

Place: Arden  
Community Club  
Hall Rd  
Arden, WA



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

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## The Panorama Prospector

### May 2013

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### Panorama Gem and Mineral Club

April 16, 2013

By Luci Bristow

President Bruce welcomed everyone and gave accolades to our Club for a great Rock Show. The consensus was that we had approximately 1,500 attendees at the Show.

As always, there are some things we need to think about changing for our next year's show. At this point, they are only suggestions to be considered for the next Show.

Our multi-day Field Trip Agenda was tabled until next meeting.

Vice President Bob gave accolades to everyone that has been providing snacks for our meetings. They have all been a great treat for our members.

Johnie gave the Treasurer's report, as well as the monetary outcome of the Rock Show. We did a great show! Everyone was very pleased with the Ag and Trade Center and will look forward to continued use of the Center for future Rock Shows.

Please keep Matt Harbin in your thoughts. He is scheduled for back surgery and will be gone while recuperating. We wish you the very best in your recovery, Matt!

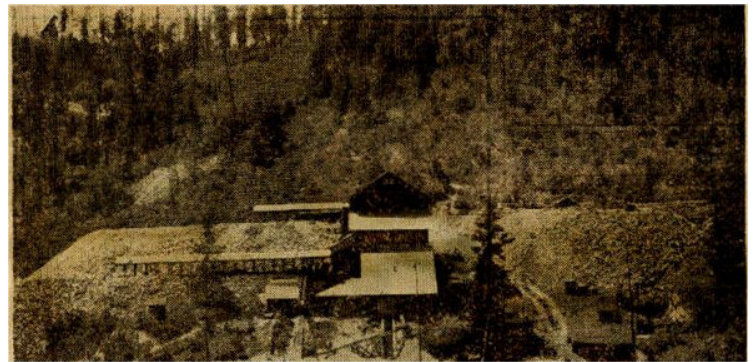
The subject of the storage cabinet for the Club TV was mentioned. A motion was made, seconded, and carried at the March meeting, that perhaps this would help the members that must truck the TV to each meeting. Bruce and Bill Allen will talk with the Arden Community Center to see if this is plausible. They will report on that soon.

Our Door Prize winner for this month's meeting was Jim Sperber.

*Continued on page 2*

### The Germania

By Joseph Barreca



The Germania Mine was once a huge going concern in Stevens County. It is located on the northern edge of the Spokane Indian Reservation just south of the Deer Trail Mine and the Turk, sec. 13, T. 29, R. 37 E. It was originally located by McCoy and Horn in 1894. In 1906 it was purchased by W. Schenk (the name has various spellings) and incorporated into the Germania Mining Company. This is where it gets more interesting.

Wilhelm Schenk was later found to be a captain in the German Army engineering corps. Hence the name, Germania. The true intention of Schenk's mission was further obscured by making the Germania a holding of American Tungsten Consolidated Corporation. Wolframite ore from this mine was some of the purest found in the world. German experts learned of the deposits from ore exhibits sent to the St. Louis Exposition in 1894. (Colville Examiner, 1936-01-03) Schenk's mission was to ship concentrates of tungsten back to the Krupp Gun Works in Essen Germany. There they were used in alloys to make some of the toughest metals in the world, which were incorporated into guns used against Allied Soldiers during World War I.

*Minutes from page 1*

Volunteers for the next meeting snacks were: Rita Cordrey, Vanita Novak, Jan Hurley, and Gene Fisher.

President Bruce gave a slide presentation of his work at the Nevada Test Site. There were many great slides and information on the geology of that area. He gave information on the history of the blast site. Thanks, Bruce for an interesting and informative presentation.

*End*

“The last shipment from the mine was made to catch the return trip of the submarine freighter, Duetchland, which landed for the last time November 1, 1916, at Newport News, R.I. with a cargo of \$1,000,000 in gems and securities. It was the last German ship to elude the allied blockade and reach American shores. When it returned to Germany, November 21, it carried a \$2,000,000 cargo of needed war supplies, part of which was a shipment of Germania concentrates headed for the Krupp Gun Works.

Then followed the sinking of the the Lusitania and the steps that led to the declaration of war by Woodrow Wilson and America’s entry into the war in 1917.” (Spokesman Review, Jan. 3 1937)

Evidently Captain Schenk was a prodigious drinker. After the German Captain had departed, a passer-by discovered a piece of paper in the underbrush which turned out to be a bill from Holzman, the Spokane Liquor Dealer, for \$2000. The Spokesman article goes on to say: “The whisky bill is easily understood, when the captain’s monument, built to himself with whisky bottles, was found. In cleaning up the property after the captains departure, four truckloads of bottles were carted away without making so much as a dent on the pile. Judging from the number of liquor bottles stacked high, it was figured that the captain, during his regime spent more for whiskey than for labor.”

Tungsten is mainly used in the production of hard materials based on tungsten carbide, one of the hardest carbides, with a melting point of 2770 °C. The hardness and density of tungsten are applied in obtaining heavy metal alloys. A good example is high speed steel, which can contain as much as 18% tungsten.

Surprisingly, tungsten is heavier than lead. In fact it is close to the density of gold and has

been covered in gold to make imitation gold bars. The ore at the Germania is found in quartz veins that filled in cracks in the granite rock structure underneath.

The principle ore in the Germania is wolframite. The name "wolframite" is derived from German "wolf rahm" ("wolf cream"), the name given to tungsten by Johan Gottschalk Wallerius in 1747. Wolframite is not fluorescent but Scheelite which is often found surrounding it is fluorescent under UV light.

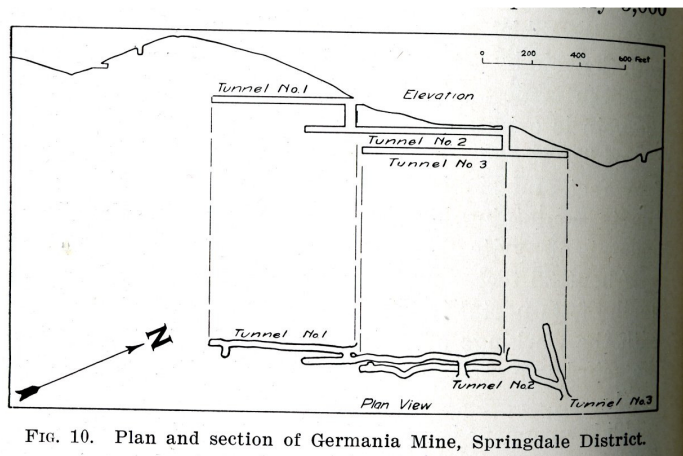


Fig. 10. Plan and section of Germania Mine, Springdale District.

By the time Schenk left around 1917, the development work consisted of 3 tunnels, No. 1 at an elevation of 3593 feet was 590 feet in length, No. 2 at an elevation of 3472 feet was 820 feet long and No. 3 at an elevation of 3400 feet was 845 feet long. About 5000 tons of ore had been mined from which about 140 tons of 65% tungstic acid concentrates had been extracted. But this

was far from the end of the Germania’s life.

The property was taken over by the U.S. Federal Government during the war. Just after that the main buildings burned. The Feds neglected to

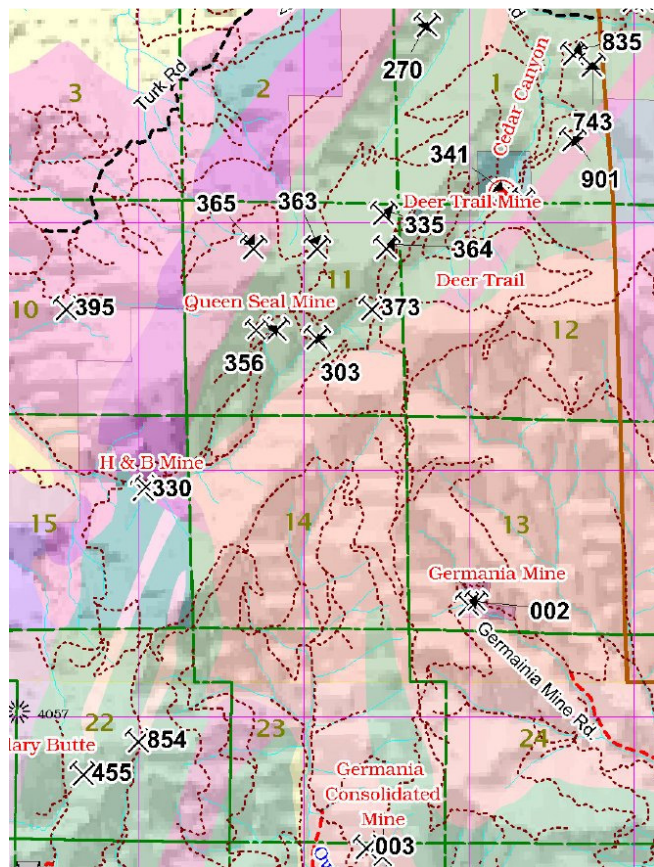


pay local taxes and in 1929 the mine and about \$300,000 worth of development work were sold for back taxes of \$250 to the American Tungsten Company, a principle stockholder was J.A. Scollard of Oakland, California. He eventually took full ownership of the mine in 1934. During the 6 years he operated the mine, Scollard took out about \$750,000 worth of ore.

Two years worth of production were contracted to the General Electric Company. One train car of ore with about 30 tons of concentrate was shipped with a value of \$30,000. At the time it was thought to be the most valuable carload of ore ever shipped out of Washington State. The mine employed 30 to 40 men at that time.

In 1937 General Electric purchased the property outright from J. A. Scollard for \$300,000. They expanded the refining operations since ore from the Germania was thought to be some of the highest grade in the world.

Later mining and recovery of ore from the waste pile eventually exhausted the veins. Also miners began running into pockets of high radioactivity. Two of the largest uranium mines in Washington, the Midnight Mine and the Sherwood Uranium Mine are not far away.



## Chips From The Outcrop

By Bruce Hurley

After several very damp and chilly Springs in a row, global cooling appears to have relented this May, giving us an early opportunity to head out collecting just about everywhere. A number of us have been out checking localities, and we hope to get the field schedule finalized after the May meeting.

Both Bob and Lucy Bristow and I have visited the Tekoa area looking for locations to find goethite pseudomorphs after pyrite. The good news is that we did find some, but the bad news is that they are small and collecting access is poor. So, we have decided to table that locality and look at a couple of new places. As soon as we know more, we will get the word out to everyone.

At the May meeting, we will look at potential multi-day field trips. Since the Rock Rollers are already going to three localities we were considering, Emerald Cree, Lolo Pass, and Red Top Mountain, that leaves the following from our original list:

- Crystal Park, MT (quartz)
- Gem Mountain, MT (near Phillipsburg, sapphires, fee site)
- Glass Buttes, OR (obsidian, cinnabar)
- Davis Creek, OR (obsidian)
- Virgin Valley, NV (opal, fee site)
- Clarkia Fossil Bowl, ID (fee site)
- Mica Mountain, ID Pegmatite minerals)
- Kemmerer, WY (fossil fish, 2 fee sites) & Gem Mountain (sapphires, fee site).

I did not mention the Spencer opal mine, as the owner informed me that it is now closed to collecting. So, please come ready to select a multi-day field trip for this year.

### Rare Blue Diamond

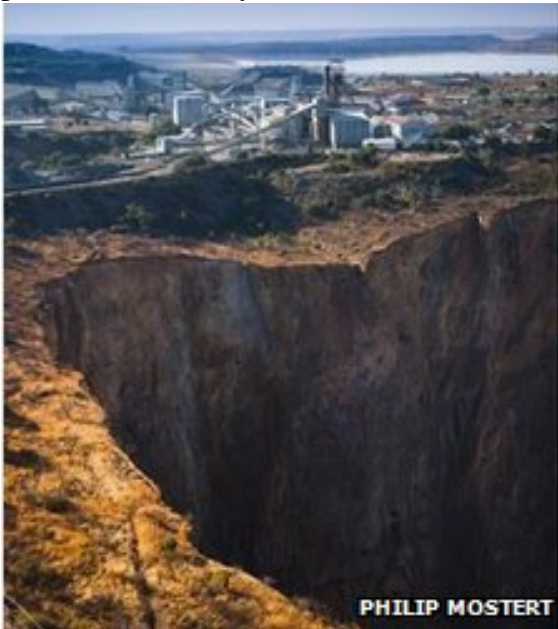


A rare blue diamond has been unearthed at a mine in South Africa. The 25.5-carat stone was recovered by Petra Diamonds at its Cullinan mine and is expected to bring large profits.

Experts say it could be worth more than \$10m (£6m), and the find gave a boost to Petra's share price.

Similar finds in recent years from the Cullinan mine have commanded high prices and Petra, with operations in Botswana and Tanzania, is expecting a high level of interest from buyers.

"It's very unusual for a diamond of this quality and size to come to market," said company spokeswoman Cathy Malins.



The Cullinan mine is famed for the production of blue diamonds

The mine, north-east of Pretoria, has produced hundreds of large stones and is famed for its production of blue diamonds.

A similar 26.6-carat blue rough diamond discovered by the company in May 2009 was cut into a near perfect stone and fetched just under \$10m at a Sotheby's auction.

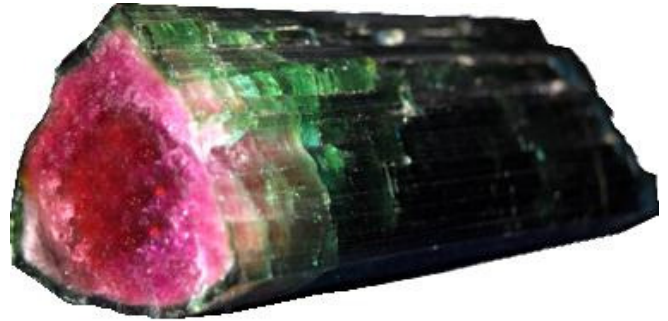
It was named the "Star of Josephine" by its new owner.

Another deep-blue diamond from Cullinan was auctioned for \$10.8m last year and set a world record for the value per carat.

In 1905, the renowned Star of Africa blue diamond - the world's second largest cut diamond - was discovered at the Cullinan mine.

The pear-shaped 530-carat stone was presented to King Edward VII and became part of the British crown jewels.

## Rock Trading Website



Welcome to [www.rocktrading.org](http://www.rocktrading.org). This rock site was started to trade rocks and share the love of rock hounding.

1. Do you have some rocks to trade?
2. Have your rock club listed
3. Have your rock shop listed
4. Have your rock show listed
5. Find a place to collect
6. Promote our hobby and geology and mineralogy education
7. Anything rock related! Trade here.

Please stop by our web site and trade some of your rocks for some of someone else's rocks.

<http://rocktrading.org/trade.htm>

## Johnie's Jabber

*By Johnie Pitman*

### Field trips etc.

A couple of weeks ago Arden Fritz and I drove to Saddle Mountain where we met Scot Jackson, Jerry Novac, and Becky Dobbs. We were tagging along with the Spokane Club on their annual trip for petrified wood. Arden and I were mainly interested in tumbling material but Arden found a few nice larger pieces. He also found one piece that was already cut as were a few other cut rocks like agate, jasper and thunder eggs. It was a very windy day so we filled two buckets and came home. There is still a lot of wood there to be found.

Bob Bristow and I went looking for the Crystal Prospect location but due to the logging operation in the area and logging roads everywhere we didn't find the exact location. Next time we'll take his GPS and the coordinates, maybe that will help!!

### Scholarships,

The scholarship applications have been picked up from the high schools and the winners will be chosen by the Trustees, except for the ones from Kettle Falls. There is only one application for each scholarship so I will make out their certificates and present them at their awards night.

### The Oldest Rocks on Earth



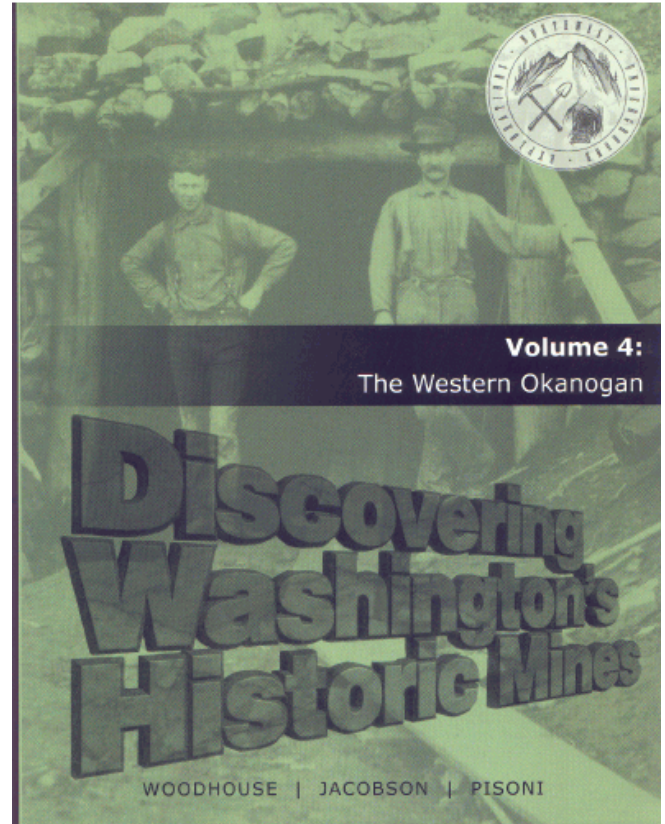
My name is Benjamin Zenko. I am with Rock Of Ages Northwest Territories, Canada. My partner and I are fellow rock-hounds, and we are the holders of the mineral claim for the Acasta Gneiss, the oldest known rock on the planet, dated at ~4.03 Billion years old.

We are looking to connect with collectors who would be interested in acquiring a specimen of this rock. If there are numerous interested individuals in your club, we can definitely consider working something on a larger scale.

You can check out what we've got at our website, or work directly through me for more immediate assistance. [www.rockofagesnw.com](http://www.rockofagesnw.com)

### New Mine Exploration Book

By Northwest Underground Explorations



[Volume 4 shown, Volume 6 Cover not on line]

We now have volume 6 of Discovering Washington's Historic Mines on hand. The book covers the mines and mining history of Stevens and Pend Oreille counties of Northeast Washington State.

It may be awhile before they show up in stores, but they can be ordered from your favorite book seller. Just give them the ISBN number: 978-0-9822558-5-8 and tell them they are distributed by Partners West. Retail price is \$34.95.

### Northwest Federation of Mineral Societies Annual Meeting

The NFMS 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show and meeting will be held at the Butte Civic Center in Butte Montana Friday August 9<sup>th</sup> through Sunday August 11<sup>th</sup>. Call Pete Knudesen 406-723-8524.

**Membership Dues:**

\$15.00 per household per year is due to the club

Treasurer Johnie Pitman (see below) on the third Tuesday of November for regular members.

Webpage: [www.panoramagem.com](http://www.panoramagem.com)

Contact: Bruce Hurley, President, 509-413-2768.

We, **The Panorama Gem and Mineral Club**, are a multi-faceted group of mineral-minded people. Our proud members include some real gems, a few fossils, and even some diamonds in the rough. A few have lost some of their marbles, but they know where to get more! A few need to polish their coordination because they are always tumbling! And some are miners who use the "silver pick" as their tool of choice! It should be crystal clear, that we all enjoy this unique conglomeration and above all else we strive to **HAVE FUN**. And we never throw stones (away).

**To the Field and Beyond**

We will be reviewing preferences for multiple day field trips at our next meeting, Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Arden Community Center. There is a list of possibilities inside. We will also try to set up some local field trips.

To get tuned up for finding rocks in the field, Johnie Pitman will lead the group in a rock identification exercise for the entertainment portion of the meeting.

**Martell's Rock Shop**

2 Baxter Lane  
Kettle Falls, WA 99141  
509-738-3041  
509-675-0390  
[bkmartell@hotmail.com](mailto:bkmartell@hotmail.com)



**Rocks, Slabs,  
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Tumblers,  
Grinders,  
8" & 10" Trim  
Saws**



**Mineral Identification  
Mineral/Mine Locations**

**Bristow Enterprises**  
PO Box 1165  
Chewelah, WA 99109  
[Bristow@theofficenet.com](mailto:Bristow@theofficenet.com)

[mineralsoftware.com](http://mineralsoftware.com)

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This newsletter is published by the Panorama Gem and Mineral Club. Editor: Joe Barreca, 509-738-6255, [joe.barreca@gmail.com](mailto:joe.barreca@gmail.com).

**Panorama Gem and Mineral Club: Organizational Chart**

<b>Officers:</b>			
President:	Bruce Hurley	10617 W. Lakeside Lane, Nine Mile Falls, WA 99026	509-413-2768
Vice-President:	Bob Bristow	PO Box 1165; 2567 Mud Lake Rd. Chewelah WA 99109	935-4375
Secretary:	Luci Bristow	PO Box 1165; 2567 Mud Lake Rd. Chewelah WA 99109	935-4375
Treasurer:	Johnie Pitman	701 B Williams Lake Rd, Colville, WA 99114	684-8887
Trustee 1:	Bill Lupton	2530 Six Mile Rd	509-935-6198
Trustee 2:	Bill Sebright	POB 293, Clayton, WA 99110	509-276-2693
Trustee 3:	Daniel Lundy	1035 Haller Creek Rd. Addy, WA	685-5870
<b>Committee Chairs</b>			
Program Coordinator:	Bev Bockman	1750 N Havichur Loop, Post Falls, ID 83854	208-773-5384
Hospitality:	Luci Bristow	PO Box 1165; 2567 Mudd Lake Rd. Chewelah WA 99109	509-935-4375
Club Shop:	Scott Jackson	1028 Old Hwy 12 Mile Rd, Colville, WA 99114	684-6371
Librarian:	Ruth Ross	750 N Lincoln, # 6, Colville, WA 99114	684-4925
Historian:	Carol Price	PO Box 77, Laurier, WA 99146	684-2857
Newsletter:	Joseph Barreca	2109 Hwy 25 South, Kettle Falls, WA 99141	738-6155
Show Chair	Bill Allen	2633 Highline Rd, Chewelah, WA 99109	935-8779, 936-2446