
Bay Area Mineralogists

April 2009

Next meeting: April 8, 2009

7:00 pm

Foothill College

<http://www.baymin.org>



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The Bay Area Mineralogists assemble on the second Wednesday of every month during the school year. We meet in the Geology Lab at Foothill College. See <http://www.baymin.org/Meet/FoothillMap.gif> for a campus map. Bring \$2 for parking.

BAM April Program: On the Road in Arizona with Stan B.

For two weeks at the end of January, Stan Bogosian, his wife and two dogs hit the road to hit the Quartzite Pow-Wow, see the sights, and dig for rocks. He'll be sharing his stories of collecting (or not!) at the Melissa, Total Wreck, C&B Vanadinite, Finch, Grey Horse, not to mention cactus licking and starters that don't.

Bring samples for show-and-tell from these localities or from Arizona in general.

Upcoming Programs (...or Lack Thereof)

In June, Si and Ann Frazier have been penciled in for the technical program, contingent on smooth sailing following an eye surgery. No word on the topic yet, but the smart money is on something related to quartz.

May is still open and begging for volunteers, however, so if you have ideas or something to stand up and hold forth on, please identify yourself to EI Presidente Bill Spence and/or myself. There will likely be some time allocated to a preview of the Eastern California collecting trip planned for the following week, but that's dependent on availability of organizer Dan Evanich.

Passings of Note: Claus Hedegaard & Steve Pullman

BAM lost two members of its extended family in the last month, Claus Hedegaard and Steve Pullman (Whole Earth Minerals). While neither was local, both had many connections to BAM and the greater mineralogical community.

Claus Hedegaard was arguably BAM's most distant member, periodically weighing in on newsletter postings or announcements from his home in Denmark. He lent a hand as a guest columnist reporting on the Munich Show in the Dec '07 and Jan '08 editions of this newsletter.

One can get a sense of his connections across the mineralogical community from the postings on MinDat in response to word of his passing: <http://www.mindat.org/forum.php?read,6,131635,131819>

My personal favorite (and one that makes me wish I'd had the chance to meet the gent) comes from our own John Magnasco:

We visited the Clear Creek mine together on one occasion and often spoke of other travels together abroad. I was concerned with land mines in Mozambique and he said, "Well, we will just rent a herd of goats and have them roam in front of us."

His publication list (www.hedegaard.com) included nine pages of citations with wonderfully cryptic titles, such as "Cryolite – Icy rock and stupid fish."

Claus died from natural causes at his home. He was 46.



Claus Hedegaard (1963-2009)

Steve Pullman ran Whole Earth Minerals out of his home in Reno, Nevada. He was a regular exhibitor with Chuck Trantham at the Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society Show in Redwood City and often paired up with Chuck at other shows. Steve grew up on the Peninsula and often volunteered at the California Academy of Sciences.

My apologies for not having more details at this time. I received notice of his passing shortly before this newsletter was to go out – not enough time to track down all the folks that could characterize Steve and no real Internet footprint to fill in the blanks. More to come next month, hopefully.

Got Gabbro?

This one from the BAM mailbag... Charles Nelson received this request via the web site.

I am a graduate student at San Francisco State University and I am working on a project where we are testing gabbro rocks. I was wondering if the club offered small student grants for projects or if anyone might be interested in donating some materials. Anything would be more than greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time,

Michelle Newcomer

While Chaz responded that BAM is not generally in the project funding space, there might be some folks out there with "the right stuff", petrologically speaking. If you happen to have some extra gabbro burning a hole in your pocket (or weighing down a corner of your garage), Michelle can be located at newcomer829@gmail.com.

Upcoming Shows

April 4-5
Mariposa Mineral & Gem Show
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
5005 Fairgrounds Rd, Mariposa
Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-4pm

April 17-19
Santa Clara Vly Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
334 Tully Road, San Jose
17th, 9am-5pm; 18th -19th, 10am-5pm

April 25-26
Santa Cruz Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
Center and Church St.
10am-5pm both days

May 1-3
Eastern Sierra Gem & Mineral Show
Tri-County Fairgrounds
Sierra St., Bishop
1st 6-10pm, 2nd 9:30-4pm, 3rd 10-3pm

Letters to the BAM Editor

Please send your comments, content, compliments, and/or complaints to Don Windeler, don.windeler@rms.com, 650-591-1644.