
Bay Area Mineralogists

May 2010

May 12, 2010, 7:00 pm
USGS Menlo Park, Bldg 3, Rm 3-237
<http://www.baymin.org>



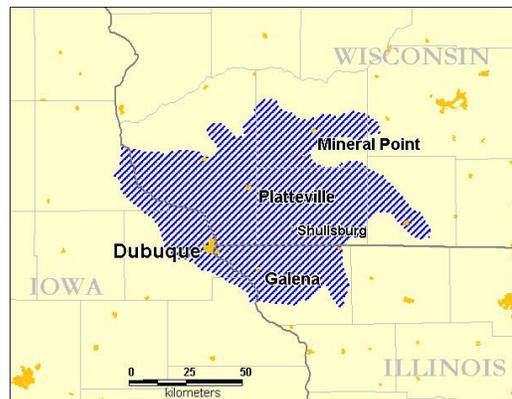
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The Bay Area Mineralogists assemble on the second Wednesday of every month during the school year, unless diverted by extenuating circumstances. We now meet at the USGS Menlo Park in Building 3. See campus map at <http://online.wr.usgs.gov/kiosk/mparea3.html>. 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.

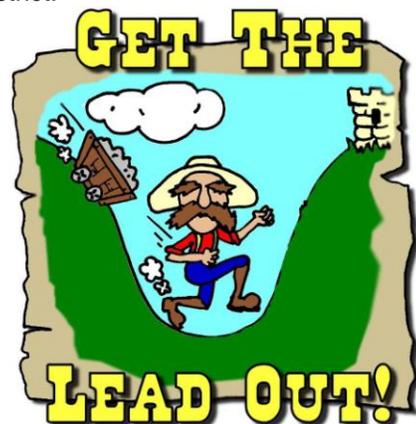
BAM May Program: Len Piskiewicz, "The Upper Mississippi Valley Lead-Zinc District"

Len Piskiewicz answered last month's speaker SOS with this great topic, pulled from his own past in the Midwest. The region extending from Galena, Illinois to Dubuque, Iowa and northward to Shullsburg, Platteville and Mineral Point, Wisconsin comprises one of the oldest major mining districts in the United States.



*Upper Mississippi Valley Pb-Zn district
(after Heyl, 1968)*

This district is unknown to many collectors, primarily because specimens from the hundreds of mines that dotted the area are almost never seen in dealers' stocks and only occasionally in museums. Len will present an overview of the mining history of the region and show specimens and pictures of underground mines in the district.



Other BAM Notes

Anyone interested in the July 17-24 Idaho trip needs to re-confirm with Dan Evanich at the May meeting (or separately via e-mail) so he can update everyone regarding departure schedules, etc., during the BAM summer break. We should get a brief update on the trip from Dan at the meeting; localities targeted for the trip include Cuprum and South Mountain, but the exact itinerary will have to wait until the snow in the mountains starts to melt out.

Big thanks are repeated for John Magnasco, who stepped up and provided our April meeting program. John covered two of his favorite collecting geographies, Japan and Korea, and brought in a wide range of samples from the two. Excellent stuff!

Looking ahead to June, we are still trying to finalize the program. There was a whiff of a talk by Gary Moss, but we still need confirmation. If you have a topic of potential interest for club members, please bring it up at May's meeting.

Further CCMA Updates

Following on last month's April 6 vote by the San Benito County Supervisors to reopen the county roads in the Clear Creek Management Area, a demonstration was held May 2 at the Hollister BLM office to protest the closure of the CCMA proper. No word yet on how it went, but if you were there please send on your impressions.

Geology Field Day at Pinnacles, Saturday, May 8

Given there's some spare space this month (and it still hasn't passed us by!) I'll repeat an item from last month. On Saturday, May 8, there will be docent-led geological tours and other activities all day long at Pinnacles National Monument. These will include walking tours of the San Andreas, informational displays and activities, and three tours of the Graniterock Quarry. In the evening there will be BBQ and live music – bring an instrument and participate if you like!

Space is limited on the quarry tours, so early registration is recommended. For additional information, check out <http://www.pinnaclespartnership.org/>

Upcoming Shows

May 8-9
Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Reno Livestock Events Center Exhibit Hall
1350 N. Wells Ave., Reno NV
8th 10am-5pm; 9th, 10am-4pm

May 14-16
Superior California Gem & Mineral Association
Shasta County Fair Grounds
1890 Biggs St, Anderson
14-15th, 9am-5pm; 16th, 10am-4pm

May 14-16
West Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show
The Fairplex in Pomona
1101 W. McKinley Ave, Pomona
14-15th, 10am-6pm; 16th, 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.