

# PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER



## NEWSLETTER

**JUNE 1996**

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Another quarter has gone by and soon it will be showtime. I have really enjoyed the symposiums and am eagerly waiting for the 1996 one to get here. I plan on having two displays and hope that all of the members will also plan to display. The theme is on our area and I know that all of you have some great stuff and would like to brag about it so please take the time to gather some items to show the rest of us.

Speaking of collecting, I have been attempting to get some localities together for a couple of field trips this year. So far I have traveled throughout the PNW and am very disappointed that I don't have some great place. It would seem that access is really getting limited and until some of the roads are repaired it will be a lean summer. In addition, it rained every where and especially when I arrived at the Robertson Pit. John Cornish was with me and neither of us have been to the pit on a nice day. We hit a dry spell only just before wading through a garbage dump at one quarry. If any of you know of a locality that will do for a trip with about 15 to 20 members please call me.

Charlene Harvey has some good news for us but would like some help. Please read and respond to the enclosed letter. We could really use a mineral specific museum in the Northwest and perhaps also a repository for some of our collections.

The last meeting was at Rudy Tschernick's home in Snohomish. Eleven members were present and we viewed Rudy's collection and preparation area. There was no formal meeting held but we had several discussions, mostly concerning the upcoming symposium. We also talked about Rudy's swap meet in Longview which was deemed a smashing success. A format for the symposium similar to the swap meet is being studied and perhaps some changes may come from it. I wish to thank Rudy for allowing us to be in his home and see his great collection.

The next meeting will be held at the PUD bldg (8600 NE 117th Ave.) in Vancouver on June 23rd from 9 AM to ?. Drive to the I-205 exit and go east to the 78th Street exit, then go east to 117th Ave and turn left. The building is just north of the Safeway store. Don't forget to bring trading, sharing, or sales material. Coffee and cookies will be provided.

The annual Washington Pass field trip and cleanup will be on the second weekend of August. Camp at the Klipchuck campground. Plan to arrive on Friday night. Cleanup is for Saturday Morning and collecting in the afternoon and Sunday. contact Cheryl so she can let the Forest Service know how many camp sites to reserve.

The NWFMS show will be held in Bremerton at the Kitsap Co. Fairgrounds on July 12, 13, and 14 from 10AM to 7PM. If you display at this event, please let everyone know that you are in the FM. The regional is always a great show so plan to attend this event.

Another great show is in Butte, Mt. on the Montana Tech Campus on July 20 and 21. The theme this year is Montana's Best, and the rumor is that there will be some fabulous displays.

Plans are going ahead for the symposium. Carl Harris and John Lindell are lining up the speakers and floor dealers and Rudy is now in charge of the satellite dealers.

Rob Belcher's show was well attended and I managed to sit in on some good talks. Hopefully Rob did well enough to do this again next year. Several FM members were there and maybe we could have some sort of gathering in conjunction with his show next year, such as a meeting, open house, or field trip. If you have any suggestions please call me (Wes G.).

#### FROM OFF THE BEATEN PATH John Cornish

Welcome all of you to our second column. Its spring and the flowers are blooming and the birds are chirping and field collectors everywhere are coming out from their winter hibernations and are stretching their muscles and dusting off themselves, as well as their gear, in preparation of their upcoming field season. Some of the early birds (myself included) have already been out, and as such, might possibly find this column to be of particular relevance, especially if they're stepping into the same worn out and tattered hiking boots and footwear which they'd so unceremoniously thrown into their drawers and closets at season's end last year. If you find that you are one of these folks and that your boots are pretty seriously thrashed what do you do as your next step?

Well first off you can throw your boots out and start from scratch again spending another \$150 or you can send your boots into a shoe repair shop for some much needed work. One thing is for certain at this point; if you've let your boots go from "broken in" to "broken down" there's a more likely chance that you'll press your repair person into a situation where what could have been a deceptively simple and low cost repair has now escalated into a job horrifically pricey and requiring a minor miracle. Considering that you boots are one of the most important and personal equipment purchases that you're likely to make, keep in mind that it's best to repair your boots prior to their breaking.

Repairs being made to boot lace eyelets and hooks are a very simple and inexpensive repair, while the replacement of worn and torn boot linings can be significantly more costly. If your uppers, midsoles or outsoles are excessively worn and in need of fixing and in some instances requiring specialized deep cavity boot presses not available at most

shops, these repair costs will seem excessively high to some, but if you like the way your boots fit and their performance it's probably worthwhile to repair them.

Resolings are basically routine as are repairs requiring only stitching. Stitching is usually an easier and thus less expensive repair for your cobbler to fix it if the problem, as we said earlier, dealt with early on.

Boot repair shops are inconspicuously found in most towns and can perform wonders with an uncomfortable pair of boots by padding, softening or stretching your boots. A cobbler can alleviate the discomforts common to boots. For example, a pair of leather boots can be stretched sometimes up to an entire size while molded soled and fabric leather boots are much less flexible.

If you do decide to take your boots into a shop here are a few tips. First, don't send your boots in for repairs the week before your big trip. Shops get busy during this time of the year and most will schedule appointments in advance. Clean your boots before taking them in. Include a note detailing the repairs you'd like performed and ask that the shop not begin repairs until after they're called to approve those repairs. Put your name, address, and phone number on the note also, thus helping to prevent your boots chances of becoming lost.

A few general tips about boots I think would be appropriate at this time. Keep in mind that when shopping for a new pair of boots that you should do so during the afternoon or evenings. Feet may swell as much as a half to an entire size during the course of a day. If you use your new boots often and really fall in love with them consider purchasing a second pair. The expense is only high in the short term and you'll be happier in the long run.

Put your boots away clean. The leather, as well as the glues and cements holding your boots together, dries out excessively if left dirty. When drying your boots it is important that they not be too close to the heater or fire. Many glues, as well as the leather itself, are heat sensitive and can potentially melt or shrink if heated excessively and this practice, for this reason, should be avoided. To promote drying remove your boot liners and foot pads during longer breaks or over night stays. Occasionally spray the insides of your boots with a fungicide to prevent molds from growing and to keep your boots from smelling gross!

The leather of your boots can come in rough and smooth versions. The smooth or skin sided version is the more waterproof of the two. A person should consider conditioning their boots roughly every five trail days or more often if used during wet or abrasive conditions. Smooth leather boots are especially prone to abrasive scuffs and scrapes and a person should be diligent in conditioning these areas. Silicon sprays work best for fabric boots and can also be used on split leather boots. These sprays however, on leather, seem to be less effective if compared to oils or waxes which also beneficially soften full grain leathers. Oil however shows a tendency of allowing the leather to stretch more freely and this should be considered if used, especially if your boots are already overly large and sloppy fitting to begin with.

Boots are only one part of a three way scenario. Socks and foot hygiene are also equally important to the happy hiker. To help dissipate friction and thus prevent blisters it's recommended that a person uses two pairs of socks while hiking, preferably a lightweight inner liner sock made of an acrylic, polypropylene or a wool blend to wick the

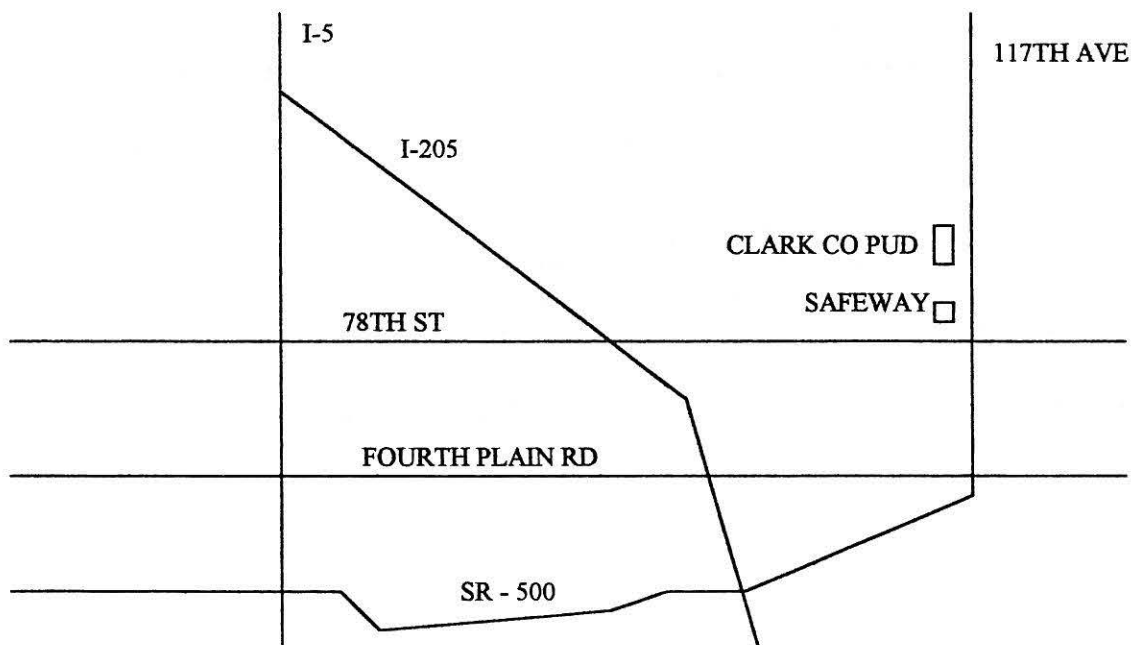
perspiration away from your foot. Then over this a sock of midweight acrylic, a wool blend terry cloth lined outer sock or even a heavy weave rag sock will all prove to be excellent choices.

Remember, socks that are too thick will lead to mashed toes and socks which are too thin will allow excessive foot movement within the boot and lead to blistering. Socks also do not wick well if dirty and so need to be washed frequently. When washing turn your socks inside out. In the washing machine you can add a fabric softener or if suing wool socks add a tiny bit of olive oil to the wash. The oil acts as a substitute for the wool's natural oil, lanolin, and will keep the wool from drying out and deteriorating. Socks, like boots, should also not be dried under intense heat, especially wool ones. The heat bakes the lanolin oil off the wool fibers and destroys the wool's drying capabilities. Wear hiking socks only when hiking to prolong their lifespan. Many sock manufactures now include antibacterial treatments, but if your prone to athletes foot fungi or to excessively potent aromas try using baby or talcum powder on your feet. If your feet sweat profusely, which is certainly possible considering that we are dealing with a quarter of a million pores here, bring several pair of inner sock liners. Rotate them throughout the course of the day during rest periods, and also sprinkle your foot with powder. Our feet heat up and swell during hard trail days, like we mentioned earlier, and can swell considerably during the night. Ibuprofin or aspirin taken before bed will cut the swelling and make it easier to fit into your boots come morning. If your boots are still overly tight in the morning wait a few moments before lacing them up allowing your feet a few minutes to become more comfortable within your feet.

In our next column we'll deal with the feet some more and discuss blisters and walking tools and techniques, so until then take care of yourselves and good luck to you while you're in the field.

Last column's trivia question was how did the famous Red Cloud mine in Arizona receive it's name? The answer is that the mine was named after the nearby Red Could trail which had been used by early Spanish explorers. Source: Min Rec Vol. 11 No. 3 "The Red Cloud Mine".

This issue's trivia question is What is the origin of the expression "What the Sam Hill"?





## THE CRYSTAL SWAP MEET WAS A SUCCESS !!!

The First Annual Northwest Crystal Swap Meet held on March 23 in Longview, Washington was a resounding success. I had arrived early Friday to take the whole day setting up the hall for the meeting but due to a last minute booking of the hall by a wine and cheese tasting party for Friday night we could not get into the hall to set up tables, arrange chairs, and put down electrical cables until after 9 pm. With the help of Terry and Gloria Cook and my father by midnight we were done. My father and I headed for the near by Lewis and Clark Motel with hope of a good sleep before we had to be back at the hall to open the doors for people to set up at 6 am. Unfortunately, the back alley that runs right behind the motel is also the place to cruise for the local adolescents. Every few minutes a car would rumble by our windows with its radio turned on high and base on maximum that felt like Mount Saint Helens erupting again. By 1 am a group of kids park right behind the motel with their radios blasting way and proceeded to have a party. That was more than enough, I called the police, and within seconds it was quiet. The rest of the night went by fast and the doors of the swap meet opened on time. Everything went smooth from there on. All the spaces were filled with specimens. Mineral collectors and the public had a good time talking, selling, and trading throughout the day. Bargains were found everywhere. Good mineral and geology books were found for \$1.00 each. Good buys on cleaned and uncleaned quartz crystals were available. Specimens of natrolite and apophyllite from a 7 foot pocket in the Doty Hills were present and numerous people had sales and discounts on minerals that made collecting affordable. All the participants were collectors or dealers from the Northwest. Sales were very good for most of the participants. Those who did not sell much need to reevaluate what they are bringing and their prices. A questionnaire was sent around requesting input for possible locations and running of the next swap meet. By 4 pm we called an end to the swap meeting and everyone packed up (except for a few too busy exchanging stories) and made a early trip home.

The Second Annual Northwest Mineral Swap Meet is planned at the same hall in Longview on March 22, 1997. The name CRYSTAL has been replaced by MINERAL in the name because some of the public came in looking for CUT GLASS!!! As a result of the questionnaire, additional advertising on public television, radio, newspapers, and Little Nickel is planned in the Longview area to bring in more of the general public to increase sales. Additional efforts will be made to include the Longview Rock Club and a table will be provided for advertising Friends of Mineralogy, the FM Symposium, the Northwest Micro Mineral Study Group, and the local Longview Rock Club. The outside tailgating section will be expanded to include fossils and lapidary material. The tables inside the hall are still reserved for minerals and related items.

Make your reservations now or at the FM symposium. Space will be completely filled. Price is the same. \$10.00 per 6 foot table, with a maximum of two tables per participant.

To reserve space contact: **Rudy W. Tschernich, 526 Avenue A, Snohomish, WA 98290**  
telephone 360-568-2857, 9 am to 2 pm

For information about the outside tailgating section contact: **Gloria Cook, 3027 Pennsylvania, Longview, WA 98632**, telephone 360-425-4016

## **ATTENTION SATELLITE DEALERS AT THE FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY SYMPOSIUM**

Starting this year room assignment for satellite dealers on the first floor of the Sherwood Inn will be made by the Friends of Mineralogy Satellite Dealer Committee. This is being done in order to bring together all the active satellite dealers to the front end of the first floor rather than have sleeping rooms scattered in between selling rooms. This will allow people who want to get some sleep on Friday and Saturday night to have some peace and quite ( I do not know who those people might be) at the far end of the first floor and reserve the other end of the hall the rest of us who stay up all hours talking in the halls and rooms or looking at and purchasing minerals.

To make your room assignment contact:

**Rudy W. Tschernich, 526 Avenue A, Snohomish, WA 98290,  
telephone 360-568-2857 (9 am to 2 pm).**

Explain your requirements; smoking or non smoking room, number of beds, or exact room number. The standard FM Satellite Dealer donation of \$15. is required at the time your request is made. Enclose the check made out to Friends of Mineralogy. This money will be used to finance the symposium, make door signs for the registered satellite dealers, place signs in the main hall that direct customers to the satellite section of the hotel, make a floor plan sign to be placed on the wall of the satellite dealer area showing where your room is located, and pay for a page to be put in the registration packet showing where the satellite dealer rooms are located. A specimen to be donated to the FM auction will be expected from each satellite dealer. It will be picked up Friday or Saturday.

You must still call the **Sherwood Inn (206-535-2800)** to make your reservation with them. Be sure to tell them that you want the **Special Friends of Mineralogy Discount Rate** **AND** you want to be placed in the **DEALER SECTION**.

June 1, 1996

Wesley L. Gannaway, President  
Northwest Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy  
1604 Brookwood Dr.  
Ferndale, WA 98248-9729

Dear Wes:

Effective today, June 1, 1996, the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals has been incorporated in the state of Oregon as a nonprofit museum for educational and scientific purposes. Richard and Helen Rice and Sharleen K. Harvey make up the initial Board of Directors. It is our intention to expand the Board to five members in the future. The Rice property will house the museum and eventually the entire building and grounds will be used for the museum. Richard and Helen have at this time changed their living trusts willing their mineral collection to the "museum". The next step is to receive approval from the I.R.S. for the museum to be a 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization. When that status is attained, the Rices will immediately gift the mineral collection to the museum. This process is necessary for several reasons. The museum is incorporated to be perpetual and expected to expand. Without the I.R.S. approval there will be substantial inheritance tax and may require selling parts of the collection just to pay the taxes. The 501(c)3 status will allow tax free gifting not only for the Rices but for other collectors who have already expressed their desire to participate.

Our attorney advised that it could be helpful to include with our application to I.R.S. letters from professionals and hobbyists in support of this museum. If you feel the northwest needs a museum of this type and that mineral hobbyists and others have benefited from the over 45 years the Rices have opened their collection to organized mineral groups, school children, youth groups, senior groups, collectors, and professionals in the field of earth science, we would very much appreciate your letter to the Rices in support of this new museum and continuation of this outstanding collection being open to the public for education as well as enjoyment. The letter should be addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Rice, RICE NORTHWEST MUSEUM OF ROCKS AND MINERALS, 26385 N.W. Groveland Drive, Hillsboro, OR 97124. If you have any questions or want to know more about this project, give me a call at 503-248-4194. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,



Sharleen K. Harvey

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