

ECVGMS 2022 Field Trip Schedule (tentative)

All field trips listed below are **tentatively** scheduled. Please confirm dates with a club board member prior to travelling to the locality. Some trips require advanced registration for safety purposes. Trips that may be adversely affected by weather could be cancelled at short notice.

January

- Quartzsite, Jan 18 – 24 (Pow Wow Show)
 - o Various Field Trips conducted through the Roadrunners Rock Club in Quartzsite

February

- Red Cloud Mine (RCM) and North Geronimo Mine (NGM), Feb 19 – 21 (President's Weekend)
 - o La Paz County, AZ (about a 4-hour drive from San Diego area. The final 17 miles of road are through a sandy wash)
 - o <https://www.mindat.org/loc-3348.html> (link to GPS coordinates, map, and mine information)
 - o Wulfenite, Fluorite, Calcite, Willemite, Vanadinite
 - o Daytime and nighttime collecting (Fluorescent)
 - o NO CELL COVERAGE at the mine
 - o \$35/day fee dig at RCM and \$50/day fee dig at NGM
 - o Easy to moderate above-ground mining and difficult, below ground hard rock mining
 - o Hotels in Yuma, 1.5 hours from mine
 - o RVs can camp near Martinez Lake, less than 1 hour from mine
 - o High-clearance 2WD or 4WD
 - o Primitive camping, tents, pickup beds OK, trailers NOT OK.
 - o ADVANCE NOTIFICATION TO ATTEND

March

- Opal Hill Mine, Mar 18 – 19
 - o Imperial County, CA (about a 4-hour drive from the San Diego area)
 - o <https://www.mindat.org/loc-39258.html> (link to GPS coordinates, map, and mine information)
 - o Fire Agate
 - o Hard rock mining at the claim. But those looking for a more relaxed hunt could search the eastern slopes for a variety of minerals (most covered by 'desert varnish')
 - o We have free access to this claim from the owner!
 - o 4WD access only
 - o Primitive camping only at the site, but hotels in Blythe are about 30 minutes from the locality

April

- Donna Claim, Apr 2 (Did not happen)
 - o Near Warner Springs, CA (about 1.5 hours from the San Diego area)

- Schorl, Aquamarine, Quartz
 - Free. But images of finds should be submitted to either trip leader or Richard Mueller.
 - Hard rock mining, but it's such a beautiful locality, just wandering around could be reason enough to attend
 - 2WD vehicles are fine
- Yuha Basin, Apr 30 – May 1 (Day trip option available on either day)
 - Imperial County, CA (about 1.5 hours from the San Diego area)
 - Fossilized Oyster Shells, Selenite plates, Dogtooth Calcite, and sand... lots of sand!
 - Easy, surface collecting and minor digging in relatively loose material
 - High-clearance 2WD or 4WD recommended

May

- Ogilby Road, May 14 – 15 (Day trip options on either day)
 - Imperial County, CA (about 2.5 hours from the San Diego area)
 - Dumortierite, Quartz, Jasper, Agate
 - Easy, surface collecting and minor digging in relatively loose material
 - High-clearance 2WD or 4WD recommended

- Royston Turquoise Mine, May 27 – 30 (Memorial Weekend)
 - Turquoise, Variscite
 - We have permission to work the claim from the owner (there may be a fee involved)
 - 4WD required
 - ADVANCE NOTIFICATION TO ATTEND

June

- Harris Ranch Rd, Potrero, (TBD pending permission)
 - Epidote, Quartz Points, Quartz w/Epidote Inclusions

- Lavic Siding, Jun 18 – 21 (Holiday weekend)
 - Jasper, Agate, Plume Agate, Calcite
 - Easy, surface collecting and minor digging in relatively loose material
 - High-clearance 2WD or 4WD recommended

July

- San Onofre Beach, tbd
 - San Diego County, CA (about a 1-hour drive from San Diego area)
 - Beach Agates, Quartzite
 - Surface collecting

August

- tbd

September

- tbd

October

- Blue Bird Mine, Oct 8 – 10 (Columbus Day Weekend)
 - o San Bernardino County, CA (about a 4-hour drive from the San Diego area)
 - o Chrysocolla, Malachite, Linarite, Aurichalcite
 - o High-clearance 2WD or 4WD recommended
 - o Surface collecting as well as moderate to hard rock mining

November

- Hauser Geode Beds, Nov 21 – 27 (Thanksgiving Week)
 - o Imperial County, CA (about a 4-hour drive from the San Diego area)
 - o Geodes, Jasper, Chalcedony, Quartz
 - o Trip could split into various localities
 - o High-clearance 2WD or 4WD recommended
 - o Surface collecting as well as moderate digging

December

- tbd

Suggested Packing List for Collecting Field Trips

Safety:

- Water, water and extra water
- Hard hat and headlamp (for underground work)
- Safety glasses/goggles
- Gloves
- Sunglasses
- Long pants
- Long sleeved shirt
- Flashlight(s) and extra batteries
- Sunscreen
- Sun hat
- Weather appropriate clothing
- Lots of light layers of clothing
- Appropriate footwear (Hiking boots, lightweight walking boots... NO FLIP FLOPS!)
- Good hiking socks (TIP: to avoid blisters, wear a thin pair of socks underneath)
- Food & Drink:

- Breakfast, lunch and dinner supplies
- Energy bars
- Special drinks
- Nuts
- Fruit
- First Aid Kit: plus painkillers, antihistamine (in case of allergies / insect bites), insect repellent and some blister plasters. If you have asthma or any other medical condition, ensure that you have the appropriate medication with you.
- Mobile Phone
- GPS device

Fieldwork:

- Prospector's hammer
- Sledgehammers (varying sizes)
- Chisel(s)
- Long screwdrivers
- Shovel
- Prybar
- Backpack
- Trowel / hand rake
- Wooden skewers and/or chopsticks
- Tweezers
- Spray bottle w/ water
- Screen (mesh size depends upon target minerals)
- Black lights (shortwave and longwave, if practical)
- Brushes
- Sample bags (various sized resealable bags)
- 5-gallon buckets and/or plastic storage bins
- Egg carton flats (for specimen storage)
- Paper towel, toilet paper, newspaper and/or bubble wrap to pack and protect specimens
- Toothbrush (to clean field specimens in the evening)
- Head lamp (for additional light if required)

Camping:

- Tent
- Sleeping bag / cot
- Pillow
- Blanket
- Ground mat / inflatable cushion
- Collapsible chair
- Firewood
- Matches / fire starting device
- Extra clothes

- Toothbrush / toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Personal effects
- Reading glasses

CODE OF ETHICS FOR ROCKHOUNDS

1. I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
2. I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
3. I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
4. I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
5. I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings etc.
6. I will leave all gates as found.
7. I will build fires in designated or safe places only, and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
8. I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
9. I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock. I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
10. I will cause no willful damage to collecting material, and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
11. I will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
12. I will co-operate with field trip leaders, and those designated in authority in all collecting areas.
13. I will report to my Club or Federation Officers, or other proper authorities, any deposit of material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
14. I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
15. I will observe the "Golden Rule" and will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and "Public Image" of rockhounds everywhere.