

Place: Arden
Community Club
Hall Rd
Arden, WA



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

The Panorama Prospector

March 2014

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club Minutes for February 18st, 2014

Anni Sebright

The first order of business following the call to order by President Bruce Hurley was Bill Allen answering questions about, "What's in a Rock" Gem and Mineral Show March 7 and 8 at the Ag Trade Center in Colville. Volunteers are needed. Our club will buy sub sandwiches for lunch. Ginger will order them, and Bill Allen will pick them up. Snacks will be furnished by Becky Dobbs on Thursday, March 6, Luci Bristow on Friday, March 7, and Jan Hurley on Saturday, March 8. All are welcome for the tear down Saturday at 5 PM.

Scholarship applications are ready to be delivered to the three area high schools: Kettle Falls, Chewelah and Colville.

Suggestions for field trips and multi-day field trips can be made to the field trip committee: Bob Bristow, Scott Jackson, Becky Dobbs and Jerry Novak. Bob Bristow has a consultant contract coming up, so anyone else interested in help planning field trips. . . now's your chance.

Some field trip ideas discussed were to the "Ringing Rocks" east of Butte on I-90 taking the Pipestone exit. Opals near Okanogan was also suggested. (A field trip schedule is included later in this newsletter.)

Ginger, Scott, Luci, Bill and Anni will provide refreshments for the March 18 meeting.

Bill Sebright thanked everyone for the get well cards, calls and wishes. His acetabular socket shows good new bone growth, and he is able to put 50% of his weight on it.

The treasurer's report was given and bills were approved to be paid.

Please keep checking the table at the back of the meeting room for notices from other clubs.

Continued on Page 2

14th Annual Rock Show

Joe Barreca



Giant 6' sub (3x2' subs) lunch for crew

The 14th annual Panorama Gem and Mineral Club Rock Show at the Northeast Washington Ag Trade Center in Colville on March 7th and 8th was another great success. There is no doubt that having wonderful weather both days in early March was unusually lucky. But luck was only a minor factor.

When lots of people arrived early on Thursday morning to set up tables and display cases, it was obvious that our club really stepped up to the plate. There are so many people to thank on this one, it is hard to know where to start and stop.

Choice number one is Bill Allen. He had the plans and the connections ready for the set up and the break down. It may have been chaos, but it was organized chaos. We have to appreciate that Steve

Susan Andrews won the drawing for the sapphire.

Bob Bristow will give a talk explaining the sequence of events that led to the explosion of TWA Flight 800 on February 27, at 7 PM Thursday , at the Boyer Mountain Masonic Lodge in Deer Park. Everyone is welcome. (There was a good representation from the Panorama Gem and Mineral Club on this snowy evening.)

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made the tables look sharp. Luci Bristow and the welcoming desk crew (Kay Lupton, Kathy Fritz, Gene Fisher) had it all together. Scott Jackson, Jerry and Vanita Novak, Matt Harbin and Jerry Hertler kept the wheel of fortune turning. Arden Fritz, Bev and Bill Bockman kept the silent auction going. I really appreciated Gene Fisher watching my table so I could walk around. He also helped in the Black Light Cave along with Rita Cordrey and Bill Allen. Matt Harbin put out the road signs that Kay Lupton made and his wife, Debra worked with the 4Hers in the kitchen. Lori Matlock, who runs the Fair Grounds, gave us a break on the cost. The vendors from the club and elsewhere helped with setup along with making beautiful tables for

their own stuff. I'm sorry I can't mention everyone. You all worked so hard.

Once again the display cases were wonderful. I particularly liked Mariam Knack's beadwork around Sea Jasper and other colorful stones.



Ann Berger's case comparing the color combination of various stones to



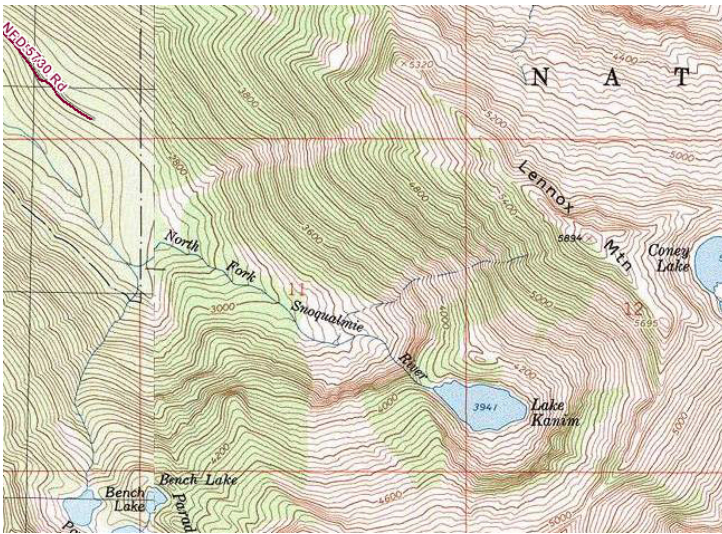
manmade artwork was rich and inventive.



Brian Martell's tables were well-lit and full of great stones and tools as usual. Bruce and Jan Hurley had great stuff. Steve Livingston's great stuff was on sale! It was a show we can be proud of!

Lake Kanim

By Bob Bristow



[Lake Kanim Topo Map]

Editor's note: This is a story continued from last month by Bob Bristow. It will be a regular feature showing just how much trouble one person can get into on a regular hike.

For the next several weeks, I tried to get my friend to go back up. (I wasn't going to let that mountain beat me!) However, he always had something else to do and I finally concluded that he was not interested in trying it again. I decided I would go it alone and climb up through the trees on the cliff to the right of the waterfall. I reasoned that if goats had been able to go up there, I could do it. I carried a 120-foot climbing rope, a handful of pitons and a small ball-peen hammer. (I left my rock hammer home to reduce weight.) When I started up the cliff, I found that the goats had only gone up a short distance and then gone back down. This was not good news, but I kept climbing anyway. I found that there were a series of narrow ledges that sloped up to the left, toward the waterfall. These were easy to climb, with only two problems: They narrowed as they went up and they tipped downward at about 45 degrees. To make matters worse, the surface was covered by moss that had water under it. If the moss slipped, it was like standing on ice. One good thing was that there were trees. They came out horizontally and then curved up. I looped the climbing rope around a tree growing just below the ledge I was on and tied myself to it. I then carefully walked to the next tree about 50 feet further up the sloping ledge. At this point, the ledge was narrow and slick. I retrieved a short rope out of my pack and tied myself to the tree before untying the climbing

rope. After untying the climbing rope, I pulled it from around the tree below and looped it around the tree beside me. Before I came to the next tree, I ran out of ledge. However, there was a ledge below me that continued on up the cliff. All I had to do was get the 15 feet down to it. I had done a lot of practice repels, but this would be the first where there was no other way down. The instruction books always show a handy rock horn sticking up to tie the repelling rope to. These rock hooks never happen in real life. Well, almost never. As luck would have it, there was a hook just like in the books! I doubled my climbing rope over the horn and slid down using the old-fashioned rope-only repel. The new ledge I dropped down onto had a near-level spot. This gave me a chance to rest without fear that I might slip out into space at any moment.

I thought from here on it would be a snap. How wrong I was! I continued on up, but eventually ran out of ledge at the very edge of the waterfall. Here it was nearly straight down and I still had about 40 feet to go. I got up a little further by pulling myself up onto a small hemlock growing out of a crack. It was only about two inches in diameter so I had to stand very close to the rock. The next 30 feet was smooth with no vegetation. However it did have some cracks that would take pitons. I carefully removed a piton and pulled out my hammer. Somehow the hammer slipped out of my hand. I now went into full panic. It is well known that it is easier to climb up than to climb down. Many amateur climbers have lost their lives by climbing up as far as they could go and then falling when they tried to get down. I was an amateur and I had climbed up as far as my ability would let me, so I knew I was in big trouble. I knew I couldn't go back down the way I had come up, so I would have to find some other way. After subduing my panic, I looked down to see how I would go. And, wonder of wonders, my little hammer had dropped between two of the roots of the tree I was standing on!

I carefully squatted down and grabbed that hammer. Squeezing the hammer very hard so as to not drop it again, I drove the first piton as high as I could reach. I tied my short rope to that piton and to myself. I now felt secure enough to breath. I then drove another piton at about waist level and climbed up onto it, standing on one foot. I continued on up until I ran out of pitons. At this point, the rock was giving away to dirt and there

was a big hemlock root sticking out of a crack and hanging down toward me. I crawled up that root until I could stand up and walk.

What I saw at the top was a beautiful little lake in a cirque with a snow field at the far end, timber on one side, and a jumble of large granite boulders on the other. And, there were fish jumping! There were some big fish in there but the biggest I got that day was 19 inches, still not bad for a high lake.



[Bob at Lake Kanim with a 19" Rainbow Trout]

I of course decided to try another way down when I finished fishing. I climbed up over the granite boulders and struck out through the brush toward the car. The mountain was steep with numerous streams running down from the snow fields above. It appeared to be about 45 degrees. There was a long drop-off below, but it was no problem since there was plenty of vegetation to keep you from sliding far. At one point on this slope, I found a special jewel. The glacier that had filled the valley long ago had plucked a huge rock out of the side of the mountain. It left a niche about 20 feet deep with a pool of the clearest and best tasting water you could imagine. In addition, on one side was a sloping rock where two or three people could sit and either enjoy the little waterfall coming into the pool or look out over the valley below.

After about 1/2 mile, the rocky cliffs were past and I could climb down to the stream below the lower cirque. There were no rocks, but it was very, very, steep and covered with slick fir needles. I always tried to go down (or up) in such a way that I could slide into a tree below when I slipped.

That was my first trip into Kanim Lake. I didn't know whether to feel proud that I had

prevailed, or ashamed to have attempted such a stupid thing in the first place. There were a number of other trips into Kanim, each with its own adventures... *to be continued*

Chips Off The Outcrop

By Bruce Hurley

It is always a pleasure to go to Arizona in the winter, and not just for warm, dry weather and abundant sunshine. From late January until mid-February, Tucson is host to hundreds of vendors selling minerals, lapidary materials and products, fossils, jewelry and jewelry supplies, and curios of a great many types. These dealers sell from "small shows" in exposition halls, hotels, tents (small, large and huge) and occasionally even a tailgate or two. All of this culminates with the official Tucson Gem and Mineral Show at the convention center, held the second



weekend in February.

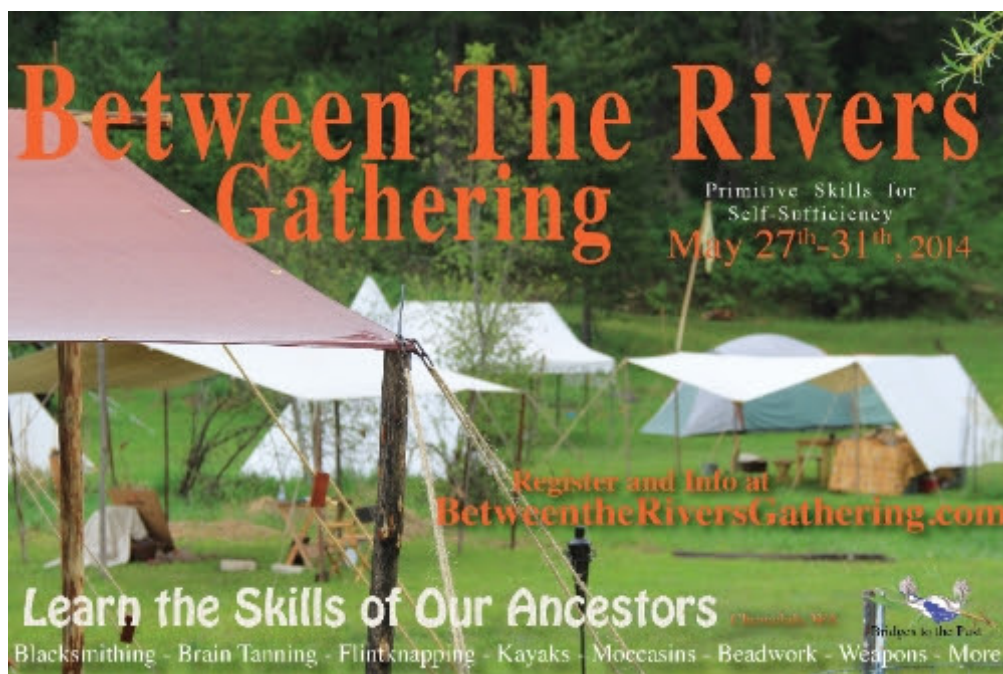
While the main show is great, it also tends to be pricey, and by then many of the small show dealers have departed for parts unknown, from France to Morocco to Madagascar to China to Peru, and nearly all points in between. I personally enjoy going down the first week in February, when the smaller dealers, along with many who will also be at the main show, are all up and running. By the end of the first weekend, discounts become common – unless you have waited too late, and what you wanted is already sold out!



tent locations. Perhaps this is due to continuing weak economic conditions, or perhaps aging of the rockhounding community, but for whatever reason, Tucson soon may not be the world's largest gem and mineral show. That said, if you have always wanted to attend the Tucson show, soon might be a good time to do so. And if you can, take a young person or two with you, because the wares at Tucson will open their eyes to rockhounding, like nowhere else.

Bargaining is part of the game for many dealers, and the folks from Morocco seem to enjoy haggling nearly as much as selling.

This year, however, I noted something a bit disturbing. The overall "Tucson show" is getting smaller, with at least two previous hotel shows, at the Executive and Rodeway Inns, completely gone. There were also fewer vendors at the largest



| Panorama Gem and Mineral | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Field Trips 2014 | | | | | | | |
| Location | | Date | Meet | Time | Tools | Parking | Permission |
| Oroville | Selenite | 19-Apr | Kettle Falls, Harvest Foods | 7:00 AM | Mudstone | Limited | OK |
| Phelps Ranch | Pyrite, Galena, etc. | 10-May | Colville, Super One | 9:00 AM | Rock Breaking | OK | OK |
| Evans | Calcite | 7-Jun | Kettle Falls, Harvest Foods | 9:00 AM | Rock Breaking | Limited | ? |
| Red Marble | Dolomite, Magnesite | 20-Jul | Chewelah Safeway | 9:00 AM | Pack, Water | OK | OK |
| Merikay | Beryl, Mica, Books | 9-Aug | Chewelah Safeway | 8:00 AM | Rock Breaking | ? | ? |
| Big Iron | Scheelite, Pyrite, Magnetite | 23-Aug | Kettle Falls, Harvest Foods | 8:00 AM | Rock Breaking | OK | OK |

Membership Dues:

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

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

Webpage: 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).

~ The Show is Over ~

We made it through another rock show in grand style earlier this month. A huge "Thank You" goes out to all the club members who helped make this year's show great.

Gene Fisher will show a video "Platinum Dreams" about platinum mining in Alaska and this time we plan to have a machine to play it.

Martell's Rock Shop

2 Baxter Lane
Kettle Falls, WA 99141
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bkmartell@hotmail.com



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**Mineral Identification
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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.

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club: Organizational Chart

| Officers: | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|---|--------------------|
| 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: | Anni Sebright | POB 293, Clayton, WA 99110 | 509-276-2693 |
| Treasurer: | Johnie Pitman | 701 B Williams Lake Rd, Colville, WA 99114 | 684-8887 |
| Trustee 1: | Bill Sebright | POB 293, Clayton, WA 99110 | 509-276-2693 |
| Trustee 2: | Bill Lupton | 2530 Six Mile Rd | 509-935-6198 |
| Trustee 3: | Becky Dobbs | 968 Phillpott Rd, Colville, WA 99114 | |
| Committee Chairs | | | |
| 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 |
| | | | |
| 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 |