

Place: Arden
Community Club
Hall Rd
Arden, WA



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

The Panorama Prospector

June 2018

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club Minutes May 15, 2018

by Ginger Pitman

Meeting called to order by President Johnie. We welcomed two visitors; Bill, Gimmie and new members David and Margit Neuhaus. Bob has a mystery rock on the back table for you to identify. He told where to find more in Arizona. It is: Heulandrite

Treasure's report was read.

The trustees have gone over the scholarship applications, and the Kettle Falls award will be given out by Johnie. Bob will award the Colville and Chewelah at their awards night. Thank you for a good job Trustees.

Johnie gave a report on the Saturday afternoon the club was at the Fort Colville Museum. The club members were impressed by the fine displays and amount of information there. If you have not visited please do. It is impressive. Bruce and Sharon talked on the geological history of the area. Bob and Lucie were by the club's rock display. Brian Fahey is a volunteer at the museum. Brenda and Gary were there. A friend of the club Roberta Paul talked about the native American baskets and did a demonstration, she also is a Story Teller of Native American history. Dave had his gold panning movies in the conference room and held an audience for a long time. Those people who attended enjoyed an informative afternoon.

The thunderegg hunt was reported on, a fun successful time. Thanks to those who donated and there is enough for next year's "egg" hunt.

Scott Jackson lead a field trip to the Upper and Lower Keystone and Edna mines. A nice size group of 12, and some nice samples of the finds were shown. Next field trip will be June 10 to Jim Creek, meeting at 10am at the railroad station in Ione. Serpentine, pyrite and galena.

continued page 2

Thunderstorms

by Jim Peters



[Thunderstorm near McDermitt, Nevada]

By way of introduction, this story from Jim Peters is about a trip he, Scott Jackson, Gene Fisher, Greg VanWeerthuisen, Larry Engle, Mike Wood & Vickie Talbot took to a series of rockhounding sites near McDermitt, Nevada. The sites were mostly in Idaho. McDermitt sits right on the Idaho/Nevada border and on the Idaho Nevada Oregon Highway. So it is no wonder it gets confusing. Native American legend reportedly considers the rocks to be the eggs of the [thunderbirds](#) which occupied [Mount Hood](#) and [Mount Jefferson \(Oregon\)](#). Thunder Spirits on the mountains hurled the "eggs" at each other.^[1] [wikipedia.](#)

Under the lead of fearless Scott Jackson, six rock heads ventured out on a cold windy morning in search of the elusive rocks of McDermitt. All obstacles were firmly brushed aside. No thunderstorms or raging rivers or slippery roads would stay this determined band of rock pickers.

Thunderstorms came and left and came again, but Scott said "Let there be sunshine!" and



On June 23 the trip will be to Flagstaff Mountain, meeting at 10am at the gas station on the north end of Northport. Please call Scott if you plan to attend as that is a long way for him to travel if no one is attending.

The club needs to decide on possibly renting a storage unit for the show equipment. It can stay at its present shed but because of the earlier show date the access to the shed is very dependent on the weather and that is very undependable! Storage unit would run about \$450 a year.

The subject of the August picnic needs some thought as we are really going to miss Bill Allen and the great BBQ he always did for us.

June 3 at the Chewelah park at 1pm will be the Memorial for Bill.

The plaque for Bill is done. Thank you Cyndie.

Scott has received our order of rough grit for tumbling rocks for the grab bags if you need some, contact Scott. More tumbled rocks are needed.

Bob introduced the guest speaker for the night. Robert Lambeth explained the: CERCLA Removal Action at the Rainy Mine, WA. He has closed and reclaimed mines all over the world, it is a large and expensive multi-government-agency project to close even small mines. Thank you for an informative and enjoyable show.

end

behold, there was sunshine. Six miners, Scott, Gene, Larry, Mike and Jim went out to the far west reaches of the dig area after Gary Greenstone. They looked and found several pieces. Mike and his faithful dog, Joe, explored the caverns of a mine searching for cinnabar with no luck.

A day or two later, Mike's wife, Vicki, came in with her horse trailer, two horses and two more dogs. While out riding she disturbed a North Pacific Rattlesnake, which was absorbing the rays of the mid-morning sun. Both Vicki, her horse and the snake escaped unscathed.



[North Pacific Rattlesnake - [wikipedia.com](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Pacific_Rattlesnake)]

Several trips were made to the Cordero mine with its deep pit filled with brilliant colors of red, orange, yellow, black, green and blue. There were four four-wheel puddle jumpers (ATVs) in camp and we made several short trips searching for anything agatized, opalized, petrified, mesmerized, homogenized or just anything that looked good to the eyes.

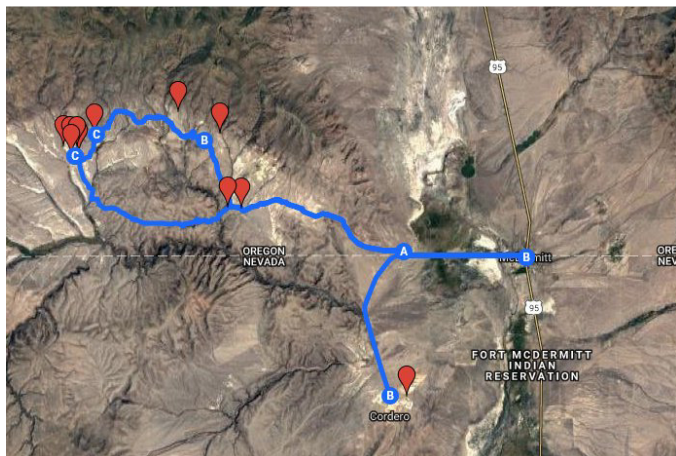


[Crossing a creek took nerve and equipment.]

Much treasure was found. Rocks of all shapes and sizes were quickly rounded up. buckets of thundereggs were stowed and the rock gatherers were pleased with their labors. They worked hard and played hard. They took home their treasure and all rejoiced, "Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!".

GPS, Photos and Online Maps

by Joseph Barreca



[[Mike Shaw's map](#) of the McDermitt area.]

Jim's article brings up several things worth mentioning about photos and field trips. Jim used a digital camera and brought it to me to load the pictures onto my computer. This was helpful but it misses some opportunities that technology now makes very handy. If you take pictures on a cell phone, check to see that the Location Services are turned on in Settings. This puts a location stamp into every picture you take. If you upload the picture to Google Photos - and probably many other places - the picture now has a map associated with it. If you send it to me, I can see where and when it was taken and incorporate that into the story.

For instance, the Rock Heads in the previous story visited a thunderegg site in Nevada that was not on Mike Shaw's previous map of the area. Mike's map was used in the [May 2015 issue](#) of this newsletter. When you look up these newsletters on our website, [PanoramaGem.com](#) and download the file, the text that is in blue on the printed copy is actually a link to a map or a newsletter etc. in the digital copy. (Trust me. The link to Mike's map is long and you don't want to try and copy it from a printed copy.) So if I had a picture from that site

with the GPS in it, I could show you where to go for those thundereggs.

Another bonus of putting pictures onto Google photo, Facebook, Flickr or some similar site is that you can put descriptions of the people, places and events right into the picture information. This makes keeping memories easier and writing about them easier as well as more accurate.

Thanks to Jim for the pictures and writing the story and to all of you who I rely on for stuff to put in this newsletter. And thanks in advance to those of you who do the GPS location and Internet picture upload routines to make this job easier.

Scholarships

by Johnie Pitman and Bob Bristow

The three scholarship winners for this year are:

Colville: Eppie Nielson

Kettle Falls: Madeline Neyens

Chewelah: Jamie Eide

The Chewelah winner was Jamie Eide. She wrote:



Jamie Eide

"I have played sports all throughout high school. These include volleyball, softball, and cheerleading. Also, I have been a member of the National Honor

Society and I am the current Secretary as well as being involved in the school ASB all the years." She has been accepted by, and plans to attend, the University of Washington.

The winner Wednesday was Eppie Nielson in Colville. Her statement reads: "Throughout my four years at Colville High School, I was highly involved in the music program. I participated in the Wind Ensemble Jazz Band and Marching Band. I was also a member of several clubs, such as National honor Society, Knowledge Bowl, Photo Team, and Interact Club. I was Co-President of the

Interact Club my Junior and Senior years.” She has been accepted and will be attending Gonzaga University this fall.



Eppie Nielson

Madeline Neyens, the Kettle Falls scholarship recipient was also the winner of a Rotary Club scholarship and she was on the school tennis and volleyball teams. Madeline plans to attend Washington State

University and major in environmental issues. She is an avid photographer and hiker and a volunteer at Church. Of note is that she is the daughter of Lenny Neyens, the first president of the Panorama Gem and Mineral club.



Madeline Neyens

The club will invite each of these young ladies to come and introduce themselves at one of our meetings before they head off to college.

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club News June 2018

Bill Allen Memorial



[Bill Allen was the rock club auctioneer.]

A celebration of life was held for Bill Allen at the Chewelah City Park Pavilion on June 3rd. Friends and family celebrated in a way that would have suited Bill with food, music and stories.

Bill passed away earlier this year and left a big hole in the membership of the club. He was our auctioneer at the annual November rock auction and organized our annual rock show at the Ag-Trade Center. His specialty was the Black Light Cave which he designed and assembled every year.

Bill was born in Lubbock, TX on June 3rd, in 1942, 76 years before his memorial service. He worked at a variety of jobs in cities but finally moved to the country. In 1979 he and his wife, Sylvia moved to 40 acres north of Chewelah where they built a passive solar earth-bermed home.

He had a life-long commitment to children. He started the Sundowners 4-H Club that offered programs for horses, dogs, rabbits and leathercraft. He helped with the Teen Palace, a place for teenagers to hang out during Chataqua.

He also loved barbecuing and would feed the members of the Panorama Gem and Mineral Club with hotdogs and burgers from his home-made grill during our annual summer picnic.

Raining Volcanic Gems

mashable.com



Embedded in the lava still spewing some 130 feet into the air from Hawaii's Kilauea volcano are green crystals.

Called olivine, these minerals can turn Hawaiian beaches green, and it appears some of the green gems are raining down upon homes near the eruption or popping up near lava flows.

"Yes, the lava that is erupting now is very crystal-rich and it is quite possible that residents might be finding olivine," Cheryl Gansecki, a geologist at the University of Hawaii-Hilo that studies the composition of Kilauea's lava, said over email.

"It can be carried in the pumice [rapidly cooled lava] pieces that have been rained all over the area," she noted, or left behind when weaker lava rocks are crushed by cars or foot traffic.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) scientist Wendy Stovall, who was out studying Kilauea last week, also confirmed that recent lava samples do contain olivine, though she didn't happen upon any separated green crystals herself.

Other folks in the area, however, appear to be collecting the tiny green gems as they see them:



It's certainly not unusual to find olivine crystals in most any Hawaiian lava rock, both new and ancient.

"It's pretty common," Stovall said in an interview. "There's often olivine in rocks all over Hawaii."

And this olivine can become completely separated from lava rocks in a variety of ways.

Sometimes the crystals can be simply weathered out from old lava rocks. Or, in the case of green-tinged Hawaiian beaches, lava can erupt through ocean water in steamy, explosive events, breaking the lava into smaller pieces and fast-tracking the separation process, said Stovall.



[Lava rock with olivine crystals]

The crystals may be flying through the air from exploded bits of lava, but it's unlikely they're also coming from the volcano's summit, where there's been a large plume of steam and ash erupting from the crater — and at times rare, explosive eruptions.

"One thing I can say is that olivine is not raining out of the plume," Michael Poland, a USGS volcanologist, said over email.

Poland added that olivine is common on the ground regardless, because roads in Hawaii are made up of ground up olivine-rich lava rock.

The little crystals, however, are not being created during the eruption. They've been formed deep underground long ago, brewing in the molten rock.

"It really is one of the first things to form," said Stovall.

It's also quite possible nearby islanders will continue to find semi-translucent crystals on the ground. The eruption could very well last months — or longer.

Membership Dues:

\$20.00 per household per year is due to the club Treasurer

Frank Statton (address below) on the third Tuesday of November for regular members.

Webpage: <http://panoramagem.com/>

Contact: Johnie Pitman, 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).

June Meeting 7 PM

For all of you rock tumbler out there, Scot Jackson and Johnie both have 60-90 grit for tumbling now so if you need some contact either one, it's free if you are tumbling for the club.

There is a field trip to Flagstaff Mountain near Northport planned for June 23rd. Please tell Scott if you plan to attend either at the meeting or by phone, 509-680-4896.

Refreshment Schedule for 2018

Last names that begin with the letters posted bring refreshments for that month

January – W, A, B, C

February – D, E, F, G

March – H, I, J

April – K, L, M

May – N, O, P

June – Q, R, S, T

July – W, A, B, C

August – Club Picnic

September – D, E, F, G

October – H, I, J

November – K, L, M

December – Christmas Party



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 | 909-207-8506 |
| Treasurer: | Frank Stratton | 79 Mary Ellen Rd, Kettle Falls, WA 99141 | 909-207-8503 |
| 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) | | |