

Place: Arden
Community Club
Hall Rd
Arden, WA



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

The Panorama Prospector

February 2015

Minutes for January 20th, 2015

By Anni Sebright

The meeting was called to order by President Bruce Hurley.

Bill Allen has become a prime candidate for hip surgery and asked for volunteers and got a truckload. Matt Harbin will provide Bill with co-chair help. Various themes were suggested, voted on and "Obsidian - Rainbow of Colors" was the clear winner. Joe will work up the posters using that theme. Matt has the signage for around town. If you are interested in volunteering or filling a display case, don't be shy.

The Club buys lunch (sub sandwiches) for the set-up people on Thursday, and Ginger is taking care of that. Snacks on Thursday will be Becky; Friday is Jan; Saturday is Matt. Friday's hours are from 8:30 A.M. until 6 P.M. and Saturday from 9 A.M. until 5 P.M. and then tear down.

A February 5th shop training class at 9 A.M. is scheduled. Gene will gain knowledge and hone his skills and be better able to help the rest of us.

If you have ideas about field trips, we will be getting our field trip schedule formalized. The Rock Candy Mountain near Grand Forks, B.C., in conjunction with another club, is a real possibility for this year; also, the barite mine by Northport.

Gene got the big saw rebuilt and submitted an invoice for reimbursement.

Bob Bristow's computer program has run into glitches with the new Windows programs.

The Boyer Mountain Masonic Lodge in Deer Park will feature a February 19th program entitled "The Deadly Effect of Hail Impact on Airplanes" with speaker Bob Bristow. The March 19th program will cover Felts Field and its history.

Continued on Page 2

Members Only Auction

By Joseph Barreca



[Ammonite Fossil Spectacular Specimen]

Three particularly nice specimens, two of ammonites, including the one seen here, and one really nice piece of petrified wood, each mounted for display, have been donated to the Panorama Gem and Mineral Club by Janis Haglund, in Metaline Falls.. Any one of these would make a great grand prize for the rock show. Or we could save them for our annual rock auction in November.



But the thought right now is to give members a first chance at buying them with a little auction at the next club meeting on February 17th.

We'll include pictures in this newsletter, but seeing them in person is the best. Even if they don't go up for sale at the meeting, you can check them out on the 17th.

Snacks and juice for our February 17th meeting will be furnished by Vaneta, Duncan, Becky and Ginger.

Johnie reported that our deductible went up from \$500 to \$1,000. Our insurance payment is due and payable as is our American Lands Access Association application at \$50. Both items were approved for payment.

About \$450 has come in so far from the donated rocks. Jerry Hertler also donated a box of beautifully tumbled rocks. Some will be used in the grab bags.

Suzan Andrew is feeling better, but Jerry Novak took a spill and injured his shoulder. Also, please keep Diane Evans in your prayers.

The new raffle item is a beautiful mahogany-colored rock. A "petrified pig's heart" was the closest I could get to a straight answer when asking "what is it?"

Bob Bristow won the January door prize drawing.

Our January DVD program refused to work, so we adjourned early. See you February 17th!

end

Johnie's Jabber

We are putting together a display case of Obsidian for the show, if everyone that wants to contribute please bring your items to the Feb. meeting and I will put the case together. If you know the location where the obsidian was found include that information and your name so that I can get it back to you.

If you have some nice items that you want to display at the show we still have a few cases to fill, let me know if you want one.

The shop is set up nicely and ready for use, so let Gene Fisher or I know if you want to learn how to cut and polish a rock. Becky Dobbs has volunteered her trailer to haul things from my place to the show, THANKS Becky.

Geology Talk

By Joseph Barreca



[Geology Class at Curlew School]

On January 21st I had a chance to teach a short geology class to students at Curlew School. The school has grades from kindergarten through high school all in the same building complex. It's like one big family.

I introduced William "Strata" Smith, the father of modern geology and subject of the book [The Map that Changed the World](#). Smith worked as a surveyor in underground British coal mines in the middle of the 19th century. He noticed that the layer of earth that contained the coal was always covered by other layers that were distinct because of the fossil ammonites in them. Those layers were all in the same order.

He spent much of his life mapping where those layers emerged in different parts of Britain. Using the map, miners could predict how far the coal seam was underground in any particular area. This made a huge impact on how and where coal was mined, transported and used in the booming steel industry.

This same concept of layers of rock with different ammonites in them furthered development of theories of evolution. Comparing the fossils from one age to another and realizing that they were laid down on top of each other with the oldest being the furthest down, led to defining different kinds of bedrock, often by the type of fossils or other rocks found in an area that typified that layer.

The class went on to look at how rocks are recycled into the molten mantle of the earth and re-emerge as igneous rocks in volcanoes or granite. With each new type of rock or fossil, I passed around samples for the classes to look at.

Finally, I talked about how analysis of meteorites leads scientists to calculate that if the same amount of gold and other minerals is contained in the earth as is found in meteorites, there is enough gold here to cover the earth 1.5 feet thick. Johnie Pitman loaned me some gold for a demonstration of panning, which the kids liked and re-enforced the idea of layers.

Date	Place	Rocks	Meet
April (?)	Saddle Mtn	Petrified wood	Spokane Club
May 3rd	Flagstaff, Northport	Barite Crystals	Meet at Harvest Foods at 9 am
May ??	Clarkia, Id	big garnets	\$25 pay for dig
June 6 or 13th	Keystone/Edna mines	Copper, Serpentine, Pyrite cubes	Meets at Safeway in Chewelah at 9am
June 20-24	McDermitt	Jasper/Agate/Petrified Wood	with Spokane Club
July 10-13	Clarkia, Id	Garnets/Quartz Crystals	with Mineral Council
July 19th	Horseshoe Mtn	Quartz Crystals/Florite	Meet at Intersection Hwy 20/Hwy 21 at 10am
Aug	Rock Candy Mine	Bob Bristow is contacting Trail Club for possible field trips and checking on Dates and times and trips to be determined.	
Sept 11-14	Redtop Mtn in Wenatchee	Geodes	with Mineral Council
Sept 25-28	Little Naches River Yakima	Geodes	with Spokane Club

Thanks to Becky Dobbs (again) for putting together this preliminary guide to field trips in 2015. Looks like we might be going places. Good thing that the price of gas is down.

Chips From The Outcrop

By Bruce Hurley



Harvard Minerals

Wow, it is February already, and our 2015 show is just a month away. As always, case displays by members are encouraged and greatly appreciated at the show. It does not require expensive or exotic items to produce an interesting case, just deciding on a theme/topic for the display, gathering the items to be displayed, making labels and explanatory material, and setting up in a case. At last count, Johnie still had some empty cases available, and he would be happy for some help in filling them.

Jan and I made a thaw-out trip to Tucson early in the month, to see the wares on display during the "show weeks" before the official Tucson show. As usual, there were many new items (usually high-priced), a greater variety of items from prior years, and some once-common things were no longer available. Now and then there was even a bargain to be found.

Some of the best bargains we found were from foreign dealers. Many foreign dealers, especially those from China, Madagascar and Morocco, seem to enjoy bargaining with customers. Perhaps after a couple of weeks selling from a tent on

a hot parking lot, a little haggling adds entertainment to their day. Many foreign dealers are reasonably fluent in English, but some are not. Since we are not fluent in their language, bargaining often takes place with counter-entries on calculators, as numbers are more or less universal. Sometimes getting (and understanding) exact mineral names and locality information is a bit more difficult, but can usually be worked out. Incomplete information can often be filled in via Internet searching later, by mineral (or fossil) and country.



While in Tucson, if you want to view major museum-quality specimens (most of whose prices are well beyond our range), be sure and visit the show at the Westward Look Resort north of Tucson, off Ina Road. This year Harvard University had a traveling mineral display set up in the resort lobby which could only be termed stunning, and dealers had specimens ranging into the triple-digit thousands of dollars. Oh, well, at least we do not need armed guards for our stuff!

The Pollyanna: Part III, The Return

By Bob Bristow

This was a fun location, so when we went on an extended prospecting trip with Tom and Pat Scales, we decided to show them the Pollyanna. However, after going eight miles up the canyon from the highway, I knew we were lost. About then, we came to a side canyon. I thought if I could get up and out of the canyon, I might be able to see where we were and still get to the Pollyanna. We soon came to brush too thick to get the car through. Tom was getting up in years and had a bad leg. However, he got out and cut brush and moved rocks. Pat got out and went ahead to see if we could make it. We came to a fork and started up the left hand route. We progressed around a couple of bends but came to a point where the rock walls narrowed down to less than a car width. We went back and took the right fork and soon found the bottom impassable. The left side of the canyon was clear, but it was all sand and rather steep. I asked Tom if he wanted to turn back. He wanted to continue. (Our wives were not so sure.) I drove the car over to the right side of the canyon bottom and accelerated up onto the steep sand on the left side. We were going fast

enough that we didn't fall or slide down before we were able to drop back down above the obstruction. We were now near the top but the sides were closing in and it looked like we weren't going to make it. Again, Tom said to continue. (Again, our wives were not sure.) It was a good call because we suddenly broke out on top and there was a freshly graded mine road.

The road may have been made for mining, but was now used to tend cattle. There was an old windmill that no longer worked. Instead, there was a nice new Honda generator and a hose leading to a huge watering tank in the next hollow. I thought, "Wow, that shiny new generator wouldn't last long in most parts of the country!" We were out of the canyon, but I still didn't know where we were. I left the others at the car and climbed to the top of a nearby hill. I could see a headframe from some mine to the east, and in the distance to the west was country that looked familiar. We continued on the road we had found and in a mile or two came to the Pollyanna.

With our own car instead of a rental, I could drive right down to the mine and everyone had a fantastic time with the beautiful fluorite. I missed a great picture of Tom. The vein had been dug a few feet further since our last trip so, to get at the fluorite, you had to squeeze down into a narrow cut. Tom couldn't bend his right leg. So he got down in the slot on one knee, held his bad leg up in the air behind him, and dug like mad! This is an example of the green fluorite we



collected.

We decided this would be a good time to visit the better mine further on. The road was all rock. The rocks were large enough that you had to pick your way from rock-to-rock. We were at the foot of some large mountains and the first half-mile of the road led down into a canyon and then up onto a plateau. At this rate, it would take us

another couple of hours to get to the far mine. From our vantage point up on the plateau, we could see a big storm about 20-miles away coming right at us. There was no choice but to get down the arroyo before it became deep in water. We made it to the highway just before the rain hit.

Figure 3 is a Google Earth view of the area

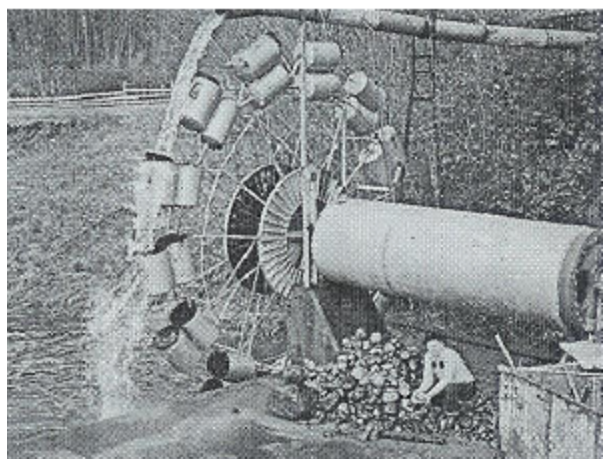


between the highway and the Pollyanna. The highway is the straight line up the left side of the picture. Two washes (arroyos) can be seen going from the highway to the mountains. The upper wash in the picture is the arroyo we wanted. The lower one is the wash we took. The Pollyanna can't be seen in the picture, but it is about two-thirds of the way up the right side of the picture.

Not getting to the second "better" mine was OK. We now have an excuse to go back and find it. We know there will be one or more new adventures. We just don't know what they will be!

The World's Largest Rock Tumbler

Courtesy of the Rock Chipper Newsletter



This is a photo of the world's largest water powered rock tumbler. Notice the person sitting beneath it. It was built by Walter E. Thompson

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club News February 2015

from Carrington, North Dakota, but resides in Gold Bar, Washington. The tumbler is made from a discarded large paper roller from a pulp mill. The cylinder is 4 feet wide, 12 feet long and weighs 5 tons when empty. It will tumble 8 tons of stones per load. So far it has tumbled 87,000 gem stones in one load, which have been assembled into various souvenirs and key chains.

Coins Found Valued at \$5 Million

Metal detector enthusiasts in Buckinghamshire, England, have uncovered what is thought to be one of biggest hoards of



ancient coins ever found in Britain.

Paul Coleman from the Weekend Wanderers Detecting Club discovered more than 5,000 coins buried inside a lead bucket two feet under a field near Aylesbury.

The hoard contains specimens dating back to the 11th Century - the late Anglo Saxon, early Norman period.

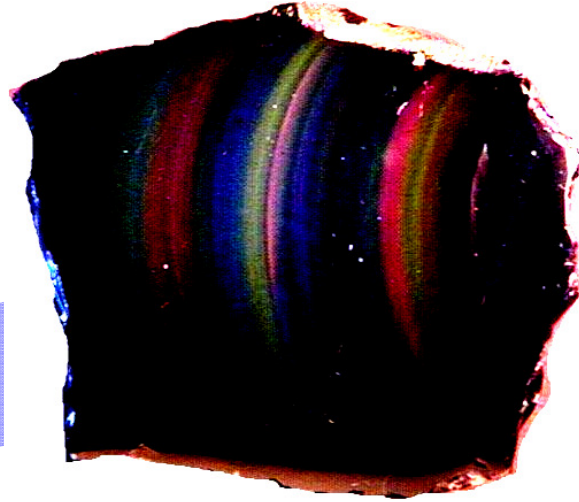
The coins will now be examined by the British Museum.



Mr Coleman, from Southampton, was taking part in a dig in the Padbury area on 21 December when he found the 5,251 coins depicting the heads of kings Ethelred the Unready and Canute.

Obsidian: Rainbow of Colors Gem and Mineral Show

Free
15th Annual



March 6th and 7th

Colville Ag and Trade Center

8:30 AM - 6:00 PM Friday March 6th

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Saturday March 7th

Colville Fair Grounds 317 West Astor, Colville, WA

Wheel of Fortune

Jewelry

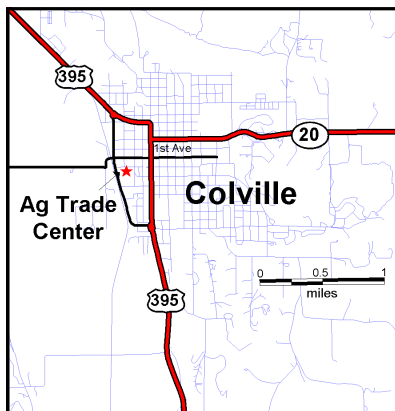
Fossils

Gold Panning

Food

Gems and Minerals
from Around the World

Silent Auction
Door Prizes



Black Light
Tunnel

(509) 935-8779