

Place: Arden
Community Club
Hall Rd
Arden, WA



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

The Panorama Prospector

July 2015

Minutes for June 16, 2015

By Anni Sebright

President Bruce Hurley returned with a much-improved back. He reported good results so far.

New members Fritz and Kathy Johnson were introduced and welcomed.

The July 19th trip to Silver Valley with Andy Buddington is full. Since the trip is so popular, it probably won't be the last time it's offered.

The July 19th trip to Horseshoe Mountain for quartz crystals and fluorite will gather at 10 AM at the Pine Grove Junction, Texaco Mini Mart in Republic where two highways intersect.

Saturday, July 11th, 9 AM bring your hard hat and closed toed shoes and protective eyewear to the main office area by the big smokestack at the White Stone Calcium Plant in Chewelah for a tour and chance to bring specimens home.

Johnie Pitman asked for any volunteers for Rendezvous Days to do a gold panning demonstration at Rendezvous Days the first week in August. When no hands went up, Johnie will send our regrets.

A new collection donation from Montana was recently added to Johnie and Ginger's yard. A caravan of trucks and trailers hauled everything up to Williams Lake Road. A vote was taken to repay the crew for travel expenses. Decisions will be made about the disposition of the machinery and rocks. The Yakima club is interested in acquiring anything we don't want.

One interesting piece of equipment donated was a cabbing machine. We may add that to the shop.

Rita Cordrey has a friend disposing of a collection also.

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The Keystone and Edna

By Joseph Barreca

Photos by Deborah Danielson



[Mark and Deborah Danielson at the Keystone Quarry]

Thanks to members Mark and Deborah Danielson we have some great pictures of the field trip on June 13th to the Keystone Quarry and Edna Mines. There is another Keystone Quarry and a Keystone Mine in Stevens County. The two locations of this field trip are on either side of Klines Meadows Road just west of Waitts Lake. The Keystone has Brucite, Dolomite, Serpentine and Vesuvianite. Brucite is a Oxide of Be, Mg and the alkaline earths - probably no one cares. Vesuvianite, was re-named "vesuvian" in 1795 by Abraham Gottlob Werner after its discovery locality, Mount Vesuvius, Campania, Italy. Well, we are not in Italy and the beautiful green and red crystal shown in the references for it may be hard to find in this quarry. Still the serpentine formations made this quarry productive and it is still popular with rockhounds. The most impressive part of the Keystone is the large interconnected grottos left by extracting the stone. They were probably easier to navigate in a dry year like this one since there would be no pools of water left on the floor.

Date	Place	Rocks	Meet
July 19th	Silver Valley	Geology Tour with Andy Buddington	Meet at 8 am at the "Mineral Ridge" boat launch along Wolf Lodge Bay on Lake CDA.
July 19th	Horseshoe Mtn	Quartz Crystals/Fluorite	Meet at Intersection Hwy 20/Hwy 21 at 10am
July 23rd, 24th, 30th, Aug 6th	Kinross Buckhorn Mine	Gold Mine tour is filled. Those signed up will have background checks.	Meet at Kettle Falls Harvest Foods Parking lot. Leave by 7 AM
Sept 11-14	Redtop Mtn in Wenatchee	Geodes	With mineral club
Sept 25-28	Little Naches River Yakima	Geodes	with Spokane Club

Becky Dobbs reported that "treasures" were found, and there was a good turnout for the June 13th field trip to the Keystone and Edna mines up the Browns Quarry Rd.

Joe Barreca scanned a book of old mining claims in the area. It's on the webpage in a PDF file or you may purchase a copy from Joe for \$20.

Becky Dobbs, Kathy Fritz and Jan Hurley volunteered to bring juice and snacks to the July 21st meeting.

Cyndie Doppler won the door prize drawing.

There was a nice article in the Statesman Examiner about Barreca Vineyards that Joe and Cheryl own and operate.

Many thanks to Ginger Pitman for stepping back in to the Secretary position while the Sebrights visited Florida, and a thank you ahead of time to Luci Bristow for doing the same in July while Anni visits a friend in Illinois. You're both appreciated.

end



[Rock arches at the Keystone Quarry]

The Edna is a mine, and not a quarry. There are thousands of feet of drifts with levels at



100, 200 and 300 feet. Although there may be some consternation that one entrance was dynamited by the state, that is probably a wise precaution. The property was discovered in 1896 by Axel Herman. Early shipments of ore included some gold. Later shipments included chalcopryite (the main copper ore), pyrite, arsenopyrite (yes - significant amounts of arsenic), tetrahedrite (copper, zinc, sulfur etc.), bornite (aka peacock copper), malachite (green), azurite (blue), chalcocite (copper and sulfur) and melanconite (basically copper rust). So there is a whole lot of copper going on at the Edna.

[Malachite conglomerate and azurite stains.]

The green rocks formed from copper that dissolved in acidic water from rain and roots and dried out again binding other rock fragments together were a great find, maybe not for a rock shop, but certainly for a rock garden. The group that managed to make this field trip was very happy with what they found. Thanks to Scott Jackson and Becky Dobbs for organizing and leading another fun trip for the club.

Check Out These Rocks

from Johnie Pitman



[Some of the finished rocks in our collection.]

Getting the rock donation from MT was just part of the job. Thank you Jerry Novack, Gene Fisher and Cheryl for the labor and moving vehicles. (But thanks most of all to Johnie and Ginger Pitman for working out the transfer and storing this huge collection at their place.)

The collection is now ready for any members to come/view/purchase. If you will contact Pitmans (684-8887) starting July 27 they will be glad to load your rocks and collect your money all of which goes to the scholarship fund.

After the club has a chance to buy than we would like to invite members of the clubs of Newport/Rockrollers/Chief Joseph Club of Omak to come/ view/ purchase beginning Aug 1.

There is a large collection of minerals, slabs, tumbling material, findings, cabs, and numerous odds & ends, just odd rocks, polishes, some really great stones, etc. We are sure you'll find **something**.



A Bit about the Buckhorn

Notes from Bob Bristow



[Kinross Buckhorn Mine]

Our original reservation of tours of the Buckhorn mine has changed somewhat. For the lucky 20 people who signed up for the tour, it is still on. The dates have been changed however because Kinross only invites 5 people at a time to see this mine. Now tours are scheduled for July 23rd at 12 Noon, July 24th at 11 AM, July 30th at 12 Noon and August 6th at 11 AM. Those of you who have been notified should meet two hours ahead of time at Harvest Foods in Kettle Falls. Besides the limited number of people at a time, Kinross does background checks on everyone it invites. So if you are in one of these groups, you know you will be in safe company.



[The "small" trucks used underground.]

The primary mining method employed is cut and fill, with a target production rate of 900 metric tonnes per day. The Buckhorn mine ore is trucked 75 kilometers (46 miles) to the Kettle River Mill, which has a capacity of 1,800 tonne per day. The mine is a good distance from Curlew, Washington. The easiest way to get there is to get behind one of their huge highway ore trucks and follow it to the mine. (I said "easy". I didn't say "dust free".)

White Stone Calcium Tour

by Bob Bristow



[Our group at White Stone in Chewelah]

Eight of us met on July 11th at the plant behind the big smokestack south of Chewelah. The Manager, Chuck Smith met us in the yard, welcomed us, and gave us a safety lecture. Chuck and our group are shown in the Figure. They have 14 full-time employees including four out at the pit. The processing starts with a large jaw crusher and then the material is fed through a gyratory crusher. After screening, the over-sized stones were rerun through the gyratory crusher. They have a number of pits for each of a number of colors. All pits are all in the Chewelah area except for the green stone, which is shipped in.



[Some of the 13 colors of rocks from the site.]

Chuck then turned us loose and said we could take anything we could carry. We found the facility much larger than it had looked from the highway. There were piles of both as-mined rock and crushed material in seven or eight colors. Each of the colors has a special name and Chuck offered to give us a list of minerals in each type of rock.

Chuck was very friendly and may be coming to some of our meetings. He invited us back whenever we wanted.

Sharon Borgford had this to say about the rocks she collected: " I did get a little information. Their website www.whitestonecalcium.com says 13 different colors and has photos. I only collected samples of 7 of them and picture is attached. They have given them trade names: Champayne (Magnesite/Marble) comes from the Red Marble quarry, China White and Valley Beige (Marbles) come from the Kelly Hill/Barstow quarry, Jet Black (Limestone) from along the Addy/Gifford road, and Valley Yellow (possibly a meta-quartzite/conglomerate?) from a quarry just west of Chewelah. In my photo, going clockwise starting with the whitest: China White, Valley Beige, Valley Yellow, Valley Red (looks like argillite???), Champayne, Jet Black, and Valley Gray (marble)."

Cedar Ridge



[The Landscape near the Cedar Ridge Prospect]

A friend and I looked for a Beryl and a Diopside prospect on Cedar Ridge south of Sherman Pass last week. We discovered that the Bureau of Mines GPS locations are not all that reliable. In one area we could not even find bedrock. The scenery, huckleberries and other finds though made it a fun trip. To the right is a very old whiskey bottle found at the site and some quartzite with books of mica (muscovite) imbedded in it.



Chips From The Outcrop

By Bruce Hurley

For three days last week, we were able to view an air show from our very own back deck, but it was certainly not one we chose to attend. The Little Spokane wildfire was burning our way, the flames spreading across the ridges north of the Little Spokane River, only to be beaten back by a small air force of airplanes and helicopters. Fire Boss floatplanes made dozens of barely-above-the-burning-trees runs to drop water scooped from Lake Spokane onto the hills, while a large jet air tanker dropped fire retardant on the burning area. Vintage Department of Natural Resources (DNR) choppers, including Jet Rangers, Hueys and a Chinook dropped big to huge (5500 gallons, for the Chinook) buckets of lake water on hot spots, in what resembled a rotary-winged Vietnam air re-enactment. Not as visible but also doing hard and dangerous work, in 100-degree weather, were the DNR ground crews. It took more than four days, but the DNR team stopped the fire without loss of life or structures, a fine job all around.



So why am I writing about the fire in the club newsletter? Because seeing this one first-hand makes me want to reinforce the need for us to be extremely careful on our collecting trips, whenever we go in the field, under these drought conditions. These fires are extremely hard to control, especially in rough and remote terrain, and cost great amounts of effort and money to extinguish. So be sure to park your vehicle so that nothing flammable can touch anything potentially

hot under your vehicle. Avoid campfires of any kind unless in a campground still allowing fires. If you smoke, be certain to crush out cigarette or cigar butts completely in bare dirt, away from anything which could burn. Not smoking outside your vehicle might be an even better idea, and never, ever toss a burning cigarette out your window. If you are using any type of powered equipment or power cords, be sure these items are not getting too hot or sitting on potential tinder materials.



Unlike for most other people, there can be a minor upside to fires, for rock collectors. As you can now plainly see on the hills north of the Little Spokane River near the Spokane House, many more rocks are exposed than a week ago, and the same situation applies in the area northeast of Ford, from the Rail Canyon fire. In this case, fire has provided the opportunity to see new rock exposures, which might be worth a visit, once cooler and wetter weather again prevails. Here is hoping that these are the only new exposures in our area, for a long time.



(Thanks Bruce for the heads up and the great photography.)

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: <http://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).

Denmark: Bronze Age gold spirals unearthed in field

from the BBC News



Archaeologists are mystified by nearly 2,000 tiny golden spirals dug up in a field in eastern Denmark.

The coils, made from thin filaments about 3cm (1in) long, date from between 900BC and 700BC, according to Flemming Kaul of the National Museum in Copenhagen. But he and his colleagues aren't quite sure what they have found.

Notes

The program for the July meeting is a video entitled the "Royal Tyrrell Museum," featuring the Canadian museum east of Calgary, which hosts one of the world's best fossil displays.



"The fact is we don't know what they were for, although I'm inclined to think they were part of a priest-king's robes, perhaps a fringe on a head-piece or parasol, or maybe woven into cloth," he says on the [museum's website](#). The gold spirals will go on display at Skaelskor City Museum next week.

They were unearthed in the Boeslunde area, a rich source of Bronze Age gold artifacts. Several gold cups and rings have been found there in the past 200 years. Remnants of a fur-lined box uncovered nearby suggest the coils were cult objects from the time when the Danes' ancestors worshipped the Sun, according to West Zealand Museum archaeologist Kirsten Christiansen. She is conducting further digs in the area, in case there's more treasure lying beneath the soil.

Question: Did anyone from our club go on the field trip to McDermitt on June 21st? I sure would like some pictures and a story.

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	509-935-4375
Secretary:	Anni Sebright	POB 293, Clayton, WA 99110	509-276-2693
Treasurer:	Johnie Pitman	701 B Williams Lake Rd, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-8887
Trustee 1:	Gene Fisher	295 Gold Creek Loop Rd, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-8546
Trustee 2:	Bill Sebright	POB 293, Clayton, WA 99110	509-276-2693
Trustee 3:	Becky Dobbs	968 Phillpott Rd, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-6931
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	509-684-6371
Historian:	Carol Price	PO Box 77, Laurier, WA 99146	509-684-2857
Newsletter:	Joseph Barreca	2109 Hwy 25 South, Kettle Falls, WA 99141	509-738-6155
Show Chair	Bill Allen	2633 Highline Rd, Chewelah, WA 99109	935-8779, 936-2446