



Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

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JANUARY 2023

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Happy New Year! The best thing about January is that change is inevitable. Time to start over and try new things and see how we can improve in the areas of our lives that need some work. I am finding that this year, the change in Presidency signals the need to accept that things are about to change. The new President, Rick Corbett, will need a lot of help and support to keep our club climbing in volume and success. I measure club success by each member's progress in reaching goals and learning new skills, educating themselves in areas of interest, personal growth, making new friends, spending quality family time, and helping others. Our lapidary workshop growth, increased R.O.L.E. participation, and the addition of a new Titan grinding and polishing machine shows that your leaders are paying attention to your needs and doing what they can to help you achieve satisfaction. Finding the right people to head committees and take the club in new directions is a great way to show that this club cares about you. We listen to your ideas and want your activity to be something you proudly share with friends, thus introducing the Idaho Gem Club to newcomers. If you imagine belonging to a social club that gives you rewards and if you look forward to what is in our calendar, consider what you have to offer that will benefit our efforts. Create the right environment for club activity. Suggest new ideas and communicate with each other and help make your time with us a great experience! When I see members linger at the conclusion of our meetings and socialize, that thrills me. We don't have to be in a big hurry to stack tables and chairs and go home! Thank you to those who help with set up and tear down, but I hope you take some time to enjoy being in each others company!

Thank you to all who participated in the equipment raffle! Scott Schlagel, who donated all of the items, we are grateful for your generosity. Thank you so much! Many members went home with some really valuable tools to boost their lapidary skills! If you have questions about how to use anything lapidary related, if you find used rock equipment, ask your workshop crew for instruction. We want to help you learn to safely and effectively use your tools!

Thank you to all who participated in the grab bag sewing and rock tumbling contests. I hope you had fun during the process! Tumbling rocks is an ongoing necessity for the club to have enough for our gem show grab bag sales. Twila Gallagher has asked me to mention the need to make prizes for the Wheel of Fortune table at the show also. She makes necklaces and rock bottle necklaces all year. At any time, we encourage those of you who have ideas of a craft the club can do at the workshop, please let the board know! There are endless projects we can do in our community as well and we encourage suggestions. Volunteers are needed for all of the activity booths at the Gem Show on Feb 25 and 26, so sign up for a slot please!

Thank you, Willa, for ordering the new club trailer which will hold the framework for the blacklight room, a lot of lumber, and miscellaneous items for our annual show. By mid-year we will be moved out of the storage unit and save a lot of money on the rental. There are about 30 wood show tables available for purchase at \$5.00 each. 6 feet long, heavy duty! Contact me if you are interested.

It has been the greatest pleasure to provide club programs and events, and being involved with so many areas. One final note, please support each other and your club leaders. Be positive when discussing our club, and mindful to respect one another at all times. Have each others back. In a community such as rockhounding, we should set the example of stewardship and positive community involvement. Rather than put someone down who struggles, ask if you can help out. Be mindful that everyone is going through things in life that may be hardships. Help others. Don't judge others or listen to damaging gossip, and don't let moss grow on your conflicts. It is always best to be part of the solution rather than feed the problems. We are all walking each other home. On the same road to destiny. Be a friend and make it an enjoyable journey. Be kind.

Thank you for your support and friendships over the past years. It has been the greatest privilege serving as your President. I am proud of the accomplishments and milestones we reached together as a group. The never ending hunt for the most ideal gems will likely prove that the greatest treasure is in the people who belong to our great club. Cool rocks are just a bonus! Idaho's greatest Gems in the State are YOU!

Respectfully Yours, Deana Ashton, President

The deadline for issues is the Friday after each Board Meeting for the current month's edition. To submit articles, please send them through email to Dana Robinson, Editor
drobinso@boisestate.edu

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 New Year's Day	2 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	3 Board Meeting 7 pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Grab Bag Stuffing Party 10 am
15	16 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	17 Annual Banquet 5:30 pm	18	19 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	7 Board Meeting 7 pm	8	9	10	11
12 Trailer Loading Work Party 10 am Lock-Away	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	21 General Meeting 7 pm	22	23	24 Show Setup 8 am-Noon Expo Idaho	25 Gem Show 10 am-6 pm
26 Gem Show 10 am-5 pm Tear-Down	27	28				

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
5	6 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	7 Board Meeting 7 pm	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	21 General Meeting 7 pm	22	23 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
2	3 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	4 Board Meeting 7 pm	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	18 General Meeting 7 pm	19	20 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29 Workshop 10 am-2 pm



Upcoming Events

Annual Banquet, January 17, 2023. Cottonwood Grill, 913 W. River St., Boise, 5:30 pm.

Grab Bag Stuffing Party, January 14, 2023, 10 am. Weigh-in for Tumbling Contest and count for Sewing Contest before stuffing grab bags. Club Workshop, 2620 W. Idaho St., Boise

Trailer Loading Work Party, February 12, 2023, 10 am. Lockaway Storage, 5246 W. Chinden Blvd., Garden City

Annual Rock, Gem & Fossil Show, February 25-26, 2023, 10 am-6 pm. Expo Idaho, 5610 N. Glenwood St., Garden City

The Idaho Gem Club

presents its annual

GEM, MINERAL & FOSSIL SHOW



IDAHO GEMS • FLUORESCENT MINERALS • CRYSTALS • PETRIFIED WOOD
FOSSILS • HOW-TO DEMONSTRATIONS • JEWELRY • BEADS • TOOLS &
EQUIPMENT • CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES • SILENT AUCTION • DOOR PRIZES

NEW EXPANDED BLACK-LIGHT DISPLAY FOR FLUORESCENT MINERALS!

Expo Idaho

5610 Glenwood Avenue, Boise, Idaho

February 25 & 26, 2023

Saturday 10:00 to 6:00

KIDS 12 and under **FREE**

Sunday 10:00 to 5:00

Adults \$5

WORKSHOPS

See the calendar for upcoming workshop dates! Come cut your rocks and learn cabochon making! Brent Stewart, Rick Corbett, and Liz Warner keep the club lapidary workshop operating year round.

Third Thursday of each month from 6:00 pm-8:45 pm
Saturday the week after general meeting -- 10:00 am-2:00 pm

WORKSHOP LOCATION

2620 W. Idaho St., Boise, ID
Next door to Stewart's Gem Shop

\$5 Fee for each visit (kids free)



GRAB BAG STUFFING PARTY

The Annual Grab Bag Stuffing Party is coming up on Saturday, January 14th at 10 am. We will meet at the club workshop (see address on this page) and start the weighing of buckets and counting of bags. Then the stuffing begins. It is a lot of fun to see what everyone has been polishing through the last year.

This is also the time to put stamps on the Reminder Postcards we collected throughout the last year. The stamps are now peel off, so no licking!

Hope to see you there!

ROCK TUMBLING & GRAB BAG CONTESTS

The Rock Tumbling and Grab Bag Sewing Contests will conclude at a Grab Bag Stuffing Party at the club workshop on January 14th at 10 am. Everything can be turned in, weighed and recorded. Then we will stuff all of the grab bags that we can.

Prizes for the Rock Tumbling Contest are a Paleo Pick for 1st Place and a Nice Sphere for 2nd Place. Prizes for the Grab Bag Sewing Contest are a Nice Sphere for 1st Place and a \$50 Gift Card for 2nd Place. The more you turn in, the better your chance to win the contest!

IGC LIBRARY

Our Club Library will be open during the general meetings. Take a look at the books, magazines and videos available for check-out. Duplicate books from the library will be available for members to have.

If you have any books you would like to donate to the library, please contact Cheryl Lawson at dizzyphalarope@gmail.com. You may bring books to donate in a bag marked for Cheryl and leave it on top of the library cabinet.



ROLE CERTIFICATES

Several members earned certificates from the ROLE program this year. Four members were present at the general meeting to receive their certificates. The other recipients will have their certificates presented at the January Banquet. All will be recognized at the Banquet.



John Aiken



*Kathl Whitacre
also 2022 Scholarship Winner*



Eric Bahr



Dakota Smith

ALEXANDRITE

Alexandrite is a variety of the prolific chrysoberyl family. It displays a color change depending on the nature of the ambient lighting. Often described as “emerald by day, ruby by night,” alexandrite is the very rare color-change variety of chrysoberyl.

The colors are bluish green in daylight and purplish red in incandescent light. The optic character is referred to as doubly refractive. The color-change transformation can be so striking that it is often called “the Alexandrite effect.” While a few other gem minerals like corundum, garnet and spinel can also exhibit color change, none radiate such vivid and profound color change as an alexandrite. The most coveted stones transform from a lush green or bluish green in daylight or fluorescent light to bright red or purplish red under candlelight or incandescent light.



*Step cut Alexandrite by
Alexandrite.net contributors
Photographed by David Weinberg
for Alexandrite.net*

History of Alexandrite



Alexandrite was first discovered in 1834 by Finnish mineralogist Nils Gustaf Nordenskiöld deep in the heart of the Ural Mountains in Russia. Today it's found in Sri Lanka, East Africa and Brazil, among a few others. The finest material is extremely rare and valuable.

The name was chosen to honor the Russian Tsar Alexander II. Legend says this beautiful stone was found on the day the heir came of age on his 16th birthday. Since then, these gems have been associated with nobility. The red and green colors also mirror the colors of the national military of Imperial Russia. It was later declared the official stone of Russia.

More Rare Than Diamonds

Alexandrite's rarity is unquestionable and it's far rarer than diamonds. Prices for fine specimens above a single carat will rival fine quality rubies, emeralds and diamonds, making them one of the most expensive gemstones in the world.

This gem is rare because its creation requires the geological marriage of different elements such as beryllium and chromium. As conditions fostering such development during the Earth's formation were rare, the occurrence of alexandrite is very small.

Alexandrite is a birthstone for June, as well as the gem for the 55th wedding anniversary.

SUNSHINE LADY REPORT

By Deana Ashton

IGC Sunshine Lady sends cheerful greetings to club members needing get well wishes, sympathy and anniversary expressions. If you know someone in need of cheer or attention, please text or call Deana at 208-794-5628.

Ray Harshman has a new knee! Can't wait to see it!! Glad you are healing up and preparing for rock hunting season!

Cheryl Link lost her dear mother Dec. 20, 2022. Our deep sympathies to Cheryl and her brothers.

I owe Al Larson a huge apology. A previous edition of *Grindings* listed Al as passed away. He is very much alive, and living outside Cascade with his daughter. Al, you are now our oldest club member at 100 years old!

Roy and Patsy Bethel have moved home from a care center! So pleased to hear this great news!



Loraine Link

Jan. 14, 1930-Dec. 20, 2022

Loraine Henrietta (Boehlke) Link, 92, of Boise, Idaho, passed away on December 20, 2022, at home in her sleep. Loraine was born on January 14 1930, in Clover, Idaho. She was the seventh of eight children and the second of two daughters of William and Clara Boehlke.

Loraine grew up on the family farm in Clover and attended Trinity Lutheran School. The family moved to a farm south of Nampa, Idaho, in the summer of 1945, where she attended Nampa High School, graduating in May 1949.

She met Cecil Link at Zion Lutheran Church in Nampa, where they were later married on October 3, 1953, once Cecil returned from serving during the Korean War. They moved to Boise following their marriage, where they lived happily for 65 years.

Loraine's faith was a vital part of who she was, remaining active in various Lutheran organizations throughout the course of her life. Loraine and Cecil were charter members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boise, where they were active members until their deaths. At church, she served as an organist, was a member of the choir, served as a Sunday school teacher, and participated in several organizations.

During her life, she was a homemaker and business owner. She ran the concession stand at the Boise Zoo for several years in the 1970s and later owned a fast-food drive-in (Don's In and Out) on Orchard Street in Boise. Following the drive-in, she worked part-time during the tax season for First Interstate Bank in Boise.

She loved the mountains and spending time at the family condo in McCall, Idaho. Loraine liked going to Boise State sporting events, playing the organ, painting, playing cards, and being with family and friends.

Loraine is survived by her four children, Dick (Lynette), Scott, Cheryl, and Doug; two grandchildren, Jennifer and Devin (Kiara); two great-grandchildren, Cassius and Cleo; and numerous nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Cecil; her parents, William and Clara; and her seven siblings, Edward, Wilbur, Alfred, Mildred Vogel, Irvin, Norval, and Harold.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Rick & Vicki Voss

Andrew King

Telara Oliver

Dirk Anderson, Sr.

Barry Stern & Maria Conha-Stern

NEW FOSSIL DISCOVERY

A new fossil has been discovered in the tropical forest of southern Taiwan. Yang Kirui, a geology professor at National Cheng Kung University, led a team of students into the forest in Hengchun on an exploration. When they came across four ribs sticking out of the ground, the exploration turned into a 3-month project to completely uncover a massive whale fossil. It was almost 50 feet long and about 70% complete.

The whale's jawbone was the biggest piece found at about 7 feet long and weighing over 700 pounds. It took a dozen students around 7 hours to carry it out of the forest.

You can see pictures at <https://news.yahoo.com/four-ribs-sticking-forest-floor-194411630.html>.

GEM CLUB OFFICERS

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MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING DECEMBER 20, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:12 by Deana Ashton, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and two guests introduced themselves.

Teresa has sold lots of tickets for the raffle.

Sadly, Cheryl Link's mom passed this morning.

Rick drew winning door prize tickets for 8 juniors and 16 adults.

Deana went over the equipment offered at the raffle, and did a "Stump the Board" trivia game to earn raffle tickets. Nobody except Deana knew that the club actually has 9 claims. Winners received over \$40 in raffle tickets. Several were winners at the raffle, too!

Deana asked for any corrections to the minutes as printed in the *Grindings*. Willa made a motion to accept the minutes, Terri seconded, the membership voted and the motion carried.

Secretary Report: No report. Secretary excused due to illness.

Treasurer Report: Teresa went over the financial statements.

Workshop Report: The ROLE workshops for December will be Dec. 5 and 19, 6-8:45 pm.

The next workshops are after the general meeting on Thursday, Dec. 22 from 6:45-8 pm, and Saturday, Dec. 31 from 10 am-2 pm.

Old Business: Raffle winner were drawn from the ticket bags. Congratulations to all winners!

Votes were counted for the Project of the Year. There were only three entries this year. Deana Ashton was the winner. Congratulations!

The Gem Show sign-up sheets are at the front table. We still need any interested members to volunteer to help out.

The Banquet will be on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at the Cottonwood Grill in Boise. The No-Host Bar begins at 5:30 pm. Dinner choices are Beef or Chicken. We have a limit of 70 tickets.

New Business: Willa asked members for approval to purchase a new \$4,000 Titan 8" Grinding System for the workshop. After discussion, Rick Payne made a motion to approve the funding, Mike Dome seconded, the membership voted and the motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm for the auction.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary



MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING JANUARY 3, 2023

Willa Renken called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Deana is ill.
Present: Teresa Nebeker, Ed Moser, Rick Corbett, Willa Renken, Terri Frostrom, Brent Stewart, Cheryl Link, Jason Smith and Dana Robinson

Absent: Deana Ashton and Liz Warner

Guests: Debbie Mitchell

Willa asked for any corrections to the minutes as printed in the *Grindings*. Ed made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Terri. Board members voted, motion carried.

Grab Bag Stuffing Party: The Grab Bag Stuffing Party will be held at the workshop on January 14th at 10 am. Cheryl will bring the juice and donuts. Teresa will get the stamps for the postcards, should be about 300.

Rick has submitted a list for his cabinet on the board. Willa Renken will be 1st Vice President, Cheryl Link will be 2nd Vice President, Teresa Nebeker will continue as Treasurer, Dana Robinson will be Secretary and Newsletter Editor, Deana Ashton will still serve as Sunshine Lady, Liz Warner will be the Workshop Chair, Brent Stewart will chair the ROLE Program and also serve as Workshop Advisor. Willa made a motion to accept the cabinet as presented, Dana seconded. There was no further discussion, the board voted and the motion carried.

Banquet Report: Teresa reported that there are still a few tickets left to sell. We need to go over the agenda for Gene, and have something at the head table for him to stand at. There will be a couple of vegetarian plates available.

Show Report: Liz Warner has the sign-up sheets. Need to check with her to make sure all venues have chairs. Check with Barb Wanner to verify she will be doing Ticket Sales. There will not be a Sand Dig this year. Instead Phil Neuhoff will have his gem mineral flume. It was decided that since he is selling gem bags he should pay the same for his space as Rick Olmstead does.

All tables will be delivered this year. Leon is coordinating the Black Light Room set-up. We also need to get flyers done. Dana will contact Cheryl Lawson, or update last year's flyer.

Trailer Report: The trailer has been delivered, licensed and is stored at Jason's house. It was decided that the work party to fill it will be on Sunday, February 12th. We will meet at Lock-Away Storage at 10 am. Everything will be moved into the trailer but the Silent Auction rock buckets. We will need to find a used construction trailer for that.

Secretary Report: No report.

Treasurer Report: Teresa went over the financial deposits, disbursements and the dealer payments. The final balance was paid on delivery of the new trailer. It needs to be added to the insurance.

Teresa reported that the bank is to start charging for paper statements, so she went in to set up the online statements.

There were only four items at the auction, but they brought in over \$400! Thanks for the wonderful donations!

Workshop Report: The ROLE workshops are on Jan. 2nd and 16th from 6-8:45 pm. The usual Thursday workshop is on Jan. 19th from 6-8:45 pm and the Saturday workshop will be Jan. 28th from 10 am-2 pm. The Grab Bag Stuffing Party will be on Jan. 14th, 10 am.

Liz was asking about a liability statement for the workshop. Dana has a file and will get about 50 printed at Overland Printers.

Old Business: Deana Ashton was the Winner of the Project of the Year contest for 2022. Congratulations!

New Business: no new business

Five new member applications were reviewed. Ed made a motion to accept the new applications, Dana seconded, the board voted and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary

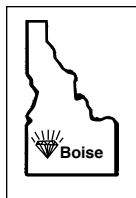


THE GRINDINGS

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



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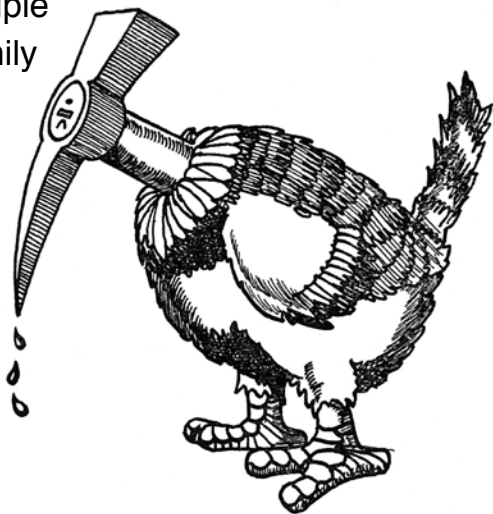
The purpose of the Idaho Gem Club is to promote mutual, educational and scientific interests and benefits of it's members in mineralogy, geology, gemology, the art of lapidary and kindred arts and sciences. Applications and/or renewals may be sent to the Idaho Gem Club, P.O. Box 8443, Boise, ID 83707-2443.

Dues:

\$22.00 individual
\$25.00 couple
\$28.00 family

Subscription only:

\$10 per year



GENERAL MEETING:

3rd Tuesday of every month: 7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEETING:

1st Tuesday of every month: 7:00 p.m.

ADDRESS:

Maple Grove Grange
11692 W. President Dr., Boise

