
Bay Area Mineralogists

June 2013

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USGS Menlo Park, Bldg 3, Rm 3-237

<http://www.baymin.org>



In this issue:

- **June Program: Will Elder, "Geology of the Golden Gate Headlands"**
- **San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society Show, August 24-25**
- **BAM's Out For Summer!**

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.

June Program: Will Elder, "Geology of the Golden Gate Headlands"

Ever driven over the Golden Gate Bridge into Marin on a sunny day and wondered about the story of all those rocks on display? This month we have a great opportunity to learn about some of the geology in our own backyard. Dr. Will Elder is an interpretive park ranger at the Golden Gate National Recreational Area and will be presenting on the geology and geologic history of the area north and sound of the

Golden Gate Bridge. Come learn about the serpentines, folded cherts, and other components of the Franciscan formation that have influenced both the local flora and fauna as well as geologists' understanding of subduction zone processes.



Greywacke sandstone turbidite beds at Baker Beach. From Elder, W. (2001), "Geology of the Golden Gate Headlands" in U. S. Geological Survey Bulletin 2188, p. 61-86.

I will lift verbatim from Marina Shoupe's biography of Dr. Elder, published in the SFG&MS *Mineralog* newsletter for May 2013:

"Dr. Will Elder has been an interpretive park ranger at Golden Gate National Recreation Area for 15 years, and before that a geologist and paleontologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. Will first became

acquainted with the local geology as an Earth Sciences student at U.C. Santa Cruz. Following a stint with the geophysics group at USGS in Menlo Park, Will went to University of Colorado, where his dissertation project focused on a major marine extinction that occurred 100 million years ago, during the warmest time in the Earth's history. Will returned to the USGS at Menlo Park as the Mesozoic invertebrate paleontologist, where he studied many of the fossils known from the Franciscan Complex and published on a wide variety of topics in paleontology and sedimentology. Today, Will is back thinking about a warm Earth and focusing much of his time on communicating climate change issues to the public."

San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society Show, August 24-25

After a couple of years of wandering, this year's edition of the SFG&MS mineral show will be back to its familiar haunts at the Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park. The date is a bit later in August this year, the 24th and 25th, in the hopes of missing the height of the vacation season.

This year's theme is "Heavy Metal", which leaves a fair amount of room for interpretation: metallic luster, dense minerals, elements, ore minerals, or specimens with jewelry, just to suggest a few. BAM has historically put in a group case as well as representing individually; the group case doesn't happen by itself, though, so if you have items and think it might be fun, raise your hand at the meeting.

Exhibit chair is our very own Barb Matz – if you're interested in putting in one, contact her for details at barbmatz@yahoo.com.

BAM's Out For Summer!

(With apologies to the great Alice Cooper for lifting his classic, of course.) As per tradition, BAM suspends meetings at the USGS for July and August to allow for vacations and field collecting. We'll resume our regular schedule in September.

There will be the annual BAM picnic and auction, however, which (according to the latest rumor) will be returning to Stan Bogosian's place in Saratoga. The picnic is usually held in August – stay tuned for announcements and details to come.

Upcoming Shows

June 15-16
Pacific Crystal Guild
Fort Mason Center
99 Marina Blvd, SF
Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-4pm

Aug 24-25
San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park
9th and Lincoln, San Francisco
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.