
Bay Area Mineralogists

March 2011

March 9, 2011, 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. 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 March Program: Tucson!

Anyone who neglected to read last month's newsletter and showed up on February 9 to locked doors should know the deal by now... Tucson happens. This year's orgy of mineralogical goodness held a special appeal: the theme was "California Minerals" and life in AZ was good.

There were BAM members aplenty represented in Tucson this year, both in person and via rocks on display. Rick Kennedy put in a case of Gem Mine material and several joint BAM / Crystal

Gazers were represented in the CG California minerals case (see end of newsletter).

One nice touch was the case in memory of Gretchen Luepke-Bynum, who left us July of last year. Gretchen enjoyed exhibiting at Tucson and never missed a March BAM meeting.



Gretchen Luepke-Bynum's case, 2011

Dan Evanich has been working with John Magnasco to assemble the slide revue and will be presenting with Rick Kennedy on this year's edition. Bring your latest acquisitions and war stories – as always, count on the meeting to be well-attended and salted with great rocks.



The crowd at the Friday night "BAM & Friends" dinner at Club 21

Other Mineralogical Events of Note

Of late we've been contacted by rockhounds from other jurisdictions with a variety of potentially interesting events coming up in the next couple of months. Check these out and see if any fit your fancy.

March 19: The Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Society is holding a meeting at UCSC and have invited BAM members to participate. The presenter will be Prof. James Gill. His plan is 3 parts:

- a. Introduction to the Pendleton Mineral Collection using the six display cases in the foyer of the UCSC Earth and Marine Sciences Building. You can find online photos of at least part of the collection by googling UCSC and Pendleton.
- b. Look at minerals from the Kalkar Quarry, Santa Cruz, with its unusual assembly of sulfosalts. Brief review of the basement geology of the Santa Cruz area.
- c. Look at fluorescent minerals from the Pendleton Collection, supplemented by the remains of Bill Spence's collection from the Franklin/Sterling (NJ) mineral district.

There will be free parking in a garage approx 200 yards from the building.

April 8-10: Mines & Wines of San Diego Field Workshop & Trip. We received a flyer for this field trip to the pegmatite mines of San Diego, a copy of which will be distributed alongside this newsletter. The workshop and two-day field trip program explores the tectonics and mining history of eastern San Diego County, based out of the Menghini Winery on Wynola Road in Julian. There will be geology lectures and wine tasting Friday and Saturday evening at the Menghini winery. Cost is \$150, open to first 30 registrants; see flyer or contact Gregg Wilkerson, 7005 Hooper Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308; 661-391-6081 or 661-246-9485, gwilkers@blm.gov.

April 15-17: The Santa Clara Valley (i.e. San Jose) Gem & Mineral Society will hold its annual show at the Santa Clara County fairgrounds on Tully Road. They have invited BAM to enter a display case. We'll discuss at the meeting.

Programs Past & Future

For April's program, Rick Kennedy is scheduled to give us an update on the 29 Palms pegmatite locality. More details to come in the next newsletter.

Out past that, the future is the grey of a calcareous argillite. As ever, we're digging for volunteers to provide those goody-filled vugs we all look forward to each month. If you can step up (or have ideas to hook in someone else) please contact Bill Spence at bill.spence777@sbcglobal.net.

BAM Bios & Directory

We continue to expand our on-line content with biographies of BAM members. If you haven't had a chance, please check out the site and consider jotting down a paragraph or two about your background and interests, then send on to President Spence. We'd like to show of the diversity of people and interests that comprise the Bay Area Mineralogists, so please contribute!

On a more operational side, we'd like to compile an up-to-date directory of BAM members so it's

possible to contact your local buddies when you hit that big seam of whackamoleite in your backyard. This directory will (1) only be provided to BAM members with dues paid up to date – get your \$6 worth!, and (2) will only be distributed in hard copy format to limit the potential for electronic redistribution.

If you're willing to have your info on the list, please send address, phone number and e-mail to me (don.windeler@rms.com) and treasurer Dan Carlson (dan@dextersinister.com), who'll be my judge of members in good standing. If you'd rather not have the specifics on the list, that's fine as well – if willing, though, I'd still like to have the data in our file in case we need to contact you by means other than e-mail.

Upcoming Shows

March 19-20
Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society
Solano County Fairgrounds
900 Fairgrounds Dr., County Bldg
10am-5pm both days

March 26-27
Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society
Calaveras County Fairgrounds
101 Frogtown Rd, Angels Camp
26th, 10am-5pm; 27th, 10am-4pm

March 26-27
49th Annual Show
Roseville Rock Rollers
Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds
800 All America City Blvd, Roseville
26th, 10am-5pm; 27th, 10am-4pm

April 2-3
Lemoore Gem & Mineral Club
Lemoore Trinity Hall
470 Champion St.
10am-6pm both days

Letters to the BAM Editor

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



Crystal Gazers case of California minerals. BAM contributors included Dan Carlson, Si & Ann Frazier, Gary Moss, Len Pisciotta, Steve Smith, Chuck Trantham, and others no doubt missed (with apologies).