



# Magic Valley Gem News



Magic Valley Gem Club, Inc. P.O. Box 725 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303

Magic Valley Gem News – November, 2011

Volume 50 issue 11 – page 1

Next meeting will be

**November 17, 2011**

**6:00 p.m.**

Location:

**Golden Corral**

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

Club pays \$5.00 per member

Visitors pay their own.

Get a coupon from Sandy as you walk in the door. No coupon, no discount. Do not go early, our time is reserved for 6:00 pm.

(Golden Corral no longer accepts checks)

Magic Valley Gem Club  
60th Annual Gem Show

March 10 and 11, 2012

Sat 9—6

Sun 10—5

**BIGGER  
AND  
BETTER  
THAN  
EVER**

*The Magic Valley Gem News is published monthly. The Editor is not responsible for the accuracy of the articles accepted, items for sale, nor are the opinions expressed therein necessarily those of the Officers, Members and/or the Editor of Magic Valley Gem Club, Inc.*

## Presidential Views from the Rockpile . . .

How are we now? Where are we going? How under today's government restrictions, expenses, and our own physical limitations can we continue to enjoy our Rock Hounding hobby? How can one get started when expenses are so high and personal funds are already strained to the breaking point? When will I have time and the energy to learn a new skill required for rock hounding's maximum enjoyment? **EXCELLENT QUESTIONS!** Now we need **YOUR EXCELLENT SOLUTIONS!** The next three meetings we will set apart several minutes during the business session for discussion on this and other related subjects. We will become our own best resource to fill this growing need.

Some IDEAS to consider: Actual carpooling (Sharing gas and expenses), MENTORING Rock Skills (You can receive hands on training from a knowledgeable person whom in turn provides some needed physical help to complete something they need help with. **INSERT YOUR IDEAS HERE!** (Bring them in written form)

**VOTE** Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>! Vote to uphold your rights! Vote to elect someone who will stand up and have the moral courage to up hold the Constitution of the United States. We believe as did the founding fathers this country is based on individual freedoms. We must not only elect good people, we must hold them accountable for their VOTES and ACTIONS. If we do not insure our voices now, this election, there may not be another chance to save our liberties and Rock Hounding hobbies.

If you have read the news lately you must surely see that there is no end to the Conservationist Land Grab. Just look at what is happening in the Jarbidge/Bruneau . wilderness which is not even a year old. . All parties came together and drafted a plan which made rock collecting and motorized travel illegal in a very limited visited Desert in South Central Idaho. Rock hounds and off road vehicles used this area more than any other user except Ranchers. (Now it will become a waste land, it will never be a wonderland wilderness.)

**THE CONSERVATIONISTS HAVE ALREADY BROKEN THE AGREEMENT!** They are acquiring Lands to the north of the Wilderness to tie into the Jarbidge Wilderness. They will not stop until they effectively run a wilderness block from the Snake River to the Nevada line and beyond.

**THIS IS THE HEART OF SOME TO THE BEST ROCK COLLECTING IN IDAHO.**

The Owyhee Desert and northern Nevada is not something people will flock to hike in. We need to **Stop** this public land lockout. That's right lockout, lockup, Posted **KEEP OUT** unless you are super rich and can fly into your private landing strip like the seventeen found inside the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness.

Now both Little and Big Wood river drainages a being locked up from mechanical access; so the Rich Sun Valley crowd can Hike out their back doors and deny all the rest of the U.S. Citizens the same access they enjoy.

**YOUR POWER IS YOUR VOTE AND YOUR WILLINGNESS TO CONTACT YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. THEY ARE THERE TO SERVE YOU AND ME, NOT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FROM OUTSIDE IDAHO, WHICH WISH TO CLOSE IDAHO TO THE COMMON PERSON AND KEEP ACCESS ONLY FOR THE PRIVILEGE FEW.**

**VOTE FOR WHOM YOU PLEASE, BUT PLEASE VOTE AND THEN WRITE YOU ELECTED OFFICIALS ABOUT YOUR CONCERNS AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT OUR LAND ACCESS FOR AGING AMERICANS WHOM DEPEND ON MECHANICAL MEANS TO SEE THIS GREAT LAND.** President - Rocky Metts

# Dues are Due—NOW!

# OFFICERS & CLUB INFORMATION

## EXCHANGE NEWSLETTERS

If you are interested in exchanging newsletters, please send me a copy of your newsletter and I will return one of ours.

My address is:

Shirley Metts  
550 Main Street South  
Kimberly, ID 83341  
Or electronically to  
rmetts@cablone.net

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No one can make you feel inferior unless you allow them to.

-Eleanor  
Roosevelt.

**WELCOME** to all our new members. We have had many new members joining the Club and we want to take this opportunity to welcome you. We invite you to attend our monthly meetings and go on our field trips. Also, we would ask you to share your expectations of this club and invite you to participate by filling a position and sharing in the activities of the Club.

**WELCOME**  
**NEW**  
**MEMBERS**



- President:** Rocky Metts 208-423-4827  
550 Main St. South  
Kimberly, ID 83341
- Vice-Pres:** Steve Barnes 208-944-2090  
281 Caswell Ave. W. #C  
Twin Falls, ID 83301
- Secretary:** Wilma Sellers 208-829-5068  
1277 S 1845 E  
Hazelton, ID 83335
- Treasurer:** Susan Lewis 208-420-7843  
717 Cherokee Lane  
Twin Falls, ID 83301
- Field Marshall:** Rebekah Yancey 670-4254  
1259 Galena Drive  
Twin Falls, ID 83301
- Bulletin Editor:** Shirley Metts 208-423-4827  
550 Main St. South  
Kimberly, ID 83341
- Show Chairman:** Shirley Metts, 208-423-4827  
550 Main St. South  
Kimberly, ID 83341
- Fed. Director:** Barbrah Livingston 208-731-1942  
3338 N 3300 E  
Kimberly, ID 83341

### Committee Chairs

- Sunshine . . . . . Lola Betty
- Show Publicity. . . . . Julie & Terry Folks
- Refreshments . . . . . Sandy Hansen
- Historian . . . . . Harold Waggoner
- Librarian . . . . . Barbrah Livingston
- Safety Officer . . . . . Mark Livingston
- Webmaster . . . . . Jason Metts
- Programs Chairmen. . . Dave & Pat Ziegler
- Asst Field Marshall ... Sandy Hansen
- Asst Field Marshall .....Jim Glenn
- Asst Field Marshall .....Rex Borjas
- Service . . . . . Mel Pingel
- Nominations Chmn ..... Bob Sellers
- Education . . . . . Dave Hughes

### Club General Membership Meeting:

**Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at Rosenau's Community Room, 2826 Addison Ave. E.**

Twin Falls. (Just west of Kimberly Nurseries and D&B Supply.)

Demonstrations/Programs and socializing at 7:00 p.m. Business Meeting at 8:00 pm Exceptions are July and August when we picnic and barbecue at the Kimberly City Park and November - our annual Thanksgiving dinner at a local restaurant..

**VISITORS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED!**

### Membership Dues:

Yearly membership dues for MVGC are \$10.00 for adult members (New members add \$2.00 for name tags) and \$5.00 for Junior members.

For more information or an application, contact Rocky Metts—423-4827 email: rmetts@cablone.net

**DUES are due by Oct. 31**

### General Objectives of the Club:

To promote interest, knowledge and understanding in the various earth sciences, as in Geology, mineralogy, Paleontology and lapidary and other related subjects. To sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons interested therein.

### Helping Others:

The club participates in the NFMS stamp program, saving large commemoratives, airmail, pre-canceled, foreign and "ordinary" stamps of all values. Proceeds from stamp sales will be used to benefit any charity deemed worthy by the NFMS Endowment Fund

*Permission to reprint is granted if acknowledgement is given. We reserve the right to edit all material submitted for publication.*

**THE NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is published 11 times a year.

Copies are sent to each member's household. The cost is included in your annual dues.

Two free copies of the **AFMS NEWSLETTER** are mailed to each member club.

Subscriptions are available at \$3.50 for 9 issues. Send payment to:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
PO Box 26523 Oklahoma City, OK 73126.

### **We are affiliated with**

- Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Association
- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
- The American Lands Access Association

**Visit Us At [www.magicvalleygemclub.org](http://www.magicvalleygemclub.org) or on Facebook at Magic Valley Gem Club**  
**Please e-mail Shirley at [rmetts@cablone.net](mailto:rmetts@cablone.net) to get on our email list.**

### Magic Valley Gem Club Field Trips for 2012

Call DeVone Bates if you have ideas of places you would like to go.

Our Field Marshalls are planning many wonderful trips which may include a few overnights. These will be wonderful times for rock hounding and fellowship. DeVone would like you to contact her regarding places to go and material to be found. If you have a place you wish to go with the club, please contact the Field Marshalls. It can be local, farther away, to a site, to a rock store, to a museum, to a claim. Just talk to DeVone and let her know what you would like to do or show.

\*\*\*Check on [www.magicvalleygemclub.org](http://www.magicvalleygemclub.org) and/or on Facebook to see if there are any changes.

## DUES ARE DUE - NOW!! Send to PO Box 725, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301



— Sick or need some prayer? Please let us know so we can have a Sunshine Report again, and send out cards!

Please contact **Lola Betty** — our Sunshine Lady phone 423- 9764.



Any time there is an activity or a field trip, please check the web page to see if there are any final instructions.

[magicvalleygemclub.org](http://magicvalleygemclub.org) and/or on Face book

FACEBOOK PAGE

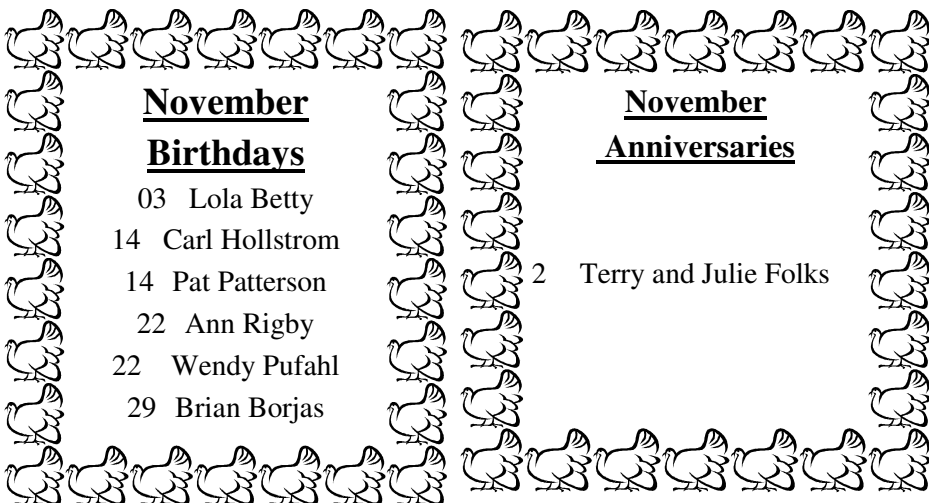


Find us on Face book. This is a great, additional way to share information, get news and information out and share some pictures. While on Face book search Magic Valley Gem Club and add us a friend. If you join the group, don't worry, other people can't access your profile information unless you add them individually as a friend or you loosen your controls. If you have any questions, need help getting on for the first time, or have some concerns just ask Rebekah Yancey or Sandy Hansen. We'd be more than happy to help you.

Rebekah Yancey — 670-4254  
Sandy Hansen — 736-3380

Determine never to be idle. No person will have occasion to complain of the want of time who never loses any. It is wonderful how much may be done if we are always doing.

— **Thomas Jefferson**



### November Birthdays

- 03 Lola Betty
- 14 Carl Hollstrom
- 14 Pat Patterson
- 22 Ann Rigby
- 22 Wendy Pufahl
- 29 Brian Borjas

### November Anniversaries

- 2 Terry and Julie Folks

### CACHE VALLEY CLUB

Our club in Cache Valley is hosting a Rock and Gem Show in May, and we are looking for demonstrators, and anyone who would be interested in booth space. Anyone interested please contact me. PS that is not demonstrators like those idiots in New York, but uhhh rock related! If interested, contact Robin Williams at the Cache Valley Rock Club Face book page.

**November’s Birthstone is Citrine:** It is said that its properties are that it increases creativity and feelings of joy. The alternative birthstones is yellow topaz. Citrine is also the traditional anniversary gemstone for the 13th year of marriage. Its name comes from an old French proverb word for lemon — “citrin”. A variety of quartz and the “sister stone” to the purple variety known as Amethyst, citrine comes in a wide range of colors.

Mined mostly in Brazil and some in Bolivia, citrines are vivid yellows and oranges and a very popular “madeira red”. The pale yellow or yellowish-brown are often mistaken for yellow topaz. Natural citrine is also found in Russia, France and Madagascar.

Citrine, like all forms of quartz, was believed to have magical powers. People carried citrine as a protective talisman against the plague, bad skin and evil thoughts. It was also used as a charm against bites of snakes and other venomous reptiles. Were also said to offer protection from dangers when traveling, to ward off evil, and to keep sickness away on land or on sea.

Through history, citrine has been used to improve the function of the body’s organs and is still used by healers to move toxins from the body and to treat muscular disorders. Also used to help stimulate healing in general. Also supposedly helps relieve effects of radiation and facilitate digestion of antioxidants.

Citrine is also believed to be powerful in stimulating mental capacities, enhancing self-confidence. Wearing citrine supposedly improves memory, makes you feel more optimistic and gives you energy. The magnetic powers of citrine are believed to relieve depression, fear, and to give you confidence to continue with success in your life.

A tremendous amount of citrine that is on the market today is heat-treated amethyst. Natural citrine is a lighter yellow.

**CHECK IT OUT!**

**Magic Valley Gem Club Library.** We have lots of interesting books, CDs, videos and magazines in the Library — Our Librarian, Barbra Livingston—is working on a list which we will print a part of each month in the newsletter. The entire list will be published on the Web Site. All members are encouraged to check out items from the Library. Just contact the librarian to see what is available—until such time as we can begin printing the list. Check out time is one month.

CLUB LIBRARIAN is Barbra Livingston—731-1942

**THE NORTHWEST FEDERATION HAS REQUESTED EMAIL ADDRESSES OF ANYONE WILLING TO RECEIVE THE NFMS NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL—TO HELP WITH MAILING COSTS.**

**IF YOU ARE WILLING TO HAVE YOURS EMAILED PLEASE CONTACT SHIRLEY ASAP SO WE CAN SEND YOUR ADDRESS WITH THE REGISTRATION. PHONE: 423-4827**

**SHOW PLANNING:** We need everyone to help with the show— physically at the show or if you cannot make the show you are encouraged to help with donations or making prizes for the wheel of fortune. These are the chairpersons for the following events. All members are encouraged to help. Share your talents and help make 2012 a great show.

- ⇒ Alice Clements needs help with WHEEL of FORTUNE prizes. They will be having a workday again. Last year’s was a lot of fun.
- ⇒ Rocky Metts needs WHEEL of FORTUNE prizes for the Rock Wheel. Visit with him to see what he has in mind. These are smaller specimens than what we would have on the Silent Auction.
- ⇒ The SILENT AUCTION needs quality items donated. If you wouldn’t want to buy it yourself, don’t expect anyone else to want it either. (Finished material, Slabs, Cabs would be welcomed, also magazines, books related to rocks.)
- ⇒ Dick Morris needs tumbled rock for the GRAB BAGS and more grab bags.
- ⇒ Jon Cromer needs DOOR PRIZES. Please keep the door prizes “Rock Related” if possible. After all, this is a “Rock and Gem Show.” (Finished materials, Slabs, Cabs, Jewelry, etc.)
- ⇒ Chris Sutton needs tiny rocks donated for the sand dig, also some sand and a tub to hold the sand.
- ⇒ If you have other ideas, please contact me – Shirley - at 423-4827 and give me your suggestions. Items can be brought early to Shirley Metts or Jon Cromer (assistant show chairman) **DO NOT GO OUT AND PURCHASE SOMETHING UNTIL THE SHOW CHAIRMAN HAS APPROVED IT. UNAPPROVED PURCHASES WILL NOT BE PAID FOR BY THE CLUB.**

**US POSTAL TIP - IMPORTANT**

Pay back <<http://us.mc507.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=gatermater@Payback>> is fun!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

WRITE "IN GOD WE TRUST" ON THE BACK OF YOUR ENVELOPES or front WE THINK THIS IS A GREAT IDEA.

You may have heard in the news that a couple of Post Offices in Texas have been forced to take down small posters that say 'IN GOD WE TRUST ,' The law, they say, is being violated..

Anyway, we heard proposed on a radio station show, that we should all write ' IN GOD WE TRUST' on the back of all our mail.

After all, that's our National Motto, and ----- all the money we use to buy stamps. We think it's a wonderful idea.

We must take back our nation from all the people who think that anything that offends them should be removed.

If you like this idea, please pass it on and DO IT. The idea of writing or stamping.....'IN GOD WE TRUST ' on our envelopes sounds good to us ....

SOME PEOPLE ARE HAVING A RUBBER STAMP MADE TO ENSURE IT IS SEEN.....lets use it as our signature on e-mails, too!

It's been reported that 86% of Americans believe in God. Therefore, we have a very hard time understanding why there's such a mess about having 'In God We Trust!' on our money and having God in the pledge of Allegiance.

Could it be that WE just need to take action and tell the 14% to 'sit down and shut up'? If you agree, pass this on, if not, delete!!!

BUT REMEMBER IF YOU DELETE THIS, that's one reason why this world is in the mess we're in now. WE SIT BACK & LET IT HAPPEN!! "IN GOD WE TRUST".

(Dave Hughes sent this to me. I thought it was great!)



**GEM SHOW INFORMATION**

Dick brought in a copy of a show flier that looks like a great idea. It has a diagram of the entire show events and activities so people will know where things are located. As in most good ideas there is a catch. This has a cost associated with it and we have not designated any monies towards it. Therefore, on the back of the flier We will sell advertising spaces at \$10.00 per business card sized ad, \$5.00 for half the size of a business card. We'll try to mock one up to show by the November meeting.

We need donated the following items: Door Prizes, small (teeny-tiny) gemstones for the sand dig, wheel of fortune prizes for the kids wheel and also rock related items for the \$1.00 wheel. We also need a tub (old silver water trough or tub) to put the sand in for the sand dig. We need items for the silent auction, and tumbled rocks for the Grab bags. Dick is giving a prize for the most tumbled rock donated.



## Hints and Helps

### SEE INSIDE STONES

See inside stones before faceting by immersing them in oil of cinnamon or oil of cassia. These are sold in most drug stores. Their refractive index is near that of most gemstones, so surface irregularities of the stones will vanish and you can see flaws and inclusions.

( From Yellowstone Deposit Via Gems of the Rogue, and Gems Redwoods).

Look deep into nature, and then  
you will understand everything  
better.

— Albert Einstein  
— From Yellowstone Deposit

IN DECEMBER—at the Christmas Party—we will have the sign-up sheets for helping at the various show activities in March. Please think of the times you would be available to assist at the show and commit to those time slots.

ALSO, We will have the case sign-ups available that night—with instructions on how to make liners for the cases.

NO ANIMALS ALLOWED INSIDE THE BUILDING AT THE SHOW!! PLEASE — PLAN ON LEAVING YOUR ANIMALS OUTSIDE THE BUILDING— THERE WILL BE NO ANIMALS ALLOWED AT THE SHOW—DURING SET-UP, THE SHOW ITSELF, OR DURING TAKE-DOWN. THIS IS AS MUCH FOR THEIR SAFETY AS IT IS FOR WORKERS SAFETY. Exceptions will be made for seeing eye dogs only .

If you wish to use overnight camping facilities at the fairgrounds you must work with Bonnie at the Fairgrounds. There is a \$15 fee (last year) if you use electrical hook-ups. Otherwise it is free without electricity. Fairground phone number is 208-326-4396..



## BLM to Engage State, Local, and Tribal Governments in Bipartisan Wilderness Agenda

WASHINGTON – As part of Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar’s [push to build a bipartisan wilderness agenda](#) that can be enacted in the 112th Congress, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) state offices will solicit suggestions and recommendations from state and local elected officials, Tribes, and other federal land managers on areas that deserve wilderness protection and that have broad support for congressional designation.

“The focus of this effort is to identify lands that have strong backing for protection as wilderness and that might be appropriate for congressional action,” BLM Director Bob Abbey said. “The best ideas for conservation come from the ground up, and we hope this effort will help lay a foundation for a bipartisan wilderness agenda in this Congress. We’ve heard from the public and many people have expressed how much they value wilderness areas.”

This effort is an extension of Secretary Salazar’s June 10, 2011, [letter to Members of Congress](#) requesting their ideas on “crown jewel” areas of public lands that have strong local support for permanent protection as Wilderness under the Wilderness Act. This fall, the Department of the Interior will submit to Congress a list of “crown jewels” that it believes are ready for Wilderness designation by Congress based on the combined input from Congressional, state, local and tribal partners.

In addition, the BLM will issue updated guidance to its offices affirming – as directed by a [June 1, 2011 Secretarial memo](#) – that pursuant to the 2011 Continuing Resolution, the BLM will not designate any lands as “Wild Lands.” As required by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the BLM will continue to maintain inventories of public lands and their resource and other values, including lands with wilderness characteristics. Also, consistent with FLPMA and other applicable authorities, the BLM will consider the wilderness characteristics of public lands, in accordance with its multiple-use mandate, when undertaking land use planning and when making project-level decisions.

Secretary Salazar has directed Deputy Secretary David J. Hayes to work with the BLM and interested parties to develop recommendations regarding the management of BLM lands with wilderness characteristics.

The BLM’s Instruction Memorandum is available at <http://on.doi.gov/mUeSTZ> .

**ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTER**

If you send me articles that you would like to have printed in the newsletter, please state specifically that they are for the newsletter. I will be glad to include them, providing there is space available in that issue. I may need to modify them to fit into the space available.

Copyright laws prohibit the inclusion of any submissions which are not your own unless written permission is obtained and then credit is given to the author and source is stated.

**BUY, SELL, OR TRADE**

Jimmy Berkeley still has his metal smithing and faceting equipment for sale. Jimmy is Norma's son. Phone: 734-8015 for info.

To all ALAA Board Members and Directors,

The ALAA Website [www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org) has had some major updates. New Legislation in Arizona and California, News regarding US Forest Service Land Use Policies. A Guestbook Page has been added, And Information for the ALAA Quartzsite 2012 meeting has been added. Please pass this information on to Rock hounds in your areas. There needs to be more Rockhound usage of the Website.

Thanks for your support.

John Martin  
ALAA Webmaster



**LET'S GO TO A SHOW**

- Nov. 11-13 Chugach Gem and Mineral Society  
Anchorage, Alaska
- Nov. 12-13 NW Opal Assoc. and The Cascade  
Mineralogical Society, Puyallup, WA
- Nov. 12-13 Skagit Rock & Gem Club  
Sedro Woolley, WA
- Nov. 12-13 Maplewood Rock & Gem Show  
Edmonds, WA
- Nov 18 -20 Springfield OR Thunderegg Club  
Springfield, OR
- Nov. 19-20 Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society  
Bremerton, WA



How to slab a good large rock.

When cutting Tiger-eye or other good rock, use the Following method:

1. Put the rock in your vice, cut as much of it as you can without moving it.
  2. Remove from vice, wash and let dry well.
  3. Glue to a 2X4 or larger size board; do not use anything smaller.
  4. Glue with Elmer's glue, let dry 24 hours.
  5. Using a 2X4 to 2X10, you will find it easy to hold
  6. If you end up with a slab on the wood, take it to the table saw, leaving 1/8" of wood on the slab.
  7. Soak the slab for a few days, and it will come off the wood.
- From Yellowstone Deposit, 2011 Via Gems from the Red woods, 2011 & Roc Toc, 1999

**DUES FOR 2012**

**DUES ARE DUE for 2012.** We are now collecting dues for 2012. We must have them paid by NOW, so we have time to make corrections and send the registrations to the NFMS and they have time to send registrations to the AFMS—all before December.

Please pay your dues as soon as possible.

Dues are: Adults \$10.00  
Juniors \$5.00

New member adults: add \$2.00 for name tag.

**2011 CLUB Officers.**

**President** — Rocky Metts

**Vice President** — Steve Barnes

**Secretary** — Wilma Sellers

**Treasurer** — Susan Lewis

**Field Marshall** — Rebekah Yancey

**Bulletin Editor.** — Shirley Metts

**Federation Director:** Barbrah Livingston

**Show Chairman** — Shirley Metts

**2011—MVGC Refreshment List**

. You are expected to bring dessert or snacks and punch. Please work together with the other people for the month you are scheduled. Questions or need help?

Call Sandy Hansen at  
736-3380

**November**

Thanksgiving Dinner  
Place: Golden Corral  
6:00 p.m.

**December**

Christmas!!

Rosenau’s Community Room  
6:00 p.m.

Everyone bring a plate of your favorite Christmas Goody to share with each other.

**We need to get the list started for next year—Please call Sandy to pick your date to bring refreshments!!**

**Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass  
It's about learning to dance in the rain.**

**United States Representative  
Mike Simpson  
1339 Longworth House Office Bldg  
Washington D.C. 20515  
Web site: [www.house.gov/simpson](http://www.house.gov/simpson)  
Phone: 202-225-5531  
Local District Office:  
1201 Falls Avenue East  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301  
Phone: 208-734-7219**

**United States Senator Mike Crapo  
United States Senate  
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510-1024  
Voice mail: 205-734-2515  
Email:  
<http://crapo.senate.gov/contact/email.cfm>  
Local District Office:  
202 Falls Avenue, Suite 2  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301**

**TOM STUART: Lessons from Elwha: Working together, we all win** READER'S VIEW: DAM REMOVAL BY TOM STUART - Idaho Statesman **Published: 10/09/11**  
Read more: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2011/10/09/1832043/lessons-from-elwha-working-together.html#ixzz1aH7Q4z3J>

The people of Washington state showed what a dam removal celebration ought to look like when 400 gathered on Sept. 17 beside the 108-foot-tall Elwha Dam to celebrate its impending removal.

Along with removal of 210-foot-tall Glines Canyon Dam just upstream, these dam removals constitute the largest river restoration project ever undertaken. They promise to restore biological, cultural and economic vitality to the Olympic Peninsula by restoring the river's once-potent salmon runs.

Sitting among guests during the two-hour ceremony, I imagined how easily the words spoken would transport in time and space to a future event along the banks of the lower Snake River, where four dams also impede salmon migration to and from a huge preserve of ideal salmon habitat in Idaho.

“Some people will say that you can't do river restoration and job creation, that the agenda of conservation is somehow antithetical to the job creation crisis which we face in America,” said Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.

“I can tell you (Washington) Gov. Gregoire, and the congressional leadership up here on this podium, disagree. Because we can do conservation and environmental restoration and have good economics.”

A strong undercurrent of the Elwha celebration was heartfelt emotion from the native Lower Elwha Klallam people. Ben Charles Sr., in his powerful invocation, read from the book of Hebrews of being “compassed by a great cloud of witnesses,” as he envisioned generations of his people watching the event. “You may not be able to see them, but I can,” he said.

Speeches from others spoke of persistence, collaboration, the values of salmon recovery and river restoration. There was a palpable sense among those attending that more dams will be removed as years pass. I believe the lower Snake River dams will be among them, and the lessons learned on the Elwha can be applied on the Snake.

Washington Sen. Maria Cantwell called the Elwha restoration project “a proud victory for the culture and heritage of the Klallam people,” but she also stressed the project's economic benefits, including more than 5,000 jobs.

“This is so important to healthy salmon runs and environmental sustainability and part of our economy, part of our culture, part of our identity, and healthy salmon ecosystems support thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in economic revenue and activity for our state,” Cantwell said.

**Here in Idaho, we can learn from the Elwha, and we must. It teaches us about the science, engineering, economic and community-related lessons that can be applied to other rivers. As many dignitaries pointed out, removing the Elwha dams was the result of a collaborative process. That is exactly what's needed in the Snake River Basin now, where salmon have been on the edge of extinction for decades, while government recovery proposals fail to do enough.**

For Idaho's salmon the science is clear: Four lower Snake River dams are the most significant impediment to survival. Following a strong ruling on Aug. 2 from federal District Judge James Redden that called for the federal government to closely examine dam removal as an option for Snake River basin salmon, it's time to begin settlement talks that benefit our salmon, culture, traditions and our economy.

In 2009, U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo offered a potential roadmap toward resolution. Perhaps the best way to move forward, the senator suggested, is to bring salmon stakeholders together — conservationists, fishermen, tribes, power producers, barging and transportation interests, farmers and the states — to hammer out a solution.

**It's time for stakeholders to seek collaborative solutions for the Snake River.**

The Elwha “is a testament to what can happen when diverse groups find a way to work together and achieve shared goals of restoration for a river, a people, an ecosystem and a national park,” said National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis.

And so, too, could be the Snake. ( From the ALAA)



**ATTENTION ROCKHOUNDS!  
TIMES HAVE CHANGED.  
BLM/FOREST SERVICE RULES FOR  
COLLECTING HAVE CHANGED.  
YOU MUST CONTACT EACH LOCAL LAND  
AGENCY HAVING JURISDICTION OVER  
THE SITE OF WHICH YOU WISH TO  
COLLECT. GENERALLY NO MORE THAN  
25 LBS. AND ONE ROCK MAY BE IN YOUR  
POSSESSION. YOU ARE PERSONALLY  
RESPONSIBLE TO KNOW THE RULES.  
YOU MUST NEVER ASSUME TO KNOW  
WHAT IS ALLOWED.  
CHECK FIRST!**

We are now able to send the Magic Valley Gem News via e-mail. If you are not already receiving the newsletter via email and are willing to, please email me at rmetts@cableone.net. Help us save some money on mailings. Thank you. Shirley

**DO YOU REALIZE THAT OUR SHOW IS  
ONLY 3 MONTHS AWAY?**

**It's not too early to be making items for  
the show -**

**Wheel of Fortune-1  
Wheel of Fortune —2,  
Silent Auction,  
Grab Bags,  
Sand Dig for Gems  
Door Prizes**

**Magic Valley Gem Show  
March 10 and 11, 2012  
Twin Falls County Fairgrounds — Filer,  
Idaho**

**MAGIC VALLEY GEM NEWS  
SHIRLEY METTS, EDITOR  
550 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
KIMBERLY, ID 83341**

November. 2011



**FIRST CLASS  
TIME DATED  
MATERIAL**

