
Bay Area Mineralogists

January 2013

January 16, 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, unless diverted by extenuating circumstances. **(Note that this month is one of those cases and we're on the third Wednesday!)** We 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.

January Program: Alfredo Petrov, "Collecting on active volcanoes in Japan"

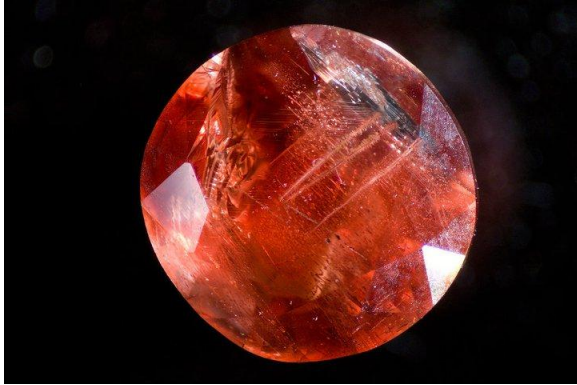
This month we get a special visitor and date: Alfredo Petrov will be traveling up from Southern California to regale us with stories of collecting from Japan. As he's lining things up for the annual Tucson pilgrimage, he'll be coming out the third Wednesday of January rather than the second. That means the 16th – don't show up a week early!

Many of you probably know Alfredo from the SFG&MS show in August, where he is an annual exhibitor with John Attard. He's also an active contributor on MinDat (nearly 5,500 posts and counting) and an expert on collecting in Japan and Bolivia, among other spots.

Japan sits on the tectonically active Pacific Rim, with a very complex and diverse geology. There are granite pegmatites, zeolite localities, serpentines, metacherts, gold, copper, tin, tungsten, silver and manganese mines, and even a few benitoite localities; mineralogically one could easily compare it to California. Alfredo will focus in on three active volcanoes which each have distinctly different minerals to collect, and mix in a bit of information on the idiosyncrasies of the Japanese mineral collecting community - part of the mineral world with which most Western collectors (not named John Magnasco) are very unfamiliar.



Frank de Wit studying sulfur vents on lou-dake, Satsuma lou-jima (Alfredo Petrov photo)



Gem anorthite with native copper inclusions from Miyake Island volcano (Alfredo Petrov stone, Stefan Schorn photo)

Alfredo is always entertaining, with plenty of stories – should be both fun and educational. Bring your favorite rocks from Japan or active volcano environments for show and tell.

Reminder: January = BAM dues due

As per the norm for the past few years, January 1st means it's time to renew your BAM membership. For the paltry sum of \$6, you get the monthly newsletter and the inside line on member trips, etc. Every once in a while we'll also send out info on an event that just goes to members paid up and in good standing, so be sure to get on the "paid" side of the ledger.

Dues are payable to Dan Carlson, BAM treasurer. Eventually, we'll move past 1987 and raise them to a point where he doesn't need to bring fifty \$1 bills to the meeting to make change...

The Sound of One Hand Grabbing Rocks: No February Meeting

For the fortunate true believers, the start of February is often occupied by a Tucson Show pilgrimage. Lots of rocks in the Arizona desert, but not so many BAM members around to support a program. Ergo, no meeting in February, but be ready for the March recap of rocks and stories.

If you are going to Tucson for the Main Show, however, please watch this space (or show up at the January meeting) for info on the timing of the

annual BAM & Friends dinner. Even better, ping your friendly local BAM newsletter guy (contact below) to get connected with this year's plans.

Letters to the BAM Editor

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