

Place:
Arden Community Hall
636 Hall Rd
Arden, WA



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

The Panorama Prospector

February 2023

PANORAMA GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

Minutes of the January 17, 2023 General Meeting

By Glynis Hull, Secretary

President: Lynne Calvert opened the meeting at 6 pm, welcoming visitor Leann Youngblood.

Officers were introduced: Lynne Calvert, President; Bob Bristow, Vice President (absent tonight); Glynis Hull, Secretary; Frank Stratton, Treasurer. It was noted that Cyndie Doppler, the newest trustee, was in attendance.

Lynne brought up the subject of trips. We need trip leaders with knowledge of where we are going. They don't have to do every trip. Club liability was brought up and the use of release of liability forms will continue to be used. A notebook will be created to detail trips. The trilobite trip will happen again this year.

The meeting was turned over to Johnie Pitman to discuss the show. See the lead article in the next column.

We had a break while Glynis Hull set up the presentation which had technical difficulties preventing it from being shown. Roger Calvert then presented his work on putting rock sites into a GPS program so they could be found easier on maps. Glynis will do her presentation in February after the technical issue was resolved.

Show Show Show Show Show! It Won't Be Long Before We'll All Be There with Show!

(May Irving Berlin forgive me!) Yes folks, it's that time!! Johnie Pitman is chairing the show again this year and we owe him a big thank you and all of our support to make this the best show ever.

First, we decided on a theme for the show. Johnie had looked up several from past shows and ultimately the club decided on "Local Treasures" for this year's theme.

For advertising, a casual door survey last year showed the radio advertising was most effective. The newspaper ads weren't very effective so we will not use them this year and save us some money. Posters will be created and posted around the area.

Sharon will be preparing all the materials for the schools and the kids. (Kudos to her!!) She'll put together the treasure hunt for the kids. She will also put together packets for each school, with age-appropriate materials for the students. She'll have examples at the next meeting. Volunteers are needed to help distribute the packets to the schools.

Johnie will take care of the building arrangements and the floor plan.

Surprise Finding on a Stroll in the Sunshine

By Lynne Calvert

It's hard to describe the pleasure of walking in the California sun in December along a reservoir with

your family. My daughter, Christa, left the snow in Michigan along with her husband, Eric, and two children to stay with us on their Christmas vacation. Our grandkids remember California from when they were younger. Gracie is the oldest and was in bliss to be in warmer weather and visiting the lake where she learned to fish and her family spent days on end making memories. She is a free-spirited teenager now. Waylon is the wild child and loves to do daring physically challenging feats – just don't tell him we are going on a hike. To him, hiking is boring unless there is a waterfall to climb or cliffs to scale.

The preceding months had proven to be a typical California weather pattern – very little rainfall. The lakes were lower than usual. This particular lake had been enlarged with a higher dam to capture more water during wet years. It was 2015 and the water level was so low the old dam was exposed. It beckoned us to explore it as we walked along a trail until it gave way to tall grass and weeds. In a month or two, the warmer temperatures would draw out the rattlesnakes that would make it unwise to proceed through tall grass. The old dam was interesting and we could walk on some of the old cement structure. Waylon pushed the limits. Afterwards, we walked to the edge of the lake to make our way back as the water gently sloshed along the shoreline.

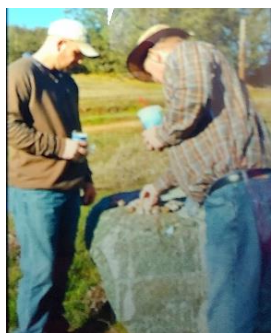
Eric loves the outdoors including prospecting for gold. He had a claim at the Gun Boot mine near Angels Camp, CA prior to moving to Michigan. We were honored to be invited to go there one time. They enjoyed showing us the mines. The grandkids had the rare opportunity to show us a place we had never been. They were the hosts for the first time in their lives and it created a stronger bond with us. One time, we brought our ATV to the claim. Waylon was quite young but he was quivering in excitement to ride it. He was disappointed Gracie was allowed to operate it but he had to ride with his GRANDMA. We can trust Gracie! I made sure to give him a thrill ride down an embankment, splashing through the creek, and up the other side. I suppose if he was driving the ATV would have caught some air. He had a great time whooping and hollering anyways.

When they moved to Michigan, it was a job opportunity Eric could not turn down. As luck would have it, (or providence) I had a job that involved quite a bit of traveling including to Michigan at least twice a year. I racked up airline mileage and was able to visit them at Christmas. Eric continued getting promotions until he was able to afford this vacation to California with the entire family. It was a treat for me and Roger to watch them relish in the sun and visit their old stomping grounds as we continued our trek along the lake.

We found fishing lures and other manmade “treasures” including beer cans lodged in the mud that had been submerged well in the past. We had walked to the location to start our ascent up the hill to our vehicle. Roger noticed a knoll that hadn't been touched by man since the reservoir was created. He started digging around and found a small crystal quartz. Waylon found some as well. Gracie found a fairly nice size one that was clear and “gemmy” looking. She was beaming she found the big one. As we were leaving, Eric said he saw a soda pop bottle stuck in the side of the knoll. He started to walk away and Roger wanted to verify it was a bottle...could it be a crystal? He stuck his hand in the mud and pulled it out. He had a handful of mud and could see a small window on one side of the muck. He ran his thumb along it to clear off the mud to get a better look. There was so much mud it had to be washed off in the lake. He was getting excited because he knew it was likely a crystal – a big one. With his back to us he exclaimed Eric was the big winner. Eric tried to downplay it so Gracie wouldn't be deflated. She was no longer the winner for finding the largest crystal but we were all happy to have found anything since we didn't set out to go prospecting on our little stroll along the beach next to a sparkling lake – er, I mean, our walk among the mudflats of a drought stricken lake.

Our next family adventure is the total eclipse of the sun in April 2024 at Kerrville, Texas. You can bank on the fact we will be doing some prospecting along our trip.

(Pictures below.)



Eric and Roger sorting our surprise findings



Eric holding Eric's crystal Gracie's crystal

Tell Me What You Think

I would like to start a blip in this newsletter for people seeking items or having items they want to donate or sell that others would not know about. For example, I am looking for picture jasper slices with good pictures in them. Cyndie would like a tumbling barrel. Perhaps you would like to unload a bucket of something that you have way too much of (if you're like me), or a piece of equipment to sell. If the idea of a club want ad section appeals to you, let me know and I will set up a section. You can email me at gghull@comcast.net and let me know your opinion.

Identify the "Rock or Mineral"

Last month's rock or mineral:



Birdseye Rhyolite – Also called Orbicular Rhyolite Rhyolite is an extrusive igneous rock, formed from magma rich in silica that is extruded from a volcanic vent to cool quickly on the surface. It is generally light in color and very fine-grained.

An extrusive igneous rock is classified as rhyolite when quartz constitutes 20% to 60% by volume of its total content of quartz, alkali feldspar, and plagioclase makes up 35% to 90% of its total feldspar content. Feldspathoids are not present. This makes rhyolite the extrusive equivalent of granite. The alkali feldspar in rhyolites is sanidine or, less commonly, orthoclase. It is rarely anorthoclase. These feldspar minerals sometimes are present as phenocrysts. The plagioclase is usually sodium-rich (oligoclase or andesine). Cristobalite and tridymite are sometimes present along with the quartz. Biotite, augite, fayalite, and hornblende are common accessory minerals.

Orbicular Rhyolite is a variety of quartz porphyry containing small phenocrysts of quartz in a microgranitic groundmass of quartz, orthoclase, albite, and mica. The rock has a characteristically spotted or streaked appearance due to staining by hydroxides of iron and manganese.

In Birdseye or Orbicular Rhyolite a highly silicified rhyolite or tuff has quartz and feldspar crystallized into radial aggregates of needle-like crystals forming orbicular (spherical) structures.

This month's rock or mineral:



Some Rocks from Quartzsite, AZ

By Jim Retzer

After a rough start we finally made it to Quartzsite, AZ. When we left home our 5th wheel was covered with 3 feet of snow and I had to dig it out to get it to our driveway. Heading south we had snow and cold until we reached Nevada. The last snow melted off the roof of our RV when we reached Las Vegas, NV. Now that we reached Arizona it has been shorts and tee-shirt weather (well all most) most of the time.

We got to Quartzsite intime for the Quartzsite Rockhound Pow Wow. This is a week long rock and gem show with dealers coming from far and wide with some of the best and newest lapidary material available. We were met there by Mark and Debra Dannialson, who use to be members of the Panarama Rock Club until they moved to Casa Granda, AZ.



Mark and Debra Looking Over Some Slabs

We picked up some great slabs there.



**Slabs: Top Row - Dino Bone, Desucuttes Jasper.
Next Row - Bruno Jasper, Imperial Jasper.
Bottom Right - Chrysocola**



Mark Deciding on Some Slabs.

The next day we went out to a location North of Quartzsite, just up the road from our camp. This location is a ridge of Green Banded Rhyolite. The morning was a little cool (It was about 54 degrees) and windy. This site prodgues some great samples of this material. It is located at Quinn Pass on Plamosa Road between Quartzsite and Bouse, Arizona.



Sign at the Turn-out at Quinn Pass

A path going up the hill on the west side of the turn out leads to the collecting are at the top of the hill.
(Cont on pg 5)

You know you're a rockhound if:

You prefer barite roses to real ones.

Your garage is so full of rocks the car won't fit in.

You've ever dumpster-dived at a marble warehouse.



Green Banded Rhyolite Rubble On the Hills Slope

In about an hour we had collected enough cuttable material to make the trip well worth while.



Mark and Debra with a large piece of the Banded Rhyolit. The path going up the ridge can be seen in the background.

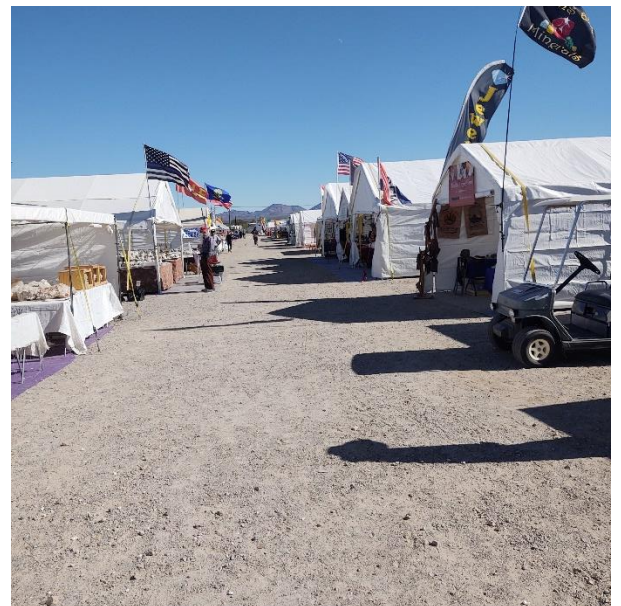


A smaller piece Mark collected in his saw.



Material Collected by Mark and Debra.

After our quick morning outing we went to Desert Gardens. This is a location in Quartzsite where many rock and gem dealers set up for January and February. Again we picked up some slabs and rough material.



One row of dealers at Desert Gardens



Some of the Slabs I bought at Desert Gardens, On the left is Cryola Jasper from Nevada, Next is Ohio Flint, Then Indian Paint Rock From Death Valley, CA and Last is some Freedom Jasper or Gary Green.

Along with the slabs I also picked up 20 pounds of Freedom Jasper at a very good price.



It was a great time seeing and collecting some wonderful material. But, it was even better that we got to share it with our good friends.

Now it is time to go on to Tucson, AZ and the rock and gem shows there, including one show that has around 120 fossil and dino bone dealers.

Fossil Bones from the Largest Penguin that Ever Lived Unearthed in New Zealand by Sarah Collins, [University of Cambridge](#)

Fossil bones from two newly described penguin species, one of them thought to be the largest penguin to ever

live—weighing more than 150 kilograms, more than three times the size of the largest living penguins—have been unearthed in New Zealand.

The fossils were exposed from within the boulders. They have been identified as being between 59.5 and 55.5 million years old, marking their existence as roughly five to 10 million years after the end-Cretaceous extinction which led to the extinction of non-avian dinosaurs.

The team used laser scanners to create digital models of the bones and compare them to other fossil species, flying diving birds like auks, and modern penguins. To estimate the size of the new species, the team measured hundreds of modern penguin bones and calculated a regression using flipper bone dimensions to predict weight.

They concluded that the largest flipper bones belong to a penguin that tipped the scales at an astounding 154 kg. In comparison, emperor penguins, the tallest and heaviest of all living penguins, typically weigh between 22 and 45 kg.



Skeletal illustrations of *Kumimanu fordycei*, *Petradypptes stonehousei*, and a modern emperor penguin showing the sizes of the new fossil species.

"Fossils provide us with evidence of the history of life, and sometimes that evidence is truly surprising," said co-author Dr. Daniel Field. "Many early fossil penguins attained enormous sizes, easily dwarfing the largest penguins alive today. Our new species, *Kumimanu fordycei*, is the largest fossil penguin ever discovered—at approximately 350 pounds, it would have weighed more than [basketball player] Shaquille O'Neal at the peak of his dominance!"

Multiple specimens of a second penguin species were also found, providing a detailed view of the skeleton. Dubbed *Petradypptes stonehousei*, it weighed in at 50kg, smaller than *Kumimanu fordycei* but still well above the weight of an emperor penguin. The name combines the Greek "petra" for rock and "dypptes" for diver, a play on the diving bird being preserved in a boulder.

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 (Glynis)

We are always looking for newsletter inputs from our members. If you have an idea for an article, please forward it to gghull@comcast.net. If you don't want to write a whole article, send me pictures with a brief note about them and I'll be happy to put them in this newsletter. Remember, "a picture is worth a thousand words"!

Refreshment Schedule for 2023

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:	Lynne Calvert	lynnecalvert501@gmail.com	559-906-5923
Vice-President:	Bob Bristow	bristow71@outlook.com	509-935-4375
Secretary:	Glynis Hull	gghull@comcast.net	509-981-9714
Treasurer:	Frank Stratton	frstratton@outlook.com	509-207-8503
Trustee 1:	Scot Jackson	free2rockhound@yahoo.com	509-680-4896
Trustee 2:	Jim Peters	jimnbetty17@gmail.com	509-992-6921
Trustee 3:	Cyndi Doppler		509-216-5473

Committee Chairs

Program Coordinator:	Sheila Stratton	skstratton@hotmail.com	509-207-8506
Hospitality:	Betty Peters	jimnbetty17@gmail.com	509-992-6921
Historian:	Sheila Stratton	skstratton@hotmail.com	509-207-8506
Newsletter:	Glynis Hull	gghull@comcast.net	509-981-9714
Show Chair	Johnie Pitman	jgpitman@outlook.com	509-684-8887