



Idaho Falls
Gem & Mineral Society
P. O. Box 2362, Idaho Falls, Id. 83403-2362
"DUST FROM THE DIGGINGS"
September 2016 Newsletter



Northwest Federation
of Mineralogical Societies
(NFMS) www.amfed.org/nfms



American Federation of
Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)
www.amfed.org

ifgemmineral.com and idahorockhounds.com

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The next meeting will be Monday, September 12th at the Fir Bridge Inn and Suites. Social hour starts at 6:00. At 7:00 Steve Hammond will be demonstrating silver sand casting at the September 12 club meeting. We hope to have the new video projector available for that demonstration.

The business meeting will follow the demonstration. This will be your last chance to sign up for Learning Day classes and to get more information on the members Rock Sale.

The society's web site has changed. It is idahorockhounds.com. It is still a work in progress, so don't expect a lot of meat yet.

The Learning Day and the Member's Rock Sale will be before the October meeting. This upcoming September meeting will be your last chance to get information on either event and to sign up for the classes for Learning Day.

Hoisting a Northwest Federation show in 2019 or 2020 was brought up at the August board meeting. This would be in addition to our annual show. If this should happen we would need much more support from the club members than we have for our annual show. Also the idea of a scholarship program was discussed

and it was decided that it would be funded for the club's general fund. The amount is still to be determined.

Activities for Learning Day (October 1, 2016 at the Skyline Activity Center) are: Torch Enameled Flowers, and then build a necklace or bracelet, by Linda Bosley - \$25

Fabricate a Simple Bezel Setting for a Cabachon (Silver Smithing) by Steve Hammond - \$35

Viking Knit Techniques by Dave Gunderson - \$20

Opal Cutting, all day, by John and Sharon Nicklas - \$25

Copper Etched Bracelet by Jim Bosley - \$25

Wire Wrap Cabachon, bring tools, by Rebecca Latter, Yvonna Gunderson, and Nicole Strong - \$25

Cabachon Shaping, walk-in all day, by Steve Davis and Jim Magnan - \$10

Flint Knapping by Tom Strong - \$5

Stained Glass Suncatcher by Gerry Gibeault - \$35

Beading a Simple Spiral Bracelet by Susan Magnan - free if you bring materials, see signup list at meeting

Beaded Cabachon by Inge Sanger - \$10
For more information and signing up for the classes, come to the September meeting.

Jim Bosley will provide some kind of soup for the Learning Day lunch. You can bring a side dish but it is optional.

The member's rock sale will be October 8th at the Pine Crest Event Center (formally the Old World Gym). Setup will be Friday night and open at 7 AM with the sale running from 9 AM to 5 PM. There are still a couple of tables available. You can contact Dave Gunderson at the meeting, if you are interested.

Society elections for the board of directors is coming up in November. If you are interested, here is a brief list of the duties of the offices.

Duties of the President

The President is in charge with the general management of the affairs of the Society, will call meetings of the members and Board of Directors, and will preside at all such meetings. He will also appoint from the membership the Federation Director, the Public Lands Advisor Committee chairman, nominating committee chairman and other committees as are outlined in the Guidelines following the By-Laws.

Duties of the Vice-President

The Vice-President will act for the President in his absence. The Vice-President will act as Program Chairman for the Society and will be in charge of the annual Breakfast, Steak Fry and Christmas Party.

Duties of the Secretary

The secretary will have general charge of the records of the Society and will maintain an appropriate Minutes Book showing the transactions at all meetings of the membership and the Board of Directors.

Duties of the Treasurer

Besides keeping the books, paying all bills, collecting dues and giving a monthly summary, send forms to the IRS, BLM, post office and sales tax forms to Boise, membership records to be sent to the federation, managing all monies at the show and the club October sale, selling club items (hats, patches, etc.), managing bank accounts (checking and CD's), keeping the newsletter editor informed of new members and old members paying their dues, keep a supply of member applications on hand, membership cards, and donation forms.

It is interesting to note that all the recent society's officers, except for the Treasurer, have been members for less than four years prior to being elected to office. So, new members do not be shy about running for an office.

September 17, 2016 Field Trip

McGarry Canyon – Birdseye Rhyolite

Wagon Masters, Tom and Nicole Strong 768-7953

Meeting Place – Rest Area in Dubois Idaho

Time: Be ready to leave Rest Area at 9:00 AM

We will take the Dubois-Kilgore road to get to McGarry Canyon. It is a little quicker from Dubois and less hunter traffic than on the West Camas/Porcupine Pass road. We'll still have archery hunter traffic on the McGarry Canyon road and on the ATV trail we'll be going on. Please plan to have hunter safety vests to wear on the trail and when digging. The trail is like other Forest Service trails, so no vehicles over 50" wide are allowed, so Rangers and probably some/most Razers won't be able to go up the trail. The spot's about a mile up the trail, people can either hike or catch a ride on a 4-wheeler.

We likely won't be up there all day, so people can have the option of going to Spencer to look for Opal in the Mini Mine or possibly Cinder Butte area to look for feldspar crystals, afterwards.

Somebody dumped 8 almost new Michelin tires on Jeff Ring's back lot. The police told him that they are now his to dispose of. They are 225/65 R17 tires. Jeff says they are free to a good home. If you are interested in the tires you can contact Jeff at 552-0648.

Notes from the President

It's September! Where has the summer gone? Well, August was a pretty busy month. We started off with a very successful steak fry. Great food, top notch friends, and reasonably good cooks.



On August 13 and 14 Jim Bosley led a field trip to the Wood River area near Cary.



A friend from Missoula, Jawayne, was visiting that weekend, so, I hauled her along (and Dixie, of course.)



On the weekend of August 20, Jim led another field trip to the club's Pogy Claim located just off the Double Springs Pass north of Mount Borah. It was a great trip too! The group met at the Mackay Reservoir. In another photo you can see Dixie in the background behind Bill Schiess. It was a hot day and the dog seemed to be the only one with the sense to find a little shade. Next you can see Jacque Schiess, Bill's sister. I asked her to pose with her foot on a block of black agate. I cut a slab from a smaller piece, but the color was not great.



Brad Storer, a new member, also came along as did Bill Whittington (of “Oh-No Mr. Bill” fame).



As far as I can tell, Bill set a new field trip record with four flat tires. Bill is an experienced off-roader, so he claims. If I understood him, he said he bought the jeep from Barbie a few weeks ago. It had never been off-road. I don't know how Bill did it, but between slime, tire plugs, and a portable compressor he was able to keep up. The story has a side-bar. Bill had just patched his third flat when Brad, as a joke, told him he'd had another. (Bill really did have the fourth flat a little later.) So, at a pot luck hosted by the Bosley's later that evening, I see Brad borrowing Bill's little compressor. Brad had just had the fifth flat of the day. What goes around comes around. I suppose there is a lesson to be learned from this about good tires and being prepared. [Bill, see the note above about Jeff Ring's tires]

Other news

We had a board meeting on August 16. We discussed buying a video projector for use at club meetings. Our membership has grown to the point that it's hard for everyone to see what is going on. Jeff Ring volunteered to do a little research and come up with a recommendation. He did and the board members approved his recommendation. Jeff has the go-ahead to buy the camera and projector. We should have a lot of fun with this. We will have a lot to talk about at the Club's September meeting.

As Jim Magnan mentioned early in the newsletter, we have been asked to consider hosting the Federation show in 2019 or 2020. The proposal will be presented at the Club's September meeting and voted on by the membership at the October meeting.

We've mentioned establishing an IFG&MS scholarship program. This could be an opportunity to really help some of the youth in our community. We need interested club members to look at what it would take to establish such a program. So, we will be looking for people to serve on a committee to get the ball rolling.

Flash!! We need a new field trip chairman. Jim Bosley has done a great job, but, as the Federation President-elect he's taken on new responsibilities and can't do field trips next year

The Christmas party will be on December 10th this year. More information will follow.
And, it's time to be thinking of electing new officers.
There is more news to discuss at the September meeting. See you there!
We have a great club!
Gerry Gibeault