

South West Washington Gold Prospectors Newsletter January 2019



Presidents Message

A new year has started and as we look back at 2018 we can all be proud of the progress and accomplishments our club has made.

Looking forward we are already working on our outing and education schedules. We do need your suggestions for both.

We are starting 2019 with an outing at Cape Disappointment on Jan. 19th which is a Sat.

Thanks to Rick Beehler for setting this up and taking the lead.

I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year with many more to come!

See you all at our meeting on Sunday Jan. 13th.

Debbie Witcher



Everyone is welcome to our next board and general meetings on Sunday January 13th.

Board meeting will start at 12:30 and the general meeting will start at 2:00.

Minnehaha Grange Hall #164
4905 Northeast St Johns Road
Vancouver, Washington

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.

For information contact:

Debbie Witcher – Chapter President,

ddwitcher@yahoo.com or

360-695-3215 or visit

www.swwgoldprospectors.org

Holiday Dinner

Just wanted to say A big “Thank You” to everyone who helped with the Holiday dinner. It was very organized, tables looked great and the food was very good. A good time was had by all.

A special thanks to Jeanne—she puts a lot of time and effort into these dinners and does a great job. Thanks Jeanne!



Cape Dissappointment

Rick Beehler 360-601-6855 is leading the beach outing for our club on Sat. Jan. 19th. There is a signup sheet at the membership table or you can contact Rick. This outing is dependent on the weather and again this is at the beach so do not turn your back on the ocean. Watch for sneaker waves.

Membership

When signing in for attendance please be sure to verify name, address, and phone number. If you are a current GPAA/ LDMA member be sure to give us your membership number. Let Mark know if you are not receiving chapter emails.

If you need an updated membership card be sure to let Edna know. Also we have medical cards available.

Edna Nelson 503-307-0852
rockhounstoo1966@yahoo.com



Committee Updates

- Membership:** See Edna if you have 3 meetings or outings for your membership or card renewal
- Store:** See Dennis for any special orders
- Historian:** No update
- Sunshine:** Anne is back
- Raffle:** No update
- Outings:** No update
- Education:** Short summery on incremental feeding and correct way to set up a high banker
- Safety:** Winter driving safety
- State Director:** No update
- Equipment:** Please be sure to clean the equipment before returning
- Name Tags:** A total of 6 people ordered and recieved name tags in the early part of 2018 before we had the Gold and Treasure show.
From July-December 2018, 9 people have requested name tags that are currently on order.
- Library:** At the 2018 Gold and Treasure Show, It was requested that I do some shopping for new books and or material for the club library. As a result, 5 brand new books and 1 map was added to the club library. There were also a few donation's to the library from some of our club members so a big thank you for that.

Gold Show Tickets

Tickets are available. Pre show tickets are \$5.00 each and \$10.00 the day of the show.

We make \$2.50 for each ticket we sell. This money goes to help support the chapter and is a good deal for those ticket holders. Tickets at the door are \$10 so they save \$5 by buying pre- sale.



Equipment and Library

All current club members are able to check out equipment and library items. See Don Spellman for equipment. You are able to keep these items for up to 1 month. You can always return them early if you want to, but please do not keep them longer. Often there is someone waiting to check these items

Outings and Education

We need your suggestions for both education topics and outings. You can even lead an outing, it's painless!



December 2018 Meeting Minutes

- Meeting called to order at 2:10
- 1 guest was in attendance
- Secretary minutes were read, a motion to accept was made and passed
- Treasurers report was read, a motion to accept was made and passed
- State director updates, GPAA has updated their web site and Steve is working with Kevin to organize larger outings
- Membership—See Edna for your membership packet if you have not received one yet
- Make sure your email and phone number is correct due to winter weather coming up
- Ron did a safety presentation on materials to use to start a fire
- Debbie is working with the local police to provide an active shooter training
- Colorado pay dirt is available
- Dave reported on his time in Alaska and donated a spin off to the raffle
- Gold show tickets are available, See Patti
- There is a sign up sheet for working the 3/29-3/31 show, we also need your t shirt size
- There was a motion made to add a 6 ticket for \$5.00 purchase for the monthly raffle. Smaller quantities are still available for \$1.00 per ticket
- 16 people have signed up for the Roaring Camp outing May 19th—26th. There a still a few spots available
- We need to have enough people to sign up for the Albany Sportsman show by the January meeting in order to support them this year. The show is Feb. 10th and 11th.



Chapter General Store

Check out our club store. Items are sold at a discount so you get some good savings. Proceeds go to support the club.

Gold pans

Scoop Spoon

Classifier base and different size screen inserts

Mini sluice

Black sand magnet

Mini starter kit

Snuffer bottles

Gold panning starter kits

Tom and Perry cleanup kits

Classifier bundles

Stuffed Donkey

George Buzzard Massie founders coin

GPAA window decals, Patches, Bumper stickers

Jack Swick's river rocker plans



If you want something you don't see, ask Dennis W. and he will see what he can do.



Albany Sportsman Show

Many of our club members voted to go to the Albany sportsman show on a regular basis but we only have 3 people signed up for Sat. and 1 for Sunday. As you know this is not near enough to participate in this event. We need to have min. 10 folks each day. If we do not have enough will to take part in this show we will cancel our participation.

GPAA Memberships

Remember if you are not currently a GPAA member to take advantage of all the benefits available to GPAA members and join or renew your membership. We have kits on display on the stage at the meeting. Consider joining the GPAA and taking advantage of all the benefits they have to offer.



Not digging deep enough

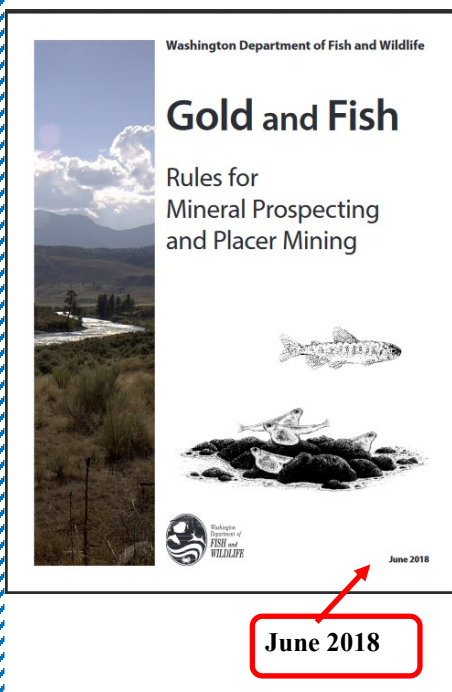
People new (and sometimes not so new) to prospecting can spend their effort by scooping up material from the surface of the river bank. Gold is heavy - it will sink to the lowest possible point over time. Most gold may be found on top of the bedrock of the river. Concentrate your efforts on working the material just above the hard pack or bedrock. Ignore the loose material on top - this is just "overburden" and likely contains little to no gold. Now, some gold may be found in the loose top material but it is surely far less than what can be found deeper. (Note: the reverse may be true just after flood season when the gold may be churned up and moved closer to the surface. Over time though this gold too will also sink lower.)

Consider the following: any gold found in the top layers of material will likely be fairly new gold - gold that has just been deposited. Now imagine hundreds perhaps thousands of years where Mother Nature has worked its magic through breaking down tons of rocks and minerals and depositing gold throughout the river bed. Over time, gold, being heavy, will sink through the lighter top material and concentrate near the bottom of the river bed - just on top of the bedrock. Get down to this bedrock and be rewarded. If digging a hole down to bedrock is impractical due to depth or is just not your style, you can still be very productive. Try crevicing or sniping for gold. Look for cracks in the bedrock where gold may have become lodged. Use small hand tools such as garden trowels, flat head screw drivers, dental picks, and scrapers to remove material from these areas and pan this material out. (See other tips for more on crevicing and sniping for gold).



Does your Gold and Fish book look like this? If not you have the wrong one.

You can download and print the updated copy at:
<https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/mining/>



AKAU Lodge Winner

The winner of the raffle trip at AKAU Lodge in Nome, Alaska is BOB KLINE-FELTER. Have fun and thank you for supporting the raffle. Thanks to all who purchased tickets.



Sunshine

Please let Ann Erickson know of anyone who might be under the weather, in the hospital ,or just need a feel good card. Remember to let us know of anyone with a new addition to there family as well.

aerickson@q.com

Roaring Camp

There is still space available for the roaring camp gold mining camp trip. Contact Debbie W. for info or with questions.

Think Like a Fish

Gold will usually settle in areas of low pressure, on inside bends of creeks and rivers, behind large boulders, and similar areas that are close to fast flowing water but in small pockets of slower flows. These are the same types of places where fish like to hang out. If you know where the fish hang out in a river, you've found an area that has good potential for gold.

FILE UPDATES

We are updating our files so please make sure we have correct info for you.



Gold Show Meeting Notes

Preston Griffin will be in charge of security for the show.

Jeanne will be in charge of food for both our club and Mid-Valley again this year.

Debbie W. will be in charge of shirts again, we will be deciding on the color at the next GS meeting.

The shirts will be \$5 each, designs of all kinds are donating the rest of the shirt cost and printing. Limit is 1 shirt per person.

We all need to try to add more vendors to the show. I have vendor packets if you need them. Contact me if you need help with that.

The group decided to only make \$600 available to be used towards securing celebs this year. That does not go very far between transportation and lodging. Debbie has contacted both the Mayor of Nome Alaska and Emily R. to see if we can work something out.

Waiting to hear back from them

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 \$8.00 for each tag that includes up to 2 lines of engraving.

Questions?

Contact David Conti

user764554@aol.com

360-256-0892

Buy Sell Trade

Have something to sell or give away? Looking for something to buy? This is a free service to our Chapter members.

Please send an email to Mark Mattila with the information and pictures at chipper49

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	Patti Long	503-320-3854	palong48@gmail.com
Board of Directors	(Elected)		
	Rick Beehler	360-601-6855	rickbeehler@ymail.com
	Jim Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Scott Long	503-754-0612	mthoodfire74@hotmail.com
	Tina Long		treasuretrove67@hotmail.com
	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
	Sandy Croonquist	503-661-5529	exetor1325@comcast.net
	Tammy Binford	360-449-2714	kaycbear99@gmail.com
Claims Chair	(Elected)		
	Preston Griffin	360-903-2054	griff11546@gmail.com
State Director (WA)	(Appointed by GPAA)		
	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Committees / Chairs	Appointed by chapter President		
Education	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
Equipment Manager	Don Spillman	360-773-8708	Golddigger357@outlook.com
Fundraising Coordinator	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Assistant	Jim Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
Hospitality	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Leigh Anne Chavez	503-531-2770	ohwell1956@yahoo.com
Picnic, Holiday Dinner	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Librarian	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Membership	Edna Nelsom	503-307-0852	rockhoundstoo1966@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Outing Coordinator	Scott Long	503-754-0612	mthoodfire74@hotmail.com
Safety Officer	Ron Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Steve Keesee	360-269-2341	None
	Norm Erickson	503-801-1452	None
	Betty Erickson	503-801-1452	bettyerickson13@yahoo.com
Sargent at Arms	Daniel Keesee	360-269-2341	None
	Bob Brown	360-576-0213	photogal01@comcast.net
	Jeff Wooldridge	360-694-7557	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Sunshine	Anne Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
T-Shirts	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Webmaster	Dennis Clevenger	360-281-6338	dennisc@pacifier.com
Historian	Jeff Wooldridge	360-694-7557	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Assistant	Deborah Lee	360-624-6565	deborah35@me.com
Gold Buyer	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.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.

GPAA Points	Bob Brown	360-576-0213	photogal01@comcast.net
Name Tags	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Awards	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Picnic and Holiday Dinner	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Leigh Anne Chavez	503-531-2770	ohwell1956@yahoo.com
Facebook	Rick Beehler	360-601-6855	rickbeehler@ymail.com
Assistant	Richard Pluff jr	503-957-6884	magicdragon1956@hotmail.com
Raffle	Jim Erickson	3602603225	aerickson@q.com
Assistant	Jeff Wooldridge	360-694-7557	harmonicaJeff@msn.com
Chapter Store	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com

Links

Website: www.SWWGoldProspectors.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SWwashingtonGoldProspectors>

Gold and Fish Book: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/mining/>

HPA Rulemaking web page: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/hpa/rulemaking/>



Spring will be here before we know it so lets start planning those outings.



Name Tags are Here

People who have ordered name tags need to pay for them at the next meeting and pick them up at the sign in table

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

Ron Farnsworth Scrap Metal Pickup 360-896-7220	Topside Mining	Northwest Detector Sales 503-936-1443
9 Cent Color Copies 360-896-7220	Creekside Prospecting	Roaring Camp 209 296-4100
Whites Metal Detectors 1-800-547-6911	Armadillo Mining	Spin it Off
Chinook Winds Casino & Resort	Fossickers	Thrive Life
Quick Badge	Danas classic Flowers and Gifts	McCord's Vancouver Toyota
Danner Boots 877-432-6637	Danas Classic Hair Supply	AKAU Lodge 760-500-1329
Lost Adams 541-340-0931	Packwood Prospecting and Mining Supply	American Mining Supply
Designs of all kinds 360-892-5597	Nayhely's Place 360-571-7088	The Gold Lab
Gold Getter	Wilson Brothers	Avon Products—Bug Guard 971-212-5996
AAA Precious Metals 503-253-8591	Sportsman's Warehouse 360 604-8000	Oregon Treasure Trail Society
Pro Caliber 360-892-3030		

Please support these vendors as they support us with contributions and in many cases discounts. We will be doing interviews with many of them so we can get to know a little more about them.

	Scheduled Events
1/13/19	Board 12:30 and Chapter 2:00 meetings
1/19	Cape Disappointment Prospecting
2/10/19	Board 12:30 and Chapter 2:00 meetings
TBD	Copper Creek Outing