

Place: Arden
Community Club
Hall Rd
Arden, WA



Time 7:00 PM
Third Tuesday
April - November
6:00 PM December -
March

The Panorama Prospector

July 2016

Panoram Gem and Mineral Club

June 19, 2016, Minutes

by Anni Sebright

Bob Bristow had another meeting scheduled that he needed to get to, so field trip reports opened the meeting.

On June 11th 17 vehicles, including some Rock Rollers, arrived at Horseshoe Mountain west of Curlew Lake for the gathering of quartz crystals, calcite crystals and smaller druzy ones.

The Flagstaff Mountain trip was a "no go" with weather being the determining factor.

A new sign-up system for notifications is going to be implemented. A "status of membership" list including phone numbers and email addresses is being developed. Sign-up sheets prior to field trips will include the email addresses and phone numbers for any kind of notifications; and if you are not able to go, please let Jerry Novak or Bruce Hurley know.

The Saturday, July 9th, field trip to Adams Mountain near Hunters will meet at the gas station in Fruitland at 10 A.M. Make sure you have plenty of gas in your vehicle. A real GPS system is a good tool to bring as cell phones with a GPS app. can be iffy. A topographical map with coordinates is also handy. Scot has been to Adams Mountain since the fires. Caterpillar tractors have been in there so the roads are better. Epidote, quartz, smoky quartz and garnets can be found there. Remember to wear or bring sturdy closed-toe shoes, gloves, eye protection, shovel, pick and pry bar. Also, bring something to carry your "treasures" home with you.

Scholarships were awarded, and we're hoping for better participation from the counselors for the non 4 year programs.

continued on Page 2

The Lonestar Mine

by Joseph Barreca



[Lonestar Mine pit and pond]

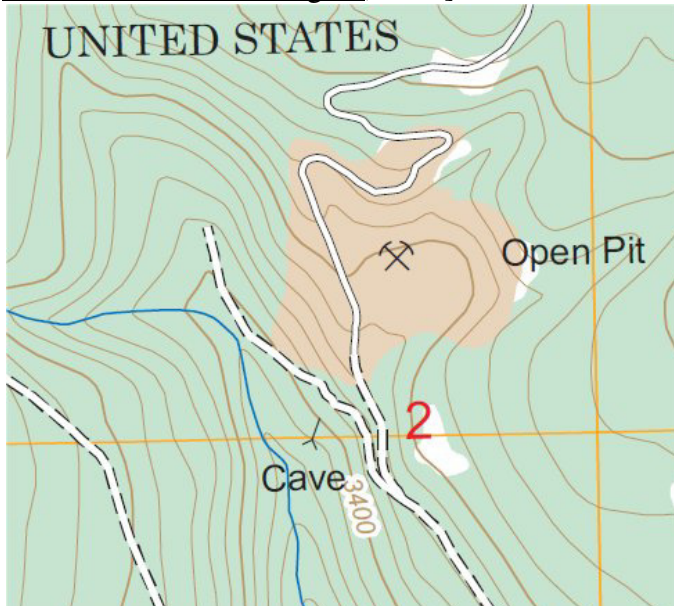
Ten years ago on October 7th, 2006, The Panorama Gem and Mineral Club went on a field trip led by Rex Barrans to the Lonestar Mine. Somehow I neglected to write an article about it but even now, so many years later, I remember it as one of the most interesting places in Northeast Washington for rockhounds. Luckily I still have some photos and they have dates on them. That might be typical for the Lonestar, a hot start followed by obscurity. The mine sits at the northernmost part of the Big Goosmus Road in Ferry County. The road actually goes over the border into Canada and so does the ore body. The Lonestar and its sister mine, The Lost City of Paris, which sits just over the border, a half mile away, are copper deposits. They consist of older sedimentary rocks, laid down on the ocean floor 41 to 31 million years ago that have been broken up by time, pressure and movement. Injected into those older rocks are dikes (a type of later vertical rock between older layers of rock) formed by molten magma intruding into the older rocks 18 million years ago when the major volcanics of the Curlew Valley occurred and cooled in place. "The mineralization in the metamorphic rocks (old ocean floor) is thought to owe its origin

Snacks and juice for the July 19th meeting will be provided by the R's, S's and V's - - there are no T's. Deborah Danielson's cellphone number is 509-207-0447. Her new home phone number is 509-960-1535. Her email address is **mickeesmom.dd@gmail.com** Please let her know what you plan to bring so there's not 8 kinds of cookies and no juice. Also, if you aren't able to be there, it is up to you to find a substitute snack bringer.

Johnie presented a rock identification program, and it's always fun.

See you at 7 P.M. Tuesday night July 19th. *end*

to ore-bearing solutions accompanying the intrusion of monzonite porphyry (granite) and the related rock dikes." [Howland Bancroft, The Ore Deposits of Northeastern Washington, 1914]



[USGS Geo-topo showing open pit and cave]

Closer to the present, Big Goosmus road is named after an Indian named Goosmus. (Older maps spell it Koosmos) "It is said that he had twelve sons and they all died within a month of each other during a smallpox plague." [Report of Ranger Harold Nyberg, 2/2/1940] The major smallpox epidemic in this area occurred in 1853. The mathematics of having 12 sons and no daughters are astronomical. It may be that daughters were just not valued as much as sons. Lonestar, supported a large copper mining district with its smelter in Greenwood British Columbia.

the smelter was famously efficient because the low sulfur ores of the region required less processing.



Recently I brought my daughters and grandkids to the Lonestar, twice. One of the most interesting characteristics of the mine was that if miners left tin cans in the waters that pooled in the mine's tunnels, after a few days they would become plated with shiny copper. One of the most interesting features of the mine when we visited was a pool at the bottom of the open pit where the water was a pure blue. We tossed a couple of cans in the water and a month later returned to see if they had become copper-coated.

Well... not really. The pond had receded leaving the cans high and dry. They had a blue powder coating that wipes off easily. One started to rust and the other did not. So the experiment was a bust but the trip was not. They kids had a blast collecting rocks of all kinds. There are a lot of rocks with a green malachite stain on them and a very few with dark blue azurite. Since very few of the base rocks were white quartz, those stains did not show up as well as similar stains in other mines. What was the best for me was the chalcopyrite, the principle copper ore of the mine. A good deal of it showed the rainbow colors of bornite.

Getting to the mine was another story. When we went with Rex, the road was okay for two wheel drive, perhaps because there were wagon drills up there exploring the deposit. Since then it

has washed out with ruts and puddles that can't be avoided. On top of that, even though it is officially a county road, it is not maintained, marked or used very much, except by the Border Patrol, who showed up driving by on both of our trips.

The good part of this story is the geo-topo map that is shown above. You can download these free from: <http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/maps/topoview/> If you have Adobe Reader, they open like most maps. But if you load them onto a smart phone or tablet that has an internal GPS chip, (Samsung, Apple and Motorola) then you can download an app <http://www.avenza.com/pdf-maps>, called Avenza PDF Map. With the topo map and this app you can follow the map to the location of a mine like the one labeled "cave" on the map in this article and as you get closer, you can zoom into the spot and have your mobile device show exactly where you are on the map. I did that with two adits this last week. Neither one was visible until you were right on top of them. Both turned out to be caved in, but the app and the map worked perfectly.



[My grandson, Ovid, consolidating his collection]

It was great bringing these kids on a rock hounding expedition. They picked up terms like "bornite" and "druse" quickly. Ovid is an avid player of the game, Minecraft, which often involves breaking virtual rock to find treasures. He could hardly wait to go break some real rocks. He knows most of the birth stones and is reading books on minerals. It would be great if we could provide more opportunities for this raw enthusiasm to express itself in the real world.

Clarkia Fossils

by Sharon Borgford

Here are some tips I have learned regarding the fossils someone might collect at the Fossil Bowl trip in August. You might be able to verify my information further or might already have this information, and I can't remember all of my sources.



First of all, the black leaves, insects, etc., that are revealed on the slabs when first broken out are not replacement fossils, where another substance has replaced the original organic carbon in the leaves - you are looking at the original carbon. This can flake or rub off very easily. Also, the siltstone and mudstone are not lithified - they can contain the original moisture present when the layers were formed.

What this means is that the samples must be dried very slowly if you want to avoid them cracking apart and ruining the fossil. I collected there back in 1972, when it was first becoming a popular place. I collected a box full of mostly leaves, and someone at the time advised me to wrap them gently in newspaper. I literally did not open them again until last summer when I was moving my older collection to a new location. All were in excellent shape. Unknown to me until recently, the wrapping in paper and just being kept there until they were completely dry was the best thing I could have done. I do not know how long it takes them to dry for an average piece, since I stored mine for so long (I doubt if anyone wants to wait 40 years like I did).

My next question was - how do I preserve them from here on? I was tempted to spray them with something, but thankfully decided to call Stonerose first to see if they had any advice. They did some research on the fossils from that particular site and this is what

they told me: wrapping in newsprint until completely dry was the best first step. Now that they are dry, the carbon will still flake off, but if a spray is used, it will bond to the whole surface area and possibly contract and peel off the whole layer, also ruining the fossil. So my decision so far is to leave them alone and protect them the best I can.



The photo above doesn't look like much, but it is the wings of a beetle that still was iridescent green when first exposed at the site. It only took a few minutes for that original color to fade. I did not find any fish during that collecting trip.

Montezuma's Castle

Pictures and Story from Deborah Danielson



Montezuma Castle, about 5 miles north of Camp Verde near Sedona, AZ. is not really a castle, obviously, but a preserved cliff dwelling carved into the sandstone cliffs high above Beaver Creek. Montezuma was never there. But early settlers erroneously connected the Aztec emperor to these

ruins. Montezuma wasn't born until after the ruins were abandoned.

The 5-story, 20 room cliff dwelling stands like a high-rise ancient apartment building standing guard over the valley below. It was built by the Sinaqua Indian Tribe (which means "without water"), about 700 years ago. Some believe they were eliminated through conflict with the Yavapai Indians who still exist today. The prehistoric Hohokam Indians inhabited the valley hundreds of years before the Sinaquas arrived and built irrigation systems for farming that provided equal value to the Sinaquas, who also farmed the fertile land. There is evidence they mined salt in the area.

Red Rocks of Sedona

Pictures and Story from Deborah Danielson



The famous red rocks of Sedona, AZ are formed by a layer of rock known as the Schnebly Hill Formation. The Schnebly Hill formation is a thick layer of red to orange-colored sandstone found only in the Sedona vicinity. The sandstone, a member of the Supai Group, was deposited during the Permian Period.



Sharpening Stones

Dave Keeley is testing various natural stones for use in sharpening steel tools. This is a slab of Jasper from

our rock show. You can check out his blog at <http://keeleyguitars.blogspot.com/>.

Chips From The Outcrop

By Bruce Hurley

This has been an interesting summer so far, and especially so for our field trip schedule. The scheduled trip to Adams Mountain near Fruitland on Saturday, July 9, had to be cancelled, due to access problems. Several weeks back, a scouting trip noted that a new gate had been placed across the road two miles from the collecting locality, but was not locked. All of this changed by the middle of last week, when another trip found the gate now securely locked.



[Carpenter Road Fire aftermath]

Given a late June story in the Spokane Spokesman-Review newspaper, the closure of this road is quite understandable. This story described in detail how hard-hit the Fruitland area was by last August's major wildfire, and how people have since looted the now-unoccupied former home sites. While I am pretty sure that rockhounds did not participate in the looting, the area closure brings home a point to remember: visitors should *never* take any items from properties on rock-collecting trips, except the rocks themselves. Many a

collecting site in the desert southwest has been closed to collecting due to the taking of "souvenirs" as large as ore carts, which the claim owners were still using on mining trips to their properties!



[Bill Allen grilling burgers last August]

Please remember that August is the month of the annual Panorama Club picnic, to be held under the trees at the Arden Community Center at 6 p.m. on August 16, 2016. So, mark your calendars, plan a light lunch that day and think about what you might want to bring. And please don't tell the local yellow jackets.

Agate Fields

by Joseph Barreca



[A handful of agates from the agate fields]

A lady at this year's rock show said she found lots of agates in an area between Lundimo Meadow's road and Empire Creek Road in Ferry County. I checked it out with my daughter, April, for Father's Day. Despite the rain, we found a lot of agates, some of decent size, mostly white nodules. This formation is southwest of Franson Peak but the roads need high clearance vehicles. Ask me if you want more specific instructions.

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).

July Program

You probably noticed that this newsletter is very late. **Map Metrics** had major printer problems that ran on for over two weeks.

August is our potluck BBQ. The club and Bill Allen will provide hamburgers and hot dogs. The rest is up to you. **Come at 6 PM on August 16th. Bring your appetite and some rocks to trade after dinner.**

Huge Diamonds Found

On 16 November 2015 Tiroyaone Mathaba was sorting through rocks at the Karowe mine in Botswana when he spotted what turned out to be the 1,109 carat diamond, the size of a tennis ball. Mr Mathaba's discovery, the Lesedi la Rona, which means "our light" in the Tswana language, wasn't the only big gem discovered that week - two other huge diamonds were found from the same mine



within 72 hours. Lucara, the company that owns the mine, found a 239 carat diamond two years earlier. At that time it was standard practice to break down any kimberlite

ore to 30mm before putting it through the sorting machine. Now they x-ray the ore for carbon before smashing \$100 million dollar diamonds to pieces.

<u>Trip</u>	<u>Mineral</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting Time/Place</u>
Metaline Falls quarry	(trilobites, brachiopods)	7/23/16 (Sat.)	Train station, Ione, 10:00 am
Emerald Creek; Clarkia Bowl, ID	(garnets; plant/fish fossils)	8/13,14,15,16	Yoke's Fresh Market, Deer Park, 9:00 am

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 2:	Gene Fisher	295 Gold Creek Loop Rd, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-8546
Trustee 3:	Bill Allen	2633 Highline Rd, Chewelah, WA 99109	935-8779, 936-2446
Trustee 1:	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:	Debora Danielson	1365 Arthur Ct, Kettle Falls, WA 99141	509-738-9260
Club Shop:	Gene Fisher	295 Gold Creek Loop Rd, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-8546
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