


Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 75 NO 7

July 2015

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Phil Neuhoﬀ
939-4508

pneuhoﬀ@yahoo.com

1st Vice President

Willa Renken
362-3941

wlr_dkr@msn.com

2nd Vice President

Deana Ashton
794-5628

shesteched@msn.com

Secretary: Melodee Worley

890-6834

melphilw@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Barbara Wanner

794-7968

NFMS Director:

Charles McCreath
344-5085

Board Members:

David Douglas
208-559-7216

douglas.dm@gmail.com

Sandy Blodgett
208-376-8051

Cheryl Peterson
208-887-5363

cpete4421@gmail.com

Dana Robinson
343-0487

drobinso@boisestate.edu

Brent Stewart
863-9336

gene@stewartsgemshopinc.com

Ed Moser
340-8060

ed.moser15@gmail.com

Editor: Linda Barlow

724-3309

barlow596@gmail.com

Club Website

www.idahogemclub.com

President's Message

I hope you are all having a great summer, even though it has been really hot. There are still a lot of opportunities for getting out in the field, and the hot weather can sometimes provide impetus to visit localities that are at higher elevation or latitude for some relief from the heat. The club's field trip season has already gotten off to a bang with some great excursions, and this month's trip to Glass Buttes will provide yet another great collecting opportunity. More details about that trip are provided elsewhere in the Grindings. If you have any questions about this or other club trips, please feel free to get ahold of our field trip coordinators, Brent Stewart and Aaron Wanner. Their contact information is included in the field trip information each month, and they can also usually be reached at Stewart's Gem Shop during business hours.

A reminder that the **meetings** for this month and August are a little different than usual. Each July and August the club hosts a potluck picnic at the Old Timers Shelter in Ann Morrison Park in Boise. This month's potluck will be at 6:30. Please bring table service and a dish to share. The club will provide drinks and ice cream treats. There will be a brief business meeting followed by an auction.

I would like to personally call out Ed Moser for leading the club in an informative and fun exercise at the meeting last month. The rock ID exercise was innovative and educational and I hope everyone enjoyed it and learned from it. I apologize to Ed and everyone else that given everything else going on at the meeting that the time for the exercise was shorter than it ideally might have been. Nevertheless, sharing knowledge as Ed did last month is one of the primary functions of the club, and I hope to see more of it in the future.

Phil Neuhoﬀ, President



**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB
Board Meeting
July 7th, 2015**

Our meeting was called to order at 7:30pm, by President Phil N.

Present were Willa R., Phil N., Brent S., Melodee W., Charles M., David D., Deana A., and Sandy B. Excused this evening were Barb W., Cheryl P., Dana R., and Ed M.

Guests present were Doug R. and Shirley M.

A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" was by Willa R., and seconded by Deana A.

As secretary I had nothing new to report.

Barb W. was excused for the evening, but sent her report to President Phil N. He touched on the information.

The next 2 General Meetings will take place at the Old Timer Shelter, in Ann Morrison Park. Directions and a map will be included in the newsletter. It's a potluck social, with drinks and ice cream provided by the club. Afterwards there will be an auction of donated items. The money collected helps towards our Annual Banquet in January. So please be generous with your bidding.

Federation report, Charles M. had information about the NFMS field trip. This was the message as follows:

In my presidents message last month I announced details of the July 4th NFMS field trip to Grassy Mountain. I now have some bad news and good news about that trip. I will tell you the bad news first.

All of the field trip leaders in that area say fire danger is extremely high. The Spring rains in the high desert area have yielded the highest grasses they have had in years. Now that it is getting hot and the grasses dry, they have had many fires and it is expected to get worse. The concern is that our car and truck mufflers could start a fire. Because of this, I am planning to postpone our trip. I want to make the right decision, which is the safe decision. That is the bad news and I apologize to all of those who have already made plans for this trip.

Now for the good news. Instead of canceling this trip, I am planning to postpone it to September 16-21. At this time of year, the grasses lay flatter and fire danger is not as great, plus the weather is usually not nearly as hot. Our club has taken several trips this time of year and encountered great weather. By postponing I think we can also expand the amount of trips we can offer. My contact list keeps growing and more people will be leading trips. We are planning a trip into graveyard point for the plume agate as well as a few other areas that will give us a nice variety besides the petrified wood.

Put this new date on your calendar and give me an email at warrenrood@yahoo.com saying you are coming. I will still need to have a close count to tell BLM. I will also give you maps and details at that time.

Deana A. is working on future programs, that will resume in September.
License plates are still being sold.

Old business, as everyone knows I've been on the hunt for new table coverings, for our show. I've been successful, finally!! To find colors and the pricing for the club. A motion was made to rescind a prior motion by Willa R. and seconded by Deana A. Then a motion to authorize up to \$3000.00 for the purchase of table coverings, after communication with the company to confirm pricing by Willa R. and seconded by Deana A. I have as of (July 8) placed our order for the new table coverings.

New business, was that President Phil N. won't be present for the next Board meeting, Willa R. will preside over this next meeting (Aug 4).

We had 5 new membership applications. A motion to accept these new members was by Deana A. and seconded by Willa R.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted Melodee Worley - Secretary

Idaho Gem Club Field Trips 2015

APRIL 25: Plume Agate @ Graveyard Point, Idaho
 May 23: Opalene, Fire Opal, & Jasper @ Whang Doodle & Queenstone
 May 30 & 31: Geodes @ Beacon Hill
 June 6: Ilvaite & Hedenburgite @ South Mountain, Idaho
 June 20: Petrified Wood @ Bruneau, Idaho
 July 24-26: Obsidian @ Glass Butte, Oregon
 August 22-23: Agate @ Carry, Idaho
 September 19: Jasper @ Haystack Butte, Oregon

SOMETIME THIS YEAR:

Agate Nodules @ Beacon Hill, Idaho

Field Trip Contacts:

Aaron Wanner: aaronwanner@gmail.com or 208-794-9474

Brent Stewart: rocksbybrent@gmail.com or 208-863-9336

Glass Butte-OBSIDIAN

When: JULY 24TH-26TH

Where to meet: JULY 24TH with Aaron and JULY 25TH with Brent 6:30 am Meeting @ Flying J 3512 Franklin Rd Caldwell, ID 83605 just off Hwy 84. Take Exit 29 then a right at the light and a right in to the parking lot of Flying J. 7:00 am Travel to Glass Butte.

Camping is rough with no restroom or showers. The area I have in mind for camping has room for RV and camper parking. 50 miles to the east is Burns for those that need a hotel.

Equipment needed:

Rock hammer, shovel, bag or bucket for specimen collected, appropriate clothing for the weather and location, water, fuel, and any items you need for your personal use. Don't forget your EYE PROTECTION!

Other equipment you may need:

Sledge hammer, rock bar, pry bar, and a spray bottle with water.

If you would like more information, please come to our Idaho Gem Club meeting

Call our Field Trip Chairmen

Aaron Wanner @ 208-794-9474 cell

Email: aaronwanner@gmail.com

or

Brent Stewart @208-863-9336 cell

Boulder-White Clouds Monument: An Idaho Solution

For decades, Idahoans have been working together to come up with long-term solutions to protect the Boulder-White Clouds. The proposal to designate a Boulder-White Clouds National Monument was born out of years of collaboration amongst [diverse stakeholders](#) who worked on Rep. Mike Simpson's [Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act](#). [These stakeholders](#) have worked tirelessly to develop an Idaho-made proposal to protect the Boulder-White Clouds for all Idahoans of present and future generations.

In recent years, Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID), representing Idaho's 2nd Congressional District, has sponsored eight iterations of the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act, which would designate approximately 330,000 acres in the Boulder-White Clouds as wilderness. This legislation has been the subject of congressional hearings in both the U.S. House and Senate, and passed the House at one point, but has not been enacted due to congressional dysfunction and gridlock. Proclaiming the Boulder-White Clouds as a national monument would finally provide this magnificent landscape the protection it deserves, bringing an end to the decades long debate over the. The costs of unfinished business continue to threaten the landscape. As former Idaho Governor Cecil D. Andrus put it, "If it's not resolved now, it will continue to be adversely impacted by other uses that destroy the environmental qualities that contribute to a wilderness area."

Taken from boulderwhiteclouds.org

Read the rest for protection of our rockhounding sites and our heritage of Idaho and our beautiful country.

Editor Field Trip: One Day was all it took to go to Big Creek just before Cascade and Goose Creek between McCall & New Meadows. Both of these sites are listed in ROCKHOUNDING IDAHO, A Guide to 99 of the State's Best Rockhounding Sites by Garret Romaine. The written directions and maps are excellent as went directly to both sites without difficulty. I was so lucky to find a Carnelian at Big Creek! It was fun standing on side of creek and looking into water. Also found multiple white and clear agates with beautiful small river rock stones which don't even need tumbling!

I invite others to submit information about their rockhounding adventures to the Grindings for club members to enjoy.

NFMS NEWS

Instead of canceling this NFMS trip (July 2-5), I am planning to postpone it to September 16-21. At this time of year, the grasses lay flatter and fire danger is not as great, plus the weather is usually not nearly as hot. Our club has taken several trips this time of year and encountered great weather. By postponing I think we can also expand the amount of trips we can offer. My contact list keeps growing and more people will be leading trips. We are planning a trip into graveyard point for the plume agate as well as a few other areas that will give us a nice variety besides the petrified wood.

Put this new date on your calendar and give me an email at warren-rood@yahoo.com saying you are coming. I will still need to have a close count to tell BLM. I will also give you maps and details at that time.

Two links for additional newsletters we receive as members of the rock club.

NFMS – Newsletter available at:

<http://www.amfed.org/nfms/newsletters.asp>

AFMS – Newsletter available at:

<http://amfed.org/news/default.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!

Ore-Rock-On On DVD Version 5.3 Oregon, Washington, and Idaho Rock Dig Locations DVD for PC & MAC A comprehensive guide for digging lapidary, mineral, and fossil materials Includes ALL rockhounding sites in the NEW editions of Gem Trails of Washington & Oregon and Rockhounding Idaho 1094 USGS topo map & overview map images with digs clearly marked A relief map of each state points you to maps or detailed info & photos Waypoint files to upload to your GPS – Over 2,700 Waypoints! 36 detailed descriptions of dig sites that have GOOD material! \$41.70; Send Money Order only to Tim Fisher, 18403 S Clear Acres Drive, Oregon City OR 97045, for full details see <http://OreRockOn.com/CD.htm>

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT 2015 By Lamar Tilgner Tis the time of year that we have all been waiting for. The 12th annual Northwest Rockhound Retreat is just around the corner and most of us can hardly wait for it to happen. We will be continuing with our 8 Regular Workshops this year, Lapidary, Silversmithing, Casting, Intarsia, Faceting, Wirewrapping, Beading, and Doublets & Triplets. This year we will be having a preview of things to come in an evening program on Chain Mailing. It will be put on by Chris Sorenson. We are still looking to get Knapping in but will continue to try to get schedules together so it can happen. We are continuing with our great group of instructors so you can count on getting the type of instructions that will expand your pleasure. Thirty people are registered so if you want in do not wait too long. Registration is a first come, first served situation based upon the post mark date on your registration. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Retreat on Labor Day Week

NFMS MEMBERS' SHOW SCHEDULES

July 24, 25, & 26 Fri & Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 9 – 5 Washington Agate and Mineral Society Parkside Elementary School, 301 Central Ave E, Tenino WA 98589 Daniel De Boer keylock1@live.com PO Box 2553 Olympia WA 98507 <https://wamsolympia.wordpress.com>

July 31 & Aug. 1-2 Fri & Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4 Far West Lapidary & Gem Society North Bend Community Center, 2222 Broadway North Bend OR Don Innes 541 396 5722 doninnes.innes20@gmail.com

The AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA) is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual individual/couple membership fee is \$25 which helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks payable to: American Lands Access Assn. Applications can be downloaded at: www.amlands.org on the left side of the page. For more information contact: Shirley Leeson, President at: president@amlands.org or P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468

Safety Matters by Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

Dangers That Lurk in the Dark... ...and in the light can be present in many of our rockhound activities. Think of the avid field collector using power tools to drill holes in rocks so that they can be split using feathers and wedges - what a dust cloud is raised! Think of the lapidary artist using her home-made machine with all its exposed drive belts and pulleys - both just waiting to grab a loose long sleeve cuff. Think of some kids in a quarry hammering on a rock - with sharp, splintery, rock shards spraying in all directions.

All the situations just described have obvious dangers - inhaling rock dust; catching clothing, hair and fingers in equipment pinch points; sharp shards damaging eyes, etc. While those situations harbor obvious hazards, other situations may not be so obvious as hazards.

Let's think of that avid field collector once again. To arrive at his work site he may have taken a short cut and walked across a small stream. Well, take it from one who knows, wet rocks can be very, no make that extremely, slippery. Falling and getting wet may not be all that serious, but falling and breaking a bone most certainly is.

Soldering on that silver pendant may produce a striking work of art; however, the flux and pickling fumes could be highly toxic.

Wandering around a famous quarry to collect fluorescent minerals after dark one may see incredible treasures. What one may not see are the holes of unknown depth. Even a very shallow hole may cause one to lose ones balance - especially after dark.

Another commonly ignored and often underappreciated hazard is not keeping ones fingers in view. Reaching over an edge to grab a hand hold? Ones out of sight fingers could find not a hand hold, but instead, a very unwelcoming critter hiding there out of sight. And not being able to see ones fingers as one holds a rock on that slab saw is just asking for pinch point trouble. Putting your fingers in a hole to pull out the treasures therein? Again, take it from one who knows from experience, there could be something besides treasures in that hole, pocket, vug, cavity or crack. There could well be something that bites stings, etc. inside.

Working at that club show or workshop? A simple tester found at most hardware or electrical supply stores can be used to check those outlets, extension cords and power strips. While circuits can either work or not work, there are additional issues such as poor, faulty or missing grounds, reversed polarities and non-functioning GFCI's that are not so noticeable with just a glance.

Always keep in mind the potential of hidden dangers lurking in our rockhound hobby. Keep in mind that it is not just the dark of night that harbors hidden hazards, although night is when the monsters come out isn't it?

Please be safe with what you do and keep in mind the potential hidden dangers, as well as the not so hidden dangers lurking just around the corner. Your safety matters!

Via AFMS Newsletter 6/15 and the Clackamet Gem 6/15 S Safety Matters by
Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

A special note of thanks....

Thank you, Ed Moser, for your interesting and educational program on Rock and Mineral Identification during the general meeting last month. This was a great challenge for most members, and we have heard feedback.

The participation in the quiz was great! This was just the kind of meeting activity we have been seeking! The preparation time is considerable, and I appreciate the effort you provided. Ed's complete presentation would have taken at least a full hour and a half. Ed's time was cut short to allow time for a Building Fund auction.

We decided to proceed with the rock I.D. program, and have auction to follow meeting. This was unfair to Ed, and to those eager participants wanting to learn his intended lesson. Members would like to see how to distinguish the materials you showed for our quiz.

I extend a sincere apology to Ed, and the members who wanted to spend more time with this interesting program. Would you please come back for a Rock ID part Two and tell us how the specimens are identified? We will grant you ample time for the information to be delivered, even start the meeting early if need be. You just tell us when you would be willing to do so.

Thank you, Ed, for the considerable effort and time you devote to our Juniors program and membership, your help on field trips, and the many things you do from the kindness in your heart and the love of gems and mineralogy.

Respectfully yours,

Deana Ashton

Bench Tips

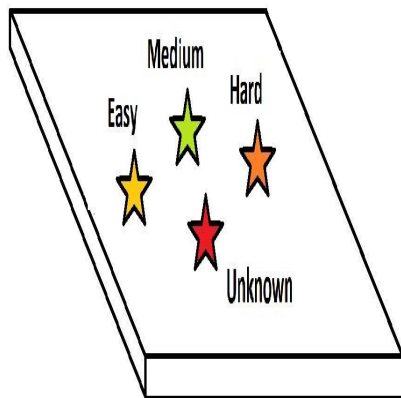
Get all 101 of Brad's tips in Bench Tips for Jewelry Making on Amazon.com or see www.BradSmithJewelry.com

LAST MINUTE STAMPING

Many times I've forgotten to stamp a piece until it's almost done. At that stage, the problem is finding a way to support the piece to avoid deforming it when you hit the stamp.

If the stone has not been set, one of the easiest places to do your stamping is on the back side of the bezel. Invert the bezel onto a steel rod held in the bench vise. The rod will support the bezel as you hammer the stamp on the back.

I keep a couple different sized round punches for just this kind of thing, but any piece of steel will work so long as it fits inside the bezel. To avoid any scratching or denting of the bezel by the punch, file the face of the punch flat, sand it smooth, and polish with Zam or tripoli on the buffer.

**IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS**

There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot to mark them and have a couple that you can't identify. The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the unknowns with that of a known solder. What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown solder. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.

YESTERYEAR

JUNE 1974

President Larson opened the meeting at 7:38 pm. Eleven guests were introduced by Roberta Elwell. Two members, Harold Henderson & Sharon Sullivan, are in the hospital. Raffle & door prizes were given ut. The next field trip will be to Fir Gove, in Camas County, on June 23. E. and Alice Steward furnished the library display this month. Another show of hands was requested regarding hosting the 1975 Annual Northwest Federation Show, resulting in 18 for & 2 against. There were 5 displays in the Mini-Rock show. Shirley Neville issued an invitation to tjoin the Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society of Caldwell on their trip to Haystack Butte on June 22, and to Three-mile Creek above Burgdorf on July 13 & 14. A Northwest Federation slide show was shown on Wyoming material.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF DAYS GONE BY

Marge Conley - Historian



Rocky Rattlers

Juniors need to bring their folders to the meeting this month

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.



Welcome New Members

1. Randi Chahidi
2. Gerard Niday
3. Joe & Carrie McAllister
4. Peggy McDonald
5. Mark Nielsen
6. Alexandra Goodson
7. Travis Leach

Auction After the July/August Meeting

To help defray the costs of the annual banquet in January, the club's picnics in July and August, will host an auction after these meetings. Please donate specimens, gem rough, fossils, finished pieces, or other related materials that others would want. This is a great opportunity to add to your collections while supporting the club.

SUNSHINE LADY REPORT:

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our Idaho Gem, Cathy Parsons.
On behalf of the Idaho Gem Club, we truly wish you a speedy recovery.
Get well soon!!

PICNIC

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

1. Have tables covered with paper obtained from Statesman and ready by 6:00 p.m.
2. Bring door prizes
3. Order ice cream and arrange for pickup.
4. Serve ice cream

When picnic is finished, clear all paper from tables and deposit all litter and debris in trash containers

Potluck Dinner

Ice cream and sodas provided
Bring your own plates and silverware

HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

JULY

7/3 Loren Francis
 7/7 Philip Thompson
 7/7 Edwin Mumford
 7/12 Melody Parpart
 7/12 Steve Fogdall
 7/20 Patsy Bethel
 7/20 Gary Dailey
 7/22 Tom Rogers
 7/22 Kiana Rainey
 7/22 Angie Reynolds
 7/24 Helen Smith
 7/25 Dan Doersch
 7/26 Larry Ridley
 7/26 Dustin Fisher
 7/28 Philena Thompson
 7/29 Catherine Parsons
 7/29 Randy Harrison
 7/30 Debbie Housh

July Birthstones
Faceted—Ruby



Cabochon—Carnelian

AUGUST

8/1 Peggy McDonald
 8/5 Kathy Purdham
 8/5 Danielle Bragg
 8/7 Ron Alexander
 8/7 Gene Thompson
 8/7 Manuela Lamarche
 8/10 Dan Conley
 8/11 Michael Gartman
 8/24 Frank Hederer
 8/26 Deana Ashton
 8/27 Christine Neuhoff
 8/28 Mettie Clay
 8/28 Ronal Dingley
 8/31 Judy Markel

August Birthstones
Faceted—Peridot



Cabochon—Jade or
Sardonyx



or



METAPHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF STONES & CRYSTALS

RUBY

Astrological Associations: Cancer, Leo, Scorpio, Sagittarius

Chakra: Heart

Healing Qualities: Detoxification of body, blood, & lymph. Stimulates adrenals, kidneys, reproductive organs, & spleen. The Ruby energizes, balances, and imparts vigor for life. If you are delicate or irritable, it could overstimulate you! The ruby will promote positive dreams, clear visualization, & heightened awareness (via stimulating the pineal gland), with improved concentration. It provides protection from psychic attack, strengthens during disputes or controversy, & calms hyperactivity. It can be worn over the heart, on the finger, or around the ankle.

CARNELIAN

Astrological Associations: Taurus, Cancer, Leo

Chakra: Sacral

Healing Qualities: Physically it assists digestion, tissue regeneration, & revitalizing the blood. Mentally it makes you “feel better”. It improves memory therefore it helps you study, gives you inspiration, assists your speech and voice, therefore, it helps people who do live performances. Emotionally it helps you deal with emotions and prevents dis-ease! It helps with anger, envy, fear, rage, sorrow, confusion, & jealousy. To invite abundance into your home or invoke protection, place near your front door. Because of the different colors Carnelian comes in, these also have unique qualities r/t color. Pink improves the parent-child relationship. It helps to restore love and trust after abuse or manipulation. Red warms and energizes by combating sluggishness and invigorating the mind and body.

Synopsis taken from THE CRYSTAL BIBLE by Judy Hall and THE CRYSTAL HEALER by Philip Permutt.

Workshop Report
No Workshop month

Dates To Remember

SUNSHINE LADY REPORT

Please let me know if you are aware of any of our members having surgery, an illness, or just in need of cheer. We all can use some good cheer! We try and keep in touch with all our members, and I apologize if we have overlooked any member who has lost a loved one. Please let us know if we can help in any way. Contact Deana Ashton at 208-794-5628 or any Idaho Gem Club Board Member/officer.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND ANY GEM CLUB FUNCTIONS BUT ARE UNABLE TO DRIVE, CALL ME! WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO GET YOU THERE!

Deana- 208-794-5628

GENERAL MEETING

3rd. Tuesday of every month

BOARD MEETING:

1st. Tuesday of every month

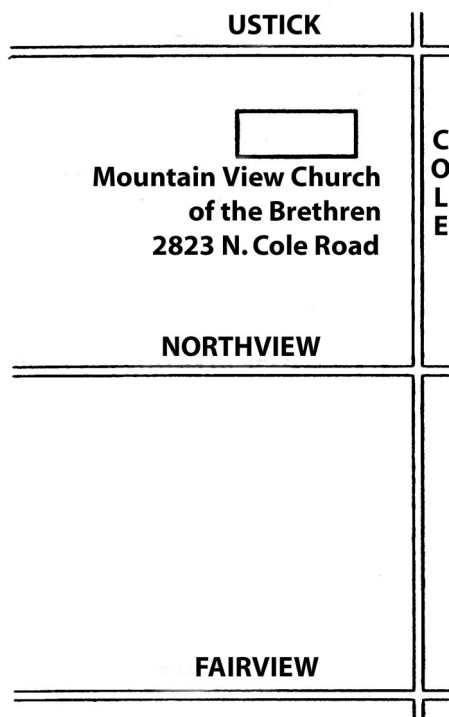
2 September 2014

Church of the Brethren

2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho

Meeting Starts at 7:30 p.m.

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



The Whangdoodle Bird
(Often seen on field trips)

