
Bay Area Mineralogists

January 2012

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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, unless diverted by extenuating circumstances. 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.

BAM January Program: **Stan Bogosian (and you!)** **"Arizona Night"**

The Tucson show is bearing down upon us with the promising theme of "Minerals of Arizona". At last year's Main Show the organizers laid out a teaser case of fantastic specimens to whet everyone's appetite for 2012.

With that in mind, this month Stan Bogosian will be leading an interactive "Arizona Night"

program to get us all in the mood. In his own words: "Bring along your favorite Arizona minerals for show and tell, along with stories of collecting in the Grand Canyon State. This year Arizona celebrates 100 years of statehood, and Arizona is the subject of the 2012 Tucson Show. If you can't make it to Tucson this year, or even if you are planning on going, our program should be very informative. We will view a slide show of past collecting trips to Arizona, along with selected photos of eye-candy Arizona minerals chosen by members."

That last part means YOU... in addition to your favorite AZ specimens, bring a flash drive with ~10 photos from field trips or images of minerals you love from there. Stan will swap them onto the laptop and give everyone who wants to contribute their moment in the spotlight.



Arizona copper, Tucson 2011 show (DSW photo)

Should be some tall tales, great rocks, and a lot of fun!

Some BAM Meeting Notes, Backward & Forward

December is always a fun month and 2011 was no different. The Crystal Gazers / BAM holiday party in Albany was a good time as always, with a variety of uncommon rocks and tasty apple butter (thanks Chuck!) dotting the auction table. (If you took any pictures, send them along to me for redistribution in the next newsletter.)

At the December BAM meeting, Rick Kennedy held forth on his (1) latest stories of mining at the California Blue, complete with aquamarines and giant quartzes to show, (2) photo tour of the "All That Glitters" display at the San Diego Natural History Museum, and (3) adventures in digging through a storage unit full minerals and god-knows-what-else that he'd just purchased. Wide-ranging and always entertaining – thank you Rick!

Dan Evanich gave a brief update on the planning for the next major BAM field trip, to be held in eastern California / western Nevada in June. Stay tuned and come out to the meetings to stay in the loop. President Spence also notes that there has been progress on Clear Creek access, with real potential for getting back out there in 2012.

Len Pisciotta notes that he is working on organizing a permanent educational case at the San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society's clubhouse, focused on minerals of the California Coast Ranges. He's looking for representative mineral specimens and lapidary materials from the region; if you have some you're willing to donate, ping him at eightfish@hotmail.com. SFG&MS is non-profit = tax-deductible!

January is when BAM dues come due. Treasurer Dan Carlson will be in the house – just a paltry \$6 keeps you in good standing and feeds the club coffers.

February will find many of us in Tucson, so per tradition there will be no meeting in Menlo Park. If you're going to be there, take pictures! And watch for notice of the annual BAM & Friends dinner to be held during the Main Show – details to be passed along as soon as they get locked

down. If you can't be in Tucson, we'll have our usual show debrief at our **March** meeting.

USGS Lassen seminar & SoCal Micro Conference

Two other external events to pass along...

On January 26th at 7:00 p.m., USGS geologist emeritus Patrick Muffler will present "Lassen Volcanic National Park -- a wonderland of volcanoes and thermal features" describing this rugged landscape that includes the most spectacular array of thermal features in the Cascade Range such as steaming fumaroles, bubbling mud pots, and a boiling lake. He'll also cover a newly-published map on the region and its volcanic hazards.

Same location as BAM, but Conference Room A. See <http://online.wr.usgs.gov/calendar/> for more.

The Pacific Micromount Conference will be held in Redlands at the San Bernardino County Museum, January 27-28 with a field trip on the 29th. Hosted by the Mineralogical Society of Southern California, there will be speakers, auctions, and give-away tables. For more see <http://www.mineralsocal.org/micro/pmc.htm>

BAM Heads to Morocco...

One other item from December's meeting: John Magnasco brought up the 2nd Mindat.org Conference to be held in Morocco in November, noting that it looked like a once-in-a-lifetime trip for a pretty reasonable price, he and a few other BAMmies were signed up, and that spots were running out. A couple more of us signed up the next night and apparently tipped the scales, as registration closed by the next morning.

To the best of my knowledge, five of us will be representing BAM in November. If you've also signed up, let me know – it's still a long way off, but we should plan to sync up on travel to the conference where we can. Expect a great BAM program in December!

Letters to the BAM Editor

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