

Lake City Rockhound News

NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB

MAY 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

See the web site for the club at www.northidahomineralclub.com

PROGRAM FOR MAY 20, NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB

On May 20 WE WILL HAVE A RARE TREAT!!!

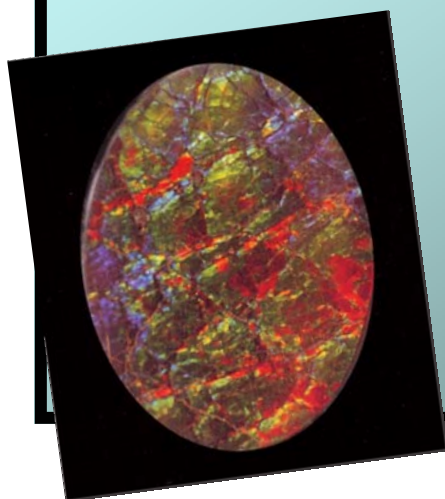
AMMOLITE—WHAT IT IS —Where it is found—how to work it and
how to create a stunning jewel

PRESENTED BY NEAL ADAMS

PROGRAM AT 6:30—SILENT AUCTION—
REFRESHMENTS AND MEETING—

Everyone try to come!!

MR. ADAMS REQUESTS THAT ALL BRING
PAPER AND PEN!!!



There will be **sign up sheets** at the meeting on the 20th for show help, and everyone must be willing to put in for a few hours of help. The success of our show rests on everyone's shoulders. No one has to do anything that they are not physically able to do—it is all volunteer! And take a handful of flyers to pass out. I'll even tell you where the best places are. BB

North Idaho Mineral Club Meeting notes for April 21,2010

The April meeting of the North Idaho Mineral club was called to order at 6:30 PM by President, Warren Price. Tonight's meeting started with a presentation by Dean Younge. Mr. Younge is a geologist and surveyor who spent twelve years in Alaska. Mr. Younge talked and showed a power point presentation about gold mines in Alaska. Following the presentation he held a drawing for some gold nuggets.

The business part of the meeting started at 7:05 PM. The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Treasurer, Bill Johnson presented the Treasurer's Report.

Visitors tonight were Joe Hitz and his family and Cindy Parker.

Bill Johnson discussed several field trips coming up in the near future. He talked about several trips to Washington, Oregon and Wyoming, that included trips to the Blue Forest, Saddle Mountain and Sweet Horne for petrified wood and a trip to Plush for sunstone. He also mentioned a possible trip to Bozeman for Montana agates on May 8th and 9th. He further explained that members could check the Northwest Newsletter for other trips.

Bev Bockman presented updated information on our Gem and Mineral Show scheduled in June. Twenty-two dealers have now signed up. A provider for security at night has been hired. Volunteers will be needed for the show. No one has yet volunteered to take charge of the Kid's Comer. There was also a brief discussion of games that such as Ring Toss, Wheel of Fortune, and Grab Bags that could be included.

New Business:

Everett Headrick discussed the Blue Ribbon Coalition site. The Blue Ribbon Coalition is a national recreation group that advocates for the responsible use of public and private land. They are presently accepting comments regarding the roads and trails in Wyoming and use of the area. They will be accepting comments until May 17th. Comments may be e-mailed to: <http://www.sharetrails.com>.

There was also discussion on renewing membership in the American Lands Access Association. The fee is \$50.00 and was approved by verbal ayes.

Everett Headrick won the drawing for the Gem State license plate. Congratulations, Everett!

Bev Bockman reported that Bertha McPherson is doing much better and continues to improve following the skin graft. She is at home now.

Next months refreshments will be provided by Ev and Erna Headrick. Thanks to the Roses' for tonight's treats.

Adjournment followed.

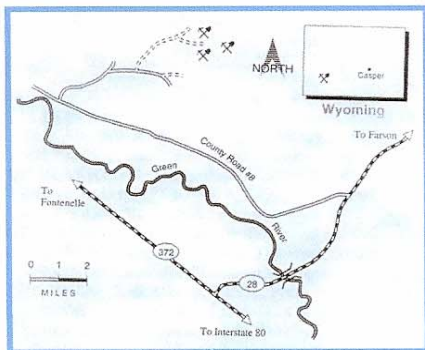
Maria McDonald, Secretary

Joe Hitz had some interesting rock specimens to be identified during the evening. He and his family joined the club at this meeting. Please add their contact information to your address list:

18117 N. Hauser View Drive, Hauser, ID. 83854 jhitz555@gmail.com

Bill Johnson had some samples of self-collected material from Wyoming and Oregon. We all enjoyed the huge selection of material in the Silent Auction. Bill brings all this heavy material in every meeting night, so be sure you give it your full attention. Different stuff every meeting night.

FIELD TRIP TO EMERALD CREEK FOR GARNETS ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND- Bill Johnson will give details at the next meeting of the club on May 20. For those who have not been there before it is a nice days trip, and this is opening day for the season.



TRI- FEDERATION FIELDTRIP TO THE BLUE FOREST AREA IN WYOMING ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

May 29-31, 2010

The Tri-Federation trip is scheduled for May 28-June 2nd, there are several trips scheduled for different locations within a 40-50 mile radius of Fontanel, Wyoming, the Blue Forest Petrified Forest area.

The base camp will be at Slate Creek Campground, just east of Fontenelle, next to the Green River. This is a no fee campground with fire pits, tables and restrooms. We will post the area with signs marking the camp area on Thursday May 27th. Trips will leave from the camp for the Blue Forest Dig area, one trip to the Eden Valley area, and others. Most of the trips will be related to collecting Petrified Wood. At the base camp we will have maps available for other areas, like algae, turitella agate, agates and fee fossil areas in the Kemmerer area and the Jade areas. There are millions of acres of wide open country, most of which will be BLM ground. **You are expected to follow all rules on the collecting of petrified wood on public lands.**

For those not camping at Slate Creek and need a Motel there is one at Farson, about 35 minutes to the east: **Sitzmans**, (307) 273 9246. This is a small motel only 6 rooms so make your reservations now. Rates = 1 person \$50+ tax, 2 persons \$58 + tax (one Queen Bed), 2 beds \$65 plus tax. Farson also has gas and groceries. There are more motels in Kemmerer also: Fossil Butte Motel (307) 877-3996, Fairview Motel (307) 877-3938, Frontier Suites (307) 877-3377, Energy Inn (307) 877-6901 and Antler's Inn (307-877-4461. There is also an RV Park in Farson and several in Kemmerer. Kemmerer is about 25 miles from our base camp. You can also get gas and some supplies in Fontenelle.

The schedule for the weekend follows. On Friday a group will leave for the Blue Forest dig area at 9 am. Then on Saturday at 9 am to the Blue Forest and at 6pm we will have a potluck and camp fire to get to know each other and share stories. On Sunday a trip to Eden valley area will leave at 8:30 am. Sunday evening is set aside for a swap session so bring some good trade material. Monday there will be another unnamed trip leaving at 9 am and an open day for you to go anywhere you like.

A few safety notes: The elevation of the area is around 7000 ft. The days can be nice but nights can be cold. The wind blows most of the time in this country so bring warm clothes. It is a little early for bugs, **BUT** bring bug spray anyway just in case. I have never heard of or seen a rattlesnake in the area.

Tools needed: shovel and pick, rock pick, gloves, steel probe, hat and sun screen.

There are lots of sandy roads in the area and-ATV's can be used. Stay on the sand and off the brush or plants, and please follow all local rules and regulations. If you pack it in pack it out. And most of all have fun. See you all at Slate Creek Campground

Doug True e-mail: dtruefossils@yahoo.com Phone (406) 670-0506

[See more information about a side trip for fish fossils on page 5]

The above information is reproduced from the Northwest Newsletter (which you may all get by going to the website www.amfed.org/nfms and requesting the newsletter section). If you are interested in the fossil fish trip at Kemmerer, WY. led by a fossil expert from Utah just look at page 5 of the NFMS newsletter. Sounds like a fabulous experience@! Sorry about the small print, but I could not scan the article as a document—had to be a “picture”—so this is what you get! BB

W
N
O
F
T
A
N
R

R
P
Q
S

REGARDING MORRISONITE

In the April newsletter I ended the article on Morrisonite with an unanswered question. I contacted the owner of The Gem Shop in Wisconsin and I am printing his reply as to why no Morrisonite has been mined since 1996.

Dear Bev. Bockman,

The answer is very complicated. First of all the mining is very difficult without promise of much production. The terrain is very steep and location of the deposit is very remote.

Secondly, the legal rights granted the claim owner are complicated and controversial.

All five of the claims are in the Blue Canyon Wilderness Study Area. Two of the five claims have grand-fathered rights. Some of the area on another claim is not considered to be in the WSA. The rules are different for each of these areas.

Thirdly, the bonding rules have changed since 1996. The new rules would require a substantial amount of money to be deposited with the B.L.M. before a new operation could be started. Probably more money than the potential return on the production.

I sold my last interest in the claim in 1996. At the time 2 bonded operations were in place and approved. To continue with these approved plans would take someone willing to fight with the B.L.M. to secure the miners rights.

Stuart Portieus now owns all the claims. He is not a miner and views the B.L.M. more of an authority than an organization managing the conflicting rights.

Anyone who is going to work in the Morrisonite area must be familiar with the law, mining rights, and be tenacious to a fault in the exercise of their rights besides dealing with the difficulty of the mining.

Regards, Gene

So it behooves anyone who possesses any of this beautiful material to conserve it and use it wisely. And if you have a chance to acquire some do not be surprised at the price. BB



Just had to put this picture of a 2006 "haul" of garnets by Mike and Diane Rose on a club field trip to Emerald Creek on opening day.

If this doesn't make you want to go with Bill, what will??

Great show meeting hosted by Headricks' on the 8th. Got a lot of the wrinkles ironed out. Well attended, and report will be given at the business meeting on the 20th. Not long till June 5&6. Thank goodness! And thank you Ev and Erna for once again opening your home.

THE MICA GROUP

BY Chuck DeFlorin, Minnesota Mineral Club Member

Mica is the generic term that applies to a group of complex aluminum silicate minerals. The Mica group is a very large group containing thirty members, but only a very few are common to most collectors. Those few members make up a large percentage of the earth's crust. Some of the more common Mica minerals are: Biotite, Muscovite, Lepolite, Fuchsite, Phlogopite and Zinnwaldite. Most mineral collectors are sure to have these six minerals.

The name Mica is believed to have been derived from the Latin word micare, which means to shine or glitter. Evidence indicates that the ancient Hindus mined Mica as far back as 2000 B.C. They used it in medicines, window glazing and also as a painting surface for pictures.

All Mica members form a flat six-sided mono-clinical crystal, but are most commonly found in the form of scales and sheets. Mica is character-ized by perfect basal cleavage that causes them to split into optically flat films. When split into sheets (films) they remain tough and elastic (able to return to its original shape after being bent) even at high temperatures. A piece of Mica that is one inch thick can be split into nearly a thousand sheets, each as thin as tissue paper. Mica ranges in hardness from 2 to 4 and a specific gravity of 2.7 to 3.2. Practically inert and very stable, Mica is virtually unaffected by the action of water and weather. It can be found in sands that have undergone a lot of erosion because of its durability. Mica is also fire proof, infusible, incombustible and non-flammable, resisting temperatures of 600 degrees C to 900 degrees C depending on the type.

There are many uses for Mica because of its many properties. Small dry ground Mica flakes are used as a thin coating on rubber surfaces to overcome tackiness and sticking. In exterior house paints, dry ground Mica adds body, reduces running and improves weatherability. The addition of mica to all types of sealers for porous surfaces (such as wallboard, masonry and concrete blocks) greatly reduces penetration and improves holdout. Wet ground Mica is used to coat wallpaper, because it imparts an attractive silky and pearly luster. Sheet Mica is used as a resonant diaphragm in certain acoustical devices. Mica is also used as heat and electrical insulators for industrial purposes and also dry powder fire extinguishers. Lastly, Mica is used for spraying Christmas trees, giving them a fresh snowed on appearance.

The most useful of the Micas is Muscovite (Potassium Mica) and is sometimes referred to as white or common Mica. Muscovite's name was derived from Muscovia, a district in Russia, where it was identified in 1609. Muscovite is usually colorless (in thin films), but may be red, yellow, green, brown, or silver gray, with a vitreous to pearly luster. No matter what the color it is still referred to as white Mica. There are a number of distinct varieties containing chromium (Fuchsite), Iron (ferrianmuscovite) and manganese (Alurgite). Fuchsite is a dark emerald green color that can have a beautiful shine if the crystals are small. Ferrianmuscovite is a very dark green color and Alurgite is a pinkish red color. Muscovite is one of the most common mineral in rocks, especially platonic igneous rocks rich in silica and aluminum (pegmatites and granites).

Biotite, sometimes called black Mica is named after the French physicist, professor Jean Baptiste Biot. Biotite, which contains iron, has a splendid shiny luster and is usually dark green, dark brown or black in color. Because of the iron content, it isn't used industrially as electrical insulators as is muscovite. Biotite is found in many intrusive igneous rocks, pegmatites, lavas and also metamorphic rocks. Fine crystals can be found in Alaska as well as the U.S.S.R, Greenland and Brazil.

Via the Rock Rustlers News 5/03 and the Southwest Gem 7/03

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

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 MEMBERS PLEASE !!!!!~
- Webmaster—Michael Burton

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

MAY 15-16,BITTERROOT CLUB-HAMILTON, MT

MAY 15-16 HATROCKHOUNDS-HERMISTON, OR.

JUNE 4-6 PUYALLUP GEM& MIN. CLUB- WA.

JUNE 5&6 NORTH IDAHO MIN. CLUB— C d' A, ID.

JUNE 18-20 OREGON COAST AGATE CLUB-NEWPORT, OR.

JUNE 19-20 BUTTE MINERAL & GEM CLUB-BUTTE, MT

SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW ROCKHOUNDS AND ROCK CLUBS.

CONSULT www.amfed.org/nfms FOR SHOW DETAILS