

**Place:**  
**Arden Community Hall**  
**636 Hall Rd**  
**Arden, WA**



**Club Meetings:**  
**Third Tuesday of The**  
**Month at 6:00PM**

## **The Panorama Prospector**

October 2021

### **PANORAMA GEM AND MINERAL CLUB**

#### **September 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

*By Sheila Stratton*

The meeting was opened with a welcome to all. The meeting started off with a presentation by Glynis Hull on her trip to New Zealand. She had beautiful pictures of pristine lakes and beautiful countryside.

After the presentation, we took a break for refreshment, silent auction, and drawing. The meeting started off with a report from Johnie Pitman about the club display at the Stevens County Fair. It was a beautiful presentation put together by Johnie, Jim Retzer, Jim Peters, and Scot Jackson. Jim Retzer put together a very nice looking three-fold brochure for the club that will be nice to have for future events also. For their hard work, the club was rewarded with a Blue Ribbon.

There is a need for the November election for members to step forward and fill in for the role of President and Secretary. If you feel being President would be too much, it would be greatly appreciated to have someone to help with putting the presentations together for the meetings.

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### **JIM'S CREEK OUTING**

*By Sheila Stratton*

On September 25, 2021, a group of ten people and one dog led by Bob Bristow, met at Tiger's Corner to go up the mountain out of Ione to Jim's Creek.



It was a beautiful sunny day, so with great enthusiasm we hit the trail. After going through the very picturesque town of Ione, we hit the dirt road that heads up the mountain to our destination. It was a beautiful drive, but it was observed that many downed trees had fallen across the road. Luckily, they had been previously cut and removed from the road.

We arrived at a small turn off and parked our cars and trucks. Everyone got their equipment and buckets and up the trail we went. Bob took one group down the road to a trail that had the better galena and Frank and I followed Jim Peters up another trail that led to a beautiful site with sparkling

Marble crystal on the side of the hill. The trail we went on with Jim was not too bad and easy to climb. This writer gets very excited with rocks that sparkle, so we filled our bucket with this beautiful white rock.



We toted our full bucket and one large rock back down the trail to the truck.

After depositing our treasures at the truck, the three of us proceeded down the trail where Bob had taken his group. It was not an easy trail to hike on. Even the deer would have trouble with this trail.



There were down trees and steep gullies to be gone through. This writer got stuck on a downed tree and lost one of her boots in the branches. Because she does not suffer in silence, the group had a great laugh. Her husband, Frank, had to shove her leg up to her chest and over the log. It was quite an ordeal for this grandmother. Anyway, after putting the boot back on with the help of Linda, she managed to make it to the place where everyone was hunting for galena. It was fun to dig with friends and share our finds with each other.

When we decided to go back to the vehicles, it was determined to take another trail which entailed crossing Jim's Creek. There were mossy rocks and a mud embankment on the other side. Well, this was no problem for the mountain goats in the club but for some of us, it was quite slippery.



This writer started across and did quite well until she hit the muddy embankment and slipped off into the creek with a boot sinking in mud. She was very thankful when a young man named Josh reached down and helped her up the muddy bank. Frank was behind Cindy and Glynis helping them and I was able to give a hand to them up the muddy embankment. We found this trail much better heading back to the vehicles.

After arriving at our vehicles, we had a tailgate lunch and sat around chatting about how wonderful it was to get out in the woods in the beauty and fresh air.

We all had some beautiful specimens of galena and marble crystal rocks to take home to our collections.



Thank you, Bob Bristow, for guiding us up into the wild woods!

## Marcus Cider Festival

*By Jim Retzer*

This year the club has expanded its community outreach, first setting up a table display at the Northeast Washington Fair and now having a booth at the Marcus Cider Festival. Again, our thanks go out to Johnie Pitman for organizing the club's participation in this event. Thanks also goes out to Gene Fisher for his generous donation of two loads of cut and delivered wood that were raffled off. We would also like to thank Greg and Barb Cozza for their work in organizing the rocks, minerals, and fossils donated to the club for this sell, as well as Jim Peters for running the wheel of fortune. Also thank

you to Bob Bristow for his donation of several outstanding mineral specimens.

The event was a great success with all proceeds going to the club's scholarship fund. We also generated local interest in our club and received some new memberships.





Again, Thank You to all who made this event possible and contributed to its outstanding success!

### **September 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes** *Continued From Page 1*

If there is anything you can help with, please let the President know.

Bob Bristow offered to put together an outing to Jim's Creek looking for galena and marble crystals for Saturday, September 25, 2021. There were several people interested and so it was set to meet at Tiger's Corner at 10:00 a.m.

The upcoming Marcus Cider Festival, being held on October 2, 2021, was discussed with the club having tables there to sell donated collections. Gene Fisher donated a trailer full of wood to be raffled off and also donated change to help with the selling of items. It was decided to meet to set up the booth at 8:30 a.m. There were several that raised their hands to help with this event.

The meeting was dismissed at 8:30 p.m.

## **Identify the "Rock or Mineral"**

**Last month's rock or mineral:**



## **Tourmaline**

Last month's mineral is not a single mineral but a group of closely related minerals. "Tourmaline" is the name applied to a large group of boron silicate minerals. These minerals share a common crystal structure and physical properties but vary in chemical composition. The wide range of compositions and color zoning within the crystals is what caused tourmaline to occur in more colors and color combinations than any other mineral group. In fact, it is the most multicolored mineral type known, occurring in virtually every color of the spectrum.

It is typically a mineral of granite pegmatites, pneumatolytic veins, and some granites. It is also commonly found in metamorphic rocks, as a product of boron metasomatism, or as a result of recrystallisation of detrital grains from the original sediment. The most spectacular tourmaline crystals are formed by hydrothermal activity. The crystals form when hot waters and vapors carry elements

needed to form tourmaline into pockets, voids, and fractures, which offer an open space for crystal growth.

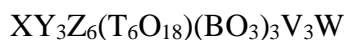
Tourmaline is a mineral supergroup that consists of three groups, multiple subgroups, and over thirty different species. With new discoveries, the list of tourmaline species continues to grow. All members of the tourmaline supergroup are considered tourmalines. The properties of some species are so close that separating them proves difficult. Distinguishing tourmalines into specific species may require advanced gemological test, like laser ablation-inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry.

Tourmaline forms in hexagonal (trigonal) crystals that are usually long prismatic with striations along the length and has various terminations. The crystals often have triangular or six-sided cross-sections with rounded edges.

Changing conditions during crystal growth often result in single crystals containing two or more different colors of tourmaline. The earlier color is usually overgrown by the later color. The most popular bicolor tourmaline is “watermelon tourmaline.” It has a pink interior and green rind – just like a slice of watermelon.

The number of minerals in the tourmaline group is produced by many substituting ions in its complex formula. These substitutions result in the thirty-two different tourmaline minerals recognized by the International Mineralogical Association.

The generalized chemical composition of Tourmaline is:



The letters in the formula represent positions in the atomic structure that can be occupied by the following ions:

X=Ca, Na, K

Y=Li, Mg, Fe<sup>+2</sup>, Fe<sup>+3</sup>, Mn<sup>+2</sup>, Al, Cr<sup>+3</sup>, V<sup>+3</sup>

Z= Mg, Al, Fe<sup>+3</sup>, V<sup>+3</sup>, Cr<sup>+3</sup>

T=Si, Al, B      V=Oh, O      W=OH, F, O

**The three most well-known tourmalines are:**

**Elbaite** - Na(Li<sub>1.5</sub>Al<sub>1.5</sub>)Al<sub>6</sub>(Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>18</sub>)(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(OH)<sub>3</sub>(OH)

**Schorl** - Na(Fe<sup>2+</sup>)<sub>3</sub>Al<sub>6</sub>(Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>18</sub>)(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(OH)<sub>3</sub>(OH)

**Dravite** - Na(Mg<sub>3</sub>)Al<sub>6</sub>(Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>18</sub>)(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(OH)<sub>3</sub>(OH)

**And the lesser-known members include:**

**Uvite** - CaMg<sub>3</sub>(Al<sub>5</sub>Mg)(Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>18</sub>)(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(OH)<sub>3</sub>(OH)

**Liddicoatite** - Ca(Li<sub>2</sub>Al)Al<sub>6</sub>(Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>18</sub>)(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(OH)<sub>3</sub>(OH)

**Buergerite** - NaFe<sup>2+</sup><sub>3</sub>Al<sub>6</sub>(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>18</sub>O<sub>3</sub>F

Tourmaline has a Moho Scale hardness of seven and a specific gravity of 2.9-3.1. It has an indistinct cleavage, so any specimen with obvious cleavage is probably not tourmaline. The most common tourmaline color is black, but the mineral occurs in all colors of the spectrum.

### This month's rock or mineral



## 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/>

**Facebook Group:** [Panorama Gem & Mineral Club](#)

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 club and members plans.*

*This has resulted in the modification of our club meetings and club 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 2021

**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:			
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