

Place:
Arden Community Hall
636 Hall Rd
Arden, WA



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

The Panorama Prospector

June 2024

PANORAMA GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

Minutes for the May 21, 2024 General Meeting

Lynne called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

She showed items for new members kit

Frank gave the financial report

Scholarships were decided upon. Johnie moved that Jim Peters be reimbursed for his mileage

Lynnne talked about trips and passed out a planning calendar, talked about June trips

Frank will update the webpage with the info

Jim R talked about the Prineville area

Website has searchable capability for trips

There was a reminder to bring safety equipment on trips

Share a Rock:

April looked for Fairburn agates and found 2

Johnie had a lady donate a box of rocks, wanted people to sign the thank you note

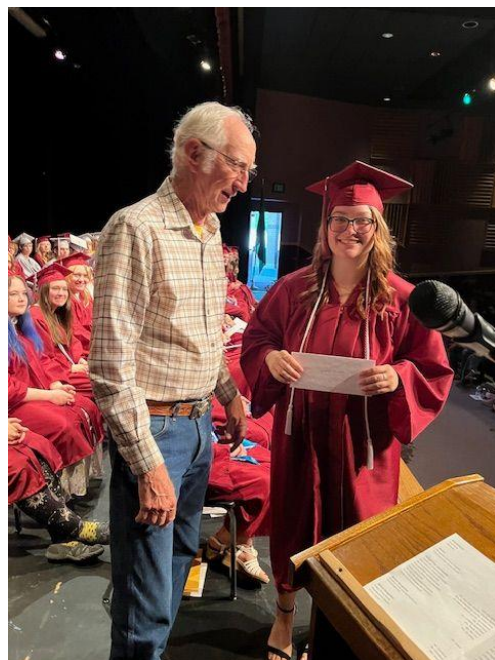
Roger shared specimen of kernite

Gena asked members to donate polished rock for "Christmas boxes" digging kit to be sent internationally

Jim R shared about Spencer Opal

Betty talked about the library and coming changes

And the Scholarship Winners Are:



From Colville HS is Teighlor Ruetsch. Teighlor plans to attend WSU and major in Education.



From Kettle falls HS is Harmony Pakoolas. She will attend WSU and study Biology and the veterinarian program.



At North Port High school another donation was made by Brenda Kroeger-Piper for a scholarship there. The recipient is Tabetha Myers. She is planning on attending Evergreen beauty college.



Scholarship recipient Haylee Frizzell is accepted to North Dakota State college of science. She is planning to major in business of agriculture along with conservation and US forestry service

Gemstones (A series)

<https://geologyscience.com/minerals/silicates-minerals/>

Precious Gemstones

Precious gemstones are highly valuable gemstones that are known for their rarity, beauty, and durability. There are four types of precious gemstones:

1. **Diamond:** Diamonds are the most well-known and highly prized precious gemstones. They are typically colorless and are known for their exceptional brilliance and hardness. Diamonds are commonly used in engagement rings and other fine jewelry.
2. **Ruby:** Rubies are a bright red gemstone that is highly valued for their color and rarity. The finest rubies are a deep red color and are often more valuable than diamonds. Rubies are commonly used in high-end jewelry.
3. **Sapphire:** Sapphires are a blue gemstone that can also be found in other colors such as pink, yellow, and green. They are known for their hardness and durability and are commonly used in engagement rings and other fine jewelry.
4. **Emerald:** Emeralds are a green gemstone that is highly valued for their vibrant color and rarity. The finest emeralds are a deep green color and are often more valuable than diamonds. Emeralds are commonly used in high-end jewelry.

These precious gemstones have been highly prized for centuries and are associated with wealth, power, and luxury. They are often used in high-end jewelry and are frequently given as gifts for special occasions such as engagements, weddings, and anniversaries. Due to their rarity and beauty, precious gemstones can be quite expensive and are often considered an investment.

Semi-precious Gemstones

Semi-precious gemstones are gemstones that are not as rare or valuable as precious gemstones, but are still highly valued for their beauty and unique properties. Here are some examples of semi-precious gemstones:

1. **Amethyst**: A purple gemstone that is known for its beauty and affordability. It is believed to promote calmness and mental clarity.
2. **Citrine**: A yellow gemstone that is known for its warmth and energy. It is believed to bring happiness and abundance.
3. **Garnet**: A dark red gemstone that is known for its durability and beauty. It is believed to promote passion and success.
4. **Peridot**: A green gemstone that is believed to promote happiness and joy. It is associated with good luck and prosperity.
5. **Topaz**: A gemstone that comes in a range of colors, including yellow, blue, and pink. It is believed to promote wisdom and emotional balance.
6. **Turquoise**: A blue-green gemstone that is associated with protection and strength. It is believed to bring good luck and health.
7. **Moonstone**: A gemstone that is known for its iridescence and luminosity. It is believed to promote intuition and emotional balance.
8. **Onyx**: A black gemstone that is associated with protection and strength. It is believed to bring focus and grounding.

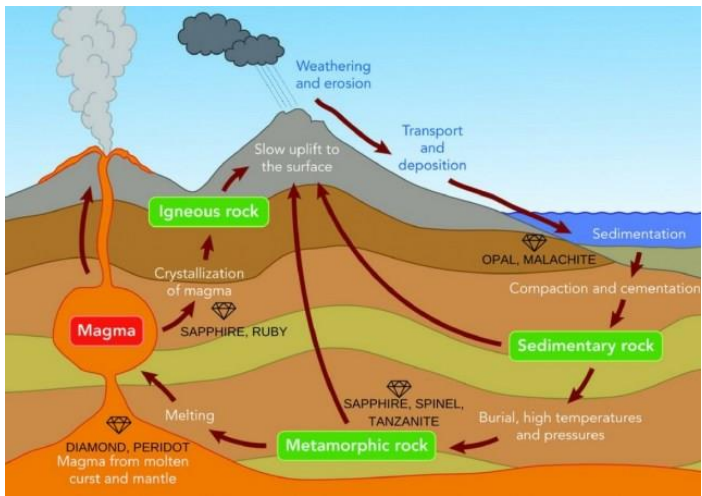
Semi-precious gemstones are often more affordable than precious gemstones, making them a popular choice for jewelry and other decorative objects. They are also frequently used in alternative healing practices, as they are believed to have spiritual and metaphysical properties. While they may not be as rare or valuable as precious gemstones, they are still highly valued for their unique properties and beauty.

How Gemstones Are Formed

Gemstones are formed through a variety of geological processes over millions of years. Here are some of the most common ways that gemstones are formed:

1. **Igneous rock formation**: Gemstones can be formed through the cooling and solidification of molten rock, known as magma. As the magma cools, crystals form, which can eventually become gemstones. Examples of gemstones formed through igneous rock formation include diamonds, topaz, and garnet.
2. **Metamorphic rock formation**: Gemstones can also be formed through the intense heat and pressure of metamorphic rock formation. During this process, existing minerals are recrystallized, which can create new gemstones. Examples of gemstones formed through metamorphic rock formation include sapphire, ruby, and garnet.
3. **Sedimentary rock formation**: Gemstones can also be formed through sedimentary rock formation, which occurs when sediment and organic material are compressed over time. As the sediment is compressed, minerals can crystallize and form gemstones. Examples of gemstones formed through sedimentary rock formation include amethyst and opal.
4. **Organic formation**: Some gemstones, such as pearls, are formed through organic processes. Pearls are formed inside the shells of mollusks as a defense mechanism against irritants, such as sand or parasites. Over time, layers of nacre build up around the irritant, forming a pearl.

The formation of gemstones is a complex and lengthy process that can take millions of years. The type of gemstone and its unique properties are determined by the specific geological conditions and processes that occurred during its formation.



It is in the Amorphous Crystal System as it usually occurs in earthy, massive, botryoidal, mammillary, stalactite, and fibrous forms. Its general characteristic color is yellow, but it is also found as brown, and reddish-brown and it gives a yellow to brown streak on a steak plate. The variation in colors is based on the iron oxides that form the specimen. Cooking limonite partially changes it to hematite. It has a hardness between 4 – 5.5 and a specific gravity from 2.7 to 4.5 due to the variation of its mineral content.

It was one of the earliest materials used for iron production. But its earliest use was as a pigment. It is found in many early cultures around the world. It could provide a variety of coloration with the yellow form producing a yellow ochre while the darker forms produce more earthy tones. When roasted it partially changes to hematite and produces a red ochre.

Identify the “Rock or Mineral”

By Jim Retzer

Last month’s rock or mineral:



Limonite – It was originally classified as a single mineral but now it is a general term for a mixture of hydroxides and oxides of iron. It does not form in crystals but usually occurs in earthy, massive, botryoidal, mammillary, stalactic and sometimes fibrous form.

In general, limonite is a mixture of fine-grained iron oxides, including goethite, lepidocrocite, akageneite, jarosite, hematite, and other minerals. Determination of the precise mineral composition is practical only with X-ray diffraction (XRF) techniques. It forms from weathering of other iron minerals and precipitate by iron rich deposits and ground water. Though it does not form in crystalline structures, individual minerals in limonite may form crystals. Limonite also forms as a pseudomorph after other minerals, especially pyrite, siderite, and marcasite.

The generic formula for limonite is usually written as $FeO(OH) \cdot nH_2O$, but this is not entirely accurate as the ratio of oxide to hydroxide can vary quite widely.

This month’s rock or mineral:



Montana Trip By Lynne Calvert

Frank, Sheila, their dog Ruger, Roger, and I departed for Montana several days before Jim Peters, Johnnie, and Gene. A couple, David and Katrina, from the Selkirk Gem Club in B.C. Canada were planning to join us later in the week, as well. On May 31st, Roger and I broke camp at Grasshopper campground

and drove to Crystal Park. We saw several elk and storks on our way. Soon, everyone arrived except for Gene who would be meeting us the next day. Johnie and Jim had already been digging the day before and had done well. Roger and I did some digging and found small crystals and smaller chips in addition to a really large crystal-clear chunk of ice. Imagine our disappointment when it began to get smaller in the sun. Roger showed it to Katrina and fooled her for a second and got a good laugh. We all returned to the RVs for lunch. Jim was finding good sized crystals and stayed on the mountain. When he joined us we surprised him with the birthday cake. As fate would have it, Jim found the largest crystal of the day. That is saying something because Johnie found a good sized one too. After lunch, Roger and I started digging in a different area. We both found bigger crystals at the new site. I was happy. Frank and Sheila also moved to a better location. Katrina and David did well. It was a glorious time with perfect weather in the high mountains and fresh air looking for nature's gems with good friends.

Katrina and David departed before everyone else as they had reservations in Philipsburg. I asked them to meet Gene in the morning at the grocery store to let him know we were camping closer to the mine and not going in to Philipsburg. The next day we learned they were camping near each other and connected that night. The rest of us caravanned to Springhill Campground. Sheila and Frank were tired from taking care of the rest of us with extra food, water, and cake! They turned in early for rest. Johnie, Jim, Roger and I partied on. After all, it was Jim's birthday celebration. We had popcorn and ice cream. We played "Name that Tune". Jim wanted Roger to play some Elvis but didn't have any of his songs downloaded. Our playlist was limited to songs about the sun from our last trip to the eclipse. There was no internet connection to download any Elvis songs. You can bet we downloaded an entire Elvis album when we returned home.

The next day everyone was up bright and early. It was time to go to Gem Mountain. When everyone arrived I tried to organize the purchases to buy 6 buckets and get the 7th free. However, my coordination skills were lacking. Some members had

already bought their buckets. Roger bought a smaller container instead of a bucket. It was significantly higher in price. We all had a great time sifting through the dirt and comparing sapphire sizes. Gene gave one of the young employees an impressive knife for helping him load extra buckets. She really liked the knife and will likely never forget him or this wild bunch of rock hounds. If you come to the June club meeting you will hear more about our trip and I have a surprise for you, compliments of Gene. It was a great time sifting through the dirt and gravel with other members of the club.

Everyone left for Philipsburg except Roger, me, Katrina and David. We said goodbye to them after making some more purchases and headed to Philipsburg. We did not see anyone we knew. We went to a gem store and met Lisa who evaluated our stones for free. The mine charges \$5. She recommended we send two off for firing. It was hard to part with these stones for eight months. We just found them. It's a gamble and we have something to look forward to, especially if they come out spectacular. We ate lunch and drove straight home. Gene graciously texted us to advise us how to get around road construction near Spokane and let us know he was home safely. Everyone else stayed at the \$50,000 Casino with hookups at no charge. We will remember that the next time we go. I thoroughly enjoyed everyone's company. The gem stones are fun to show and talk about with family and friends. The memories of the experience and connections with people will continue long after the trip is over. What a legacy.



Group at Gem Mountain Lunch break, Crystal Mtn

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)

Thank you to those who contributed to this issue. If you have a special story to share, contribute to OUR newsletter! Send ideas for articles, internet finds, jokes, pictures, adventure stories, science articles or your own articles to me.

gghull@comcast.net



Guinevere says “Hi”!

Refreshment Schedule for 2023

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

January – H, I, J

February – K, L, M

March – N, O, P

April – Q, R, S, T

May – W, A, B, C

June – D, E, F, G

July – H, I, J

August – Club Picnic

September – K, L, M

October – N, O, P

November - D, E, F, G

December – Christmas Party

Panorama Gem and Mineral Club: Organizational Chart

Officers

President:	Lynne Calvert		559-906-5923
Vice-President:	Bob Bristow		509-935-4375
Secretary:	Glynis Hull	gghull@comcast.net	509-981-9714
Treasurer:	Frank Stratton		509-207-8503
Trustee 1:	Kevin Youngblood		509-680-0207
Trustee 2:	Jim Peters		509-992-6921
Trustee 3:	Cyndi Doppler		509-216-5473

Committee Chairs

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