

**PACIFIC
NORTHWEST
CHAPTER**



BULLETIN

APRIL 1998

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Spring is here! In a short time it will be summer and all of the rocks will be clear of snow.

I hope that you are doing well. Do you have any collecting trips planned this year? You have an invitation to take part in one or more of the FM field trips this year. I have the feeling that people will be talking about these trips for years. 1998 has already been a year of significant mineral finds. Think of how enjoyable it will be to show everyone the neat stuff you collected and to tell them how fun it was!

Perhaps field trips are not your cup of tea. How about a chance to view a fabulous mineral collection? Our next meeting should give you that chance; it will be at the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals.

Do you have some other activity, such as an educational project, that you would like to see FM accomplish? I am available for any input, comments, suggestions or complaints. Give me a call. Until that time take care.

Sincerely,
Bob Meyer, President
1-425-641-0723

MEETING NOTICES, UPCOMING EVENTS, FIELD TRIPS:

Thanks to Western Washington University

We held our last meeting on March 7 at the Western Washington University Geology Department. Our host, staff geologist George Mustoe, led us in a participative learning experience, "Reconstructing the Geologic History of Washington." After the meeting, George demonstrated the x-ray diffractometer and allowed members to use the photomicrographic equipment.

I would like to thank George Mustoe for his help and support of FM. As a result of his efforts, we enjoyed ourselves while at the same time learning something. His care helps to make the Geology department at Western a valuable resource to interested elements of the community, such as us. We are lucky to have him as a friend.

Micro Mineral Study Group

The Micromounters met in Vancouver, WA on Nov. 8, 1997. Everyone shared field collected specimens, then Rudy Tschernich gave a slide show and talk about the Long Ridge, WA locality. John Cornish also gave a talk and slide show on Gopher Valley, OR (specimens from these localities were displayed at the 1997 symposium). Bob Boggs gave a slide show on his travels.

Thanks to Jim Etzwiler for this information.

Pacific NW Field Collector Rendezvous

Jon Gladwell sponsored a show in Clackamas, OR on Mar. 28. There were 21 dealers in the hall, mostly mineral dealers but some had fossils. Our local chapter of FM was well represented. Of special note was Rudy Tschernich's flats of plates up to 8"X 10" covered with Natrolite, Apophyllite, and Calcite from the Weyerhauser Lincoln Creek quarry in Lewis Co., WA. David Hill had some Green Monster Mine epidotes that had been collected in the early 1970s prior to Doug Toland's operation. Mike Hess had several flats of Australian specimens from a trip he had made there. Mike Groben had specimens from his collection, all special. John Lindell had a nice selection of self collected specimens, with quite a few quartz pieces. Ray Lasmanis and Carl Harris held court in one corner. Ray had some specimens of calcite and from the Pend Oreille Mine, while Carl had a mixture of specimens from the NW. John Li was there with his rock trimmers and minerals from China, and a clutch of dinosaur eggs. Arlene Handley had a mix of minerals and books about minerals and geology, and some equipment. Pat Curry and Kathy Smith brought their fossil coral and also a good number of gaudy specimens of malachite/azurite from the Morenci Mines. Some of these pieces had an unbelievable range of color. Wes Gannaway had a selection of world wide specimens with the Santa Eulalia calcites well represented. Dan Rokosz had self collected geodes from various localities in the midwest.

The Rice Museum had a display case with a superb piece from the Crystal Peak, Colorado locality consisting of the bluest Amazonite crystals which stood out clear across the room. The

case also had a plate of Red Cloud Wulfenites up to 3/4", and a slab of malachite from Africa (I'm not positive on the location).

Another attendee of special note was the Nature of the Northwest, a center specializing in various maps and guides for the Northwest. This center is located in the State Office building near Lloyd Center in downtown Portland, at 800 NE Oregon St., phone 503-872-2750 and e-mail info@naturenw.org Their web page is <http://www.naturenw.org> They carry USGS maps, Oregon geology maps, and BLM maps, among other items of interest to FM members.

It looked as if everyone had a good time, and I believe that Jon is planning another rendezvous for late 1998 or early 1999. Jon did a great job of replacing the Longview swap and this show will only get better with repetition.

Spring Meeting

Our next meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. on June 6 at the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals, 26385 NW Groveland Drive, Hillsboro, Oregon 97124.

We will have the chance to see two short videos on Rhodochrosite specimen mining at the Sweet Home Mine, Alma, Colorado. Additionally, Sharleen Harvey, our host, will have a limited amount of table space available for those who wish to bring some trading material. If you wish to bring a lot of material, you should contact Sharleen prior to the meeting.

The museum will open at 11:00 a.m. for those who wish extra time to view the displays. On exhibition are numerous exquisite specimens, including the fabulous Sperrylite featured on the cover of the March—April issue of the Mineralogical Record. A recent acquisition is a 210 pound piece of the Gibeon meteorite from Namibia.

Go west from Portland on Hwy 26 to the Helvetia exit (this is also an exit for Hillsboro). Turn north on Helvetia, then a quick left onto Groveland Drive. Proceed .7 mile to the Rice Museum driveway. 26385 NW Groveland Dr, Hillsboro. 503-647-2418.

See you there.

Northwest Micro Mineral Study Group Spring Meeting

The Northwest Micro Mineral Study Group will hold its spring meeting on May 2, 1998, at the Clark County P.U.D. building, 1200 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver Washington.

SYMPOSIUM NOTES:

Symposium '98

Our 24th annual fall symposium will be on September 25-27, 1998. The topic this year will be Phosphates, Arsenates, and Vanadates. Plans are proceeding nicely for the symposium; with a number of exciting speakers being considered.

The symposium will be at the Days Inn in Tacoma, Washington at 6802 Tacoma Mall Blvd., (206) 475-5900. Please contact the hotel to make your room reservation. Be sure to let them know that your reservation is in conjunction with the symposium. If you wish to be a satellite dealer at the symposium please contact Rudy Tschernich, 526 Ave. A #A, Snohomish, WA 98290-2414, (360) 568-2857.

1998 Symposium Committee

John Lindell, Chairman 425-432-4939
Bob Meyer, Overseer and watchdog 425-641-0723
Cheryl Burchim, Finance and Motel Liaison 360-665-4349
Mark Mauthner, Speaker program 604-871-1520
Rudy Tschernich, Dealers 360-568-2857
Sharleen Harvey, Symposium guidelines manual 503-248-4194
Arlene Handley, Auction 360-693-1034
John Cornish, Displays 360-457-7630
Bart Cannon, Publicity 206-522-9233
Karen Hinderman, Hospitality 360-380-2035
Ray Lasmanis, Layout and Security 360-491-6893
Wes Gannaway and Gary Hinderman, Set up and breakdown 360-384-4209
If you have any input, questions, or wish to help please contact any committee member.

A volunteer is being sought to oversee the symposium contests. Interested parties should contact John Lindell, 25714 268th Ave. SE, Ravensdale, WA 98051-9774, (425) 432-4939.

Please note the symposium exhibitor's form included in this bulletin and use it so that Ray can plan the layout. John wants everyone to have a chance at exhibiting their specimens but it is important to know how many will do so.

Auction Specimens

Many of us have had the enjoyable experience of participating in our symposium auctions. It's a lot of fun to bid on a piece you've just got to have, particularly when others are just as determined to have that piece themselves. Additionally, the auction raises money, which helps to cover symposium expenses. A successful auction is usually the difference between losing money on the symposium and breaking even.

To generate excitement for the auction, we encourage you to make your donations to the auction early, by bringing specimens, books, etc. to the meetings. We will then describe the donations in the newsletter. At our March meeting, one of our members graciously donated three fine mineral specimens. A description of the specimens follows:

FM auction specimen #100. Rhodochrosite with Quartz and Tetrahedrite—Santa Rita Mine, Peru. This specimen is essentially a knob covered by small, somewhat stubby Quartz crystals. Tiny pink Rhodochrosite crystals occupy most of the areas between the Quartz crystals. There are a few 1 mm Tetrahedrite crystals and clusters scattered about the specimen. 8.5x6x3.5 cm. John Dagenais collection and label.

FM auction specimen #101. Sphalerite on Quartz—Joplin District, Missouri, USA. The specimen consists of a flat piece of the chert typical of Tri-state specimens. Druzy Quartz coats the top of the chert, which has a diagonal reef-like raised portion across its middle. There are three large Sphalerite crystals, and a number of smaller ones present on the specimen. The Largest crystal is 3.5x3 cm in size and is perched on the reef-like chert formation. The crystals are complex, equant, and dark brown, typical of Tri-state material. 11.5x7x5.5 cm. John Dagenais collection no. 11 and label.

FM auction specimen #102. Sphalerite on Pyrite pseudomorphs after Marcasite with Calcite—Nanisivik Mine, Baffin Island, NWT, Canada. This is a large handsome specimen that primarily consists of dark bronze colored Pyrite pseudo. af. Marcasite blades that are 2 mm thick and 2 cm across on average. Scattered about the surface of the specimen are numerous 1 mm black Sphalerite crystals. Additionally, there is another generation of larger black Sphalerite crystals to 1.7 cm in size, that are perched in various places on the Pyrite. There are also two yellowish Calcite crystals present, the largest being 2 cm long. The specimen is remarkably free from damage, which is not typical of Nanisivik pieces. 15x9.5x7 cm. John Dagenais collection no. 105 label and Tyson's label.

Spring Symposium '99

Plans are under way for our 24½ symposium, which is tentatively to be Memorial Day Weekend, 1999, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. A possible topic is "Finding Minerals." If you have questions or would like to (hopefully) help, please contact Lanny Ream, PO Box 2043, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83816-2043, (208) 667-0453.

Aesthetics Underground's Richmond, B C show

Rob Belcher is having another show at the Stay N Save Motor Inn in Richmond, B C, on May 8 and 9 of this year. You will believe me when I tell you that I couldn't spell-check his flier. So you all aren't confused about the time, it's 6PM til ? on Friday, and 10AM til 10PM on Saturday. Unfortunately, I won't be there so hopefully someone will report back on the show.

NW AFMS Show

"Journey Into The Past" is the theme of the Northwest Regional AFMS show to be held in Billings, Mt on June 12-14. The theme relates to dinosaurs, with a who's who list of speakers such as Dr. Robert Bakker and Peter Larsen. Lots of field trips are planned for fossils, agates, and minerals. The show will be held in the Metrapark in Billings. The show is advertising 200 exhibits and 48 dealers.

You could catch this show, hit the Utah trip, and then hang over for the Butte trip. What a collecting summer that would make!

Utah 98

Wes Gannaway has finalized the trip schedule and is taking names and sending the packets out. The trip will start on June 22 at Wendover, NV and end on July 5 at Fossil Mtn, UT. If you

wish to make the whole trip or any part of it (mineral collectors can do the first part only if they wish) please let Wes know now, before the end of April. So far about 18 people are signed up. This trip will fit in with the theme for the 1998 symposium as two of the collecting sites are known for their abundance of Arsenates.

Wes Gannaway
wgannaw@mail.arco.com
1604 Brookwood Dr
Ferndale, WA 98248
360-384-4209

Montana 98

The Montana trip for 1998 is shaping up nicely and you're invited to come along. The Butte show will be held on July 18th and 19th and this will be our central meeting point mid-way through our trip. Plans are to spend time at the Sally Ann claim before the show, and then on to Crystal Park after the show. Some side trips and surprises will be divulged to those lucky souls who decide to participate in this year's adventure. Our trip will begin the week before the Butte show and end sometime during the week following the show. If you would like to join us, call or e-mail me and I'll fill you in on the details. If you would like to display a case or present a slide talk during the mini-symposium at the Butte show, let me know when you contact me. Please call me now and we'll see you in Montana!

More information will be sent later.

John Cornish
j&gcornish@tenforward.com
40 Cedar Glen Drive,
Port Angeles, WA 98362
360-457-7630

Ninth Annual Washington Pass Cleanup

Our 9th annual Washington Pass cleanup will be on August 7-9. The Washington Pass area has produced many species, and is the type-locale for three species: zektzerite, okanoganite-(Y), and calciohilarite. On August 8, attending FM members will pick up litter or help to remove non-native plants in coordination with Okanogan National Forest personnel. This is our way of paying back one of our favorite areas. In exchange for our efforts, the Forest Service provides us with free campsites at the Klipchuck campground. To reserve your free campsite, please send the enclosed reservation form to Cheryl Burchim, 3305 281st, Ocean Park, WA 98640-0077, (360) 665-4379.

Seattle Regional Gem and Mineral Show

The Seattle Regional Show will go on this year, with tennative dates of Nov. 6, 7, and 8 at the Puyallup Fair Grounds. This show has had some problems, mostly due to a lack of participation by the member clubs, of which our FM chapter is one. Jim and Rusty Etzwiler, along with Mary Foster, have agreed to be our reps to the show committee, and Rusty's report

is in this bulletin. It would be nice to give these folks a big hand and support their efforts. In the past we have even made money for our chapter due to our participation, not to mention the impact on the general public. This is the type of thing that our charter supports: education and the enjoyment of minerals and mineralogy. This show will only go on if we all help, and the potential is too great to ignore.

Other Shows

The Midwest AFMS show, as well as the National AFMS, will be held in Houghton, Michigan on August 14-16, 1998. Lots of Copper Country field trips are planned to about 12 major copper deposits and one zeolite locality. Further inf. will be in a later bulletin.

MEETING MINUTES:

Meeting Minutes, March 7, 1998
WWU, Environmental Studies Bldg., Bellingham, WA

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Meyer. First order of business included thanking our hosts, George and Elaine Mustoe.

Minutes from the Winter meeting were approved as published in the bulletin. Symposium report and discussion followed. Originally the symposium theme included phosphates and arsenates. Vanadates have also been added to this. John Lindell had fliers sent to Tucson to advertise our symposium. A few speakers have been lined up but there is a real need for local speakers (any volunteers?). Mark Mauthner will continue to work on this. Rudy Tschernich will know more about dealers within a few weeks but those planning to be satellite dealers can contact him now. John Cornish has been speaking to some institutions about putting in display cases; he would like to hear from the membership as well. Lastly, in relation to the eastside symposium in Spring 1999, Lanny Ream needs to know if the membership is willing to pay \$85.00 per night for a hotel room. This is needed as part of his package deal with the hotel. Please voice your opinion about this matter now so Lanny can firm up plans.

Old business included a discussion on the Utah field trip being offered by Wes Gannaway. A sign-up sheet was passed around and there was a brief discussion on localities. If you are going on this trip, contact Wes now for a packet of information. John Cornish reported on the NW writing project. He is still looking for interested individuals and ideas. Contact John about this very important endeavor. After much discussion, MSP to table the locality register committee in order to preserve the privacy of past members who contributed localities understanding that this would remain confidential. It was discussed that it is important to keep records of localities and specimens properly documented and shared with at least one individual so that they would not be lost forever. A suggestion was made that we put together a booklet of localities that include easy access for kids in order to encourage and promote mineral collection with the younger generation as well as adults that are new to the hobby. Jim Etzwiler reported on the situation of the Seattle Regional. A vote was cast at their last meeting in favor of continuing this show the first full weekend of November. This organization will look into moving the

show out of Puyallup and closer to Seattle. Our concern included a lack of mineral dealers present at this show.

New business included a discussion on the NW Lapidary Arts and Mineral Committee and its connection to the NW Heritage Museum project. This organization is asking for volunteers who would assist in planning the mineral/mining portion of the museum. Interested individuals can contact Jim Etzwiler and/or Mary Foster. John Cornish requested to be reimbursed for telephone calls to Montana in relation to setting up a field trip. MSP to reimburse John \$50.00.

Next meeting is set for Saturday June 6, 1998, 1PM, at the Rice NW Museum in Hillsboro, OR.

Good of the order: Many of you still have not paid 1998 dues. Please check your address label and pay your dues if it says 1997. Thanks!!!!

Respectfully,
Karen Hinderman, Secretary

TREASURE'S REPORT:

Previous Balance: 7113.71

Deposits:

Table rental:	50.00
T-shirts(less phone):	12.24
Dues:	<u>255.00</u>
	317.24

Expenditures:

Mike Groben phone:	36.44
M. Wise travel:	328.00
E. Ford travel:	220.00
Postage, printing:	214.07
Natl. dues:	<u>185.00</u>
	983.51

Ending Balance April 6, 1998: 6447.44

Respectfully Submitted:
Cheryl Burchim

PROJECT NORTHWEST:

John Cornish is still interested in pursuing this project and is still waiting to hear from interested parties. If you don't wish to write an article you can still help out by collating information about a collecting area or compiling photographs or researching specimen information. Drop a line or call John and talk about what you can do to get another Northwest issue or Rocks and Minerals magazine published.

Thanks,
John Cornish
40 Cedar Glen Drive
Port Angeles WA 98362
360-457-7630 j&gcornish@tenforward.com

SEATTLE REGIONAL SHOW COMMITTEE:

As I mentioned in the last bulletin there was a possibility that the 1997 Seattle Regional show might have been the last one. However, the committee has voted to continue the organization. Our FM chapter was represented by Mary Foster and Rusty Etzwiler. Jim Etzwiler represented the Boeing club. The treasurer reported a net income from the 1997 show of \$386. and the committee also voted to provide a scholarship. Any one desiring additional information can contact Rusty or Jim.

MINERAL BOOKS:

Jim Etzwiler sent in the following information on a couple of books:

"Mineralogy of Arizona", John W. Anthony, Sidney A. Williams, Richard A. Bideaux, Raymond W. Grant, 3rd. edition, 1995
Hard Cover \$76.00, Paper Back \$36.00
Book Code "ANTMIN" Indicate "Bookworm Sale" to get the hard cover for the price of paper back.
The University of Arizona Press, 1230 N. Park Ave, Tucson, AZ 85719;
phone/fax 1-800-426-3797;
e-mail orders@uapress.arizona.edu; secure WEB site: <http://www.uapress.arizona.edu>

"Minerals of New Mexico", Stuart A. Northrup, Revised by Florence A. LaBruzza, 3rd. Edition,
Cloth \$75.00, Sale: \$59.95. Book Code=1662, Sale Order Code=GS05.
University of New Mexico Press, 1720 Lomas Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1591;
Phone 1-800-249-7737,
Fax 1-800-622-8667; for additional information e-mail umpress@unm.edu

NEW MEMBERS, ADDRESSES:

Corky Russell sent in his e-mail address: corkysrocks@postoffice.worldnet.att.net Corky also has a web page: <http://home.att.net/~corkysrocks/personal.html>
Rudy Tschernich's e-mail address is rudytschernich@compuserve.com
A corrected e-mail for Jim Etzwiler is james.a.etzwiler@boeing.com
One of Lanny Ream's web pages: www.iea.com/~lream/index.html

EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

Lots of things are happening in our area this year. The big hit at Lincoln Creek is now history, and is a sign of better things to come. The old adage about all the good finds having happened long ago is now put to rest. Field work is the primary focus for all collectors, and when someone we all know makes a big hit it gets more people out into the field, which results in more big finds ad nauseum. It now looks like the symposium is shaping up to be another fine one, due to more people putting in more time to make it better. The Seattle Regional now has an extended life, due to the increased efforts of interested people.

One of the chapter members has suggested another addition to the bulletin, namely a series of articles on the best find or best pocket. I am willing to start off in the next issue by describing my best find to date. Please don't hesitate to send in your experiences. If you are unsure about how to do it please call or write and I will help you. Another idea is to orally record your experience and send the tape and I will transcribe it.

I am getting more input and am very appreciative. Thanks to Jim Etzwiler for his input in this issue.

A last minute addition to the bulletin is due to a phone call from Bart Cannon concerning the access to the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River. Please write or fax a letter to Mr. Kapral. Otherwise this could be the start of something really ugly.

Wes Gannaway
1604 Brookwood Dr, Ferndale WA 98248
360-384-4209
wgannaw@mail.arco.com

Display Registration Form

Would you like to display at this years symposium? If you do, please fill out the form below and mail it, along with a self-addressed and stamped envelope. We will send this back to you with a map showing where your case will be positioned with your display. To facilitate display case rental arrangements, all entries must be received no later than July 31st.

Exhibitor Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

Exhibit case requirements:

Number of cases to be exhibited _____ Will you furnish your own case/cases? _____

What style case will you be using (Federation or Seattle Regional), and what are its dimensions

F.M will provide a Federation style case for you if you do not use your own, if you use your own case, what color liners will you use?

Type of exhibit:

Please describe briefly the type of materials you will be exhibiting in each case. Be as specific as possible, i.e., will photos or other display enhancers be used, what colors will be displayed, is your display an educational display, etc.

Are the specimens to be exhibited field collected or purchased?

Exhibitor information

The inner dimensions of the F.M. provided Federation Style cases is 22 inches deep by 23 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches tall by 46 inches long and will have beige liners.

Exhibitor to furnish own risers as needed

Time period for case set-up is Friday evening. Case tear down will happen Sunday directly following the symposium

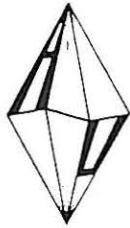
F.M. will provide tools, locks, tape, paper towels and Windex for exhibitor usage.

F.M. will provide security in the main exhibit hall only, as a preventive measure. However, all exhibitors display at their own risk.

F.M. will not be responsible for any loss or damage to specimens or other display materials. If exhibitor wants materials insured, exhibitor must make arrangements for and pay for any insurance to cover his/her own exhibit.

Thank you for your cooperation. We hope that you have a wonderful symposium and look forward to seeing your display. If you have any questions please feel free to call me. Thank you.

Displays Chairperson John Cornish (360)-457-7630 or email
j&gcornish@tenforward.com



THE AESTHETICS UNDERGROUND

Fine Mineral Specimens, Gems and Lapidary Art from around the world
P.O. Box 2143, Banff, Alberta, Canada T0L 0C0

(403) 762-5737

Due to the popularity of this letter and the fact that there are a lot of new folks on the mailing list since it was first released, I'm running a special repeat modified version.

I know it seems xenotime has passed since my last visit and agate to wondering if you're all getting jaded, but I'll telluride now it's that time again. Tired of night cinnabar where in a kornerupine for a golden opportunity to siderite down and aqua-int yourself witherite people inderite surroundings? If so, then come out to the:

UMPTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL MINERAL MAYHEM

You herderite. Here you can drink quartz of beer as long as you don't actinolite headed way or fall on your arsenopyrite display. You can albite on tantalite-zing munchies anatase the pate, to satisfy your apatite while you listen to the talc or spinel lot of tales of your own. If you arrive before six, you'll have to form a linarite outside the door. If you arrive late you can likely stilbite on carats, but de Beers may be gone and jewel have to settle for soda-lite. Lest I forget, you can spend some silver, orpiment by cheque or visa is accepted if you're temporarily brochantite with cash. Sapphire as I'm concerned it's a realgar-anteed beryl of fun and azurite in the vicinity, mica point of coming, ulexite yourself!

WHEN: **FRIDAY, MAY 8TH** 6:00 pm 'til yer all gone
SATURDAY MAY 9th 10:00 am 'til 10 pm

WHERE: Stellerite in the same place, **THE STAY'N SAVE MOTOR INN**
10551 St. Edwards Drive, Richmond, BC. Rooms 101-102 PHONE: 273-3311

From Vancouver: #4 road exit from Hwy 99 left on Cambie left on St. Edwards.

From points south: Bridgeport exit (#39) from Hwy 99 right on St. Edwards.

Since my fall visit here, I've been back to both Brazil and Tucson and have invested all my funds (and some of the bank's!) in bringing to you an entirely fresh inventory. No more grumbling about seeing the same old pieces with different price tags! The individual items are too numerous to list, but whether you're looking for collector's pieces, decorators, polished quartz, gems or jewelry items, I assure you that there will be something new here for you. **AND** for your enjoyment and education, I am pleased to present "Professor Woodside's Rock Rap" in which all will be revealed about your chosen specimens.

So veteran visitors - DON'T MISS THIS ONE! And you fresh mayhemites, come out and ogle, munch and mingle. Feel free to invite friends but kindly leave pets with Aunt Bea and small children in the backseat with the windows down. If you have prior commitments, phone the hotel or drop a line and I'll be sure to keep you on the mailing list.

Opologies for all the bad puns, that sulphur now!

Robert Belcher

**NOTICE TO ALL FM MEMBERS AND ALL OTHER
CONCERNED PARTIES:**

The Middle Fork Access and Travel Management team has been accepting input from affected citizens concerning the closure of the road up the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River. This road would be gated or even permanently closed (by trenching or pulling a culvert) just up from the Dingford Creek trailhead. This will effectively shut off access to all of the quartz and pyrite localities at the upper end of the Middle Fork road, such as the Spruce Ridge Pyrite Claim, the Clipper, the Big Chief, the Pedro claim, and Katy Bell, not to mention the trail up the river to Dutch Miller Gap and beyond. For the most hardy collectors this will result in a 17 mile hike to the claim area.

The manager of the team is Rand Kapral, and we must write to him with our concerns about the closure, specifying that we wish to have the road remain open to the Troublesome Creek trailhead at the upper end of the road. Right now, the vote is about 50/50 to close the road, so everyone's letter will count!

Address your letter to:

RAND KAPRAL
RE: MFATM
NORTH BEND DISTRICT RANGER HEADQUARTERS
42404 SE NORTH BEND WAY,
NORTH BEND WA 98045

FAX: 1-425-888-1910

There is also going to be a public meeting concerning this closure. Call the North Bend Headquarters for further information at 1-425-888-1421, or call Bart Cannon at 1-206-522-9233.

Karen Hinderman, Secretary
6217 Tyler Lane
Ferndale, WA 98248

