

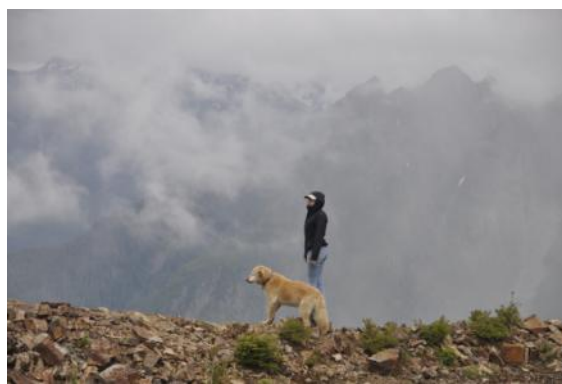


PNWFM NEWSLETTER

SUMMER COLLECTING FINALLY ARRIVES IN THE PNW

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Counter clockwise:

Kendra Sermersky on Bessemer Ridge, July 2012

Linda Smith and Greg Wilson tailgating at the McDermit, NV thunderegg site. July 2012

Joe George showing off scepters from his Hallelujah Jct. dig in May 2012.

Rick Powell at Mt Teneriffe, July 2012

Linda Smith visits a rock shop in McDermit, July 2012.

Next pic - you at Washington Pass August 10-12, 2012.

Photos by John Lindell and Linda Smith

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Bob Meyer

Dear fellow mineral collectors, it is my sincere hope that you are having a great summer. Since I am anxious to get out and enjoy the hills, the following message is something of a repeat from past years. Despite this, the message is just as pertinent today as it was before

It's summer in the Pacific Northwest, the all-too-short time we wait for during the gray days of the winter here on the Westside, or the cold days that occur east of the mountains. Summer is particularly significant for Pacific Northwestern mineral collectors. It is that time when we can get out and enjoy the outdoor aspects of mineral collecting. This might involve visiting collecting locales, swinging hammers, and breaking up rocks. I hope you all have the chance to partake in some outdoor collecting activity this summer.

Looking ahead, you have some excellent opportunities to both collect and to help the Okanogan National Forest at our 20th Annual Washington Pass Clean-up on August 10-12, 2012. (Details elsewhere in this newsletter). If you have not attended a clean-up before, you have been missing our most enjoyable annual event, and it is a great chance to build some goodwill with the Forest Service, the governmental stewards of Washington State's preeminent mineral locale.



A bit of history of the Washington Pass Clean-Up: *the first clean-up held in August 1990 was held at the suggestion of then PNWFM president Becky Harris, and it was organized by then PNWFM treasurer Cheryl Stewart.*

It is also not too soon to start thinking about the symposium. Perhaps you have it in mind to put in a display case this year or to be a satellite dealer. Maybe you would like to help with planning or putting on the symposium. We're all volunteers, you know, and your contributions of time are very welcome.

As always, one of the best parts of this job is the opportunity to communicate with members. I encourage you to stay in touch via e-mail or telephone, and let me know what you are thinking about PNWFM.

**Happy summer,
Bob Meyer**

Washington Pass Cleanup, August 10th-12th

PNW Friends of Mineralogy will hold its annual Washington Pass cleanup on August 10th-12th this year. Members gather at one of Washington's premier collecting localities for a weekend of service, camping, collecting, and camaraderie.

Campsites are reserved for the group at Klipchuck Campground near mile post 174 about 8 miles east of Washington Pass. The group will meet here and camp Friday and Saturday nights.

On Saturday the Forest Service will assign a small work project to the group. Usually this involves a couple hours of cleanup or ground maintenance. The afternoon is free for collecting. A number of experts on Washington Pass mineralogy are usually in attendance to assist in guiding members on where to collect and in helping to identify the minerals found. Saturday evening there is a group potluck back at camp and the mandatory black light collecting trip to "the rockslide". Sunday morning is back to the slopes for more collecting and photography.

Bring camping gear, food and drink, collecting tools, a black light, camera, loupe, sunscreen, bug repellent and a few tall tales.

Contact Wes Gannaway at 360-384-4209 or debnwes@comcast.net for information and to reserve your camping space.



Cleanup 2010 - Photos by Linda Smith

SEATTLE MINERAL MARKET AND SPRING BUSINESS MEETING

Pacific Northwest Chapter, Friends of Mineralogy held its spring meeting on May 19th in conjunction with the Seattle Mineral Market. The one day dealer/swap show draws collectors from all over the Northwest and again proved to be a huge success. Attendance was down slightly, probably due to the Federation show scheduled the same weekend in Tri-Cities but the hall was bustling all day with a party like atmosphere.

The FM business meeting was very productive. The revised club bylaws submitted by the Bylaws Committee was voted on and accepted by the members. The revisions were printed in the last newsletter which can be accessed on the PNWFM website. Most changes were aimed at bringing the old bylaws in tune with how the club is currently operating and at streamlining the methods of communicating and conducting business in an internet age.

The members addressed the issue of cases for displays at the symposium. It was agreed that the club should own its own cases. The membership voted to have President Bob Meyer get bids on building new cases.

Within the last month Al Liebetrau has learned that the Denver Show has 20 cases that it is willing to sell. The Board voted by e-mail to pursue this and Al was instructed to express the clubs interest in buying these cases. At the time of the newsletter publication there has been no response from the Denver Show, but it is hoped the bid will be accepted. These cases are the "slanted front" type and will require different liners than those used in the past. If this effort fails, it will be a scramble to secure cases in time for the symposium.

PNWFM Minutes

Seattle Mineral Mart

May 19, 2012

President Bob Meyer opened the meeting by asking for approval of minutes from October's meeting that were printed in the newsletter. MSP. There are 9 members present for voting.

Committee Reports: The Bylaws Committee has reviewed and revised the bylaws. The revised bylaws were printed in the newsletter. MSP to accept new bylaws. Big thanks to our bylaws committee for excellent attention to detail (Ray Lasmanis, John Lindell, and Bill Dameron). NOTE – The Secretary of State in Oregon will need a copy of the new bylaws. The education committee has had an ill member so they have not been able to meet.

Show Report: The speakers are lined up for the 2012 symposium. All floor dealers are returning. At the 2011 symposium we rented cases from the Longview Rock Club. They are not interested in renting to us again. Therefore, we are in need of 15 to 20 cases. Ray Lasmanis suggested that we get bids from a cabinet shop. He also stated that Bob Jackson has offered to store the cases at his place. Previously our club owned many cases. Several of them are missing. If you know the whereabouts of any of the club's cases, please contact Ray Lasmanis or Bob Meyer immediately. MSP for Bob to seek quotes for having standard federation cases built for our club.

Meeting adjourned.

Karen Hinderman, Secretary



The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Friends of Mineralogy
38th Annual Symposium and Mineral Show

October 12-14, 2012
Red Lion Inn, Kelso, Washington

Show Theme: Sulfates

Featured Speakers

Les Presmyk

"Arizona's Fabulous Sulfates"

"Sulfates and Other Minerals of Tiger, Arizona"

Dick Dayvault

"Celestine Bearing Geodes from the East Flank of the San Rafael Swell"

"Book Cliff Type Barite from Western Colorado and Eastern Utah"

Alfredo Petrov

"Sulfates from Fumaroles on Volcanic and Burning Mines"

"Sulfates from Decomposing Sulfides and from Evaporites"

Bill Dameron

"Barite"

Main Floor Dealers

EARTH'S TREASURES: Richard Kennedy

LEHIGH MINERALS: Jim and Yolanda McEwen

PACIFIC RIM MINERALS: John Meek

XTAL: Dennis Beals

Room Dealers

will be selling minerals from Pacific Northwest and worldwide locations
in the North Hallway near the Main Floor Dealers

**The Show will feature at least sixteen world class mineral displays, including
a display from the Northwest's finest mineral museum:
The Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals**

Free Admission to the Mineral Show and Dealers

**For more information contact Bob Meyer (pyrite111@hotmail.com, 425-433-1088)
or Albert Liebetrau (liebetrauam@msn.com, 541-504-4751)**



Rice Museum Needs Your Support

The Rice Museum, in conjunction with its fine displays, has developed an educational program within the museum, offering outreach in the community and to the local community colleges and universities. A key part of the program is a new "Mineralogy Room". The elements of this room include:

- A. What is a mineral; Crystallography
- B. Crystal Chemistry; Crystal Structure
- C. Physical Properties
- D. Mineral Habit; Mineral Uses
- E. Non-Silicates
- F. Silicates
- G. Hands-on Physical Properties

In addition to the specimens and materials already available to the museum, it will take approximately \$3,500.00 for additional specimens and supplies, revisions to the existing display cases, LED lighting for displays, plus construction of the "hands-on" work area and other miscellaneous items.

Dr. Lara O'Dwyer-Brown, Curator, has a well designed plan with an opening scheduled for the first part of September, in time for next school year. However, with Oregon's very slow economy, the museum need help in funding this educational project.

Assistance is asked to make this important project happen. As an IRS 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, any donation made would be tax deductible.

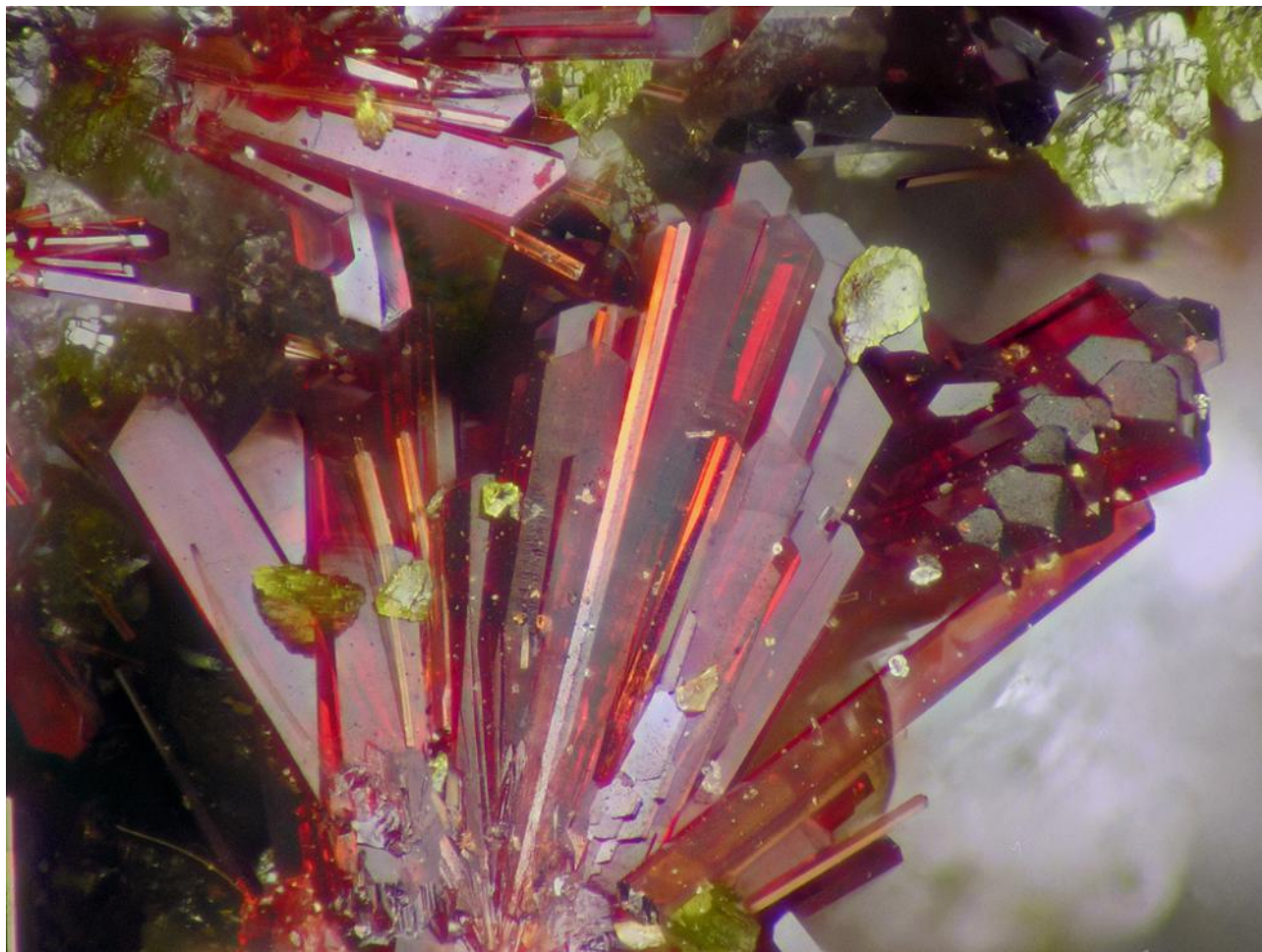
Make checks payable to the **Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals** and mail it to:

Dr. Lara O'Dwyer-Brown, Curator
Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals
26385 NW Groveland Drive
Hillsboro, OR 97124

Help with this project is very much needed and appreciated.

The Micro Mineral Collector

By Bob Meyer



Carminite—a spray of exquisite red crystals with green Gartrellite from Tsumeb, Namibia. Carminite occurs from a number of world-wide localities, but specimens from Tsumeb certainly rank as *classic examples of the mineral*. The quality and size of the crystallization of Carminite from Tsumeb exceeds that from other localities, such specimens are extremely scarce, and those rare pieces that are available are highly prized by collectors. This specimen was part of a lot circa 1978 from the noted Tsumeb collector Walter Kahn, and was in the collection of Renton collector John C. White until his collection was sold a few years ago. The Gartrellite on this specimen was originally labeled as “mineral TK” and was first recognized as being a new species from Tsumeb, but the mineral was eventually described from material collected at Ashburton Downs, Western Australia. FOV-1.8mm.

Buy and Use a Good Microscope—*adopted from Neal Yedlin*

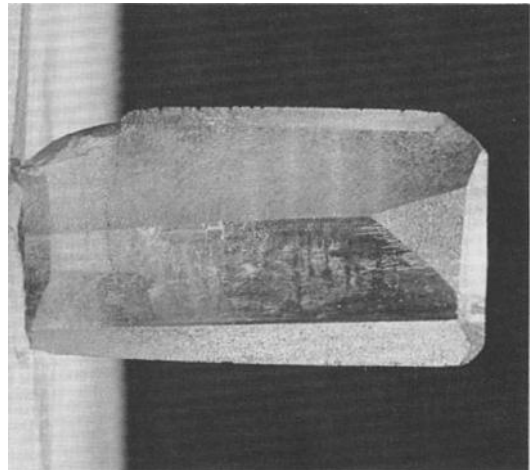
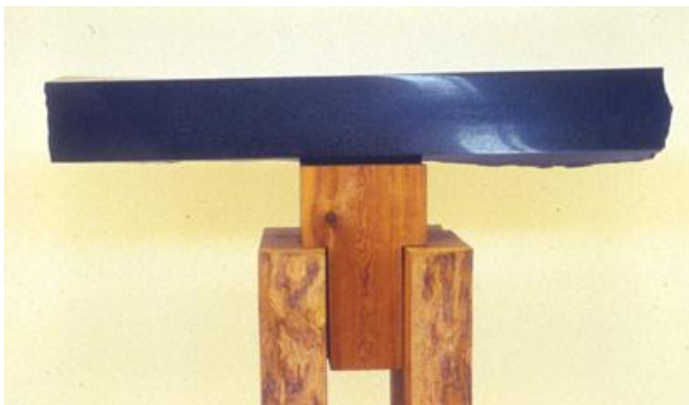
Classics are those things that are recognized as being standards of the highest class or quality. This appellation is most often bestowed on things of cultural significance—the works of human beings—such as art, music, architecture, cuisine, or literature. In addition, the idea of classicism has more than crept into the realm of natural objects such as minerals, with this label being used perhaps a bit too freely as a marketing term among collectors and purveyors of mineral specimens.



The idea of there being classics among mineral specimens seems quite appropriate.

Mineral collectors understand quite well the natural artistry, symmetry, beauty, and rarity of fine mineral specimens. It is uncanny as to how closely some specimens can resemble works of art, while at the same time we know them to be of natural origin. This dichotomy is particularly poignant to us as mineral collectors, and when specimens are “artistic” we find them to be particularly appealing. The irony of this dichotomy is that it is not nature that mimics art, but that art mimics nature.

The idea that a great deal of our sense of the aesthetic stems from the symmetries and fractals of nature should seem obvious to mineral collectors. The “art” that we are closest to is sculpted by the hand of nature, and examples of human effort reflecting the attributes of mineral specimens abound.



Art reflecting nature—obvious parallels: on the left, *Night Wind* by Isamu Noguchi 1970, Gabbro, 8 x 47 x 8 ½ inches. (Noguchi Museum), and on the right an image of a Quartz crystal twisted along the a-axis, Switzerland, 2 inches long, American Museum of Natural History collection. (Fronde)

There are classics in the area of micro minerals as well. While the idea of classic mineral specimens brings to mind dusty cabinet specimens in historical collections or museums, there are standards that stand alone as being of the highest class among the tiny. Lengthy essays and articles have been written on the subject of what defines a classic mineral specimen. However, very little has been written on the subject of micro minerals. The following group of photographs will explore some of the aspects of being micro mineral classics. With these examples, we will expand our definitions somewhat into the realm of micro minerals, but we will not attempt to provide a definitive explanation of the criteria that might establish what makes a specimen classic.



Classics: Specimens of historical significance. Liroconite, as vibrant blue crystals associated with Quartz (and Olivine-below), from Wheal Gorland, St Day United Mines, Cornwall, England. Liroconite has certainly come to represent a standard of the highest class. Specimens are very difficult to obtain and most were collected a hundred years ago or more. The beauty and amazing color of the mineral defy the ability of the digital media to reproduce. From the collection of John C. White, who obtained the piece from David Wilber at the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies national show, held in September 1971 at Seattle, Washington, USA.

FOV 3.8 mm above and 7.0 mm below.





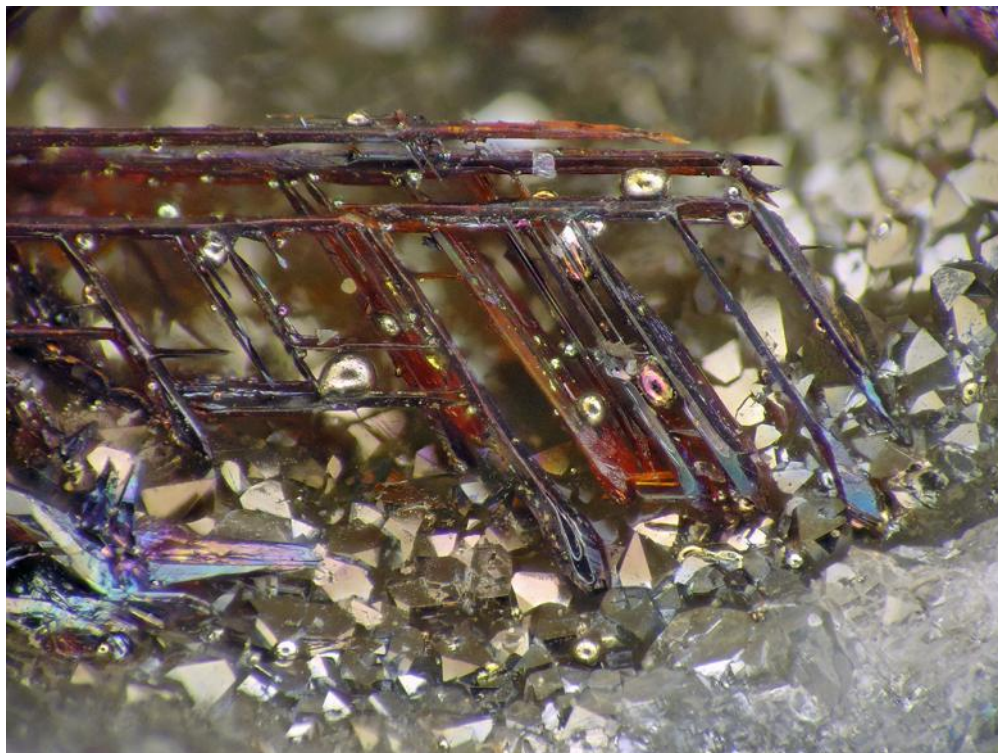
Classics: Classic Localities. At times, certain localities have become synonymous with the idea of classics. To be a classic specimen, though, individual pieces from such locales must also possess those attributes for which the locality itself is considered to be classic. The photograph on the top is of the mineral Zincite, as red well-formed crystals from Franklin, New Jersey. FOV: 5.5 mm. The photograph on the bottom is of the mineral Carminite, as bright red crystals with yellow Segnitite from the Ojuela Mine, Mapimi, Durango, Mexico. FOV: 3.0 mm. Both of these localities has produced prolific quantities of specimens, many of which are of average quality. These two examples could be considered as classics because they occur from classic locales *and* because they represent world-class caliber.



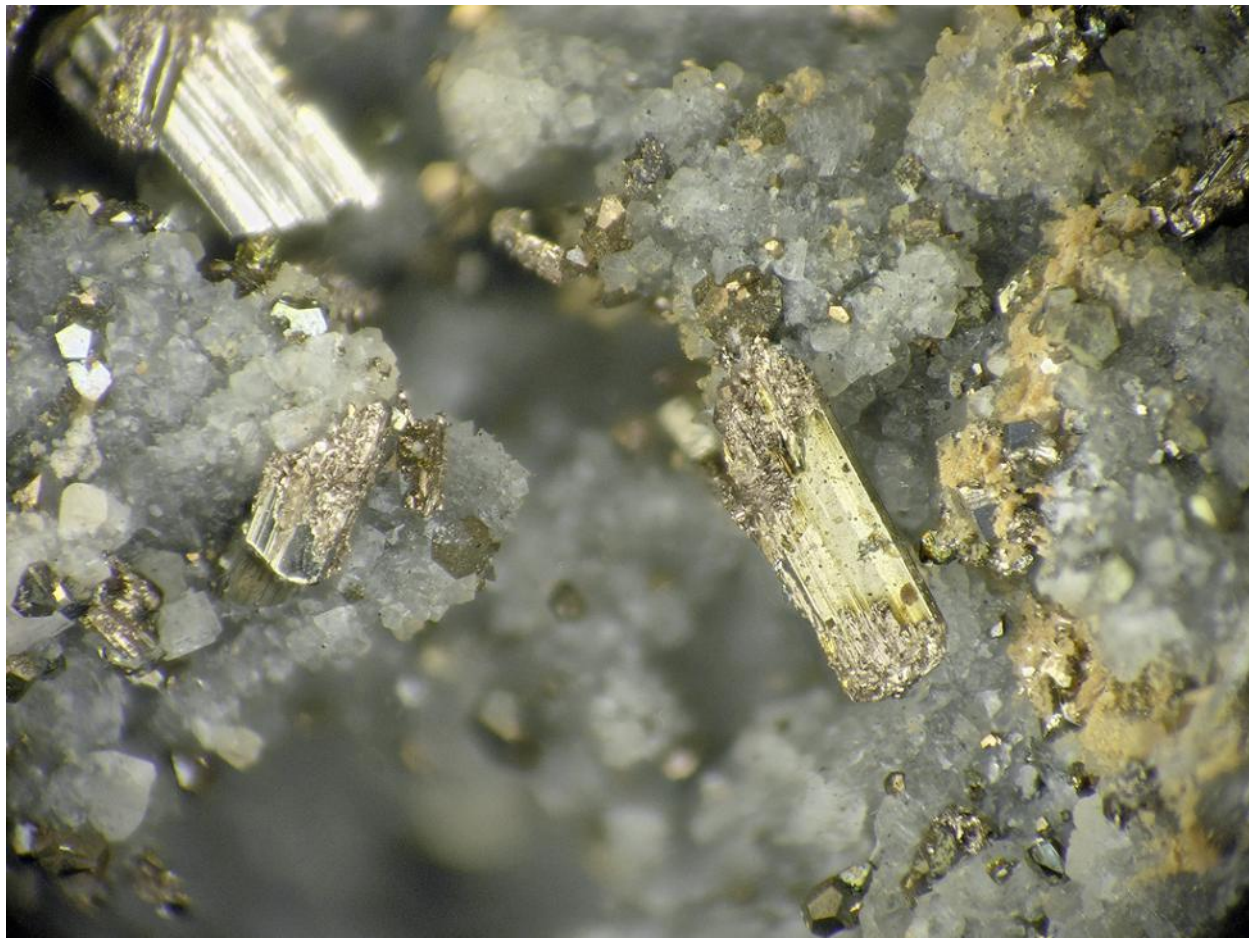
Classics: Rarity. Bellingerite, a doubly terminated crystal of this extremely rare copper iodate from Chuquicamata, Antofagasta, Chile. FOV: 1.8 mm. This species is highly prized among collectors due to the fact that it occurs from just one locality; that locality, Chuqui, is highly significant; there are very few specimens, and the species is quite attractive.



Classics: Quality. Papagoite, a group of outstanding sharp electric blue crystals from the New Cornelia mine, Ajo, Pima County, Arizona. FOV: 5.0 mm. Another specimen that exemplifies many of the criteria pertaining to being a classic, from a classic locale, excellent form and color, quite rare, and because they just don't come in better quality. Part of the original find circa 1960, ex: Scott Williams specimen.



Classics: Unusual Composition. Two more photographs that well illustrate another dimension of classic-dom—unusual composition. The top photograph is of the unusual mercury oxide mineral, Montroydite, as odd insectoid reticulated crystals hosting droplets of native Mercury on Quartz that is “silvered”—turned into a natural mirror due to a thin layer of mercury. From the Socrates Mine, Sonoma County, California. FOV: 2.7 mm. The bottom photograph is of the copper chloride mineral Marshite, as sharp well formed crystals from Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia. FOV: 2.3 mm.



Classics: Royalty. The idea of a classic composition comes to fruition when one considers the presence of the precious—in this case gold and silver. This photograph is of brassy crystals of the mineral Krennerite, which is a gold, silver telluride, the tips of which are overgrown with Melonite, on Quartz with small pyrite crystals. From Cripple Creek, Teller County, Colorado. FOV: 5.0 mm

Works Cited

- Fronzel, Clifford. "Characters of Quartz Fibers." *American Mineralogist*. 63 (1978): 17-27. 10 June 2005. <http://www.minsocam.org/msa/collectors_corner/arc/qtzfibers.htm>.
- The Noguchi Museum. 2005. 10 June 2005. <<http://www.noguchi.org/>>.



**PACIFIC NORTHWEST
CHAPTER
FRIENDS OF
MINERALOGY**

www.PNWFM.org

Editor: John Lindell

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PNWFM CALENDAR

Washington Pass Cleanup -
August 10th-12th

PNWFM Symposium
Sulphates - Oct 12th-14th



Siamese Japanese Twins collected by Joe George at Green Ridge July 2012. Photo by Joe George