



Pacific Northwest Chapter FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

June 2002 Bulletin

Saying Goodbye to Two Long-time Members

John Sinkankas, mineralogist legend, passed away early Friday morning, May 17, 2002. John was a guest speaker at the very first PNWFM Symposium and spoke at many other symposiums over the years. He had been sick for some time, but the doctors could never find out exactly what was wrong. John's family was with him when he died. He was one of the nicest humans we have known, a friend, and an inspiration for and teacher of innumerable collectors. It is a great loss to the mineral,

Bill & Diana Dameron

David Hill was a long time member of PNWFM and served as a satellite dealer at our symposiums for many years. David was born, raised and spent his lifetime in Colton, Oregon. He retired as Geologist with Unocal in 1994. After a year and a half battle with cancer, he died on April 16, 2002, at age 65. David's smiling face and ever pleasant manner will certainly be missed at our annual symposiums.

Sharleen Harvey

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13th Annual Washington Pass Clean-Up Field Trip

When: Friday, August 9th - Sunday, August 11th

Where: Golden Horn Batholith, Washington Pass Area, North Cascades of Washington

Klipchuck Campground, State Highway 20,
3.5 miles west of Mazama, Okanogan County, WA

Food: Light breakfast provided Saturday and Sunday
Potluck dinner Saturday night

For Reservations: Contact John Cornish, j&gcornish@tenforward.com
or 360-457-7630

Once again we plan to spend a weekend collecting minerals, swapping tales around the campfire, and helping keep Washington Pass one of the most scenic places in the Northwest. As usual, Friday the 9th will consist of collecting and set-up for those who arrive early, followed by socializing and tall tales around the campfire at Klipchuck Campground. Saturday will consist of completing specific tasks designated by the Forest Service, then participants will go back to collecting minerals in one of the Northwest's most famous and scenic collecting areas. Saturday night and Sunday will be more tales and collecting before we head our separate ways.

John Cornish has volunteered to chair the field trip this year and all reservations should be coordinated through him. The Forest Service provides us with free campsites for Friday and Saturday nights in return for our labors. Please make your reservations early so we know if we need to reserve additional spaces. A light breakfast will be provided both Saturday and Sunday mornings, and there will be a potluck dinner Saturday night at Klipchuck campground. When making reservations with John, please also include what you plan to bring for the potluck.

I strongly encourage all who can attend to join us as this is currently the only coordinated service-oriented activity that our Chapter performs. We are all aware of the number of collecting localities that have been closed in recent years, therefore, I feel that it is extremely important for us to promote a positive working relationship with the public agencies that manage our playgrounds. Also, a couple of trips have been either cancelled or experienced low turnout in recent years due to heavy snowpack and fires, so the hot tubs and microwaves are probably starting to pile up below the lookout! Hope to see you there!

Aaron Wieting, PNWFM Vice President

The President's Message

Those that knew him or used his books were sorry to hear about the death of John Sinkankas May 17, 2002. There are memorials on the web about John. One of them is at <http://www.irocks.com/sinktext.htm>. PNWFM Secretary, Rusty Etwiler, has resigned for personal reasons. We are looking for a volunteer to write minutes for two or three meetings per year and handle a small amount of correspondence. Please contact me if you can help out.

The mid-year meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 21, in Port Townsend, at 1 p.m. The meeting room will be posted. This is in conjunction with the AFMS and NFMS annual meetings. There should be lots of display cases of interest to the membership. There should also be many mineral dealers that we do not see often in the Northwest. Come to the PNWFM meeting and attend the show. In addition to the regular agenda, the following have been suggested for new business: 1) select a theme for the 2003 Symposium to help the Symposium committee arrange speakers; 2) nomination/election of Secretary; and 3) the augite locality near PeEll, in Lewis County, has been collected

and left in poor shape and a suggestion has been made for an FM collecting / cleanup trip. Do we, Friends of Mineralogy, have enough interest in public relations to "repair" the site and keep it open for collecting? Both John Cornish and Rudy Tschernich have reported wonderful zeolite finds near there, also.

Not long after the mid-year meeting is the annual Washington Pass Cleanup and Collecting Trip. Put it on your calendar for August 9, 10 and 11. This is currently PNWFM's only public relations activity. Please plan to attend and help out. We only work for a couple of hours and have the rest of the weekend for collecting. See you there.

The August issue of *Rock and Gem* has an excellent feature article by Bob Jones about the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals. Get a copy and enjoy!

Look forward to seeing all of you in Port Townsend and Washington Pass,

Jim Etwiler

Upcoming Events

July 21st, 1 p.m., Sunday -- Mid-Year Meeting. The mid-year meeting will be held in conjunction with the AFMS/NFMS meeting in Port Townsend, WA (July 18-21). **Exact meeting location will be available at the conference. See President's Message for information regarding the meeting agenda. E-mail or call a PNWFM officer to add an item to the agenda.** More information about the show is available at <http://www.amfed.org/show2002.htm>.

Aug. 10th - 11th -- Washington Pass Cleanup. See the article on Page 1 for details.

September 15th-- 2002 Symposium Early Registration Due. "Inclusions: The Inside Story".

September 27th - 29th -- 2002 Symposium. "Inclusions: The Inside

Private Lands at Lolo Pass Closed to Collecting?

Note from John Cornish

I was talking with Bryant Harris, of Missoula, Montana, about Lolo Pass. Bryant mentioned that the majority owner of this area's timber resources, Plum Creek Logging, has closed all of their lands in the Lolo Pass area to mineral collecting. Forest Service lands are not included in this closure at present.

28th Annual PNWEM Symposium

Inclusions: The Inside Story

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

The 28th Annual Pacific Northwest Friends of Mineralogy Symposium will be held at the Red Lion Hotel, in Kelso/Longview, Washington, September 27 through 29, 2002. The topic for this year's symposium will be "Inclusions: The Inside Story." See the enclosed brochure for information regarding guest speakers, the agenda and important registration information. Complete the Registration Form on the back of this newsletter or brochure in order to ensure that you have a room at the Symposium.

Please contact the appropriate committee member to volunteer time, present a display or ask questions about the Symposium.

Symposium Competitions!

There will be two competitions this year with major (big bucks!!!) rewards for the winners.

The first is now an old standby—"The mineral ID contest." As usual, a challenging array of unidentified specimens will face the entrants. Contestants will have from the beginning of the lunch break on Saturday to closing that evening to turn in their entries. This will be the fourth consecutive year for this contest. Each year many entrants have spent long hours assaying the samples. Our hats go off to each and every contestant!! Each year's scores have been, frankly, amazing. The average entry has been surprisingly accurate and the winners have been almost uncanny! For those who have been following the results, we have had three different winners—no repeats. Can this go on, or will we have a tiebreaker? STAY TUNED!

The second contest ties in with our theme: "The Best Inclusion." Again, all are invited and encouraged to enter. Contestants will enter one specimen that exhibits some form of inclusion. The winner will be determined by popular vote. The specimen can be part of a display, but the specimen must be clearly marked with a special label that will be available at the registration desk. Other entries will be displayed in a display case that will be reserved

for contest entries. We encourage you to dig deep into your collection and KNOCK OUR SOCKS OFF with your astounding inclusion specimens!!!!

Bob Meyer

Help us Publicize Our Annual Symposium

Your help in getting the word out to the mineral community will help the attendance at our Symposium. If you will be attending an event this summer and believe there may be an interest in the Symposium, get fliers for the event by contacting Jade Wieting (pdxpounder@hotmail.com).

2002 PNWEM Symposium Special Exhibitors

Special exhibits confirmed at this time include: (1) Pseudomorphs, Si and Ann Frazier; (2) Diamonds and Inclusions, John Koivula; (3) Agate Inclusions: Plume and Sagenite, Rudy Tschernich; (4) Crystals with Inclusions, Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals.

Members are encouraged to exhibit their collections. Space for your case and/or cases with liners are available. For exhibit registration, please complete and mail the enclosed form or contact Sharleen Harvey, Exhibits Chair: 503-248-4194 (h), 503-647-2418 (w), bill-sharleenharvey@worldnet.att.net.

Chairperson

Aaron Wieting
pdxpounder@hotmail.com

Facilities Coordinator

Sharleen Harvey
bill-sharleenharvey@worldnet.att.net

Speakers / MC

Bill Dameron & John Cornish
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Displays

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Auctioneer

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Set-up / Tear-down / Audio

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Micromounters Program

Bob Smith / Pacific Northwest
MicroMineral Study Group

T-Shirt Design & Production

Jade Wieting / John Lindell
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Pyrite111@aol.com

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Summary of Results of Opal Creek Public Comment

Aaron Wieting

Recently I took the opportunity to express my opinion as part of the public comment period on the Draft Management Plan for the Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area (SRA) in Marion Co., Oregon. I took an interest in this area as part of my efforts in documenting non-zeolite/lapidary mineral occurrences in Oregon, which have been poorly documented relative to zeolites, in particular. The SRA includes the southern portion of the North Santiam Mining District which was a minor producer of silver, gold, and primarily copper. In my research, I came across references to specimen quality, common sulfide minerals, which, of course, piqued my interest as a somewhat sulfide-starved Oregon collector.

I was fortunate enough to learn that a draft Management Plan was in the works shortly before it was available for public comment and decided to use it as a test case to see what I could accomplish. My real interest was in gauging the response to collecting activities in the area in general, since the northern half of the North Santiam District is included in the Opal Creek Wilderness Area, which will have a Management Plan drafted within the next couple years. Most of the mineral resources I've been interested in are within the Wilderness Area, so my intent was primarily to determine how much time I had left to work on documenting these mineral occurrences.

The Forest Service (FS) received voluminous comments on the draft Management Plan and chose to address the comments in excerpts by resource theme in the subsequent Environmental Assessment for the Opal Creek SRA Management Plan. Overall, the results were generally favorable to my comments. I attempted to address the recreational activities of mineral collecting and rockhounding from as many angles as I could in order to hopefully demonstrate that collecting is an important recreational opportunity that must be preserved. Following are the excerpts from my comments and the direct responses from the Forest Service:

i. The first excerpt is addressed under the individual response section.

My comment: "My personal experience is that if certain activities within highly regulated land use areas are not designated as permitted, they are often interpreted by many people as prohibited." My real concern was that rockhounding was described in the Management plan as historically occurring in certain areas, yet it wasn't addressed anywhere else in the plan, thus giving the impression that it was restricted to specific areas.

FS Response: "There are many activities allowed on National Forest lands. Generally, it is easier to list the exceptions or what is not allowed. Ensuring that people understand that an activity is owed

unless posted as prohibited is something that the Forest Service should consider when providing information."

Note: Given that my comment was in direct reference to collecting, I considered this a very favorable response.

ii. The second excerpt was addressed directly as proposing to allow recreational rockhounding throughout the SRA.

My comment: "I disagree with the exclusion of rockhounding under descriptions of historical recreation activities within the SRA in the Proposed Management Plan. I also disagree with the characterization of rockhounding as only occurring within a 'designated corridor'...."

FS Response: "Addressed in Alternative #6—Allow Additional Use Above What Is In The Proposed Management Plan."

Note: Alternative #6 includes additional language that proposes to allow rockhounding and panning within the wetted perimeter of all streams in the SRA. This seemed to be an attempt to also address comments that panning should, ADDITIONALLY be permitted on the tributaries of the Little North Santiam River. This response was a little odd as I specifically stated in my comments that the minerals of interest in the North Santiam District are associated with

As noted in the President's message, at our July 21st meeting in Port Townsend we will discuss possible themes for the 2003 symposium with the intent to have a decision by the 2002 symposium. Please think about possible mineral themes of wide interest which lend themselves to exciting displays and speakers. Geographic areas which are now producing fine specimens (i.e. China), geologic conditions which result in fine specimens (i.e. skarns), classes of minerals (i.e. sulfides or carbonates). Bring ideas of what you would like to see. If you are unable to attend the meeting and have an idea you would like to pass along, please e-mail or call any of the PNWFM officers.

If a member of the FM community stands out to you as making great contributions to minerals, the science and the life-long hobby, bring their name to the July 21st Port Townsend meeting or submit your nomination to one of the Board members. All nominees will be considered and the recipient will be honored at this year's Symposium.

Former Recipients

2001	Harvey Gordon	1996	Ray Lasmanis
2000	Rudy Tschernich		Cheryl Burchim
1999	Bob Boggs	1995	Norm Steele
1998	Arlene Handley	1994	Bob Smith
1997	Richard and Helen Rice	1993	Mike Groben

Opal Creek Public Comment (cont'd)

historic lode mining activities and not with streams. Of course, due to liability concerns, the FS would not likely include anything in the Management Plan which would be perceived as encouraging certain recreational activities in the vicinity of potentially hazardous abandoned mines. Subsequently, in light of the response to the first excerpt, I would be satisfied if any reference to rockhounding or mineral collecting were left out of the Management Plan altogether.

iii. The final excerpt was addressed under the theme Eliminating Historical Use—May Violate Legislation.

My comment: "...on page 22 of the Proposed Management Plan in the Standards Section, 'Recreational activities at not less than the levels in existence on the date of enactment of P.L. 104-333 shall be permitted.' Though limited in extent, rockhounding has occurred in areas of the SRA..."

FS Response: "Addressed in Alternative #6—Allow Additional Use Above What Is In The Proposed Management Plan."

Note: I cited personal and anecdotal evidence that recreational collecting had occurred in the SRA prior to SRA designation and based on language included in the legislation, the public's right to rockhounding/mineral collecting must be preserved. Again, in light of the first response, this response may be redundant.

In Conclusion: Overall, the response to the concept of collecting within the Opal Creek area has been positive. By my interpretations of the responses to my comments, collecting is inferred as permitted, even without language directly permitting collecting activities. As I noted in my comments, this may be in part due to the fact that the level of collecting activity and subsequent impacts have been extremely low. Thus, collecting activities have

generally been below the radar of land use managers who are more concerned with the typical impacts of overuse on the Opal Creek area. However, collecting activities are potentially restricted by language in the Wilderness Act and the draft Management Plan that permit various recreational activities provided that the "wilderness character" of the area is maintained. Therefore, as collectors, we must always be conscious of our visible impacts on highly regulated public lands. We collectors do appreciate the outdoors and spectacular scenery as much as those who labor to preserve our nation's scenic treasures, we just like to bring a little more of the experience home with us....

Complete and Return

General Registration

Includes Saturday's banquet dinner.

BEFORE September 15th,

\$45 x _____ registrants = \$ _____

AFTER September 15th,

\$54 x _____ registrants = \$ _____

Meals (include tax and gratuity):

SATURDAY BANQUET:

Additional banquet meals for guests not attending symposium meetings:

\$22 x _____ attendees = \$ _____

SATURDAY DELI-LUNCH BUFFET:

Not included in General registration.

\$12.⁵⁰ x _____ attendees = \$ _____

Room Dealer

Yes, I will be a room dealer (please see section on Satellite Dealers).

Room Dealer Fee \$15 \$ _____

Payment of 2003 Dues

\$15 for 2003 dues \$ _____

The deadline for 2002 dues was June 1, 2002.

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Name

Street Address

City, State ZIP

() _____
Phone Number

Phone Number

E-mail Address

Mail your registration form and check to:

Pacific Northwest Chapter
FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

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