

Place:
Arden Community Hall
636 Hall Rd
Arden, WA



Club Meetings:
Third Tuesday of The
Month. In A Socially
Distanced Format and The
Wearing of Appropriate
Face Coverings.

The Panorama Prospector

March 2021

No Desert Roses but Lots of Hohokam Petroglyphs

By Jim Retzer

While visiting the Casa Grande, AZ area we looked for new places to go rockhounding. While searching around, I found a collection of rockhounding maps from the 1950's-60's that covered sites in central Arizona. One of the sites for desert roses was not too far from where we were staying, so we took a chance and headed out. As with all old, hand-drawn maps we took a couple of wrong turns, one of which took us down a dirt road the parallel an old railroad bed that had been long abandoned. As I was turning the truck around, we spotted some unique rock and had to get out to see what it was. It turned out to be copper slag that had fallen off a train car that once traveled along the old railroad, in fact the whole rail bed and along the sides was covered in copper slag. After a quick exploration, and a few photos of the area, we moved on.



Copper Slag Along Old Railroad Bed



Copper Slag with Green Oxidation



Scattered Large Pieces of Copper Slag Along the
Side of Old Railroad Bed

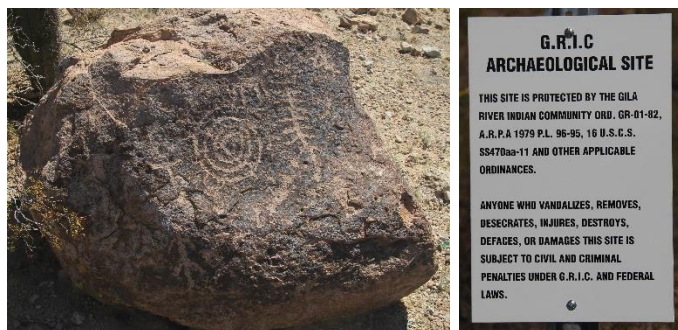


A Few Medium Size Pieces of Copper Slag

We finally located the correct road and looked forward to a short drive to the collecting area, but a short way up the road we saw a sign stating we were in a protected archaeological site and anyone who vandalized, removes, desecrates, injures, destroys, defaces, or damages this site is subject to civil and criminal penalties. This kind of worried everyone but the map showed the area we were looking for was another 2 miles up the road. As we drove up the road, we noticed a rock, next to road, with some petroglyph (rock art) on it. A little farther up the road, we saw a couple more petroglyphs. We stopped the truck and decided to look around the area. It turns out this area is about a mile long petroglyph site with petroglyphs on many of the boulders between the road and the bottom slop of the mountain to the north. Needless to say, we did not make it to the desert rose site as we spent quite a bit of time exploring and photographing the petroglyphs.



Rock with Petroglyphs Along Side Road



Petroglyphs on Rock Along Side Road



View Up Mountain in Petroglyph Area. Rock in Foreground on Left Has Several Petroglyphs



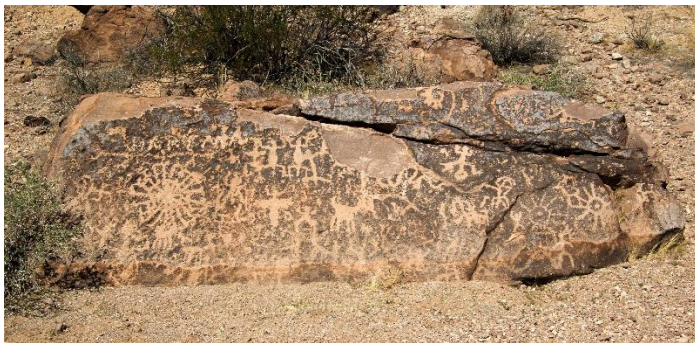
There are two main types of rock art, petroglyphs which are images cut or scratched into a rock and pictographs that are images and designs painted on rocks or in caves. The majority a rock art I have seen in the Southwest is petroglyphs that are made by scraping and pecking into the desert varnish on the rock face to make the image. In this case, the images were carved or pecked into the desert varnish on the boulders.



solid circle in the middle of their body that is seen at other Hohokam sites.



Two Examples of Figures with Solid Circles in Middle of Their Body.



The meanings and significance of rock art petroglyphs is highly debated since they were made by cultures that are no longer around, but it is generally felt that some of them document events, while others maybe spiritual, and others are to pass on information such as water and animal resources in an area. Dating of petroglyphs is somewhat easier. We know that the bow and arrow came into use in the Southwest about A.D. 500. Prior to that, the atlatl was used (the atlatl is a stick that lays along the arm to assist in throwing a spear type projectile). A good place to view petroglyphs of atlatls is just east of Las Vegas, NV at Valley of Fire State Park where there is an area called Atlatl Rock. The name was derived from the large rock face that is covered with petroglyphs of atlatls. Another good dating indicator is images of horses which came to the area after A.D. 1500. A petroglyph I saw in the mountains north of Albuquerque N.M. had the image of a man with a hat riding a horse. This was possible the local cultural documenting its first sighting of Spanish explores in the area.

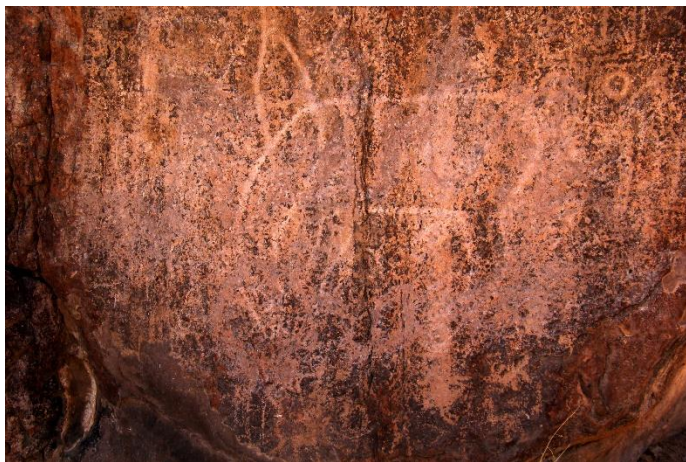


The petroglyphs in this area were of the types typical associated with the Hohokam culture. The Hohokam was a culture that populated the Phoenix Basin around A.D. 300-1450. They were primarily associated with the Gila and lower Salt River drainages and were noted for creating and utilizing canal systems for irrigation. The association of these petroglyphs to the Hohokam culture is shown in the similarities of these with others at known Hohokam sites. One of the main similarities is seen in the stick figures seen in this area, they have a distinguishing



Petroglyph Panel with Possible Vandalism. The

Figure in the Center of the Panel Appears to be a Horse with Its Head Down Like it is Grazing.



Looking Closer at the Panel the Lines Making the Horse's Outline Are Lighter Than the Other Drawings on the Panel and the Horses Outline Crosses Over the Other Images. Also, the Time Period for the Horse is not the Same as the Other Images.

There are many books on rock art as well as information on the internet. Some of this information is very well presented, but some of it may be the author's fanciful interpretation. One of the best ways to view rock art for the first time is to go to a well-documented location such as a state or federal park set up for the preservation and public viewing of this window into past cultures. As for the desert roses, I guess I will have to find that site on next year's visit.

So, you Think You Know What It's Like to be a Lookout? (Part IV)

Following is a reduced version of Chapter 4 in the book being written by Bob Bristow called "A Hobo's Son and an Orphan Girl."

By Bob Bristow

Fighting a Fire in High Heels

It was nearing time to leave the lookout and go back to school. Luci volunteered to go to Corvallis, find us a place to stay, and try to find a job for herself. Since the fire danger was high, the Forest Service offered to have Mike take Luci to the bus station in LaPine while I stayed to man the lookout. Luci was

gone for a week and the fire danger was still high. When Luci returned, it turned out Mike was going to the bus station in LaPine anyway. His wife lived in Portland and periodically visited Mike at his Guard Station. She had just finished a visit and Mike took her in to LaPine to catch the northbound bus. Mike then waited for the southbound bus with Luci. As he was helping Luci into his pickup, Luci noticed two older ladies sitting in the bus station café having coffee. By their looks and gestures, they were discussing having seen Mike take his middle-aged wife out of his pickup, send her on to Portland, and then put a very young lady in his pickup in her place.

In the lookout, I didn't know any of this. I did hear Mike call the Dispatcher, Sylvia. Mike always had half of his first sentence out before he pushed the "talk" button. This made it difficult to understand what he was saying. Sylvia couldn't hear Mike so I called her on the phone and translated as best I could. It sounded like someone had set the LaPine city dump on fire and it had gotten into the jack pine flats. Also, the wind was blowing. This was critical. The jack pines were tinder dry, and fire would spread as fast as the wind was blowing.

Sylvia hit the panic button. I was told to get down there and help fight the fire. She then called in fire engines from Bend, Sisters, and Gilchrist in addition to the local private fire station in LaPine. A tanker was also being sent from the Fremont National Forest to the south.

I jumped in the "Green Dragon" and started to leave. However, with no one there, my hound, Spud, didn't want to stay. I let him in the cab with me and we headed down the butte in a cloud of dust. Now, Spud was a big dog, but he insisted on sitting on my lap while I drove. When I pulled into the LaPine dump, Luci said she was sure that Spud was driving. Luci was dressed in heels with a fancy new dress. However, the dress was now covered by smoke and dust. She had grabbed a shovel and helped Mike keep the fire from spreading.

It turned out I had misread what Mike was saying on the radio. The fire was not IN the jack pines; it was APT to get into the jack pines because of the wind. When the first rig arrived, I asked to use their radio to call Sylvia and explain that the fire was under

control. We had plenty of help putting out the fire because the fire trucks all helped before heading home.

School was beginning, so that was the end of working for the Forest Service. (However, I had a lot to do with them later when I discovered a gold deposit in the Mount Baker – Snoqualmie National Forest in Washington.) The next summer, I got a job as a summer engineering hire for The Boeing Company in Seattle. The summer after that, I spent at McChord Air Force Base as an Air Force Cadet. After that, it was on to even bigger adventures.

Identify the “Rock or Mineral”

Last month’s rock or mineral:



Tiger Iron

Tiger Iron is a banded stone consisting of alternating bands of Tiger Eye, Hematite, and Red Jasper. This is a unique gemstone that is only found Western Australia at two primary mining locations – Ashburton Shire at Mount Brockman and Port Hedland Shire at Ord Ranges. It is mined out of an Archaean formation (4 to 2.5 billion years ago).

Tiger Iron derives its name from the presence of Tiger Eye and the strong appearance of Iron from the Hematite. Its hardness runs from 5 to 7 on the Mohs hardness scale. The materials hardness and undulating, contrasting bands of color and luster makes it a good material for lapidary work. It is particularly popular to use in cabochons and knife hilts.

This month’s rock or mineral:



Cancellation of Clubs 2021 Rock Show

By Frank Stratton

Members have been curious on whether the club will be able to have our yearly Rock Show in March of this year. Our Show Chairman Johnie Pitman met with the Tri-County Health Department regarding the possibility of having it. It was determined the restrictions & conditions required by them on having the show was too great for us to obtain. Limiting attendance of building to 25% capacity and having no school participation of students would mean very low attendance. Not getting a lot of feedback from dealers on their participation isn’t encouraging also. The executive board felt it would be in our best interest not to have the show, so it was cancelled for this year.

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
rick-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).

A Quick Note from The Editor

The restrictions put in place because of the Covid Virus have interrupted and changed many of the plans of the club and its members.

This has resulted in the cancellation of the club's activities until further notice.

It is hoped we can resume a somewhat normal schedule of events soon, but until then stay healthy and safe.

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	skstratton@hotmail.com	509-207-8506
Vice-President:	Bob Bristow	bristow71@outlook.com	509-935-4375
Secretary:			
Treasurer:	Frank Stratton	frstratton@outlook.com	509-207-8503
Trustee 1:	Jim Peters	jimNbetty17@gmail.com	509-999-9074
Trustee 2:	Gene Fisher	Efisher1@hughes.net	509-680-2487
Trustee 3:	Greg Cozza	troller@hotmail.com	509-710-0375

Committee Chairs

Program Coordinator:	Sheila Stratton	skstratton@hotmail.com	509-207-8506
Hospitality:	Betty Peters	jimNbetty17@gmail.com	509-999-9074
Historian:			
Newsletter:	Jim Retzer	jimrocks@recycledhistory.com	509-738-2503
Show Chair	Johnie Pitman	jgpitman@outlook.com	509-684-8887