

NOVEMBER BAM NEWSLETTER 11/7/2003

**Next meeting November 12th, 8:00pm
At Foothill College, Room P-24, Geology
Building, Los Altos Hills, California**

Welcome to the November issue of the Bay Area Mineralogists (BAM) newsletter. The purpose of our club is to further spread the knowledge and interest of mineralogy in our world today and to promote awareness and teaching in the field of natural sciences as they pertain to the geosciences.



UPCOMING EVENTS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

The meeting on November 12th will feature a presentation by John Magnasco entitled "Skarn Deposits and Mineralogy." It begins at about 8:20 pm. Bring skarn mineral specimens for discussion.

In the near future, there will be a talk by Rick Kennedy on etching, trimming, and cleaning of benitoite specimens. Also in the planning stages are sessions devoted to "Cleaning and preservation of Minerals", a talk on "Minerals of Bolivia" by a guest speaker, and a discussion on "Buying and Selling Minerals on the Internet."

BAM NEWSLETTER CONTACTS and INFORMATION

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Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at Foothill College, Room P-24, Geology Building, Los Altos Hills, CA, 8-10pm. Take highway 280 North from San Jose toward San Francisco to the El Monte exit and head West.

MINERAL FIND OF THE MONTH

Since no new finds by members have come to our attention this month, we will share the results of a collecting trip by John Magnasco and Dan Evanich to the old Victor Claim near Indian Flat, just off Clear Creek Road. This site is known for its rare barium silicate minerals as well as a host of other more common occurrences. We found neptunite and Benitoite as well as a few other unusual minerals. John's best find was a suspected fresnoite specimen or possibly a complex "stacked and rounded" benitoite. No pictures yet, but come to the BAM meeting and share your thoughts. Dan also spent time collecting the more common topazolite variety of andradite with a different coloration and vein structure than normally seen. This deposit of garnet crystals was creamy yellow in color and a few specimens had apatite crystals in association. These will also be at the BAM meeting next week.

We're still looking for contributions from BAM members for mineral finds or interesting acquisitions. Just email me or bring notes to the meeting. You may become famous if yours is selected for the newsletter!

NEW PUBLICATIONS AND ARTICLES

Just announced was the release of the long-awaited book "Minerals of Nevada", published by University of Nevada Press. Order reservations are being handled by Scott Kleine of Great Basin Minerals. I should have my copy available at the BAM meeting for those of you that want to check it out.

FIELD TRIPS

Several members have expressed an interest in doing an informal field trip the weekend after Thanksgiving. The trip will be Friday, November 28 through Saturday or Sunday, the 29th or 30th. The location and number of days depends on how many people are interested. Two sites will be chosen, one being a usually dry alternative, should bad weather be a factor. Bring your ideas and suggestions to the meeting next Wednesday.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

It may be redundant, but here is my formal request for contributions to the monthly newsletter. Please send me any articles, field notes of past collecting trips, or any other items you find interesting in the world of mineralogy. You can contact Dan Evanich, your editor, at:

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