



PNWFM NEWSLETTER

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President's Message

Greetings, mineral lovers!
It is almost symposium time again and everything is rapidly coming together. If you have not yet registered, now is the time! You can register on-line at <http://squareup.com/store/pnwfm> I hope to see you all there!



Symposium – October 14-16, 2016

“Great US Copper Localities: Butte, Bisbee & the Keweenaw”

Speakers

Allan Young has once again recruited three great world-class speakers (and one, ahem, “local talent”) to make this a memorable symposium.

Dr. Pete Knudsen earned his MS and Ph.D. in Mining Engineering from the University of Arizona and a BS in Geological Engineering from Montana Tech, where he is presently the Dean of the School of Mines. Pete is an avid field collector and also specializes in minerals from Butte and thumbnail specimens. He co-authored the Butte chapter for *“American Mineral Treasures”* and written an article on the Silver Bill Mine, AZ for the Mineralogical Record.

Minerals of Butte
Japan Law Quartz Twins and Other Minerals of the PC Mine, Basin, Montana

Richard W. Graeme was born in Bisbee, Arizona and received a degree in Geological Engineering from the University of Arizona. He has been a mineral collector since the age of six, amassing a collection of Bisbee minerals totaling over 6,000 specimens, some of which are the finest examples known for the species. In 1974, the mineral “graemeite” was named in his honor. Dick and his wife Ursula are now retired and live in Lima, Peru.

Overview of the Ore Deposits and Mineralogy of Bisbee
What Made Bisbee America's Most Important Mineral Locality?

Chris Stefano received his Ph.D. in geology from the University of Michigan in 2010, and is currently the Associate Curator of the A. E. Seaman Mineral Museum at Michigan Tech in Houghton. He is particularly interested in Michigan minerals and in 2011 completed an assessment of the University of Michigan's mineral collection. Chris has authored numerous mineralogical articles as well as overseen several large acquisitions to the collections.

Copper Country Specimens from the A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum
The University of Michigan's Mineral Collection

PNWFM Contacts

Bruce Kelley
President
bruce.kelley@gmail.com

Gary Hinderman
Vice President
gkmhind@comcast.net

Karen Hinderman
Secretary
gkmhind@comcast.net

Scott Ankenbrand
Treasurer
scottankenbrand@gmail.com

Bruce Kelley
Symposium Chairman
bruce.kelley@gmail.com

Bruce Kelley
Webmaster
bruce.kelley@gmail.com

Beth Heesacker
Newsletter Editor
heesacker@coho.net

Bruce Kelley is currently the President of PNWFM. He is passionate about sharing his love of art and science with others, and currently leads scientific youth programs for the East King County Rock Club. During the past seven years, he has been exploring the micro-landscapes of tiny mineral crystals and enjoys developing techniques for photographing them.

The Micro-World of Copper Minerals

Displays

We have 17 display cases spoken for this year, which is more than I recall seeing in my time with FM. Thank you Bob Meyer and John Lindell for the work rounding up people to bring their displays!

Contests

We will have the usual self-collected and best display specimen contests:

- Best self-collected macro specimen (thumbnail or larger)
- Best self-collected micro specimen (needs magnification)
- Best on-topic specimen in a display (specimen from Butte, Bisbee or Keweenaw)

Volunteers

Another aspect of the symposium, from my perspective, is to organize volunteers to manage the numerous tasks involved with running the show. We need help with a number of tasks:

Friday afternoon and evening:

We should be able to get into the main floor at noon this year.

- Transport cases from the storage in Kelso to the Red Lion: This will take two or three trips with a pickup to move 20 cases.
- Help repair several cases with broken connectors (we have the repair parts. Needs pliers, screwdriver.)
- Help trim some of the liners to fit properly in the cases.
- Set up the cases.
- Registration Table: hand out pre-registration packets, register late-comers, sell t-shirts.

Saturday:

- Registration Table: hand out pre-registration packets, register late-comers, sell t-shirts. Ideally, we would get someone who is not interested in the talks to staff the table during them.

Help with silent auctions

Help with live auction

Sunday:

Break down the display cases. 2-4 volunteers will make quick work of this.

Transport cases back to the storage in Kelso. This will take two or three trips with a pickup to move 20 cases.

- Registration Table: hand out pre-registration packets, register late-comers, sell t-shirts. Ideally, we would get someone who is not interested in the talks to staff the table during them.

Member Participation: So many ways to get involved!

Write an article or send in a few photos for the newsletter. Went to Tucson? Send us a trip report! Find a weird fuzzy green mineral you'd like to share? Send us a photo whether you can positively identify it or not; I think mysteries are as fun as scholarly certainty. Thanks to Wes Gannaway, Beth Heesacker, Karen Hinderman, Al Liebetrau, Tom Menzel, Bob Meyer, Don Newsome, Lanny Ream, Alexander Schauss, and myself for providing newsletter content so far this year.

Plan to attend our 2016-2017 symposia:

October 14-16, 2016 Great US Copper Localities: Butte, Bisbee and the Keweenaw

October 13-15, 2017 Minerals of Morocco

“Like” our official Facebook page: facebook.com/PNWFM

Visit the Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals in Hillsboro, OR. PNWFM members get free admission and store discounts. ricenorthwestmuseum.org

Send me ideas for how PNWFM can better serve you and the mineral collecting community.

Until next time,

-- Bruce Kelley, President, PNWFM

Symposium Auctions and You

By Karen Hinderman

Just a reminder that the annual live and silent auctions only work if you are involved. First, you commit to attending the symposium. Next, you put together a box of material, something awesome for the live auction and something just so-so for the silent auctions. Then you bring them to the Hindermans on the first day of the symposium. Later, you come back and bid on someone else's donations at the silent auctions. Finally, you bid on several items at the live auction and purchase at least one. All of this takes little time and effort and only a wee bit of your money! Looking forward to seeing you and your auction specimens on October 14.



A teaser for the symposium!
Cuprite on Azurite from Lavender
Open Pit Mine, Bisbee, AZ.
FOV: 0.63 mm



Magnetite with interesting
surface features from
Summit Rock, Klamath Co., OR.
FOV: 1.67 mm



Wulfenite and Mimetite on Chrysocolla from
Rowley Mine, Painted Rock Mts., Maricopa
Co., AZ. FOV: 2.57 mm

Video of 2015 Symposium Fluorescent Displays Available

Being aware that not every PNWFM member would be able to attend the 2015 PNWFM annual symposium, arrangements were made by Don Newsome to contract a professional videographer to record the 28 cases of fluorescent minerals that were on display at the symposium. The video was made to give those not in attendance the opportunity to view the world class cases displayed by the attending PNWFM and FMS members. The informative video is narrated by Glenn Waychunas, PhD. In that there was a cost associated with the production of the video, there is a recovery fee being requested by Don. This online video is available for \$13.95 to offset the cost of production. This video is only available as a download to your computer. To get your download go to: <https://gum.co/Ainnn>



Bruce Kelley and Randy Becker at Liberty Bell, photo by Tom Menzel

The 2016 PNWFM Washington Pass Cleanup event took place as scheduled on August 12th, 13th, and 14th. The small band of participants who met at the Klipchuck campground, enjoyed excellent weather. The nights and early mornings were barely cool, and the sunny days, while hot for breaking rock, were not too hot to deter enthusiastic mineral collectors. Our offer of free labor to the Forest Service apparently did not make its way to the appropriate level of the agency, as no ranger met us Saturday morning to assign tasks. With no work to do, we were free to head out collecting a couple hours earlier than other years, and that is just what we did.

There are a number of areas east of the Washington Pass summit along Highway 20 where talus slopes, avalanche chutes, and gullies provide relatively easy access to the granite of the Golden Horn Batholith. Finding pieces with miarolitic cavities, or a suspicious "Swiss cheese" look, breaking them with small hammers, and examining the fresh faces with 10 power loupes consumed the day. I was given a tip some time ago, and now it just seems logical that this work is best done well off the road, usually not even in sight of passing vehicles. It is more peaceful that way, and has other advantages.

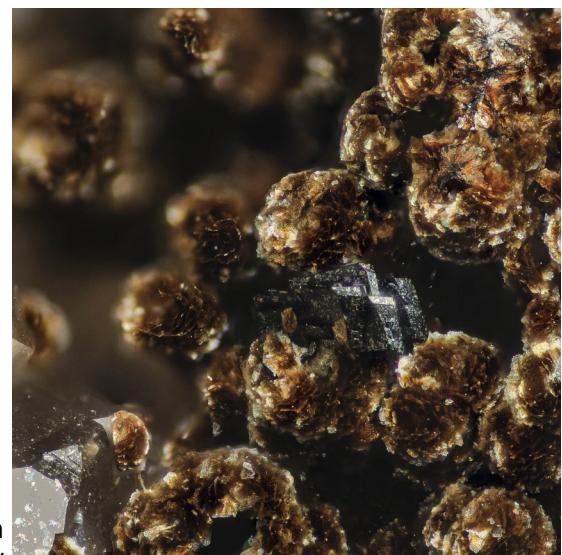
The goal of these efforts is to find some of the micro-minerals that can occur in the small cavities. The list of possibilities for the area is quite impressive. I am learning, but a novice at best. I used to want to find a zircon crystal. Now it is barely an exaggeration to say that I would like to find something that is NOT a zircon. The trouble is, I don't know what I'm looking at. About the best I can do is keep alert for something that is not quartz, arfvedsonite, or microcline, and ask anyone else in the party to take a look. I am pretty sure the only attendee of the cleanup who knew less about WA Pass micro-minerals than me was Farley, the dog!

The exercise was repeated on Sunday, but up on the talus slope below Liberty Bell. There I did find riebeckite, not hard to do, as well as more zircons. Regardless of what I found, or did not find, the Cleanup is always a joyful time to visit with like-minded folk, and a real privilege because they are all so generous with their knowledge. Thanks.

[Bruce Kelley note: Tom asked me to add a list of minerals we were looking for to the end of his article. At MP166: Pyrochlore, Sogdianite, Zektzerite, Elpidite, Titanite, and of course Zircon. At Liberty Bell talus: Allanite-(Ce), Chamosite, Zircon, Annite, Kainosite-(Y), Gadolinite, Fluorite, Riebeckite. There are certainly more, but these are what caught my eye or attention this year. I won't even mention Calciohilarite because I feel kind of foolish for even spending an hour looking for it – kind of like how I feel after buying a lottery ticket.]

Allanite-(Ce) with Chamosite from Liberty Bell, photo by Bruce Kelley

The 2016 Washington Pass Cleanup, by Tom Menzel



PNWFM Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2016

Bruce called the meeting to order. We did not have enough members in attendance to have a membership meeting; however, we did have enough of the Board in attendance to have a Board meeting (Bruce, Bob, Karen and Gary). Minutes approved from October meeting.

We have started the process of changing the banking over to include Jim Etzwiler, treasurer. This will be complete soon. We are also waiting for a final report from the 2015 symposium.

Symposium News: The symposium committee had to broaden the theme voted on at the meeting in October in order to obtain high quality speakers. Our theme is now: Great US Copper Localities: Butte, Bisbee and the Upper Peninsula. Speakers include Pete Knudsen who will talk about Japan Law Quartz Twins and Other Minerals of the PC Mine; Chris Stefano who will talk about Keweenaw's Finest and the U of Michigan's Mineral Collection; and Dick Graeme who will talk about Bisbee. A local speaker is still TBD.

We discussed the issues we had with the hotel at the last symposium. We will work harder to liaison with them this year to avoid the headaches. Karen will assist Bob in this since she and Gary now live in Longview. One way to make dinner run more smoothly is for all preregistrations to specify whether they will be choosing the regular dinner or vegetarian so that our count is more accurate. Also, late registrations at the registration table will have a cut off time for those wanting vegetarian. Another way to expedite the dinner process is to have dessert on the table ahead of time. We will encourage members to view auction items ahead of time so that the auction can run more smoothly.

Cases still need some work done on them to prepare for the next symposium. Discussion on contests included having a People's Choice award for best case. Registration process will include Jim, Bruce and Doug Merson working in collaboration including putting together the registration packets. Bruce will have a Paypal account setup for the 2016 symposium.

Other news: WA Pass Clean Up, Camp out, and mineral dig is set up. Contact Bruce for questions.

Beth Heesacker, editor, asked for a waiver to attend the symposium and report on it. After some discussion, Beth withdrew her request.

Newsletter: Beth is doing a terrific job, but as most editors find, she is lacking in articles from the membership. Please consider writing an article about a field trip, an interesting hobby related book or article you've read, a local rock shop or rock show you've attended or possibly about an upcoming symposium topic. Beth would really appreciate your efforts and so would the rest of us when we read your article.

Good of the Order: Discussed other possible field trips. We will continue this discussion at the annual meeting in October.

Meeting adjourned.

Karen Hinderman, Secretary



PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

www.PNWFM.org

Editor, Beth Heesacker

4145 NW Heesacker Rd.

Forest Grove, OR 97116

heesacker@oho.net

PNWFM CALENDAR

42nd Annual PNWFM Symposium, October 14—16, 2016

Great US Copper Localities: Butte, Bisbee and the Upper Peninsula

Red Lion Inn
Kelso, Washington

Micro Mineral Study Group, November 5, 2016

9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Camas-Washougal Fire Station #42
4321 NW Parker Street
Camas, Washington

2017:

Micro Mineral Study Group, May 6, 2017

9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Camas-Washougal Fire Station #42
4321 NW Parker Street
Camas, Washington

Seattle Mineral Market. May 20-21, 2017

Lake City Community Center
12531 28th Ave NE,
Seattle, WA 98125

43rd Annual PNWFM Symposium, October 13—15, 2017

Minerals of Morocco
Red Lion Inn
Kelso, Washington