

Place: Arden
Community Club
Hall Rd
Arden, WA



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

The Panorama Prospector

October 2015

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club Minutes - September 15, 2015

Luci Bristow

Our president Bruce Hurley opened the meeting with 41 members present. Bob Bristow discussed field trips which were a bit curtailed due to dry, hot weather and fire danger. There is a three day Federation trip to Succor Creek in Id. The Rock Rollers are leading a trip to Little Naches, on September 25-27.

Bob was also proud to announce that he and Luci will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary and invited the members to join them in a party.

Treasurer's report was given. Checks for five of the six scholarships have been written. Discussions were held about how to dispose of the remaining rock donations, selling parts or the whole lot. Bev will help by contacting some of the clubs to the south of us. Pricing will have to be discussed.

New business includes the nominating committee made up of three volunteers. Those who bravely agreed are: Vinita, Luci, Bill. Thank you. The committee needs to present their selections at the Oct meeting. Voting will take place in Nov and new officers will take on the duties in Dec.

Luci asked for refreshments for next meeting and volunteers were: Vanita, Bill and Kathy.

Bill, as show chairman, has asked that our show theme be chosen at the Oct meeting so it can be included in the letter to the dealers. Two suggestions were given: My favorite rocks; These gems gather no moss.

The club gave a big Thank You to Scott for his work on the field trips.

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Naches Thundereggs

By Deborah Danielson



[Carl Buchholz - Yakima Rock & Mineral Club]

On Friday, Sept. 25, 2015, Ken Junt – the Yakima Rock & Mineral Club's president, agreed to meet two of Colville's Panorama club members – Deborah Danielson and Sarah Hardwick in Naches to escort / head, a field trip out to the dig site of thundereggs and fossils. Due to conflicting schedules, the two women were not able to join-up with Spokane's Rock Rollers headed by Mike Shaw and his club members at the Kaner Flat campgrounds, to go out digging for eggs on the following day, Saturday.

When Ken was contacted and the query made, Ken stated he had just gotten his cast off, and was wondering when he'd have an opportunity to go out to the thunder egg dig site, as with said cast on during his club's recent field trip out there, he had to miss that opportunity to go. So Ken happily agreed to lead the club members from outside his area, and their Yakima family members, that Deborah and Sarah traveled to see, six in all.

Accompanying Ken was Carl Buchholz, who laughingly referred to his geology knowledge as a college class adventure. Carl told our group that we were hunting for nodule-like rocks, which when I found one, reminded me of a "bumpy" golf ball. The Thunder egg is formed within rhyolitic volcanic ash layers. These rough spheres can get to be the size of a

Joe does the monthly newsletter and asked for help; he needs articles mostly so if you have done some interesting rock things this summer or ever, please write it up and send to Joe. Informative articles, events, how to articles are all welcome.

Brian made a motion that next year we give three \$1000 scholarships. Motion passed.

As we were unable to identify the winner of the last raffle, it was decided to redraw and the winner of the agate was Jim Nance. Congratulations.

After the refreshments and silent auction, the program was "Sedimentary and Vein Agates".

Thank goodness Anni is back.

end

baseball or even a cantaloupe, but can also be very small – less than an inch. I found a slab with embedded eggs in a variety of sizes, but none the size of cantaloupes. The chalcedony centers could have been fractured – then followed by deposition of Agate, Jasper, Opal, Quartz, or Gypsum crystals.

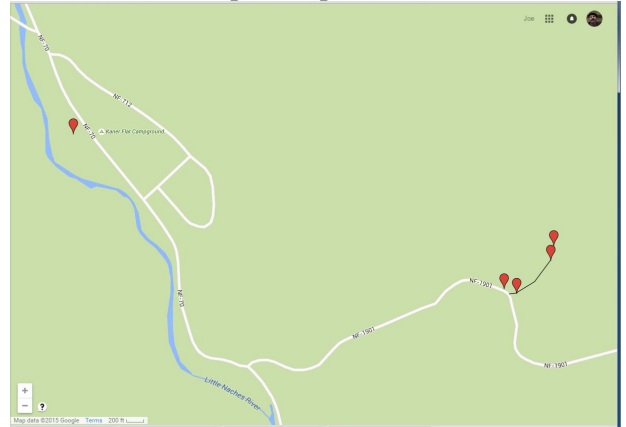


[A slab with nodules attached from the Naches site.]

Ken and Carl led us to the first dig site for thunder eggs, and showed us the trail leading to the area, but we did not stop and explore, as Carl wanted to take us to a slide area where fossils were being found. We all found several nice specimens of fossils of leaves, ferns and twigs. Carl informed us that silica replaced the plant structures, so we would not be looking for petrified wood in this sandstone ledge of the Naches formation. He went on to say that this material was laid down some 36 – 43 million years ago.

With the hot lava flowing, its viscous makeup trapped bubbles, which Carl referred to a pop can under pressure. When the rhyolitic material cooled, it cooled so fast, minerals didn't have time to

crystalize. It did later, and linear formations of eggs were laid down. I found several specimens of this effect which were quite impressive.



[Kaner Flat Camping on left, rock site on right.]

From Yakima, it takes approx. 17 – 20 minutes to reach Naches. Traveling West on Hwy 12 for 4.4 miles, until reaching Hwy. 410. Continue on Hwy. 410 for 24.2 miles. Turn right on Little Naches Road. Take Forest Service Road 19 and follow for 2.5 miles. The Kaner Flat Campground that Mike Shaw and the Spokane Rock Rollers reserved, is on the left side of the road and the river runs parallel to the campground area.



[Carl holding a leaf fossil from the same area.]

The Boulder Cave recreation area is nearby and fun for children to explore. The Bumping Lake is an excellent fishing destination that my family and I used frequently when I lived in Yakima for 19 years. <http://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/okawen/recarea/?recid=58133>

Additional WA sites : East side of Mt. Rainier near Cayuse Pass. Along with Puyallup which is 33 miles from Mt. Rainier. Red Top Mt. near Ellensburg, which is 40 miles from the Naches egg area. In Issaquah Valley : N.W. of the tower, and one mile on the west slope are Geodes.

Editor's Note: Deborah sent a LOT more pictures with this article. They are in a gallery on our website.

Great Lakes, Great Corals

Bruce Hurley

The Great Lakes are so large that from the shore they look very much like the ocean. But these lakes are fresh water, so they cannot possibly contain corals, right? At least that is what I thought, until a recent trip to Michigan.

Our daughter Erin and her husband Nick now live in Chicago, but Nick grew up in Michigan. So, during a recent visit east, Jan and I rode with Erin and Nick way up north to Petoskey, near the northern end of Lake Michigan. It was a long ride through forests and beautiful farm country, but there was scarcely a rock to be seen the entire way. Petoskey, however, is famous for rocks called Petoskey Stones, rounded lake pebbles noted for the beautiful geometric patterns they display when polished. "Petoskeys" are so popular that in 1995 they were named the State Rock of Michigan. So, we expected that our rock drought might end, once we reached our destination.

The wind was blowing hard when we arrived the afternoon of the first day in Petoskey, and it continued to blow all through the chilly, gray next day. The day we were to leave dawned partly sunny and still, so this was our chance to walk the shore and see if Jan and I could find a few of the famous stones. We chose the beach at Bay Harbor just outside the city proper, behind which there are excavated cliffs of gray limestone. At the west end of the beach, there was a rock wall built of this limestone, and a brief inspection of the boulders revealed a number of fossils, including corals. These corals turn out to be very, very old, from the Devonian Geologic Period (about 400 million years ago), deposited as part of ancient marine reefs, later encased in limestone.



As we looked closely along the beach, we began to find the similar corals, a type of colonial coral called *Hexagonaria*, comprising all or part of many pebbles. These are the corals most common in Petoskey Stones, eroded from rocks laid down in ancient seas vast ages ago. We also found other fossilized sea creatures including a variety of shells, some similar to modern scallops. Later in the morning we accompanied Erin, Nick and his parents on a visit to another nearby beach, where fossil horn corals and crinoids can also be found.



As rocks from the beach Petoskey Stones are impressive, but polished they can be spectacular.



(Courtesy of eHow.com)

The weather may not be quite right for palm trees and the water is fresh and cold, but there are definitely corals in Lake Michigan, and they are worth finding.

National Fossil Day - October 14th, 2015

Stonerose Eocene Fossils celebrated National Fossil Day a little early with lectures, an auction, a dig and a dinner on Oct. 9-11. Learn more at <http://stonerosefossil.org/>.

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT

by Johnie Pitman

The 12th annual retreat was held Sept. 7th until Sept. 13th At the Hancock Field Station in central Oregon. The camp site is rented by the NFMS from OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry) for the purpose of offering classes on fields of study related to rocks.[Welcome to the world of Learning, Sharing, Participating and Active fellowship with the rockhound community. You will meet those fellow rockhounds who are just beginning the journey, those who are enjoying the journey and those who are trying to keep the journey going.



[The picture has a small Cary plum agate(doublet) in the center with an opal on each side(triplets)and a large Cary plum (doublet) on the left and a Texas plum agate (doublet) on the right. The letter opener handle is lace amethyst with a slash of purple gold stone (intarsia) capped with optical quartz.]

The classes that are offered are silver smithing, casting, faceting, wire wrapping, lapidary (making cabs), intarsia, doublets & triplets, and beading. The instructors are all very accomplished in the area that they teach and provide a lot of one on one help. You will be amazed at what you will be able to make.

The area is remote and the conditions are rustic, no tv or cell service, but lots of nice people and plenty of good food. The rooms are "A" frame buildings that have 6 bunks, and a short walk to the rest room, yes they flush. I recommend that you try it if you can get away the week after Labor Day. The cost is around \$300 for the week, that includes room and board. There is only room for 50 people and several go every year so you will need to get your reservations in early. Contact Lamar Tilgner sometime in March or early April, there will be information in the Northwest Newsletter and on their web site. www.amfed.org/nfms

This year I took the class for doublets & triplets and included some intarsia.

Marcus Ciderfest

by Debrorah Danielson



[Johnie Pitman's rock booth at the Marcus Ciderfest.]

On Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015, Colville's Panorama Gem & Mineral Club hosted a booth at the Marcus Ciderfest in Marcus, WA. Gene Fisher and Sheryl helped Johnie and Ginger Pitman set up a canopy, tables and set out boxes and boxes of donated items brought back from a Montana contributor. Scott Jackson, Larry Engles & Arden Fritz joined the other club members in manning the booth and helping out with sales.

Johnie Pitman said the Montana donation sales were a success and he was pleased with the day's events. He also has posted an ad in the N.W. newsletter and website that the Montana donated items are now available so other club members can call him to set up a time to go to his house and look at anything they are interested in seeing.

A Special Note

Early this month, illness struck the family of long-time club members. This situation will continue to impact the family, including young children, for some time to come. The family's immediate and possible future needs will be discussed at the October meeting. Please bring your thoughts on how the Panorama Club could possibly assist these members, and how you might be able to contribute.

Bristows Celebrate 60th Anniversary



[Luci and Bob Bristow with son Dale.]
[Pictures from Bill Sebright]

Friends of Luci and Bob Bristow gathered at the Bristows' hilltop home to join in the celebration of their 60-year marriage. Bob and his long time friends Lemmie and Norm gave us their version of the Luci/Bob love story. Sometimes there were protestations from the sidelines, but other times Luci vouchsafed and



added to the tale. For instance, did you know our Cherokee /Irish Luci, who was raised by Swedes, was an unruly child? Not our Luci. Good food, good friends, good weather,

and plenty of good wishes cast a golden glow over the day. Congratulations, Luci and Bob.

Jim Creek Field Trip



[Deborah Danielson at Jim Creek Mine.]
[Picture by Bruce Hurley]

The Jim Creek Mine has long been a favorite rock site for members of the PGMC. Field trip coordinator, Scott Jackson, reports that not only was there still a lot of galena & pyrite to be found. The road is "like a freeway" now. Former visitors remember that you were pretty-much guaranteed to have bush scratches on both sides of your rig after previous trips.

On September 19th, a part of rockhounds from our club visited it again. As usual this year, the weather was great and evidently the road was too. There is a more extensive article on the Jim Creek Mine in the February 2008 newsletter:

<http://panoramagem.com/News/2008/News0208.pdf>



[PGMC Club President, Bruce Hurley at Jim Creek.]

As editor of this newsletter, I want to thank all of the contributors to this edition, especially Deborah Danielson, but also Johnie Pitman, Scott Jackson, Bruce Hurley, Bill and Anni Sebright and Luci Bristow. Editor: Joe Barreca

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).

THE HIGHEST SIERRA



Join geologist Andy Buddington from Spokane Community College, for a talk about a 200-mile hiking traverse following the crest of one of the world's great mountain ranges; the

Sierra Nevada of California. This slideshow will highlight the fascination geology and spectacular beauty of the highest Sierra.

A Blue Sulfur Volcano



For several years Paris-based photographer [Olivier Grunewald](#) has been documenting the [Kawah Ijen](#) volcano in Indonesia, where dazzling, electric-blue fire can often be seen streaming down the mountain at night.

"This blue glow—unusual for a volcano—isn't, of course, lava, as unfortunately can be read on many websites," Grunewald told National Geographic in an email about Kawah Ijen, a volcano on the island of Java.

The glow is actually the light from the combustion of sulfuric gases, Grunewald explained.

Those gases emerge from cracks in the volcano at high pressure and temperature—up to 1,112°F (600°C). When they come in contact with the air, they ignite, sending flames up to 16 feet (5 meters) high. Some of the gases condense into liquid sulfur "which continues to burn as it flows down the slopes," said Grunewald, "giving the feeling of lava flowing."

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