

# Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 76 NO 3

March 2016

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## President's Message

I would like to thank everyone for all their hard work in putting on a great show. The **new table coverings** really made us look more professional this year. Melodee Worley went over and beyond in procuring those for us. The set-up/tear-down workers, the committee chairs and volunteers that keep our various activities running smoothly, and the **amazing handymen** who keep everything together also deserve an extra pat on the back. The cases looked great and those who received ribbons were excited for the recognition. **Brent Stewart, Doug Renken, and Aaron Wanner** did a fantastic job of laying everything out and helping it all come together. I would also like to thank **Alan Beckwith (faceter), Walt Barnett (faceter)** and the wonderful **ladies from the Bead Society** for joining our demonstrators this year. We don't have final numbers as of this writing, but I expect to have them by the general meeting thanks to our fabulous treasurer, Barb Wanner. Thank you for taking on the responsibility of keeping our records and money straight, especially during the show. An early estimate on attendance is well over 3,500 total for the weekend. Overall a successful year. March is upon us and the weather has been getting warmer. I'm sure everyone is ready to get out and start collecting. Because of the early warming there will be a field trip for March. The location will largely depend on the weather at the time. Details are available on page 4 of this newsletter. It sure will be nice to get out early and get some fresh air. I hope to see you out there. Remember to pick up stones for tumbling. The program this month will help you get started on tumbling and explain about the club's program to provide the grit and polish for tumbling rocks for the show grab bags. It is a lot of fun to see what surprises come out of the tumbler at the end. Respectfully, Dana Robinson, President



**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB  
GENERAL MEETING  
February 16th, 2016**

**February 16, 2016 General Meeting**

Meeting called to order by Dana Robinson at 7:35pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by Carl Woodland.

Dana welcomed new members and guests

Rick Corbett drew door prize winners for 4 adults and the kids; Dave Douglas drew 2 winners for the building fund

Phil Neuhooff proposed a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Grindings, Willa Renken seconded the motion, members voted to pass the motion.

Secretary Report: Lifetime membership certificates for Chuck and Gerri Goertzen and for Gene and Philena Thompson were given to Willa to deliver.

Linda Barlow reminded us that volunteers were still needed to help with the upcoming gem show and pointed out the sign up sheets at the back of the room. Linda also clarified the hourly drawings and the grand prize drawing entry tickets for the show this year – Door ticket may be placed for one or the other drawing with additional tickets being sold for the grand prize drawing.

Brent Stewart asked for volunteers to man the table of donated items to be raffled off as baskets at the show.

Juniors were excused and went to the back room for their evening program.

Brent Stewart provided the evening program: Case Setup and Presentation.

With an example case set up for the evening Brent discussed several points regarding the setup and utilization of cases for the best presentation: lighting, risers, number and arrangement of items, labels and informative tags, and case dimensions were discussed in detail. Locks for the cases are not provided and will need to be brought by the exhibitor. Reminder to please care for the cases as recent repairs and glass replacement getting the cases ready for the show have been completed.

Deana Ashton explained the new format for the meeting refreshments. In the future refreshments will be handled by those members whose last name starts with the letters designated for certain months. Tina Fredericks will organize the March meeting. Questions can be directed to Deana or Tina. A list and sign up sheet will be available next month.

ROLE Report; Brent had nothing to report tonight although he expects more involvement in the program as soon as the new workshop is up and running. Contact Brent with any questions about this program.

Field Trip Report: Aaron Wanner encouraged any suggestions regarding field trips this year. A schedule of this years trips will be in the next Grindings. Planning to start field trips in March with the location dependent on the weather and the availability of a guide. Reminder to be cautious going out on early spring trips as it is easy to get stuck. Always make a plan, stick to it and let someone know where you plan to go and when you plan to return. Expect a search party if you don't follow through.

Don't forget books and magazines are available in the club library cabinet for member use. Librarian is Melodee Worley.

No workshop report other than it is coming along nicely.

Don't forget the upcoming Show and please sign up to help somewhere. Also, the Caldwell Show will be coming up in March so plan to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

*Respectfully submitted, Christina Abderton, Secretary*

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB  
Board Meeting  
March 2nd, 2016**

Meeting called to order by President Dana Robinson at 7:30pm

Present: Brent Stewart, Willa Renken, Dave Douglas, Dana Robinson, Deana Ashton, Barbara Wanner, Ed Moser, Christina Anderton, and Sandy Blodgett. Absent: Cheryl Peterson  
Excused: Twilla Gallaher, Cheryl Peterson.

Visitors: Linda Barlow, Doug Renken

**Treasurer Report:** Still working on finalizing the numbers from the Show. Preliminary attendance numbers was 3451 adults and 725 kids. Final details pending.

**Secretary Report:** none

Ed said he has more donated items for the juniors and has the March program involving puzzles planned for them

**Federation Report:**

**Upcoming Federation meetings** include (1) **2016 NFMS Mid-Year Meeting** is Saturday, April 16, 2016 @1pm at Benton County Fairgrounds, 1500 South Oak, Kennewick, Wa (During Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club's Annual Show), (2) **2016 AFMS Annual Meeting** on Thursday, July 28, 2016 @ 9am @Linn County Fair & Expo Building, Albany, Oregon (before Willamette Agate & Mineral Society's annual show), & (3) **2016 NFMS Annual Meeting** on Friday, July 29, 2016 @ 4pm @ Linn County Fair & Expo Building, Albany, Oregon (During Willamette Agate & Mineral Society Annual Show).

**AFMS & NFMS Deadlines:** are for Case Registration & Meeting Registration dates (June 29 & 30<sup>th</sup> respectively).

**NFMS** suggests all clubs become involved in the land use decision process by forming a club committee, a group of local clubs committee, and participation in a state land use committee.

**AFMS Endowment Fund** Drawing tickets available from Judi Allison, NFMS executive secretary.

**Announcement of the 4 new National Monuments** by Executive Order (Mojave Trails National Monument, Sand to Snow National Monument, Castle Mountains National Monument, & San Gabriel National Monument in 2015) with the CFMS Position Statement for refraining from sponsoring, leading, or participating in collecting fieldtrips into these regions of Southern California.

**NFMS reminds everyone** to clean when out in the field collecting and ALAA has bags for that purpose.

Deana has the **program** for the March meeting planned for Tumbling 101.

Brent said the **ROLE program** has plenty of tags for future.

Barbara said Aaron has the **March field trip** set for the Saturday after the general meeting (meet at 8am at the gas station). Trip will be to either Graveyard Point or Queenstone and will be led by Phil Worley. Season schedule will be in the Grindings.

Continued on page 3

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB**  
**Continued**  
**Board Meeting**  
**March 2nd, 2016**

Old business: The 2016 Idaho Gem Show was discussed at length. Several points were covered:

The new money handling forms used this year seemed to help and will be refined for next year.

Everyone thought the cases were especially nice this year and the awards were appreciated. Brent plans to expand this program for next year. Deana suggested maybe the juniors could make posters or something to dress up the ends. With Aaron planning to be away next year Brent will need someone to help with the cases and black light display.

It was pointed out that with a new person handling the name tags this year things were a little disorganized.

With floor space at the venue at a premium several ideas were discussed to maximize for next year: various arrangements of booth location and alternative booths discussed as well as better signage to move folks through the congested areas easier. Some booths could be made smaller or combined with each other to free space needed elsewhere. Further discussion needed before next year.

The raffle, hourly drawings and the grand prize drawing seemed to go well this year. It was suggested that next year we could try door tickets for hourly drawing only with grand prize tickets being sold and see how that compares with this year. Brent said it looks like the donations for raffle will increase for next year and thinks this booth may need additional room.

The new table coverings and skirting turned out awesome this year. Special attention to the demonstration and silent auction tables will be given next year to prevent excessive wear and cleaning. Disposable plastic clothes for those tables were used this year and noted for use next year.

As previously discussed, the grab bag table ran out of bags very early on Saturday. More bags need to be put together next year as this is a very popular booth. To remedy this Willa has suggested the club purchase several large tumblers to be placed with various members already identified and have them tumble material. Willa has done the research here and has found a source for 4 25lb commercial grade tumblers at the cost of \$613.00 each. After considerable discussion on the matter, Willa proposed a motion that the purchase of 2 25lb tumblers, at the cost of \$613.00, for a total purchase of \$1226.00, be put into the budget. The motion was seconded by Dave Douglas, voted on and passed by the board. (Gene Alby agrees to continue to handle passing out supplies to those members who want to tumble additional material at home with a contest to encourage this being mentioned. Also, the donation of a very large tumbler, to be placed in the workshop (as soon as it's finished), will be available for tumbling even more material).

It was pointed out that several dealers (this year and in the past) either brought their own or got extra tables (or used their back tables) to increase sale space. Some dealers were able to create more footage in their booth than was paid for by doing this. It was agreed that all the dealer's booths need to be set up based on the same system to ensure equal opportunity. Therefore, after considerable discussion on the matter, to better manage this issue, Willa proposed a motion supporting a change be made to the wording in the Dealer Contract with new footage and rates regarding back tables to allow one backup table per 24' booth and two backup tables per booth 32' and greater. Motion was seconded by Brent Stewart, voted on and passed by the Board.

Overall, everyone thought the Show was a great success this year and appreciated all the hard work from the members! Thanks everyone. A pizza party for those who were involved in setting up and tearing down will be held on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at Idaho Pizza Company at 6:30pm. Details to be confirmed at next meeting.

Dana reviewed the new member applications after which Willa proposed a motion to accept the new applicants for membership. Motion was seconded by Ed Moser, voted on and passed by the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm

*Respectfully submitted, Christina Abderton,*



## IDAHO GEM SHOW FEB. 27 & 28, 2016

### GEM SHOW TREASURE DIG

Philip Neuhoff donated 2 large pots with filler inside. There was a list of contents on the pot. Inside the pot you could find all sorts of large and cool minerals and gemstones.

Thank you to all who shared items for our treasure dig! There will be changes for the 2017 show pertaining to Sand Dig. I would like to have a treasure bucket project to do this fall and create these buckets and have to bid on in our raffle next year instead of having the sand box. This will keep the sandy mess off the floors and give the Building Fund Basket Raffle more room to grow  
the pot you could find all sorts of large and cool minerals and gemstones..



"Earth's Treasures"  
by Mylee Hayes,  
Age 8.  
2016 Gem Show



"Petritified Wood"  
by Gage Hayes  
Age 3.  
2016 Gem Show

### BASKET RAFFLE /BUILDING FUNDRAISER REPORT:

The **Basket Raffle** was a big success this year because we had some amazing donations to offer! Thank you **Brent Stewart** for collecting contributions from **Ewing Vet Hospital** who donated one dog and one cat exam plus vaccinations for both. Baskets were filled with treats and food and toys. **Idaho Periodontists** donated a **WaterPik**, **Boise's Best Flowers** provided a beautiful plant. Brent also rallied support from **McU Sports** who gave a spiffy classic style hat and a nice dressy **Boise State Bronco** shirt. His **hairstylist, Bomb Shell Salon** on 6<sup>th</sup> street gave us two haircuts, products, and natural soap pods. **Rose Hill Coin** gave a set of **Gold Pans**. **Edwards Greenhouse** provided a gorgeous spring bulb planter. We had gem and mineral dig buckets plus other related educational gifts. **Thriftway Lumber /ACE** on **State Street** gave a tool bag set, (and sand for the treasure dig). We had massage certificates from **Renee's Healing Hands** for a 60 and 90 minute session, reflexology certificate from **Linda Barlow**, doTERRA kits from **Tiffany Dahl**. **Earth Light Minerals** offered a 7 layer gemstone pyramid. One raffle surprise highlight was the amazing **Opal ring** handcrafted by **ADub (Aaron Wanner's creation)**. **THANK YOU ALL!!!**

The coolest thing about this year's raffle was the happiness that winners felt as well as gratitude. The baskets were won by people who really needed the items.

Next year's raffle will be much bigger and more diverse and I will be happy to collect gifts throughout the year. It is a great business advertisement!!

My sincere thanks to all who helped this be a success! **Deana Ashton**



Wanner Family Display 2016 Gem Show

## IDAHO GEM CLUB PROGRAM SCHEDULE

March 15, 2016: **Rock Tumbling 101**

This month our general meeting program will focus on the process of rock tumbling. One of the first things most new rockhounds experiment with is tumbling rocks. This is a fun family experience! We will have a demonstration on the steps to tumble rocks successfully. There are some tips that will save you time and guarantee a beautiful batch of tumbles. Bring a notebook if you wish and feel free to bring your tumblers to ask questions about. Hopefully our demonstration will encourage you to participate and answer any questions you have. Our club has a free tumbling grit and polish program. We have not been promoting this in our Grindings and on website. Our 1st Vice President Willa Renken is excited to revive this grit program and see our members really get into tumbling this year.

**Idaho Gem Club Field Trips 2016**

MARCH 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GRAVEYARD POINT-AGATE</b>
APRIL 23 <sup>rd</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>BEACON HILL- AGATE NODULES</b>
MAY 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>QUEEN STONE, WHANGDOODLE - JASPER, OPAL</b>
JUNE 25 <sup>th</sup> 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GLASS BUTTE- OBSIDIAN</b>
JULY 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>DISMAL SWAMP- SMOKEY QUARTZ</b>
AUGUST 20 <sup>th</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>EMERALD CREEK- GARNET</b>

## Graveyard Point

**When:** Mar 19<sup>th</sup> 2016

**What:** We'll be collecting agate.

**Where:** 8:00 a.m. Meet at the GEM STOP at the intersection of Hwy 55 and Hwy 95

8:30 a.m. Depart for Graveyard Point.

**Equipment needed:** rock hammer, pick, shovel, bag or bucket for specimens collected, appropriate clothing for the weather and location, lunch, water, fuel, and any items you need for your personal use. A pry bar could be useful also. If you would like more information, please come to our Gem Club Meeting:

Call our Field Trip Chairmen

Aaron Wanner @ 794-9474 cell phone

Email: [aaronwanner@gmail.com](mailto:aaronwanner@gmail.com)

Or Brent Stewart @208-863-9336 cell

### REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

We encourage member participation in bringing cookies snacks and beverages to share during break at general meetings. We ask you to provide 8-10 dozen cookies or snacks for approximately 50-70 people. That can be veggie trays, breads, any other treats. We ask for 10 adult and 10 youth door prizes which are wrapped in a bag. Usually minerals or rocks or slabs. Club provides coffee service and paper plates napkins and cups.

Members whose last name begins with letter listed below, are asked to bring after meeting snacks for the month indicated.

JANUARY	_____	BANQUET
FEBRUARY	_____	A-D
MARCH	_____	E-K
APRIL	_____	L-R
MAY	_____	S-Z
JUNE	_____	A-D
JULY	_____	POTLUCK PICNIC
AUGUST	_____	POTLUCK PICNIC
SEPTEMBER	_____	E-K
OCTOBER	_____	L-R
NOVEMBER	_____	S-Z
DECEMBER	_____	HOLIDAY COOKIES BY ALL

Please contact Tina Frederick, 208-353-0220, Refreshment chairman for March, and let her know if and what you will be bringing for the current month so she can coordinate and be sure enough is provided for snack, beverage, and door prizes. Some could bring food, some could bring beverages, some could bring door prizes. Thanks for your participation.



From The Tektite 3/97  
via Beehive Buzzer 3/00

Here is a really good sight from NOAA on weather issues.

[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/weatherreadynation/summer\\_safety.html#.VaUvP2dFDcu](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/weatherreadynation/summer_safety.html#.VaUvP2dFDcu)

## NFMS Clubs' Show Schedule

- March 11- 13 Fri & Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5 Tualatin Valley Rock and Gem Club Washington County Fair Cmplx, 873 NE 34th Avenue, Hillsboro OR Rose Jackson ljeweledrose@gmail.com PO Box 641 Forest Grove OR 97116, tvrgc.org
- March 12 - 13 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4 Magic Valley Gem Club Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Merchant Building #1, 215 Fair Avenue, Filer ID Shirley or Rocky Metts 208 423 4827 [rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org](mailto:rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org)
- March 12 - 13 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4 Rock and Arrowhead Club Klamath Co. Fairgrounds 3531 South 6th Street Klamath Falls OR Marv Stump 541 882 8341 POB 1803 Klamath Falls OR 97601 Garwin Carlson 541 882 8276
- March 12 - 13 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4 NW Montana Rock Chucks Flathead County Frgrnds, Grandstand Building, 265 North Meridian Road Kalispell MT Lloyd Fager oldgrayelf@sbcglobal.net 608 436 0780
- March 18 - 20 Fri & Sat – 10 – 7 Sun – 10 – 5 Timpanogos Gem and Mineral Society Spanish Fork Fair Grounds 475 South Main Street Spanish Fork, UT Karl Powell 801 319 6115 [timpanogosrock@gmail.com](mailto:timpanogosrock@gmail.com)
- March 19-20 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5 Hellgate Mineral Society Hilton Garden Inn 2730 North Reserve St. Missoula MT Bob Riggs 406 543 3667 [robert.riggs3@gmail.com](mailto:robert.riggs3@gmail.com)
- March 25-27 Fri & Sat – 10 – 6 Sun - 10 – 4 Rock Rollers Club of Spokane WA Spokane County Fair & Expo Ctr, N. 604 Havana & Broadway, Spokane WA Vonnie Dillon 509 951 8173 showchair@rockrollers.org
- March 26 - 27 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5 Mt. Baker Rock and Gem Club Bloedel Donovan Comm. Cntr., 2214 Electric Avenue, Bellingham WA Lori Nettles 360 961 7873 lorinhardy@yahoo.com www.mtbakerrockclub.org
- March 26 - 27 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5 Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society Sweet Home High School Gym, 1641 Long Street Sweet Home OR Joe Cota 541 451 2740 or Ed Anderson 541 944 2124 ela4rocks@gmail.com PO Box 2279 Lebanon OR
- April 8 - 10 Fri – 9-6 Sat – 10 – 6 Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society Golden Spike Event Ctr, Weber County Fairgrnds, 1000 N 1200 W, Ogden UT Deborah Blake 385 205 9187 [gemshow@goldenspikegem.org](mailto:gemshow@goldenspikegem.org)
- April 8, 9 & 10 Fri & Sat 10 - 6 Sun – 10 – 4 Yakima Rock and Mineral Club Central Wash State Fair Grounds, Modern Living Building, 1301 South Fair Avenue, Yakima WA 98901 Dwayne Drake 509 731 5794 yakima\_rockhounds12@yahoo.com PO Box 326, Yakima WA 98907
- April 9 & 10 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5 Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Society Idaho Falls Recreation Ctr, Corner of Memorial Drive and B Street, Idaho Falls ID Dave Gunderson 208 523 2355 or Kevin Landon 208 357 3847 PO Box 2362 Idaho Falls ID
- April 15 – 17 Fri & Sat – 9 - 5 Sun – 10 - 4 Willamette Agate and Mineral Society Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S Pacific Hwy W Rickreall, OR 97371 Bob & Etheleen Flippo 503-623-4241 [reflippoo@hotmail.com](mailto:reflippoo@hotmail.com)
- April 16 & 17 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4 Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club Benton County Frgrnds. 1500 South Oak Kennewick WA Mary Lou Omstead 509 783 2798 PO Box 6652 Kennewick WA 99336
- April 16 & 17 Sat 9 – 6 Sun 10 – 6 Maplewood Rock Club Maplewood Club House 8802 196th Street SW Edmonds WA Cindy Wright cindykw1@hotmail.com 425 493 6155
- April 22 - 24 Fri & Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4 Mt Hood Rock Club W.P. Jackson Armory, 6255 NE Cornfoot Road Portland OR 97218 [NOTE LOCATION CHANGE] Wayne King mhrcshow@gmail.com 503 284 7195
- April 23 & 24 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5 West Seattle Rock Club Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Avenue SW Seattle WA Diane Christensen diane@purms.org 206 439 3606 [www.westseattlerockclub.org](http://www.westseattlerockclub.org)
- April 23 & 24 Sat – 9:30 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4:30 Grays Harbor Gem and Geology Society Elma Fairgrounds 43 Elma-McCleary Road Elma WA Leroy Sisk and Gary Emberley , 624 Fairmont Place Aberdeen, WA 98520 360 533 6196 [melissa624@hotmail.com](mailto:melissa624@hotmail.com)
- April 30 - May 1 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5 Everett Rock and Gem Club Everett Com. College Walt Price Student Fitness Center, 2206 Tower Street, Everett WA Fritz Mack 425 232 0809 rockngemmack1@gmail.com PO Box 1615 Everett WA 98206
- April 30 & May 1 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4 Billings Gem and Mineral Club Al Bedoo Shrine, Aud., 1125 Broadway Ave, Billings MT Doug True dtruefossils12@yahoo.com 406 670 0506
- May 7 & 8 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4 Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club Douglas County Fairgrounds, I-5 Exit 123 Roseburg OR Sue Woodman 541 672 3486 rocksandhorses3@gmail.com or Eileen Paul 541.672.5229 [beadpatch@mydfn.net](mailto:beadpatch@mydfn.net)

## Idaho Gem Club Experiences in Attracting (and Retaining) New Members By Philip S. Neuhoff, Ph.D. Outgoing President, Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

Northwest Federation President Hidemi Kira set me a note a little while ago commenting on our club's strong membership gains in the last year and asking if I could share how we accomplished such a feat. To be honest, I have rarely counted our members during my time on our Board of Directors and as President. Like Hidemi, I was surprised when I saw the data...our club had grown from just under 200 members to nearly 400 in one year. I was also pleased, as like most clubs, we work hard to recruit and retain new members.

In part, our strength in numbers is partially a function of good circumstances. The Idaho Gem Club, Inc. is one of the oldest clubs in the country, and we have a long history of contributions to the hobby. We are located in an area with abundant collecting opportunities, and through the club's history we have protected some of the more storied localities for collecting by claiming them (examples include the Whangdoodle opal deposit, the Beacon Hill agate nodule locality, portions of the Graveyard Point agate district, and the Queenstone jasper deposit). We are also situated in a reasonably large Metropolitan Statistical Area with around 650,000 people...more people means more potential members. Despite these advantages, recruiting new members, and even more important: retaining them so they continue to be part of a strong club, is a never-ending effort. Based on our experiences in the last few years, I will try to share a few approaches that have served our club well.

**Have a strong regular program of activities:** People look to join a club for the benefits. In the case of a club like ours, they are hoping to learn more about the hobby and have the opportunity to go on collecting trips, etc. We have a very active field trip program during the months that permit it, and open these trips to guests in order to attract new members. Our club owns a nice collection of lapidary equipment, and access to that equipment is another great benefit (to be fair, like other clubs, workshop space and access have been challenging at times, though we hope a new home we have found for our workshop will provide even more incentive to be in the club). We also have monthly meetings like most clubs. It is these meetings that I think have the biggest impact on decisions whether to be in the club. Let's face it, meetings can be boring. Because our club is a non-profit corporation, we have a certain amount of "business" that must be presented at the meetings. We also have door prizes, a program, and refreshments. These features have been part of the meetings as long as I have been in the club. What we have changed, if anything, is that the program and other parts of the meetings are now much more focused on members sharing their knowledge about the hobby, and less about the business stuff. What we have found is that new members in particular wanted more sharing and learning time.

**Be family friendly:** A strong and long-lived club requires a broad, healthy age distribution. Older members (who are often, but not always, longtime contributors to the hobby) are an essential resource for a club: they bring wisdom, the ability to volunteer when others have to work, and charm (among other things). Kids (and their parents who tend to fill in the age gap) are the future of the club. Our club has worked very hard to attract families with kids and provide exciting activities for the kids. ALL club functions are family friendly and kids are welcome to join field trips, use our workshop, and join our meetings. At meetings, we have a special concurrent program where the kids learn about Earth science and come away with treasures donated by club members. I don't have hard data, but I suspect a significant portion of our members retained past the first year have children that benefit from our programs.

**Be visible:** For people to join the club, they need to know about it. Our club maintains a nice website, and that certainly helps (that is how I learned about the club). Nothing beats face to face exposure, though. Our club hosts an annual Gem Show, and we have certainly stepped up efforts to recruit new members from the nearly 3000 adult + 1000 youth attendees we see every year (they are a good captive audience that is already interested in the hobby at some level). We have also spent a lot of time reaching out to interest groups that dovetail with our hobby. Examples include a local gold prospecting club, local science teachers, and the metaphysical community. It is also important to follow up when they contact you as well. For instance, a local group that decorates gourds (often with lapidary materials) contacted us about exhibiting at their show; we did, and made a lot of great contacts and some new members. There is one other avenue for recruiting that has been especially valuable for us: our local rock shop. People new to the hobby often visit a rock shop to get started and ask questions. We are fortunate that our local shop, Stewart's Gem Shop, is owned by a family of long-time members and club founders. They have a stack of applications, and take the time to sell their clientele on joining the club. They recruit a lot of members for us. Similar relationships with other points of entry to the hobby (museums, teachers, bead stores, etc.) would be equally effective if there is personal contact and recruitment.

**So what is the secret to our success?** It is probably all of the above. Of the things I mentioned above, probably the two most important are 1) making sure that club activities meet the needs and desires of current and potential members (especially those with kids), and finding ways to increase your face to face recruitment activities. I hope that the rest of the clubs in the Federation can find similar success...each other's strength makes all of us stronger.

## YESTERYEAR

### MARCH 1973

The meeting was called to order by President Al Larson. Hal Harvey read the treasurer's report. George Hamilton reported on the success of last month's field trip to ShooFly Creek, and announced this month's trip to do assessment work on the fire opal claim. There was a show of hands in favor of having two field trips for the months of June, July and August. One to be an overnight and the other the usual one day trip. Jim Waller announced Acting Gov. Jack Murphy signed the proclamation declaring April Gem and Mineral Month in Idaho and a press release would be made through the governor's office.

### In Loving Memory of Days Gone Mage Conley, Historian

Marge Conley  
@ 2016 IGC  
Gem Show  
demonstrating  
wire wrapping!  
Thank You  
Marge



## Bench Tips

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon [www.BradSmithJewelry.com](http://www.BradSmithJewelry.com)

### 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.



### INEXPENSIVE ELECTRIC WAX PEN

You can make your own wax pen from a small soldering iron plugged into a light dimmer switch for heat control. Both components are easily found at Radio Shack, a big hardware store or at Harbor Freight. As an example of the components, see [www.harborfreight.com](http://www.harborfreight.com) items #43060 and #47887

File the tip of the soldering iron into the shape you prefer or even better get a soldering iron with replaceable tips. Then you can make several tip shapes for different tasks. Set the dimmer control just hot enough to melt the wax without producing any smoke.

A tip design that I find ideal for some work is a length of small gauge wire that lets me reach in around the model to melt some wax. The wire is about 15mm long and 18 or 20 gauge. To conduct heat all the way to the tip, I use Sterling wire and silver solder it into a hole on the end of a copper or brass rod that will fit into the soldering iron.

## Welcome New Members

1. Jenny Beaulieu, Boise
2. Jennifer Bruner, Boise
3. Mary Condon, Boise
4. Brett & Victoria Dawson, Henesville, Ga
5. Brenda Francis, Eagle
6. Don Goodwill, Mountain Home
7. Bryce Pielstick & Bella Aragon, Boise
8. Wade & Maria Price, Idaho Falls
9. Dale & Chris Rawson, Nampa
10. Scott & Becca Thompson, Boise

### 2015 Gem Show Chairmen

Grab Bags—Barb Wanner 794-9474  
Garnet Table--Dana Robinson 343-0487  
Wheel of Fortune—Melody Worley 890-6834  
Ticket Sales—Darci Rainey 871-6064  
Hostess Table—Ed Moser 340-8060  
Silent Auction—Cheryl Link 375-5360  
Showcases—Aaron Wanner 794-9474  
Building Fund—David Douglas 559-7216  
Demonstrators—Willa Renken 362-3941

THANK YOU TO THE ABOVE CHAIRMEN &  
CHAIRWOMEN FOR SPEARHEADING A  
GREAT 2016 GEM SHOW.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

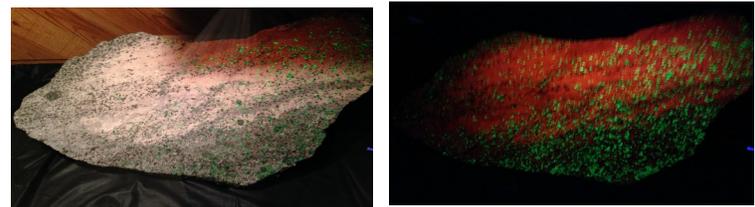
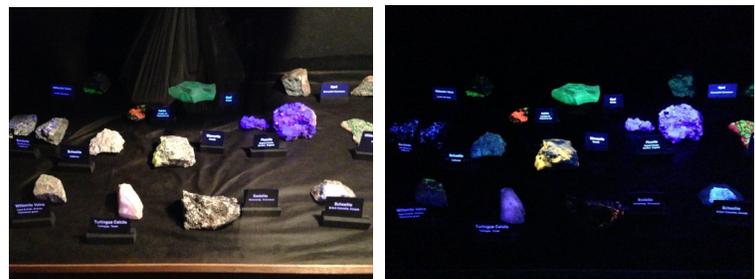
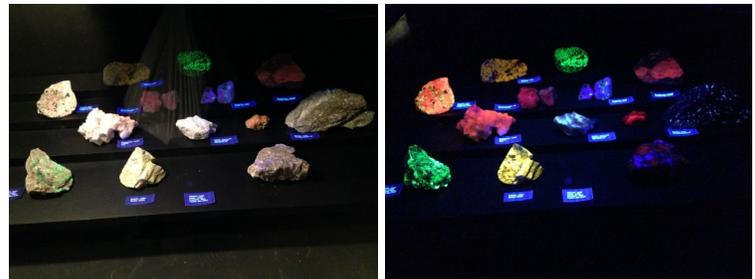


## METAPHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF STONES & CRYSTALS

Metaphysical Display Case at IGC Gem Show by Linda Barlow, Grindings Editor



EASTER COLORS FROM UNDER THE BLACK LIGHT @ 2016 GEM SHOW



EASTER EGGS !!!! FROM THE 2016 IGC GEM SHOW

**MARCH**

- 3/1 Susie Justice
- 3/3 Karen Sass
- 3/5 Gene Alvey
- 3/5 Jason Madsen
- 3/7 Judy Blodgett
- 3/7 James Dillion
- 3/10 JD Lancaster
- 3/13 Barbara Wanner
- 3/13 Cyndy Schidt
- 3/14 Bryce Pielstick
- 3/18 Kathleen Fawcett
- 3/18 Carl Woodland
- 3/19 Rina Furuya
- 3/19 Jeane Gonzalez
- 3/21 Kelley Sass
- 3/22 Theresa Burris
- 3/23 Mike "Red" Lovertt
- 3/23 Phillip Worley
- 3/28 Gene Stewart
- 3/31 Jerine Smith

Faceted:  
**AQUAMARINE**



Cabuchon:  
**BLOODSTONE**



**APRIL**

- 4/2 John Benedict
- 4/7 Nikita Kramar
- 4/11 Jewels Haines
- 4/11 Steve Holmes
- 4/13 Edwin Moser
- 4/14 Linda Barlow
- 4/14 Jack GAMBASSI
- 4/17 Jeanmarie McAlvoy
- 4/21 Jenny Beaulieu
- 4/22 Tara Lancaster
- 4/22 Willa Renken
- 4/27 Maria Price
- 4/28 Milo Lancaster

Faceted: **DIAMOND**



Cabuchon:  
**ROCK CRYSTAL**



## THE ORIGIN OF THE WHANGDOODLE

(As disclosed by H. D. Eslick & J. A. Harrington, September 1946 & enclosed in letter to members of the Idaho Gem Club., Inc., at that time)

I think I can safely disclose for the first time the real facts as to the discovery, capture, & the training of fabulous Pteranodon, of the Cretaceous Pterodactyl family. (see Plate on page 1650, Volume 5, Book of Knowledge).

Well, it happened like this—that old Prevaricator, J. A. Harrington, & I were out searching for some red, white, & blue quarts xls over in Owyhee County. We were using his doodlebug to locate them, but were having no luck. Up over the ridge & around the corner, we found an old volcanic crater which had some shade, so we went down into the crater. There we found a hot spring & a pool of nice hot stinking sulphur water. Well, we were just as hot as the water was, so we—er, put on our swimming suits & jumped in. Harrington stubbed his toe on a round pebble a foot-foot & a half or 2 feet diameter, & the words he used smelled just like the sulphur water. He reached down in the pool & picked up what he tho't was a rock & threw it a country mile. Well, I jammed my toe on one also. Then I got so mad, all I could say was, "Ditto doubled" to what Harrington said.

There were 7 of those round curious things in the pool. I picked up one and dashed it against a rock close at hand and busted it. Imagine to our surprise when a voice of great antiquity said, "Thanks Pal, for launching me. I've been ready for 5 or 10 million years. Was almost afraid I might be getting hard boiled. Any little thing I can do for you, don't hesitate to call on me." So, we knew it was a Whangdoodle—a holdover from bygone geological era. That was the only fertile egg of the several reposing in the nest; that had been piped with hot water. That's the uncensored narration of the birth of the Whangdoodle.

Well, I asked him that perhaps he could help us find the red, white, & blue xls. He took a quick squint around, put one wing over his left eye & x-rayed the earth underneath us, & said: "Nuts, look Bud, I'm willing to help find agates & even lay a few opals for you, but don't give me the business of the multi-hued silicon." I apologized quickly. J. A. Harrington quit catching flies—that is, closed his mouth, shook his head as if waking up, and said, "Here, my friend, have a chew of Copenhagen snuff." Whang said, "I don't care if I do. Haven't had any breakfast yet. You know, of course, that I eat red pepper & fly to the rear to protect my plumage; but I presume this snuff is the best you can offer on short notice." Mr. Harrington answered, "Yup—sure is."

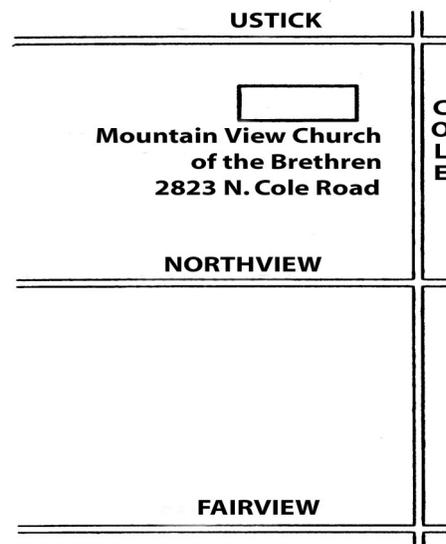
Well, to make a short story shorter, we spent the rest of the day teaching the baby pterodactyl to fly backwards, forwards, sideways; where to find his favorite rock worms, which is his favorite food; & to drink only from the holes left in the Snake River by the Snake River water squizels. By the time evening came, the bird was so tired & his resistance was so low that we gave him the Sacred Oath into the ancient order of the Idaho Gem Club, Inc. That is how he became our Patron Saint. He does his scouting in the full moonlight of September & works about a week; & to favorite sons of the Rock fraternity, imparts the secrets. So many people often wonder why we are so blessed with so much fine material. That my friends, is the story.

Truthfully yours,  
H. D. Eslick (signed)



**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 sciences.**

**Dues:**  
\$22.00 per person  
\$25.00 per couple  
\$28.00 per family

**Subscription:**  
\$10 per year

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

## THE GRINDINGS

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CHECK OUT THE CLUB WEBSITE!

