

Newsletter



South West Washington Gold Prospectors June 2019

Presidents Message

We are having a plaque made to honor those members who have passed on.

I have started a list of those members, but I need your help to make sure everyone's name is on it. The list is at the membership table, please look it over and add to it anyone who is missing. This plaque will be displayed at our membership table at each meeting. Our members may be gone from us but they are not forgotten. See you at the meeting !!!



CCS OFFICER PRESENTATION

We are expecting the Clark County Sherriff's office to have representatives at our meeting to present the Run, Fight, Hide program. Given many of the things going on in the country today this is appropriate information for us to have. This should start at 3 p.m. and with a question and answer period should last about 1-1 1/2 hr. We will have a shortened meeting and our raffle prior to the presentation. Please bring any appropriate questions you may have.

Everyone is welcome to our next board and general meetings on Sunday May 12th.

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

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!

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

For information contact:
Debbie Witcher – Chapter President,
ddwitcher@yahoo.com or 360-695-3215 or
visit www.swwgoldprospectors.org

Gold in the Pacific Northwest

The discovery of gold in California in 1848 sent would-be millionaires on a quest for treasure throughout the West. By 1900, major strikes had been made in Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Alaska, and western Canada. Although prospectors found relatively little gold within the borders of what is now Washington state, their very presence, as they rushed from one rumored bonanza to another, created new patterns of transportation, settlement, and commerce.

Miners traveling to gold fields on tributaries of the upper Columbia River in the 1850s stimulated development along the lower Columbia. Walla Walla was the largest town in Washington in the 1860s and 1870s because of its position as a supply center for mines in north central and southern Idaho. Spokane boomed as a result of discoveries in northern Idaho in the 1880s. The Klondike Gold Rush of 1897 yanked Seattle out of a recession and transformed both the city's infrastructure and character. Gold rushes were defining events not only for the places where the gold was found, but for the places the miners passed through in search of gold.



ROARING CAMP

Our trip to Roaring Camp was definitely an adventure for those who attended. The first 2 days we had over 8 1/2 inches of rain in less than 48 hrs., breaking a record that dated back to 1829? As you might expect everything was muddy and a lot of flooding and high water. We also had snow, hail, thunder and lightning, some wind, and yes a couple of sunny days. Despite the weather we were able to mine and process dirt. Most everyone got some gold. There were 20 of us including the day visitors. The Sat night dinner was dry and the food was great. Many have signed up for a return trip next year. And since it normally does not rain this time of the year, hopefully the weather will be nice.

OUTINGS AND EDUCATION

Have an idea for an outing and/or education?

Contact Scott Long for outings or contact Preston Griffin for Education. As always you can contact Pres. Debbie W. with anything. Now is the time to speak up for what you would like to do and learn.

PICNIC

The picnic is scheduled for July 14th, at Lewisville park, Dogwood shelter. Set up will start at 9 a.m. Remember there is a small parking fee. We will have our board meeting at 11 a.m., the correct time is 11 a.m. not some of the times previously announced. The board meeting as always is open to all. We will not have a general meeting, but will have our raffle and any needed announcements. We will draw for our 3 month raffle, play games, etc.

The Chapter will provide the meat, buns, dinnerware, coffee and condiments.

Please bring your favorite dish, a bag of ice and your beverage.

Our own “chef Jeff” will again be barbequing for us.

There is a sign-up sheet at the membership table, so please let us know how many will be attending, the number of young ones, so Jeanne can know how many to purchase meat and supplies for.

Bring your friends and family, mining opportunities, fun, and food for all.

3 MONTH RAFFLE

Raffle tickets are available at this month’s meeting as well as the picnic. The prizes are: gold, a trip to Chinook winds overnight stay, dinner, and show tickets for 2, and a beautiful sea glass necklace and earrings from Nome, Alaska. This is a one of a kind set.

It has been proposed that we change the May meeting date. As you are aware, the 2nd Sunday of the month is our general meeting and Mother’s day.

We will vote on a possible change at the June meeting. Here are some options: move the meeting to the 3rd Sunday, keeping the meeting as is on the 2nd Sunday, cancel the meeting. If you have any other suggestions we need to discuss them and then vote.



DADS DRAWING

There will be a special drawing for dads in honor of Father’s day at this meeting.

RAFFLE TICKETS

Remember all raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.



AKAU lodge has some specials for you. Contact Debbie for discount information.

All That Glitters

Myths and rumors about gold on Washington State's Olympic Peninsula have sparked the imaginations of curious treasure hunters for centuries. The search for gilded treasures hidden in its primeval forests and coastal coves began with the lore of British pirates and Spanish Conquistadors. Many a campfire has slickered with tales of gold-laden galleons, knuckle sized nuggets, sunken safes and 24-carat beaches. The glint of the precious prize still spins its spell. Does the abandoned Ruby gold mine near Kalaloch hide secrets to tell? Does gold still sluice in the beach sands at Shi Shi, Ozette and Yellow Banks? When the S.S. Governor sank off Port Townsend, how much gold was in her safe?



Did Juan de Fuca really discover "gold, silver and pearls" as he claimed in the strait that bears his name?

Hydraulic Code Rule Change

Greetings!

The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted new suction dredge HPA rules effective November 1, 2019. Beginning November 1, suction dredgers will be required to obtain a standard written HPA prior to suction dredging in Washington, submit annual activity reports to WDFW, and follow provisions to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Application materials and instructions will be available later this summer.

Suction dredging is allowed under the Gold and Fish Pamphlet until November 1, 2019. Follow this link to download a copy of the [June 2018 version of the Gold and Fish pamphlet](#). An updated version of the pamphlet, removing references to suction dredging, will be available on the [mineral prospecting web page](#) later this summer for use beginning November 1.

Additional information is available on the [HPA Rule Making web page](#). For more information, please contact Randi Thurston at HPARules@dfw.wa.gov. Greetings!

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Additional information is available on the [HPA Rule Making web page](#). For more information, please contact Randi Thurston at HPARules@dfw.wa.gov. If you are not happy about this as I am not we need you to support Resources Coalition to help fight. New rules go into effect on Nov.1 and reporting starts Jan 1 2020. Donate what you can we have a goal to meet to stop this. We cannot do this with out the support of the mining community." Tom Fest

Whites Detector Outing

The outing to the Whites factory was canceled because there were only 2 people able to attend on that date. Myron is scheduling another date and he will announce that at this meeting. We must have at least 10-12 folks in attendance to do this.

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@outlook.com

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 their family as well.
aerickson@q.com

Club Name Tags



Any club members that would like a 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

LDMA OUTINGS

Debbie is working with the GPAA to set up outings at Burnt River and Scotts Bar.

Bob Brown will lead the Burnt River outing, Scott Long will lead the Scott's bar outing. We do not have dates set yet but need to know how many might be interested in each one. Dates will be announced soon.

AKAU LODGE

The lodge has extended issued a special offer to all members, family and friends for the rest of the year. Special prices to fill open dates.

I am working with the Portland and Mid-Valley chapters to do a joint outing at the lodge. We do not have a date for next year set yet, but should soon. If you are interested in going please sign up on the sheet, this does not obligate you just lets us know how many may be interested. There is special pricing for this one too. There are sheets on these offers at the membership table.

PICNIC

Remember that our picnic is coming up on July 14, 2019 our reg. meeting day. No reg. meeting, board meeting only at 11 o'clock. All are welcome at board meeting. Picnic set up starts at 9am. Picnic over at 5ish. Lewisville park, Dogwood shelter. There is a small parking fee. Signup sheet at membership table.

Snake River Invitational 2019

We have again been invited to the Snake River Invitational for 2019. This is an event one of our fellow GPAA chapter's hosts. It is scheduled for June 7-10, 2019, in Idaho. It does require pre-registration. Flyers are on the membership table. I have the registration forms etc. for anyone interested. Jenny Whitmore is in charge of this event. Eric Whitmore is the Idaho state director and both do an excellent job.

Executive Board	(Elected)		
President	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Vice President	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	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)		
	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
	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	503-754-0612	treasuretrove67@hotmail.com
	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
	Tammy Binford	360-449-2714	kaycbear99@gmail.com
	Edna Nelson	503-307-0852	rockhoustoo1966@yahoo.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 Coordi-	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 Din-	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	rockhound-
Newsletter	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Outing Coordinator	Scott Long	503-754-0612	mthoodfire74@hotmail.com
Safety Officer	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	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	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	magicdrag-
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

Chapter mailing address: 5400 NE Hwy 99 Ste. G Vancouver WA 98665

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/>

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

DAYBREAK OUTING

A Daybreak out is tentatively scheduled for June 15 or 16. We need to decide on a date and have an outing leader.

Thanks to these companies for supporting our activities.

Ron Farnsworth Scrap Metal Pickup 360-896-7220	Topside Mining Creekside Prospecting Armadillo Mining	Northwest Detector Sales 503-936-1443 Roaring Camp 209 296-4100 Spin it Off
Whites Metal Detectors 1-800-547-6911	Fossickers	Thrive Life
Chinook Winds Casino & Resort Quick Badge	Dana's 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

	Scheduled Events
Jun 7-10	Snake River Invitational
June 15th or 16th	Daybreak Outing
Jul 14	Picnic No regular meeting, Board meeting at 12:30