


# Grindings

*Idaho Gem Club, Inc.*

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

**VOL 76 NO 11**

**November 2016**

## President's Message

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### PRESIDENT

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#### Club Website

[www.idahogemclub.com](http://www.idahogemclub.com)



Happy November everyone! The year is just flying by and it's almost Thanksgiving. The November meeting is the week before the holiday this year, so I hope everyone can make it to the November meeting.



I would like to extend a very big THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered their time for the Gourd Society Festival table and the table at the Gem Faire. Sandy Blodgett and Twyla Gallaher did a great job coordinating each event and Marge Conley was at both for most of each weekend. We had a lot of interest in the club from these two events. Approximately 40 applications were passed out. An additional perk: the Gem Faire has generously donated \$500 to our club for the Scholarship Fund. This is the second year they have awarded us a donation for our participation in their show. We are the only club that participates at any of the shows they do. We have a very active club and people are attracted to the enthusiasm we show in our collecting and crafts. Let's start planning early next year to make our display and demonstrations even more informative.



For the program this month, we will be having an auction. Please help the club by donating if you can. The funds from our auctions help offset the cost of the January Banquet. The Banquet will be held at the Red Lion Downtowner again this year. The menu and details are available on page 4.



It is also time for the Board Member Elections. In this month's Grindings you will find the biographies for the people running for this election to our Board of Directors. The voting will be at the general meeting and the elected people will be installed at the January Banquet.



Finally, I've saved the best for last. The Open House/Ribbon Cutting for the new Workshop will be on the Thursday after this month's General Meeting. Many people have worked very hard to make this possible, and we are very appreciative of them all. Your patience will be rewarded with a wonderful place to learn and practice the skills needed for creating treasures with the rocks you have collected. More details are on page 4.



*Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, President*

## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 18TH, 2016

President Dana Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

The assembly stood in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dana R. welcomed new members and guests who stood and introduced themselves.

Rick Corbett drew door prize winners: 1 junior and 4 adults. In Tina Frederick's absence Christine Anderton drew 4 winners from the building fund.

Finding no corrections to the last meeting minutes necessary, Willa Renken proposed a motion to accept the minutes for the last meeting as printed in the Grindings. Motion was seconded by Ed Moser. Members voted and motion passed.

**SECRETARY REPORT:** Free weekend passes are available to those interested in going to the Gem Faire.

**GEM FAIRE:** Sandy Blodgett discussed the **Gem Faire** and our involvement as a vendor. May have a demonstrator but need volunteers to man a booth. Date of event is October 28-30. Sign up sheet going around. Great opportunity to network. Club received \$500.00 last year.

Twila Gallaher will have a **booth** set up at this years Gourd Show.

**FEDERATION REPORT:** given by Linda Barlow, Federation Director. See Report on page 4,

**REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:** given by Deana Ashton: Door prizes are needed for the next meeting. With the cold weather, hot drinks will be offered.

**FIELD TRIP REPORT:** No information regarding field trips at this time.

**LIBRARY:** is available to those interested at this meeting.

**WORKSHOP REPORT:** given by Brent S. Plan to have open house in November. Details will be in the Grindings, see page

**SCHOLARSHIP REPORT:** given by Dana R. Two applications have been received and are being considered.

**BANQUET REPORT:** Details are being finalized for this years Banquet. Information will be in the Grinding and tickets sold in December. See page

**ELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT:** Sandy Blodgett reminded the members that elections are next month and Board nominations are being considered. Several positions are available. Nominations can run from the floor next meeting. Biographies will be in the Grinding for members review. See page

**PROGRAM:** The evening program will be a presentation on opals given by Greg Sandmeyer.

Refreshments were available after the presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Christina Anderton, Secretary*

## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD Meeting NOVEMBER 1ST, 2016

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

**Present:** Dana Robinson, Brent Stewart, Ed Moser, Sandy Blodgett, Willa Renkin, Cheryl Peterson, Deana Ashton, Janelle Wintersteen and Christina Anderton. **Absent:** Linda Barlow, Dave Douglas, Barbara Wanner

Finding no corrections to the last Board Meeting minute's necessary, Willa Renkin proposed a motion to accept the meeting minutes as printed in the Grindings. Motion seconded by Sandy Blodgett.

Board members voted, motion passed.

**SECRETARY REPORT:** none

**TREASURER REPORT:** none

**FEDERATION REPORT:** none

The **NOVEMBER MEETING PROGRAM:** will be an auction to support the upcoming banquet. The juniors will be studying dinosaur bones.

**FIELD TRIP REPORT:** none

**WORKSHOP OPEN HOUSE:** will be held November 17, 2016 at 630 pm until ?. Refreshments will be offered. Dana R. had a proposed **contract agreement** between IGC and Stewarts Gem Shop for the workshop space to be discussed. Several changes and suggestions were discussed and penciled in. Contract will be revised and brought in for signatures. Sandy B. pointed out that a **logbook** and a file system for signed-in waivers needs to be set up before the open house. Brent S. plans to speak with the **insurance agent** on Wednesday to firm up the addition to our policy.

**NOMINATIONS:** Chairperson, Sandy B., presented names for the Board nominations for the upcoming election. Committee proposed: Dana Robinson, Willa Renkin, Ed Moser and Johnathon Barnett. After some discussion to clarify procedure Brent Stewart proposed a motion that the Board accept the nominations recommended to run for the Board in next month's election. Cheryl Peterson seconded the motion, board members voted and motion passed. Individual biographies will be printed in the Grindings for review before the voting at November general meeting (page ). The Red Lion Hotel has been booked for the **BANQUET**. Catering options were discussed and a **menu** was agreed upon. Pending confirmation with the venue a choice of **beef tenderloin, chicken florentine, cedar smoked salmon, or a vegetarian dish** (to be determined) will be offered. A salad bar and a desert will be included. A **no host bar** will be available. **Ticket price** will be finalized and tickets on sale soon. Final attendance numbers will need to be given to the hotel one week prior to the event. More details soon. Lifetime Member awards and a special recognition recipient were suggested and discussed.

**SCHOLALRSHIP REPORT:** A second application was received by mail. Both are now being reviewed.

Dana R. had several items and reminders:

1. The report to the Secretary of State is due by the end of the month and needs to be handled by the club secretary.
2. A note regarding the Project of the Year needs to go in the Grindings.
3. Case favors need to be decided on and ordered for the show. Ideas can be given to Chairperson Cheryl Link.
4. An order has been approved and placed for New Membership applications. Tablets will be available soon.
5. Dana has identified a possibility for lights to go in the center piece on banquet tables and will look into it.

IGC received \$500.00 for participation in the **Gem Faire** this year. A more involved participation next year was discussed as a possibility. Board members reviewed one new member application. Willa R. proposed a motion to accept the applicant for membership. Sandy B. seconded the motion. Board members voted and motion was passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

## AFMS NEWS

**NO MONUMENT W/O A VOTE OF CONGRESS.** Special interest groups are pressuring President Obama to declare 2.5 million acres of land in Eastern Oregon a federal monument. We believe everyone should have a voice in these decisions. Make your voice heard! [www.OurLandOurVoice.com](http://www.OurLandOurVoice.com)  
Paid for by Owyhee Basin Stewardship Coalition

**Having Fun: Junior Activities**

By Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

Fourth Edition of our AFMS/FRA Badge Manual Now Posted!

I was appointed CFMS Juniors Activities Chair in 1998 and then AFMS Juniors Program Chair in 2003. I immediately set to work developing a nation-wide Badge Program modeled after the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Month-by-month in the AFMS Newsletter, I outlined ideas for badges, and—with approval from AFMS officers and generous support of the AFMS Endowment Fund, which I cannot thank enough—we began offering our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program entirely free to affiliated clubs and societies nationwide in 2004.

At the time I indicated if the program proved successful, my goal was to update and expand it every 4 years. With well over 11,000 badges now awarded to kids nationwide, I'm happy to report we have proven successful! 558 kids have been awarded the Rockhound badge by earning at least 6 of the activity badges, and 26 kids have earned coveted Rock Star status by having earned each and every badge in the program. Their names are recorded on our AFMS Kids Corner website in Honor Rolls recognizing their achievements. (My sincere thanks to Marty Hart for his always helpful, cheerful, unfailing and consistent assistance with the AFMS website these many years.)

The first edition of my Badge Manual offered 9 badges and 53 activities. Staying true to plan, I've updated and expanded it in 2008 and 2012 (with a minor update in 2010), and I'm now pleased to report I have sent the 2016 edition to Marty to post on the AFMS website. This 4th Edition offers 20 badges and 130 activities. As with past editions, many new activities were suggested by the junior leaders of local clubs. In fact, one of the badges introduced in our 3rd Edition was designed by a junior member, Rock Star Erica Nathan of Florida. Similarly, in our 4th Edition another junior member—Rock Star Jem Burch of California—suggested an "Elements" activity you'll now find as part of our Rocks & Minerals badge.

For the 4th Edition, I issued requests for new badge ideas via the AFMS and CFMS newsletters, and I thank the 22 people who responded with suggestions. There were no overwhelming calls to add whole new badges. Some suggested adding Elements, Prospecting, and Beading badges, but because of manufacturing expenses a whole new badge incurs, I've opted instead to include these ideas as new activities within the existing badges for Rocks & Minerals, Gold Panning & Prospecting, and Lapidary Arts. For those already familiar with the program, here are examples of changes you'll find:

- The Manual has grown from 223 pages to 255, with 86 pages revised or entirely new.
- Over a dozen new activities have been added within our existing badges.
- Many previously existing activities have been augmented and/or enhanced with new activities.
- All website links have been checked to ensure viability and any that have evaporated have been replaced, and many new links have been added.

- I've added many new books as recommended resources.
- New tables have been added and existing tables have been expanded.

Looking toward our 5th Edition for 2020, I'm hoping to expand the visual nature of our manual along with links to such things as YouTube videos to better appeal to a more technologically sophisticated cohort of junior members who could probably teach me a thing or two about my smart phone, which increasingly proves smarter than its Baby Boomer owner. If you have suggestions for enhancing visual appeal and/or links to video or other multimedia elements, I welcome hearing from you! Meanwhile, my sincere thanks to all who responded to my calls for ideas to add to our 4th Edition. I've incorporated every suggestion I've received. Most of all, I wish to thank local youth leaders who have embraced the program, devoted time and effort, and who found creative ways to implement it so that their juniors members have been encouraged not only to learn about our hobby and passion, but also to have fun!

## NFMS NEWS

**SHOW SCHEDULES:**

**November 12 & 13** Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4 Skagit Rock & Gem Club Sedro Woolley Comm Center, 703 Pacific Street Sedro Woolley, WA Debbie Frank [skagitrockandgem@gmail.com](mailto:skagitrockandgem@gmail.com) PO Box 244 Mount Vernon WA 98273

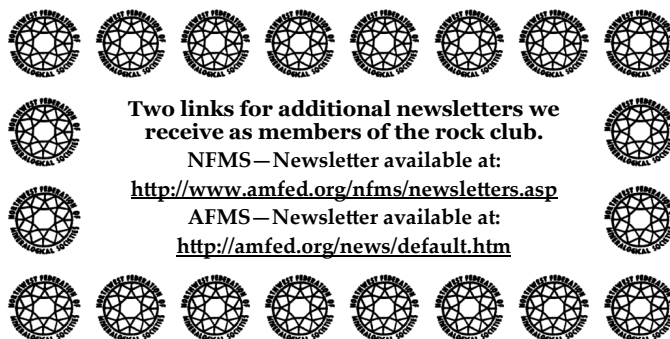
Time is running *out* for you to submit information about your 2016 AFMS Rockhound of the Year. All 2016 submissions must be received by your regional chair (NFMS) no later than December 31. Your club may submit the information for 1 individual or a couple who are your most valued members for the year. In addition, you may also submit the information about 1 junior member

**"THE BEST EVER SUMMARY CHART OF  
FEDERAL LAW PERTAINING TO  
RECREATIONAL ROCKHOUDING"**

Www.GatorGirlRocks  
American Rockhounding Law  
2016 GGR Federal Law Summary Table.pdf

**Save Stamps For Cancer  
Research**

**Cut at least 1/4 inch margin around the stamps.  
You can turn them into Linda Barlow, NFMS  
Federation Director, at our next meeting.  
THANK YOU!**





## IDAHO GEM CLUB PROGRAM SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: ELECTION OF Board Members, see biographies below as submitted by nominees.

AUCTION: Please donate items and purchases will be designated for January Banquet

NOVEMBER 17th, 2016: WORKSHOP  
OPEN HOUSE & RIBBON CUTTING  
TIME: 6:30 PM, informal gathering  
Refreshments including hot chocolate & cider

DECEMBER PROGRAM: INCLUDES  
COOKIE EXCHANGE WITH ALL MEMBERS PARTICIPATING (see last page for Refreshment Committee guidelines)

JANUARY PROGRAM: Banquet @ Red Lion Downtowner  
DATE: January 17th, 2016  
TIME: 7pm to 10pm  
TICKETS: available at December Meeting & at Stewart's Gem Shop



## BANQUET MENU

SALAD BUFFET: TOSSED GARDEN GREENS  
ASSORTED TOPPINGS:

- Grape Tomatoes
- Cucumber Slices
- Sliced Red Onions
- Hardboiled Eggs
- Dried Cranberries
- Black Olives
- Shredded Cheeses
- Garlic Croutons
- Choice of Dressings

DINNER CHOICES:

- Beef Tenderloin, herb crusted with Cabernet Sauce & Roasted Garlic; Choice of Potato; Fresh Seasonal Vegetable
- Smokey Char-Grilled Northwest Salmon basted with Garlic-Pinot Grigio Butter; Wild Rice Blend; Fresh Seasonal Vegetables
- Chicken Breast Florentine Fresh Spinach topped with roasted red pepper cream sauce; Wild Rice Blend; Fresh Seasonal Vegetables
- Vegetarian Entrée: Stuffed Portobello Mushroom Cap filled with Hummus, Pepper Jack Cheese, Layered with sliced Zucchini, Tomato, Artichoke Hearts, served on bed of Fresh Spring Greens with Baby Carrots, celery sticks, & missed pepper strips

DESSERT BUFFET  
COFFEES, TEAS, & LEMONADE

## BIOGRAPHIES OF NOMINATED BOARD MEMBERS

### Dana Robinson

I joined the Idaho Gem Club somewhere around 2000, give or take a year. My husband and I had been going to the February show for many years and my father-in-law was very active in the lapidary arts. It only made sense to join and learn more about making cabs, etc. My main interests are collection and identification. I am constantly learning about new minerals and rocks from fellow club members. My first term on the board is coming to an end, having served as President for the last 9 months. I would like to keep representing the Gem Club in any way that I can.

### Willa Renken

I joined the Idaho Gem Club in 1996 and have enjoyed every minute with this club. We were very involved with the Field Trips, Safety Break, and our Annual Gem Show. I have served as Building Fund Chairman for 2 years and was elected to the Board in 1999, where I served as President for 4 years. During that time I supported the working and restoration of all our claims as well as instigating the resurrection of our junior's involvement. As a Board we were able to secure a beautiful new display tent for our Black light Room and purchased more lights to support the increased interest in it. I support the unification of our club and its members. In encouraging our club to fund a workshop and supporting the purchase of club equipment I have been better able to help our members learn how to create that desire which brought them to our great organization. With your support and direction, it is my desire to be able to provide the club and its members with those activities that help our club grow and flourish. With that in mind I look forward to being able to serve as your representative for another 3 years.



## Bench Tips

See all Brad's jewelry books at  
[Amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith](http://Amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith)  
[www.BradSmithJewelry.com](http://www.BradSmithJewelry.com)

### TEMPLATES

Whenever I have to make more than 2-3 exact copies of anything, I think of making a template. A template lets me easily draw the shape of an item. Art stores sell templates for common shapes like circles, ovals, hearts, etc. Other sources would include [cooltools.us/](http://cooltools.us/) and [kingsley-north.com/](http://kingsley-north.com/)



For nonstandard shapes, it's easy to make your own template. Simply cut the shape out of sheet plastic or thin sheet metal. My preference is brass. I carefully lay out the shape using a steel ruler, a set of dividers, a scribe, and a fine center punch.

One example is the brass template in the pic below that let's me quickly trace the design of ginko leaf earrings onto silver sheet. Another is the nickel template which makes it easy to drill a pattern of holes for pin inlay into wooden handles.

### DENTAL TOOLS

A ready source of free tools is your local dentist. Dental picks can be reworked into wax tools or straightened and sharpened to make a stylus for marking and layout. The steel in these tools is high quality, and the handles are designed for comfort.

A special note however - If you want to modify the shape of the tool, don't try to just bend it with pliers. Working this alloy of steel while it's cold will cause it to snap. Changing its shape can only be done when it's hot. I work it like a blacksmith. Prop your torch up on the bench so that you can use both hands for the work. Have a hammer and bench block ready. Heat the tip red hot, and hammer it straight or bend it with pliers.

And don't forget to ask your dentist for some of the cutting burs they throw out. These are useful for a variety of things. It's best to call a week or two before your visit and ask the dentist or hygienist to put some of these tools aside for you. It's good practice also to ask that they run them through the sterilizer for you. If that's not possible, pop them in an oven at around 250 F

### NOVEMBER

11/1 Lynne Davis  
 11/4 Mike Allen  
 11/5 Brittany Temple  
 11/6 Jaden Wanner  
 11/6 Melanie Wold  
 11/7 Peggy Blickfeldt  
 11/8 Duane Winterroth  
 11/9 Mary Condon  
 11/10 Adalyn Temple  
 11/11 Larry McConnell  
 11/13 Zara Richert  
 11/17 Robert Burns  
 11/19 Jack Price  
 11/20 Mark Ruiz  
 11/22 Gary Lancaster  
 11/23 Marge Conley  
 11/26 Phil Neuhoft  
 11/27 Charles Smith  
 11/28 Brent Ferro

### DECEMBER

12/01 Tracie Zalucha  
 12/02 Chery Clark  
 Lawson  
 12/02 Tracey Holmes  
 12/03 David Schmidt  
 12/04 Shannon Tharp  
 12/04 Tenaya Madsen  
 12/04 Sidney Matus  
 12/06 Rick Corbett  
 12/06 Don Martin  
 12/08 Lillie Rogers  
 12/09 John Sandmeyer  
 12/09 Roxann Johnson  
 12/09 JT Etter  
 12/10 Cheryl Link  
 12/10 Joan Alvey  
 12/11 Ron Gambassi  
 12/11 Michael George  
 12/13 Mark Fisher  
 12/13 Richard Vick  
 12/15 Cris Wheeler  
 12/16 Kory Syverson  
 12/17 Carolyn Whipple  
 12/18 Debbie Allen  
 12/19 Doug Renken  
 12/22 Michael  
 Montgomery  
 12/25 Jan Johnson  
 12/25 Rock Madsen  
 12/26 Mary Ruppert  
 12/27 Kim Madsen  
 12/29 Darci Rainey



Faceted:  
Topaz or  
Citrine

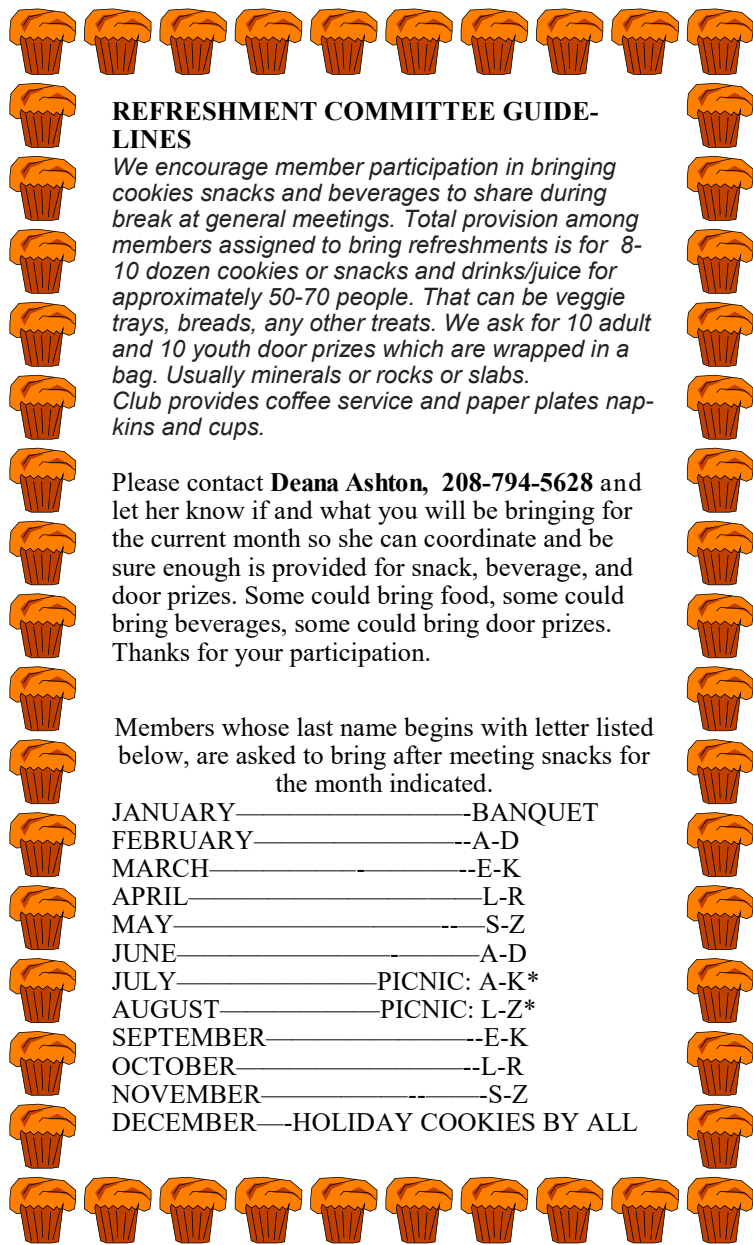


Cabochon:  
Amber

Welcome New Members

MARK RUIZ FROM BOISE





### REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

We encourage member participation in bringing cookies snacks and beverages to share during break at general meetings. Total provision among members assigned to bring refreshments is for 8-10 dozen cookies or snacks and drinks/juice 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.

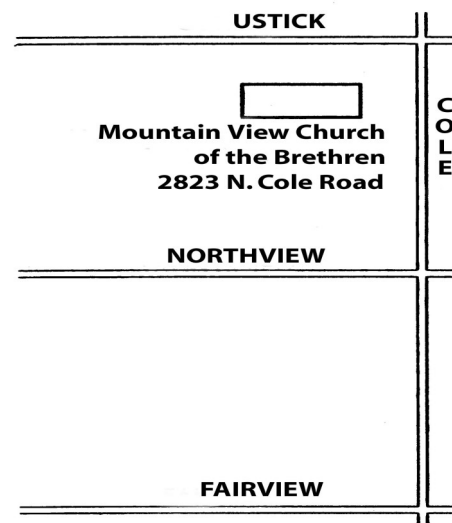
Please contact **Deana Ashton, 208-794-5628** and let her know if and what you will be bringing for the current month so she can coordinate and be sure enough is provided for snack, beverage, and door prizes. Some could bring food, some could bring beverages, some could bring door prizes. Thanks for your participation.

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 \_\_\_\_\_PICNIC: A-K\*  
 AUGUST \_\_\_\_\_PICNIC: L-Z\*  
 SEPTEMBER \_\_\_\_\_E-K  
 OCTOBER \_\_\_\_\_L-R  
 NOVEMBER \_\_\_\_\_S-Z  
 DECEMBER—HOLIDAY COOKIES BY ALL

**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.



**JUNIOR  
 RATTLERS:**

**REMEMBER TO  
 BRING YOUR  
 FOLDERS**

