



# The Helena Mineral Society Newsletter



## Gem, Mineral, and Geological Education and Experience

June/July 2008

### In This Issue:

Page 1:

From the Editor

Page 2

Coming Events

Field Trip Season

Tidbits

Page 3:

Field Trip Pictures

Page 4:

Classifieds

### From The Editor:

I am combining the June/July newsletters after a series of technical and personal challenges resulted in several long delays. I do wish to truly apologize for the impact of the delays.

Hope you are having fun this summer – the club's been busy. Appears everyone enjoyed the June 28 Club Picnic and quartz dig at the Sally Ann Crystal Claim – Quartz Dig. The trail was nice and clear (but a little wet in places) thanks to the 10 people who participated in the cleanup efforts the prior Saturday. A nice, larger crystal was found by one of the cleanup crew – virtue was rewarded.

At the June meeting the club approved the purchase of 3 dual drum rock tumblers to be hosted by volunteer members tumbling material for grab bags. Plus, a fourth tumbler will be raffled off at cost during the September meeting.

At the July meeting the club approved the purchase of a large collection of rocks and mineral specimens. We'll need to move, sort, and evaluate the materials. Over the next couple years we can break some up for grab bags, tumble some of it, sell some at the Christmas parties, sell some at the Gem and Mineral shows, and even sell some at club meetings if there is interest.

The September meeting will also see the election of officers – volunteers needed at the August meeting for the Nominating Committee and be sure to let them know if you are interested in running for office.

On behalf of the HMS, "Thank You" to:

- "The Crew" that participated in the June 21 trail clearing and claim restoration activities.
- Gary Parisi for coordinating the purchase of the four rock tumblers and the collection.
- Martin Landry for leading and scheduling field trips.
- Sherry, James & Kathy for all your help with the newsletter mailing.

Thanks for a great 2008! Bob

## Helena Mineral Society Officers for 2007-2008

**President: Bob Pesta**

**Vice-president: Andrew Horton**

**Secretary: James Bruce**

**Treasurer: Sherry Reynolds**

**Member-at-Large: Norm Smith**

**Historian: Phyllis Smith**

**Field Trip Chairman: Martin  
Landry**

**Show Chairman: Gary Parisi**

**Program Chairman: Gene Hodge**

**Newsletter Editor: Bob Pesta**

## Coming Events:

**August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008:** The monthly Helena Mineral Society meeting will be held at the Mountain West Bank on Montana between Aspen and Poplar. Meeting time is 7:00 p.m. No regular meeting held in December.

### Field Trip Season 2008

Field Trip Chair Martin Landry has been busy – see pictures on following page. I am leaving the date, time, meeting place for the next field trip on the greeting message of my cell phone (459-1104) My home number is 443-2494.

If you have any questions you can also call during reasonable hours (before 9:00 PM) Martin Landry (442-1457), Sherry Reynolds (933-8798), Gene Hodge (442-9704), Gary Parisi (442-1226) or James Bruce (443-1175).

### Schedule for Remainder of 2008 Field Trips

**July 26 Emery Mine** – Expect: Pyrites, Malachite, Quartz, Galena, Sphalerite. Meet by 9:00 am at Lundy Center parking lot near Ben Franklin.

**Aug 2 Calvert Hill** – Expect: Epidote, Garnet, Scheelite. Meet by 9:00am Wise River Club parking lot; Wise River, MT. Coordination for this trip will be discussed at the July meeting and noted in the July newsletter. **Aug 16 Hogback** – Expect: Marine Fossils. Meet by 9:00 am in SE corner Dillard's parking lot. **Aug 23 Butte Area Field Trip** – Time and Place to be Announced. **Sept 6 Miss Beverly – Annual Club Sapphire Dig.** Equipment: Shovels, buckets, screens. Meet around 9:00 am at the York Bridge Boat Launch. Please let us know if you can bring a boat.

### Tidbits

Reminder to new and not so new members:

- Each meeting we have minerals specimens, fossils and a few rocks to share in the back of the room at the break. To make this work we need you each to bring a specimen to share at the next meeting and whenever else you or anyone else can spare one.
- Please remember to bring back extra material and specimens for the grab bag effort.
- Please be safe when collecting. Fire danger, severe storms, high temperatures

HMS website – [www.helenamineralsociety.org](http://www.helenamineralsociety.org) – Check it out and pass along suggestions.

**Recent Field Trips**  
**Saurbieir Garnet Trip**



**Sally Ann Clean Up and a “Nice Find”**



**Annual Picnic at Sally Ann Crystal Claim**



**Pictures to Share?**

## Meetings

The Helena Mineral Society meets at the Mountain West Bank located on Montana Avenue between Aspen and Poplar. Meetings are the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. There is no regular meeting for the month of December. See you there! Friends, guests, and new members are always welcome

To place a classified ad, please see me in person at one of our regular meetings or you may e-mail me (Bob) with your information at [RLPesta@msn.com](mailto:RLPesta@msn.com). Ad will run in the newsletter for that month only unless specifically requested to run longer.

See "For Sale" list from Leland Stanford (insert.)

Articles and pictures needed for the newsletter. Please send them to me at [RLPesta@msn.com](mailto:RLPesta@msn.com)

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**Gem, Mineral, and Geological**



**Education and Experience**