



PNWFM NEWSLETTER

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2011 PNWFM FAMOUS MINERAL LOCALITIES OF MEXICO

Best Symposium Ever!?

See details in this issue.

2012 TUCSON SHOW MINERALS OF ARIZONA

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PNWFM members again invade Tucson for the annual gem and mineral show. The National Friends of Mineralogy Board Meeting is held during this week. The Pacific Northwest local has a strong presence on the Board with two officers, the newsletter editor, the webmaster, and six of the 12 elected board members and the PNWFM president as it's local representatives. Four local members will be up for election on the upcoming national ballot. Please take time to vote.

Several local members have been invited to bring down their finest Arizona pieces and will be displaying in the featured cases. In addition PNWFM members also display in competitive and educational cases.

Bob Meyer will be one of the featured speakers at Friday's Arthur Roe symposium held in conjunction with the show. His presentation will be on one of Arizona's premier locals, Tiger.

Other PNWFM members will be participating as dealers and even organizing whole shows at Tucson. Please patronize them. Snowbirds enjoy!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Bob Meyer

Greetings, fellow mineral enthusiasts.

A new year is upon us, and that is traditionally a time to look both backward and forward.

A look back . . . We come off of a successful two years in PNWFM. The feedback we have received from our members would indicate that our members are happier with how things have been going, and that should be the goal of any organization—to continuously improve.

My own feeling is that those involved with our organization truly do care about FM. Not once have I had the slightest feeling that I was doing it alone. Every person I have dealt with to undertake the tasks associated with PNWFM has purported him or herself very competently and without complaint. I am honestly very impressed with the dedication and caliber of our membership and I am honored to be able to facilitate our activities.



We have received numerous compliments concerning our newsletters over these past two years. As one of the contributors, I would say, "I am glad that you are enjoying them." So, it is to the contributors who much of the thanks should go. The newsletters would be mighty thin without these folks. Our regular contributors these past two years have included Ray Lasmanis and Wes Gannaway. In addition, editing and putting out the newsletters involves substantial effort, and I would like to thank John Lindell for his exemplary work as our newsletter editor.

Some time has now elapsed since our symposium, but I would imagine that it is still fresh enough in your minds to remember well what an incredible event it was. Indeed, part of the delay in getting on with things after the symposium is in part, "How do we follow that act?" Every person I have asked *has not said that this was one of our best symposiums*; actually, *every person has said that this **was** our best!*

Therefore, I extend this compliment, on behalf of PNWFM, as a thank you to every member of the symposium committee, to those who pitched in to help, to our speakers, our dealers, those who displayed, those who entered our contests, and to the management and staff of the Red Lion Kelso. You did a wonderful job. The 2011 symposium committee consisted of George Gerhold, symposium chair; Allan Young, program chair & master of ceremonies; Al Liebetrau, dealer and publicity coordinator; Ray Lasmanis, displays and cases; Wes Gannaway, set-up and layout; Gary Hinderman and Karen Hinderman, auctions, Don Newsome, special program (fluorescent mineral) chair, and Bob Meyer, facilities coordinator and contests. In addition, many others helped, and I apologize for not keeping track of everyone, but I saw Diana Dameron, Michael Smith and Linda Smith manning the welcome desk, Jim Etzwiler working hard with tear-down, and several of our younger members helping with the auction. In conclusion, the best ever symposium does not happen through accident. It happens through foresight, skill, and hard work, and PNWFM thanks all of those who were involved.

We must also recognize PNWFM leadership and the efforts of our outgoing officers, three of whom are continuing on in their roles along with board chair Wes Gannaway. It has been a distinct pleasure to work with the officers and board over these past two years. It is interesting to compare this experience with that from my earlier term as President, in 1998-1999. We met more in person back then, but now e-mail communication is a given part of reality, and we communicate much more now. Literally hundreds of messages are exchanged each year on PNWFM business. It is an active group.

We also have to say a word about our outgoing Treasurer, Bill Dameron. When Bill came on in this role in 2000, he quickly brought in needed order and legitimacy to our finances, and this period, under his stewardship, has

been one of continuous prosperity for our organization. His record stands on its own in terms of accomplishment, and I would like to extend our highest appreciation and thanks to Bill for his efforts over this more than decade of effort.

A look forward . . . The year 2012 should be an active one for PNWFM. We will continue with the same general program of events and activities as we did in the past couple of years, but we also have a few special challenges (*read opportunities*) this year.

We will continue to publish four to five newsletters this year. John Lindell has agreed to stay on as our newsletter editor, and I would like to thank him for this. Publishing both the national and chapter newsletters involves a large commitment of time. Because of this, I ask that we make his job easier by contributing. I am sure that we can count on our regular contributors, but I know that there are others of us who could slap together a field trip report, or a report on some other mineralogy related event or issue.

Our spring meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on May 19, 2012 at the Seattle Mineral Market, located at the Lake City Community Center, 12531 28th Ave NE, Seattle, Washington. We look forward to seeing everyone again at this very enjoyable event, one that is starting to become one of the Northwest's only "destination" mineral related events.

We plan again to sponsor the annual Washington Pass clean-up in early August. More later on that . . .

The 2012 Annual PNWFM Symposium and Mineral Show will occur on October 12—14, 2012 at the Red Lion Kelso. The symposium theme this year will be sulfates, so it is not too early to be thinking about all of the exciting anhydrites and minasragrites you'll be filling your display cases with. Think Sulfates!

Some of the special issues that we will work on in 2012 will include the following:

Whether we can rent cases for the symposium or whether we should build or purchase our own. PNWFM does, or did, own 14 cases, but the whereabouts and condition of about half of these cases and the lights for them is unknown. If you have one of these cases, know where we could purchase some Federation cases from a club somewhere, or have some other ideas concerning cases, please contact either myself or Ray Lasmanis.

Updating our bylaws. The current bylaws do not entirely reflect the way we currently conduct our activities. The bylaw committee, consisting of Ray Lasmanis, John Lindell, and Bill Dameron will have a draft set of revised bylaws ready for membership approval this year, hopefully at the spring meeting.

Education and the ABCs of Minerals. The last meeting and our recent history illustrates the fact that we must take a different approach and that this approach must stem from more than one person carrying the vast majority of the load. The members of the education committee currently include Don Phillips, Michael Smith, Wes Gannaway, and Lorna Goebel. If you would like to join this effort, please contact me and/or any member of the committee. The current primary task of the committee is to design strategies where PNWFM can facilitate education relating to minerals and earth sciences, which might include alternative ways that the ABC's of Minerals Program can be used.

Special Symposium programs. We would like to repeat the success we experienced in 2011 with our fluorescent mineral program in collaboration with the Fluorescent Mineral Society. We might possibly have a rotating annual program, each featuring some special topic related to mineralogy. We're looking for ideas and help in planning these activities.

As always, one of the best parts of this job is the opportunity to communicate with members. I encourage you to stay in touch via e-mail or telephone, and let me know what you are thinking about PNWFM.

See you soon,

Bob Meyer, President, PNWFM

Noble Witt Award Winners—2011—Lorna Goebel and Karen Hinderman

by Bob Meyer

Last year, we featured a lengthy reminiscence of Noble Witt, his relationship with PNWFM, and the award we named in his honor. Now, over a year later, we will revisit this same topic. Noble has been gone from us for 21 years now. He was a long time member of PNWFM, an avid mineral collector, and was a mentor in the day to many younger mineral collectors. Noble was a person who welcomed the addition of new collectors, and he would trade with them. He participated in PNWFM, giving very generously to the PNWFM auction, supporting our dealers with his mineral budget, and displaying some very unusual things. He put in cases full of these huge things he had collected from the South Dakota pegmatites. Big Columbites and Cassiterites, sometimes a foot across. Ugly as sin, but bigger than these things had any right to be. His real claim to fame as a collector, though, was his find of the extremely rare species Weddellite, which he found in vesicles in the Biggs jaspers.



**Weddellite, $\text{Ca}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4) \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Calcium Oxalate), as excellent color-zoned acicular crystals of this rare hydrocarbon mineral in a jasper vesicle from near Biggs, Oregon. Collected by Noble V. Witt. The field of view is 8.0 mm high.
Robert Meyer specimen and photograph, obtained in trade from Noble Witt in 1987.**

When he was gone from us we created in his honor the Noble Witt Award for Outstanding Service. Since that time, the award has gone beyond Noble Witt himself, and has come to represent a group of attributes belonging to the collegium of past winners of the award. The vast majority of past Noble Witt award winners continued to contribute to PNWFM after they received of their awards and continued to be active in promoting the interest and hobby of mineral collecting, especially as it is practiced in the Pacific Northwest.

The presentation of the Noble Witt award is optional, and is not necessarily an annual event. Since 1993, 16 individuals have received the Noble Witt award. In most cases, just one person received the award in a given year, but there were two occasions when the award was presented to two people at once. The same holds true for 2011. Two people, each so deserving that to wait an additional year in either case would be an injustice, were presented in 2011 with the Noble Witt Award for Outstanding Service.

Lorna Goebel—2011 Noble Witt Award Winner



I recall meeting Lorna 30 years ago at the first PNWFM symposium I attended. A bunch of us were having a micro meeting in the evening on Saturday that year, and Lorna came in to talk about minerals and do some trading. She set her eye on something I had, and we traded. I don't recall what she obtained from me now, but I got a specimen of Murdochite from the area around Bingham, New Mexico. Since then, it is hard to quantify the number of times we have talked about minerals, collected them, and had just plain fun.

Lorna was born in Texas, and she graduated from UT, Austin with a BS in Chemistry. Later, she obtained a MS in chemistry from New Mexico Tech. Her first interest in rocks was at the age of 6 picking up wet agates and such out of the Comal River in New Braunfels, Texas. In the 1950s, she joined the Odessa Gem and Mineral club; as she moved she belonged to the Socorro (NM) Gem and Mineral club and the Houston Gem and Mineral club. She joined FM in 1976, the Northwest Micro Mineral Study Group in the 1980s, and the Everett Gem and Mineral club in 2000. Her interest in minerals is in their chemistry; therefore she is a species collector with over 1100 species represented in her collection.

Lorna has long supported PNWFM activities, especially within the realm of mineral education. She has entered at least one display for many years at the PNWFM symposium, and her displays are always with an educational theme. Lorna has attended the vast majority of PNWFM and NNMMMSG events over the years. She has long been the most active, and sometimes only, member of PNWFM's education committee. This is no small matter since the furthering of mineralogical education is a primary component of the mission of PNWFM and FM. Lorna envisioned, developed, promoted, and implemented the ABCs of Minerals program, which stands alone as our most ambitious educational project. Putting this program together required untold hours of work and correspondence, and involved numerous trips to promote the program. In addition, Lorna recently completed two consecutive terms as our chapter Vice President.

Lorna Goebel truly demonstrates the spirit exemplified by past winners of the Noble Witt Award, and is a most deserving recipient. Congratulations, Lorna!

Karen Hinderman—2011 Noble Witt Award Winner



I first got to know Karen in about 1998, when I was coming in as PNWFM President the first time, and Karen was already the continuing Secretary. That is back in the days of snail mail and not so instant funds transfer and Karen was heavily involved with sending out the newsletters. Since she had significant printing and postage expenditures, and reimbursement was more than a tad slow in those days, Karen had expressed some dissatisfaction and a possible unwillingness to continue on as Secretary if things continued as they were. I still consider one of my best accomplishments in that first term was to get a secondary bank account set up so that she could easily pay our expenses. That worked, because Karen stayed on as our Secretary, and still serves in that role, now in her 14th term!

Karen's interest in minerals began simply as a little girl who walked the beaches on the Oregon coast and picked up shells, agates and fossils. She filled her pockets and kept her treasures in bowls around her bedroom. Her favorites were always the sand dollars. She did not develop a further interest until after meeting and marrying her husband Gary.

He sort of dragged Karen into the rockhound hobby, but she has no regrets. Their friends and mentors, Richard and Erma Deanne Rantz, taught them a lot about where to dig and find the "mother lode" while camping and rockhounding throughout Washington and Oregon. Karen's favorites include: agatized corals, epidote, petrified wood and limbcasts, and anything that strikes her as beautiful in the moment.

Concerning her involvement with PNWFM, she stated, "Many years ago, I came to the realization that to really get to know the people in a group or club, you have to get involved, and so I did. I have been the secretary for a long time and have enjoyed the opportunity to meet and get to know so many people along the way."

Karen is a teacher in her personal life away from FM. She teaches high school students who have mild to moderate disabilities. She also enjoys reading, almost anything water related, flowers and gardening, long walks with the dog, and spending time with family.

Karen and Gary have long coordinated PNWFM's successful live and silent auctions. The silent auctions involve a substantial investment in time during symposium activities, and the live auctions are the highlight of the symposium's Saturday evening program. Karen is an entertaining auctioneer, skilled at extolling higher bids from our membership. I would guess that about \$35,000 has been raised at these auctions since Gary and Karen became involved, and this amount has directly offset the cost of the symposium to our members. In addition to the auctions, Karen is of great support to the president and her fellow board members, and is active in helping to make decisions concerning our direction and our activities.

It is somewhat ironic that Karen nominated Lorna for the Noble Witt award in late 2010. Shortly thereafter, the board thought it would be both entertaining and appropriate to surprise Karen in addition with the presentation of a second Noble Witt award in 2011. In addition to the fact that surprises like this are just plain fun, it was necessary because Karen shows no sign of retiring from her post as Secretary, and the award was long overdue. Indeed, Karen exemplifies the spirit behind the idea of the Noble Witt Award for Outstanding Service. Congratulations, Karen!



Wulfenite, Rowley Mine,
Maricopa Co., Arizona
Collected by and photo by
John Lindell

PNWFM MINUTES

October 16, 2011

President, Bob Meyer, called the meeting to order at 11:11 am. Twenty nine members were present. Bob began by thanking everyone involved in the planning of this year's symposium. He gave a special shout out to our speakers and all agreed with a big round of applause.

Minutes were approved from the last meeting held at the Seattle Mineral Market show. Treasurer's report was reviewed and accepted. Symposium updates include the following: October 12 – 14, 2012, symposium theme sulfates; October 11 – 13, 2013, and October 10 – 12, 2014, symposium themes will be Minerals of the Himalayas and Minerals of Colorado. The order of the themes will be set later. The hotel has been reserved through 2014. For those interested there is a complete list of past themes on our website.

Lorna Goebel is still successfully running the ABC Mineral Education Program. She has only had 2 requests for the loan program this year, and she would like assistance with getting the word out to more schools and teachers that this is available to them free of charge. A teacher or organization just needs to provide a \$50 deposit that will be returned once the materials are returned. Since our bylaws state our central purpose is to promote the knowledge of minerals, maintaining and promoting the ABC program is in our best interests. Suggestions for use of the program included having local rock clubs use the materials at a monthly meeting and at their annual shows, having schools use the programs at science fairs and getting hold of homeschooling coops. Most of the activities and games are geared for grades 3 thru 6, but they can also be adapted to fit other ages as well. Please assist in getting the word out about this program. Lorna will work with Jim to get the information on our website so that individuals have access. Diana suggested that we have the ABC program set up during our symposium. Other suggestions included inviting teachers/parents/students to an open house on Friday evening of our symposium. Ray suggested that we contact the science advisor of the superintendent of public instruction. George suggested a student day on Friday, but it was decided that the cost of renting the room for the entire day would be too much for our organization. An action committee was selected to research and discuss ways to utilize the ABC program more successfully and to promote the knowledge of minerals. The committee members are Lorna Goebel, Wes Gannaway, Don Phillips, and Michael Smith.

We have new badges for members who have lost their old ones and for members who never received one. If you need a badge, let an officer know.

John Lindell, newsletter editor extraordinaire, was recognized for the awesome newsletters we are all receiving. If we wish to continue receiving these awesome newsletters, we all need to do our part to contribute. Write an article or review about a museum visit or a book you just read. Send pictures with information about field trips. It doesn't need to be a lot! Members would also like abstracts from symposium speakers, if possible, to be printed in the newsletter.

2012 – 2014 Election results were reported: All 10 votes were tallied and recorded, it was unanimous, we elected Bob Meyer, President; Ray Lasmanis, Vice President; Karen Hinderman, Secretary; and Linda Smith, Treasurer.

Our bylaws need to be reviewed and updated. The following were appointed to a committee to complete the task: Ray Lasmanis, Bill Dameron, and John Lindell.

We discussed whether to continue renting a projector or whether to purchase one. After deciding that a new one would possibly be obsolete within a few years it was decided that it would be best to continue renting a projector for the speakers to use.

Where have the PNWFM display cases disappeared to? Several years ago we had 14 cases. Right now we know the whereabouts of 7 of these (Jim 2, Wes 3, Ray 1, and Lorna 1). If you have a FM case hiding away in your garage or shed, please contact Ray Lasmanis. Also, if you have a box of FM lights, please let Ray know. The Longview area club is not interested in renting their cases to us next year, so we will need our own cases back. After locating our cases we will need to determine where they will be stored, who will transport them annually, and who will be responsible for upkeep. These issues will be discussed and determined by the executive team.

Our fluorescent room was a huge hit this year. It was a successful addition to our symposium. Suggestions for future use of this room by Dick Rantz included a rotating theme such as Best of the NW, micro-mounting, and of course fluorescents. No decision was made at this time. A call to action for any individuals interested in pursuing this further is in place. Please contact an officer if you have an interest. This year a big congratulations goes to Al Liebetrau and Don Newsome for their fluorescent displays and organizing the meeting Friday evening.

Sharleen Harvey made a motion for the club to donate \$100 to the scholarship foundation in memory of Mike Groben a founding member of our group. MSP.

MSP to renew our group membership to the Rice Museum.

Meeting adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Hinderman, Secretary

The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Friends of Mineralogy

37th Annual Show and Symposium

October 14-16, 2011

Red Lion Inn, Kelso, Washington

Famous Mineral Localities of Mexico

Featured Speakers

Dr. Terry Wallace

"The Guanajuato District"

"The Fresnillo District"

Dr. Peter Megaw

"The Santa Eulalia District"

"The Milpillas Mine"

Tom Moore

"The San Francisco Mine"

"The Ojuela Mine"

Main Floor Dealers

EARTH'S TREASURES: Richard Kennedy

LEHIGH MINERALS: Jim and Yolanda McEwen

PACIFIC RIM MINERALS: John Meek

Room Dealers located in the North Hallway

will be selling minerals from

Pacific Northwest and worldwide locations

Featuring at least sixteen world class mineral displays, including

a display from the Northwest's finest mineral museum:

The Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals

Free Admission to the Mineral Show and Dealers



SYMPOSIUM FACES—photos by Linda Smith and Al Liebetrau











Photo by Linda Smith

2011 FM SYMPOSIUM DISPLAYS

described by

Raymond Lasmanis

ray.lasmanis@dnr.wa.gov

This year marks the 37th year that the Pacific Northwest Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy has held their annual symposium. The theme for 2011 featured minerals of Mexico. Members and guests put together 14 display cases with 11 cases highlighting theme minerals. It was quite clear that Mexican minerals are very popular with Northwest collectors. The high quality and beauty of the specimens exhibited was impressive. Pages could be written about specimens from one and every case, but with time constraints I have mentioned just a few from each case by applying my own personal tastes. My apologies to the outstanding exhibitors who may feel a little slighted; but you can be satisfied that the attendees admired all of your displayed specimens. In keeping with my past practice, I have also singled out for mention specimens from the Pacific Northwest.

The NW Chapter of the Fluorescent Mineral Society joined our symposium. Don Newsome, chapter President, organized 7 display cases from their membership. Utilizing a side room that could be darkened, their displays of very colorful fluorescence minerals were popular with all attendees.

The Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals display contained 13 incredible specimens demonstrating Mexico's high ranking in the mineral world. Certainly, the most eye-catching specimen displayed was world-class acicular groups of yellow legrandite xls. lining a 12" long cavity in limonite from the Ojuela Mine, Mapimi, Durango (RM#782) and donated by Richard and Helen Rice; the case also contained two large smithsonite specimens from the Santa Anita Mine, Choix, Sinola (RM#6192, RM#6197) and donated by Dave and Jan Hill; and, a very large danburite xl. group from the San Sebastian Mine, Charcas, San Luis Potosi (RM#2043) and donated by Richard and Helen Rice.

Al and Sue Liebetrau put in an outstanding display with 28 specimens from Mexico. There was a beautiful, thick, 2 ½" wire silver specimen with polybasite from Guanajuato and a large native silver specimen from Batopilas, Chihuahua. I could not help to notice the two fantastic azurite xl. groups from the Milipillas Mine, Chihuahua; my favorite in the case was bright green aurichalcite included ¾" calcite xls. from the Ojuela Mine, Mapimi, Durango.

Ray Hill displayed representative 17 thumbnail to cabinet sized Mexican specimens from well known localities such as Charcas, Durango, Zacatecas, Naica, and others. The case also contained 3 water-worn labradorite specimens, including a faceted stone, from an undisclosed location purportedly in Mexico.

I really enjoyed viewing the very attractive case by John Lindell, our newsletter editor. From his outstanding collection, John displayed 38 thumbnail to cabinet-sized mineral specimens from Mexico with matching theme decorations. In the center of the display case was a cabinet specimen with a lustrous galena base on which were perched tapered 3" amethystine xls. which in turn were partially covered by calcite; I really liked the thin, transparent, single 2" x 2 1/2" yellow wulfenite xl. with included mimetite (#2584) from San Francisco Mine, Magdalena (ex. Feist, then Mark Hay coll.); also, a very nice 1 1/2" x 3" acanthite after polybasite (#3615) specimen from Gurajuato (ex. John Barlow coll.).

Bill and Diana Dameron's case was titled "Viva" and, with humor, provided a list of displayed Mexican mineral names interspersed with liquid libations that ended with "Tequila and lime juice". The case contained their specialty species of barite, azurite that included an incredible specimen with lustrous 1" xls. from Milipillas, Cananea, Sonora and smithsonite representing perfection as to form and aesthetics. I liked the deepest purple amethyst specimen from La Sorpresa Mine, Amatitlan, Guerrero and a very unusual attractive shiny goethite cast after gypsum, Santa Eulalia, Chihuahua. And, one could not help to notice a beautiful combination of colors in a specimen of barite, plancheite, malachite after azurite from the Milipillas Mine.

Aaron Wieting presented a case of 4 American classics: in the center of the case was the most incredulous smoky quartz xl. scepter I have seen from the Crystal Tips No. 2 Pit, Peterson Mountain, Washoe County, Nevada. The specimen, collected by Aaron, consisted of a narrow 1" wide tall xl. shaft on which was perched a large smoky scepter crystal, all sitting on a 10" x 12" matrix of smoky quartz xls. The case also contained a large group of white quartz xls. from Ouray, Colorado and from the Northwest, a 12" x 14" group of pyrite and quartz xls. and a large 3 1/2" pyritohedron pyrite xl., both from the Spruce Claim, King County, Washington.

Don Phillips put in two display cases titled "Minerals from the Ojuela Mine, Mapimi, Durango". Case one contained 41 specimens of primary ores such as elements, sulfides, oxides, and carbonates. Besides common minerals such as goethite and calcite, case one also had rarer species such as woodruffite and murdochite. The second case consisted of 41 specimens of secondary minerals including the four varieties of adamite: manganoan adamite, cobaltoadamite, paradamite, and cuproadamite. On display were also less common minerals such as dussertite and vezelyite.

Mark Jeffers case displayed 34 thumbnail to cabinet sized colorful specimens from world-wide localities. The center piece was a bright red 3" x 4" crocoite xl. group from the Adelaide Mine, Tasmania, Australia. From the Northwest, Mark had the following: coarse native gold in 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" quartz, Belshazzan Mine, Quartzburg District, Boise Co., Idaho; ludlamite xls. in a 1" x 1 1/2" group, Blackbird Mine, Lemhi Co., Idaho; and, a beautiful 6" x 7" yellow to orange pyromorphite specimen from the Bunker Hill Mine, Coeur d'Alene District, Idaho.

Alan Young's case contained 30 thumbnail specimens from Mexico selected with a connoisseur's eye as to rarity, crystal form, and color. I was attracted to the 3/4" boleite xl. on matrix from the Amelia Mine, Boleo Dist., Baja California; the extremely bright, perfectly formed 1" polybasite xl., Proaño Mine, Fresnillo, Zacatecas; rare minerals nifontovite from San Bartilo Mine, Charcas, San Luis Potosí and xanthoconite from San Martín Mine, Sombrerete, Zacatecas; and, a perfect, pink, nearly floater 1/2" grossular xl. from Sierra de Cruces, Sierra Mojada, Coahuila.

Robert O. Meyer's display, as in previous years, is always pleasing to the eye and educational with his narrative labels. Bob's display consisted of 30 Mexican cabinet specimens with emphasis on his favorite: 8 calcite specimens from different localities. Of which, the most attractive was recently collected 1" clear calcite xls. on blue rosasite from the Cumbres Vein, Level 6, Ojuela Mine, Mapimi, Durango. Having the country of origin's flag as part of Bob's labels is also a nice touch.

Lorna Goebel presented 42 different Mexican mineral species arranged alphabetically. There were common minerals such as calcite, fluorite, and quartz as well as rarer minerals such as novacekite from Chihuahua and mackayite from the Candelaria Mine, Moctezuma. The most unusual specimen was a turquoise pseudomorph after a 1" apatite xl. from the Baviacora Mine, Sonora.

Si and Ann Frazier had a wonderful case titled "Quartz from Mexico" consisting of 34 cabinet specimens. In the display there were: three beautiful amethyst xl. groups from Piedra Parada (Las Vigas), Municipio de Tatalila, Vera Cruz; a large 5" x 6" transparent xl. with acicular dravite inclusions, Mina Maria, Puerto de Cananea, Sonora; and, two very unusual tan chalcedony pseudomorphs after aragonite xls. from Coyamito and the Los Alamos Claim, Rancho Coyamito Norte, Chihuahua. Also, the case contained three doubly terminated fenster quartz xls. from three localities: Mesilla Federico de Leon, near Paredon, Coahuila; Tamuín, San Louis Potosí; and, Charcas, San Louis Potosí.

Ray Lasmanis put in a case of 12 radioactive minerals. There were specimens from Maine, N.H., Utah, Germany, Portugal, and a large betafite group xl. from the Silver Crater Mine, Bancroft, Ontario, Canada (#1622). From the Northwest, the case contained: two specimens of autunite meta-autunite xl. groups measuring 3" x 3 ½" and 2 ½" x 4" from the Daybreak Mine, Mt. Spokane, Spokane Co., WA (#1399); metatorbernite sprinkled on 1 ½" x 3" matrix, Midnite Mine, Spokane Indian Reservation, Stevens Co., WA, collected Oct. 27, 1968 (#1617); and, 1 ½" x 3" specimen of uraninite (pitchblende) from the Boyd Pit, Midnite Mine, Spokane Indian Reservation, Stevens Co., WA, collected Sept. 25, 1972 (#1857).

On a general note, approaching the symposium, all sixteen display cases had been spoken for and I had to turn away several members at the last minute. At set-up time we had three no shows leaving empty cases during the symposium. Rick Kennedy of Earth's Treasures stepped in and filled one of the cases with beautiful crystallized specimens of neptunite and benitoite, including faceted stones. For the 2012 symposium, I urge members who have reserved a case but are not able to display as the symposium approaches, to communicate that fact so that the case can be used by someone else.

A very special thanks and appreciation is extended to all members that took the time and made the effort to assemble specimens for displays that everyone enjoyed. All your work contributed to the success of our 37th annual symposium.

R.L.
October 19, 2011



Photo by Linda Smith

10-27-11

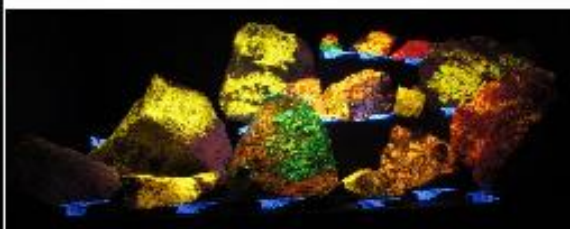
Some of the Specimens Shown in the Fluorescent Displays at the PNWFM Symposium October, 2011

Don Newsome, Renton, WA info@uvsystems.com

There were seven fluorescent displays at the PNWFM Symposium. They were by; Don Ferrel, Al Liebetrau, Bob Meyer, Don Newsome (2 displays), and Al Robb (2 displays). Al Robb came all the way up from the California Bay Area to display his two outstanding fluorescent displays.



Don Newsome's automated SW and LW display



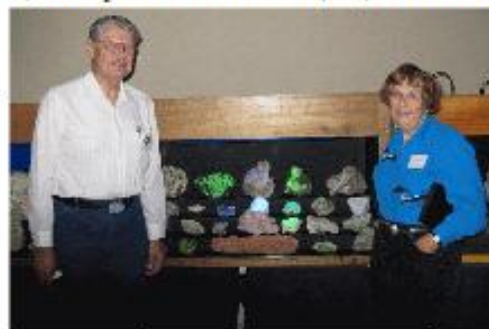
Don Newsome's SW wollastonite display

Listed below are a few of the fluorescent specimens shown in the displays:

Don Ferrel's SW display; calcite & willemite from Franklin, NJ; fluorapatite from Franklin, NJ; and common opal from Virgin Valley, NV. Al Liebetrau's SW display; choice esperite and willemite from Franklin, NJ; self-



Al Liebetrau's award winning SW display



Al and Sue Liebetrau

collected
tugtupite from

Greenland; choice halite from Salton Sea, CA.; and wollastonite from the Desert View Mine, Holcomb Valley, CA. Bob Meyer's SW display; four-color, hardystonite, clinohedrite, willemite, and calcite from Franklin, NJ; rare turneaureite and calcite from Franklin, NJ; rare roebbingite nodule from Franklin, NJ; and margarosanite, manganaxinite, and nasonite from Franklin, NJ. Don Newsome's automated SW and LW



Al Robb's SW & LW powerful display

display; tugtupite (butterfly) from Greenland; willemite crystal and calcite from Sterling Hill Mine, Ogdensburg, NJ; diamond (54 carat) Miba Mine from Zaire; fluorite from the 340' level, Frazer's Hush Mine, Rookhope, England; and a



Al Robb's SW & LW sphere display

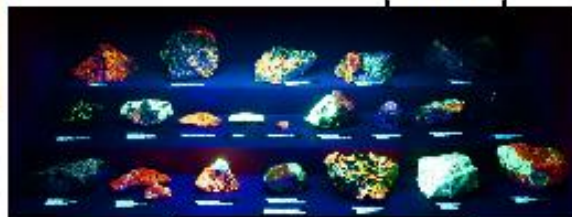
spinning calcite and willemite sphere (showing calcite phosphorescence) from the Buckwheat Dump, Franklin, NJ. Don Newsome's SW all wollastonite display; "First Find" wollastonite from Franklin, NJ; "Second Find" wollastonite from Franklin, NJ; fibrous wollastonite with minehillite from Franklin, NJ; and minehillite, margarosanite, and fibrous wollastonite, Franklin, NJ. Al Robb's powerful display; tugtupite from Greenland; powellite from Poona, India; fluorapatite from Shigar, Northern areas, Pakistan; aragonite from Agrigento, Sicily, Italy. Al Robb's sphere display; calcite and willemite, from Sterling Hill Mine, Ogdensburg, NJ; manganoan calcite from Pachapaqui District, Peru; eucryptite from Stafford, NH, and agrellite from Kipawa River, Quebec, Canada.



Al Robb



Bob Meyer



Bob Meyer's SW display



Don Ferrel's SW display



Don Ferrel

Photos by Don Newsome

The Micro Mineral Collector

By Bob Meyer



Azurite on Quartz—a rosette of bright blue crystals on druse quartz from the **Vulcan Prospect**, center section 16, T.31N., R.39E., 1 Mile West of Carrs Corner, Stevens County, Washington, USA. The intensity of the blue coloration gave the impression that this material could be Linarite, but a grain fizzed robustly in dilute HCl, proving that this is a carbonate, and thus, Azurite. 1 mm FOV.

Collected on August 16, 2010 by Ray Lasmanis

Buy and Use a Good Microscope—*adopted from Neal Yedlin*

Live Long and Prosper. In this installment, we will expand on the subject raised by the above image, which was also featured in our fall 2010 column. The ultra bright blue crystals of Azurite depicted above can serve as a reminder to some of the mineral collectors from the Pacific Northwest who will soon journey to Tucson where the theme this year will be “Minerals of Arizona” that nice Azurite does occur from places other than Arizona, and this includes the Vulcan prospect in Washington.

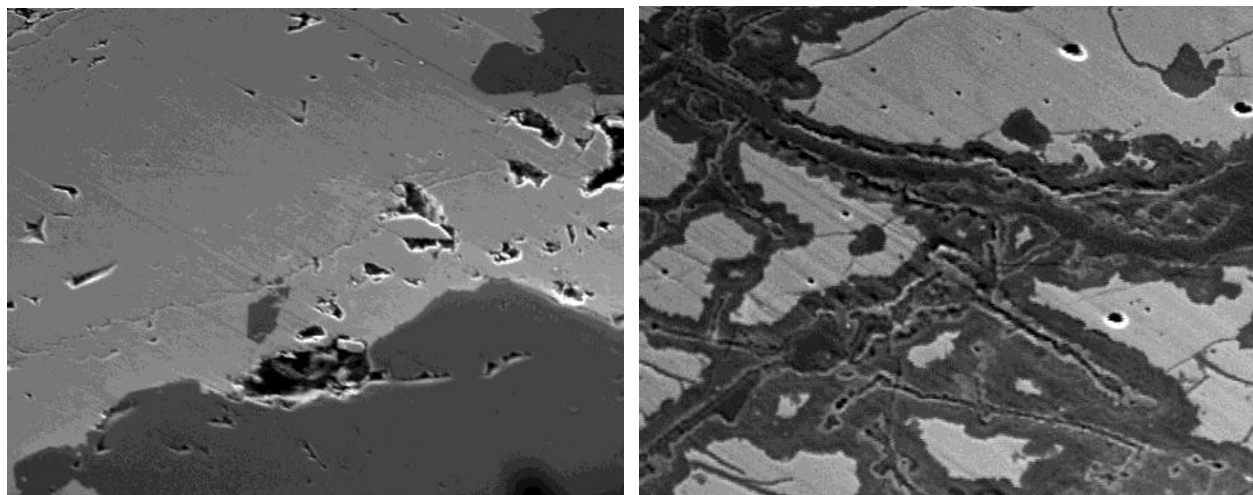
The name of the prospect makes one wonder if the discoverer was a fan of *Star Trek* or possibly a student of Roman mythology. Regardless, the deposit is interesting from the perspective of micro mineral collectors.



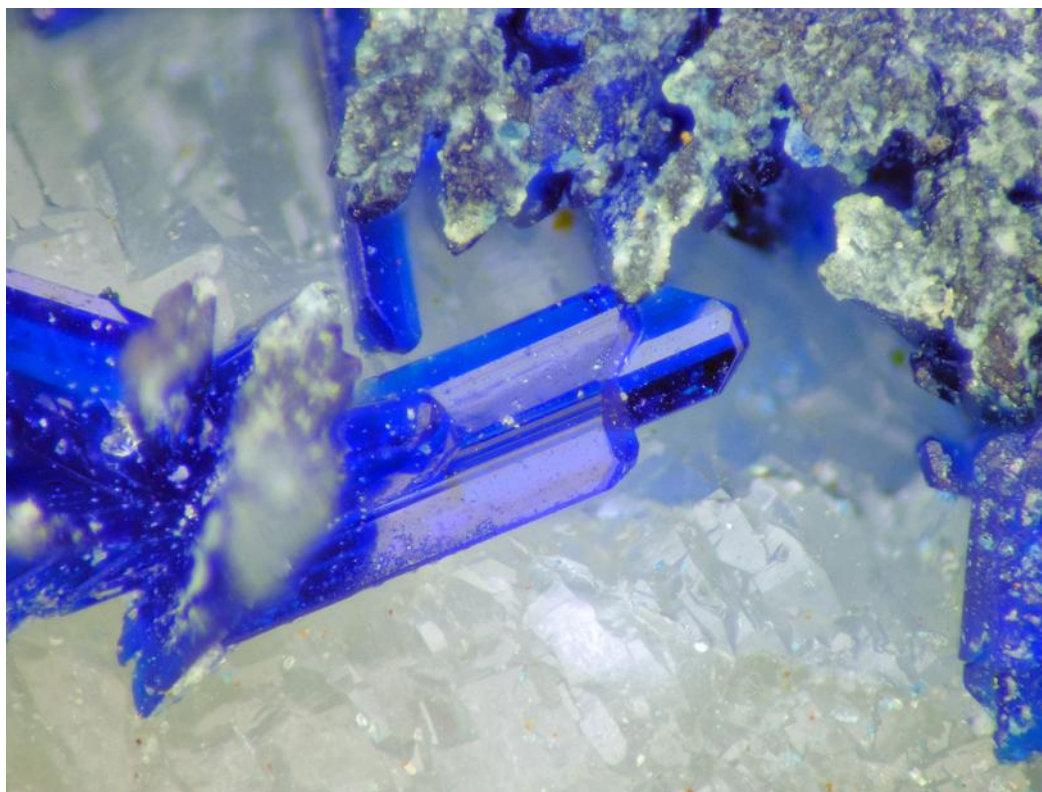
The color of the image above is accurate, at least as it is depicted on my computer monitor. (Various monitors do vary in how they display color, which is a difficulty faced by those using and contributing images on-line, and can be corrected for somewhat by using monitor calibration software, but that is a subject for another forum.) When I first saw this material I thought it was Linarite based on the color, and the specimen's collector, Ray Lasmanis, agreed with me. It fizzed in acid, though, and that was that.

A comparison between the colors of Azurite and Linarite is interesting. The two minerals are often confused, but I can *usually* tell the difference. The color of the image above has a red element that is *usually* present in Linarite, but is *not usually* present in Azurite.

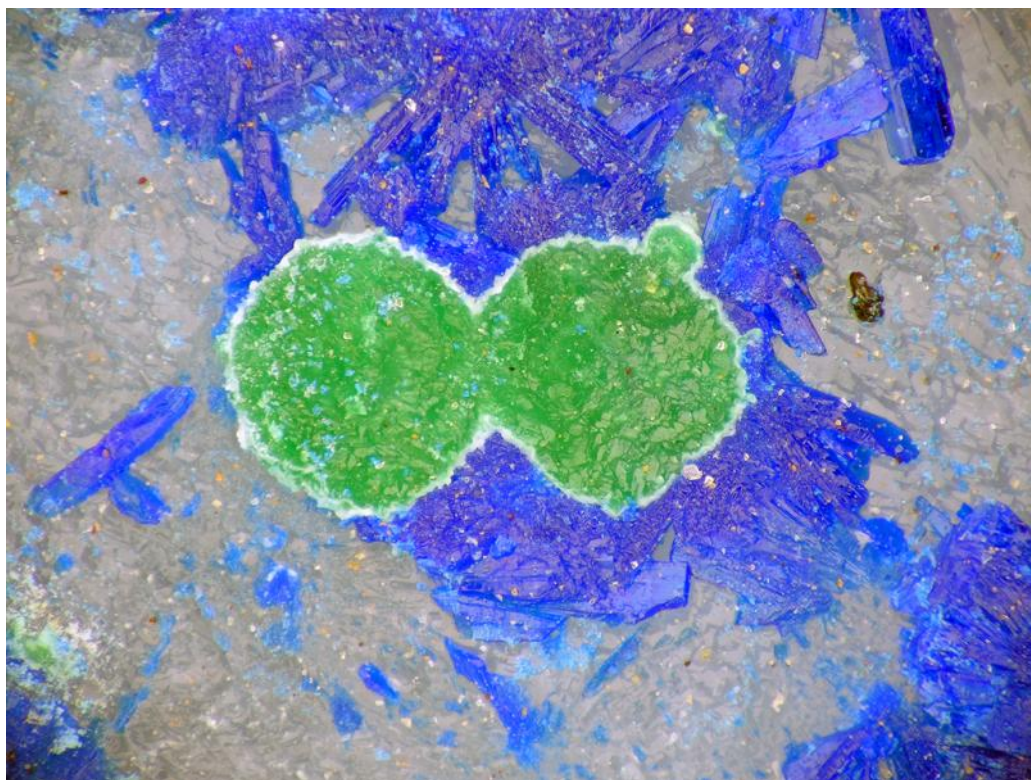
On April 23, 2011, Ray Lasmanis journeyed up to my abode and we spent a day photographing the Vulcan Prospect material. Twice in 2011, I took samples to Cannon Microprobe facilities in Seattle for analysis. There still exists some unknowns from the Vulcan Prospect, but we identified the species Tyrolite in the material, and we found that some of the metallic material was in intergrowth of both Tennantite and Tetrahedrite, with distinct zones of close to end-member composition for each species. The fact that the material was either relatively pure end-member Tennantite or end-member Tetrahedrite seems very unusual, because one would typically expect to see transitional phases of intermediate composition in such an assemblage. Geochemically, it suggests two separate stages of mineralization.



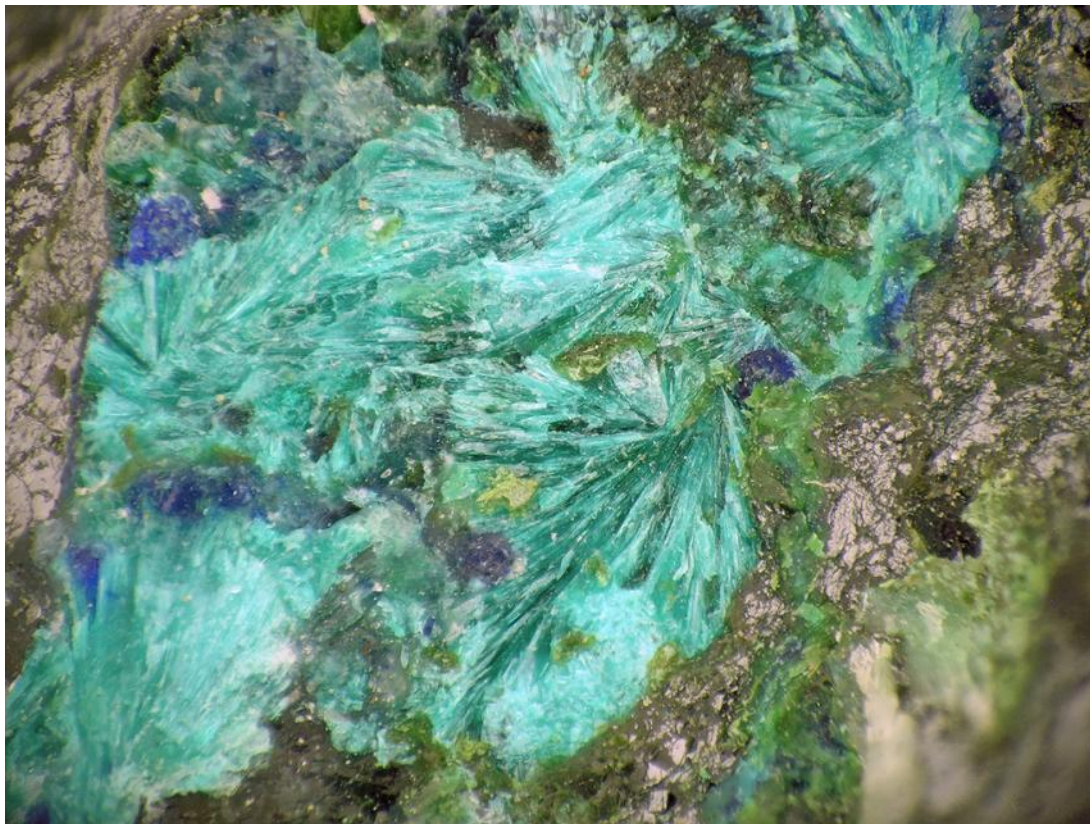
Backscattered Electron (BSE) images of a polished ore section of Tetrahedrite and Tennantite from the Vulcan Prospect. The image on the left shows a zone of both Tennantite and Tetrahedrite. The dark gray material at the bottom of the image is quartz. Directly above that is the Tennantite and above that, separated by a tiny fissure is the slightly darker gray Tetrahedrite. The color in BSE images is dependant on atomic number, and Tennantite has a slightly higher atomic number than Tetrahedrite, so it is slightly lighter in color. The image on the right shows some intricate zoning in the Tetrahedrite and Tennantite. Material collected by Ray Lasmanis. The fields of view are about 50 microns. SEM photographs by Bart Cannon.



Electric Blue crystals of Washington State Azurite, from the Vulcan Prospect. The field of view is 1.2 mm.
Specimen collected by Ray Lasmanis. Photograph by Bob Meyer.



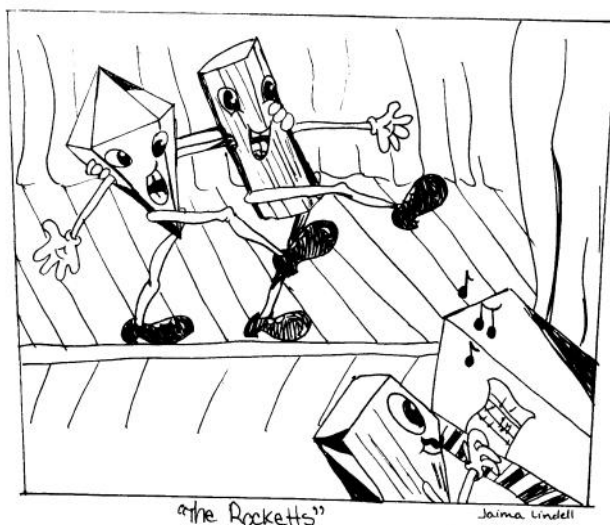
Malachite 'eyes' with Azurite from the Vulcan Prospect. The field of view is 3.0 mm.
Specimen collected by Ray Lasmanis. Photograph by Bob Meyer.



Foliated blue-green blades of Tyrolite, $\text{Ca}_2\text{Cu}_9(\text{AsO}_4)_4(\text{CO}_3)(\text{OH})_4 \cdot 11-12\text{H}_2\text{O}$, an uncommon mineral, from the Vulcan Prospect. This is the second reported instance of Tyrolite from Washington, and probably the first published report of the species from Washington. Associated with metallic Tetrahedrite and Tennantite.

The field of view is 3.5 mm. Specimen collected by Ray Lasmanis. ID'd at Cannon Microprobe.

Photograph by Bob Meyer.





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PNWFM CALENDAR

Tucson Mineral Show—Feb 8-12

National FM Board Meeting—Feb 8

Seattle Mineral Market and PNWFM Spring Business Meeting— May 19

Washington Pass Cleanup—August

2012 PNWFM Symposium, “Sulfates” - Oct 12-14



PNWFM member Joe George working his Green Ridge Claim. Photo by Jeff Schwartz