
Bay Area Mineralogists

April 2013

April 10, 2013, 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 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.

BAM April Program: Ted Hadley, “Map Management & Paperless Portability for Field Collectors”

This month’s formal program will be led by long-time BAMmie Ted Hadley, but President Bill adds the following to the night’s agenda:

"For those of you who don't already know, the Clear Creek Resource Management Plan was published last Friday [*editor's note: see below for more*], and I would like to spend some time brainstorming with interested BAM members about our response to the plan at our upcoming meeting. Ted Hadley has asked to take the

stage first for his own scheduling reasons. So my intention is to have Ted present first, then skip the usual around-the-room dialogue so we can discuss Clear Creek. If you have news that you want to share on some other topic, be sure to raise your hand after Ted's presentation."

As for that, Ted will be digging into his personal approaches to managing a library of topographic maps, using them for navigation, and paperless portability with minimal cost investment.

In his own words, “A simple method is shown where free electronic copies of topographic maps are organized for easy retrieval. A free software application is demonstrated which provides active lat/lon display on a topo map, along with other tools like distance and area measurement, variable coordinate systems, etc. Linkage to Google Maps is demonstrated which allows one-to-one correspondence between topo and satellite images.



“Finally, a method for placing this data on an eReader (like a Kindle, Nook, etc.) is demonstrated, allowing paperless portability into the field while driving and hiking.”

“Several free programs and databases will be demonstrated. If attendees would like copies of the free & public domain materials, they must bring a 16+ GB flash drive with their name attached to the meeting.”

Here’s a chance to learn some real-world tips for your future collecting – come on down and check it out!

Release of the CCMA “Proposed Resource Management Plan”

As President Spence highlighted last month, we grow ever closer to a resolution on the Clear Creek Management Area and (hopefully) reopening of access to one of California’s great mineral collecting areas. The Bureau of Land Management released its Proposed Resource Management Plan (PRMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The document is available for public comment / protest from April 5 – May 6, 2013, which makes this month’s meeting a good opportunity to collate opinions from the BAM crowd.

The full suite of documents is available at http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/hollister/clear_creek_management_area/CCMA_RMP.html

The BLM summarizes seven alternatives, from relatively open off-highway vehicle access and use to near-complete closure, along with their recommended alternatives for different areas (Section 2.5). You are encouraged to read the Plan asap and note anything that will make for problems rockhounding there. Pay particular attention to the road access plans (e.g. Tables 2.4-2a and b.).

Reminder on BAM Case for April Santa Clara Show

As noted last month, David Lowe has taken on the (largely) thankless task of assembling a BAM case of California minerals for the Santa Clara Gem & Mineral Society Show, to be held

at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds on April 20-21. Specimens can be either purchased or personally-collected; in the latter case, be sure to indicate that on the label so we can highlight BAM’s field component.

If you haven’t done so already, the April meeting is a good time to pass along specimens – give the gent a little time to organize! To arrange alternate options, check in with David at kanddineurope@hotmail.com.

Upcoming Shows

April 13-14
Mariposa Mineral & Gem Show
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
5007 Fairgrounds Rd, Mariposa
Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm

April 20-21
Santa Clara Vly Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
334 Tully Road, San Jose
Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 10am-5pm

April 27-28
Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
Corner of Center and Church, Santa Cruz
10am-5pm both days

Letters to the BAM Editor

Please send your comments, content, compliments, and/or complaints to Don Windeler, don.windeler@rms.com, 650-591-1644.