



# Lake City Rockhound News

NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB

MAY 2011

P.O. Box 1643 Hayden, ID 83835

Meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM — Guests Welcome

See the NFMS web site at [www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms)  
See OUR web site for the club at [www.northidahomineralclub.com](http://www.northidahomineralclub.com)

**MEETING AT LAKE CITY SENIOR CENTER**  
**1916 LAKEWOOD DRIVE 667-4628 6 P.M. MAY 19, 2011**

PROGRAM WILL BE  
**A MYRIAD OF WONDERFUL AND BEAUTIFUL OPALS**  
**PRESENTED BY MICHAEL FURNER—**  
You will be amazed at how little you know about opals~~!!  
Silent Auction, Show and Tell —bring opal questions.  
REFRESHMENTS BY EVERETT AND BOB (BOCKMAN)

FIELD TRIP TO SADDLE MOUNTAIN FOR PETRIFIED WOOD LED BY BOB BOCKMAN-4/30/11

I am reporting this second hand, but it appears that the several people who went on this field trip in the rented van had a pretty good time. It was a nice new van to start with (only a few hundred miles on it) and Bob, Warren, James, Pat Weeks (from the Pend Oreille club), Tom Crjmmmons, and Bill Johnson took full advantage of the room. Unfortunately, Ian and his 2 children had a change of plans, and Warren's two couldn't make it either. Too bad, kids—you missed a good trip.

I understand that everyone found what they were on the road for. Bob said that the donations for fuel were very generous, (and he thinks overgenerous!)

We are included in some very good trips with the Panorama club and also the Rock Rollers. You just have to let them know that you want to go with them. Steve Fox with Panorqma or Mike Shaw with the Spokane club. Take a chance!!! You'll have a great time! BB

## Minutes of the APRIL 21, 2011 MEETING OF THE NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB.

Warren opened the meeting at the Lakeside Senior Center at 6:20 P.M. The minutes were approved as they appeared in the last bulletin, and the treasurer made his report. The first order of business was arranging the field trip to Saddle Mt. On April 30. It was arranged to meet at the 76 station on the corner of Mullan and Highway 41 at 0700. 10 people (counting kids) signed up at the meeting. It was decided that Bob would rent a van to accommodate that many people for the morning of the 30th., the club to pay for the rental and the gas to be split among the riders.

Warren and Bev made a tentative plan to meet the morning of May 1 to decide on the floor plan for the show.

James brought up the possibility of getting Lanny Ream to give a talk at the show, possibly at the pot luck on Friday evening.??? He will see about this with Lanny.

We need to **put out flyers** and they will be distributed at the May meeting and must be placed immediately for best effect on the local businesses. We must find someone to replace the man who did security for us the last two years. His business is no longer listed in the phone book..

The Post Falls Library will allow us the two display cases for the month of May to display the items that club members contribute for the month —not allowed to publicize our show but let people know who we are, and that we have been around for more than 50 years as a club. (I will put some flyers for our club at the desk and some business cards.) Joan and Bev will put the displays in place on May 2 and create labels for the items. We have items from several club members already.

The subject of contributing to the community was discussed, and Warren broached the ideas of sponsoring a scholarship in the geology department to become an endowment, which would become self generating. This discussion will resume in June, after the show. We need to think about the July meeting/picnic at the June meeting.

During the early summer there may be time for classes in Chain mail (Warren) and wire-wrapping (Bev). Anybody interested speak up at the June meeting.

Ev reported on the NFMS mid-year meeting at Kennewick during the show. Several items were introduced to be voted on in July at the NFM annual meeting in Chehalis. Since the meeting is being sponsored mainly by the efforts of one person—Chuck Conner— he asks for help with rock donations for the auctions to raise money for the federation. It would be desirable for everyone who could take an e-newsletter instead of a hard copy for a the NFMS newsletter. They come in color and are easy to download long before the hard copy comes out. If you could do this, please contact the newsletter coordinator and take your name off the mailing list. The Tri-Federation field trip is over the Memorial Day weekend—4-5 days and should be great. The BLM is asking for people who would like to be representatives on their resource advisory committee apply for consideration by May 2. This meeting was followed by the ALAA meeting, where , among other issues, the defeat of the “Wild Lands” of Salazar was discussed. (continued on page 3)

(minutes continued)

Refreshments for next meeting will be provided by Everett and Bob Bockman.

submitted by Bev Bockman (secretary pro tem)

Bob Riley rejoined the club at this meeting, much to our delight! After an enforced absence due to the illness of his wife Sally, he is now again able to participate in our club, and we welcome him !!! He will demonstrate faceting at the show. Tom Crimmons was also welcomed. Life member Ruth Brooks contacted me and said that she was making and filling grab bags and would bring them to the show. She is having health issues but it doesn't seem to slow her down much, and she sounded really good. Bertha is putting her house up for sale and moving into assisted living as soon as she can. Tiffany is still going to NIC.

#### MINERAL GAME from Long Beach Pick & Shovel

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Yellow or bluish green chrysoberyl that appears red or violet under artificial light. | 17. yellow, orange or red zircon |
| 2. Translucent gray to green vesuvianite with green streaks                              | 18. Blue corundum                |
| 3. Deep red to purplish garnet   | 19. Bright green beryl           |
| 4. Clear red chalcedony  | 20. Pink spodumene               |
| 5. Brownish red garnet   | 21. Blue tourmaline              |
| 6. Bright green chalcedony with spots of red   | 22. Dark orange brown tourmaline |
| 7. Emerald green garnet  | 23. Blue zoisite                 |
| 8. Light bluish green microcline   | 24. Black tourmaline             |
| 9. Blue or dark green to black spinel  | 25. Red tourmaline               |
| 10. Apple green chalcedony   | 26. Blue, greenish green beryl   |
| 11. Purple quartz  |                                  |
| 12. Deep red corundum  |                                  |
| 13. Pale greenish yellow spodumene   |                                  |
| 14. Yellowish green to olive green olivine   |                                  |
| 15. Clear yellow quartz  |                                  |
| 16. Pink beryl   |                                  |

Answer key—A. CITRINE B. AMAZONITE C. RUBY  
D. ALEXANDRITE E. KUNZITE F. SAPPHIRE G. EMERALD  
H. SPESSARTINE I. MORGANITE J. TANZANITE K. HELIOTROPE  
L. INDICOLITE M. CALIFORNITE N. AQUAMARINE O. UVAROVITE  
P. CHRYSOLPRAISE Q. CARNELIAN R. HIDDENITE S. PYROPE  
T. SCHORL U. HYACINTH V. PERIDOT W. RUBELLITE X. DRAVITE  
Y. PLEONAST Z. AMETHYST

**ANSWERS APPEAR page 5. I HAD TO LOOK UP LOTS OF THESE, BUT FELT THAT I LEARNED SOMETHING!!! BB**

## Excerpt from The Seven Beryls of Color

By Chuck DeFlorin

What do emeralds, aquamarine, morganite, heliodor, goshenite, bixbite and golden beryl have in common? All seven of them are the same mineral beryl. They're just different in color. The different colors of Beryl are made from a variety of different metallic oxides during the forming of the crystals. Beryls have a hexagonal crystal structure and color streak of white.

The chemical composition is beryllium aluminum silicate and it has a 7.5 to 8 hardness on the Mohs scale. Beryls are somewhat brittle and are easily damaged by knocks. The Emerald gem cut was developed because of the mineral's sensitivity. The four corners of the gem are squared off by facets, making them less likely to chip when bumped.

Beryl is almost exclusively found in pegmatite veins. The bright crystals form in seams and pockets from beryllium bearing gases. The crystals are often striated parallel to their lengths and are often quite huge (some are as long as thirty feet weighing twenty-five tons.)

The first and most valuable member of the beryl family is emerald. The name emerald is derived from the Greek word "Smarogdos" which translates to "a green stone." Emeralds can be transparent to opaque, but the finest gems are transparent. The brilliant green color of emerald is caused by chrome oxide or sometimes vanadium.

Much of the time emeralds are not transparent, but are cloudy due to liquid or gas bubbles, healings, cracks and foreign crystals. You may think that these inclusions are bad, but gem specialists do not classify them as a fault in the gem. It is actually preferable to show evidence that the specimen in question is a true emerald and not a synthetic imitation that has no flaws. Gem experts even have a special name for the inclusions that is "jarden" (garden).

Emeralds can be found in Connecticut, Maine and North Carolina in the USA, however the biggest deposits are found in Columbia (South America), in and around the city of Bogota. The emeralds found in the mines at Bogota are of an intense deep green color and much in demand worldwide.

### References:

"Gemstones of the World," Walter Schumann\  
 "Beryl" [www.tradeshop.com/gems/beryl.htm](http://www.tradeshop.com/gems/beryl.htm)  
 "Beryls: Emeralds Cousins"  
[www.gemstone.org/beryl/html](http://www.gemstone.org/beryl/html)

From Shin-Skinner News May 07 via Glacier Gravel May 2005

Via Long Beach Pick and Shovel 4/10



Here are the displays that are currently at the Post Falls Library to show what our club does and where we are. Contributors were Warren—garnets and sunstones, Bill—plume from Graveyard Point, Everett—many specimens, Bev, & Diane—jewelry and faceted stones and—Mike—cabs of all shapes and sizes, Jim Rauch with a beautiful petrified wood clock face that is the centerpiece of the cabinet, as well as a fossil pen stand. Joan has some beautiful jewelry as well as a wood slab that looks like it has a maple leaf in the center. All in all it turned out pretty well. We'll go and get it out the end of May. **Stop by and see if you are in Post Falls.**

2011 OFFICERS OF THE NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB, INC.

PRESIDENT WARREN PRICE 446-4902 (c)

VICE-PRESIDENT BILL JOHNSON (771-2687 C)—765-3099

SECRETARY YOLANDA ROSALES 667 70973

TREASURER MIKE BURTON (818-6317 C)

FEDERATION DIRECTOR EVERETT HEADRICK 772-7643

FEDERATION DELEGATE BEVERLY BOCKMAN 773-5384

WSMC DELEGATE OPEN

REFRESHMENT CHAIRMAN OPEN

HOSPITALITY BOB BOCKMAN 773 5384

FIELD TRIP OPEN

MEMBERSHIP BOB BOCKMAN "

SHOW 2011—WARREN PRICE

NEWSLETTER EDITOR—BEV BOCKMAN "

PROGRAMS—BEV BOCKMAN AND Club Members

WEBMASTER—MIKE BURTON 818-6317

Answers to the Mineral Game

POLISHING RHODOCHROSITE from Council Reporter 2001

- 1. D
- 2. M
- 3. S
- 4. Q
- 5. H
- 6. K
- 7. O
- 8. B
- 9. Y
- 10. P
- 11. Z
- 12. C
- 13. R
- 14. V
- 15. A
- 16. I
- 17. U
- 18. F

- 19. G
- 20. E
- 21. L
- 22. X
- 23. J
- 24. T
- 25. W
- 26. N

When cutting Rhodochrosite only use water in the saw. Oil will be absorbed and the color dulled. After the material is ground to form, sand first on 220 grit (wet) and then on 400 (wet). Use worn sanding cloths. Tin oxide is the best polishing agent—some use tin oxide mixed with a little vinegar and used on felt. Another method is to mix two teaspoons of tin oxide and one level teaspoon oxalic acid in a half pint of water. Be careful not to exceed the amount on oxalic acid or the stone will be damaged.

SPECIAL STONES NEED SPECIAL TREATMENT:

Tourmaline and garnet both chip so grind carefully. Both are fairly heat sensitive. Sand wet. Polish with L:inde A. Moonstone will cleave. Be sure to grind it on a smooth wheel—or on a Genie with a light touch. It polishes nicely on felt with cerium oxide. Skagit Gems 4/01

BRUNEAU JASPER can be overheated in the sanding process leaving “burned” areas. These areas can be removed by sanding them very carefully and lightly, using lots of water and avoiding overheating again. One of the results of burning is the development of minute pits which must be carefully sanded out.

**GEODES vs VUGS.....**a geode has an outer shell or rind composed of chalcedony which is harder than the host rock in which the geode formed. When the host rock weathers away, the geode is preserved intact due to its hard shell. Vugs do not have the protective rinds that geodes do. The crystals found in vugs are formed within a cavity in the host rock, but unlike geode crystals, they are attached to the host rock itself. Therefore these crystals are destroyed when the host rock weathers through the cavity. When weathering exposes a cavity and a rockhound happens to see it, the vug can be chiseled out. If an inch or two of the host rock is let around the cavity the vug can be removed undamaged. From ShowMeGeode 4/02

**CRYSTAL INCLUSIONS:** Almost every time nature grows a crystal she encases in it a variety of objects called inclusions. Not only solids, but liquids and gases are often trapped during the growth of crystals. The difference between the white, opaque variety of quartz and the clear variety is caused by multitudes of tiny bubbles trapped in the opaque quartz.....One of the most amazing sights to see under the microscope is the two-phase inclusion of a tiny bit of carbon in a liquid filled cavity (notably Herkimer crystals) —the carbon can be seen jittering around this way and that by the ever moving liquid molecules. (CFMS News 7/94)

*Lake City Rockhound News*

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**CLUB WEB SITE**

***[www.northidahomineralclub.com](http://www.northidahomineralclub.com)***

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

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S.C.R.I.B.E.



**2011 ROCK AND GEM SHOWS IN WA., OR., ID., AND MT.**

**MAY 21-22 HATROCKHOUNDS- HERMISTON, OR.**

**JUNE 4&5 NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB.COEUR d'ALENE**

**JUNE 3-5 PUYALLUP VALLEY GEM—PUYALLUP, WA**

**JUNE 11-12 BUTTE CLUB SHOW-BUTTE, MT.**

**CONSULT [www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms) for show details.**

**SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW ROCKHOUNDS AND CLUBS**