
Bay Area Mineralogists

June 2010

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In this issue:

- **Upcoming BAM Idaho Field Trip**
- **BAM June Program: Gary Moss, "Mines & Minerals of Western Idaho"**
- **Summer Shows: "San Francisco" & San Francisco**
- **Update on Gretchen Luepke-Bynum**

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.

Upcoming BAM Idaho Field Trip

Dan Evanich has been busy finalizing the itinerary for this year's epic BAM field trip, to be held in western Idaho the week of July 17-25. Keep your eyes peeled for a notice with specifics in the next few days.

The main area to be targeted is the Seven Devils District near Cuprum, just outside of the Hells Canyon National Recreational Area at the Oregon-Idaho border. Some of the likely stops include the Blue Jacket Mine, Arkansas Mine (Landore), Peacock Mine, Pepperbox Hill

prospects, White Mountain prospects, Alaska Mine, and the Copper Queen Mine. Also on the docket is the Texas Mine in the South Mountain district.

Plenty of places to check out in an area of stunning natural scenery – a trip not to be missed if you can make it!

BAM June Program: Gary Moss, "Mines & Minerals of Western Idaho"

In preparation for aforementioned field trip, Gary Moss will talk about the mines and collecting sites in the area we'll be visiting. Gary has spent some time stomping around the region and will cover some of the places we hope to hit in July.

In his inimitable style, Gary muttered a few comments on black bears and white supremacists, then subtitled the talk "Things You Might Want to Know To Stay Alive In Western Idaho." Should prove to be an interesting discussion!

A big thanks to Len Piszkiwicz for pulling together and presenting last month's program on "The Upper Mississippi Valley Lead-Zinc District." Len gave a nice tour of the region, punctuated with a variety of samples from his personal collection. The topic brought out an interesting selection of pieces from other people's collections as well, with a couple of really nice pieces from Bob Trimmingham.

Summer Shows: “San Francisco” & San Francisco

Before we adjourn for the summer session, let's not forget to mark the calendars for two of the year's best mineral shows in the area.

On July 9 through 11 we have the “San Francisco Fine Mineral Show”, returning to the San Rafael Embassy Suites for its second year. While still sporting a geographically-arguable moniker, there is no argument about the quality of rocks to be ogled – lots of high-end dealers bringing a taste of the Tucson hotel show scene to the Bay Area. For more details, check out www.FineMineralShow.com

August brings us to the region's classic, the SFG&MS annual show in San Francisco proper. Held August 7-8 at the Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park, this show always has a solid showing of collector cases to supplement the dealer room. Many years BAM has set up a table for mineral ID and recruiting potential members.

This year's show theme is “In The Pink” – if BAMmies want to put in a club case, we'll need ideas for our take on the theme and a volunteer to organize the samples.

Update on Gretchen Luepke-Bynum

No new news on this front, but I'm sending this on for those who have not received the e-mail notes. Last month Gretchen Luepke suffered a sudden onset of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a particularly nasty neurological illness. At last word from President Spence, she was being treated at the Fremont Healthcare Center.

Gretchen has been a long-time member and a stalwart exhibitor at the Tucson show; she was instrumental in getting permission for BAM to move its meeting place to the USGS. Please send your best wishes and get-well cards to Gretchen and husband Bob Bynum. If you don't have their address from the previous e-mails, contact me directly at the phone or e-mail below.

Upcoming Shows

June 12-13
“San Francisco Crystal Fair”
Pacific Crystal Guild
99 Marina Blvd, SF
12th 10am-6pm, 13th 10am-4pm

July 9-11
“San Francisco Fine Mineral Show”
Embassy Suites Hotel
191 McInnis Pkwy, San Rafael
9-10th 10am-6pm, 11th 10am-5pm
www.FineMineralShow.com

Aug 7-8
San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park
9th and Lincoln, San Francisco
7th 10am-6pm, 8th 10am-5pm

Letters to the BAM Editor

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