President’s Message

Greetings, mineral lovers!

While I love field collecting and exploring in the warmer, dryer months, I also enjoy my minerals this time of year. Unpacking all those specimens that have been wrapped since I picked them up in a mine dump or show, cracking the rocks down to micro-size and looking for unusual, or even spectacular crystals under the microscope... The photos I submitted for this newsletter are from material that I obtained from the free tables at the NW Micro-Mineral Study Group. The bright orange realgar crystal really got my attention, even though it is only 400 microns!

I hope your mineral explorations have been as enjoyable as mine this winter!

Jim Etzwiler

As I start writing this article, I am saddened to learn that Jim Etzwiler has died. Jim was President of PNWFM for several years, our first webmaster and a constant helping hand at symposiums and TGMS every year. You can read a remembrance elsewhere in this issue. Jim, we will miss you!

The PNWFM Newsletter Archive is now online

When we modernized the web site, some content didn’t immediately make the jump, including the archive of old newsletters. I’m happy to report that they are now all online, back to 1989.

pnwfm.org/newsletter-archive/

Symposium – October 19-21, 2018

“Minerals of California”

I have already been hearing a lot of buzz about this year’s theme! Whether it’s gold, tourmaline, benitoite or the rare, colorful micro-tellurates from Otto Mountain, who doesn’t have a favorite California mineral?

John Lindell has been busy planning the show and organizing volunteers and Allan Young is rounding up speakers and we expect to be able to announce the full program in a month or so. John has come up with some interesting ideas for ways to be more welcoming to people new to mineralogy, so there may be a few changes coming, but rest assured that nothing will interfere with the core of our symposium you’ve all become accustomed to.

There are a few things to be thinking about now:

- Can you put together a display?
- Do you have any California minerals to enter in our self-collected contest? (We WILL have a contest this year!)
- How can you encourage more people to attend the symposium? (Stay tuned for details on this in the next newsletter, but we may host a free event on Friday evening for new people.)
Seattle Mineral Market 2018 – Date Change!
Organized by Bart Cannon, the Seattle Mineral Market is in its eleventh year. The Mineral Market was originally conceived as a simple opportunity for local collectors to trade and sell, but grew rapidly into much more. In addition to a couple of dozen non-commercial collectors, you will find a number of mineral dealers from the region and even a few from farther afield – all focused on minerals!
PNWFM will hold our semi-annual business meeting on Saturday afternoon. The time will be announced in an email prior to the event. Note that this show dates have changed from the usual weekend!

May 26-27, 2018: 10 am – 6 pm
Lake City Community Center
12531 - 28th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125

Earlier this year, word was out that the show would only be Saturday this year, but just today, we have word that it will indeed be extended to Sunday, May 27, to make it the usual 2-day show.

For more information, visit their web site: www.seattlesmineralmarket.com or Facebook event page: www.facebook.com/events/1342461345822938/

Member Participation: Even more ways to get involved!
Write an article or send in a few photos for the newsletter. Going to a Tucson? Send us a trip report! Find a weird fuzzy green mineral you’d like to share? Send us a photo whether you can positively identify it or not; I think mysteries are as fun as scholarly certainty. Thanks to Wes Gannaway, Beth Heesacker, Karen Hinderman, Chuck Hobart, Al Liebetrau, Bob Meyer, Don Newsome, Lanny Ream, Alexander Schauss, and myself for providing newsletter content so far this year.

Buy and sell, meet and socialize with other collectors at the Seattle Mineral Market: May 26-27, 2018 at Lake City Community Center, 12531 - 28th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125. See seattlesmineralmarket.com for details.

Plan to attend our 2018 symposium:
October 19-21 2018 Minerals of California
Washington Pass Cleanup: August 10-12, 2018
Submit high-quality photos of Northwest minerals to add to the cycling background of our web site.
“Like” our official Facebook page: facebook.com/PNWFM

Visit the Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals in Hillsboro, OR. PNWFM members get free admission and store discounts. rice-northwestmuseum.org

Send me ideas for how PNWFM can better serve you and the mineral collecting community.
Until next time,
-- Bruce Kelley, President, PNWFM

Mineralogical Record Supplement
Wendell Wilson has approved the expansion of the area for a MR Supplement that was discussed at the last symposium. It will now be called a “Pacific Northwest” Supplement and will include the following states and provinces; Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. If you are interested contact Wendell or me and I will make sure you are on the list of those interested.

Don Newsome
info@uvsystems.com
Cell (206) 818-1084
Jim Etzwiler, RIP

Jim Etzwiler passed away on January 19, 2018. He was a long time member of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society and Co-Chair of the Poster/Product Sales/Info. Booth. It was always a delight to see him and his wife Rusty on the Tuesday or Wednesday before the Show opened. They always walked through the door and greeted us with “How can we help?”

For his gentle nature and easy manner and for all of us who had the good fortune to have known him and got to work with him, he will be missed.

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From the Getchell Mine, Potosi Dist., Humboldt Co., NV.

Thank you to whomever donated this material to the free tables at NW Micro Mineral Study Group in November!

Photos by Bruce Kelley.

Galkhaite and Stilbite
FOV: 1.90 mm
Stacking: 158 frames at 5 µm

Stilbite and Stibnite
FOV: 1.63 mm
Stacking: 159 frames at 5 µm

Realgar
FOV: 0.90 mm
Stacking: 130 frames at 5 µm
MINERAL MEETING CALENDAR

2018:

NW Chapter of the Fluorescent Mineral Society, April 6-8
2613 Birch Street,
Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada

NEW DATE: Micro Mineral Study Group, May 19, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
Camas-Washougal Fire Station #42
4321 NW Parker Street
Camas, Washington

NEW DATE: Seattle Mineral Market, May 26-27, 10 AM - 6 PM
And PNWFM Meeting (Saturday afternoon)
Lake City Community Center
12531 28th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125

Northern California Mineralogical Association Symposium, June 8-10
El Dorado Community Hall
6139 Pleasant Valley Rd
El Dorado, CA 95623

Washington Pass Cleanup, August 10-12

44th annual PNWFM Symposium, October 19-21
Minerals of California
Red Lion Inn
Kelso, WA

Micro Mineral Study Group, November 3, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
Camas-Washougal Fire Station #42
4321 NW Parker Street
Camas, Washington