

South West Washington Gold Prospectors Oct. 2016 Newsletter

Letter from the President

Fall is definitely here. It is the time of year for our elections, forming new committees, staffing existing ones, passing next years budget, getting organized for the Holiday dinner, filling next years calendar with fun and informational events. We have had a few bumps in the road but we have dealt with them and become a stronger and better Chapter for it. Everyone one of you should feel proud of all that we have accomplished as a team. We have lots to do and a great team to work with. Plenty of fun on the horizon. See you at the next meeting.

Your President,
Debbie Witcher



Membership Committee

Membership Cards

Dear Members:

This is a reminder that within next couple of weeks 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.

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

Outing Ideas

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

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.

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			

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.



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



Sample

Buy, Sell, Trade

Have something to sell or give away? Looking for something to buy? List it here:

This is a free service to our Chapter members. Just remember to take precautions as this information is available to others. Call Mark Matilla at 360-609-6813 or chipper49@outlook.com

I have a brand new Double barrel Lot-O vibrating tumbler for sale, still in the box,, Brand New sells for \$299 online at <http://www.therockshed.com/>



\$260 to members of the GPAA or SWWGP

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Rick Beehler <rickbeehler@ymail.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 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

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

Beach Outing at Cape Disappointment

Our beach outing is scheduled for Oct. 15 and 16, 2016.

Rodney Chavez is the leader for this event. You can camp there with reservations or there are several motels/hotels in the area within 5 miles of the Cape.

Rodney is coordinating with some other Chapters and clubs to do a joint event. He would like to do a pot luck Sat. night. We will have more information for you at the Oct. meeting. If you have questions etc. please contact Rodney Chavez: 1-503-531-2770 or sonokid503@yahoo.com

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

Harvest Fair:

This year we will be participating in a community Harvest Fair which is being sponsored by the Faith Center, a local church. It is a western theme.

Our chapter will be teaching panning and letting folks know about our chapter. We need several people to help out with our booth. The event is Sun. Oct. 16, 2016 from 2:00-5:00. We will need folks from 1:00-6:00 which will include our booth set up and tear down. The event is being advertised and will include a mechanical bull ride, pumpkin cannon, car bash, a band and much more. The address is 10702 N.E. 117th in Vancouver, close to the rodeo grounds. We are in need of volunteers and will need someone to be in charge of our booth for this event.

This will also be the week-end that many of us are at Cape Disappointment so we really do need your help. This is a fund raiser for our chapter. Please contact me if you can help out or would like to take the lead on this one. Should be a lot of fun.

Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215 <tel:360-695-3215>

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

Gold Bags

We will have gold bags at the next meeting.
We are trying something new. Steve Lewin will be making up special bags as well as we are planning to have the small gold bags from Roaring Camp.

Want a \$50 or \$100 bag? Talk to Steve
Steve Lewin 1-971-212-5996 goldpan123@yahoo.com

Nominations

Nominations are now open for the following positions and there is a list of those who have agreed to serve :

Vice President: Jeff Wooldridge

Treasurer: Ken Didier

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 Kessee
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
All executive officers and board members must be current and in good standing with the GPAA/LDMA. 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

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.

This is a joint venture between Portland, Brownsville and the Vancouver chapters to host the GPAA Gold and Treasure Show. Please help Jerry to lead all of us toward another successful show. Remember just because it is being held in Portland does not make it a Portland show it is all of ours. We need to do our part, so please volunteer as we will all benefit.

This is a great opportunity provided to us by the GPAA.

Sept. Barbeque

Our Barbeque was a great success. We had lots of good food. Our thanks to Bill Adams who volunteered to be the cook and barbeque the hot dogs and hamburgers for us. Everyone enjoyed the equipment demo also. We will do this again in the good weather.

Bi-Laws

We want to thank our bi-laws committee for all the time and effort they spent working on our bi-laws. It was a lot of hard work and you all have our thanks. The bi-laws were passed at the Sept. Chapter meeting and will go into effect on Nov.1,2016

Budget:

We are currently working on the budget for 2017 and it will be available to vote on at the Oct. meeting.

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.

SWWGP Beach Mining and Sept. Meeting



Sept. 2016 SWWGP General Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:15 by President Debbie Witcher.

After the pledge we observed a moment of silence in respect for the 9-11 victims.

Board members and officers excused were Jeff Wooldridge and Mark Matilla. Matt Barner was not excused.

Richard Pluff Jr. will be acting Sec. and taking notes.

We had a short announcement and discussion our non-profit status.

Minutes from our Aug. 2016 meeting and approved with no additions or corrections.

Treasurers report For Aug. 2016 was given and approved with no additions or corrections.

Motion made and passed to approve our re-instatement fee of \$275. All present were in agreement.

Treasurer will have an assistant, Patti Long volunteered to fill that position, and Mark Matilla will give them back-up.

We would like to have an assistant Sec. Richard Pluff Jr. will give them back-up.

Bi-laws were discussed and passed as presented with the addition of the proposed change of moving

The job of filling out IRS tax forms to the Sec. Will stay with the treasurer where that responsibility has been in all previous bi-laws. Also all bi-laws and paperwork must be dated.

Richard Pluff Jr. and Ken Didier have volunteered to come up with an awards program that will recognize our Chapter members for outstanding service. This program is to be introduced for a vote etc. at the Oct. Board meeting and then at the general meeting.

Nominations are open for Treasurer, Vice-President, all nine board positions. All board positions are to be reelected this year to put us in compliance with our bi-laws. Four members will serve for one year, and 5 members will serve for 2yrs. Thereafter all board members will be 2 yr terms alternately.

Nominations are open until the beginning of the Nov. 2016 meeting just prior to voting.

Motion was made and passed to allow the holiday dinner committee to have a \$500 budget.

Motion was made and passed to let Steve Lewin make up special gold bags.

Motion made and passed to purchase more bags of dirt from Roaring Camp. We will purchase 50 bags and have them available at the Oct. meeting.

A report was given on the polka dot agate mine and Richardson rock ranch outing. We will have this outing again next year.

All special raffles and applications are on hold until further notice.

Rodney Chavez gave a report on the Cape Disappointment beach mining outing scheduled for Oct. 14-16, 2016. He let us know where we can camp, help with beach clean up, and beach mining. He would like to have a pot luck on Sat the 15th. We will have more details at the Oct. meeting

We discussed the GPAA Gold show planning meeting. We were asked if anyone wanted to attend a meeting at 9 AM. There was a resounding No.

Debbie reminded everyone who is going to the AKAU lodge trip next year that there is a payment due.

Education opportunity:

We had various equipment demos outside after the raffle. Bar-b-que was to be held after the raffle. Bill Adams volunteered to cook.

Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting at 2 o'clock on Oct. 9, 2016

Submitted by acting Sec. Richard Pluff Jr.

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>

October 2016

22-23—BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON: Annual show; Bellevue Rock Club, Vasa Park; 3560 West Lake Sammamish Pkwy SE; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission; contact Bruce Himko, PO Box 1851, Bellevue, WA 98009-1851; e-mail: bellevuerockclub@comcast.net

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

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