

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



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

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## **The Panorama Prospector**

April 2025

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

#### **Minutes for the March 18, 2025 General Meeting**

The meeting opened at 6:00 PM.

Lynne welcomed new member, Margaret Mahler. She brought her sister, Pat.

The Financial Report was read. The proceeds from each activity at the gem show was included in the report.

The 2025 PGMG Gem and Mineral Show was a huge success.

Lynne and Johnie thanked everyone for their hard work. In addition to the students from the Johnson Christian School, 26 club members volunteered their time to make the show spectacular. In addition, we had extra help from a non-member.

The cell phone exhibit was mentioned and phone APPs that help identify rocks. Sharon discussed the periodic table elements that are in a cell phone and how few cell phones are recycled.

Discussed the UV Light information sheets. (Electrons and frequencies of light, short and long waves).

The ads worked well based on the attendance. No need to expand or pay for additional advertising in the future.

Did you leave your hammer at the rock show?  
See Johnie.

Minutes cont.

Johnie brought extra copies of old newsletters for anyone to take home.

Johnie and Ginger assembled necklaces and filled the vials with garnets and small stones prior to the show. These necklaces augmented our rock prizes. This allowed the ball toss game to continue up until the last hour of the show.

Improvements and suggestions. Need a better cash box. Need directional arrows for the entrance and exit to the UV light tent.

**ROCKS:** We love donated rocks! The rocks get auctioned and the money stays local. We need more rocks and ask members to set some aside for the club as they go out rock hounding. We also need more polished rocks. The club will provide the grit for members who will tumble rocks for the club.

**Scholarships:** The coordination and logistical efforts to administer this program is cumbersome to our committee members. The club is considering other alternatives. The options are (1) keep the program as is, (2) "hire" an organization to administer the program, or (3) provide the money to local charities. We will have a representative from the organization come to one of our meetings. This organization collects a one-time fee of \$5,000. Many of you have questions and the representative will be able to answer them better than our committee members. At some point

Minutes cont.

we will be voting on the options. It's too late to change the program this year as the solicitations have already been sent to at least one of the schools.

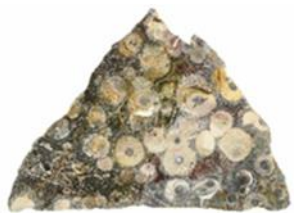
**Rock Hounding Trips:** Discussed day trip locations and potential overnight trips including Prineville, Oregon; multiple sites near Stanley, ID; and Montana. We will be able to set up dates once the snow is melted and weather is warmer.

**EASTER EGG HUNT:** Mark your calendar for April 26<sup>th</sup> to hunt for thunder eggs! Yes, we know it's after Easter but let's get together and enjoy the Spring air. So bring your lawn chairs, kites, Frisbees, and cornhole games. Ladies, decorate those Easter bonnets elaborately and wear them proudly! The time, location, and other details will be announced at our regular meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>. See you then.

## Identify the "Rock or Mineral"

By Jim Retzer

Last month's rock or mineral:



**Bird's Eye Rhyolite** - A volcanic igneous rock, that forms when magma quickly solidifies on the earth's surface. This rock is grey or brown color, with

small brown or reddish spheres or circles that resemble the bird's eyes. Rhyolite is a volcanic rock composed of fine-grained minerals, including feldspar, quartz, and mica. It forms when magma quickly solidifies on the earth's surface.

Bird's Eye Rhyolite is a type of Spherulitic rhyolite. Spherulites is the formation of distinctive rounded masses of radiating needle-like crystals that form by devitrification, a process where glassy, non-crystalline substances restructure into crystalline ones. In this case the unique pattern on the surface of the rock is created by the presence of gas bubbles in the lava which later formed round or ellipsoidal balls, composed of radiating, fibrous crystals (usually quartz or feldspar). These balls were formed when silica-rich rhyolites devitrify. The unique "bird's eye" patterns of this rhyolite are different from the orbicular spheres of ocean jasper which are silicified whereas the eyes in bird's eye rhyolite are spherulites. The spherulites in bird's eye rhyolite can give us insights into the cooling history of a lava flow, since their size corresponds to the rate at which lava cools. In general, their presence means the flow cooled quickly, but smaller spherulites can indicate faster cooling.

Bird's eye rhyolite is quite hard and durable. It has a hardness of 6-7 on the Mohs scale, and consists mainly of silicate of aluminum, potassium and sodium with a general chemical formula of  $\text{SiO}_2 + \text{K}_2\text{O}$ . Large amounts of this material comes from Casas Grandes Municipality, Chihuahua, Mexico, but it is also found in lesser amounts south of Quartzsite, Arizona.

This month's rock or mineral:



## BRICK AND BRACK AND BEACHBUMS

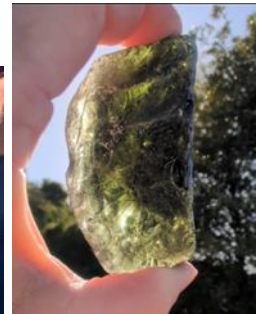
By Lynne Calvert

Friday evenings are reserved for 'date night' for Roger and me. We decided to go look for old square copper nails near an old wharf. We had to leave right away because low tide had passed and time was of the essence. I forgot to change my shoes so I'd have to be careful. The short walk to the water includes crossing two active railroad tracks. Fishermen with their families found some shady spots to block the warm California sun. The old wharf is gone except for the pilings. Remnants of an old shipwreck protrude out of the water. Some of the wooden hull is visible that provides an outline of one side of the ship. The rusted out boilers and paddle wheels tease the imagination about what it would have looked like steaming up the Carquinez Strait in the 1880s. The S.S. Garden City ferried passengers and automobiles into San Francisco. In 1983, a fire destroyed the S.S. Garden City and ferry pier.

We walked along the shoreline looking for any shapes resembling a square nail. The copper would have tarnished to a greenish color. The moss on most of the rocks made it more of a challenge. We walked about a mile. An Amtrak train went by on the tracks. There is little sand as the ground is strewn with old bricks, granite rocks, granite mixed with black tourmaline (schorl), sea glass, iron slag, and slag glass. The slag glass appears black on the ground and difficult to find. Moreover, it's often mixed with iron, covered with rocks, dirt, and moss. We discovered our first piece because the low angle of the sun illuminated one corner of its gleaming green color. We found a few more pieces and one was particularly brilliant as it was all glass. A freight train went by on the tracks as I waved to the Engineer who had a curious look on his face. We were searching in an area most people don't go but it seemed a likely place to find copper nails. After about twenty minutes we decided to make our way back to our car.

I hiked up a small hill to walk along the railroad tracks to avoid the uneven terrain we had been walking on. Roger stopped before climbing up the hill. He started moving rocks like a man on a mission. When he got his pocket knife out I knew it was time to find a place to sit. A large rock was nearby at the top of the hill away from the tracks. I waited to see what he was after as he held up an old Fresnel lens

light cover. It was a very good find. How he spotted it I'll never know. It was covered in moss and blended with the landscape. The late evening sun must have shone on it just right - at the right spot - at the right time as he was about to depart the shoreline. No copper nails were found but we were happy with the unexpected treasures we did find.



## 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/>

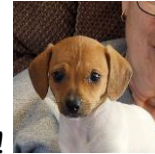
Facebook Group: [Panorama Gem & Mineral Club](#)

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, please 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](mailto:gghull@comcast.net)



Guinevere says “Hi”!

## Refreshment Schedule for 2025

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:		<a href="mailto:gghull@comcast.net">gghull@comcast.net</a>	
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	<a href="mailto:gghull@comcast.net">gghull@comcast.net</a>	509-981-9714
Show Chair	Johnie Pitman		509-684-8887