
Bay Area Mineralogists September 2014

September 10, 2014, 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. We 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.

Letter from the Editor

I am pleased to take on this job for our group. I was newsletter editor for Marin Mineral Society for 10 years before that club folded and, after a few years off, I am ready to do it again. Your contributions to each issue will be much appreciated. Please send content, photos, suggestions, compliments, and/or complaints (if you must) to me at matz.barb@gmail.com or 415-713-8482.

SEPTEMBER 10 PROGRAM:



(AND FLUORITE, TOO)

by Dan Evanich

Nine BAM-ers (Stan Bogosian, Dan Evanich, Paul Favia, Debbie Hinz, Cliff Imprescia, Doug Strickland, David Lowe, John Sulzbach, and Chuck Trantham) spent May 24-30 visiting fluorite localities in New Mexico. The week started with camping and collecting at the Blanchard claims, courtesy of Ray Demark, and concluded with exploration and more collecting at Cookes Peak, in southern NM.

Dan will regale us with stories and pictures from the trip, and there are sure to be some fine self-collected specimens for us to ogle. Also – everyone is invited to bring in your favorite New Mexico specimens for Show and Tell, whether self-collected or silver-picked.

SCENES FROM NEW MEXICO



With Ray Demark (2nd from left) at Blanchard.

(photos by Dan Evanich and John Sulzbach)



Dan and David prospecting below Cookes Peak.



Doug and his 20-lb sledge versus a boulder.



Paul Favia's fluorite octahedrons, Cookes Peak.



Debating a fine point of mineralogy ...



John Sulzbach fluorite specimen, Cookes Peak.

President's Message, from Don Windeler

Welcome back – I hope everyone had a great summer. It was excellent seeing so many of you at the picnic at Stan's and at the SF Show. As incoming president of BAM, I'd like to repeat and expand on a few comments I made at the picnic – including my appreciation to Stan and Sue Bogosian for hosting said event again.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank Bill Spence for his seven years of service as president of BAM. Back when Bill took over in 2007, we were meeting at Foothill College, an 18-year arrangement that ended when the school closed down its geology program and we lost our sponsor Chris DiLeonardo. Bill worked with Gretchen Luepke-Bynum to bring us to our current home at the USGS in 2009, which has worked out very well. Bill has worked tirelessly as an advocate for mineral collectors during the closure of the Clear Creek Management Area, a lengthy saga that finally concluded with its reopening and access for collecting. And in the most tangible part of the presidency to most, he ensured that every month we had one of a variety of interesting speakers. As a small token of our appreciation, I've arranged for a MinDat sponsorship of the San Benito River headwaters area (<http://www.mindat.org/loc-211705.html>) in his name – given everything he's done with the CCMA, it seemed like an appropriate option.

BAM has been doing well under Bill's stewardship, so I have no plans to make dramatic changes just for the sake of change. I do want to increase awareness of the club in the area and see about attracting more geologically-minded folks from the USGS and Stanford, both as members and potential speakers. I'd also like to hear your thoughts on what you want BAM to be. There was a recent MinDat thread on differences between mineral clubs that I found thought-provoking (<http://www.mindat.org/mesq-62-329868.html>). Please feel free to ping me (don.windeler@rms.com) or catch me at a meeting.

Another important piece of housekeeping is that I'd also like to thank Barb Matz for taking up the reins as newsletter editor. Part of my negotiations with the family in taking on the presidency was that I wasn't also going to do the newsletter, so I genuinely appreciate Barb stepping up. I'll try to be as helpful with content as Bill was over the years.

As a parting thought, I'll link those themes of feedback and others contributing to reinforce the point that BAM is entirely driven by the interest and enthusiasm of its membership. No one is getting paid for this or expecting any glory – it's just a group united in their interest in minerals and the collecting of same. We're always looking for help with programs, newsletter items, and field trip leads / organization. Looking forward to maintaining and growing a healthy BAM with you all! (And remember Rule #1: There are no rules.)

San Francisco GMS Show Report

BAM was well represented at the SFGMS Annual Show in August with quality exhibits by members Stan Bogosian, Dan Carlson, Dan Evanich, Bob Kozak, Jean Lee, Barb Matz, Pützu, and Don Windeler. In addition, the BAM and Crystal Gazers' club exhibits both featured fabulous specimens loaned by various BAM folk. We ran the Mineral ID table again with our very own recent GIA grad, Dennis Freiburger, doing gemstone ID – it looked like everyone on both sides of the tables was having a great time.

Upcoming Shows

Sep 12-14, Denver CO
Original Denver Gem & Mineral Show – Agate!
Denver Mart Expo Hall (Merchandise Mart)
451 E 58th Ave. (@ I-25 Exit 215)
Fri 9am-6pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm

Sep 27-28, Monterey CA
Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Rd
Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm