



# Lake City Rockhound News

NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB

AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND **OCTOBER** 2010

P.O. Box 1643 Hayden, ID 83835

Meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM — Public Welcome

At Post Falls Senior Center, in the Dougall Room— 1215 E. 3rd. St. Post Falls, ID

See the NFMS web site at [www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms)

See the web site for the club at [www.northidahomineralclub.com](http://www.northidahomineralclub.com) see below

**PRINTING AND DELIVERY NEWS:** Mike is in the process of moving our web site and therefore we do not have access at this time to be able to e-mail this newsletter. So it's back to the post office for at least this one. My computer is back in business (I sure did miss it!) and I had a good informative trip to Oregon.

NEXT MEETING ON OCTOBER 21, 2010

PROGRAM — YOUR CHOICE OF 4 DVD'S

Majority rules..1. KENTUCKY AGATES from AFMS/NFMS

2. VIRGIN VALLEY OPALS!—2009 AFMS PROGRAM COMPETITION WINNER

3. CUSTOM WIRE WRAP JEWELRY-ALICE TURNER

4. UMOONA—OPAL MINE AND MUSEUM

Meeting begins at 6:30 PM Refreshments provided by members, and Silent Auction taking place all evening. Vote on the program during the meeting. Thanks, Bev

JUST A WORD ABOUT THE BOOK "AGATES, Inside Out" by Karen Brzys that Warren had at the last meeting. I got my copy, and it is one of the easiest to read and informative book I've seen in a long time, and one of the most beautiful.

She is raising the price after the first of the year, so get yours now if you have a chance. We exchanged e-mails, and her web site is fantastic! [www.agatelady.com](http://www.agatelady.com). She did tell me that if we order now she will give us the same price break that she offered in her first club letter. I'll bring the info to the meeting. BB

The following is an article that was prepared for the August newsletter, and thank you Everett!

#### A ROCKHOUND ADVENTURE

Following Fathers Day with two of our daughters and their spouses in the Seattle area, we prepared to leave for Prineville, OR to meet a rockhound group from the Marysville, W A club. However, preparing to leave the Seattle KOA, I learned an expensive lesson. Always block trailer wheels so they won't move and never run the trailer hitch jack too high. Needless to say our travel trailer shifted when the jack was fully extended, breaking the jack. In the middle of a rainstorm I was left with no alternative but use of hydraulic jacks and wood blocks to raise the travel trailer hitch to our pickup. We spent Sunday night in the parking lot of Camping World in Tacoma until a replacement jack was installed the next morning.

We left Tacoma mid-morning arriving at a Forest Service gravel pit approximately 26 miles east of Prineville on Highway 26. Fortunately we arrived in time for a pot-luck dinner and social time around the campfire. Stu and Kathy Ernst had made a preliminary visit to the area checking proposed sites for the group to visit. They also received permission to use the gravel pit as our campsite Two porta-potties were rented for use of the group. A few members of the group stayed elsewhere~ but the gravel pit was adequate for several tent campers and several motor homes and trailers.

BLM has published a Rockhound map of the Central Oregon area. This proved to be an excellent resource. Also I noted BLM published a Rockhound map for the Sunstone area. Hopefully BLM has published rockhound maps of other areas.

Heavy rains caused cancellation of visits to some collecting sites. However, White Fir Springs area was only a few miles away and yielded excellent small nodules, and jasper. Our Maury Mountain trip yielded excellent agate. We had to dig about three feet deep and a vein of agate was found. Most of the material was in a solid vein and required breaking and prying pieces out.

Glass Butte yielded black obsidian, mahogany obsidian, and fire obsidian as well as friendly ticks. The road into the area was graded this spring. While rough, the road was greatly improved over the last time we visited the area.

Time was spent at the Prineville rock show. An overwhelming number of dealers participated in the show, including, Dennis Hicks from our club. Several field trips were scheduled from the Prineville Show. I went to Richardson Ranch for blue nodules and to the Alex McDonald Ranch for petrified wood and angel wing agate.

We had hoped members of our club would travel with us to collect sunstones. However, Donni Moen, visited our trailer and reported that she wasn't aware of anyone planning to go for sunstones. We went to the Double Eagle Mine and dry camped at the mine. This proved to be an excellent choice. We collected over a pound of sunstones, many of facet quality. The largest stone collected weighs 161 carats. John and Debbie Aldrich, Double Eagle Mine owners were great to work with. I plan to go back next year and encourage others to join me.

We returned home July 7. During the trip I recovered from a severe cold, which Erna caught from me. As a consequence she spent a lot of time in the trailer returning home with a horribly miserable cold.  
Ev Headrick

Hello! I am a sixth grade student at Ester F. Garrison School of Visual and Performing Arts! Our science class is trying to collect rock or gem samples from all around the United States! That means we are going to need some from Idaho. If you are willing to contribute to our collection, please send them to:

Ester F. Garrison School of Visual and Performing Arts c/o Mr. Scott Warner  
649 W. Jones St.  
Savannah, GA  
31410

If there are any further questions, please contact our science teacher, Mr. Warner, at: [scott.warner@sccpss.com](mailto:scott.warner@sccpss.com)  
(Received on Sept. 22, addressed to "Dear North Idaho Mineral Club")

North Idaho Mineral Club Meeting notes for July 15, 2010 (Aug. bulletin)

The July meeting of the North Idaho Mineral club was held in conjunction with the annual picnic at Dalton Park. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by James Finckbone. Last months minutes were approved and 2nd• Bill Johnson presented the treasurer report and reported on the Show's net profit..

Bev Bockman reminded the club that the Rock and Rollers will be having their annual picnic in August. She will ask if they are still interested in selling a few of their cases.

Diane Rose discussed our club's need for additional cases and storage of those cases. One member noted that we did not have a report back from Warren Price regarding the cost of a larger storage unit. Diane stated that the storage unit contains the Riley Collection which is our source of rocks for the monthly auction. She stated that we are now paying \$60 per month and if we enlarged we would need a 10 xl0 or 10x20 unit. There is currently an available unit for \$13 more per month.

Members were reminded to sign-in.

Several upcoming field trips were discussed including Red top and Maverick(???)

Bill Johnson stated that he had extra Xmas presents left over and that everyone attending the picnic would be receiving a gift.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn for the picnic and the silent auction.

Maria McDonald, Secretary ~~~~~

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(partial minutes from the August 2010 meeting)

There was a discussion on how to obtain a book on Agates. At one time, Bev had shared a pamphlet that offered the book for purchase for \$16. Bill Johnson said he had found a book on agates at an auction at Castle Rock.

New Business:

A letter from Charles Osgood was discussed. He is encouraging people to purchase the new license plates. There will be thousands made. Last time the club pledged \$100.

Up and coming shows were announced. Sept 9-11 there will be a show at the Walla Walla fairgrounds.

The show is named the Cascade of Gems. There is also a show in Hillsboro, Oregon, which will include the NFMS convention and competition cases. Everett will represent us at the convention and also at the ALAA meeting. Dates Sept 17-19 Maria McDonald, secretary.

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**THIS YEARS HANCOCK RETREAT FOR ROCKHOUNDS—DIANE ROSE**

This year was my third year at Hancock Retreat. It was great to see all of the people I had met in years past as well as meet new friends this year.

I took the Silver Smith class again this year and wanted to make each project the best I had done. The class was smaller this year which was a great since we would not have to wait for equipment or assistance from the WONDERFUL instructors.

This years projects were more advanced than in previous years and were challenging with beautiful results. Come see them at the meeting this month.

This year we had a great speaker, Wayne Sukow from Fairfax, VA. His programs were on Agates, especially those from Michigan with Iris patterns in them under magnification. Each evening program was spectacular! Seeing things magnified brings out a beauty that was not possible without magnification and the backlighting was just right as well.

His programs are available though the NFMS library. I believe they are on DVD's now. Hope Beverly can get them for the club as programs in the future, maybe this month? (Unable to locate them Diane—BB)

Being in the company of people that enjoy our hobby for a full week was truly refreshing. There are so many different ways they use the beauty that abounds in our hobby it is very inspiring to see the varied and spectacular results!

Thank you, Diane. BB

## NFMS MEETING IN OREGON—SEPT 18, 2010



These are a couple of the Portland Regional Show at fly doesn't show up very it was crafted entirely from wings. Placed on a mirror was stunningly beautiful.

Jacobsen. The Federation ful this year, except for the president, whose nine-year old daughter was awarded adult masters accreditation for her competition cases as she has already won all the junior awards that she can win. Amazing child, and much in control of what she does. And do you know, I didn't get a picture of her case. Maybe it will be in the next Northwest Newsletter.

beautiful sights at the Hillsboro. The dragon-well in this picture but stone with iris agate for greater effect, it Creator was Barbara meeting was unevent- election of a new vice

The ALAA meeting on Sunday morning was attended by 37 people, far beyond what they had hoped for. Further information on ALAA. and land issues later in this newsletter.

I implore everyone who is reading this to take time right now to access [www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms) and open the September Northwest Newsletter to page 6. Read the report by our very remarkable PUBLIC LANDS REPRESENTATIVE, ANDY JOHNSON. His report is sensible and easy to read., and informative—far more than “second hand” writing by me would be.

#### SEPTEMBER ROCK TRIPS BY “LONESOME BILL!!”

Went with the Shocks to Cle Elum and the Teanaway River to look for Jade. We followed the best directions we got and wound up at the end of the road and then hiked up 3/4 mile further. Found a bunch of stuff that looked somewhat like jade but figured it was too soft and brittle so must be serpentine, which turns into jade if buried deep enough and gets enough heat and pressure. Anyway carried some back with us. Then up to Red Top area to look around and bruised my left foot. Didn't find any agate though.

Wind picked up real strong but stopped at George and to the diatomaceous earth plant for some common opal. Got some nice pieces. Met a guy there and mentioned Bob's name who he recognized and took us to a spot to get some stuff. Wind was howling there and blowing the diatomaceous earth badly and we were trying not to breath it in.

A few days later I headed down to Oregon to look around and get some rocks. Headed for Hampton Butte and looked around that evening. Spent the night in the back of the truck and looked around the next morning. No one there but me. Had coyotes howling around me and some antelope down the road. Didn't find much but couldn't get around good with my sore foot. Off across country on back roads to Maury Mountain. Looked around there too and found a few small pieces but since I wasn't very mobile I stayed close to the road. No one was there either.

Headed over to Paulina and looked through two areas with no one around and at the third area there was a parked truck. Didn't see anyone but at least there was some sign of people. Didn't find much there either.

Bill's story ——— continued

Next morning stopped along the highway looking for agate and found some small pieces and then on to White Fir Springs. Looked around the digging areas and found some small pieces and some chunks' of rhyolite with little geodes in them. No one there either.

Just up the road was Wildcat Mountain and the same kind of stuff was there too. Picked up a few pieces. No one there.

Drove to Lucky Strike mine and they were closing for the winter. Bought a few geodes that were in a couple of small piles and headed out. Saw some green rock in the road on the way out and picked up some to find out what it is later.

Stopped by the Richardson Ranch and picked up a few things there and then on to Kennewick to spend the night at my brother's place.

Back home the next morning. Pictures of the terrain shown below.



## North Idaho Mineral Club Meeting Notes for September 16, 2010

The September meeting of the North Idaho Mineral club was held on September 16, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President, Warren Price. The minutes from the August meeting were read, amended and approved. New visitors to the meeting were introduced. They included: Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Simpson, and friends of Warren's, Erin and Jacob. Bill Johnson presented the treasurer report and reported on the bills paid out, and deposits. He reported a balanced budget.

### Field Trips:

Bill Johnson reported that he took a trip to George, WA for common opal. He stated that the site was a private mine

(meeting notes for Sept. —continued from last page.)

and that members could go there on the week-ends and pick-up discarded opal laying on the side of the road. Bill brought several samples to show at tonight's meeting.

Bill also talked about taking a side trip to the North Fork of the Teanaway River near Cle Elum and finding serpentine. Also mentioned was the Hampton Butte area, Red Top Paulina for agatized limbs, the Lucky Strike Mine for thunder eggs and the Richardson Ranch which is open year-round.

#### Show Report:

Warren asked for comments and suggestions from club members regarding next year's show. A suggestion was made that we look into advertising in school newspapers. The cost would be free or low cost. Another suggestion was made that we look into more display cases. Warren stated that he would like more club members to show their collections and that this could be done if we had more cases.

#### Old Business:

Storage Unit. We have moved into a 10 x 20 storage unit at Advanced Storage. Warren has added shelving and stated that we have much more room now.

#### Officer Positions:

Bill Johnson reported that he had completed his annual report to the state of members. Warren also announced that elections for the officer positions will be discussed at the next meeting. He asked for people to consider whether or not they would be willing to serve as an officer.

#### Dues:

NW Federation dues are due on December 31. Dues are payable in November.

IRS/IDS- Bob Bockman stated that he has information on filing the 990-N and would bring a copy to the next meeting.

#### New Business:

Warren announced that We have been invited to a Show on October 16 at the Art and Home Center at Lowe's. He suggested that a few club members might be interested in setting up a display and being able to show attendees how interesting this hobby is.

There was also discussion about the Missoula show on September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

Mike Burton reported that he is still updating our web site.

The Christmas party/potluck was brought up. We will discuss this further at the next meeting. There was no program scheduled for tonight's meeting and the meeting was adjourned early.

Maria McDonald, Secretary

## American Lands Access Association, Inc. Position Statement National Monument Designation Transparency And Accountability Act of 2010 H.R.5580

August 1,2010

After the close evaluation of *H.R. 5580: National Monument Designation Transparency and Accountability Act of 2010*. The American Lands Access Association (ALAA) is in support of this piece of legislation. The text of HR 5580 can be found on the 'Active Legislation' page of the ALAA Website <http://www.amlands.org/6652/index.htmlalong> with a link to the current status of the pending legislation. This bill, when passed, will help in the protection of America's Public Lands from arbitrary discretionary executive orders and require public input and Congressional concurrence in the creation of National Monuments from America's Public Lands, keeping special interest activists under control. Your help is needed to accomplish the passage of this bill into public law. Your letters, emails and faxes to elected officials asking for their support of this pending legislation is urgently needed. Your elected official can be found on the ALAA website 'Links' Page <http://www.amlands.org/9112/index.htmlunder> 'Contact Information for Congress'.

We provide a connection between the earth where we find our rocks and the public - who may not have the means to see what we have seen. Offer the AFMS Code of Ethics  
 We have provided over \$1.5 million dollars to graduate students in the Earth Sciences at Universities all over the U.S.

We have seen the public lands decrease since the 1970s, then again in the 1990's and the Omnibus Land Bill passed by Congress in 2009. And it's not enough, there are many organizations, with specific agendas who want to close more public lands and lock them away.

Legislation currently in the U.S. House H.R. 5580 and Senate S 3660 addresses the President making land decisions under the Antiquities Act of 1906. These bills would stop the President from making National Monuments, expanding existing ones and other designated land use by having the public and Congress ask for hearings on the requests.

Something successful we accomplished. Cyndi Carp of the Oregon Coast Agate Club contacted me regarding the Oregon State Marine Reserve's proposed closure of the beaches for collecting. Letter writing ensued and the Commission reversed itself. Letter writing and especially emails were the key. Be ever vigilant, those clubs along the coast of both Washington and Oregon, this could come up again. (taken from notes prepared by Shirley Leeson, Vice President of ALAA.)

The ALAA and the Blue Ribbon Coalition have joined forces on many land issues. Our membership is 52,000 and theirs is millions. They include ATV users, Cyclists, mountain bike users, snow mobilers, etc—many diverse groups all having the same thing In mind—preserving access to our public lands. We need the roads that they want left open, to reach areas where we may still have a chance to obtain material for our hobby. The BRC is very proactive in calling meetings about land closures threatened, and arrange talks before the fact with the officials involved to get public input and discussions of the issues. But we HAVE TO PARTICIPATE, BY CONTACTING OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND LETTING THEM KNOW HOW WE FEEL AND WHY.

Bob and I have attended a meeting in Airway Heights one time when we were informed of a public meeting on a land use issue in Washington. The officials from BLM and the Forest service wanted our input before they made a decision. It was an interesting evening.

Contacting congress:	D.C. phone	email
SENATOR MIKE CRAPO (R-ID)	202-224-6142	<a href="http://crapo.senate.gov/contact/email.cfm">http://crapo.senate.gov/contact/email.cfm</a>
SENATOR JAMES E. RISCH (R-ID)	202-224-2752	<a href="http://risch.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Email">http://risch.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Email</a>
REPRESENTATIVE WALT C. MINNICK (D-01)	202-225-6611	<a href="http://minnick.house.gov/contact-zip-auth.shtml">http://minnick.house.gov/contact-zip-auth.shtml</a>
REPRESENTATIVE MIKE SIMPSON (D-02)	202-225-5531	<a href="http://simpson.house.gov/Contact/">http://simpson.house.gov/Contact/</a>

Minnick-1517 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515    1900 NW Blvd, Suite 106, Cd'A, 83814  
 Mike Crapo 239 Dirksen, Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20510    610 N. Hubbard, Suite 209, Cd'A, 83814  
 Janes Risch 483 Russell Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20510

**Committees for 2010**

- Hospitality – Sherla Francis
- Field Trips—Bill Johnson
- Membership- Bill Johnson

**Show Chairman-2010 Warren Price**

• Newsletter Editor—Bev Bockman ARTICLES  
WELCOME

• Program Chairman-Bev Bockman AND CLUB  
MEM- BERS PLEASE !!!!!!!~

**OFFICERS FOR 2010**

- Warren Price—President
- James Finckbone—Vice Pres.
- Secretary - Maria McDonald
- Treasurer — Bill Johnson
- Federation director—Everett Headrick
- Federation Delegate—Beverly Bockman
- WSMC Delegate-Open

*Lake City Rockhound News*

Bev Bockman, Editor, bockbb@aol.com  
P.O.Box 1326 ,Post Falls. ID 83877

**Save ALL your cancelled stamps for cancer research-bring to meeting, and give to Everett H.**

**CLUB WEB SITE**

***www.northidahomineralclub.com***

Affiliated with; SCRIBE

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

THE NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL

**2010 Rock and Gem Shows in WA., OR. , ID. & MT**

**SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW ROCKHOUNDS AND ROCK CLUBS.**

**Oct. 16-17 Hells Canyon Gem—Lewiston, ID**

**OCT. 16-17 Billings Gem and Mineral—Billings, MT.**

**OCT. 23-24 Clackamette Mineral and Gem—Canby. OR**

**OCT. 23-24 Bellevue Rock Club—Bellevue, WA**

**NOV 12-14 Northwest Opal Assoc.—Puyallup, WA.**

**NOV. 13-14 Skagit Rock and Gem Club—Sedro Wooley, WA.**

**NOV. 20-21 Kitsap Mineral & Gem Society Bremerton, WA**

**CONSULT [www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms) FOR SHOW DETAILS**