

SW WASHINGTON GOLD PROSPECTORS CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume IV Issue 6
SW Washington Gold
Prospectors
Copyright 2015



SWWGP CHINOOK WINDS CASINO TRIP

swwgp's Chinook Winds Casino trip is fast approaching.

The full day trip will be on Saturday, June 27th. "Gold gamblers" will meet at the Wal-Mart parking lot off of Mill Plain and I-205. (Call Debbie Witcher for directions - 360- 695-3210). The bus will be there at 8:30 a.m. and will leave at 9:00. Don't be late, we can't wait. Sign-ups for this trip is on a first-come-first-served basis.

We should return around 6:30 p.m., and, yes, the bus has a bathroom. The bus trip is free. You will receive \$10.00 in free slot play and \$3.00 off your meal when we get to the Casino.

We will be playing bingo on the bus. Yeah, it sounds weird but it's a lot of fun! There will be prizes: raffle prizes, door prizes, surprises. Bingo packets are \$10.00, with the proceeds going to help fund the July 19th picnic, so please plan on purchasing one.

Bingo payouts will be \$20.00 per game and one "blackout" game paying \$40.00 (assuming everyone pays for a packet). A partial list of prizes includes: a wine basket, a tool kit, several gift cards, a first aid kit, mining supplies, gems, and lots more. Steve Lewin is helping me gather the raffle prizes and we all know what a good job he does for our meeting raffles. Chinook Winds is giving us raffle prizes also.

Call Debbie Witcher for any questions and to sign up. We have about 15 spots available, and I will try to get a second bus if necessary. Trip is open to all SWWGP members, soon-to-be members, family and friends as long as they are with a member or soon to be member. Bus riders must be at least 21 years of age.

So a ten-dollar bill buys you a round trip to Chinook Winds Casino, ten dollars in free slot play, three dollars off your meal, a raffle ticket (more for sale) a chance at \$20.00 or \$40.00 by winning bingo games and lots of fun with lots of fellow gold prospectors. This is also a great way to say "Thank You" to Chinook Winds Casino for sponsoring our club. If you are going to the casino wear your shirt from the gold show.

I would like to collect the packet monies (\$10.00) at the June meeting if possible.

Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215 email ddwitcher@yahoo.com

SWWGPC ANNUAL PICNIC LEWISVILLE PARK, DOGWOOD SHELTER - JULY 19, 2015

First, Volunteers are needed for set up (9:30), clean up, cooks (10:30), and some misc. help.

The club will provide burgers, hot dogs and buns, plates, plastic ware, napkins, cups, coffee.

Please sign up at the June SWWGPC meeting or contact Debbie Witcher as a volunteer or for the food items you plan to contribute. Suggested food items include:

- Condiments - mayo, mustard, ketchup, relish, salt and pepper, sugar/sweetener
- Veggies - lettuce, tomatoes and onions sliced and diced, carrots, celery, peppers, cauliflower
- Chili for chili dogs, and cheese - grated and slices
- Salads - potato, macaroni, three-bean, fruit, jello, etc.
- Beans – baked beans, pork-n-beans, green beans
- Chips – any kind of chips, potato plain, seasoned, flavored, tortilla chips and salsa
- Deserts – watermelon, cakes, pies, cookies, fruits, nuts, candies
- And anything your family enjoys on a picnic

Be sure to bring plenty to drink: pop, water, ice tea, coffee, milk and lots of ice
We will be playing bingo and panning for gold. Our panning tubs will be set up all day so everyone can practice panning and there will be a SPEED PANNING CONTEST to see who can clear their pan the fastest.

There will be a horseshoe tournament and a "day-long treasure hunt".

COINS will be the treasures to find... find more than one **COIN** and win **GOLD!**

Finders Keepers - When you find a Buffalo Nickel, it's Yours! -And you have all day to find them!! and We will have children's games and an arts and crafts corner again this year with lots of prizes.

As usual there will be raffle prizes.

Be sure to sign up at the June SWWGP meeting, or call Debbie (360-695-3215) or Maurine (360-254-9309) to sign up or volunteer to help.

SWWGP JUNE OUTING - DAYBREAK PARK

SWWGP latest outing was June 6, 2015, at Daybreak Park, above Battle Ground Washington. Steve Lewin said 36 people were there and "good gold" was panned. Again! There were a lot of new people, dipping their first "pan" in the water. Everyone was helping each other.

Both Steve and Randy plan the rest of the summer to be about our Members, improving our skills, getting to know each other, being in Nature. Steve mentioned he might set up panning tubs at the Grange so the SWWGP members can practice panning.

We all loved having Myron, Bob and Marvin helping us with our individual metal detectors at the May meeting. We hope we can get them to help us again. Thanks! Linda Williams, Secretary

SWWGP JUNE STORE SPECIAL

The June SWWGP Meeting and Store Special is a "gold pan" and

"snuffer bottle" for \$6.00



SEE "OMSI AFTER DARK" P. 6



THE 2015 GPAA GOLD AND TREASURE SHOW SPONSORED BY SWWGP

SWWGP extends our special thanks to the Prairie High School AFROTC Elite Guard for presenting the colors, leading the pledge, and for performing drill routines for the Gold Show attendees on Saturday, March 28. They were awesome. Great Job!

On Sunday, March 29, we were honored to have the Sea Scouts who are sponsored by the Battleground Elks Lodge 2589. They presented the colors and led the pledge and remained cool and calm under difficult circumstances. The portable sound system provided by the expo center failed and they were announced from the opposite end of the building. (The announcer could not see them.) Great job also.

SWWGP wants to say THANK YOU so very much to both the Sea Scouts and the PHS AFROTC and their leadership for helping to make the 2015 GPAA Gold and Treasure Show a great success.

The Food and Pet Food Collection Station sponsored by Chinook Winds Casino was a great success especially as this was the very first time for this activity. We collected 443 pounds of food which translates to 369 people meals and over 100 pounds of pet food which made approximately 80 animal meals or treats. The pet meals and treats were delivered by Meals-on-Wheels to people in need with pets. All-in-all the food collection was a great success that helps to fill a very important need in our community. Again, a great big hug and special thanks to Chinook Winds Casino and all who participated in the combined food drive.

DIAMONDS

Did you know that diamonds have been discovered in the northwest? Yes, diamonds have been found in Josephine County, Oregon. As far as is known that is the only diamond discovery in the northwest. Another unusual discovery in the early days was opals in eastern Washington.

STEVENSON SPORTSMAN SHOW

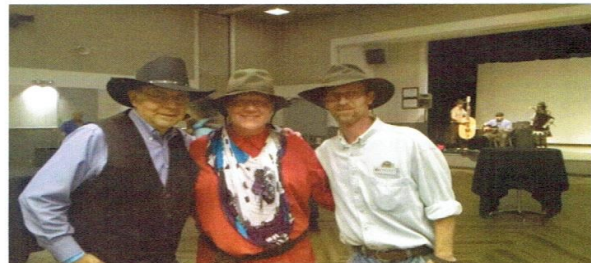
What a great day to participate in the Stevenson Sportsman Show and have an opportunity to help them consider forming a GPAA club. This was their first show and it was very successful. Our club had a booth where we answered lots of questions and handed out information. We also had the opportunity to use our new panning stations for the first time. We had a lot of "newbies" learning how to pan.

Steve Lewin suggested the Stevenson Sportsman Club hold a raffle to raise funds to help offset the costs of the show. Both Steve and Ken donated some items to their raffle to help them get started. There was a huge gold nugget donated by another supporter. It was about the size of a quarter. Needless to say there were a lot of raffle tickets sold that day. We also did some metal detecting, a variety of items were found, and we got to tune up our detector skills.

Randy Harper won a framed picture of Nome, Alaska and Debbie Witcher won a framed watercolor of an Alaska scene.

BAD PROSPECTING

A "tenderfoot (amateur) miner" goes to a river or stream and just takes a sample from the surface. A true prospector looks at the river and thinks back a few years (thousands?) to imagine where the river channel and levels were. In studying the tops and walls of canyons look for "inside curves" where the river cut and eroded the rocks. The "inside curve" is the low pressure area where the "heavies" drop out as the flow of the river decreased in the spring.



SWWGP MONTHLY MEETING

The Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors meetings are the second Sunday of every month beginning at 1:00 pm at: Minnehaha Grange Hall; Northeast St Johns Road, Vancouver, Washington.

All interested parties are invited to attend one of 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 the SWWGP membership is FREE!

For more information contact:

Randy Harper – Chapter President
rh82065@hotmail.com or 503-849-5109
 or visit
www.swwgoldprospectors.org

TREASURER REPORT MAY 2015

Beginning balance for the month was \$7,560.13.
 Income for May was \$1,682.63. Our expenses were \$577.22 which leaves a balance of \$8,665.54 as of 5/31/2015.

Submitted by, Ken Didier

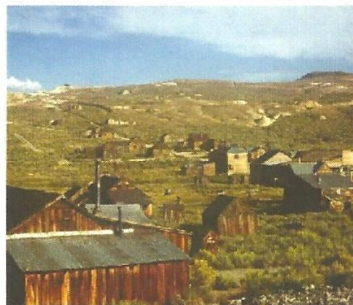
Treasurer-SWWGP

SWWGP 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	LINDA WILLIAMS	503-703-1142	BSTWSHES@YAHOO.COM
CLAIMS CHAIR	STEVE LEWIN	971-211-5996	GOLDPAN123@YAHOO.COM
EDUCATION CHAIR	STEVE LEWIN	971-211-5996	GOLDPAM123@YAHOO.COM
EQUIPMENT MGR	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	DDWITHCER@YAHOO.COM
WEBISTE MGR	DAVE FRITZ	503-990-7064	DFRITZ@UNFRITZ.COM

SWWGP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors Board of Directors meets monthly immediately following the regular membership meeting. The meeting is held in basement of the Minnehaha Grange Hall and is open to all SWWGP members.



CLUB SPONSORS

Designs of All Kinds
 Chinook Winds Casino
 Red Lion - Inn at The Quay
 McCord's Vancouver Toyota and RV Center
 Myron Hastings - Whites Metal Detectors
 Steel Security & Safety Systems
 Pro Caliber
 Northwest Detector Sales
 Thunder Reef Diving
 Sportsman's Warehouse
 Lemar Advertising
 Gold Rush Nugget Bucket
 Quick Badge and Sign, Inc
 9 Cent Copies
 Avon Products - Bug Guard - Steve Lewin
 Various Club Members

GOLD SHOW CONTRIBUTORS

Protech Industries
 2nd Chance Pets
 Battle Gound Elks Lodge-2589
 Hi-School Pharmacy,
 Woodland
 Water and Air Works
 Olive Garden
 HomeTown Buffet Restuarant

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAY'S MEETING

We had 104 people, 11 Visitors and 8 birthdays.

Toni Fest received a gold nugget from President Randy Harper for being our Hostess, driving three hours each way every time our club gets together, and baking the best cookies. We just can't thank her enough!!

The money from the Gold Show is coming in. SWWGP made close to \$4,000 on the Show. Thanks to the Portland Chapter which sent a check for half of the expenses.

Randy expressed his sincere appreciation for all of Ken Didier's efforts as Treasurer for our rapidly expanding club.

Randy asked our members to consider helping the Club by stepping up and taking responsibility for one of the many volunteer opportunities:

- Events Coordinator,
- Outings Coordinator,
- Fundraising Coordinators (2)
- Web Host back-up
- Facebook Page Moderator
- Back-up Host for our meetings,
- Historian to make a Club Scrapbook.
- Equipment Manager (3 assistants)

It was a fun Sunday. It was an "Eat, Show and Tell, Treasure Hunt and Gold Panning Extravaganza!" The food was fantastic! Marvin buried 125 wheat pennies for people to find in the Treasure Hunt. Myron and Marvin helped people with their metal detectors and Steve and Daniel helped people at the panning stations. What a great day

SWWGP LEGAL REMINDER!!!

The Copper Creek Claim is a "placer" claim which means "panning" for materials in the gravel of the stream bed. A placer claim does not allow the breaking of bed rock or the digging of materials outside the stream bed. You are not allowed to break, split or crush the bed rock in a placer claim.

SWWGP JUNE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Educational Program for June will be presented by Steve Lewin. The education topics will be "Mingling Signs", "Claims Markers", the "Gold and Fish Book" and the hands-on project - "How to Make (and Use) a Five Gallon Port-a-Potty".

Some lucky prospector will win the "port-a-potty" as a raffle prize in the monthly drawing.

Steve will continue the "three month raffle" which was sidetracked for a while. Also there will be a "Fathers' Day" raffle for all the men attending the meeting. And as usually everyone attending will receive a ticket for the raffle. Remember you can purchase additional raffle tickets and the money is used to support SWWGP Club activities.

COPPER CREEK CLEAN-UP - MAY '15

A picture of the infamous "crevice" which was filled by the SWWGP prospectors on May 16, 2015.



OMSI AFTER DARK - MAY 27, 2015

"OMSI After Dark" on May 27th was a combined effort of the Southwest Washington Golf Prospectors and the Portland Northwest Miners. Club members dressed in period prospector attire and taught people the "art of panning gold". OMSI provided live music from a "country band" and booths representing "Everything Wild, Wild West". Even though this was an "adults only" event everyone was playing with the exhibits, panning for gold, roping horses and have a great time.

The gold panning was busy all night. The SWWGP members had a great time as well. The pictures and gold belong to the grandfather of a Portland Member .



COPPER CREEK CLEAN-UP - May 16 2015,

The following SWWGP Board Members and "Prospectors" helped fill a crevice, inspect the claim and conducted a general clean-up.

Randy Haper - President SWWGold Prospectors; Steve Lewin - Vice President; Ken Didier Treasurer; David Fritz - Webmaster/Historia; - Ron Koppi - Safety Officer; - Maurine Koppi, Daniel Keesee - "Diver Dan" and a horde of prospectors including Don Higgins, Eric Franklin, Frank Knighton, Mark Mattila, David Lish, Haylee Lish, Verlene Betz, Susan Young, Hal Young, Dan Shelton, Dustin Simmonis, Michael Dett, Randy Gelespie, Kevin Ivers, Kadon Ivers, Andy Lehto, Lester Hatter, Dan Haugen, Craig Bergman, Lexie Holloway, Mitchel Nye, Randy Nein, Luke Nein.

The prospectors congregated around 10:30 a.m. in the mountains. Those arriving braved the logging road with ruts, as well as the steep descent along the gravel road. (Dirt and gravel road, with drain swales across the road before berms that challenge high clearance cars) to the claim and distinguishing bridge.

We assembled the 30 member team as a tight group, listened intently to Ron Koppi as he encouraged us to stay in groups, make noise as we travelled (to let bears know where we are) and

RON KOPPI GIVING SWWGP "PROSPECTORS" SAFETY INSTRUCTION



