



Pacific Northwest Chapter Friends of Mineralogy

July 2006 Bulletin

PNWFM Rice Museum NW Gallery Fund Raiser

August 5-6, 2006

Once again, PNWFM will be participating in a fund-raiser on August 5-6, 2006 to generate funds for the Rice Museum in Hillsboro, Oregon. This will be conducted in conjunction with the Rice Museum's 2nd Annual Summer Festival. The Summer Festival is a lively weekend of rocks, minerals, fossils, and activities at the Rice Museum with the purpose of raising funds for the NW Gallery. The Summer Festival includes various activities to raise funds including mineral dealer contributions, raffles, door prizes, pony rides, etc.

PNWFM will have a table set up to sell minerals in the dealer area at the Summer Festival. PNWFM table mineral sales will consist of specimens donated by PNWFM members with all proceeds going to the museum. The PNWFM table will be staffed by Aaron & Jade Wieting for the duration of the Summer Festival.

Last year's PNWFM table was very successful. Most of the specimens were from the Wietings' collection so the majority of the donation was made in the Wietings' name so that Jades employer would provide a matching contribution. Thus, sales from the PNWFM table resulted in a total contribution of \$1,865 which was greatly appreciated and helped contribute to completion of the NW Gallery.

How PNWFM members can help:

The Wietings will be providing many specimens for the table; however, additional specimens are needed. There will be a wide range of mineralogical interest represented by visitors at the festival, so a variety of material is welcome, particularly small attractive specimens such as Washington quartz (which virtually all PNWFM members have plenty of in their collections). Like last year, many kids will be present at the Summer Fest, and inexpensive, attractive specimens will sell well with the kids. Specimens not sold at the festival will be donated to the Rice Museum Gift Shop or saved for next year's festival.

Also, volunteers would be appreciated to assist in staffing the PNWFM table. Jade & Aaron will be at the Summer Fest for the weekend so any break time would be welcome. Please contact and coordinate with Aaron if you have specimens to donate or wish to volunteer (phone 503-284-5361, e-mail pdx-pounder@hotmail.com). Members are also encouraged to purchase specimens, which is a direct contribution to the museum. Hope to see you there!

Aaron B. Wieting

Pacific Northwest Chapter

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Rice Museum Northwest Gallery Grand Opening

The Rice Museum Northwest Gallery officially opened on Saturday, October 22, 2005. About 40 mineral enthusiasts attended the grand opening and were treated to the unveiling of some of the Northwest's finest and most spectacular mineral specimens.

At 11:00, there was a short ceremony officially dedicating the gallery as the Rudy Tschernich Gallery in honor of his tireless efforts in seeing the gallery to (near) completion. Sharleen also thanked the many individuals and organizations, including FM, who provided support for the museum and the new gallery. Jane Guanarillo also took the opportunity to thank Rudy, in particular for his vision and determination in seeing the gallery finished within a few years instead the at least ten years they expected.

Rudy accepted his plaque and talked about the importance of preserving mineral specimens and knowledge of localities, particularly those from the Pacific Northwest. He also emphasized that many of the specimens are on loan and some of the displays will be rotating, so there will always be something new to see at the gallery. The dedication ceremony was followed by a light lunch featuring two excellent cakes baked the night before by PNWFM member Betsy Hunt.

Many attendees commented on how well the gallery turned out, particularly in comparison to some of the well-known mineral galleries and museums. Cases are standard vertical cases with a basal shelf for large cabinet specimens below two glass shelves for smaller cabinet specimens. The shelves are below adult eye level, largely so that kids can easily see most of the specimens. The many fine specimens are also complemented by numerous photographs of mineral localities and specimen recovery efforts. The photos are a great addition as they give non-collectors a sense of the effort necessary to recover specimens, and they present serious collectors with photo-documentation of some classic northwest localities.

Many of the specimens have been donated by, or are on loan from Northwest field collectors and PNWFM members. Some of the more notable northwest localities represented in the Gallery by rarely-seen before specimens include Denny Creek, Washington, Spruce Claim (quartz and pyrite combinations), Sawtooth Mountains, Idaho (smoky quartz, microcline, aquamarine), Rat's Nest and Summer Storm Claims, Idaho (heulandite and quartz pseudomorphs after apophyllite), Lookout Point, Oregon (large barite plates),

assorted zeolites from Rudy Tschernich's collection, and an extensive collection of Thundereggs, mostly from the northwest. Definitely worth a visit if you haven't seen it yet!

Members are encouraged to continue supporting the museum through loans, and through donations of specimens, funds, and time. The completion of the Northwest Gallery also helps generate an additional draw for developing the museum as a central gathering place for those with mineral-related interests. Thanks are due to all who have contributed and continue to contribute to the success of the museum.

Washington Pass

The Annual Cleanup and collecting trip is scheduled for August 12 and 13.

I will be at Klipchuck Campground on Friday night and there will be signs at several camping spots for FM members and guests. We will have a chore to do Saturday morning for the campground hosts (we had to clear a portion of a hiking trail last year), then we will head up to Washington Pass to collect minerals from this world-class locality. If you don't have many of the 60+ species of minerals that are found at Washington Pass, then be sure to attend this event. Klipchuck Campground is located about 10 miles east of the summit of Washington Pass and about 20 miles west of Winthrop on Highway 20. Bring your tools and hopefully lots of sunscreen and get some rare species for your collection. For more information call or email Wes Gannaway 360-384-4209 or debnwes@comcast.net

Events

Washington Pass cleanup - 2nd weekend of August (12-13), contact Wes Gannaway 360-384-4209.

Meeting - September 2, on WWU Campus, 1 PM in ESC Bldg. (Geol. Dept.) Park in lot C/12A.

2006 Annual Symposium - October 20-22, at Red Lion Inn, Kelso, WA; Theme: Minerals of South America.

The Northwest Chapter of the Friends of Mineralogy

will host a show and symposium on the Minerals of South America

October 20-22, 2006

At the Red Lion Inn in Kelso, Washington

16 cases of superb minerals will be displayed, including a case from the prestigious Rice Museum of Hillsboro, Oregon.

Major floor dealers and over ten satellite dealers will be open with fabulous minerals.

Tony Kampf, Curator of Mineral Sciences at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, will be presenting talks about "Minerals of Brazil" and "Mineral Fakes."

Scott Werschky, with Miners Lunchbox, and traveling frequently to Peru for specimens, will be presenting talks about "Minerals of Peru (I)" and "Minerals of Peru (II)."

The show and dealers are open to the general public at no cost.

Visit the FM website www.pnwm.org for more information about show times and registration for the symposium. The symposium fees are listed on the registration form.

If you are registering for the symposium, be sure to make reservations early. The hotel phone number is 360-636-4400.

Next meeting:

On the campus of WWU on September 2nd at 1 PM in the ESC building (Geology Dept). Signs will indicate the room number. Be sure to park in lot C/12A at the north end. The security at WWU is very ticket happy. Contact Wes Gannaway with any questions.

It is approximately 1 mile to the E S C bldg. from I-5. Parking is free on the weekend. Park at the north end of the lot and follow the path through the tunnel. The main door to the ESC building is on the NW corner.

A Collecting Trip to Nevada

Wes and Deb Gannaway, Ferndale, Washington

Since I retired last fall I am able to go places without worrying about schedules and work. This allowed us to travel to the Northern California Mineralogy Association meeting that is held every year at the end of June. We decided to leave home early and do some collecting along the way, mostly in Nevada. We made Winnemucca our base camp and then went to several localities in the general area.

Our first collecting site was at an old favorite; the Silver Coin Mine. This was a silver mine located in the Iron Point District in Humboldt County, Nevada. The mine was one of the places visited on an FM field trip a couple of years ago. The mine is situated about one mile north of I-80 at the Iron Point interchange, about 2 miles west of Valmy and about 3 miles east of Golconda Summit. This mine is famous for the variety of phosphate minerals found in the dump and inside the main adit. Approximately 90 different mineral species have been found at the Silver Coin. Collecting is primarily inside the main adit (you can't miss it as it is almost large enough to drive a truck into). As you enter the tunnel you will go about 30 feet and there is a low shelf to your right. This is the main site. Break out large chunks of rock and take them out to the open, then break them down to find the seams and pockets. This is in an altered shale similar to the locality at Willard, Nevada but much more productive with many more species. Common minerals are calcite, aragonite, carbonate-fluorapatite, dolomite, hemimorphite, jarosite, perhamite, variscite, wavellite, and turquoise. Rarer minerals include cechite, aurichalcite, brochantite, creedite, heylite, kidwellite, leucophosphate, morinite, paratacamite, spangolite, stolzite, strengite, chlorargyrite, lipscombeite, and meurigite.

The next day we went to Golconda Summit and then south to some old copper prospects on the north side of Osgood Mountain. A detailed road log is: take the exit at the summit into the truck pullout (mp 200), then go south onto the access road and turn west, following the pavement, then the dirt road for about two miles. You will see some dozer cuts and some old boards along the road, then come to a fenced adit. Collect here around the adit for carbonate-fluorapatite, malachite, azurite, and pseudomalachite. Don't go into the adit. There is a large boulder just in front of the adit which has produced some real nice carbonate-fluorapatite crystals as spheres, needles, and tabular "barrels."

The third locality we visited was the Redhouse Bar-

ite Mine located northeast of Golconda Springs. Take the exit to Golconda Springs and go east along the highway to Midas (road 789) about 17 miles to the end of the paved road. The mine is to your left on the east slope of the Osgood Mountains. Go up the dirt road about 2 miles and go around the hill to the open cut, then to the back of the cut where the shale and barite nodules are. This locality has barite, carbonate-fluorapatite, montgomeryite, and curetonite (type locality). We have been here twice looking for the curetonite and have found one crystal out of two 5 gallon buckets of material. We have sampled throughout the exposure but most of the minerals have been found in the layers at the shale-nodule contact.

Our next trip was to the Majuba Hill Mine located on the north side of the Rye Patch Reservoir about 45 miles west of Winnemucca. This is a famous arsenate mineral locality that has been featured in many mineral magazines and is a mecca for the serious micro collector. As we had our grandson with us we only went into the tin stope in this mine. All collecting is done underground and the tin stope is relatively safe, especially compared to the copper stope which is in very bad condition. This mine also has an extensive list of minerals with the most prized being olivenite, clinoclase, arthurite, and scorodite. Rarer minerals include parnauite, metazeunerite, and metatorbernite. The tin stope is the locality for real nice clinoclase but on this trip we came away with very nice azurite and olivenite specimens.

We also went to Rochester, southeast of Lovelock, to look for the old dumps behind the ghost town. What we found was a large open pit and cyanide leachate pile that covered about 10 acres. We then went over Spring Valley Pass and north to Unionville. Unionville is an old mining town that was once the Humboldt County seat until the mines closed down and the government moved to Winnemucca. We stopped at the trading post at Miles City and saw some nice gold specimens from the Mad Mutha Mine.

After moving our base of operations to Fallon, Nevada, we visited our last collecting locality of the trip. The Mopung Hills are located southeast of the I-80/Hwy 95 interchange east of Fernley, Nevada. You would travel 7 miles south on 95, then 2.8 miles east on a gravel road, then about 1.5 miles north on a jeep trail, going west around the end of the mountain. This is the Green Prospect in the Lake District in Churchill County. This is the type locality for mopungite, a very rare mineral that was found on the middle bench. We collected very nice jarosite and some decent fluorite and aragonite crystals and maybe some mopungite. Other significant minerals to be found here are stibnite, metastibnite, and selenium. The mayflies were hatching and there were so many that dozens would cling to our clothing as we walked around. They

formed a shimmering cloud along the whole end of the mountain range.

We then proceeded to Pollock Pines, California to attend the meeting of the NCMA. Talks were given by Sugar White, Bill Wise, and Georges Favreau. Georges gave a nice presentation on the Bou Azzer District of Morocco. We spent many hours at the trading tables and our microscopes. New specimens in my collection include some very nice Southern California and Arizona vanadinites, wulfenites, and mimetites. I also got a nice erythrite specimen from Bou Azzer that was collected by Georges.

In all, the trip was a success, aside from the broken window and air conditioner in the travel trailer (ask Deb about the 100 degree temperature in Pollock Pines). The collecting sites are all still open for collecting and should produce nice specimens. The exception is the Majuba Hill Mine which may be under a new claim at this time. You might ask at the Mill City trading post about any changes before going out to the Majuba Hill Mine.

Symposium Auction News

First, thank you. Thanks for always being willing to support the auction by donating specimens and by purchasing specimens. Your contributions and generosity are appreciated. So as you are out collecting this summer or just cleaning the garage, think about what you can bring to the symposium to donate for the silent auction or the live auction. Start a box now of items and add to it as the summer progresses.

We are going to restructure the silent auctions somewhat in hopes of expediting the evening auction, and hopefully to make the silent auctions more competitive and enjoyable. Our thoughts are to have \$1.00 to \$15.00 specimens available for the silent auction and to limit the live auction to \$20.00 specimens and above. We will give this a trial run this year and see how it goes. Please let us know your thoughts on the subject. It has also been decided that any donations left over will become part of the supply for the summer festival.

I will be available to accept your donations at the summer festival, chapter meeting at Western, and at the symposium on Friday.

Thank you.
Karen Hinderman

PNWFM Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2006

Approximately 15 members met at the Rice NW Museum of Rocks & Minerals to discuss business, and take in the museum. President Wes Gannaway opened the meeting with thanks to Jane, Rudy, and Sharleen for the use of the Museum.

Symposium News: Registration packets will be in the mail in early July. Satellite dealers need to reserve their rooms early to ensure that they are located on the lower floor. Please contact Ray Lasmanis early if you are planning a display case. Sharleen noted that the minimum food prices have risen from \$2000. to \$2500. This will probably be reflected in an overall cost increase of a few dollars per individual. Most importantly, please help out the club by participating in the Saturday luncheon and dinner. Ed Godsey has graciously volunteered to have 50 hats printed and ready for the symposium.

3rd Annual Summer Festival: Aaron and Jade are heading up the organization of a table for the PNWFM chapter. Donations of rocks and minerals are needed. Highly desired is \$.50 and \$1.00 specimens to sale to kids. Also, volunteers are needed to assist Aaron and Jade. MSP to donate all monies earned at the summer festival to the mineral specimen fund at the Rice Museum. The festival will be Saturday, August 5, from 9 to 6; and Sunday, August 6, from 9 to 4. This is a perfect opportunity for our chapter to provide outreach to the general public.

PNWFM Chapter Case at Museum: Rudy will have a case ready for our chapter to be responsible for by the beginning of August. We are looking for a volunteer chairperson to coordinate volunteers for supplying material for the case. An individual would bring their material to the museum and fill up the case. Then 6 months later they would remove their minerals and another member or group of members would fill the case. Again, another opportunity to educate the general public about minerals and our activities.

WA Pass Cleanup and campout is August 12. Please plan on attending.

Lanny Ream is our current newsletter editor. Please send him your articles to include in the newsletter.

Next meeting will be at Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA.

Karen Hinderman, Secretary

PNWFM Minutes
April 30, 2006

President, Wes Gannaway called the meeting to order. Present: Wes and Deb Gannaway, Karen and Gary Hinderman, Diana and Bill Dameron, and George Gerhold.

Treasurer's Report: Included income and expenses for fiscal year 7/1/05-6/30/06, as of 4/29/06; and updated membership list. We briefly discussed calling or emailing a 2005 member to encourage them to renew membership.

New Business: cases used for symposium are rented from Mt. Baker Rock & Gem Club in Bellingham. Wes has been transporting them each year and will need to rent a trailer to continue doing this. Some of the cases rented are getting pretty beat up. It would benefit our club to build some more of our own cases and store them closer to the symposium; possibly Museum grounds.

WA Pass Cleanup was a bust last year with only Wes Gannaway present. Dates for cleanup this year are August 12 and 13. This will include a potluck Saturday evening and a breakfast Sunday morning. More representation from club members is desired.

Symposium: 2006 Symposium Chair is George Gerhold. Continuing Chairs include: Bill D. speaker chair, Ray L. displays chair, Wes G. setup/take down/av chair, Sharleen H. hotel liaison chair, and Karen and Gary H. auction chair. We are still seeking/inquiring about a dealer chair. **Publicity:** we need to make flyers available for local shows. Registration forms will be in the mail by late July. Ideas for Sunday program: series/forum on How To (mounting, cleaning, making labels, digital photography, tracking locations, etc). In an attempt to keep the Saturday evening auction a reasonable length, more specimens will be sold at the silent auction and some will be saved for the summer festival at the museum.

Good of the Order: reminder that updated information can always be found on the website.

Next Meeting June 10, 2006, 10 AM, Rice Museum.

Meeting Adjourned.
Karen Hinderman, Secretary

2007 DUES – PAY WITH SYMPOSIUM FEE IF POSSIBLE

Our Chapter's fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. Dues are \$15 annually, of which \$6 goes to the National FM. Those members who paid dues between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006 (shown as 2006 on your mailing label) will continue to receive a newsletter through December, at least, but need to renew. IF YOU ATTEND THE SYMPOSIUM: we save time and money if you pay in connection with your symposium fees; there will be a space on your symposium form for dues. Otherwise, please pay dues anytime before June 30 2007; our membership is more accurately reported at Tucson in February if you pay before December 31.

We save even more money, and you get better, color newsletters, if you sign up to receive the National Newsletter via e-mail. We will offer the same (elective) option for the Chapter Newsletter very soon. Please include your current e-mail address below and let me know if it changes. We do not accept dues in advance or for past years.

Return completed forms with your check for \$15 made out to PNWFM to:

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