

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

COLORADO CHAPTER



March 2024 Newsletter!

Next Meeting

March 14, 7:30 PM

Virtual Meeting Only

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81652403372?pwd=rWWvUMbg4PzTseK44cpouqyWmuAUph.1)

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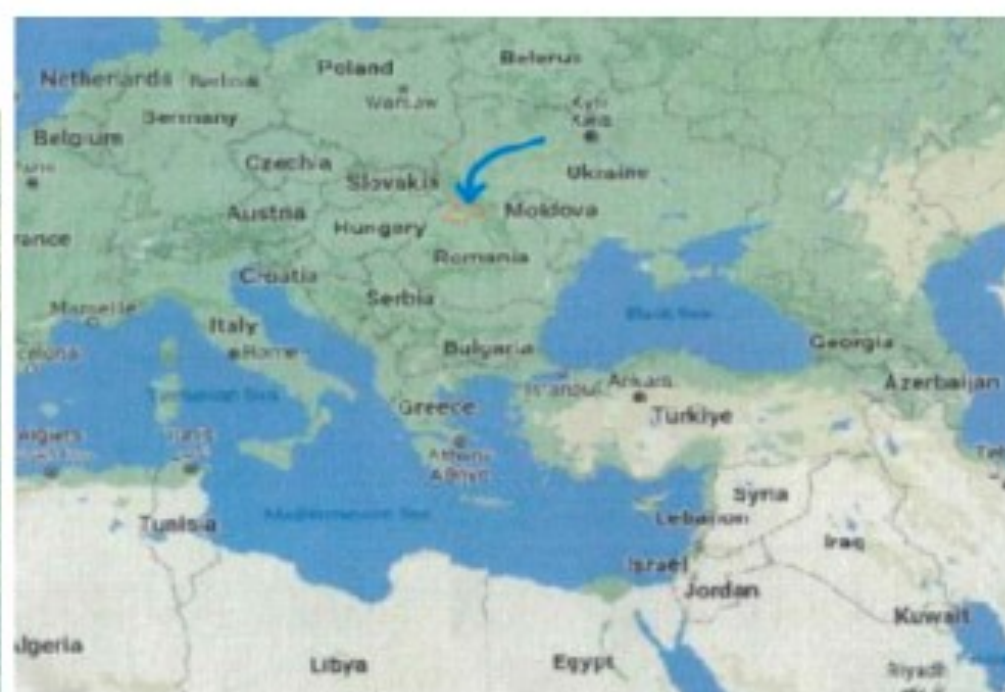
Meeting ID: 816 5240 3372

Passcode: 130807

Minerals of Romania, Maramures County

Dan Mira

Maramures (pronounced Maramuresh) is a Romanian county in northern Transylvania near the border with the modern Ukraine with a rich mining history. The first records and archeological finds prove mining activities existed in this region before Dacia (the country name before the Roman conquest) was conquered by the Romans. A lot of gold and silver artifacts showing the same characteristics as the ones discovered locally were discovered in other parts of Dacia, proving the quality of the artifacts crafted locally was known and appreciated in a wide area. Gold, silver, lead and zinc were commonly extracted from the area. Manganese and barium were also mentioned since the 1300s. High quality specimens from the area filled collections and European museums since late 19th century, however, the two world wars and the following 50 years of communist regime kept the specimens outside of the reach of collectors (especially in US). The mines that are most familiar to collectors are located in relatively small area around Baia Mare (the Maramures county seat): Cavnic, Baia Sprie, Baiut, Herja and Rosia Poieni. Most sought after specimens include rhodochrosite, barite, black-and-white calcite spheres and stibnite. Dan's talk will describe the geology, history, minerals and the culture of this mining area.



March meeting deets!

I) Due to the projected ~10+ inches of snow expected to start on Wednesday evening, this meeting will be fully hosted on Zoom instead of a hybrid meeting.

Save the Date!

Snow again unfortunately foiled our plans to visit the School Pegmatite district this past weekend. We are working on an alternative date, but this is still TBD. Our trip to the White Raven Mine is still tentatively scheduled for March 30, though do stay tuned as this might also change!

2024 Symposium

We have a website people! <https://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/symposium/>

Symposium date has been decided upon: June 13-16, on Mines Campus. As previously announced, the theme is "Mineral Oddities: Twinning, Inclusions, Pseudomorphs, and More." The symposium will include field trips on Thursday, June 13, a mineral photography workshop with Jeff Scovil on Friday June 14, a reception at the Mines Museum the evening of Fri June 14, and two days of talks on Sat-Sun June 15-16. More information, including registration details, can be found on the lovely website above, and please fill out the Symposium Mailing List Sign Up Form to stay up to date on everything!

