

Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors Newsletter

Letter from the President

Truly a group of amazing people, I'm proud to be associated with such an incredible team. Our annual BBQ was a great success!! Thank you all who attended. Thanks to those who got there early to set up and put together such a memorable day. Vice President Steve Lewin will conduct our August Meeting in my absence as "the needle on the compass" draws me North to Alaska this time of year. Since August opens the dredging season don't miss your opportunity to get on that spot you've been dreaming of all year. We've all got a chapter to write, as the seasons flash by. Make sure this is one worth reading. Get out there with one another and be that good example of a responsible prospector. - Randy

SWWGP ANNUAL BOARD ELECTIONS

Article 5, Section 5, of the SWWPG Bylaws calls for elections to be held at the November regular membership meeting. Nominations for open Board of Director positions will be received at the September and October regular meetings. In preparation for nominations and voting please review the following duties for the President and Secretary. The term of office for these positions is two years starting January 1, 2016.

SWWGP PRESIDENT DUTIES

The President shall serve as the Board of Directors' Chief Executive Officer for our club. He/she will be primarily responsible for club operations including but not limited to setting goals and implementing programs as well as determining how to achieve them with the success of our club in mind. He/she shall schedule, plan and conduct the meetings of members and the club Board of Directors and coordinate and delegate responsibilities of fellow officers. He/she will be held accountable for the signature of chapter correspondence including but not limited to contracts, agreements, and any other business that may require execution on behalf of the club. He/she shall act as operating and directing head of the club in accordance with GPAA Chapter Program Formation and Bylaws. In case of permanent absence or the inability to act in the best interest of the club, the Board of Directors shall declare that office position vacant. A successor shall be chosen by the Board of Directors, subject to the approval/disapproval of the general members via scheduled meeting or special meeting voting. It is the President's responsibility to maintain liaison with the National GPAA HQ, Chapters Department Coordinator.

SWWGP SECRETARY DUTIES

The Secretary is responsible for the documentation, reading and upkeep of all SWWGP meeting minutes. He/she will be held accountable for the maintenance of all club records and correspondence. The Secretary will serve as the authorized party relating to record keeping including but not limited to managing the books, making sure that the records are accurate and up to par, with the exception of financial records. He/she shall perform all duties associated with the office of Secretary of a corporation in addition to duties assigned to him/her by the President and/or Board of Directors. Additional duties include but are not limited to:

- Documentation and upkeep of the club membership roster,
- Maintenance of required forms and documents,
- Providing Claims Committee forms,
- Maintenance of Event, Outing and Meetings Calendar,
- Accesses and stores GPAA Chapter Program Formation and Bylaws master copy,
- Prepares club correspondence (at the request of the President),
- Store club files for the minimum time frame required by local and federal entities,
- Manages and maintains all club office equipment and mail supplies and
- Performs other duties as designated by the President and/or Board of Directors.



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Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors Board of Directors

President	Randy Harper	503-849-5109	rh82065@hotmail.com
Vice President	Steve Lewin	971-211-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ken Didier	360-604-2701	ky02kid@peoplepc.com
Secretary	Vacant		
Claims Chair	Steve Lewin	971-211-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Education Chair	Steve Lewin	971-211-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Equipment Manager	Randy Harper	503-849-5109	rh82065@hotmail.com
Hospitality	The Fests	360-465-2393	famfest@wwest.net
Safety Officer	Ron Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Outings	Scott Long	503-754-0612	mthoodfire74@hotmail.com
Sunshine	Debbie Witcher	360-635-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
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Website Manager	Dave Fritz	503-990-7064	dfritz@unfritz.com
Newsletter Editor	Larry Hellie	360-601-6388	hhrc2@comcast.net

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: Randy Harper – Chapter President, rh82065@hotmail.com or 503-849-5109

or visit www.swwgoldprospectors.org

CHINOOK WINDS CASINO TRIP — OCTOBER 19, 2015

The next Chinook Winds Casino Bingo Bus trip is scheduled for October 19, 2015. Bus pick-up and drop-off will be at the East Mill Plain Walmart parking lot (remember to park at the south end of the lot near Jack-in-the-Box. More information to follow in future newsletters.

MINING QUOTATIONS

“A mine is a hole in the ground with a liar standing beside it ...” - Mark Twain

“The old pocket hunters just drove drifts on every vein, hoping to strike a pocket...Now we carefully plot out the contacts, mineralized zones, map out vein junctions then drive a drift or core drill...and hope to strike a pocket.” - Miles Mitchell, Professional Registered Geologist and gold miner

Treasurer 's Report July 2015

Beginning balance for the month was \$8,669.75. Income for July was \$1,528.41. Expenses for July were \$2248.65 which leaves a balance of \$7,949.51 as of July 31, 2015. Submitted by Ken Didier—
Treasurer— SWWG



August Educational Program

The August Educational Program will include two SWWGP Club outings for gold panning and dredging. The August SWWGP General Meeting will have a presentation of videos taken during previous SWWGP events highlighting some of the club's activities.

In recognition of Marvin Krueger's departure for Alaska the club will be having a farewell event in the basement where Marvin can "educate" us on the finer points of metal detecting and reminisce about his three years on the SWWGP Board of Directors.



GOLD FACTS #1

The world's largest gold bar weighs 250 kilograms (551 pounds), At the current market price the value of this single bar is

\$8,811,555.00

THE SWWGP "OUTING TUB"

Did you know the SWWGP Club has an "outing tub"? What is the purpose of the "outing tub"? Who can use the tub?

The "outing tub" is a ready-to-go, convenient container which contains commonly needed items that can be used on outings.

The following items are included in the "outing tub":

Paper plates, napkins, plastic ware cups, garbage bags, zip lock bags, cooking and serving utensils, can opener, small cook stove and fuel, salt and pepper, mustard and ketchup, pork-n-beans, Pringles, energy bars, first-aid kit, emergency blankets, bug spray, sunscreen, aluminum foil, wet wipes, sign-in sheet, emergency list, GPAA rules, Washington State "Gold and Fish Book", pen/pencil/paper and new member information packets.

Items you will need to purchase and bring to an outing include:

ice, pop, water, hot dogs, hamburgers, lunch meat, bread/buns, chips, etc.

There are two (2) life jackets (donated by Ron and Maurine Koppi) two (2) life rings and three (3) 50 foot nylon ropes (donated by Ken Didier).

Going prospecting where you are "roughing-it"? There are two (2) port-a-potty tents available for use for "privacy" - better than a bush or tree. Just take a port-a-potty like the one Steve Lewin demonstrated at the June meeting. You can inspect the "outing tub" at the August SWWGP meeting. - Debbie Witcher



THANK YOU FOR HELPING AT JULY MEETING

I wanted to say "Thank You" to Linda Erickson, Marsy Hellie and Maurine Koppi. Tom, Toni, and Lily Fest were not able to be at the last club meeting so Tom called me to let me know and I picked up the cake and cookies for the meeting. All three of these members stepped in to help me fill in as kitchen hosts. Without them you would not have had coffee etc. Thank you so much for helping. It is greatly appreciated. Debbie Witcher



LETTERS (OR E-MAILS) TO THE EDITOR

Hi, my names Larry and I have been filling in as the Newsletter editor for the past two months, August will be my third edition. I am new to SWWGP and GPAA but I grew up in "gold country" and have a little experience in "getting wet and moving mud" also "drilling rock and burning powder".

I feel this newsletter should reflect the interests of the SWWGP members so I am asking for your input as to topics, needs, wants, likes and dislikes. If you would like to see a specific topic in the newsletter send me a note "hhr2@comcast.net" or call me 1-360-601-6388.



Or stop me at a monthly meeting or an outing and give me your ideas for the newsletter. I am sure some of you are aspiring authors and I would be happy to publish your "gold-fever facts or fictions" in a future newsletter. I have to admit I am "panning for nuggets" and some times the "pan" only contains mud but "finding gold" takes patience and perseverance.

JOIN US TO SAY FAREWELL TO MARVIN KRUGER

We are having an informal get together after the August 9th SWWGP Monthly Meeting to say farewell to Marvin. Marvin has served on the SWWGP Board of Directors as a Sergeant-at-Arms as well as our librarian. He has been one of our metal detecting gurus and has helped our club with many events and outings including the gold and treasure show and the picnic. Marvin is moving to Alaska with his family to start a new adventure. He will truly be missed. We will be having a potluck for him, hot dogs at his request, so feel free to bring a dish or dessert. The club will be providing hot dogs and buns, condiments, chips, two potato salads, two water melons, pop and water. You can fill in from there. Call Debbie Witcher with questions etc. 360-695-3215



SWWGP SUMMER PICNIC

Our picnic was a great success! Everyone had a good time and lots to eat. Lots of new friends and old ones too.

Ron Koppi won the horseshoe tourney. The panning station was busy all day long. There was lots of swimming and panning in the river as well.

Several members from our sister clubs in Portland and Brownsville joined us for fun and food. Brownsville also contributed items for the grab bag raffle helping us to make our raffle a great success.

Steve Lewin and Waylon St. Clair were our cooks for the day. Thank you Waylon for bringing your bar-b-que again this year.

Clean up finished after 5 o'clock. We did not play bingo as there are no lights in the shelter.

The kids had a lot of fun with the squirt guns and toys. There were even some "adults?" who were playing with the squirt guns.

Marvin Kruger led a group of metal detector folks on a "treasure hunt".

I wanted to say a special "Thank You" to everyone who helped with set up and clean up. You are the ones who helped make everything go smoothly and stay organized.

THANK YOU soooo much.

Your picnic chairperson, Debbie Witcher

SWWGP SUMMER HORSESHOE RESULTS

The double elimination tournament at the picnic had 12 entries. It came down to seven players left for semi-finals. Ron Koppi went to end of winners bracket and had a break waiting for the six left with one loss (you had to lose twice to be eliminated). Our president Randy had a very close match against A.J. Lester who won by a point. Jim Erickson ousted Norm while Ted came out ahead of Ken Watson. these three winners drew lots giving Jim a break while A.J. played against Ted who advanced to a match against Jim to determine who would play Ron. Jim took an early lead throwing a ringer canceling a couple of good throws by Ron and ends up winning. This forced another game (as Ron had to lose twice). Once again Jim cancels Ron's great throws with another ringer. Ron ends up winning another close one finishing with first place honors. Jim Erickson with a strong second place. There was a tie for third place shared by A.J. Lester and Ken Watson. What a great time! -



Above—"Helpers" for the raffle drawing
Below— Raffle tent with Steve Lewin and Randy Harper



Above—The gold panning station at the SWWPG picnic
Below—SWWGP Club members enjoying the great food



GOLD PROSPECTORS TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

The last decade has witnessed amazing growth in the number of people interested in gold prospecting. This is also evident at the SWWGP Monthly Meetings when as many as 20 first time attendees stand-up and introduce themselves. While there are many experienced “gold prospectors” and a few “gold miners” in the SWWGP Club there is a significant majority who are new to the field. Since understanding the educational programs requires a “common vocabulary” this column will be a continuing feature of Monthly Newsletter. If there are any particular terms or definitions you would like included in the next edition of the SWWGP Newsletter please e-mail me (hhr2@comcast.net) or call me at 360-601-6388.

- Color, colors: tiny bits or pinpoint of gold, colors can be seen with the eye and would take 600,000 to make an ounce.
- Flat lander(s): an expression referring to visitors or new arrivals to mountainous mining country, weekend gold miners, tenderfeet.
- Flour gold: very small flakes and pin points of gold less than #40 mesh screen (openings 0.0167 inches square).
- Greenhorn: an old expression for novice miners, tenderfeet (see flat lander).
- Hardrock mine: a lode mine, the source of placer gold, rock must be pulverized to retrieve gold, may be in veins or massive deposits of deformed gold, contains the minerals chlorite, hornblende epidote (hence often a green color), and it is the host rock for many gold deposits, often small quartz veinlets are scattered here and there.
- Hardrock mining: gold mining using drilling and blasting to break the rock; can be in a tunnel mine or open pit mine.
- Nugget gold: gold masses that will not pass through a #10 mesh screen (holes 0.0787 inches square).
- Placer (plahsir) gravel: rocks, sand and gravel that have been transported and rounded by water.
- Placer gold mining: processing gravel with pans, sluices or mechanical equipment to recover gold, black sands and platinum.
- Small flake gold: gold flake that will pass through a #20 mesh screen (holes 0.0335 inches square) and stay on a #40 mesh screen (holes 0.0167 inches square).
- Troy weight, Troy ounce: the weight system used for precious metals, 480 grains equals 1 troy ounce or 31.1 grams, and 12 troy ounces equals one troy pound. One ounce avoirdupois (the regular weighing system for everything else) is equal to 28.34 grams, or .9113 troy ounces.

Source: “Gold Panner’s Guide to Eastern Oregon”; Bohmker & Humbird, Cascade Mountain Gold, Independence, OR, 2011.

GOLD PROSPECTORS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA “CODE OF CONDUCT”

The Gold Prospectors Association of America’s online communities (including goldprospectors.org, blogs and forums, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn and future online presences) aim to provide a family friendly environment where members can post ideas, ask questions, and share thoughts about all aspects of prospecting. The following guidelines are designed to help provide a quality environment for our community members. Please take a moment to read them and keep them in mind when you participate in our communities.

Postings by others to the GPAA’s online communities do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the GPAA, nor does the GPAA confirm their accuracy.

We encourage our community to share content like photos, videos, and stories of their prospecting experiences. We assume that anyone sharing this user-generated content has the right to do so and has permission of the individuals who may be included in this content. Please do not post photos you do not have permission to post, including photos of children without the permission of a parent or guardian.

By posting any comments, posts or other material on GPAA communities, you give the GPAA the irrevocable right to reproduce, distribute, publish, display, edit, modify, create derivative works from, and otherwise use your submission for any purpose in any form and on any media.

We welcome all questions and commentary, including constructive feedback. We do not take decisions on moderating posts lightly, but we do expect that participants post content and commentary that is both relevant and respectful to our communities as a whole. The GPAA reserves the right to remove any posts that do not adhere to our guidelines and to ban or block anyone who violates them repeatedly. Failure to comply will initially result in a warning. A second violation will result in a temporary suspension. A third violation will result in a permanent suspension.

We do not tolerate the following posts:

- Abusive, harassing, stalking, threatening or personally attacking others
- Defamatory, offensive, profane, obscene, vulgar or depicting violence or threats
- Fraudulent, deceptive, misleading or unlawful
- Hateful in language targeting race/ethnicity, religion, gender, nationality or political beliefs
- Link baiting (embedding a link in your post to draw traffic to your own site)
- Promotion or endorsement of commercial services, products or entities (unless promotion occurs on a Vendor/Manufacturer/Organization page, which is not currently available on the site)
- SPAM - Irrelevant or multiple, successive posts
- Trolling or deliberate disruption of discussion
- Uploading files that contain viruses or programs that could damage the operation of other people’s computers
- Violations of any intellectual property rights, including copyright or trademark infringements

Finally, you agree that you will indemnify the GPAA against any damages, losses, liabilities, judgments, costs or expenses (including reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs) arising out of a claim by a third party relating to any material you have posted.

If you have questions or inquiries, please direct them webcontent@goldprospectors.org.



SWWGP CLU PICNIC—July 19, 2015 (Clockwise from upper left) Club Sponsors & Contributors banner, SWWGP Chapter banner, Visitors from the Portland Club, Family Guests, Metal detector Scavenger Hunt, Steve Lewin, Debbie Witcher, Wylon St.Clair

SWWGP EVENT SCHEDULE

August 2015

- 1 SWWGP Club Outing Dredging Season begins on Lewis River
- 1 Rice Museum Summer Festival
- 2 Rice Museum Outing
- 5 SWWGP Club Outing
- 8 SWWGP Club Outing
- 9 SWWGP Monthly Meetings
- 14 SWWGP Club Outing dredging ends on Lewis River
- 23 SWWGP Club Outing

September 2015

- 4-7 Labor Day Weekend
- 5 SWWGP Club Outing
- 12 SWWGP Club Outing
- 13 SWWGP Monthly Meetings
- 16-20 Scott Barr LDMA Outing
- 27 SWWGP Club Outing

October 2015

- 3 SWWGP Club Outing
- 4 SWWGP Club Outing
- 11 SWWGP Monthly Meetings
- 19 SWWGP Chinook Winds Casino Trip

November 2015

- 1 Daylight savings time ends
- 8 SWWGP Monthly Meetings
- 11 Veterans Day
- 26 Thanksgiving

December 2015

- 13 SWWGP Monthly Meetings Christmas Potluck

SWWGP Monthly Raffle

These are some of the lucky raffle winners from the July SWWGP Monthly Meeting. The monthly raffle is a primary source of funds for the club. Your participation is appreciated whether as a delighted "nugget winner", a raffle prize contributor or as a participant who buys a lot of tickets and patiently sits and waits for your number to be called.....which never happens!!!



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



D & K Prospecting & Detector Sales Inc. 13809 SE Division Portland, OR 1-503-761-1521

FOR SALE—Great Bargains

Wet Suit—men's medium, 7 mil, boots and hood - \$100.00.
Dry Suit—men's medium, front entry, cost \$2500 new, \$500 or best offer.
Several SCUBA/hose regulators—call for specifics and to make an offer.
Rubbermaid panning tub and other miscellaneous gold panning/dredging items.
Contact Bob Mote 503-936-1443 or bob@nwdetectors.com



Pictures of the Pedro Gold Dredge - Chicken Alaska

