

Bay Area Mineralogists October 2004 Newsletter

Next meeting October 13th

At Foothill College

<http://www.baymin.org>



Welcome to the October issue of The Bay Area Mineralogists (BAM) newsletter. The purpose of our club is to further spread the knowledge and interest of mineralogy in our world today and promote awareness in the field of natural sciences as they pertain to the geosciences.

SUMMER'S OVER (ALMOST)!!

What a great summer of field trips this year! First there was the Red Cloud Mine region in the Trigo Mountains of Arizona, then there was Gold Hill, Utah. Next we visited Majuba Hill Mine in Northern Nevada, and a new location, The Strawberry Tungsten Mine in Merced County, California. We found a good number of rare, quality mineral specimens at all of these locations. There is good collecting to be enjoyed if you just get out and participate.

This will be a short newsletter due to the fact that I have been out in the collecting field so much this year and have also been involved with major renovations in home remodeling and extensive work travel. You still have to balance work with play, however, so the field trips are a much welcomed break. We hope to continue 2005 with at least five official BAM field trips, matching this year. The fifth, and final collecting trip of 2004 will be a visit to Clear Creek in San Benito County, California. Details to follow.

CLEAR CREEK, THE FINAL FRONTIER-----THE LAST OFFICIAL 2004 BAM FIELD TRIP. DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN A FANTASTIC YEAR OF COLLECTING!!!

The Clear Creek area of San Benito County has been a traditional site for BAM members to meet for mineral collecting for decades. Each year, our plan will be to hold the final, official BAM field trip in this area to wrap up a great year of collecting. This year's finale is on October 9 and 10. If you can join us, meet at Staging Stop #3 (or possibly #4, I'm not positive), marked **"Indian Flat" at 8am, Saturday morning, the 9th.** The area is well marked and is the trail head for Victor Claim, about a half mile hike up the creek drainage. We will visit at least three other locations (you have to be there to find out which ones) that are classic collecting sites in this area. Easy directions: From Gilroy, California, on Highway 101, proceed to Hollister on Highway 25 south. Go past "The Pinnacles" National Monument on Highway 25 until you reach the "Clear Creek BLM Site." Take the turn off from the highway and proceed along Clear Creek Road to "Indian Flat, Staging Stop 3 or 4", cross the creek and meet us. If you need better directions, call me, or Rick Kennedy, or John Magnasco, listed in this newsletter.

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This final field trip will be an overnighter with some members arriving on Friday, the 8th, to collect earlier. Most of the people will meet on Saturday morning at Indian Flat and the tentative plan is to camp somewhere near The Junnilla Claim on Saturday night. Bring your card-playing skills as there will most likely be a serious game of "Oh Hell" that night. We will collect at a few more sites on Sunday with a few members opting to stay over through Monday, Columbus Day. Plan to stay three days if you want to. In any case, join us for a great time. Next official meeting will be the following Wednesday, October 13th, at Foothill College at 8pm.

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Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at Foothill College, Room P-24, Geology Building, Los Altos Hills, California. 8-10pm. Take highway 280 North from San Jose toward San Francisco to the El Monte exit and head west.