PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER
FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

March 2026

PNWFM NEWSLETTER

Filiform pyrite coated with thomsonite balls, Route 224, Clackamas River localities, Clackamas County, Oregon, USA.

FOV 5mm. Ex. Mickey Marks collection. Picture and copyright by Beth Heesacker.

Inside this issue:

President's Message

Jessica Robertson

I write this message this morning with an inch of snow on top of the flowering plum blossoms outside– must be spring! Planning for this year's events are in full swing and we're looking forward to another exciting year.

Save these dates:

- PNWFM Spring Rendezvous at the Rice Museum on April 25. Afternoon talks on local mineral collecting and installation of our display case at the museum.
- Seattle Mineral Market on May 16-17. Looking for volunteers to help with our auctions and man the tables!
- PNWFM Symposium at CWU in Ellensburg the weekend of October 17, with the theme "Mines and Minerals of the Great Basin". We will return this year to CWU for daytime Saturday talks and the SureStay Best Western for our evening dealer halls. And good news– our Saturday evening banquet and live auction is also returning! The banquet will be on the CWU campus for easy attendance after the talks, but early enough that we still have plenty of time with our dealers at the hotel.

See inside this newsletter for more details on all of the above. We are also looking for more volunteers and donations as always! You are invited to attend our monthly planning meetings via zoom. Please contact me to be added to the distribution list.

Happy digging!

PNWFM Contacts:

President
Jessica Robertson
jar7709@hotmail.com

Vice President
Thea Stender
Theasmineralworld@hotmail.co

Secretary
Karen Hinderman
khinderman79@gmail.com

Treasurer
Bruce Kelley
bruce.kelley@gmail.com

Symposium Chairperson
Jessica Robertson
jar7709@hotmail.com

Webmaster
Bruce Kelley
bruce.kelley@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor
Beth Heesacker
heesacker@coho.net

Karen's Musings

By Karen Hinderman, PNWFM Secretary

What an awesome group we have! An excellent board who have worked diligently to transition our symposium from the Kelso Red Lion to Central Washington University in Ellensburg. This wasn't an easy move, maybe even a bit uncomfortable for some, but with the Red Lion now out of commission from a devastating fire, a move would have happened anyway, and it would have been a scramble. At CWU we have been accepted with open arms, and our costs have been significantly reduced. Hopefully we will continue to build on our relationship with the university as well as with the students in the geology department.

We have a fantastic committee of members who show up monthly for our zoom meetings and contribute with the ongoing business of our group that includes our Spring Rendezvous at the Rice Museum, April 25; our participation at Seattle Mineral Market, May 16 - 17; and preparing for our annual symposium, October 16 - 18.

Next, is our growing group of helpers who set up and take down cases at the symposium. This group is made up of some newer, younger members and is very much appreciated. Also, we continue to have members donate material for both the silent auctions and live auction. These contributions are a huge part of our financial success. Thank you to those of you who contribute annually. I will happily accept donations at the Rice Museum Spring Rendezvous, and, of course, at the annual symposium.

Another dedicated member is our newsletter editor Beth! Although she would love more contributions from members, she always finds pertinent articles or includes pictures for us to enjoy in the quarterly newsletter. And, it always looks professional.

Now comes my plea for more assistance! Gary and I will be gone during this year's Seattle Mineral Market, so Jessica will need some help. We have a silent auction and a snack bar that runs all day Saturday and Sunday. If you could volunteer for a two hour shift, that would really be appreciated.

Finally, this year is an election year. Jessica's tenure as board president will be up, and my long-term tenure as your secretary will be ending. Elections will be held in conjunction with the symposium in October. Please consider joining the board and contributing to our awesome organization. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Spring Rendezvous and/or the Symposium.

PNWFM 2026 SYMPOSIUM

SPRING RENDEZVOUS

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals
26385 NW Groveland Drive, Hillsboro, OR

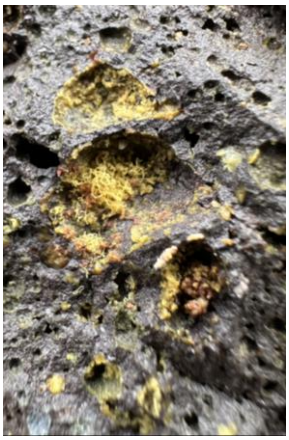
Schedule of Events

12:00: Casual meet & greet/tailgate rock swap
2:00: Talks for members in the NW Gallery
"Minerals in Basalts of Eastern Washington" by Thea Stender
and more TBA
3:30: Business meeting

Help install our club display case, see info in the newsletter!

Spring Rendezvous Talk: Basalt's Hidden Treasures By Thea Stender

Hello, fellow mineral collectors! I will be doing my first ever talk for the PNW Friends of Mineralogy Spring Rendezvous. The topic I've chosen is about our collecting adventures in the basalt formations of Central and Eastern Washington. Many people, that we've shown unique basalt minerals to have thought that nothing really formed in these basalts. However, we have discovered a few interesting occurrences within these formations!



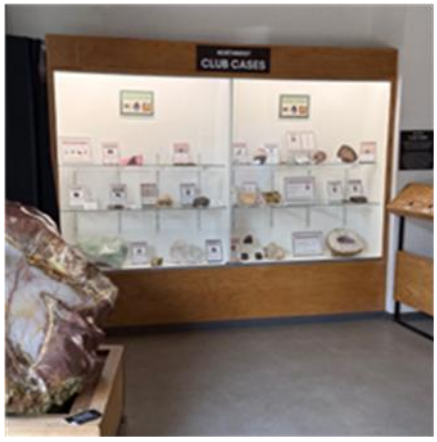
I will be talking about how we find these occurrences and what we keep an eye out for. Also I'll be showing photos of aesthetic and unique specimens from our Bird Point Prospect as well as some other new localities and occurrences we've discovered in order to show the beautiful treasures that our basalt formations have. I'm so excited to be able to share my very first talk with you all!

Do you have any

GREAT Great Basin Specimens?

Do you want to show them off?

Here is your chance !



The Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals has generously offered the Friends of Mineralogy Pacific Northwest Chapter a dedicated display case for a special exhibition celebrating the 2026 Symposium theme: The Great Basin.

Collectors and exhibitors are invited to participate by contributing specimens from the Great Basin region to be featured in the display for approximately six months. The case will be installed during the Spring Rendezvous on April 25, creating a unique opportunity to showcase the incredible mineral diversity of the region while highlighting the collections within our community.

Participants are asked to email a photo of their proposed specimen(s) to our Vice President, Thea Stender, ahead of time so ownership can be tracked and the display planned. Labels are encouraged, and all specimens will be carefully documented and returned to their owners at the end of the exhibition.

This is a great chance to share outstanding pieces, support the symposium theme, and help create a display that represents the passion and expertise of the PNW mineral collecting community. Rock on!

Volunteers Needed for the PNWFM Booth at Mineral Market

Contact Karen Khinderman79@gmail.com

Save the Date

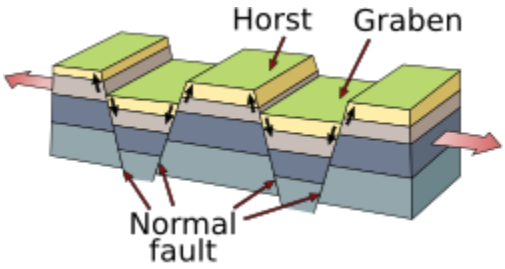
PACIFIC NORTHWEST FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY
2026 SYMPOSIUM

MINES AND MINERALS OF THE GREAT BASIN

ELLENSBURG, WASHINGTON
OCTOBER 16-18, 2026

Saturday and Sunday Symposium Talks at CWU
Saturday Evening Banquet and Live Auction at CWU
World-Class Mineral Displays
Evening Vendors at SureStay Hotel by Best Western

The Great Basin, in the western USA, is made up of alternating mountain ranges and sediment filled valleys. They were formed by tectonic movement of the earth's crust caused by normal faults starting about 17 million years ago. This caused stretching and thinning of the earth's lithosphere (crust and upper mantle).



Drawing and picture from Wikipedia, 3/15/2026

These faults caused uplifting of mountain ranges (horsts) and down dropping of valleys (grabens) between them. Erosion of the mountains then filled the valleys with sediments. The changes in elevation are fairly abrupt as seen in this NASA satellite photo from Wikipedia.

The stretching of the lithosphere is between 60km and 300km, depending on where you measure. The southern end, where the stretching initiated, is stretched the most. All this bending and stretching led to fractures and fissures in the rocks allowing water, containing many minerals, to flow and precipitate out into these openings. The minerals include copper, gold, silver, barite and thousands more. The Great Basin should give us many topics to be explored at the PNWFM 2026 Symposium.

From Across the Pond

Courtesy of the MAGNIFICENT

British Micromount Society Newsletter - October 2025

Editor – David Roe

People, Places and Events: Memories from a Mineral Collection.

David Hardman

In1959 I collected my first mineral specimen – a small group of fluorite crystals – during a field trip to the Castleton area. Over the following 65 years I built up a collection of nearly 9000 specimens which in the last ten years I have gradually sold off to friends. The final sale, in October 2024, covered the remaining 4000 specimens together with all the display and storage units. At this stage I decided to keep a small number of specimens for myself, each one with a story to tell, and to use these to write my final article (my 25th) for the BMS NL. I hope that you find at least a few of my selected memories of some interest.

Over many years David has taken us around the world with his mineral collection. He has made the successful transition from mega collection to a select few and shares his enjoyment of those with us.

For me the 1960s were mainly a period of self-collecting in Derbyshire, Weardale, Lake District, Cornwall, North Wales and parts of Scotland. I remember sitting on the dumps of the Bellsgrove Mines at Strontian on several occasions and finding brewsterite, strontianite and , perhaps the most attractive species , harmotome (Photo 1).

Photo 1 Harmotome Bellsgrove Mines, Strontian

Another acquisition from this period was my first "bought" specimen, a 4x2 cm crystallised Verespatak gold from a shop in Banff, Scotland (Photo 2 and NL 122). Only later did I come to realise what a superb specimen – and bargain - this was!

Many years later I acquired a second small Verespatak gold from a shop in Castleton where it was labelled as "pyrite in quartz!"

Photo 2 Gold Verespatak

At the end of the 1960s I found another way of building a collection was by exchange and the first time I did this was with the National Museum of Wales via the then-curator, Emlyn Evans, in which I exchanged my extensive fossil collection in return for duplicate museum minerals. One small specimen I acquired from this exchange (Photo 3) is an unusual and attractive ex-matrix spray of millerite crystals from Ton Pentre Colliery in the Rhondda.

Photo 3 Millerite Ton Pentre Colliery, Rhondda.

I later developed contacts and exchanges with several other museums including Moscow, Leningrad (now St Petersburg) and Copenhagen.

In 1971 I made my first visit to the United States, in particular to the Keweenaw Peninsula, Michigan. This area is colloquially known as " Copper Country" and is a Mecca for mineral collectors with spoil heaps from over 200 past mines. My long-term interest in native copper stems from this visit and a second one in 1973 during both of which I found many copper specimens, occasional silvers and attractive associated species such as epidote. One of my favourites is the first copper specimen that I found at the Osceola

Mine in 1971 which also has malachite on a matrix of amygdaloidal basalt. I have also retained a specimen of copper with silver from the White Pine Mine, the last mine to close in 1992. My final visit to the area was to Keweenaw Week, now an annual event for collectors organised by the A E Seaman Mineral Museum in Houghton every August and which I attended in 2002, the centenary date of the Museum (see also NL 102).

In 1971 and 1973 I was also able to spend some time in the Franklin/ Sterling Hill area of New Jersey, sometimes referred to as "The Fluorescent Capital of the World". I obtained a number of excellent specimens via exchange and purchase and visited both sites. Over the years I built up a comprehensive collection of high- quality Franklin/Sterling Hill material, although now my sole survivor is a piece of the ore I personally collected from the Sterling Hill "dump" of the New Jersey Zinc Company. This shows black franklinite crystals, red zincite and brown willemite (FI green) in white calcite (FI red). In 1986 I joined an educational resources tour to Canada where we visited a number of mining operations. Perhaps the most important of these was to the Frood-Stobie Mine at Sudbury, Ontario, a major nickel producer where, on leaving, we were each presented with a paperweight made from polished pyrrhotite-pentlandite ore. We also visited Dome Mine, at the time one of the major gold producers in North America. We descended via a somewhat unnerving journey to a depth of 5,000 feet where I was lucky enough to pick up a very small gold- in- quartz specimen which I still have. A memorable souvenir indeed!

Photo 4 Amethyst geode Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil 600 x 450 mm 44 kg

Two quite different minerals from South America feature in my souvenirs. The first is a very large amethyst geode from Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. This is a real conversation

piece that I acquired from Isis Minerals over 30 years ago measuring 60 x 45 cm and weighing 44 kgs. (Photo 4 above).

Photo 5 Meteorite Campo del Cielo, Argentina

My interest in meteorites provides my second South American highlight with two from Campo del Cielo, Gran Chaco, Argentina (Photo 5), one of which was bought in Buenos Aires at the end of a cruise from Chile via Cape Horn and the Falklands. Other meteorites in my collection came from Odessa, (Texas), Nantan (China), Wolf Creek (W Australia) and Tennant Creek (N Territory).

Another minor collecting interest of mine was amber. I have kept examples from Honduras (containing insects) and the Baltic Coast of Poland (containing seed cases) but our most memorable example is a piece of rough amber found by my wife on Bewdsey Beach, Suffolk!

Photo 6 Linnaeite Kilembe, Uganda

Early in my collecting days I wrote to the Dalny Gold Mine in what is now Zimbabwe to ask for specimens. The excellent box that I received was accompanied by a letter from a mining engineer, Neil Bradshaw, who by coincidence had been with me in the same sixth form class at secondary school! Neil later moved to Kilembe in Uganda, a copper-cobalt producer, from where he sent me a small group of excellent silver coloured linnaeite crystals (Photo 6).

Over time I built up an excellent collection of around 200 high-quality Tsumeb specimens from which I still have two - an azurite and a dioptase on duftite (Photo 7 and see also NL123).

Photo 7 Dioptase on duftite Tsumeb

A good reason for keeping a specimen is that it is often a family favourite. Our son's favourite is a large pyrite cube from the Bocheggiano Mine in Italy, (the biggest pyrite mine in Europe) and a reminder of many happy holidays across the European continent. The cube is perfectly formed with brilliant lustre and the sides measure just over 6 cm!

Perhaps the main source of polished malachite today is the Bwana Mkubwa Mine at Kabwe and we have kept a carved and polished piece of malachite measuring 15 x 15 cm and which much loved by us.

My wife's favourite is a smithsonite stalactite from Broken Hill (now Kabwe), Zambia. I had a suite of minerals from this lead-zinc mine which closed in 1994 but I believe that this species is a very uncommon variety in stalactitic form as I have never seen another, either in any collection or on the web (Photo 8 next page and see also NL122).

Photo 8 Smithsonite stalactite Broken Hill Mine (now Kabwe), Zambia

I personally have two favourites, the first being a specimen of silver from Kongsberg in Norway which I acquired in 1971 at the Lake Sunapee Show, New Hampshire. The piece of protruding silver measures 6 cm and the calcite matrix is also full of disseminated silver (Photo 9 and NL118): a true classic which also appears every day as the screen saver on my computer!

Photo 9 Silver Kongsberg, Norway

My other favourite was a Silver Wedding Anniversary present to me from my wife. It consists of crystallised silver in the form of a superb group of "herring-bone" crystals on arsenic from the Tellerhauser Mine, Pohla, Saxony (Photo 10 and NL117). This is almost certainly from the well documented find of 1990.

Photo 10 Silver "herring-bone" crystals on arsenic Tellerhauser Mine, Pohla, Saxony

We spent several family holidays in Australia and New Zealand, staying on occasion with collectors with whom I was regularly exchanging. I still have two small gold nuggets we bought from the Perth Mint (Kurundi/N Territory and Murchison/W Australia) as well as an ex-matrix diamond crystal from the Argyle Diamond Mine (now worked out) in W Australia. New Zealand provided two small gold nuggets from the Kawarau Gorge and Cockabulla Creek, both in the South Island.

But in some ways one of our best memories of "down-under" is the phial of alluvial gold that my wife and I collected by panning at the Kawarau Gorge. After all, actual mineral *collecting* is perhaps what we remember most of all!

From Across the Pond

Courtesy of the

British Micromount Society Newsletter - October 2025

Using AI to Identify Minerals

Michael Dunmore

I'm not very good at identifying mineral specimens, but I am open to new ways to help me overcome this unfortunate gap in my capabilities. So I wondered whether artificial intelligence (AI) could help me in my quest for improved confidence and accuracy with recognising minerals.

Michael says that, lacking natural intelligence, he wondered if the artificial kind might help him identify minerals

There are several apps you can download to your mobile phone that are promoted as aids to rock or mineral identification. For example, *Rock Identifier*, *Rock Scanner* and *Mineral Identifier*. Mineral identification apps typically demand a monthly subscription and not all of them work by interpreting a photograph taken using your mobile telephone or by using AI. I found propositions describing the functionality and benefits of several identifier apps to be poorly explained and appearing to offer little advantage over a book describing and illustrating mineral types and their species. Also, the Crystal Council's *Rock Identifier* is seemingly positioned for people seeking 'knowledge' about the 'spiritual and wellbeing properties' of minerals.

Because I'm a cheapskate, but committed to trying to contribute to this newsletter, I decided to ignore trialling subscription-based apps and instead, to test the Google Lens app. Google Lens has the distinct advantage of being free. It can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play. The way it works is simple. You open Lens and take a photograph of an object using your mobile telephone. Then, Lens uses AI to interpret your photograph.

The content you receive on your phone is a text, AI-generated interpretation of the image, plus additional information about what Lens believes is the subject of the photograph. This might be information about a mineral's composition, formation, or appearance. It also provides visual matches for your image. For example, photographs of mineral specimens that have appeared on eBay, Etsy or Amazon.

I selected several 'hand-size' specimens to learn whether Lens could identify them correctly. It was spot-on for specimens of apophyllite with heulandite, pyromorphite, amethyst, fluorite, and stilbite with heulandite.

Google Lens was less successful with its identification of a baryte specimen from Machen Quarry, which was described hesitantly as: "…desert rose (a type of gypsum formation) or a type of fungus from the Hericum genus."

For the successful identification of a specimen of apophyllite with heulandite, the text describing apophyllite included: "a high-vibrational crystal known for its spiritual and healing properties", which might raise concerns about the scientific veracity of the AI-generated text.

This photograph of the specimen combining apophyllite and heulandite may not appear sharp. This is perhaps because the apophyllite crystals were highly vibrational when the image was created.

But I was invigorated by the suggestion that apophyllite could improve my wellbeing. I submitted a Google search asking: "Should I lick specimens of apophyllite to improve my health?" The first link in the search results was https://science.howstuffworks.com/. Extensive content on the topic of apophyllite included: "The crystal's ability to neutralize allergies and promote the regeneration of mucous membranes and skin tissues makes it a valuable ally in holistic wellness practices. Additionally, apophyllite is said to have a rejuvenating effect on the eyes, with the placement of the crystal on the eyes believed to revitalize and revitalize (sic) this delicate sensory organ." At the bottom of the page devoted to apophyllite and its "Meaning, Healing Properties, and Benefits" is this text: "This article was created using Ai technology."

My photograph of a rhodochrosite specimen was interpreted as a piece of meat. To be fair, my cheap phone has a very poor-quality camera and I'd been drinking a lot of very strong black coffee. So I took a further, more-steady photograph, and Lens interpreted this correctly as rhodochrosite. It also served-up many visual matches of attractive rhodochrosite specimens. A picture of a specimen of galena cubes on baryte from Breedon Quarry was interpreted as augite, with visual matches that included bixbyite, topaz, graphite, picotpaulite, native gold and columbite.

A wavellite specimen from High Down Quarry was proposed as banded chalcedony, or coral spot fungus, or agate. But strangely perhaps, photographs of wavellite were included in the visual matches.

This image might be interpreted as coral spot fungus and not a wavellite specimen collected at High Down Quarry, Filleigh, Devon. The Royal Horticultural Society's website informs us that: "Coral spot is a fungal disease of woody plants causing branches to die back. Small orange or coral-pink raised spots (pustules) form after the branch dies." This website also presents this image of coral spot fungus by John Scrace:

However, it is micromounts that unite us in our collective mineral madness and enthusiasm for identifying splendid objects that cannot be seen with the naked eye. So how would Google Lens get on with micromineral specimens? Slightly randomly, I selected a few specimens for its AI eye. I thought it was fair to select specimens that had distinct colours and crystal shapes, as my phone's camera is so rubbish.

The much-anticipated result of this intensive, quantitative, scientific investigation was a mixed bag. Lens correctly identified specimens of vanadinite and chalcanthite. It was less successful with a woodwardite specimen that it interpreted as chrysocolla potentially with amazonite.

Cavansite on stilbite was suggested as aurichalcite. A richly-orange-coloured specimen of crocoite as likely to be a zeolite such as stilbite or apophyllite. (Though the results of a further Google search state that apophyllite is not a zeolite.)

More specifically and confidently, an autunite specimen was defined as cadmium smithsonite over dolomite from the Monte Cristo Mine, Rush, Marion County, Arkansas.

Attaching a macro lens to my phone's camera to get enlarged images of the micromineral specimens did not improve the accuracy of Lens' mineral identification, except for the correct identification of the crocoite specimen.

My conclusion from this amateur, random and statistically invalid morning of fun is that Google Lens is not a reliable tool for accurate mineral identification, even when it is used for identifying a single mineral, rather than a specimen with several different species. Also, some of the associated text provided by Lens is a cause for concern as it is drawn from existing online content that has not been reviewed for accuracy. Rubbish in, rubbish out, as the saying goes.

But I'd find it very interesting to know how other BMS members find Lens' accuracy for recognising minerals, particularly if they have a very good quality phone camera. (Cue David Aubrey-Jones.)

My assumption is that Lens will get better at identifying minerals if it continues to be trained on expanding datasets of scientifically-robust content and feedback provided by users. Let's hope so, I need all the help I can get.

However, given that AI-generated content is largely created by a mash-up of existing, unverified content, it seems unlikely that we will ever have 100 percent confidence in its responses to searches when they are based largely upon visual recognition.

From Across the Pond

Courtesy of the

British Micromount Society Newsletter - October 2025

The Complexity of Agardite

Henk Smeets

In BMS NL 117 (October 2022) I wrote a little bit about the four varieties of agardite. Now I want to look at agardite in a bit more detail – but be aware that for us as micromineral hobbyists, decent recognition, let alone proper identification, is becoming more and more "a bridge too far".

Agardites are a group of arsenates that contain rare earth elements (REE). All agardites belong to the mixite group. The general agardite formula is $(REE)Cu_6(AsO_4)_3(OH)_6 \cdot 3H_2O$, with a hexagonal crystal structure. The first photo below clearly shows this , as you can see by the hexagonal end faces.

Agardite-(Ce) Clara Mine, Wolfach, Germany FOV 1mm

Mostly however the habit of agardite is spiky, needle like, or even hairy as can be seen in the images below. There are four distinct varieties within the group, the REE being cerium (Ce), lanthanum (La), neodymium (Nd) and/or yttrium (Y). Minerals of the agardite group are widespread all over the world, but the Hilarion Mine in Kamariza near Lavrion in Greece is something special in that respect: in a very small area in the mine, on level 4, all four varieties occurred next to each other. When you look closely at the photos below of the four, you notice that there are slight colour differences between them. Those might give you a first clue if your eye is trained enough - but of course the colour is not decisive - far from it.

Agardite group Hilarion Mine, Kamariza, Greece spray 0.5mm

Agardite-(Ce) Clara Mine, Wolfach, Germany FOV 4mm

Agardite-(Nd) Hilarion Mine, Kamariza, Greece FOV 2mm

Agardite-(La_Nd) Hilarion Mine, Kamariza, Greece FOV 6mm

Without full analysis the varieties are impossible to tell apart. If a specimen is not fully analysed we can only refer to it as "agardite group". And beyond that, as usual, reality is more harsh: ongoing extensive research shows that there are hardly any pure agardites with only one REE - practically all are to some extent mixtures. Luckily all the specimens in the images shown, except for one, have been analysed.

Agardite-(Y) Hilarion Mine, Kamariza, Greece FOV 2mm

But as usual in the mineral world, things are even more complicated. Besides the agardites the mixite group contains three other arsenates, which look exactly the same. Zalésiite has calcium (Ca) instead of REE, mixite has bismuth (Bi) instead of REE, while goudeyite contains aluminium (Al) instead of REE. All of which might make you wonder why they have separate names instead of agardite-(Ca), agardite-(Bi), agardite-(Al)…? Oh, and there is also plumboagardite…

Zalésiite on malachite Gold Hill Mine, Tooele Co, Utah USA 0.5mm

Mixite Clara Mine, Wolfach, Germany FOV 3mm

Goudeyite Clara Mine, Wolfach, Germany FOV 1mm

And that's not all. There is the phosphate analogue within the mixite group, that also looks exactly like agardite: petersite, which comes in four varieties, three of which involve REE's (Ce, La and Y), and the fourth being calciopetersite. Alas I don't have any of those.

And finally, not within the mixite group, but visually often very similar to agardite are minerals such as the lead copper iron silicate creaseyite, the copper iron arsenate arthurite, and molybdofornacite $Pb_2Cu(MoO_4,CrO_4)(AsO_4,PO_4)(OH)$…..
Are you still there ?

Arthurite Majuba Hill, Pershing Co, Nevada FOV 1mm

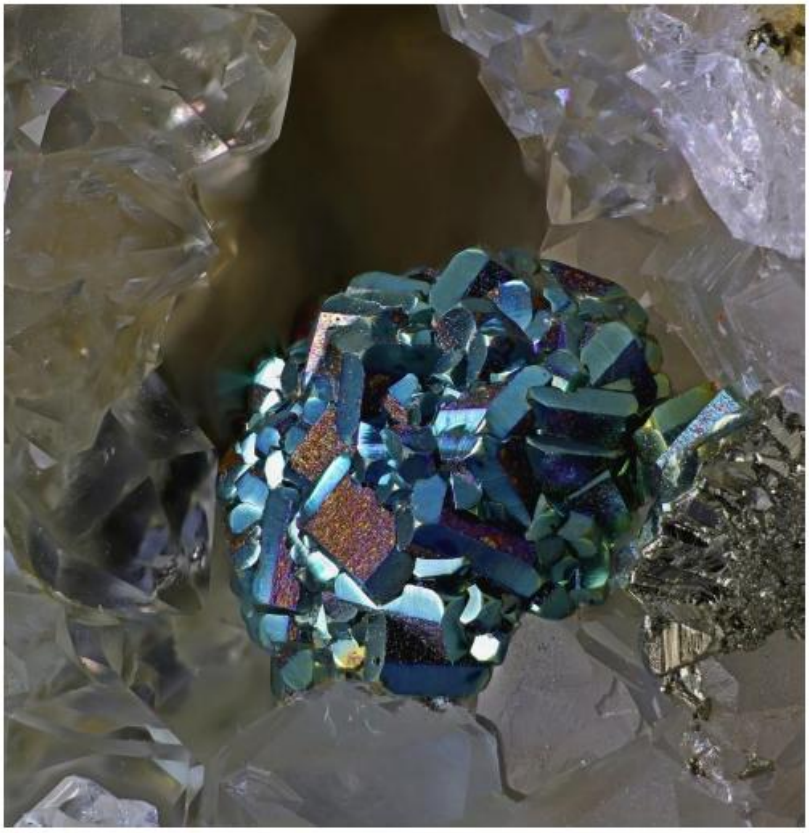
Molybdofornacite Moon Anchor Mine, Maricopa Co, Arizona, FOV 0,5mm

All in all, these are minerals that can produce fantastic crystals, but you have to be very cautious about the labels!

All the above photographs by Henk Smeets.

Please email articles and photos to heesacker@coho.net

The next deadline will be June 10, 2026



Iridescent Chalcopyrite Wheal Wrey, St Ive FOV 3 mm Photo David Roe

David says: I found this on the Wheal Wrey forestry track about 10 minutes after I arrived – and it was a good start to the day! Getting the light balance right so as to reduce the reflections was hard work but I am pleased with this image. A stack of 80 images in 10 micron steps.

Hot Shots from the British Micromount Society Newsletter, 10/2025

www.pnwffm.org
Editor, Beth Heesacker
4145 NW Heesacker Rd.
Forest Grove, OR 97116
heesacker@coho.net

2026:

PNWFM Spring Rendezvous – April 25
Rice Museum
26385 Groveland Dr.
Hillsboro, OR

NW Micro Mineral Study Group - May 9
10 am - 4 pm
Sons of Norway Columbia Lodge
2400 Grant St., Vancouver, WA 98660

Seattle Mineral Market – May 16-17
SATURDAY 10:00AM-6:00PM
SUNDAY 11:00AM-5:00PM
The Hangar 30 building at Magnuson Park
7400 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Northern Mineralogical Association (NCMA) - TBD
Eldorado Community Hall
6139 Pleasant Valley Rd., Eldorado, CA

PNWFM Symposium – October 16-18
Central Washington University and SureStay Hotel by Best Western, Ellensburg
Discovery Hall
Ellensburg, WA

NW Micro Mineral Study Group - Nov 14
Sons of Norway Columbia Lodge
2400 Grant St., Vancouver, WA 98660

2027

Pacific Micromineral Conference (MSSC) – TBD
Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Museum
123 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, California