

Place: Arden
Community Club
Hall Rd
Arden, WA



Time 7:00 PM
Third Tuesday
April - September
6:00 PM October -
March & August

The Panorama Prospector

June 2017

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club Minutes June 20th

Vice President Bob Bristow lead our meeting by welcoming guests and the grandsons of Sheila and Frank Straton, and 36 members.

The treasurer's report was read. Acting secretary read a Thank You note from this year's Chewelah scholarship winner Emily Rowe.

The subject of charging or not charging admission for our show was brought to the floor. Motion was passed not to charge admission.

It was explained that the donations at the entrance go to our scholarship fund only. The show provides funds for club expenses. Dealer fees pay for the building. Games and silent auction go to the club. Bill will research on our dealer fees compared to other local shows. Treasurer Johnie will put together the costs and profits of the show to see if we do really need more revenue. It was discussed maybe new ways we could push and explain what our front door donations are for. New reader boards, monitor continuous running's, pictures of past winners, letters to the editor, making sure people are aware that their donations are for high school scholarships.

There will be a field trip to Horse Shoe Mt. for quartz crystals on July 9th. Meet at Harvest Foods, it is an hour and a half drive. Hard rock mining.

Joe has heard of ammonites found on or near Pinkston Creek, still researching.

June 24 is the rock trip to Sherry Bamberger's.

Gene wanted the club to know if you travel or play in the National Forest in an ATV you need to have in your possession 4 maps (free) from the National Forest. Fines are up to \$500.

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Geology Snapshots - Hwy 395 from Arden to Deer Park

by Sharon Borgford



Google Earth photo - ripple marks

PART 7 Loon Lake Area

Since leaving the valley of the Colville River south of Chewelah, there have only been three instances where bedrock was exposed alongside the highway. The rest of the road cuts have displayed glacial remnants, and we will continue through yet more glacial features.

The story of the Missoula Floods and their route across Washington State is widely publicized (see Ice Age Flood Institute website at www.iafi.org and hugefloods.com). The majority of the information about them focuses on the discharge from Lake Pend Oreille in the Rathdrum, Idaho, area and their subsequent route through the Spokane valley and over the channeled scablands of central Washington; however, there were also northern routes that part of the flows traveled.

One of the features scattered throughout the routes of the multiple floods are ripple marks. They look like the same kind seen on stream bottoms and seashores; however, those that were left by the Missoula Floods were on a gigantic scale due to the

Aug 15 will be our club picnic. The club will furnish the meat, prepared by our very own "# 1 chef" Bill Allen. The rest will be "pot luck". The club will provide silverware, plates, drinks, etc. Bring your own chair and something to join in on the tailgating swap and fun.

Motion made and passed to buy the plywood for the show tables. Work day will be in late July or early August.

Gene urged anyone who can to attend Tri-country land use meetings or other such public meeting they hear of.

The door prize was won by Sheryl Whitney.

Bob Bristow told wild stories about rock hounding and other things.

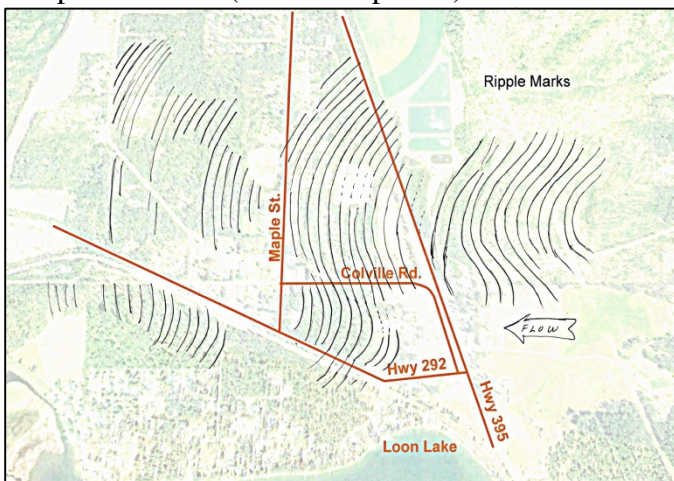
The meeting adjourned early due to nobody had the DVD for the program. Maybe third time's a charm!!

If your last name ends in: S T U V, it is your turn to bring light snacks.

end

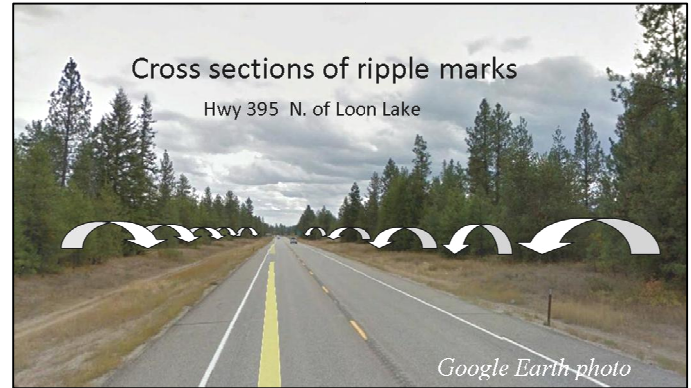
(Geology Snapshots continued)

huge volume of water that surged across the landscape in short periods of time. Other names for them are current dunes or current ripples. They are often very hard to see from ground level and it wasn't until airplanes came into use that these features were positively identified and studied extensively. Now we have Google Earth, and anyone can get a really good view of them on a computer screen. (See cover photo.)



One particularly large flood came all the way through the valley east of the town of Loon Lake (Gardenspot Road) and formed a series of current

ripples that occupy the whole town and some of the surrounding area - one square mile's worth.



To get a better view of them, take a short side trip around a block or two in the town. Turn west on Hwy 292 towards Springdale, north (right) on Maple St., right on Colville Rd., and then go back to the highway past the gas station (see previous map). (Notice that the chain link fence in the next photo of Hwy 292 follows the contour of the ripples).



The flood water then squeezed through the drainage of Sheep Creek to the west and went on its way down Chamokane Creek to the Spokane River, (not north into the Colville River which most likely was still filled by a glacier at that time). It is proposed that this flood occurred prior to the formation of the glacial moraine at Springdale mentioned previously, since a flood of this magnitude would have washed away the loose gravel and silt of the moraine which was in the direct path of the flood.

This ripple forming event would have been the last flood to come over this location at Loon Lake for the same reason - the current ripples still exist for us to see. The outwash material underneath these ripples was already in place, having been deposited by prior glaciations. The composition of the flood ripples themselves are of finer material

than the glacial outwash beneath them, and was most likely brought from the Deer Park outwash plain, which we will talk about in a later article.

The lake itself is somewhat unique. The lake surface is 2 sq miles, and the water that supplies it comes through springs and run off from a small 14 square mile drainage area - the smallest ratio of lake surface to watershed area of any lake in the State. Previously there had been no direct surface outlet, as Sheep Creek formed just from springs and water traveling through the deep till that impounds the lake and area to the north. In 1951 a Loon Lake homeowners association legal agreement determined that the maximum height would not exceed an elevation of 2381.25 ft., which still is in effect today. An overflow channel and gate were constructed at the northwest corner of the lake to control this level, sending any overflow towards Sheep Creek. In earlier times, there is geological evidence that the lake overflowed to the south through Beaver Creek and became a part of the Little Spokane River drainage.

A short distance south of the Hwy 292 intersection, a narrow band of ancient metamorphosed sedimentary rocks shows in light colored, weathered road cut outcrops. They are rocks of the Old North American Continent, consisting of quartzite with minor siltite, of the Revett formation.



Google Earth photo - quartzite

Most of the hills surrounding the lake are a type of granite. They are part of a large igneous formation known as the Loon Lake Batholith that intruded the rocks of the Old North American Continent. In Part I you may recall that we talked about plutons, a body of magma that crystallized several kilometers below the Earth's surface.

Large, irregularly shaped plutons are called batholiths, and can be comprised of multiple individual smaller plutonic intrusions. "Batholiths indicate a long period of repeated igneous intrusions over a large area, such as might be expected along a subduction zone." (www.pitt.edu, University of Pittsburgh Dept of Geology and Planetary Science).

The Loon Lake Batholith component immediately surrounding the lake is known as the Silver Point unit. The granite exposed along the highway is called monzogranite (a granite with about equal amounts of the two feldspars Orthoclase and Plagioclase), called quartz monzonite on previous geological maps. It also contains both Hornblende and Biotite, as well as quartz. These rocks are exposed in the road cuts as Highway 395 goes over "Loon Lake Pass" at the southeast end of the lake. You will notice that the first outcrop looks like rounded, crumbly rock - and it is. The monzogranite is in a deteriorated condition, and does easily crumble in your hands. At the top of the pass in the core of the outcrop, the rock is more solid, but as soon as you start down the other side you again see the crumbly version. The fact that these very soft rocks are still here is one of the indications that the glaciers did not come this far south.



Google Earth photos- Loon Lake Pass



We are almost to the end of our journey from Arden to Deer Park - but there are more glacial features and rocks to learn about in the few miles remaining.

References:

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- McLucas, G., 1980, Surficial Geology of the Springdale and Forest Center Quadrangles, Stevens County, Washington, Washington Div. of Geology and Earth Resources, Open file report of 80-3.
- Miller, F.K., 2001, Geologic map of the Chewelah 30'x60' quadrangle, Washington and Oregon: U.S.G.S. Misc. Field Studies Map MF-2354.
- All photographs and illustrations by Sharon Borgford unless otherwise noted.

Field Trip to Sherry Bamberger's



Rockhounds in the Shade
by Ginger Pitman

Fourteen members met at Safeway on June 24. Our trip was to Sherry Bamberger's to see and purchase if desired tons of rocks on display. Geods, thunder eggs, obsidian, crystals, jaspers, agates, sunstones, slabs, petrified wood, and even if you didn't buy anything the good weather, interesting rockhounds, and identifying stuff is always fun.



This was the field part of the field trip.

Show Report for 2017

by Johnie Pitman

I said at the last meeting that I would put the financial report for the 2017 show in the news letter. This was in response to the discussion on wheather or not to charge at the door or raise dealer fees.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| INCOME: | |
| Dealer Fees @ \$9 for 1 front foot of table space | \$1,522.00 |
| Door donations for the scholarship fund | \$261.68 |
| Ring Toss and Silent Auction | \$513.17 |
| Wheel of fortune and Grab bags | \$1,100.00 |
| TOTAL | \$3,397.55 |
| EXPENCES: | |
| Mr. Sub sandwich for setup day lunch | \$121.05 |
| Treasure hunt booklet printing | \$155.76 |
| Ag. Trade Center Rent | \$350.00 |
| Advertising | \$703.75 |
| Misc.(trash bags, drinks, etc.) | \$48.34 |
| Prizes for Wheel of fortune and Ring Toss | \$84.95 |
| TOTAL | \$1,463.85 |
| NET GAIN | \$1,933.70 |

Door donations for scholarship fund amounted to \$261.68. The rest of the profit went to the General fund, \$1,672.02.

Rex Barrans Passes



Rex Barrans with his Mineral Collection, 2004

Long-time club member, Rex Barrans passed away on July 6th at the age of 92. Those of us who have been in the Panorama Gem and Mineral Club for a long time remember Rex for being the field trip leader on most of our adventures year after year. Here is an excerpt from a club newsletter in 2005:

On my first rock hounding trip with the Panorama Gem and Mineral Club, Rex Barrans led us up to the dig. After we got there, people kept bringing their finds over to Rex to identify metals, minerals and crystals. It was soon clear who the go-to guy was on that trip, and as it turns out on just about any trip in Stevens County.

In 2009 Rex was declared "Rockhound of the Year" for the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Here is our nominating request: Rex has served as field trip leader for ten years. He schedules the trips and secures permission, calls or e-mails everyone and includes several other clubs. There are 50 - 60 families on the list. Rex led seventeen field trips last year. He is a great resource for mineral identification. Rex built the "wheel of

fortune" and "ring toss" we use at the annual show. He tumbles rocks and fills 500 grab bags. He has donated numerous specimens for our monthly silent auctions to raise money for scholarships.

Many of us remember following his trusty Suzuki Sidekick up rocky washed-out roads to remote mines all over the county.



Rex's Sidekick near Crawford Nebraska

As a young man, Rex helped his uncle prospecting at the age of 14. After retiring from the Marine Corps, Rex worked at the Allen Magnesite Quarry up Brown's Quarry Road outside of Chewelah. Soon he was the chief electrician for the quarry. After he met and married Mabel Love in 1948, Rex started his own business, Barrans Electric. In that capacity he visited a lot of mines around Northeast Washington.

This gave him not only good employment, it gave him a chance to explore his interest in minerals and geology. A guide that he found in that endeavor was **Mineral Resources of Stevens County** by Charles E. Weaver published by the Washington State Geological Survey in 1920. Page 125 of that book begins a list of 63 minerals found in Stevens County. Rex set out to find a specimen of every one.

His display of minerals in Stevens County often held a prominent position in the club's annual Rock Show. Rex was on hand to answer questions about the what, where and why of all of those rocks, as well as to



run the "wheel of fortune", which we still use and the ring toss game. These are always one of the first places kids go to when at the show.

Rex asked that there be no memorial service after he died but we will never forget him.

Membership Dues:

\$20.00 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 Meeting 7 PM

Bruce Hurley, our intrepid president, will bring a PBS documentary called *Treasures of the Earth: Power*. It explores the various sources of power we have recovered from the earth. We did not get around to showing it at the last meeting or the one before so hopefully we will this time.

We have a tentative date for a field trip to collect Trilobites near Metaline Falls on Sunday July 30th. We would start out from the old train station in Lone at 10:00 AM. There is a lot of parking there and it is easy to find. The Train Station is on the west side of Houghton Street.

The Booming Demand for Opals

Take from an article on BBC By Serena

SolomonBusiness reporter, Coober Pedy, South Australia

With the largest, best-quality Australian opals worth



more than £600,000 thanks to soaring demand from jewelers around the world, there is a vast

amount of money to be - potentially - made.

This comes as the global prices of opals have doubled in the past few years, thanks to constant demand from India and China, as well as an opal renaissance in western markets such as the US. South Australia supplies 80% of the world's opals, and the industry is centered on Coober Pedy, a town of around 3,500 people located 850 miles (1,368km) north of Adelaide, and 430 miles south of Alice Springs.

At the peak of the opal rush 40 years ago there were thousands of miners based in the town that can see summer temperatures top 47C (117F), but as finds have steadily fallen ever since, today there are just dozens. You need luck and months, even years to find them.

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 | 294 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: | Sherryl Sinn | 725 S. Chester, Colville, WA 99114 | 509-684-6093 |
| Committee Chairs | | | |
| Program Coordinator: | Bev Bockman | 1750 N Havichur Loop, Post Falls, ID 83854 | 208-773-5384 |
| Hospitality: | Sherryl Sinn | 725 S. Chester, Colville, WA 99114 | 509-684-6093 |
| 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 |
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