

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

January 2018

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club Minutes November 21, 2017

by Anni Sebright

Jan and Bruce Hurley were welcomed back from their "grandparent trip." There are photos of a beautiful new baby girl being flashed by her proud grandparents. We also welcomed Becky Dobbs home from her European River Cruise.

Auction items were on full display on the westernmost tables. All monies generated by the auction will benefit the scholarship fund. Dues, \$20 per household per year, are due and payable.

Officers for 2018 were voted in, and they will assume their offices in December. The officers for 2018 are as follows:

President: Johnie Pitman
Vice President: Bob Bristow
Secretary: Sheila Stratton
Treasurer: Frank Stratton
Trustee: Dennis Gibbens

Our annual Rock Show theme has been selected and will be "Earth's Awesome Treasures." Our set-up day will be Thursday, March 8; and the show runs Friday, March 9 and Saturday, March 10 with take down/clean up after closing on Saturday. All hands welcome for both set-up and take down.

Snacks for Thursday will be provided by Becky Dobbs, Friday by Scot Jackson and Jan Hurley Saturday. Bill Allen asked for and got volunteers. Becky Dobbs volunteered to job shadow Bill this year and become chairperson next year. Bill has been chairperson for 10 years. June Robbins volunteered to be a demonstrator at the Rock Show. She will be demoing jade trees. (I think I saw Cyndie Doppler volunteer to help her, too.) Dave Paquette, and probably his dad and Mike Latapie as helpers, will be demonstrating gold panning and knapping. *Continued Page 2*

Bill Allen Passes



One of our most active members, Bill Allen passed away Friday Jan. 5th. He was home alone at the time, the cause of death is not known at this time. Bill and Sylvia have been members for around twenty years and have taken on many jobs for the club including treasurer for many years. Bill has been our show chairman for the last ten years and has done a great job. He was instrumental in building and setting up the black light cave at the show which is a big hit at our shows. Bill has been our chef at the August picnic for the last several years, and the auctioneer at the November rock auction to raise money for the scholarship fund. Bill and Sylvia have given very generous donations toward that auction.

Bill will be greatly missed!! Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sylvia and the rest of their family. Sylvia will let us know more about a memorial service, "celebration of life", probably around the end of May or first part of June.

Rockhounding – SE Utah Style:

by Ann Ott

Utah always seems to beckon when farming gets tiresome – in the spring, we combine OHV rock crawling and trail riding in Moab with rockhounding and sightseeing on the Colorado Plateau's high altitude deserts and mountains. In the fall, we rotate away from Moab and have been concentrating on the more remote areas of southeast Utah – areas with multiple national parks and monuments, and containing the Fishlake, Dixie, and Manti-La Sal National Forests.

Most gem and mineral hunters prefer the Basin and Range geologic area, which is from the Fishlake Plateau west, through the Wasatch Front range, and into Nevada – this is the classic uplift with volcanism that we also see in the Pacific Northwest – visitors traveling on I-15 can hunt for opals in Spencer, Idaho, visit the Bingham Copper mine south of Salt Lake City, and there's always Topaz Mountain southwest of the Salt Lake area on

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Duncan and Katie Lickey will also be looking for volunteers to take a shift at the hospitality table.

Steve Fox sent a note and mentioned his upcoming trip to Arkansas for the diamond digging.

Arden and Kathy Fritz are moving to warmer climes. They will certainly be missed.

Matt Harbin is recuperating from knee surgery.

Rick McDougald was the door prize winner.

The Club voted to buy \$40 worth of tickets for the annual Northwest Federation's prize drawing.

Our next meeting is December 19th. 5 P.M. for set-up and 6 P.M. for a quick meeting, potluck and gift exchange. Gifts priced in the \$10 range should be marked "Male," "Female," "Either" or "Child" for the exchange. A sign-up sheet for potluck food was available for signing up. We hope to see you there, and Merry Christmas to all.

Note: December meeting cancelled due to snow.
end

the way into Nevada! We prefer the red rock country, so always travel quickly through the Basin



and Range, heading for the Colorado Plateau. This is an area created by a variety of geological processes, from the Salt Paradox valleys around Moab, to the sedimentary sandstone layers of the many canyons and natural stone formations, to the laccolithic mountains intruding through the sandstone and shale layers, then on to the uplifts and anticlines resulting from the Laramide and



Sevier orogenies. This fall, we limited our travels to an area around Marysville and Hanksville, which puts an amazing variety of geological and historical wonders within easy reach by car or OHV. With easy access from I-70 or I-15 on good 2-lane state highways, this area is a "gold mine" of vacation entertainment and fun! Both areas also feature direct access to OHV roads and trails.

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Marysvale is an old mining community centered around Bullion Canyon, with mines producing gold, silver, copper, lead, and phosphates. There are 2 RV parks, dispersed camping in the Fishlake National Forest, and several motels, several mini-mart stores, plus ATV rentals and guide service. Marysvale is at the base of the Tushar Mountains in the Sevier River valley, within the Marysvale shield volcano system that makes this area excellent for rockhounding – minerals and agates abound, as well as obsidian. Further north is Big Rock Candy Mountain, featuring potassium-rich feldspar areas and more alunite, plus lots of collectible minerals! You can even pan for gold in Bullion Canyon, as well as visit the outdoor mining museum in the canyon, and then a short trip into the Tushar mountains takes you to the Silver King mine outdoor museum – just a few miles north of this is Red Rock Canyon Narrows, a bright red sandstone outcrop in the volcanic material from the ancient calderas in the area. Nice agates can be found in this sandstone, as well, and it's just south of the fantastic Fremont Indian State Park where there are trails to areas of petroglyphs, and a lovely museum dedicated to this pre-Puebloan culture. The rhyolitic tuff in this area, also called welded tuff, forms quite fantastic cliffs and free-standing forms. Rhyolite is also known for



having inclusions of gem crystals, so that makes this area even more interesting!

Hanksville resembles a Western movie set for a ghost town, but don't let the town nor the desolate surroundings scare you away – there's a world of things to do and see here, and it's a friendly place with 2 RV parks, motel and cabins, restaurants, gas stations, car and boat repairs, and a

grocery store. Approaching Hanksville from the west, the road drops off of the Sevier Plateau away from the volcanic formations and down to the sedimentary layers of the Colorado Plateau. You'll travel through the incredible bright reds, oranges, and tans of Capitol Reef National Park with its lovely verdant green canyon bottoms with several



year-round streams and the Fremont River. The park encompasses the Capitol Reef uplift and the Waterpocket Fold, spectacular views of which can be had right from your car as you head east. If you have time, take the backroad byway loop through the park, looping south to Escalante/Grand Staircase National Monument, east to the strike valleys of the Waterpocket fold, then back north along Capitol Reef itself into the National Park again. This road can be impassable when wet – between the Mancos blue shale, bentonite clays, flash floods in narrow canyons, and quicksands in the eroded sandstone roads, be very careful driving on these unpaved



roads! Rockhounds will enjoy the rounded basalt boulders seemingly everywhere in this area, almost as if a giant hand plucked them out of a glacier or river and piled them in neat heaps on the sandstone slickrock formations (ancient dunes) and in the area's many canyons. Huge selenite crystals are in deep layers that are frequently exposed on the BLM lands northwest of Hanksville –Glass Mountain in Cathedral Wash is an amazing almost 20' tall stack of layered selenite crystals (see the last picture on the previous page.) near the equally amazing sandstone towers, Temples of the Sun and Moon. Fossil lovers will be amazed by dinosaur track sites, the Burpee-Hanksville dinosaur quarry, and many exposed fossil beds (mainly oysters), some of which are open for free public collecting. Geology enthusiasts will be in their element here – goblins and hoodoos in Little Egypt Geologic area and Goblin Valley State Park; incredibly beautiful slot canyons in the San Rafael Swell and Reef; amazing sandstone canyons in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and the Maze District of Canyonlands National Park; the spectacular formations in Natural Bridges National Monument; the tortuous canyons, ancient Anasazi cliff dwellings, and beautiful juniper and pinyon “pigmy forests” of Cedar Mesa in the Bears Ears National Monument (now threatened by oil interests); and the gorgeous alpine heights of the laccolithic Henry Mountains, Boulder Mountain and Thousand Lakes Mountain. Plus, you can see for miles in the clear air – from the 10,500' Bull Creek Pass in the Henry Mountains outside of Hanksville, you can see the wild buffalo herd on the western slopes ranging towards Capitol Reef; sacred Navajo Mountain in the south; the laccolithic Abajo mountains southeast near Blanding's high plateaus; the canyons of the Dirty Devil, Green and Colorado Rivers to the east and southeast; and the laccolithic La Sal Mountains east of Moab in the east.

So, if you like beautiful fall colors, fishing alpine mountains and lakes, hiking by crystal mountain streams, floating through roaring canyon river rapids, hunting trophy elk herds, mountain and desert camping, and amazing geology and rockhounding, try some of the more remote areas of southeast Utah – Hanksville and Marysvale await!

Rocking the Rock Shop

by Joseph Barreca



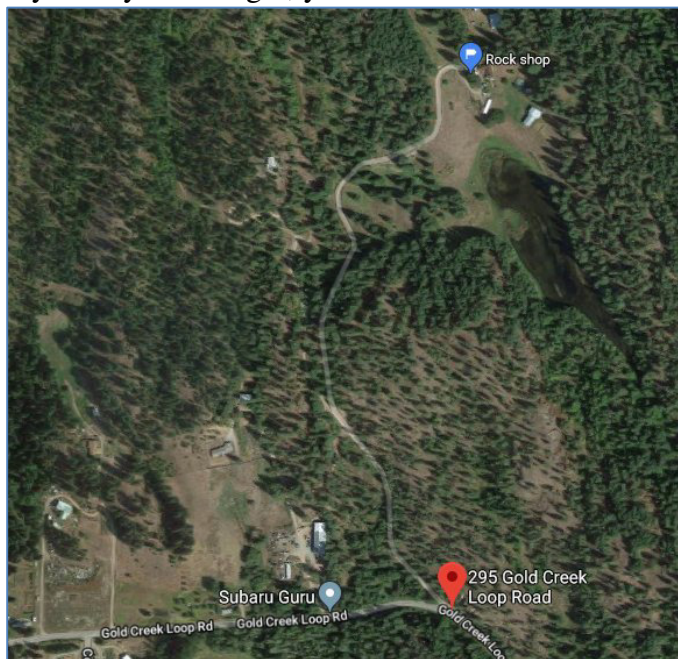
[Trim saw at the rock shop]

Some club members may not know that we have a rock shop available to members courtesy of Gene Fisher. It is just a tiny portable building but is crammed full of rock saws and other handy equipment. To keep up with supplies, there is a \$2/hr charge. But that is much better than paying for the thousands of dollars worth of equipment and building, especially if you don't cut many rocks.



An added bonus is that Gene has a lovely place for a rock shop or anything else. It is a little off the beaten path especially now that part of Gold Creek Loop has been washed out and you need to come in

from the North end. The driveway is fairly long but if you stay to the right, you will be fine.



Gene's driveway is the next one after the Subaru Guru. The shop is a little red barn next to the main house. You should call ahead 684-8546 to make sure the gate is open.

I visited the shop with some friends in November and made some discoveries.

There is even more equipment in the shop than the last time I visited. The blue rock saw in the corner is the handiest because the clamping mechanism is solid and it closes to prevent oil splatter. It has a screw feed and a fairly narrow blade, so it cut some very clean slabs for us.



The big black saw is faster, but has a wider blade and you need to watch for dripping oil when you open it. I cut a white rock in it and discovered that the center was dark. I brought the club's UV

light to see how a big piece of Brazilian agate that I found at Martell's Rock Shop would turn out when cut into slabs. It showed some bright green fluorescence on the outside.

That was a bust - no fluorescence - but the slabs were beautiful and layered with fine lines instead of the colored rings that many Brazilian agates contain. The blue saw was perfect for that. It is best to plan for a series of cuts when you mount



the rock so that each slab can be spaced with a minimum of adjustment.



Another project was to cut a piece of mylonized barite that looked interesting. It turned out to be even more interesting than I imagined. Although the colors are mostly black and white, the pattern is incredible.

There were some new tools too. A flat lap machine that would make polishing slabs easier and a wet grinder that I could not figure out. I also could not figure out the heater so we were pretty cold but it does actually work. The shop does not have running water, so it is a good idea to bring several gallons when you go. One of my friends had a roll of shop-grade paper towels. Those were very handy too. The cutting oil tends to get on everything. It is washable, but I'm glad I used one of the aprons hanging on the wall and the goggles.

Another good thing to bring is a collection of bags and boxes to put your cut rocks in. You tend to have many more pieces when you leave than when you came. Small unwanted pieces tend to collect around the shop and should be carried away. So check out the shop. It is full of surprises - many that you bring in yourself.

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).

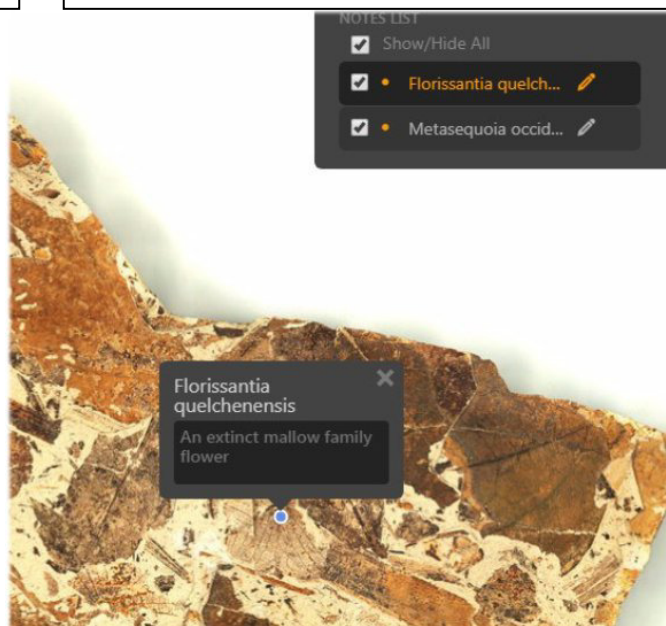
January Meeting 6 PM

This is the time of year that we start planning for our annual rock show. Without Bill Allen (see cover story), that will be a lot harder. We were snowed out of our Christmas Party in December and hoped to have the party in January. But we have a lot of reorganizing to do now and having a party does not seem to be appropriate. So I hope everyone can come and help pick up the slack.

Stonerose News

The Stonerose Interpretive Center and Eocene Fossil Site published its newsletter in November and had some news of note that did not fit into our newsletter. One of the most interesting is a new imaging system that can document high resolution images of things such as fossils. This picture shows where their imaging system has noted a stone rose in the midst of many other conglomerated fossils.

The 2018 Membership Weekend dates are April 27-29. Right after that is often a good time for a club field trip. They also plan a **Funding Fabulous Fossils Auction** the first week of July.



Panorama Gem and Mineral Club: Organizational Chart

Officers:			
President:	Johnie Pitman	701 B Williams Lake Rd, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-8887
Vice-President:	Bob Bristow	PO Box 1165; 2567 Mud Lake Rd. Chewelah WA 99109	509-935-4375
Secretary:	Sheila Stratton	79 Mary Ellen Rd, Kettle Falls, WA 99141	909-228-0546
Treasurer:	Frank Stratton	79 Mary Ellen Rd, Kettle Falls, WA 99141	909-228-0546
Trustee 2:	Gene Fisher	294 Gold Creek Loop Rd, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-8546
Trustee 3:	Dennis Gibbens	827 Hwy 20 E, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-3532
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	(vacant)		