



Newsletter



South West Washington Gold Prospectors October 2019

Happy Halloween



Presidents Message

Lots going on this month. Elections, coat sorting, bus trip, gold show meeting, etc. Hopefully we will have good participation at all these activities. Fall is here and we all seem to get very busy. As a chapter we try to provide a lot for folks to take advantage of. Just want to remind everyone to update e-mail and phone numbers. If we have crummy weather a need to cancel a meeting or activity, we need to reach members asap. Please take a moment to do the updates, you can always call or email me with those update as well as change them at the membership table or with Mark.

See you at the meeting,
Debbie



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

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

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

For information contact:
Debbie Witcher – Chapter President,

New Suction dredging requirements: Individual HPA and annual reporting



Effective November 1, 2019, suction dredging will no longer be approved through the Gold and Fish pamphlet. New rules require that all types of suction dredging may only be conducted after prospectors are issued an individual HPA. Beginning 2021, suction dredgers must submit an annual report to WDFW documenting the previous years' suction dredging activities by February 1st. Preston is working with state biologists and we will be providing examples of how to fill out the required paperwork in the very near future.

Activities not approved through the Gold and Fish pamphlet

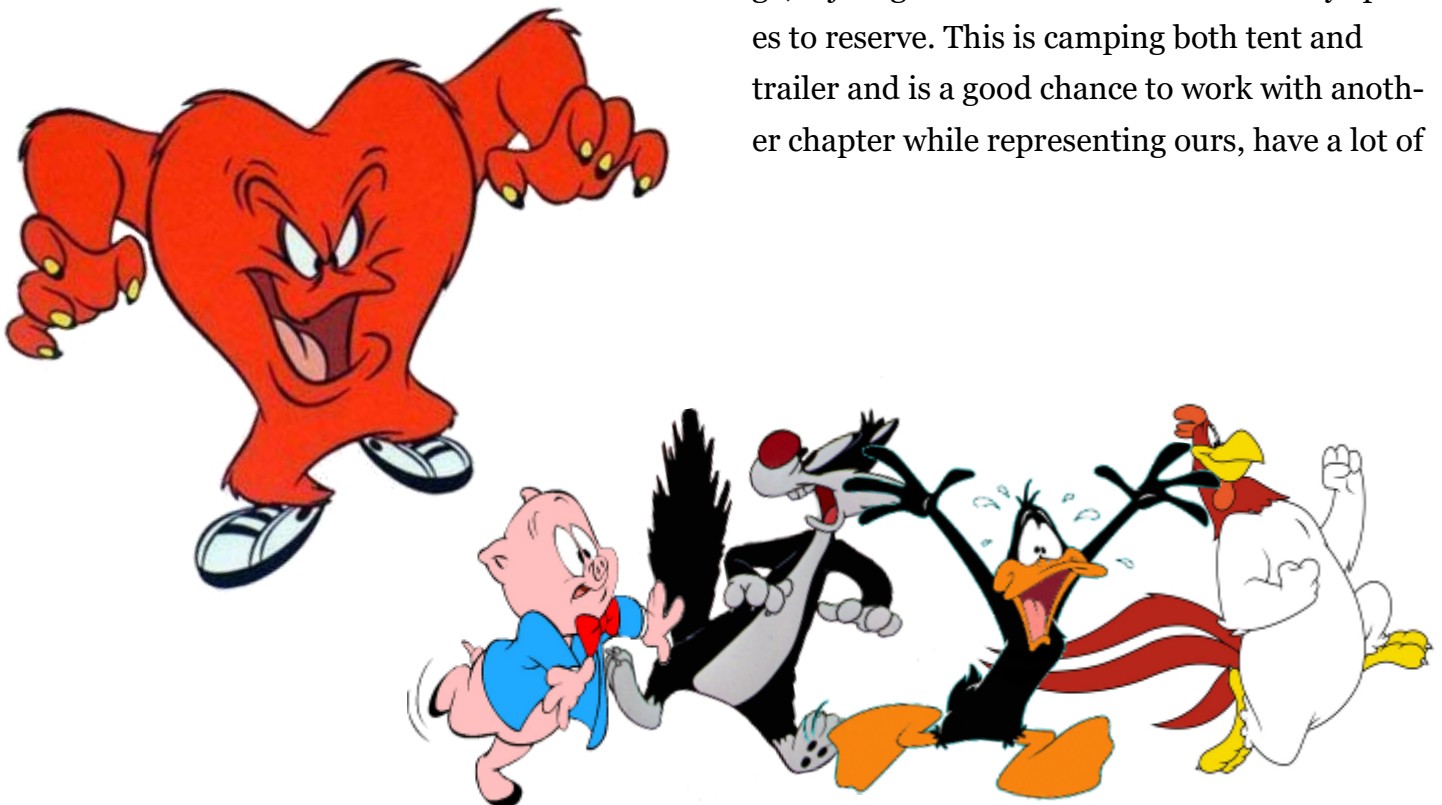
As with suction dredging, if you want to work at times or locations, or with equipment, not allowed in the pamphlet you must first get an individual HPA. We will work with you to ensure your proposed activity does not harm fish. You must then follow the provisions in your individual HPA to ensure compliance with the law. Learn more about the [HPA application process](#).

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/hpa/application>

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01992> (Gold and Fish Book)

MID VALLEY INVITATION

Our sister chapter has invited us to join them on their next Labor Day outing at Quartzville. They need a list of names of those who are interested in attending. This is a 3-day outing and they are reserving space now, so they have enough room for everyone. Signing up now does not obligate you to go, it just gives them an idea of how many spaces to reserve. This is camping both tent and trailer and is a good chance to work with another chapter while representing ours, have a lot of



CONCEALED CARRY TRAINING

We will be having our first half of the concealed carry training after our meeting this Sunday. This is for a 37-state permit, approx. 2 hrs. and the cost is \$80 dollars per person payable before the start of class. The 2nd half of the training will be after the Nov. meeting. The instructor is Mark. Sanders a certified trainer. Any question please call Debbie 360-695-3215 or to sign up. This is open to all. We need a min. of 10 people.



ELECTION COMMITTEE

As part of the Vice-Presidents job, Jeff will be in charge of the committee to pass out, collect, count and verify the ballots in an election. Ann Erickson has volunteered to help but we need about 4 more people. Please let Debbie know if you are willing to help.



NOMINATIONS

Please send your nominations and candidates' names for our open positions to Mark or Jeff right away. Nominations close on Oct. 31 and none will be accepted after that date. Candidates must meet qualifications. Elections will be at the Nov. meeting. Questions call Debbie 360-695-3215

ELECTIONS

Elections are coming up in Nov. We will be electing Pres. Sec. and 4 board members to serve a 2 year term.

To run for a position you must be a GPAA member as well as a chapter member for at least 6 month and in good standings.

Nominations will be closed on October 31st. The secretary needs to verify GPAA and chapter standings.

If you are interested in any of these positions please contact Debbie W. to see what the position entails.

Remember that voting is open to all current chapter members. You must be a member no later than by the October 31st. Chapter meeting to vote per our bi-law change last Nov.



Taking time to teach new prospectors (Rick Beehler)

One of the goals of a prospector is to teach new comers some of the fine point of finding gold. Showing friends some of the ways to locate and process beach sands has its own rewards. Taking time concentrating sands and locating a level of black sand that might hold some gold to take home. As it was a leisure outing, we just dry screened material to take the concentrates home to play with.

Pictured are Gary and Vanessa Ulku, Dorothy, Luke Schram, and Carley McNeile . Luke and Carley are doing the concentrating



EMERGENCY SURVIVAL KIT CONTENTS

Content List & Owner's Info Sheet Including Medical Information & Contact List

Batteries for Flashlights and 9-Volt Battery & Steel Wool to Start Fire
Binoculars
Cell Phone with Charger
Compass & Maps of The Area
Defense Spray
Dental Floss (Can Be Used for Making Cord, Tying Items, Etc.)
Duct Tape & Rescue Tape
Emergency Blanket
First Aid Kit
Flashlights
Food – Use Canned Goods, Dehydrated Foods or Foods That Can Be Easily Prepared
Glasses / Hearing Aids / Contact Lenses
Hand Warmers
Hydrogen Peroxide
Insect Spray Repellent and Insect Bite Relief
Leatherman Knife (Multipurpose Tool)
Light Sticks
Magnifying Glass
Matches (Waterproof) Strike anywhere if you can find them
Medicine - 7 Day Supply
P40 Can Opener / Canned Goods
Paracord & Paracord Tightener and Small Rope
Pen, Paper & Pencil
Poison Ivy/Oak Soap or Lotion
Poncho (Emergency)
Radio & Batteries (Preferably Crank Type with NOAA Weather)
Shovel (Small Folding)
Signal Disk (Could Use CD for This)
Snacks (Protein Bars / Jerky)
Sport Wrap (Self Adhering)
Steel Wool 9-Volt Battery (Fire Starter)
Sting Kill Disposable Swabs
Super Glue (Can Be Used for Wound Seal)
Surgical Tubing (Can Be used to Make Slingshot or Bow for Arrows)
Tarp
Thermometer
Tissue & Toilet Paper
Walkie Talkies
Water (Minimum 3 Day Supply Per Person for Evacuation)
Water Purifier Straw
Whistle
Zip Ties





Buy Sell Trade

If you have any prospecting related items to trade, sell or are looking for a good deal let Mark know to publish it here.

September Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order 2:04

5 Guests were in attendance

Secretary report was read a motion to accept was made and passed

Treasurers report was made, a motion to accept was made and passed

The bingo bus trip is moved to Saturday October the 26th, we have to have 45 to 50 people everyone must have their \$20.00 in by the October meeting.

Susan has donated 3 boxes of Myron's books to the chapter library, another box of prospecting magazines has also been donated.

We have accepted the offer to take the 4 claims that the Portland chapter had on the East Fork of the Lewis River. Preston will have complete information after all the paperwork has been completed.

We are requesting that everyone please provide ideas for outings and trainings.

The 4 month raffle started and will be drawn in December. There are some great prizes that have been donated.

Thankyou to everyone who helped unload Jeff's trailer with the coat donations from Columbia Sportswear

The Gold Show tickets and vendor packets will arrive soon. The show is set for March 30 and 31 with set up on the 29th at the Clark County events center.

Coat distribution will be set up for sometime soon. Please think about volunteering to help sort the clothing so that we can get the donations out to those who most need it.

Preston presented on the importance of knowing your Gold and Fish book.

Preston will talk to the state on the new dredging regulations that take effect on November 1st.

The concealed carry training will take place in two parts after the Oct and Nov meetings.

Don will provide a current list of our equipment for Mark to publish in the newsletter. If you want to check out any equipment please give ample notice as the boxes of donated clothing has filled the storage facility.

We will be working on providing training on the new aquatic permits you will have to have in order to dredge.



GOLD SHOW MEETING

Our Joint gold show meeting will be Sunday Oct. 27th at 1 o'clock at the grange. We need ideas and all 3 chapters participate. The gold show will be March 30,31 with set up on the 29th. And is being held at the Clark County Event center. Let's get some more vendors and sponsors to help make this a great show this year. We have asked for it to be here so let's show what we can do!



BINGO BUS

The Chinook Winds bingo bus is scheduled for the 26th of Oct. Sat. We must have 45-50 people to go. So far, we only have 15. This is a \$20 donation to the chapter, open to all 21 and older, (friend, relatives, neighbors, etc.). Lots of fun and raffle prizes. If we do not have 45 by the end of the meeting this Sunday, we will need to cancel and reschedule.



3 MONTH RAFFLE

Don't forget to buy your tickets. \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Prizes are a Chinook Winds stay for 2, dinner for 2 and show tickets for 2., a sluice, and some really nice gold. Winning tickets will be drawn at the Dec meeting. Need not be present to win.



<http://mylandmatters.com/>

This is a free massive web site I found with information such as Public Land Survey System (PLSS) with access to download Master Title Plats and other land records, Locate and download USGS Current and Historical Topographic Maps by quadrangle, Detailed maps of the 12 western public land states showing sections with active Placer and Lode Claims. BLM Serial Register Page and County Records search, Geology Maps for all 48 contiguous states. Additional layers may include faults, dikes, mineral & mine features or mineral potential layers. USGS Geologic Map Database and Geologic Unit details, Map of over 2,000 locations of known Meteorite Falls in the United States. Full Meteoritical Bulletin Record available.

This is a fantastic non –profit site that can use our support.

EQUIPMENT

All equipment is to be checked out thru our equipment manager, Don Spillman, or if he is not available then thru Dennis Witcher. All equipment may be checked out for 1 month at a time, and must be returned in good clean condition. Any items that have been used in the water must be rinsed off to avoid species transfer.



Where to Find Placers

Placers can be found in virtually any area where gold occurs in hard rock (lode) deposits. The gold is released by weathering and stream or glacier action, carried by gravity and hydraulic action to some favorable point of deposition, and concentrated in the process. Usually the gold does not travel very far from the source, so knowledge of the location of the lode deposits is useful. Gold also can be associated with copper and may form placers in the vicinity of copper deposits, although this occurs less frequently. Geological events such as uplift and subsidence may cause prolonged and repeated cycles of erosion and concentration, and where these processes have taken placer deposits may be enriched. Ancient river channels and certain river bench deposits are examples of gold-bearing gravels that have been subjected to a number of such events, followed by at least partial concealment by other deposits, including volcanic materials. Residual placer deposits formed in the immediate vicinity of source rocks are usually not the most productive, although exceptions occur where veins supplying the gold were unusually rich. Reworking of gold-bearing materials by stream action leads to the concentrations necessary for exploitation. In desert areas deposits may result from sudden flooding and outwash of intermittent streams.

As material gradually washes off the slopes and into streams, it becomes sorted or stratified, and gold concentrates in so-called pay streaks with other heavy minerals, among which magnetite (black, heavy, and magnetic) is almost invariably present. The gold may not be entirely liberated from the original rock but may still have the white-to-gray vein quartz or other rock material attached to or enclosing it. As gold moves downstream, it is gradually freed from the accompanying rock and flattened by the incessant pounding of gravel. Eventually it will become flakes and tiny particles as the flattened pieces break up.

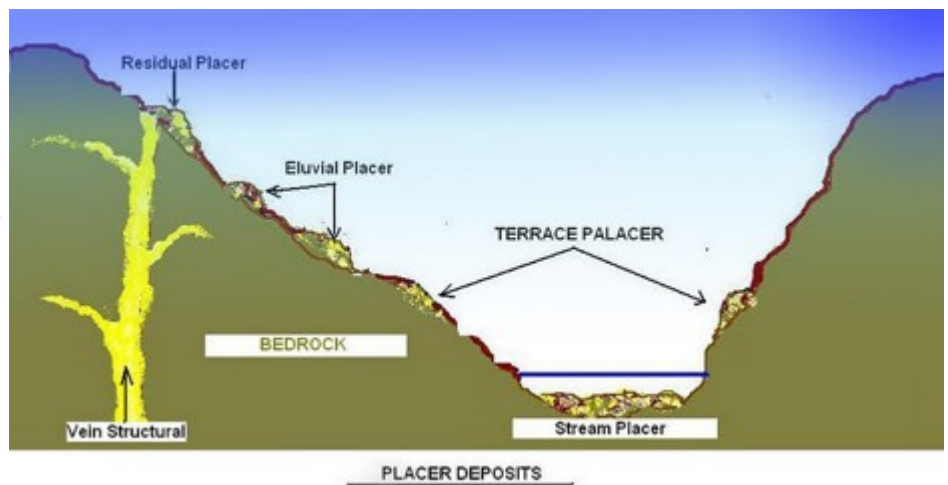
Some gold is not readily distinguishable by the normal qualities of orange-yellow to light yellow metallic color and high malleability, where it occurs in a combined form with another element, such as tellurium. Upon weathering, such gold may be coated with a crust, such as iron oxide, and have a rusty appearance. This "rusty gold," which resists amalgamation with mercury, may be overlooked or lost by careless handling in placer operations.

As mentioned before, the richest placers are not necessarily those occurring close to the source. Much depends on how the placer materials were reworked by natural forces. Streambed placers are the most important kind of deposit for the small-scale operator, but the gravel terraces and benches above the streams and the ancient river channels (often concealed by later deposits) are potential sources of gold. Other types of placers include those in outwash areas of streams where they enter other streams or lakes, those at the foot of mountainous areas or in regions where streams enter into broader valleys, or those

along the ocean front where beach deposits may form by the sorting action of waves and tidal currents. In desert areas, placers may be present along arroyos or gulches, or in outwash fans or cones below narrow canyons. Because gold is relatively heavy, it tends to be found close to bedrock, unless intercepted by layers of clay or compacted silts, and it often works its way into cracks in the bedrock itself. Where the surface of the bedrock is highly irregular, the distribution of gold will be spotty, but a natural rifflelike surface favors accumulation. Gold will collect at the head or foot of a stream bar or on curves of streams where the current is slowed or where the stream gradient is reduced. Pockets behind boulders or other obstructions and even moss-covered sections of banks can be places of deposition. Best results usually come from materials taken just above bedrock. The black sands that accumulate with gold are an excellent indicator of where to look.

It should be kept in mind that each year a certain amount of gold is washed down and redeposited during the spring runoffs, so it can be productive to rework some deposits periodically. This applies chiefly to the near-surface materials such as those deposited on the stream bars or in sharp depressions in the channels. The upstream ends of stream bars are particularly good places for such deposits. Where high water has washed across the surface by the shortest route, as across the inside of a bend, enrichment often occurs.

A rifflelike surface here will enhance the possibility of gold concentration. In prospecting areas with a history of mining, try to find places where mechanized mining had to stop because of an inability to follow and mine erratic portions of rich pay streaks without great dilution from nonpaying material. Smaller scale selective mining may still be practical here if a miner is diligent. Courtesy of the WashingtonStateMinor Website



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.



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 Co-
ti user764554@aol.com

360-256-0892

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

We are ready to have the names of our members who have passed away put on our memorial plaque. Here are the names we have so far: Boo Co, Linda Erickson, Dale Long, Robert Novak, Myron Hastings, Walter Jensen, Tracy Gracey, Robert Gillerook, Floyd Kreur. Please let us know if spelling needs to be corrected, or of anyone we may have missed. We would like to have our plaque ready for the Oct. meeting.

COATS

We will be sorting coats on Sunday the 20th at the grange at starting at 1:00 pm. PIZZA WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE WORKING. Please plan on helping out, it is only a couple of hrs. and for a good cause. With the weather turning cold we need to get these coats to those in need.

We also need volunteers to help Jeff get the boxes loaded into his trailer for transportation to the grange. He will be loading from our storage unit on Wed. The 16th. Talk to Jeff to make arrangements to help.

GOLD SHOW

Yes, the 2020 gold show is being planned for the Clark County Event Center. This will again be a joint chapter function with SWWGP again taking the lead. We need to start working to get vendors signed up for the show now. We should have forms soon, as well as pre- sale tickets. This is a big money maker for all the chapters who participate, but it does take tremendous effort and cooperation on everyone's part. The show is set for March 30 and 31 with set up on the 29th.



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	971-219-1079	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	360-907-9295	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	360-907-9295	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	360-907-9295	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	360-907-9295	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/>

GPAA <https://www.goldprospectors.org/>

[HPA application process.](#)

<http://mylandmatters.com/>



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 will be doing interviews with many of them so we can get to know a little more about them.

	Scheduled Events
Oct 13th	12:30 Board mtg. 2:00 General mtg.
Oct 20th	1:00 Coat donation sorting (Grange)
Oct 27th	1:00 Gold Show Meeting (Grange)
Nov 10th	12:30 Board mtg. 2:00 General mtg. and election

