



South West Washington Gold Prospectors December 2016 Newsletter

Letter from the President

Our year is ending and we will be celebrating with our holiday dinner. This is a good time for all of us to stop and reflect on our new friends and old ones (no pun intended). On those we have lost or have moved away. As a Chapter we have made a lot of progress this year. New committees have been formed and many have completed their goal (Bi-laws committee comes to mind).

Everyone has put in a lot of hard work and had a lot of fun as well. We are a premier Chapter for the GPAA. We have a reputation of being an active, caring, and friendly chapter. One who steps up and helps out when needed. I am very proud to have served as your President this past year and am looking forward to our next year together.

Merry Christmas!!!!!! Your President, Debbie Witcher



Membership Committee

When you are signing in for attendance at the SWWGP meeting please be sure to verify name spelling, correct address w/zip code, e-mail address and phone number. If you are a current GPAA/ LDMA member be sure to let us know and give us your GPAA/LDMA membership number.

We are in the process of updating our records.
Thank you for your help,
Richard Pluff Jr.
503-957-6884

HOLIDAY DINNER

We will hold our holiday dinner on Dec.11, 2016 right after our regular meeting. This is always lots of fun and a great way to end our year. This is a great time to bring your special holiday dishes.

Don't forget to bring your appetite and your favorite dish for the dinner. The Chapter is providing the meat and beverages as well as plates, plastic ware and paper goods.

Please feel free to contact Jeanne 360-673-3179 or Maurine Koppi 360-254-9309 to find out what is needed. They will be making calls to those of you who signed up.

See ya there!

Outing Ideas

Is there something you would like to see our Chapter members Do? Want to take a field trip or outing you think might be of interest to other members? Let us know. Send me an e-mail or call me at 360-695-3215 and let's see what we can do. Debbie Witcher.

WEATHER ALERTS!!!

In the event that we have bad weather on our meeting day and it is determined that we should cancel our meeting for safety reasons, we will post the cancellation on the web page and on the official face book page. Our Chapter Sec. will send out an e-mail to everyone who we have an e-mail for. Please be sure to double check and correct your information if necessary. We will try to call those of you who do not have a computer, but it is your responsibility to make sure we are still having the meeting. You can of course call me until 11:30 the day of the meeting. If the weather is bad please do not endanger yourself and your family by driving in bad road conditions. Your safety is important to us.
Debbie Witcher, President SWWGP

Executive Board	(Elected)		
President	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Vice President	Jeff Wooldridge	360-694-7557	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Secretary	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Treasurer	Ken Didier	360-567-7360	ky02kid@peoplepc.com
Board of Directors	(Elected)		
	Matt Barner	360-909-9424	matthew.barner@gmail.com
	Rick Beehler	360-601-6855	rickbeehler@ymail.com
	Bob Brown	360-576-0213	photogal101@comcast.net
	Jim Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Daniel Keesee	360-241-0489	none
	Dale Long	503-665-4717	alelongsmailgmail.com
	Richard Pluff jr	503-957-6884	magicdragon1956@hotmail.com
	Jeff Wooldridge	360-694-7557	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Claims Chair	(Elected)		
	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	DDWitcher@yahoo.com
State Director (WA,OR)	(Appointed by GPAA)		
	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Committee Chairs	(Volunteers appointed by club/		
Education	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Equipment Manager	Randy Harper		rh82065@hotmail.com
Events Co-ordinator	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Facebook	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Fundraising coordinator	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Assistant	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Kitchen Host	Toni Fest	360-465-2393	festfam@wwest.net
Assistant	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Leigh Anne Chavez	503-531-2770	ohwell1956@yahoo.com
Picnic, Holiday Dinner	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Misc. Outings	Barbeques, special events		
	Frank Knighton	360-834-5270	jknighton08@yahoo.com
Librarian	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Membership	Richard Pluff Jr		magicdragon1957@hotmail.com
Assistant	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Newsletter	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Outing coordinator	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Safety Officer	Daniel Keese	360-241-0489	none
Sargent at Arms	Daniel Keesee	360-241-0489	none
	Bob Brown	360-576-0213	photogal101@comcast.net
	Jeff Wooldridge	360-694-7557	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Sunshine	Pat Staat	360-798-9499	Healingsprings@centurylink.net
T-Shirts	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Webmaster	Patti Long	503-320-3854	palong48@gmail.com
Historian	Jeff Wooldridge	360-694-7557	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Other committees will be formed as needed. Please let Debbie Witcher know if your name was missed or if you would like to serve.			
Committees to be filled: Bylaws / Laws and Regulations			

Buy, Sell, Trade

Wanted!!!!!!

Rock cutting and processing equipment, jewelry making equipment.
rock saw, grinders, cab machine, flat lat, etc.
Call, Debbie 360-695-3215

For Sale,
CJ 7 jeep 1982 runs, winch and tow bar. \$3000
Call Dennis 360-695-3215

For Sale
Hot tube, new never used not even hooked up. California Coopage,
Cover included, 6 person, stored inside. Has heat blanket. Paid \$4000,
must sell moving. Give away price \$1500. You must transport it. Some
help available. Call for details and to view. Betty Erickson 1-503-801-
1452. Also various farm equipment also available. If interested call for list.



D&K 2.5 inch (necked to 2 inch) for \$1100

auto panner is a Desert Fox for \$175



Call Tom Fest 360 465 2393

Have something to sell or give away? Looking for something to buy?
This is a free service to our Chapter members.
Call Mark Matilla at 360-609-6813 or chipper49@outlook.com

Club Name Tags

Name tags orders will be taken at
the January meeting.

Any club members that would like a
plastic name Tag made for them
can place an order at the
next meeting.

Cost is 7.00 for each tag that in-
cludes up to 2 lines of engraving.
Questions?

Contact David Conti

User764554@aol.com



SWWGP MONTHLY MEETING

The Southwest Washington Gold
Prospectors' meetings are the
second Sunday of every month
beginning at **2:00 pm** at:
Minnehaha Grange Hall #164
4905 Northeast St Johns Road
Vancouver, Washington

All interested parties are invited
to attend the monthly meetings.
There will be opportunities to
learn about prospecting laws,
methods and equipment as well
as hands-on demonstrations and
practice. There are also outings
to enjoy the pleasures of gold
prospecting and the great out-
doors.

Become a member of the South-
west Washington Chapter of the
Gold Prospectors' Association of
America. GPAA membership is
not required to be a member
and SWWGP membership is
FREE!

For information contact:
Debbie Witcher – Chapter Presi-
dent,

ddwitcher@yahoo.com or
360-695-3215 or visit
www.swwgoldprospectors.org

Help Those in Need

We will have food collection boxes available at the meetings, for non perishable foods as well as toiletries for both men and women. Socks, gloves, and warm hats, etc. are really needed this time of year.

Thanks, Debbie

Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets should be ready to sign out and sell at the Dec. meeting. We will have approx. 3 months to work on selling them so lets all pitch in and sell/buy them. We will draw the winners at the end of this years Gold and Treasure show.

Winners need not be present.

Here are the prizes:

- 1) Chinook Winds Beach Get away package
2 nights standard room, show tickets for 2, Dinner for 2.
- 2) Chinook Winds Golf get away package
2 nights standard room, golf for 2, Dinner for 2.
- 3) Gold and Quartz specimen
- 4) Rock Tumbler
- 5) Silver Prospector Bar 5 troy oz. .999 pure
- 6) 2 Prospector silver coins, one is the first in a special limited edition series
- 7) One of a kind gem stone necklace made exclusively for SWWGP

Some prizes may change before ticket printing Dec. 5th, 2016

Tickets are \$1 and all proceeds will benefit SWWGP

Questions call Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215

In addition to you purchasing tickets, you can sell them at your church, work, other organizations and clubs, etc. think outside the box.

Boxed Goods for our Local Veterans

Please bring food both perishable and non-perishables, as well as socks, gloves, hats scarves, etc. and we will be taking these items to our local veterans office for distribution.

Also toiletries etc. and pet food and supplies are helpful.

Many of these folks are homeless or on a very limited budget and this helps them out.

Audit

Our long overdue audit was conducted after the Nov. meeting. We had a few questions and clarifications for our Treasurer but over all everything looks fine.

Thank you to Jeff Wooldridge, Steve Lewin, and Kevin Ivers who filled in for Mark Mattila and assisted Ken and myself. Your help was greatly appreciated.

The board will be doing a simple audit every 3 months starting in Jan in accordance with our bi-laws.

Chapter Store

We now have our chapter store re-opened. Patti Long is in charge of the store. There will be a variety of items for sale. Check out the chapter store and the very good prices
Patti Long 503-320-3854 or palong48@gmail.com

Mid-Valley Meeting

Next Sunday December 4th 2016 at the Brownsville Fire Dept. 600 E Blakley ave Brownsville Or 97327. We will be having a meeting and potluck with a gift exchange for the ones that want to participate. 20. dollar limit. short meeting first. Hope to see everyone there. Thank you Roy Houtz

Steve's Special

We will not be having our regular raffle in December. so that everyone can enjoy the holiday dinner. There will be a silent auction, and Steve will have gold bags, gold, and some surprises for sale.

Show and Special T-shirts

As announced at our November general meeting, all those who are going to volunteer for the gold and treasure show this year need to sign up asap. Also we will need your t-shirt size.

We are asking that you contribute \$5 per person towards your shirt. It is expensive for our sponsor Designs of all Kinds to do the shirts. They have provided shirts for the last 2 years and again will be providing shirts for all 3 Chapters who are hosting the show.

Remember your shirt not only identifies the Chapter sponsors as well as you as a volunteer, but is your entry into the show and to get your food from our chapter.

Please sign up asap.

I will let you know at the Dec. meeting who will be collecting the monies. I will order the shirts for all. Debbie

Chapter Sponsors

For the next few months we will be featuring one of our Chapters main sponsors. This is a great way for you to learn more about our sponsors and what they do. This months sponsor will be Designs of All Kinds.

Committee Members Needed

Just a reminder that we need additional committee members for the following:

- Outings
- Education
- Hospitality
- Picnic/holiday dinner
- Bar-B-Que and special events
- Membership
- Sargent at arms/safety
- Set up/tear down
- Sunshine and flowers

Please consider helping out.

All have Chairpersons but do need a few more folks to help.

If you need information, want to know what is involved, time needed or to volunteer, Please contact Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215

Membership Cards

Dear Members:

This is a reminder that within next couple of months you need to come see me at the back table for new membership cards as yours have expired.

If you have not already gotten the new one. its time for new id cards.

Also any new members that have 3 or more events and yet to receive their membership packet please come see Richard and let him know so he can get them to you.

we are looking for members who would like to volunteer for assisting the membership committee please contact Debbie (President) or Richard the membership Chairmen. *Thank you for your time .*

Richard. Your membership chairman

Don't forget that all activity sign up sheets are at the back table where you sign in.

If you are interested in any activities please sign up. Also if you are interested in volunteering too, we appreciate any and all help from members.

GPAA Gold and Treasure

Next years show is March 24th,25th,and 26th, 2016. At the Expo Center in Portland, Oregon. Jerry Johns and the Portland Chapter are taking the lead this year. Our chapter has made the following commitment so far. We are planning on having a booth again, we will help with set up, and tear down as well as provide show labor.

We need to try to get more vendors. Over the last 2 years we have signed up 14 vendors so they are off the table to us, they become GPAA vendors. We need to think outside the box on vendors. Would you visit their booth at the gold show? Sign 'em up. You can contact me for help if you need it.

We also need to grow our Chapter sponsors as well.

Las Vegas Summit

Interested in attending the Las Vegas Summit? Want to help out at the Las Vegas Show?

Please contact Debbie 360-695-3215. Dates are April 21-23 2017. There is limited space at the summit.

I have been asked to teach a class and present our our new member packet again. Randy Harper has been asked to speak again but we are not sure if he will be able to attend. The planned Host hotel is South Point.

About our Sponsor

Designs of All Kinds (DOAK)
6400 NE Highway 99 Suite C
Vancouver, Wa 98665
360-892-5597 ext. 103 Luella
hrs. M. 8:30 -5, t-f 8-5 sat 10-2 pick up only

This is a business that specializes in embroidery, screen printing banners and posters. They also do wraps, cars, trucks, trailers, etc. They sell work wear including t-shirts, jackets, hats, sweat shirts, work vests. Much of the work wear can be used in mining. They also can help you in designing a logo and provided ideas on special orders.

This is a family owned business with 10 full time employees. They have been in business for 17 years and just moved to their new location this year. They have been our chapters sponsor for 3+ years. Part of their sponsorship has included providing us with t shirts and banners for SWWGP at the GPAA Gold and Treasure Shows.

Owner Mike Hertz tells me that they have enjoyed our business relationship. Because of our association they have established business relationships with other clubs and organizations connected to our members. Including new business and with the GPAA, and on a national level too.

They have become members of SWWGP because of the friendly and caring environment shown by our membership. They have been able to enjoy and participate in special events, outings, and trips with our membership.

A 10% discount is extended to all SWWGP members on their purchases, just present your Chapter membership card.

When Mike and others were asked if they would recommend to others to consider sponsoring SWWGP , they said they would encourage other to do so. They are very happy with what we do.

Stop by and say "hi".

Committees

Assistants and Committee Members:

We need some assistants and/or committee members for the following, T-shirts, Chapter Store, Membership, Library, Sunshine bereavement (part of the Sunshine committee) Outings, Awards, Adopt a high way, and many more.

Most of these already have a chairperson. This is a great opportunity to get involved, give a little bit of you time helping out.

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions please contact Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215 or ddwitcher@yahoo.com

Outings Committee

We need volunteers for our outings committee. You will need to come up with ideas for outings. What are you interested in doing, seeing? Others may be too. We need suggestions for day trips, local and otherwise, week-end trips, etc..

Here are a few of the things we did this year: Whites metal detectors, beach mining, polka dot agate and Richards rock ranch, Roaring Camp, Daybreak, Lewisville, copper creek.

Please sign up and or give suggestions. Lets get our calendar started for next year.

Library:

We are in need of a new Librarian

For those of you who may not know we have a Chapter library. It contains books, magazines, DVD's, etc. Once you are a member you are entitled to check out materials for up to 30 days. You need to sign the log book with your information and what you are borrowing. Please do not keep the materials longer than 30 days so someone else can borrow it.

We currently have materials that have been checked out since April as well as missing materials. This is an honor system so please do not put our librarian in the position of having to call you to bring the materials back.

Our librarian is Dave Conti so if you have any questions or want to donate something to the library please contact him.360-256-0892 or user764554@aol.com

Sunshine

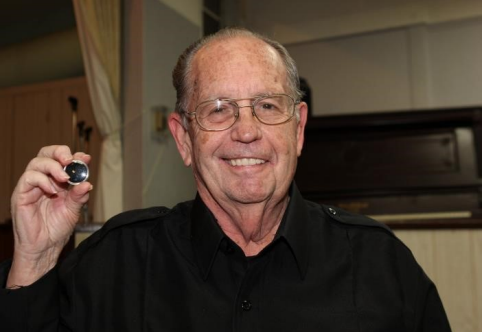
We need approx. 4 people to assist our Sunshine chairperson Pat Staat.

Please let me know if you are willing to help out. It is important to call Pat at 360-798-9499, or e-mail her at healingsprings@centurylink.net, or let Debbie Witcher know at 360-695-3215, ddwitcher@yohoo.com if you know of a member who is in the hospital, has been injured, has had a death or birth in the family.

Please let us know right away. We would like to send out a card from the chapter but we do need their address.

This is another reason to make sure we have updated information.

SWWGP November Meeting



November 2016 SWWGP General Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:23

Had two special drawings, one for veterans and one for everyone
6 guests

Secretary minutes were read and passed

Treasurer report was read and passed

No new nominations were made for the election

Jeff Woolridge was elected to the VP position

Ken Didier was re-elected to the treasurer

Board members were elected

Tom reported on the Threats to the west report, He also recommended that we adopt a prospecting policy to dry and clean all equipment after each use.

A sign up sheet was provided for the Christmas dinner

A sign up sheet was provided for sunshine help

A sign up sheet was provided for sergeant at arms

A sign up sheet was provided for the upcoming gold show

Gold show t-shirts will be 5.00 and they will be used for entry to the show

Jim reported on the success of the Harvest Fair gold panning

The board voted to donate 75.00 of the Harvest Fair proceeds to the hosting church.

The board is preparing a phone tree in case of bad weather

A sign up sheet was provided for those interested in being part of the chapter phone book

The chapter is providing a donation point for collecting food, clothing etc..

The board voted to have a raffle to be held at the gold show, tickets will be available for all chapter members to purchase and sell along with show tickets.

April 21-23 will be the Las Vegas gold show let Debbie know if you are interested in volunteering

Bill Adams will be the new educational chair.

A yearly fire drill was conducted.

Next meeting at 2 o'clock on January 8th, 2017

MID VALLEY PROSPECTORS



MID-VALLEY PROSPECTORS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Roy Houtz 541-990-1148

Vice President Brian Rinehart

Secretary/Treasurer Art Waugh

Equipment Manager Wendy Houtz 541-990-6214

State Director (WA,OR) (Appointed by GPAA)

Steve Lewin 971-212-5996 goldpan123@yahoo.com

All e-mail should be directed to midvalleyprospectors@yahoo.com

2016 Calendar of Activities

August 2016

01 — Outing Lewisville Park

12-15 — Outing Yellow Jacket Creek
Randle WA

20— Polka Dot Rock and Jem Trip

September 2016

11th—Nominations open for Vice President,
Treasurer, and 9 Board Positions

05 — Labor Day Outing with Brownsville/Mid
Valley chapter

October 2016

9th—Nominations open for Vice President,
Treasurer, and 9 Board Positions

November 2016

11 — Veterans Day

13th—VP / Treasurer / Board elections

24 — Thanksgiving Day

December 2016

GPAA Oregon/Washington Chapters

Auburn — Auburn Green River Valley Gold Prospectors — 3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm. River Estates Club House, 3611 I St NE, Auburn, WA (253-833-2255)

Bremerton — Western Washington Prospectors 2nd Saturday, 1:00 pm., Elm Lutheran Church, 5911 E Hillcrest Dr., Port Orchard, WA (360-830-4613)

Brownsville — Mid Valley Prospectors — 1st Sunday, 1:30 pm. Brownsville Fire Department, 600 E Blakely Ave, Brownsville, OR (541-990-5148)

Everett— Everett Gold Prospectors 2nd Friday, 7:00 pm., Silver Lake-Alfy's Pizza, 9620 19th Ave, Everett, WA

Longview — Fire Mountain Prospectors — 3rd Saturday, 10:00 am., Bob's Sporting Goods, 1111 Hudson St., Longview, WA (360-274-3396)

Portland — Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc. 3rd Sunday, 12:00 pm., Milwaukie Grange, 12015 SE 22nd, Milwaukie, OR (503-258-8553)

Vancouver — Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors — 2nd Sunday, 2:00 pm. Minnehaha Grange 4905 NE St Johns Road, Vancouver, WA (360-695-3215)

2016 Oregon/Washington Rock & Mineral Shows

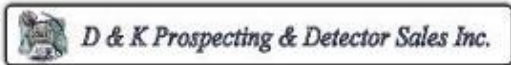
You can view a complete list of the 2016 Rock & Mineral Shows listed for Oregon and Washington by visiting the websites below:
OREGON — <http://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=OR>
WASHINGTON — <http://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=WA>

December 2016

10-11—EDMONDS, WASHINGTON: 5th Annual Winter Bazaar; Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse; 8802 196th St. SW; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-6; Free Admission

30-1—HILLSBORO, OREGON: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Washington County Fairgrounds; 873 NE 34th Ave; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission: \$7 weekend pass, Children free (ages 0-11); Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, minerals & much more at manufacturer's prices. Exhibitors from around the world. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes. ; contact Yooy Nelson, (503)-252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: <http://www.gemfaire.com>

Thanks to these companies for supporting our activities. Members may advertise free by submitting a business card.



13809 Se Division Street - Portland, Oregon 97236 - 503-761-1521 Or 800-542-4653
www.dk-nugget.com



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Portland, OR 97242
Visit us at
<http://www.oretrails.org/>



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Dallesport, WA 98617
541-340-0931

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Bob@nwdetectors.com
7905 SW Elmwood St. Tigard, OR

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ruthentprises1@comcast.net Call 503-348-5271

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Cell (503) 415-0816

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