



In 1845 Benjamin Wilson, a future Los Angeles mayor, tramped up the mountain in pursuit of a band of cattle-stealing Paiute Indians. At the crest of the mountain, Wilson and his 22 men found a deep, lush valley around a shallow, swampy lake. There, they lassoed 11 grizzlies and called the place ---- not Mt. Wilson, which bears his name, but – Bear Valley!

This month we'll enjoy two one-day field trip adventures! On Saturday, May 28th, we will search for lapidary specimens in the Big Bear area. We'll meet at 9 A.M. at the Discovery Center - 40971 North Shore Drive, Fawnskin CA 92333. www.sbnfa.org/bigbeardiscoverycenter.php.

We'll hunt druzy coated stones and quartz crystals near Baldwin Lake, visit a copper mine and various other interesting places. And, of course, there is the opportunity for optional off-roading to old gold mines to check out. Be sure to bring a lunch, as we might not be able to get into town. Bring your camera, waling stick and all of the other things you would bring on a day trip. You know - hat, bug repellent, sun screen, water, first aid and so forth.

Directions: From Pasadena take the 210 Freeway east I-210 E toward San Bernardino for 55.3 miles. Merge onto CA-330 N via EXIT 81 toward Mtn Resorts. Drive 15.7 miles. CA-330 N becomes CA-18. Continue 12.3 miles. Turn left onto CA-38 for 3.7 miles. CA-38 is named North Shore Drive at this point. Look for the Discovery Center at address 40971.

As usual - please call or email me to let me know you are coming. Give me a cell phone in case you need to be contacted at the last minute.

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