

Place:
Arden Community Hall
636 Hall Rd
Arden, WA



Club Meetings:
Third Tuesday of the Month
Time: 6:00PM

The Panorama Prospector

January 2020

PANORAMA GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

November & December Meetings

With the winter months set upon us things tend to slow down with normal structured club activities. This is a time to relax and enjoy some social time with each other. This is the time of our fundraising action and Christmas party.

The fund raising is for our scholarship program. This auction is an event that is members look forward to, just waiting to see the many fantastic items donated for this event. This year, along with the many donated items the club liquidated its lapidary equipment. This resulted in an outstanding auction that added greatly to the scholarship fund. The club would like to thank all of you that participated and made the auction a great success.

The other wonderful club event for this time of year is the Christmas party. This year was as great as ever with all the delicious food and deserts supplied by our members as well as Sherryl Sinn's hams. Betty Peters table decorations really added to the holiday spirit of the event.

Along with all this social activity the club did elect its new officers. Congratulations to our new president Shelia Stratton.

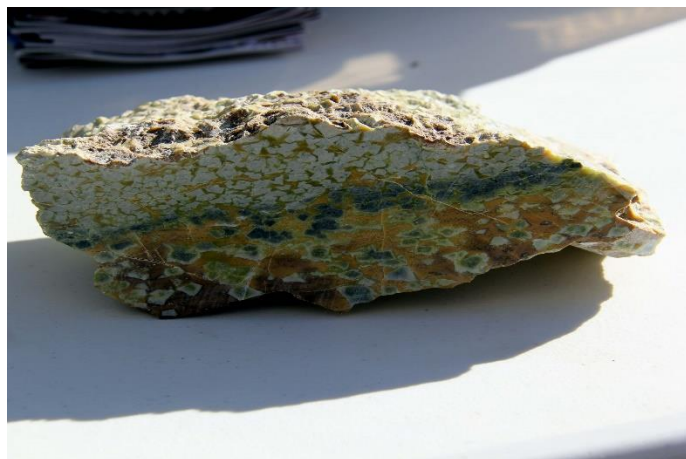
New Lapidary Material from Washington Found in Quartzsite, AZ

By Jim Retzer

As I sit here in the Sonora Desert, just outside Quartzsite, AZ, I think of last year, spending the winter at home in Washington. Last winter was the first winter since 2012 that we spent in Washington. Normally we head out meeting up with friends at Bull Head City, AZ and heading further south from there, spending time in Quartzsite, AZ, Yuma, AZ, Tucson, AZ, Deming, NM, and any other place in the Southwest that sounds interesting to us.

Since my wife is not into rocks or minerals, we try to visit areas that have activities that we both can enjoy. Here in Quartzsite, for example, I have the weekly field trips with the local rock and mineral club as well as their lapidary and metal working shops. There is the club's POW WOW, their 5-day rock and gem show, as well as the Desert Gardens show that is a 2 to 3-month rock and gem swap meet. For my wife there is the weeklong RV and recreation show, relaxing in the quiet and solitude of the desert and the comradery of our friends as we sit around the campfire in the evenings. For those of you wondering about our accommodations, we stay in our 5th wheel that has all the amonites of home. For power we have solar panels and enough battery power that we can watch TV and run our computers with no problem. We do have to go into town about ever two weeks to empty our holding tanks. This is how we normally handle our winters.

While roaming around the Desert Garden show I came across some new lapidary material that looked interesting. It is a gemmy pale green with some yellow. They call it Noble Serpentine. It is a rare color of Serpentine that is a highly altered calcium rich magnesium aluminum silicate. The interesting part is that it is found in the Magnesite Belt of NE Washington State. In this case it is from Stevens County, WA. Those of you who have been around awhile probable already know about it, but the new veins they have opened are producing some higher quality gemmy material as well as some new material that will be of interest to the lapidary community.



Some new material recently uncovered at their mine.



Jim & Jennifer Shail's booth at the Desert Garden Show in Quartzsite, AZ



Photo of mixed grade rough from Washington Rocks website



Some samples of Noble Serpentine from their mine

Noble Serpentine is being mined and marketed by Jim and Jennifer Sahli. In 2018 they purchased the mine and renamed it The Wild Turkey Mine. Since then there has been a high interest in this material.

More information about the Sahli's, their mine and the material they have for sale can be found on their website www.washingtonrocks.net. Also, an extensive article about the Sahli's Noble Serpentine is in the September 2019 issue of the *Pacific Northwest Friends of Mineralogy* (PDF copy at http://pnwfm.org/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/2019/09/PNWFM_Newsletter_2019-09.pdf).

GEMS FROM SHEILA January 2020

Message from the Club President
By Sheila Stratton

A new year is waiting for us to fill with lots of fun times and great memories. I am excited to be the President of PGMC for 2020! Having been a rock hound from the time I was a little girl, I have learned more from the short time of being in the club than all my years of collecting. We are so blessed with so many very knowledgeable people in this club.

We ended the year with a very fun Christmas party. I want to give a special thank you to Betty Peters for the delightful table decorations that she ended up giving away through a drawing. And, also, a special thank you to Sherryl Sinn for purchasing and preparing the hams and all the people who brought side dishes. Overall, it was a wonderful evening for everyone who attended.

We had an executive board meeting with lots of very good discussion. One thing I have been thinking about is a 10 to 15 minutes sharing time that I hope all the members will get involved with is "Bring a rock with a story". We have all been out collecting rocks and most all of us have some with special stories behind them. I will start off with the first one in January. We would like to have a different member each month do a "show and tell" time. This can also be a chance for us to get to know one another better.

Another thing we discussed was the issue of need an "Outing Coordinator." As there has been no volunteers, it has been suggested that if 6 or more different people each take one outing – plan it, put out sign-up sheet, and coordinate time and place to meet – then it will not be one person having to do it all! We already have people who have volunteered but we need more. So, think about this as something you might be able to share with the club.

GEMS FROM SHEILA January 2020

As usual, the start of the year brings the PGMC Rock Show coming quickly in March. The show is being coordinated by Johnie Pitman. Our theme is "What on Earth!" It will be held on March 13th and 14th with set-up on March 12th. Be thinking about how you can contribute to the show with helping set up or start planning out setting up your display case. As with everything, it really helps if we all do a small part or a big part to make this successful!

Again, looking forward to a great year with a great group of friends and fellow rock hounders!

Minutes from Executive Board January 2020

The Panorama Gem & Mineral Club's Executive Board meeting was held at the home of Johnie & Ginger Pitman on Jan. 9, 2020

Trustee Jim Peters went over the club's scholarship program, explaining the criteria students must meet in order to be chosen. He distributed Scholarship information forms to new Trustees Gene Fischer & Mark Danielson as well as Johnie Pitman to give to Chewelah, Kettle Falls, and Colville High Schools.

President Stratton presented a few ideas for meeting programs that will be brought up the membership and the next meeting. She also presented some ideas for a Field Trip Committee and volunteers that will also be discussed at the next meeting

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**Minutes from Executive Board January
2020**

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Status of Rock show preparations were discussed including advertising ideas. Johnie Pitman stated the club has 800 bags to fill with tumbled rocks. It was also brought up that the previous members who have done this task, may not be able to do it any longer and some more volunteers need to be found. Sharon will continue to get teacher packets ready & Treasure Hunt sheets put together.

Field trip ideas were discussed, places mentioned to for Field trips were: Sherman Mountain, Calispell Peak outside of Chewelah, Mattawa -Saddle Mt. Ellensburg - blues, Horseshoe Mt. Clarkie, Idaho for Garnets.

These items along with other club functions will be brought up at the next meeting.

Upcoming Events in Our Area

2/13/2020 2/16/2020

Tucson Gem and Mineral Show “World Class Minerals”

Tucson Convention Center
260 S Church Ave, Tucson, AZ

2/8/2020 2/9/2020

Whidbey Gem & Mineral Show

Oak Harbor Senior Center
51 SE Jerome St, Oak Harbor, WA

3/7/2020 3/8/2020

East King Co Rock & Gem Show

Pickering Barn
1730 10th Ave NW
Issaquah, WA

3/13/2020 3/14/2020

Rock My World Gem & Mineral Show

Stevens County Fairgrounds
317 W Astor Ave
Colville, WA

3/27/2020 3/29/2020

Rock Rollers of Spokane Annual Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show

Spokane Fairgrounds
404 N Havana St
Spokane WA

3/28/2020 3/29/2020

Mt Baker Rock and Gem Show

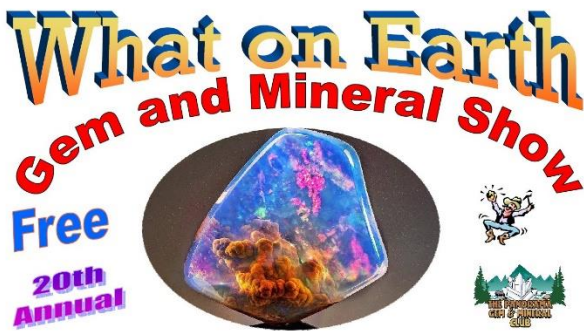
Bloedel Donovan Field House
2214 Electric Avenue
Bellingham, WA

2/28/2020 3/1/2020

Oregon Agate and Mineral Society Show

Oregon Museum of Science and Industry
1945 SE Water Ave
Portland, OR

**Remember to Set Aside March 13 and 14
for Our Gem and Mineral Show**



**March 13th and 14th
Colville Ag and Trade Center**

8:30 AM - 6:00 PM Friday March 13th
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Saturday March 14th
Colville Fair Grounds 317 West Astor, Colville, WA

Wheel of Fortune **Jewelry** **Fossils**
Gold Panning **Food**
Gems and Minerals from Around the World
Silent Auction **Black Tom Tunnel**
Door Prizes

(509) 684-8887

3/6/2020 3/8/2020

Tualatin Valley Gem Club Show
Forest Grove National Guard Armory
Forest Grove, OR

Winter Shop Tips

By Jim Retzer

Identify the “Rock or Mineral”

Last month’s rock or mineral:



Last month’s rock or mineral of the month is **Parrot Wing Jasper**. The name is derived from its vivid greens and blues along with some reds and browns giving it a resemblance to a parrot’s wing. It gets its colors from the mixture of chrysocolla, jasper, azurite, and quartz that make it up.

Mined in Mexico it is particularly sought by jewelers for its stunning colors and properties.

It is sometimes called Parrot Wing Chrysocolla even though Chrysocolla is only one of the minerals in this stone.

This month’s rock or mineral:



If you are like me your shop might not be the warmest place to work in the winter. When temperatures get below freezing my shop can be on the cold side to the point that the water in my supply buckets for my grinding units will freeze. Even if it does not freeze it does freeze my fingers when I start cutting cabochons. One day I went out to cut out some preforms and low and behold my trim saw would not run, the coolant water in it was a block of ice. To top it off stones will not stay on dop sticks when using dop wax. So how does one deal with this when they do not have a fully heated shop?

Last winter I came up with some simple ways to use my shop through out the winter. First, I got a good space heater that kept my lapidary section of the shop in the high 40’s and low 50’s. I was able to work in these conditions but boy was the water cold. Next, I got a 6-gallon heated livestock bucket. This kept the water 62+ degrees which feels good on the hands well working. As for the trim saw I changed using water for a coolant in it to using mineral oil, like I do in my slab saw.

The doping of stones on to a dop stick with dop wax was really a problem. After I got some done the stones would fall right off. I found that if I used a couple of drops of “Super Glue” to attach the stone to the dop stick I was set to go. To remove the stone, I place it on a towel and use a razor knife to pry the stone off. The little amount of glue residue left on the stone can be removed with fingernail polish remover. I hope these ideas help you have an enjoyable winter.

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
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 **Jan 21, 2020**

Refreshment Schedule for 2020

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:	Sheila Stratton	skstratton11@gmail.com	509-207-8506
Vice-President:	Bob Bristow	Bristow@theofficenet.com	509-935-4375
Secretary:			
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
Historian:			
Newsletter:	Jim Retzer	Jimrocks@recycledhistory.com	509-738-2503
Show Chair	Johnie Pitman	jgpitman@outlook.com	509-684-8887