
Bay Area Mineralogists

November 2013

December 11, 2013, 7:00 pm
USGS Menlo Park, Bldg 3, Rm 3-237

<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 now meet at the USGS Menlo Park in Building 3. See campus map at <http://online.wr.usgs.gov/kiosk/mparea3.html>. Our room is located in Building 3, second floor where this map says "Conference Room" – note that the front doors are locked and you will have to come up the stairs on the Middlefield side of the building. Parking is free.

December Program: Barb Matz, "A Mineralogical Journey in Germany and Poland"

The December program, a Mineralogical Journey in Germany & Poland, will be presented by member Barb Matz. Barb could not attend the first Mindat conference in Poland in 2011 so when a repeat event was announced for July 2013, she signed up right away. Having learned her lesson from Hurricane Sandy during the 2012 MinDat Morocco Conference, however, she flew to Germany one week early.



Invitation at City Hall (Jolyon Ralph photo, <http://www.mindat.org/photo-547057.html>)

The program will follow her long, winding road to Lwówek Śląski through southern Germany via Idar-Oberstein, Clara Mine, and the fabulous Terra Mineralia museum in Freiberg. Once in Poland, we'll see all the discussion, libation, celebration, and collection that took place at the conference.



Barb with a find on the trip (Jolyon Ralph photo, <http://www.mindat.org/photo-547118.html>)

Clear Creek Update

The update from Rick Cooper during this summer's BAM picnic gave hope that BAMmies and other collectors with blue triangles in their eyes might soon regain access to the Clear Creek Management Area. Movement in the right direction, yes, but access... not quite yet.

According to President Spence's sources, it now appears that the re-opening of CCMA will definitely not happen before the New Year. This is apparently due to delays in Washington, not in Hollister or Sacramento. Bill looked into whether the Hollister BLM could informally permit BAM members to recreate in Clear Creek pending the opening, and it was confirmed that this is not possible, as BLM has issued citations for unapproved access by others and such permission to rockhounds would jeopardize prosecution of those citations. Anyone contemplating an early trip to Clear Creek should know that enforcement is sporadic but not non-existent.

What was it that Rick K's Benitoite Mine t-shirt said – "We're not dead yet!"? Stay tuned...

Looking to January

Reprising his well-received visit last year, Alfredo Petrov is signed up for the January edition of the BAM monthly meeting. Target date is planned for January 8th, our usual second Wednesday, but be forewarned that there's a nonzero probability that it could move. Notice will be passed along as soon as practical.

Also, please let President Spence (bill.spence777@sbcglobal.net) know if you'd be willing to pick Alfredo up from the airport and host him for a couple of days. This could be airport-linked to make it easier for all parties involved; main thing is that we have some options to ensure his hospitality in visiting is reciprocated.

Mineralogical Record "Crystal Gazers and Friends" Supplement

Those of you who subscribe to the MinRec have undoubtedly received this issue's bonus publication with photos of collections from around the Bay Area. Organized by Paul Geffner of the Crystal Gazers, it includes significant cross-pollination from BAM, both Crystal Gazers and not: Dan Carlson, Gener & Sharon Cisneros, Dan Evanich, Rick Kennedy, Jean Lee, John Magnasco, Len Pisciotta, and Don Windeler.

A bit of vanity, perhaps, but certainly some very fantastic rocks as well!

Upcoming Shows

December 7
 Bay Area Mini-Show:
 Miner's Lunchbox, Marin Mineral, Earth's Treasures, Trinity Minerals, Dan & Rhonda Kennedy, and Brett Keller (wine!)
 Hyatt House Hotel
 5800 Shellmound St, Emeryville
 12pm to 6pm

Letters to the BAM Editor

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