

Place:
Arden Community Hall
636 Hall Rd
Arden, WA



Third Tuesday of the Month
Time:
April – September
7:00 PM
October – March & August
6:00 PM

The Panorama Prospector

April 2019

PANORAMA GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

Minutes of the March 19, 2019 Meeting

By Sheila Stratton

Meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. by President Rick McDougald. New visitors Darren Lindquist and Joe and Gail Hemmerich were welcomed to the meeting. Approximately 30 people attended the meeting.

Vice President Bob Bristow talked about his visit to Liberty, WA. He went past town to a big hole which had been the bottom of a river which was covered by huge rocks. The ridge of the canyon was filled with lava beds and had a large rockslide that used to be mined. Bob picked up green and white rock which turned out to be jade.

Treasurer Frank Stratton gave financial report.

Johnie Pitman announced the winner of the grand prize from the show. He also announced that he and Sharon were going to Summit Valley School to give a presentation; American Federation tickets for drawing have arrived; books from library and donations were available on back table to be borrowed – see Ginger to check out books; and skirting from show tables available for anyone who wants some.

2 tablets were passed around. Johnie asked for suggestions for improvement for next year's rock show and Rick asked for field trip suggestions and volunteer leaders.

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So! You Want A Lapidary Shop

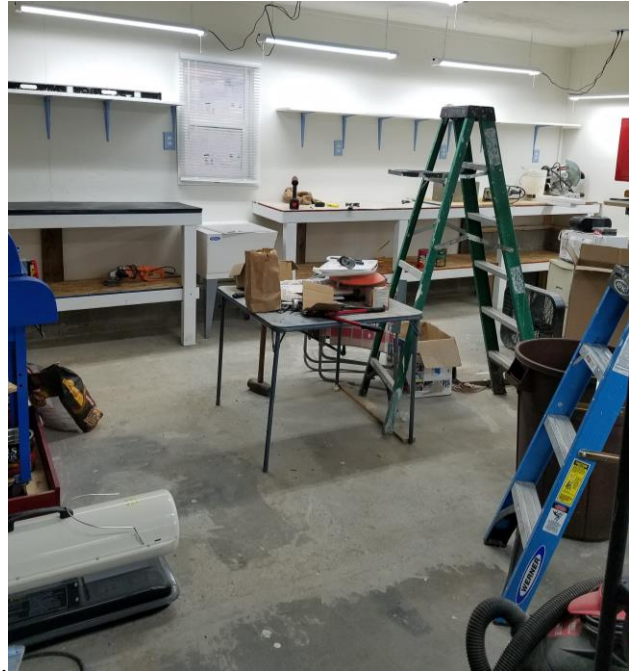
Two of our club members, Mark and Deborah Danielson, recently went through this process. Having only participated in the lapidary arts a short time they advanced from working in a crowded 8' X 12" tool shed to creating a lapidary studio with room to grow. They started by setting up a slab saw, trim saw, diamond wheel grinding unit and a multitude of tumblers in the small 8' X 12' tool shed. After a year of trying to work in the limited space Mark decided to expand their space by moving into a garage that was being used for storage. Last summer was spent renovating the new space into a well laid out bright and roomy studio.



Mark spent last summer remodeling his garage with the goal of a new lapidary shop. He began by tearing everything out and starting with a clean slate. He knew he'd need several outlets for all the equipment and lighting, so he installed all new wiring outlets and lights.



Next came new insulation, then new walls, and finally a coat of paint.



Two benches were built for the lapidary equipment. The one on the left is for rock tumblers and was topped with a thick industrial rubber mat. The one on the right is for cabochon cutting equipment. An abundance of Florescent lighting was added for better illumination.



Benches were built for the different pieces of machinery, with a lower shelf supply storage. A new sink was installed to supply water for cleanup and rock equipment.



Linoleum was added to the top of the bench to help prevent water damage.



Finally, it was moving time. The equipment was moved out of the small 8' x 12' Tool Shed and into its new location.



The other equipment and supplies were spread out to see how the work flow could best be laid out.



The slab saw was placed at one end of the shop to keep it out of the way of the work flow.



The 3 rock tumblers were installed on their own bench with a thick, noise-cushioning, bounce-reducing mat.



The trim saw was placed on the left side of the cabochon bench with the diamond wheel grinding unit to its right. This left plenty of room on the right of the bench to layout rock to be cut and cabochons being worked on.

Since completing their shop Mark and Deborah have been busy cutting and polishing many different rocks and producing some outstanding cabochons and other works of art.

“Identify the Rock or Mineral”



Last months “mineral” is **Coprolite** - fossilized dinosaur feces. In this case it is agatized **Coprolite**. Agatization occurs when chalcedony or cryptocrystalline quartz replace the remains of what the dinosaur consumed and transforms them in a colorful way. Found in the U.S. in Utah, Colorado, Arizona and Montana. With a hardness of 6.5 – 7 it cuts and polishes well (similar to agatized wood). Coprolite is a trace fossil at least 10,000 years old, the minimum time necessary for such organic material to fossilize. Agatized coprolite is significantly older. Usually 65 to 125 million years old.

This month’s mineral:



Stonerose Interpretive Center and Eocene Fossil Site Newsletter April 2019

2019 MEMBERSHIP WEEKEND APRIL 26-28

The 2019 Stonerose Membership weekend is coming up soon! Join us in Republic for the renowned “Members Only” dig, April 26th-28th, when members are offered “first crack” at our Boot Hill quarry. This special weekend is one of the benefits of being a member of Stonerose!

There will be scientific presentations Friday and Saturday evenings by visiting researchers. If you aren’t a member yet, sign up for a membership online so that you can participate in mining the first finds of the season ... perhaps a beautiful Florissantia or even something undiscovered! As in the past and on this weekend only, members are allowed to keep up to six fossils each day. Check out the schedule on our website: <https://stonerosefossil.org/>

Meeting Minutes

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Sharon Borgford gave report on the schools attending the show. The lack of school participation this year was not any one thing but was due to a number of reasons. Next year, she will be working with the team leaders for each grade level. She got some feedback from the school that after the show, the kids throw rocks at each other. Sharon also shared copies of a monthly miner's paper she gets with information on Wulfenite.

Comments were made about the show as follows: Chana – really appreciated Jim's demonstration of making cabochons; Gene – asked people as leaving what they thought about show and he received comments on having more information in cases on displays; June – Tucson Show cases have name and description on each specimen; Dave – need new stuff especially locally found; Chana – Ann Ott's case was interesting because it displayed things you could do with minerals.

Rick passed out tablet for suggestions for outings. Joe wrote down and offered ten different field trip ideas and exploration ideas. He has copies for anyone interested and also books with geologic mine maps.

Jim Retzer is working on putting together training for making cabochons and jewelry. Email Jim if you are interested in attending.

Ginger announced a week-long rockhound conference in Central Oregon being held the week after Labor Day. It is \$350 per person for the week which includes lodging and food. There are cabins available or places to park RV. Need to sign up early. See Ginger for further information.

Refreshments were served and silent auction was held. There was no drawing this month. Rick's program was Nick Zentner's lecture called, "Liberty Gold and the Yellowstone Hotspot."

Rick's Ramblings April 2019 A Few Words the Club President

- Thursday before the Rock Rollers' show, I helped Johnie & Ginger at the 60th Annual Gem, Jewelry, and Mineral Show in late March.

- I received an e-mail explaining that there were some rock samples that a donor wished to have in placed into the display case at Stevens County Courthouse. Not knowing who "owned" it, I inquired about the case in the courthouse, in the commissioner's offices, of a former Stevens County Historical Society president, and finally at the Historical Society's museum itself. No one I'd spoken with knew much about the case, its origins, nor who was responsible for it. The Historical Society happened to have a key that fit, so now at least, there's a way to get into the case. The question now is what to do about it! Who will volunteer to do something about that case?

- Our website will be getting a facelift soon! Ms. Suze King has offered to bring panoramagem.com up to date. Thank you, Suze!

- Field Trip News:

Our club needs a volunteer or two to help organize a few field trips this year. It's more than I can handle by myself!

April 27th: Johnie & Ginger's "Easter egg" hunt for thundereggs and more!

Bob Bristow has volunteered to lead an expedition to the Odessa Ring Craters (just north of Odessa, WA on Hwy 21).

In July, Bruce and Jan Hurley will lead us to the Lafarge limestone quarry S.E. of Metaline Falls in search of Cambrian Trilobites.

Scot Jackson is arranging to get us into the McGrath Quarry near Waittes Lake for Serpentine. It may be a "pay to dig" kind'a deal.

- Sharon Borgford has Mammoths (not Mastodons) on her mind! She's offered to give us some of her thoughts on "Eastern Washington Mammoths" during our meeting's program on April 16th.

Membership Dues:

\$20.00 per household per year is due to the club Treasurer Frank Stratton on the third Tuesday of November for regular members. Dues can also be sent to: Panorama Gem and Mineral Club c/o Johnie Pitman, 701 B Williams Lake Rd, Colville, WA 991114.

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

Contact: Rick McDougald, President, pres-pgmc@hotmail.com

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).

If you have any particular interest you would like to see articles on feel free to contact me at jimrocks@recycledhistory.com or let me know at our next meeting on **19 March 2019**

Refreshment Schedule for 2019

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

January – N, O, P
 February – Q, R, S, T
 March – W, A, B, C
 April – D, E, F, G
 May – H, I, J
 June – K, L, M
 July – N, O, P
 August – Club Picnic
 September – Q, R, S, T
 October – W, A, B, C
 November – D, E, F, G
 December – Christmas Party

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club: Organizational Chart

Officers

President:	Rick McDougald	Pres-pgmc@hotmail.com	509-675-0237
Vice-President:	Bob Bristow	Bristow@theofficenet.com	509-935-4375
Secretary:	Sheila Stratton	skstratton11@gmail.com	509-207-8506
Treasurer:	Frank Stratton	frstratton@outlook.com	509-207-8503
Trustee 1:	Sherryl Sinn	sherrylsinn@gmail.com	509-684-6093
Trustee 2:	Dennis Gibbens	dddgibbens@yahoo.com	509-684-3532
Trustee 3:	Jim Peters	JimNbetty17@gmail.com	509-937-2238

Committee Chairs

Program Coordinator:			
Hospitality:	Sherryl Sinn	sherrylsinn@gmail.com	509-684-6093
Club Shop:	Gene Fisher	295 Gold Creek Loop Rd, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-8546
Historian:			
Newsletter:	Jim Retzer	Jimrocks@recycledhistory.com	509-738-2503
Show Chair	Johnie Pitman	jgpitman@wildblue.net	509-684-8887