



PNWFM NEWSLETTER



Thomsonite on opal, Big Cliff, Clackamas County, Oregon..
FOV 4 mm. Photo by Beth Heesacker

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President's Message

Jessica Robertson

Greetings and happy summer! Our 2024 plans for PNWFM are in full swing.

Seattle Mineral Market on May 18 and 19 went well—it was lovely to join up with all of you that stopped by to say “hi”! Our displays and snack booth were again popular with the public, and our auctions helped raise some funds for PNWFM. Thank you to all who helped donate and make it happen, with special thanks to Sal Noeldner for coordinating our popular curated PNWFM benefit auction on Saturday. But, we are now *completely out* of silent auction material. If you're cleaning out any flats this summer, please keep us in mind for donations.

BIG NEWS! You can now register at <http://pnwfm.org/> for our 2024 symposium will be held in Ellensburg, Washington the weekend of October 19. Tickets prices are lower relative to last year, and we're pleased to announce that this year's hotel room costs are lower, too. If you're ready to make hotel reservations, call the Ellensburg Red Lion and ask for the “Mineral Club” pricing for the weekend. We are planning daytime talks at CWU, a Saturday evening banquet at the Red Lion, and our traditional hallway of room dealers for everyone's favorite time of evening socializing and looking at rocks. See more information later in this newsletter. We are still looking for help in coordinating a field trip option for the weekend. Please let us know if you're up to help!

Over the summer we will also be working on our project to produce a retrospective keepsake book or magazine about the history of PNWFM, previous events and members, in honor of our 50th Anniversary. I have lots of great information from the archives of the club including lists of old projects and symposium programs, but I do not have ANY photos. I'll be reaching out to some folks in the coming months to help fill this in, but as a relative newbie to the club, to make this a success, if you have such photos please don't wait for me since I might not know you're waiting to be contacted! So, if you're one of these people, please contact me (jar7709@hotmail.com) if you would like to help or have any photos or stories you'd like to share. Have a fabulous and safe summer. Happy digging!

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Ideas to Ponder

By Karen Hinderman

Our 2024 Symposium will be here before we know it. Some of you are frustrated, anxious, and/or happy about the changes that are happening, which is understandable. I am definitely anxious! Hopefully you will join us and embrace the changes in order to make this a smooth transition. That being said, we need your ideas, your muscle (to move cases from storage to CWU), your time, your donations for both the silent and live auctions, and in general, your participation. This is our 50th Symposium! Help us with "Golden Memories" by providing stories/photos/memorabilia/etc., and help us to make this a memorable event. Please don't hesitate to get registered and to call the Red Lion at 509-925-9800 (mention mineral club for discount) for your reservation.

Both Jessica and I have checked out the Red Lion in person. It is in better shape than the Red Lion in Kelso, they are completing renovations on part of the facility this summer, and the management has been easy to work with. Just so you know, I called 8 different hotels in Ellensburg and the Red Lion is the only one who would allow satellite dealers. They have a very nice room for our dinner and auction. Our dinner will be catered by The Ellensburg Pasta Company. We will be going back to Ellensburg to sample different dishes later this summer before deciding on the menu.

This is an election year! I have decided to retire from my long tenure as secretary. Please consider joining the board and being part of the team that keeps things running. We will include a ballot in the next newsletter.

Auction material needed. As Jessica mentioned in her report, our silent and live auction material is nearly depleted. Please consider bringing something for both events when you come to the symposium. If you are unable to come to the symposium, which I hope is not the case, but you have items you'd like to donate, just call or email me (360-920-7221 or khinderman79@gmail.com).

I'm looking forward to seeing you and catching up with you in October.

2024 Symposium Registration is open!

Precious Metals and Golden Memories

Online registration is now available at <https://pnwfm.square.site/>

Notes on this year's symposium

1. Most important: **This year's symposium will be held in ELLENSBURG, Washington!** We are no longer in Kelso! Details below.
 2. Full-time students may attend the talks free of charge. Please be prepared to show student ID. Students may become members of PNWFM and/or attend the banquet for the same costs as regular members: \$20 and \$25, respectively.
 3. The Saturday evening Banquet menu is To Be Determined. The banquet and live auction will be held at the Ellensburg Red Lion hotel.
 4. Ellensburg Red Lion has a special room rate for our group for the weekend. When you call and make reservations, ask for the "Mineral Club" rate.
- Full speakers, talks, and events will be announced soon! Keep an eye on our Facebook page and pnwfm.org for updates.

Locations

Symposium talks

Discovery Hall

Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington

Room Dealers, Saturday evening Banquet and Live Auction

Ellensburg Red Lion

Costs

There is a \$10 discount on paid symposium if you register **before** October 1.

- Symposium + Dinner + PNWFM membership \$130
- Symposium (NO Meal) + PNWFM membership \$105
- Full-Time STUDENT (NO membership or dinner) Free with student ID
- Extra or Student dinner \$25
- Extra or Student membership \$20 (included in paid symposium)

Add-on Room Dealer (requires paid Symposium) \$25

PNWFM at the Seattle Mineral Market 2024





**News from the
Rice Museum**
26385 NW Groveland Dr,
Hillsboro, OR 97124

SUMMER STEAM CAMPS

Dates: July 15-19, July 22-26, August 12-16, and August 19-23

Ages: 6 to 10

Cost: \$300 per week, per child

The **Museum** is hosting a **summer camp!**

Fill your kids summer days with fun sports and games on our 22 acres of property. Let them experiment with many different parts of **STEAM** including **chemistry, biology, engineering, technology, physics, geology, math, and even fine arts** in our air conditioned classroom!

Led by experienced teachers, along with special community guests and experts, with exclusive time reserved for touring and studying our Museum.

Week 1 – July 15-19th:

Chemistry and Biology (in house Fossil Expert)

Week 2 – July 22-26th:

Physics and Engineering (visiting Building Expert)

Week 3 – August 12-16th:

Math and Technology (visiting Robotics Expert)

Week 4 – August 19-23:

Geology and Earth Science (in house Gem and Geologist Experts)

Daily Schedule:

9-9:30am: Drop Off/Social Time

9:30-10am: Morning Meeting (introduce daily curriculum)

10-11am: Outdoor Group Games (snack)

11-12:30pm: Experiment Time (lesson followed by hands on activity/visiting speakers)

12:30-1:30pm: Lunch and Afternoon Meeting (curriculum wrap up)

1:30-2pm: Free Play/Parent Pick Up

CRYSTAL RESEARCH

9112 Tucker Road SE , Olympia, WA 98513-8904 TEL: (360) 459-2455 query@crystal-research.com

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SALE OF MINERAL COLLECTION

The Crystal Research mineral collection is available for viewing and purchase this year. The collection includes the following subcollections:

LARGE SPECIMENS: About a dozen large showy specimens, distributed among the locality suites.

DANA REFERENCE COLLECTION: About 2100 specimens, ranging from thumbnail to cabinet size, including a wide variety of species, mostly well crystallized. These were purchased from dealers between 1946 and 2010. They were used as a reference collection for crystallographic or mineralogical research.

HUFNAGEL THUMBNAIL COLLECTION: About 700 well-trimmed specimens in $\frac{3}{4}$ x 1" bocs, constituting half of the collection of Fr. Alvin Hufnagel S.J., one of the early thumbnail collectors.

LOCALITY SUITES: Specimens collected by P. J. Shlichta from 1946 to 2000, ranging from 1" to 14", mostly unsorted and untrimmed. Many of these localities are no longer extant or accessible. These include:

- Laven island in Langesundsfjord, Larvik, Norway
- Ivigtut, Greenland
- Franklin, New Jersey
- Ozaark-Mahining mine, Roseclaire, Illinois
- Blue Halite from Heringen, Germany
- Giant Halite cleavage from PCA mine, Carlsbad, NM
- Mt. St. Hillaire, Quebec, Canada
- Bisbee, Arizona
- Groton, Grafton Co., New Hampshire
- Boron, California
- Pacoima Canyon pegmatite, near Los Angeles

The collection can be viewed at the above address in Olympia, by appointment, throughout the summer and fall. A detailed description with more photographs is also available on request via email. Bids for the entire collection, or for one or more of the above subcollections, will be accepted until December 1, 2024. Bids on individual specimens will not be considered. For further information, please contact:

Paul J. Shlichta
Crystal Research
9112 Tucker Road SE
Olympia, WA 98513

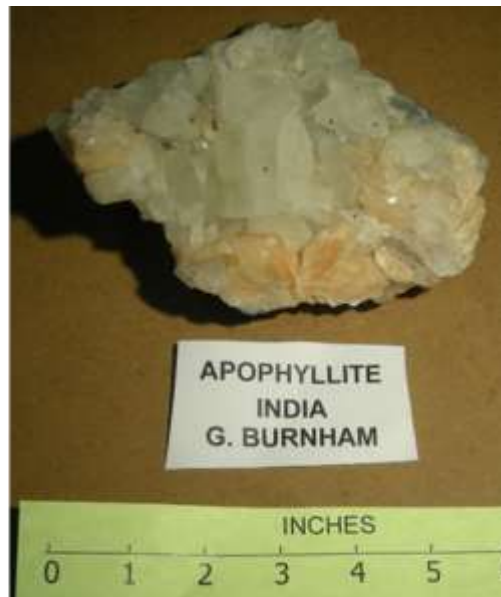
Tel: (360) 459-2455
Email: query@crystal-research.com

LARGE SPECIMENS

A few large attractive specimens, scattered through the rest of the collection. The largest of these is a 40 pound transparent cleavage from a giant Halite crystal in Carlsbad, New Mexico



Others include several Apophyllite crystals from India, Calcite from San Diego, several Fluorites from Roseclaire I, Gypsum from Lake Mead and Naica, Anhydrite from Naica, Colemanite from Death Valley, Siderite/Cryolite from Ivigtut, and Galena from Russia.



DANA COLLECTION

This subcollection includes all specimens purchased from dealers or donated by colleagues from 1946 to 2005. Almost all of these specimens are in individual plastic boxes and of the following sizes:

“Thumbnail”: fits into 1¼” cube plastic box or smaller

“Miniature”: fits into 2” cube plastic box or 2”x 2” cardboard tray

“Small Cabinet”: fits into 3½” x 2½” x 2” plastic box

“Cabinet” larger than above

The basic collection of about 850 numbered specimens was purchased before 1956 and constituted a reference collection for crystal growth, optical, and crystallographic research. This collection was augmented from 1956 to 2010 by additional purchased or donated crystals, with emphasis on macroscopic crystals or unusual crystal growth phenomena. The total collection now includes

1005 thumbnail specimens

800 miniature specimens

250 small cabinet specimens

55 cabinet specimens

The following photos show (very poorly) the drawers containing these specimens at present. The original photo files have more detail and are available on request.



HUFNAGEL COLLECTION

In contrast, the Hufnagel collection is extremely compact. In the 1940's, Fr. Alvin Hufnagel, a high school chemistry teacher, became one of the first thumbnail mineralogists. He would visit Ward's annually, buy large mineral specimens, chip off an attractive thumbnail specimen, and distribute the remaining pieces to students. The specimens were mounted in 1" x 3/4" boxes arranged 100 to a tray. The specimens are hand labeled on the sides of the boxes. Our collection includes half of the collection, i.e. seven of those trays, is shown below. These 680 specimens would be ideal for a school starting an earth science curriculum by providing a mineral collection that could be stored in a few feet of bookshelf space.



LOCALITIES

From 1956 until 2000, we had access to mineralogical localities not open to the public. In most cases, he had only a few hours in which to collect whatever we could carry. These sets have never been carefully examined or trimmed for specimens.

Låven, Larvik, Norway (1960): This tiny island, with 40 species and 7 type locality species, is protected as a site of geological interest; collecting is forbidden. However, in 1960, a small ICG group was permitted access for a few hours. About 8 pound and Tritonite. Other species are probably present o the other specimenss were collected, including specimens of Cryptoperthite, Mossandrite, Polymignite, and and Tritonite. Other species are probably present o the other specimens



Ivigut, Greenland (1960): This locality had 91 species and 17 type locality species. The same ICG group was allowed access to the incoming ore floor of the Kryolitskabet Oresund refinery in Copenhagen. Over 18 lbs. were collected and a suite of species was presented to each of us in exchange for some American specimens.



Roseclaire, Illinois (1967): Invited visits to two Ozark-Mahoning mines yielded several large specimens of fluorite crystals. Over 40 pounds of specimens, including several large crystal groups, were collected.





Heringen, Germany (1960): This potash mine was famous for transparent blue Halite. About 5 lbs of cleavages and one large crystal were collected.



Carlsbad, New Mexico (1962-3)

In 1962, as part of the International Conference on Saline Deposits, I was given access to several of the potash mines in Carlsbad, New Mexico. At the PCA mine, hearing that I was the crystallographer of the group, they showed me a cavity about 5' high with transparent halite crystals over 4 feet on a side, hanging from the ceiling (above). Later, they send me a 50 lb cleavage from one of the crystals (below). This specimen is water clear and shows, on two sides, the step-like nature of the surface of the crystals.

This group also includes several smaller specimens of transparent halite cleavages and polyhalite clusters



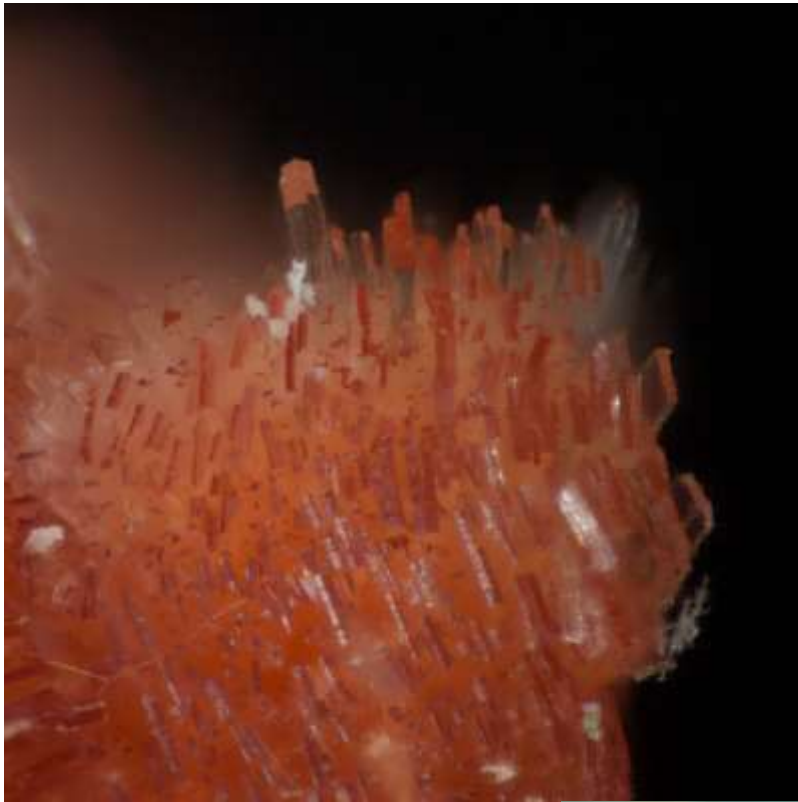
Neuhof, Germany: (1965) In this potash mine, a drift flooded in WWII eventually produced large single crystals of halite. Over 5 lbs of material and one large crystal were collected.



Visits to other localities included Franklin, New Jersey (1947), Boron, California (1950-60), Pacoima Canyon, Calif. (1955-65), Pala, Calif. (1960-66): Grafton, New Hampshire (1970), and Mount Saint Hilaire, Quebec (1997). Additional photos are available on request.

About 100 other specimens are located in other labs and may be photographed and are also available for inspection.

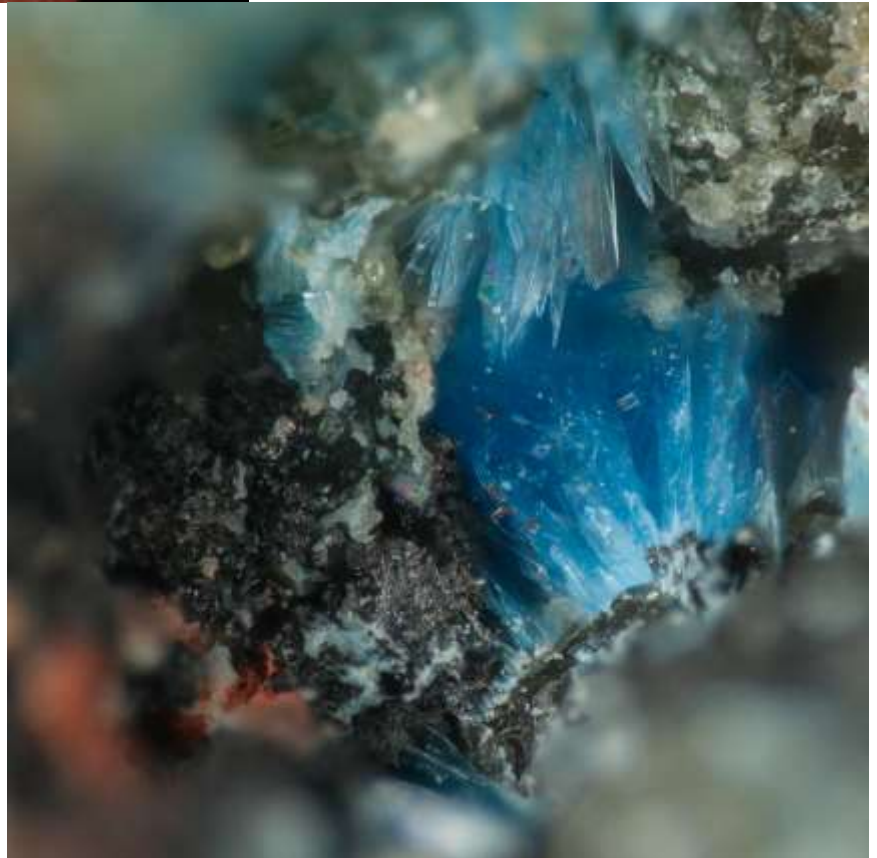
Eye Candy



Ferrierite-Mg from Kamloops Lake, Kamloops Mining Division, BC, Canada

FOV: 0.71 mm

Photo by Bruce Kelley

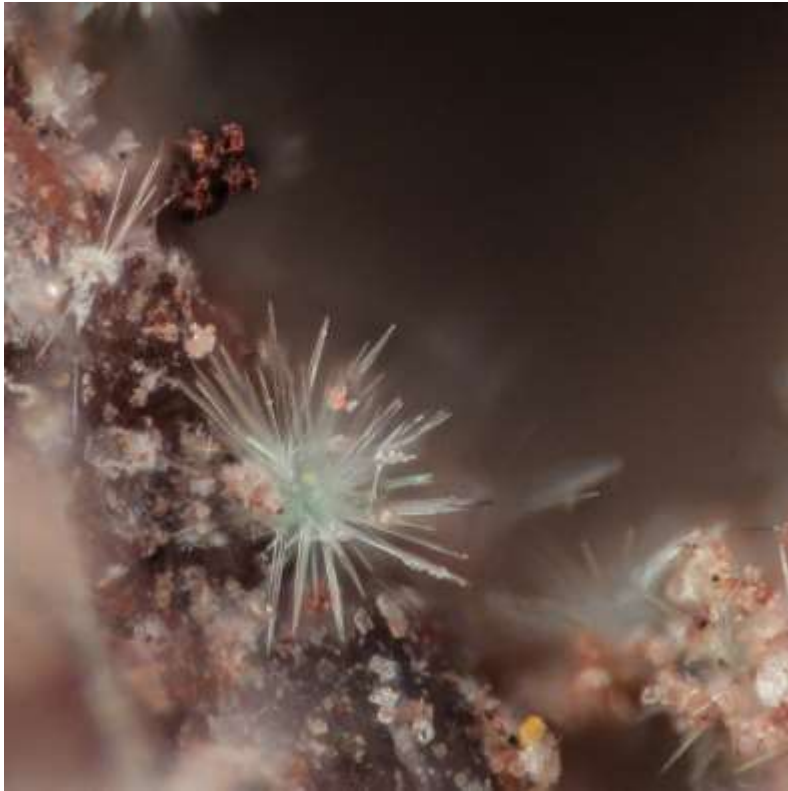


Whelanite
Bawana Mine, Rocky Dist., Beaver Co., UT

FOV: 1.0 mm

Photo by Bruce Kelley

Eye Candy



Davidbrownite-(NH4)
Rowley Mine, Painted Rock District, Maricopa Co., AZ
FOV: 0.51 mm
Photo by Bruce Kelley



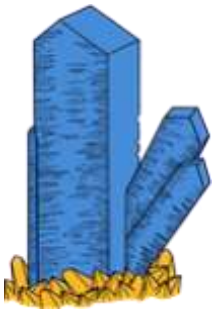
Opal. Big Cliff, Clackamas County, OR. FOV 4.5 mm.
Photo by Beth Heesacker.



Please email articles and
photos to
heesacker@coho.net

The next deadline will be September 11, 2024

Interested in a
wonderful resource for teaching
children about
minerals?



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and
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Publications.

<http://www.diamonddanpublications.net/>

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- Spare parts of all kinds and repairs
- Custom equipment – inquire
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On the web at:

www.SwarfSystems.com

**BREAKING
NEWS**

from Swarf Systems

Hi All,

I am writing to tell you about a cool little attachment I made for my microscope. As you all know, I make microscope illuminators. Well, Jon Gladwell gave me a box of carpathite micros from Cook, WA, and they are a pain to find and see with a microscope because they are tiny. So, I made a dual light illuminator: There are two sets of LEDs: white light and long-wave UV, each with its own power switch. Now, when I put one of the samples from Jon under the microscope, I can zoom in on the fluorescing area, turn on the white light LEDs and see what I am looking at.

If you are interested, I can make illuminators for each of you to fit your microscope (provided it is a microscope model I can fit to). If you go to SwarfSystems.com you can see what microscopes I can fit to. If your microscope is not listed, I might still be able to help so don't give up if you want one. Since I have to buy lots of extra components, the cost of the illuminator will be 1.5x that listed on SwarfSystems.com. If you already have a Swarf Systems illuminator, you will get a discount since I will only make a new circuit board and you will reuse your microscope mount. "Some assembly required."

One limitation is that there is no UV filter for the LW UV LEDs. I have found this not to be a problem since fluorescing minerals will advertise their presence brightly anyway.

If you know anyone else who might be interested, let them know.

Cheers, Ted, Swarf Systems



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MINERAL MEETING CALENDAR

2024:

PNWFM Symposium - Oct. 18-20

New Location :

**Central Washington University and
The Red Lion
Ellensburg, WA**

NW Micro Mineral Study Group - Nov 9
Sons of Norway Columbia Lodge
2400 Grant St,
Vancouver, WA 98660

2025:

Pacific Micromineral Conference (MSSC) - TBD
Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Museum
123 W. Alvarado St.,
Fallbrook, California

NW Micro Mineral Study Group - May 10
Sons of Norway Columbia Lodge
2400 Grant St,
Vancouver, WA 98660

Seattle Mineral Market - TBD
SATURDAY 10:00AM-6:00PM
SUNDAY 11:00AM-5:00PM
The Hangar 30 building at Magnuson Park
7400 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Northern Mineralogical Association (NCMA) - May 23-25
Eldorado Community Hall
6139 Pleasant Valley Rd.
Eldorado, CA