
Bay Area Mineralogists

May 2008

Next meeting: May 13, 2008

7:00 pm

Foothill College

<http://www.baymin.org>



In this issue:

- Last meeting of the school year
- BAM May program:
New Mexico field trip
- Berkeley Geology Dept. visit
- Clear Creek Mgmt Area closure

Last Regular Meeting of the Year

Apologies for a light newsletter this month – your intrepid scribe has been scrambling

This month's meeting is happening next Wednesday, May 13. This will be the last Wednesday meeting of the school year, as many BAMmies will be out in New Mexico for the field trip in June.

Our June meeting will be replaced by the visit to Berkeley on May 31 (see separate item.) There'll be some unscheduled summer updates to pass on field trip particulars and any other news of note, as well as a heads-up on our resumption of regular meetings in the fall. Have a great summer, everyone!

We meet monthly in the Geology Lab at Foothill College, 7:00pm on the second Wednesday. See <http://www.baymin.org/Meet/FoothillMap.gif> for a campus map. Bring \$2 for parking.

BAM New Mexico Trip, June 9-13

It's now less than a month from this year's big BAM road trip! Dan Evanich continues to research potential collecting localities for us to visit on the June trip. At the May meeting he'll provide an update on the itinerary, as well as some logistics.

The trip will start off with a visit to the Kelly Mine, hosted by Blue Sheppard. (Those of you with the "American Mineral Treasures" calendar will note that May's image is of a Kelly smithsonite and aurichalcite owned by same...) Blanchard is on the list, and a few other localities are also still in play. One potential complication is the lack of rain so far this year; apparently some of the forests are closed to public access at present because of the fire danger.

This month's meeting would be a good time to bring in some favorite pieces from New Mexico to whet the group's appetite and set the stage for what should be a great trip!

As always, if you need additional information please shoot Dan a note at djevan@aol.com.

Berkeley Geology Dept. "Field Trip" May 31

President Spence has confirmed the Saturday, May 31st date for a visit to the Berkeley Geology Department. This outing will be in place of the June BAM meeting. The visit will include a behind-the-scenes look at the mineral collection

and analytical facilities. Bill will provide an update at this month's meeting and I will circulate a special notice with final details at least a week before.

June 14-15
San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club
Cayucos Vets Hall at the Pier.
10am-5pm both days

Clear Creek Management Area Closure

As noted in the emergency e-mail earlier this month, the Clear Creek Management Area has been officially closed to the public as of []. The rationale behind the closure is a new report on the levels of asbestos measured in the CCMA and the potential associated health hazards. Access to the Benitoite Mine is still possible, but other areas have been eliminated.

For more information, see
http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/hollister/clear_creek_management_area.html

Additional public meetings are scheduled for May 19 (Hollister, Veterans' Memorial Hall) and May 21 (San Jose, MLK Library)

President Spence went to the May 8 public hearing on the closure, as did about 500 other interested, annoyed, and/or appalled parties. He'll provide an update on the state of the area at the May meeting.

Upcoming Shows

A little light for the Bay Area!

May 16-18
West Coast Gem & Mineral Show
Holiday Inn - Bristol Plaza
3131 S. Bristol, Costa Mesa
14-15th, 10am-6pm; 16th, 10am-5pm

June 7-8
San Francisco Gem Crystal Fair
Fort Mason Center
Laguna Ave and Marina Blvd
Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-4pm

June 6-8
International Gem & Jewelry Show
San Mateo County Event Center
Fri 12-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5

Letters to the BAM Editor

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