



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



Northwest Federation  
of Mineralogical Societies  
(NFMS) [www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms)



American Federation of  
Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)  
[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

[ifgemmineral.com](http://ifgemmineral.com) and [idahorockhounds.com](http://idahorockhounds.com)

**President**  
Gerry Gibeault  
589-0736  
[ggebo@cableone.net](mailto:ggebo@cableone.net)

**Vice-President**  
Kent C.  
Chamberlain  
419-0220  
[ckentc@cableone.net](mailto:ckentc@cableone.net)

**Secretary**  
Randy  
Gentillon  
521-7821  
[randygen@cableone.net](mailto:randygen@cableone.net)

**Treasurer**  
Jeff Ring  
552-0648  
[jring6241@gmail.com](mailto:jring6241@gmail.com)

**Editor**  
James Magnan  
522-1733  
[ifgandms@gmail.com](mailto:ifgandms@gmail.com)

The Steak Fry is coming up August 6<sup>th</sup> at the pavilion in the park south of the Idaho Falls Art Museum of Eastern Idaho, 300 S. Capital Ave., you can use the museum's parking lot. Setup will be around 5:00 PM and dinner will be when the coals are hot and the steaks are done, around 6:00. The club will provide paper plates and plastic utensils. If you have ever tried to cut a steak on a paper plate with a plastic knife, you might want to bring your own tableware. It is potluck, so bring a dish to share. Signup sheets for the activities at the Learning Day will be available.

It is time again to pay our annual dues. They are \$28 for a family membership and \$23 for an individual membership. If you are going south for the winter, it would be appreciated if you would pay your dues before you go. If you have an address change, please let your newsletter editor know. It is a shame to waste a stamp. If you can not make to the steak fry or the September meeting, you can mail your due to I. F. Gem and Mineral Society, P.O. Box 2362, Idaho Falls, Id. 83403-2362.

There will be no regular meeting in August. There will be board meeting on

August 16<sup>th</sup> at Gerry Gibeault's and one topic of discussion will be the club's web site. The next regular meeting will be Monday September 12<sup>th</sup>. Steve Hammond will do a demonstration on silver smithing if the Fair Bridge Inn will let him play with fire in their breakfast room. Signup for the October Learning Day will be available at the meeting. Also it is time to start thinking about the November elections for club officers. If you are interested please make it known at the September or October meetings. Not all of the officers will be running for re-election. One topic of discussion at the meeting will be starting a scholarship fund.

I just received an email stating the Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society is changing web hosts. We are switching to a more traditional website and putting the network on hold. Typing [www.rockhounds.com](http://www.rockhounds.com) and [ifgemmineral.com](http://ifgemmineral.com) will still work and take you to our new home at Weebly instead of Ning. This will happen July 28<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more details. Thanks for learning with me and giving the network a try.

Visit Idaho Rockhounds at:  
[http://idahorockhounds.ning.com/?xg\\_source=msg\\_mes\\_network](http://idahorockhounds.ning.com/?xg_source=msg_mes_network)

## Notes from the President

Summer is flying by. Hard to believe it's almost August. I started the year with the goal of getting to all four of the club mining claims. We did Hammond claim over the Memorial Day weekend. We made it to the Agate Mountain claim northeast of Leadore during the July 9-10 field trip hosted by Gary Beardall at his Gilmore compound. It was the first time I had been to Gary's place. He' built himself a little piece of heaven on that mountainside. We had club pot-luck dinner Saturday night and a club breakfast on Saturday morning. I've said it before, but, this club knows how to eat! Even the dogs had a great time.



Here's a photo of Dale Wilson (one of the Viola mine owners, Dave Gunderson, and Gary Beardall (holding one of his best friends). Is it just me or does Dave look like the cat that ate the canary?

The original plan was to hit Agate Mountain on Saturday and the Viola Mine on Sunday. But, a bad weather forecast for Sunday caused plans to change. We ended up splitting into two groups and doing both sites on Saturday. Gloria and I went with the Agate Mountain group. It was a long drive, over two-hours from Gilmore but worth it. I've never seen so

much agate in one place. Most of the surface stuff was weathered and fractured. But, if you are willing to dig there is a lot of nice material to be found.

The pictures below include Denise Scovill digging for some nice dendritic agate. Another picture shows Steve Davis pointing out a site loaded with pretty light green opalite. We also have photos of a couple of new rock hounds, Cheyanne and Stetson. I also included a photo of the Gloria and Terry Ryan with the Whittier clan. Now there is a rock hounding family!



A personal high point for the weekend was that Tom Strong and Gary Beardall showed me and a number of others how to make obsidian arrow heads. These guys are great teachers. I may be hooked.

As expected the weather was bad on Sunday. So, after breakfast, Gloria and I headed home.

I was sorry to miss the Challis Field trip (Jim Bosley wagon master). Jim said he had a good turnout with about 20 people participating. He sent me a couple of pictures, one of mountain sheep and another of his granddaughters, Olivia and Aubrey. He did not send any pictures of rocks. With a granddaughter on his right and another on his left I guess he got his priorities right.



Jim did say they found a new spot for collecting wood (little silicate) and agate nodules. He said most people left on Sunday, but those who stayed collected some nice lace agate.



**And, heads up! The Annual Steak Fry and Pot Luck – August 6**

**IFG&MS 2016 FIELD TRIPS**

Committee: Jim Bosley – Chair, 520-1819, Pat Haefner – Co-Chair, 529-3929, Nicole Strong, 768-7953, Linda Bosley, 520-7008

Location – Date	Objective	Wagon Master & Comments
August 2 – 6	Agate, Petrified Wood,	Doug True

Federation Field Trip Prineville Oregon	Jasper	See Federation newsletter for information and times.
August 6 Annual Steak BBQ & Potluck	Club supplies steak and members bring a potluck dish	Tom Strong 384-6820
August 13 Carey ID, Wood River Reservoir	Lace Agate, Petrified Wood, Jasper	Steve Davis, 790-7211 Camping at Little Wood River Reservoir Campground
August 20 – 21 Pogo Claim, Copper Basin, Chilly	Jasper	Jim Bosley 520-1819 Camping at Mackey Reservoir
September 24* e.g. Big Piney, WY, Topaz Mt. UT, Owyhee, OR	TBD	
October 1 Learning Day	Classes to be determined. Signup sheets at Aug. and Sept. meetings.	Jeanne Hammond and Linda Bosley Skyline Rec. Center
October 8 Rock Club Sale		TBD

It is always a good idea to check with the wagon master about a field trip and get the ‘up to date’ information. There is usually a signup sheet at the monthly meetings for the field trips.

As you can see, the field trips are winding down for the year.

Also at the steak fry, there will be club items for sale:

Embroidered baseball caps (\$15)

NorthWest Federation Directories (6) (\$5)

Vests (\$11) (4S, 1M, 1L, 10XL)

Large Patches (\$10)

Small Patches (\$4)

Pins (\$1)

PLUS a FREE WORRY STONE or ROCK PIN when you pay your dues on or before the September meeting!