
Bay Area Mineralogists

September 2012

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



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Welcome Back!

It's the first meeting after our annual summer hiatus. Hope to see you at the USGS to catch up on what's been happening the last three months!

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.

Please remember that we're trying to start on time at 7:00 – the USGS facilities staff can't leave until we do and we inevitably have plenty of catch-up at the first meeting, so come on down a little early!

BAM September Program: Chuck Trantham, "Collecting at Skookumchuck Dam, Washington"

What better way to kick off the year than a review of a classic collecting site by BAM member who was there as it happened? In days past, our own Chuck Trantham was an engineer working on the excavation and construction of the Skookumchuck Dam in Thurston County, Washington. He was there during some of the great finds of zeolites and will share pictures and stories of how it all happened. (And don't be surprised if you go home knowing a little bit more about what's involved in building a dam!)

There will be, of course, stilbite & friends aplenty to see – be sure to bring some of your own favorite material from the Pacific Northwest for show & tell.

Upcoming Programs (... Plus A Related Notice from President Bill)

We have a pretty good slate of talks lined up through the end of the year, all linked to members traipsing about the globe:

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| October: | BAM Nevada Trip
(led by Stan Bogosian) |
| November: | Tanzania (Dennis Freiberger) |
| December: | BAM @ MinDat Morocco |

Stay tuned for more specifics, and (as always) don't be shy if you have a topic you'd like to share as a future program, please let Bill know.

And on the subject of future talks, President Bill passes along this message / request:

“In order to accommodate Alfredo Petrov as speaker for our January meeting, I would like to move the meeting date from January 9 to January 16. Bear in mind that there will be no formal meeting in the month of February. If anyone is opposed to this change, please let me know asap at bill.spence777@sbcglobal.net. Thanks”

Return of the Sequoia Show, September 15-16

Just a head's-up to readers that the Sequoia Club show is returning after a year's hiatus. It'll be held September 15-16 at the Community Activities Building in Redwood City. Normally show notices are left to the list at the back, but given that this is one of the few shows on the mid-Peninsula and it didn't happen last year, it seemed worth a special mention. For more info, check out the club web site at <http://sgms.driftmine.com/home.htm>

BAM Summer Highlights: SFG&MS Show, the Picnic, and So On

Even without meetings at the USGS, there are plenty of things to keep the mineral collector occupied for the summer, especially once August rolls around. As per tradition, we have some pics to share – the stories will just have to wait until the September meeting.

The San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society Show is always a highlight. The show moved again this year and was held in Building One on Treasure Island. A great venue, especially for viewing the display cases, and one that will be home to the show for the next couple of years at least!

As per the last several years, BAM had a booth for the public to learn about mineralogy and collecting, have rocks identified, and gain an appreciation of our hobby. Thanks go out to all who helped out at the booth over the course of the show – this author saw Gary Moss, Dan Evanich, David Lowe, Bill Spence, John Magnasco, and Joe Langdon on duty at one

time or another, but that undoubtedly neglects others working other shifts. (Thank you!)



Gary takes aim while John and David pull out the goods. (D. Windeler photo)

The show's theme was “Jade”, a favorite of Californian lapidarists, and included a special section of cases on jade and jade carvings. Also on display was the club's famous Jade Clock, a full-sized grandfather clock built in 1959 almost entirely out of jade.



“Chicken Dinner” jade carving from the Dale Blankenship case. (D. Windeler photo)

BAM put in a case focusing on specimens collected while on club-related trips, while other members with cases included Stan Bogosian, Dan Carlson, Dan Evanich, Rick Kennedy, Jean Lee, Barb Matz, and Don Windeler; the Crystal Gazers also put in one, with contributions from several ‘joint’ members.



Dan Carlson's display of Platonic solids.
(D. Windeler photo)



Jack Halpern's case – always drool-worthy!
(D. Windeler photo)



Jean Lee's calcite display (D. Windeler photo)



When one Kongsberg silver just isn't enough...
detail on J. Halpern case. (D. Windeler photo)

And, of course, there were numerous BAM-associated dealers in evidence: Chuck Trantham, Rick Kennedy, Gene & Sharon Cisneros (Mineralogical Research Co.) and Si & Ann Frazier. Always a great show!



SF Crystal Gazers "Christmas in August"
(D. Windeler photo)



Chuck and Bill ham it up. (D. Windeler photo)



*Sharon Cisneros tending to the flock
(D. Windeler photo)*

Another summer tradition is the BAM picnic, this year held at the Windeler – Lee residence in Belmont.



Chuck Trantham, Steve Satra, Sue & Stan Bogosian, with Chris Lowe & Carla Galloway's backs! (D. Windeler photo)



*Barb Matz & Gail Dunning get their bids in.
(R. Wolf photo)*

An excellent turnout, with 30+ attendees enjoying great weather, some non-BAMmies getting some exposure to the club, and plenty of good food & drink as always. This year's silent auction raised over \$600 – thank you to all who donated and/or bought rocks!



Don Windeler and Ted Hadley get to know new BAMmie Peggy Lew & husband. (R. Wolf photo)



*President Bill Spence addresses the club.
(R. Wolf photo)*

We hope you had a great summer and that we'll see you at a BAM meeting soon!

Upcoming Shows

September 7-9
Wildcat Gem Society
Humboldt County Fairgrounds
1250 5th St., Ferndale
Fri. 12pm-7pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm

September 15-16
Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society
Community Activities Building
1400 Roosevelt Ave, Redwood City
10am-5pm both days

September 15-16
Santa Lucia Rockhounds
Pioneer Park & Museum
2010 Riverside Dr, Paso Robles
10am-5pm both days

September 29-30
Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Monterey Fairgrounds
2004 Fairgrounds Rd
Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm

September 29-30
Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club Show
Scottish Rite Masonic Center
33 W. Alpine Avenue, Stockton
10am-5pm both days

September 29-30
Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
Wells Fargo Center for the Arts
50 Mark West Springs Road
Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 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.