

Place: Arden
Community Club
Hall Rd
Arden, WA



Time: 7:00 PM
Third Tuesday
Each Month
(Jan.-Dec.)

The Panorama Prospector April 2011

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club Meeting Minutes 3/15/2011

Sherry Bamberger, Ann Sebright and Joel McPherson volunteered to provide refreshments for the next meeting. Thanks!

Harold Ingram helped put together an email list for members.

Sylvia Allen provided a treasurer's report. There are gem and lapidary materials in the raffle for the next few meetings. Sherry Bamberger has helped provide \$800 to the scholarship fund by selling club rocks on eBay.

Bill Allen gave the show report saying that everything is ready for the Rock Show but we need some help at the front door. There are nice door prizes including jewelry, rock specimens and a salt lamp. Lucy Bristow who usually works the door is on injured reserve. We need people to help set up on Thursday Morning and to tear down on Saturday Night till about 8:00 PM

We could use some more folks volunteering to fill display cases. The Spokane Rock Rollers helped us again with cases and they could use some help setting up their show on Tuesday the 5th and tearing down on Sunday the 10th.

For publicity KCVL will do a radio report. There are ads in several newspapers and reader boards.

Steve Fox is working to find a new motor for the big grinder at the shop and also on the field trips for the year. We are trying to coordinate some trips with the Rock Rollers to the McGraff Quarry – June 11th and a Thulite pay dig on April 30th. We may line up more of Don Grub's Quarries to see. There is possibly a new 320 acre rock hounding site near the Double Eagle Mine that may open up as a fee dig with camping. They want a

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Beryl By Stephen Fox



[Museum Quality Clear Beryl – Emporia State University]

One of the most common, yet hard to get (at least around here), of the crystal kingdoms is the beryl crystal. Yet from Cheney, Washington to Marcus, Washington there are known deposits of this mineral, but in no kind of gem quality (at least that this author has seen). With known deposits in Stevens County alone there may yet be gem quality Aquamarines, and just maybe the elusive Emerald. There have been many large (two to six inch long) specimen grade blue-green beryl crystals found, mostly coming from the Chewelah area.

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review committee from the club to look over the area. There are lots of quarries and mines and they are developing roads and a campground. The area will be open to select visitors for a small fee.

There are some gold panning expeditions on the schedule. These require a permit that can cover up to 5 people. You can get gold panning equipment at Clark's Allsport in Colville.

Diane Lentz had to resign as hospitality coordinator at the show so she can take up more responsibilities with the Fair. We need a new volunteer replacement for that position.

Board members will pick up scholarship applications to review on May 2nd.

Johnie also reminded us that the NW Federation meeting is July 30-31 in Chehalis.

After refreshments we watched a video about the Stewart Tourmaline Mine near San Diego provided by Jerry Novak, which was great.

End

Beryl – continued

Gem quality aquamarines were rumored to come from the Fish Lake area, three miles out of Cheney, but about forty years ago a couple of good ol' boys decided to get rich and loaded the pegmatite dike with a lot of TNT and set it off. As this deposit is owned by the railroad, and the resulting explosion destroyed a significant amount of railroad tracks along with any beryl crystals, railroad officials were very ticked off. If there is any trace of the pegmatite dike (and there is) and you can find any beryl there, good luck. The location is at Fish Lake. Go to where the old restaurant is and walk up to the first old railroad bed and turn left. Go about 75 yards and face left. What remains of the formation and the pegmatite is right in front of you. Don't cry.

From Chewelah, Rex Barrans and Dave Paquet, have both brought in to our club meetings some very impressive blue-green beryl crystals. Many decades ago (late 70's) I worked some very nice crystals out of the old mine shaft and talus. Then the mine and the surrounding area was claimed again and the new owners closed it off to casual rockhounding. But in recent times there may be some hope that we can get back into the

area. I am not quite up to date on all of the particulars of this area's status yet, so you might do well to investigate further before you go exploring.

The deposit near Marcus is presently under about twenty feet of water. Thirty five feet when the lake is full. On Park Service Land. I won't go on because it just gets worse. On the bright side, just off of highway 25, up the Pingston Creek road, above the drowned deposit, there is an old chromium mine. Maybe emeralds in this area? I haven't found any yet, but who knows?

What is a beryl crystal? When you go after these beauties what are you looking for? According to the Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Rocks and Minerals beryl is a cyclosilicate. A cyclosilicate is where one silicon atom combines with three oxygen atoms to form a circular molecule. In this case it takes six silicon atoms and eighteen oxygen atoms stacked up to make a beryl crystal molecule. In between each layer is three beryllium atoms and two aluminum atoms both of which helps to give beryl it's hardness of 8. Add in trace amounts of chromium and you get beautiful green emeralds. Add few more aluminum atoms and you get blue-green aquamarines. Depending on the mix add in some sodium, lithium, or cesium and you get golden beryl (heliodor), or pink morganite. Clear colorless beryl is known as goshenite. A rare bright red form is found chiefly in Utah. When you are looking for beryl crystals the best field marks are six-sided prisms that are striated, and beryl is also harder than apatite or quartz (two similar species).

Emerald is the birthstone for May, and Aquamarine is the birthstone for October.



Field Trip Schedule for 2011

By Stephen Fox

Here is our calendar for 2011. It is just a start. It will be changed, modified, and added to as suggestions and requests are made. There will be weekday trips added as I talk to those that can go on weekday trips. Also, please note that other than the Mt Adams trip all field trips do not require a 4 wheel drive vehicle.

Month	Day	Event
April	16	<u>Evan's Campground Quarry.</u> Meet at Harvest Foods in Kettle Falls at 10 A.M Needed: Chisel, Hammer (4lbs or better is recommended), small shovel, iron bar. Calcite, dolomite, serpentine with barite crystals.
April	30	<u>Ellensburg Blue Agate</u> with the Rock Rollers in Spokane a trip to Ellensburg. Time and place to meet to be announced.
May	14	<u>South Fork Sherman Creek.</u> Diopside crystals. Needed: Chisels or screw drivers. Small hammer. Garden claw.
May	27-30	<u>NWF Meeting in Oregon.</u> Panorama club will meet at the Safeway parking lot in Chewelah. Time to be discussed at Club meeting.
June	12	<u>Mt Adams.</u> Meet at the Fruitland store at 10 A.M Needed: Shovel, pick, rock hammer. Epidote, quartz crystals, and small spessartine garnets. Four wheel drive.
June	24	<u>Emerald Creek Idaho:</u> Garnets. Will need screens, rubber gloves, and a bucket. Meet at the Chewelah Safeway parking lot at 7 A.M Overnighter.
July	9	<u>Columbia River:</u> Gold panning. Needed: Gold pan, shovel, screens, tweezers, Wash tub (if you have one),. Meet at Harvest Foods in Kettle Falls at 10 A.M
July	24	<u>Sheep Creek:</u> Gold panning. See above. Meet at Harvest Foods in Kettle Falls at 10 A.M
Aug	6	<u>Sullivan Creek:</u> Gold panning. See above. Meet at the Safeway parking in Colville.
Aug	21	<u>Columbia River:</u> Gold panning. Needed: Gold pan, shovel, screens, tweezers, Wash tub (if you have one), Meet at Harvest Foods in Kettle Falls at 10 A.M

Stonerose Membership Dig April 29-30

April 30th is **Membership Dig Day** with special events planned for Friday evening & all day Saturday. Join today by visiting the Stonerose Website or you may join/renew upon your arrival Friday or Saturday to participate in all of the events. Best of all, only at the Membership Dig are Stonerose Members allowed to keep six Fascinating, Fun Fossils.

The Membership meeting will be held the night before at the Northern Inn Conference Room, 852 South Clark Ave



starting at 6 PM. Dr. Kathleen Pigg, and Dr. Melanie Devore from Arizona and Georgia State Universities will be presenting their new guide book to Stonerose Fossils. Please RSVP to srfossils@rcabletv.com so they can plan a light

dinner for the members.

The center opens for collecting at 9 AM on Saturday with lunch at 11:30 in the nearby city park: hamburger, hot dogs, chili with all the fixings for \$6.00 followed by live entertainment, door prizes and more...

2011 Gem and Mineral Show

By Joseph Barreca

We don't have the final tally yet but by all accounts the 2011 Panorama Gem and Mineral Club Rock Show was bigger and better than ever. Well technically it was held in the same place as all the others so "bigger" is hard to prove, but we had new vendors, new displays and one heck of a lot of people. I'll also bet that our scholarship fund is better than ever.



For one thing, we had some better power for our black lights. Greg VanWeerthuizen (at the left of this picture) brought up a 12 volt power system that plugged into our WayTooCool 12 volt black light and really made it shine. Dave Paquette loaned us some calcite nodules that were bright pink under UV. Kids and adults brought a parade of rocks from the silent auction and grab bags to see if they glowed. Bill Allen, (in the blue shirt), added some functionality to the framework he designed and the club supplied high-quality duct tape to hold it all together. No really, the duct tape works great and we use it on purpose.



The displays were great. Gloria Squires is putting her jewelry and beads into this one.



Billy Smith had some great specimens in her displays, many of them local. (I'll put these on the website so you can zoom in on them.) One



of the best was this display devoted to ammonites collected by Bruce Hurley. Besides incredible specimens from around the world, it was packed with information.



Kids really make the show fun. We don't see that many at the meetings but here they are swarming the free samples and other kid-scale collectables from Brian Martell's vendor table.

Brian didn't have the corner on kids though. They were well-represented downstairs at the vending table, (shown in the next picture) and at the Wheel of Fortune, Silent Auction and Ring Toss that are shown in the following pictures. Steve Fox did a great job of encouraging kids at

the Ring Toss, insisting that they needed to smile in order to get the ring to stay on a peg. It may



Sound crazy but most of the time it worked. We gave a lot of polished rocks and toy cars to smiling kids there and made some change too.



[Intense action at the Ring Toss]



[Big spenders at the Wheel of Fortune]



[Getting the rocks wet at the Silent Auction]



[Bev Bockman and Steve Fox ran the Auction]



This Apophyllite Crystal cluster from Pune India has highly acclaimed healing power. More about that in the next newsletter....

