

Bay Area Mineralogists September 2005 Newsletter

Next meeting: Sept 10th, 2005
BAM Picnic
Dan's House, San Jose, California
<http://www.baymin.org>



BAM is an eclectic group of mineral enthusiasts who gather to promote and share their interests in advanced mineralogy and mineral collecting. Membership is open to individuals with various levels of experience in mineralogy. The roster includes amateur mineralogists and professionals from organizations including the United States Geological Survey, the California Division of Mines and Geology, local universities and colleges, research laboratories and institutes, museums and mining companies, well-known mineral dealers, notable private mineral collectors and accomplished field collectors.

September Meeting Agenda

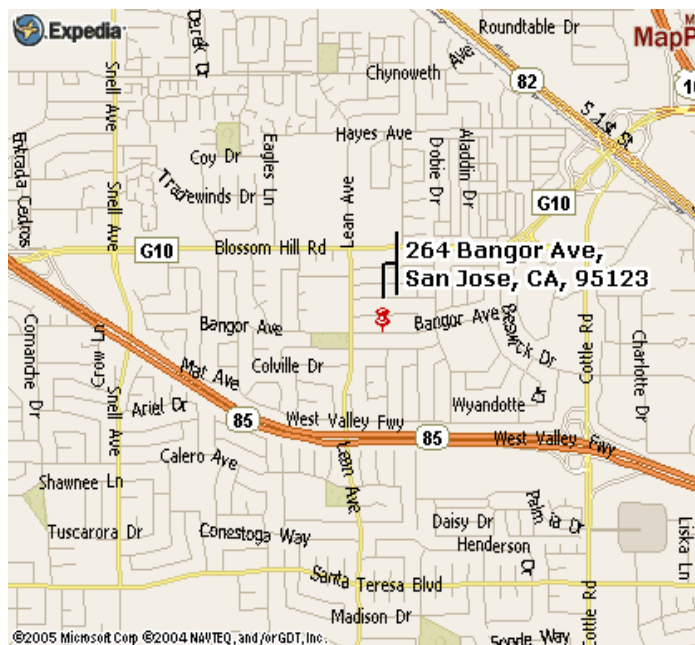
Dan and Sharyn Evanich have graciously offered up their home and recently renovated back yard for the annual BAM Picnic Barbeque **this Saturday, September 10th**. The September meeting will be conducted at the picnic under the standard BAM rules. Wait, there are no rules. Festivities begin about 11am and run through the afternoon. The only things you need to bring are tales of your summer adventures (true or otherwise) and all those extra mineral specimens for sale, trade, and/or auction (Dan says, especially wulfenite!). Please RSVP so we can plan accordingly.

Location address of Picnic:

264 Bangor Avenue (nearest cross streets are Lean Avenue and Blossom Hill Road in South SJ)
San Jose, CA 95123
Ph. 408-362-0892
email Dan at djevan@aol.com

**Remember to
bring minerals for
the Auction!!**

**You can also bring
minerals for trade or sale!**



May Meeting Review



Dan Evanich and John Magnasco demonstrated various techniques for trimming and cleaning minerals specimens. John showed field trim methods and Zuber hydraulic trimming, while Dan did some fine buzzing on the Microjack pneumatic micro chisel followed by high-pressure (dry cleaning) water gun and a nice relaxing Ultrasonic bath. A real hands-on experience for the BAMmers. Dan is shown jetting a specimen of Albite from New Melones while others watch the crud fly off!



What's New?



The BLM has decided to close the Clear Creek ACEC area (inside the red lines on the CCMA maps) to virtually all use through October 15th due to alleged asbestos hazard even though studies have clearly shown that the chrysotile asbestos present in the serpentine belt is more of a dusty nuisance than a health risk. The closing and reclamation of the Gem Mine combined with the governmental restrictions limiting access to our public lands is further reducing our ability to get out in the field and collect! You can address your concerns in writing to:

Honorable Gale Norton
Secretary of the Interior
1894 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Mike Pool
California State Director
USDI - BLM
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834
Sacramento, CA 95825-1886

On a similar note, Dan Evanich and John Magnasco took a trip to the Garnet Hill locality in early August only to find that they had to walk the hill from the campground to the collecting site. There was a great big iron gate courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service across the road! Len had given us permission to go up and collect, but we didn't expect to see a gate in the way. The hike was enjoyable nonetheless and the garnet collecting was as good as always.



Remembering good friends...



Bob Herold 1929-2005

Bob Herold will be missed by all of us in the club with whom he frequently accompanied on both BAM sponsored, as well as fly-by-night, collecting trips. Bob was always one to put in a hard day pounding rocks like the ones under his feet here at the Willard Mine followed by an evening of mischievous camaraderie as evidenced in the second photo (evidence → Bob opening wine bottle, pad of paper to keep score for "Oh Hell!" card game, campfire oven cooling down from a bout with "burnt-bottom biscuits" all laid out next to his 4-wheeler on top of the dump at Majuba!) Cheers Bob!

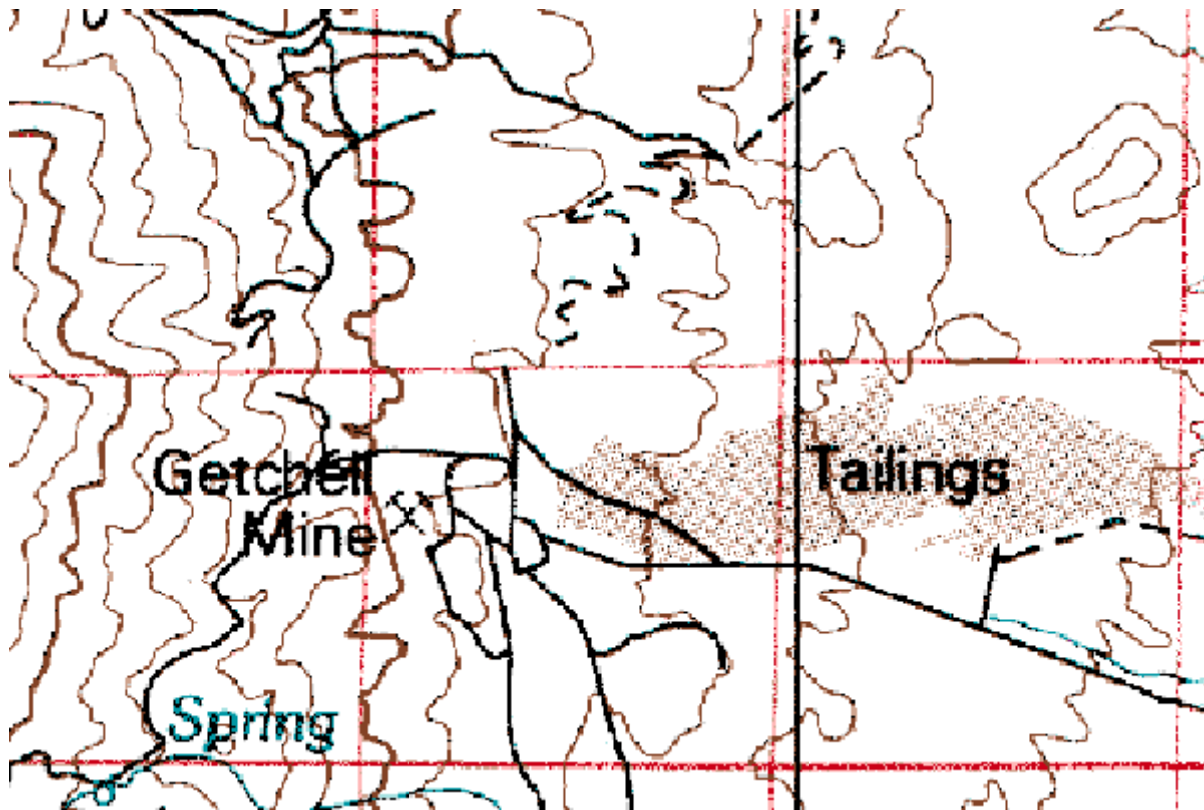
George Shokal ???-2005

George Shokal was a long-time member of the club who had a keen interest in micro mineralogy. George shared his interest in micro minerals with those that had any inkling to slide a specimen up onto a microscope stage. He passed along several samples of interesting minerals to younger members of the club like Ted Hadley and I. He was also a member of the ECGA (European Clay Groups Association). Regrettably, we saw less and less of George over the recent years, but it was always a pleasure when he was able to make it in for a meeting to share his mineral knowledge and gentlemanly manner.

TerraServer-USA <http://terraserver.microsoft.com>



Satellite and Topographic views on the same scale of the Getchell Mine



BAM Contact Information

Editor: John Magnasco
Phone 408-838-9186
Email magnasco@SBCglobal.net
BAM site: <http://www.baymin.org>
President: Rick Kennedy <mailto:riken@flash.net>
Treasurer: John Magnasco <mailto:magnasco@SBCglobal.net>

Meetings

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month during the academic year (Sept → June) with the exception of each February, which is left free for those making their way to Tucson. The location is Foothill College, Room P-24, Geology Building, Los Altos Hills, California. 8-10pm. Take Interstate 280 North from San Jose toward San Francisco to the El Monte exit and head west.