sheet and cut strips or roll it out as wire if your mill has the grooves. If you don't have a mill, all you have to do is forge out the ingot into a rough sheet of the gauge you'd like and then cut thin strips with bench shears.

Be sure to anneal the sheet every so often as you forge it.

Patina Recipes

In a recent class we did a little work with patinas. Came across a neat web site for those of you who'd like to explore this area, especially with copper and bronze. There's plenty of formulas for a variety of colors.

<http://www.sciencecompany.com/patinas/patinaformulas.htm>

Acknowledgement to be included with each publication:

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

or
[facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips)



HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER

12/3 Tom Duke
 12/3 Cheryl Lawson
 12/4 Shannon T. Tharp
 12/4 Jack Trevithick
 12/4 Tenya Madsen
 12/8 Lillie Rogers
 12/9 John Sandmeyer
 12/10 Joan Alvey
 12/10 Cheryl Link
 12/10 Laura Carrico
 12/11 Michael George
 12/12 Easton Soule
 Anderson
 12/13 Don Metzger
 12/14 Harold Holloway
 12/15 Rochell Shearer
 12/16 Kerri Chipman
 12/17 David Alderton
 12/18 Dan Phillips
 12/18 Michael Snyder
 12/19 Robert Burns
 12/19 Doug Renken
 12/20 Boston Becker
 12/21 Dee Hanes
 12/23 Joe Nielson
 12/23 Christi Hogle
 12/25 Thomas Langford
 12/26 Wesley Capps
 12/27 Brian Gimmel
 12/28 Carmen Becker
 12/28 Nolan Crowe
 12/30 Tony Griffin

December Birthstones

Faceted - Blue Zircon
 Cabochon - Turquoise

JANUARY

1/3 Helen Dillion
 1/5 Becky Gibson
 1/8 Ronald Ridenour
 1/8 Paul Derig
 1/9 Denise Vasecka
 1/10 Wayne Larsen
 1/11 Terry Tomberlin
 1/11 Ron Bailey
 1/11 Makensie Denton
 1/11 Meagan McNeel
 1/11 Shelley Shearer
 1/12 Deborah Shaffer
 1/12 Stephanie Potter
 1/12 Erin Snyder
 1/13 Don Drobny
 1/15 Arlene Bailey
 1/18 Kevin Kelly
 1/20 Chuck Goertzen
 1/20 Koraeve Koen
 1/21 Jordan Lindsay
 1/22 Mary Ostrander
 1/24 Richard Renkamp
 1/26 Noah Loewen
 1/27 John Chaplik
 1/27 Valerie Lesur
 1/29 Marion Phillips

January Birthstones

Faceted - Garnet
 Cabochon - Star Garnet

Dates To Remember

GENERAL MEETING
 3rd. Tuesday of every month

December 20th, 2011

BOARD MEETING:
 1st. Tuesday of every month

January 3rd, 2012
 Church of the Brethren
 2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho
 Meeting Starts at 7:30 pm.

Annual Open House Two Day Workshop
 December 17th & 18th
 9am to 5pm
 See page 11 for details

December Refreshment Committee

Chair: Bill Carey [435-282-0052](tel:435-282-0052),
 Jackie Yandle [375-2215](tel:375-2215),
 John Skene [859-2102](tel:859-2102),
 Carrie Rinnaird [888-7410](tel:888-7410)

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

Need approximately 15 dozen cookies.
 Wrapped door prizes are also needed. Arrive early enough to set up the chairs. The chairperson brings the coffee urn, coffee, punch, cream, sugar, cups and napkins. Afterward, put meeting tables & chairs away, clean kitchen and sweep the room. Gather and take all the trash with you. Don't forget it is the responsibility of the chair for the coming month to pick up the coffeepot, take it home and bring it the next meeting.

January Refreshments

Annual Banquet
 Owyhee Plaza Hotel
 1009 Main St
 Boise, Idaho
 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.



FEDERAL BILLS COMPETE OVER NATIONAL FOREST ROADS

November 22, 2011 | **Susanne Rust** (Susanne Rust/California Watch) <http://californiawatch.org/dailyreport/federal-bills-compete-over-national-forest-roads-13698>

Nearly 60 million acres of national forests were put off-limits to motor vehicles, road building and logging during the Clinton administration.

Last week, a bill was introduced that would turn that rule into law.

According to U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., a sponsor of the bill along with U.S. Rep. Jay Inslee D-Wash., the **Roadless Area Conservation Act** would protect "hundreds of thousands of jobs across the country."

Various forms of this bill have been introduced by Inslee and Cantwell since 2002.

"There is an urgent need to safeguard the remaining undeveloped forest lands as a home for wildlife, a haven for recreation and a heritage for future generations," Cantwell said.

But not everyone is convinced. And one California congressman wants to make sure that bill never sees the light of day. Instead, U.S. Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., **introduced a bill** –HR 1581" the Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act" – in April that would release about 43 million of those acres to be used for oil and gas development, motorized recreation and logging.

"Millions of acres of land across the United States are being held under lock and key unnecessarily," McCarthy said. "My bill acts on recommendations made by government agencies managing these lands so they are opened up for increased public use."

The recommendations upon which McCarthy's bill relies are from a **1979 U.S. Forest Service report [PDF]** (http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5116928.pdf that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency had called) "inadequate because of its use of unsupported and undocumented statements, its lack of related data on demands for resources, and its unbalanced economic approach."

The report recommends keeping 15 million acres protected, allocating 36 million for non-wilderness and holding an additional 11 million aside for further planning.

"This is just common sense," McCarthy said. "By opening these lands up to the residents of our local communities and across the country for their use and enjoyment, we can help create jobs, boost local economies and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires." Joe Walsh, a spokesman for the U.S. Forest Service, said the document is not one the Forest Service uses anymore.

"Science changes," Walsh said. "We like to use the latest science we have, so we're always on the cutting edge."

According to the 1979 report: "Resource trade-offs were compelling reasons for allocating a roadless area to either the wilderness or non-wilderness category."

"Areas with high oil and gas potential were normally not allocated to wilderness," the report stated, adding that "high timber values have been used as reasons to allocate an area to non-wilderness."

Andrea McCarthy, a spokeswoman for Kevin McCarthy, said it makes sense to allow local land managers to have a say in how to use these resources.

(Continued at top of next column)

(Federal Bills—continued from previous column)

"These decisions should be made on a local level, not left up to bureaucrats in D.C.," she said. She added that the bill "does not terminate existing, congressionally designated wilderness areas, nor does it release wilderness study areas or roadless areas deemed suitable for wilderness."

The roadless rule, which was issued in 2001 by President Bill Clinton, was the result of the largest public lands review process in U.S. history. It also has been in the courts since its inception.

Five months after it was implemented, a federal court in Idaho blocked it. Then, in 2005, the Bush administration repealed the rule and replaced it with a state petition process. Attorneys general in California, Oregon, New Mexico and Washington sued, and in 2006, a federal judge ruled in their favor. The case then went to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled in favor of the Clinton rule.

In 2008, a federal judge in Wyoming blocked the rule. That was then sent to the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, which last month ruled again in favor of the Clinton rule.

With two agreeing rulings from the circuit courts, the rule will stand – unless a new law is made. "The courts agree on the ruling," said Paul Spitzer, a policy expert with The Wilderness Society, "but Congress trumps rulings. And if McCarthy's bill gets through, these rulings are irrelevant." (See bottom of column 2 this page for remainder of article)

The Wilderness Society supports the Clinton rule. Spitzer said McCarthy's bill is a "wholesale attack on values that Americans hold dear and a grand giveaway to great corporate polluters."

From Steve Henson via Shirley Leeson, Rockhound advocate;
Thomas.loc.gov

Show Host Volunteer needed

Before the show need to make sure we have help (same as other sites 3-4 folks for 2 hour periods). Set up stations for collecting ticket stubs, make sure have plenty of pens and pencils, set out door prizes in locked case after gathering them from each vendor (need a list of vendors to make sure all are asked.) - I wish the folks that sent out the contracts would add this to their form and ask them to have it ready when it's requested= ==have to go back and forth because some vendors don't get their until just before the doors open and too busy to go back most of the time. Set out cookbook display and display other folks shows, etc.

We need 30 door prizes if we want to give them every half hour but also need to take names, addresses and phone numbers of winners to provide to Expo Id - and the "old" tickets dumped once the number (s) picked [but kept to the end of the show for the cathedral drawing], announce winners of the door prizes and lost and found, headlights left on, etc., answer questions including what type of rock [or find someone who can], about vendors, collecting, etc. Provide membership apps, collect fees and collect dues from current members; sell cookbooks.

From Cathy Parsons who has, for years, accomplished this task unfailingly and with great care! Thank you Cathy!

Idaho Gem Club***Banquet 2012 Tickets******January 17, 2012******Owyhee Plaza Hotel*****1009 Main Street, Boise, Idaho****6:30 PM no host cocktail reception****7:00 PM dinner served****Tickets: Available at December Club Meeting****\$12.50 for Club Members****\$25.00 for Non-members****Roast Prime
Rib of Beef****Pacific Salmon
Contains NO garlic****Chicken Cordon Bleu
Contains NO garlic****Pasta Vegetarian****After the December Club Meeting, tickets will only be available
for purchase at Stewart's Gem Shop, 2618 West Idaho Street,
Boise (Phone 208-342-1151)**

Dolomite discovery ends 100-year treasure hunt

<http://www.rdmag.com/News/2011/12/Environment-Materials-Dolomite-Discovery-Ends-100-Year-Treasure-Hunt/>



Dolomite has been found inside

The century-old mystery of a missing mineral in coral reefs has been solved by a team from The Australian National University. The team, led by Bradley Opdyke of the Research School of Earth Sciences, has uncovered a hidden stash of the mineral dolomite in coral reefs around the globe, ending a search that has lasted over 100 years. The discovery was published in *Biogeosciences*.

"For over a century scientists have puzzled over the 'dolomite problem'—the mystery surrounding the abundance of dolomite in fossil reefs and its apparent absence from modern reefs," says Opdyke.

"We have discovered that dolomite is in fact present in large quantities in modern coral reefs, but from an unexpected source."

The team's eureka moment came when they found large quantities of dolomite packed inside a 'reef builder' species of red algae, *Hydrolithon onkodes*.

"There was dolomite on the reefs all along, but it was hidden within these algae," says Opdyke.

"This species of algae is found in abundance on reefs around the world. The algae work with coral to 'cement' the reef structure to withstand the tremendous hydraulic pressure of waves.

"This is the first discovery of dolomite associated with a living organism."

(continued at top of next column)

Student Marinda Nash and Uli Troitzsch made the surprise discovery while investigating the effects of climate change on red algae.

"The discovery was completely serendipitous—we were working on an unrelated question at the time," says Opdyke. "When we confirmed the finding I said to Marinda, 'This is going to be huge'. It opens up a kaleidoscope of future research topics."

Reasons Collectors Collect Trilobites more often than Coral
By Marc Behrendt

Trilobite found on block of rock size of house;
Coral is the block of rock size of house

Trilobite identified by use of book;
Coral identified by invertebrate paleontologist with Ph.D.

Trilobite identified and put in display case;
Coral cut in half to identify under microscope.

Trilobite creates mental image of animal walking around ocean floor
doing arthropod things;
Coral creates mental image of sitting at bottom of ocean and
just hanging out.

Trilobite prepares easily by removing matrix from exoskeleton and
takes hours to finish;
Coral has countless tiny holes to expose and takes years to finish.

Trilobite is often beautiful art form;
Coral is often a rocky blob.
Trilobites do not have a Crayola™ crayon named after them.

From the Editor

The deadline for articles is the board meeting, if it needs to be typed. If the article is sent via e-mail the deadline is the Saturday after the board meeting.

Phone: (208) 467-9286

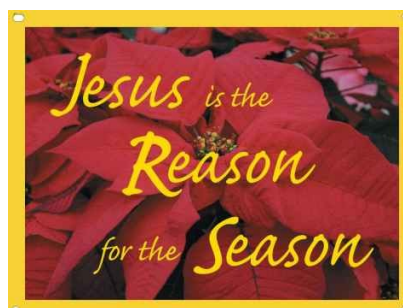
E-mail: highdesert2003@q.com

My mailing address is:

Tony Griffin

4126 Apache Dr.

Nampa, Idaho 83686-8978



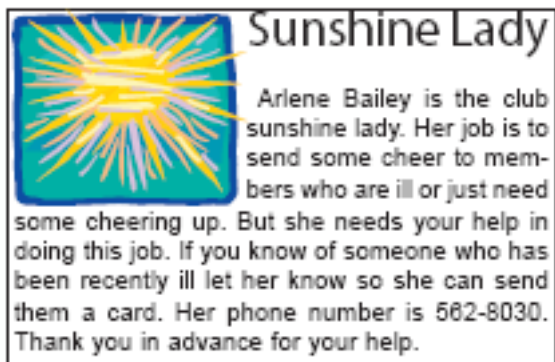


Rocky Rattlers

Juniors need to bring their folders to the meeting this month

Grab Bag Work Party

Hopefully your tumblers are still turning or you already have some tumbled stones ready to be put into bags. We will be filling the grab bags on January 21st 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the church in the gymnasium. This is where the club meetings are held. So we need as many tumbled rocks as possible. The more people who show up to help with the stuffing the faster the process goes. There will also be postcards to put stamps on as well. Mike Jones and Laura Lindsey will be in charge again this year.



DO YOU REALIZE THAT OUR SHOW IS ONLY 3 MONTHS AWAY?

It's not too early to be making items
for our show -
Wheel of Fortune
Silent Auction
Grab Bags
Garnet Dig
Door Prizes

Idaho Gem Club Show
February 25th & 26th 2012

Expo Idaho (Western Idaho Fair-
grounds) 5610 Glenwood,
Boise, Idaho
Chinden & Glenwood

Federation & Other Clubs News

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society
58th Annual Rock & Gem Show

Location

O'Conner Field House
Canyon Co. Fairgrounds
2200 Blaine Caldwell, Idaho

Dates

Saturday March 3rd, 2012 from 9am - 6pm
Sunday March 4th, 2012 from 10am - 5pm

Magic Valley Gem Club
61st Annual Rock & Gem Show

Location

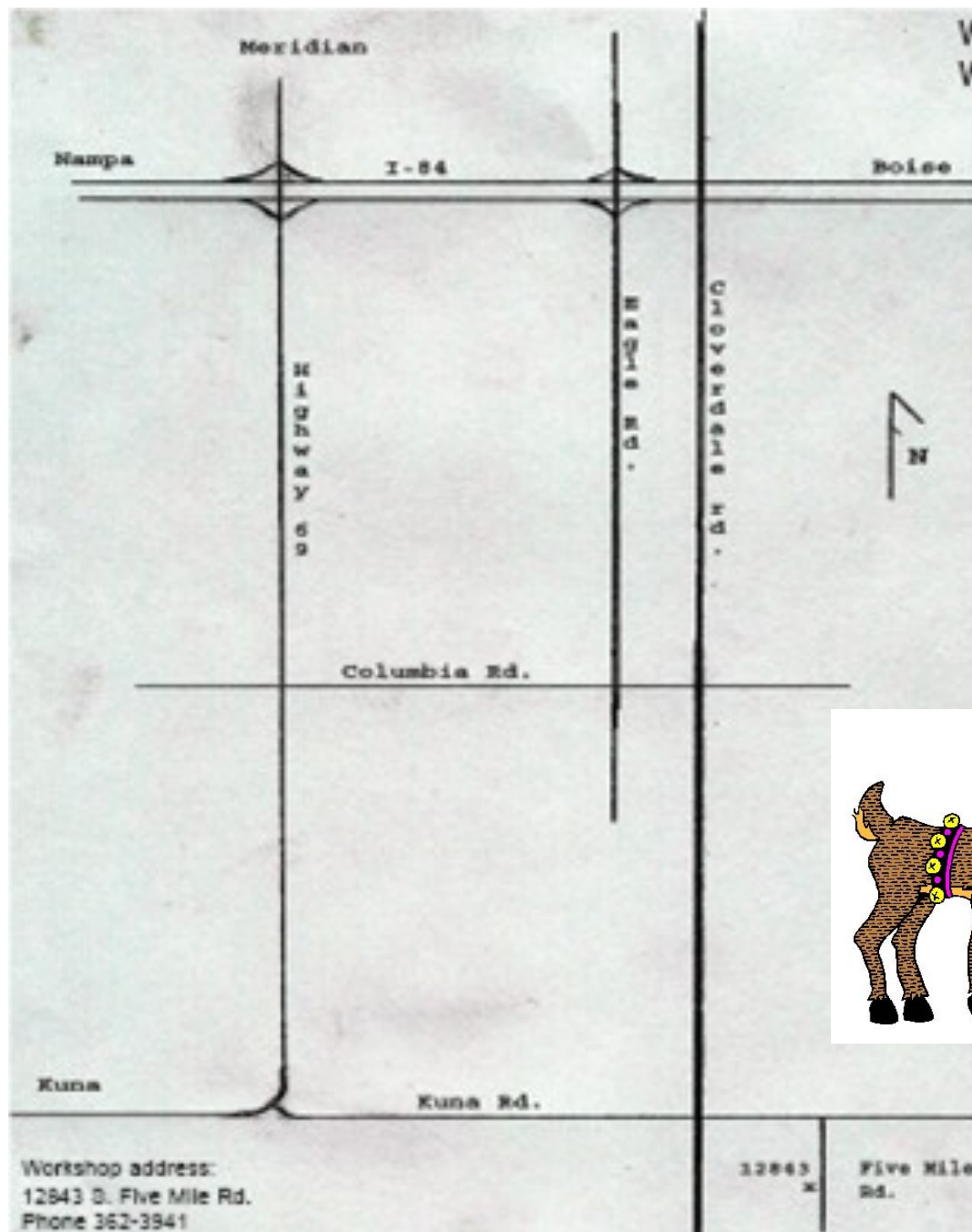
Twin Falls County Fairgrounds in Filer, ID

Dates

Saturday, March 10, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00p.m.
Sunday, March 11, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Workshop—December 17th & 18th 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Attention all members this month will be a special annual cabochon workshop. If you are interested in learning how to cut cabs or wire wrapping the club holds an annual workshop. These start around 9:00 a.m. and run until 5:00 p.m. these two days only, everyone is welcome. If you have a slab to share there is a box for donations so everyone that doesn't have any material can cut a cabochon as well. I will be needing instructors so if you have the time to spare please come help teach those who are in need of your knowledge. Marge Conley will be available to help those who want to learn wire wrapping and if anyone knows how to do this she can always use the extra help with teaching those who don't. There will be an increase in the cost of each wire wrap project to \$10 as the cost of wire has gone up. There will be a fire so you can roast a hotdog and make a S'more or two as well. The club will be furnishing water, chili, & soup for lunch? If you would like to bring a favorite finger food to share please do as the more the merrier. We just ask that you help clean up the machines before going home at the end of the evening. This workshop is held at 12843 S Five Mile Rd which can be reached from Cloverdale to Kuna Rd to South Five Mile. See you all there.



Willa Renken
Workshop Chairmen



The purpose of the Idaho Gem Club is to promote mutual, educational and scientific interests and benefits of its members in mineralogy, geology, gemology, the art of lapidary and kindred arts and sciences.

Dues:

.....\$12.00 per person
\$15.00 per couple
\$17.50 per family

Subscription:

.....\$10.00 per year

General Meeting:

.....3rd. Tuesday of each
Month at 7:30 p.m.

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<div data-bbox="805 235 928 285" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Mountain View Church of the Brethren 2823 N. Cole Road</p>	
NORTHVIEW	
FAIRVIEW	



The Whangdoodle Bird
(Often seen on field trips)



Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 8443
 Boise, Idaho 83707-2443

**Merry
 Christmas**