



Letter from the President

Another year end is fast approaching. We are all busy people but lets stop a moment and reflect on this last year and be thankful for what we have.
We remember those we have lost and welcome those who are new into our lives. We are a very active and strong Chapter with lots to come. With all the negatives out there it is nice to know that even though we don't always agree with each other we do respect each other., after all isn't that what "family" does.
I am looking forward to the Chapter elections and getting ready for our holiday season.



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 you 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.

Please be sure to sign up and let us know what you would like to bring. Not sure....we can tell you what is needed.

The Chapter will provide the meats and beverages. Please let Jeanne Gieg 360-673-3179 or Maurine Koppi 360-254-9309 know what you are bringing if you can't sign up at the Nov. meeting.

Also, we need to have a sign up sheet to help set up and clean up. Any questions call Jeanne.

Outing Ideas

Have an idea for an outing? Trip? Special event? Etc. Call Steve Lewin 971-212-5996 or Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215

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 cancelation 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 coarse 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	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.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	dalelongsmailgmail.com
	Richard Pluff jr	503-957-6884	naliedragon1956@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		magiedragon1957@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

Free to good home
2 large dog igloos
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 Cooperage,
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.



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

Gold Drawing at the Nov. Meeting

I wanted you to say in the that everyone who attends the November meeting 18 years old and older will receive a ticket to win Gold. I hope this will encourage people to attend the meeting and vote for their officers and board members.

By the way,
the Gold is from my collection and not club gold.

Thank You Steve Lewin

Club Name Tags

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 includes up to 2 lines of engraving.
Questions?
Contact David Conti

User764554@aol.com
360-256-0892



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 outdoors.

Become a member of the Southwest 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 President,

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

GOLD SHOW MEETING

We held our joint gold show meeting on Sun. Oct. 30, 2016 at Nayhely's Place restaurant.

A quick summery of what was discussed.

We will ask celebrities to again join us at the show and will offer to pay for their rooms.

We will have a meet and greet gathering again on the Friday night set up. Bev and her husband from the Portland Chapter have offered to fund the meet and greet up to \$1000. When you see them be sure to let them know how much their donation is appreciated.

We will again have special show t-shirts this year but we will be paying \$5 for each shirt. Be sure to sign up to help so we can get a correct count on the shirts. The shirts are also you entrance into the gold show.

We are creating a vendor package to help everyone to encourage vendors to sign up for the show. Also we will be signing up sponsors. It is important to remember that they are sponsoring our Chapter and NOT the gold show.

We have sponsors who are returning to us again this year. As of today I have a commitment from Chinook Winds and McCords Toyota RV.

We will be doing the pet and people food drive again this year. This will go to help folks in Clark Co.

Carol Brown is working on a Poster/flyer for us. We have some questions for the GPAA and will keep you informed.

I will let you know what day our next meeting is.

All meeting are open to all members. If you have questions and/or suggestions please call me.

We can use some help with the behind the scenes planning and tasks for our Chapter as well as the show.

Lots of ideas are in the pipeline so get involved we can use your help.

Debbie W. 695-3215

HARVEST FAIR

The Harvest Fair was a success even though it had to be postponed for a week due to the bad weather.

Jim Erickson was in charge of the event for our Chapter and did an excellent job. There were ten of us who participated by teaching panning, collecting tickets, handing out information on our chapter not to mention the set up and tear down.

A lot of folks who attended this event told us that they came to learn to pan and find out about our Chapter. Ken Didier brought some of his gold to show folks what they can find. I also connected with some of the vendors who are interested in participating in Future Gold and Treasure Shows.

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

Elections

We will be voting for Vice President, Treasurer, and all nine board members at the Nov. Meeting. All officers and board members must be in good standing with the GPAA/LDMA and our Chapter. The same is true of those who are voting. Please bring you GPAA/LDMA card, etc. so you can have the ballots.

Vice President:

Treasurer:

Board of Directors

All nine positions are being re-elected, 4 to serve for one year, and 5 to serve for 2 yrs, then we will elect for 2 year terms.

Jeanne Geig
Dale Long
Daniel Kesse
Rick Beehler
Richard Pluff Jr.
Robert (Bob) Brown
Jim Erickson
(these are current board members)
Ken Watson
Steve Lewin (retiring Vice President)

Nominations will remain open thru the start of the Nov. 2016 meeting and be able and willing to attend all board and general meetings and accept the nomination.

If you are interested please contact Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215 or ddwithcer@yahoo.com

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.

The Answer Spot

Do you have a question on how to properly operate equipment, what to look for when prospecting, what kind of rock is this, how do I sell my gold, how to dredge, beach prospecting, what is a power sluice or highbanker, what kind of equipment do I need to start prospecting or pretty much anything else you would like information on.

Just submit your question to swwgpanews@gmail.com or if you don't have email call Mark at 360-609-6813 and we will find an expert and get an answer. Questions and responses will be published in future newsletters for all to enjoy.

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, Secretary, 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:

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

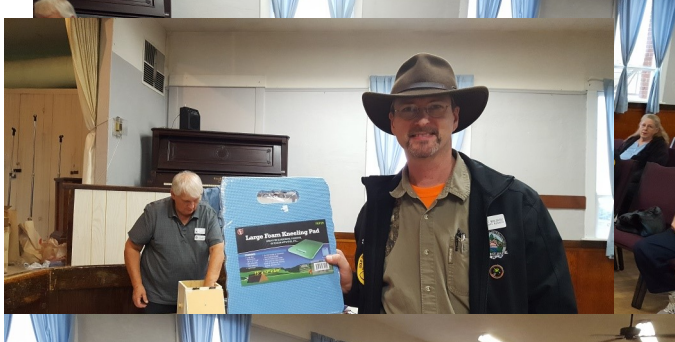
We need approx. 4 people to assist our Sunshine chairperson Pat Staat.

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@yahoo.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 October Meeting



October 2016 SWWGP General Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:10 by President Debbie Witcher.
Minutes from our Sept. 2016 meeting and approved with no additions or corrections.
Treasurers report For Sept. 2016 was given and approved with no additions or corrections.
There was a Gold Show committee sign up sheet provided for volunteers
Newsletter update. A buy sell trade section and committee corner was added. Please check your spam filter or folder if your information provided is correct on the sign in sheets and you are not receiving emails.
The Chapter web page contact information has been updated for future administration
Safety report on Hunting Safety and Flu season
Awards committee will be chaired by Steve, Ken, and Richard to set up chapter awards process
Reinstatement of our 501c3 classification
Budget was reviewed by line items
Motion: A motion was made to resend the approved prior motion to provide 50,00 per sunshine incident
Motion: A motion was made and approved to allow 300.00 per year for the sunshine committee to use for cards and gifts.
Harvest Fair volunteers required for panning demonstration
Picnic date has been set for July 16th 2017
Outings: a request was made for ideas for at least 2 outings per month
Chapter nominations are open through the Nov. meeting for VP,, Treasurer, and Board Members
The Cape Disappointment Beach outing was cancelled due to the weather
A Christmas dinner sign up sheet has been provided
Betty and Norm reported out on their Team Endeavor camp involvement
Volunteers are needed for Sargent at arms for outings and meeting set up.

Next meeting at 2 o'clock on Dec. 11th, 2016

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>

November 2016

11-13—PUYALLUP, WASHINGTON: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Washington State Fair Event Center; 110 9th Ave SW; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$7 weekend pass, Children 11 and under free; Web site: <http://www.gemfaire.com>

12-13—SEDRO WOOLLEY, WASHINGTON: ; Skagit Rock and Gem Club, Sedro Woolley Community Center; 703 Pacific St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission;

12-13—EDMONDS, WASHINGTON: Annual Fall Show; Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, Maplewood Club House; 8802 196th Street SW; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission Web site: www.Maplewoodrockclub.com

18-20—PORTLAND, OREGON: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Oregon Convention Center; 777 NE MLK Jr Blvd; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$7 weekend pass, Children 11 and under free Web site: <http://www.gemfaire.com>

19-20—BREMERTON, WASHINGTON: Annual show; Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society, Bremerton Washington; 1200 NW Fairgrounds Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission Web site: www.kmgs.org

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

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

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