

South West Washington Gold Prospectors July 2017 Newsletter

Letter from the President

Over the next couple of meetings or events, you may be seeing a little less of Steve Lewin. Due to the demands of his job, Steve is resigning his official duties to the Chapter. He is going to be training Jim Erickson, Jeff Wooldridge, Dennis Witcher, on the raffle. Preston will be training on the gold buying, Rick Beehler and Dale Long will also be doing some training as well.

Our Chapter was started in 2012 and Steve has been running the raffle since the beginning. As you know the raffle helps to support the chapter and pay the bills. He is staying with the chapter but is relinquishing his responsibilities. Hopefully this will free him up to have some "me time" and still meet his employers demands.

The contributions he has made to our Chapter our tremendous. Again he is not leaving us, just stepping back and taking a much needed break. When you see him next, take a moment and thank him for all he has done for us.

Thanks Steve!!!

Debbie Witcher president



Membership Committee

When you are signing in for attendance at the SWWGP meeting please be sure to verify name spelling, correct address w/zip code, e-mail address and phone number. If you are a current GPAA/ LDMA member be sure to let us know and give us your GPAA/LDMA membership number.

We are in the process of updating our records. Thank you for you help, Richard Pluff Jr.
503-957-6884
magiedrag-on1956@hotmail.com

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

Outing Change

The outing scheduled for Aug. 19th to the Hollywood Rock Ranch has been canceled. Hopefully we will be able to reschedule it.

There will now be an outing to Daybreak park on the 19th, to start at 10 o'clock. This will also be a pot luck. Hot dogs and buns will be provided. Please sign up or let Debbie W. know you are attending so we can plan the meat.

Contact Debbie at 360-695-3215

Outing Ideas

Is there something you would like to see our Chapter members Do? Want to take a field trip or outing you think might be of interest to other members? Let us know. Send me an e-mail or call me at 360-695-3215 and lets see what we can do. Debbie Witcher.

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	Ken Didier	360-567-7360	ky02kid@peoplepc.com
Board of Directors	(Elected)		
	Patti Long		palong48@gmail.com
	Rick Beehler	360-601-6855	rickbeehler@ymail.com
	Bob Brown	360-576-0213	photogal101@comcast.net
	Jim Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Daniel Keesee	360-269-2341	none
	Dale Long	503-665-4717	alelongsmailgmail.com
	Richard Pluff jr	503-957-6884	magicdragon1956@hotmail.com
	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	
Claims Chair	(Elected)		
	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	DDWitcher@yahoo.com
State Director (WA,OR)	(Appointed by GPAA)		
	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Committee Chairs	<i>(Volunteers appointed by club/</i>		
Education	Volunteer needed		
Equipment Manager	Randy Harper		rh82065@hotmail.com
Fundraising coordinator	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Assistant	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Hospitality	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
	Leigh Anne Chavez	503-531-2770	ohwell1956@yahoo.com
Picnic, Holiday Dinner	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Misc. Outings	Barbeques, special events		
	Frank Knighton	360-834-5270	jknighton08@yahoo.com
Librarian	Volunteer needed		
Membership	Richard Pluff Jr		magicdragon1957@hotmail.com
Assistant	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Newsletter	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Outing coordinator	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Safety Officer	Daniel Keese	360-241-0489	none
Sargent at Arms	Daniel Keesee	360-269-2341	none
	Bob Brown	360-576-0213	photogal101@comcast.net
	Jeff Wooldridge	360-694-7557	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Sunshine	Pat Staat	360-798-9499	Healingsprings@centurylink.net
T-Shirts	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Webmaster	Patti Long	503-320-3854	palong48@gmail.com
Historian	Jeff Wooldridge	360-694-7557	harmonicajeff@msn.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.
Committees to be filled: Bylaws / Laws and Regulations

GPAA Points	Bob Brown	360-576-0213	photogal101@comcast.net
Name Tags	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Awards	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Fundraising	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Picnic and Holiday Dinner	Jeanne Geig	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
	Richard Pluff jr	503-957-6884	magicdragon1956@hotmail.com

Dredging

Dredging opens in Aug. Is there anyone who is qualified to lead a dredging outing who would be able to do so? Equipment is available. Contact Debbie W. 360-695-3215

Sign Up Sheets

Sign up sheets for all activities, events, committees, etc. are at the back table where you sign in for the meeting. If you have any questions there are chapter members available at the table to assist you.

Dredging

Dredging opens in Aug. Is there anyone who is qualified to lead a dredging outing who would be able to do so? Equipment is available. Contact Debbie W. 360-695-3215

Whites factory

Myron Hastins has offered to lead an outing to Whites again. Sign up sheets are on the membership table if you are interested. We need 10 people or more. This is a week day trip. Date to be determined.

Labor Day Outing

Richard Pluff Jr. will be taking the lead for the labor day outing in Albany with Mid-Valley Chapter. Contact Richard at 503-957-6884 if interested. Sign up sheet on the membership table.
Busting Bedrock DVD

Buy, Sell, Trade

Parts of 2 blue bowls, parts of 2 dredges, 2 sluice boxes and hose, Newer, looks to be unused hi-banker with pump and 50 ft of hose.

Contact Dennis with questions 695-3215. He is helping Gene and Walter Jensen sell these items.

Have something to sell or give away?

Looking for something to buy?

This is a free service to our Chapter members.

Call Mark Matilla at 360-609-6813 or chipper49@outlook.com

Collection for Veterans

We are continuing to collect food, toiletries, warm clothes for veterans. Pet food for their animals. Please bring your donations. Boxes will be provided.



We are still collecting clothing, food, etc. for our local veterans donate and get a raffle ticket entry in volunteer awards drawing.
See Debbie

Committee Members Needed

Just a reminder that we need additional committee members for the following:

- Outings
- Education
- Hospitality
- Picnic/holiday dinner
- Bar-B-Que and special events
- Membership
- Sargent at arms/safety
- Set up/tear down
- Sunshine and flowers

Please consider helping out.

All have Chairpersons but do need a few more folks to help.

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 7.00 for each tag that includes up to 2 lines of engraving.

Questions?

Contact David Conti

user764554@aol.com

360-256-0892



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:
Debbie Witcher – Chapter President,

ddwitcher@yahoo.com or
360-695-3215 or visit
www.swwgoldprospectors.org

AWARDS

Our awards program has started after last yrs. Picnic. I want to make sure everyone gets the credit due them so please check the following list and make sure you name is on it. If not please sign for the event etc. so we can make sure you get an entry.

I have the Albany Sportsman show Puyallup Gold show and the Portland / Vancouver Gold Show sign in sheets with the names on them.

Also let me know if I missed and event etc.

For outings only the person taking the lead will get an entry.

Events like the Harvest Fest, get the lead out, etc. (something benefiting the community and or the Chapter) everyone gets a ticket, the leader gets 2.

EVENTS

Get the lead out 2016 and 2017

Bi-laws committee

Gold Show Committee

Harvest Fest

Beach clean up 2016 and 2017

OUTINGS

Beach 2016 and 2017

Whites trip

Polka-a-dot 2016/2017

Daybreak 2017

Lewisville 2016/2017

Burnt River

Over and Above

Help with Christmas Dinner

Cook Bar-b-que

Raffles

Kitchen fill in

Sportswear pick up

Sportswear sorting

DONATIONS

Display case

raffle

Veterans

Add what you need or think should be there:

Check to make sure you get credit for what you have done.

We have 25 gold awards so far, so lets get you entries in!!!

Pick up your free copy of the Busting Bedrock DVD at the membership table. These were given to us by the GPAA.

T-Shirts

Remember to by your chapter t shirts ,need something special? Talk to Maurine Koppi

Lic. Plate Holders

They are being ordered. The slogan voted on at the last meeting was "I am a gold digger"

Picnic July 16th at Lewisville Park

Please sign up at the membership table or contact Jeanne Geig 360-673-3179 or Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215

This is a pot luck . Hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken, buns, condiments, and table service will be provided. Please bring a dish of your choice, your beverage (maybe some extra to share) and possibly some ice.

Come and join in the fun, games, and raffles.

We need folks to help set up, and clean up.

Keep in mind that parking is now 3 per car. Sorry they would not give us a reduced rate. I tried.

AUGUST MEETING IS CANCELED!!!!!!!!!! PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS.

3 MONTH RAFFLE

Our 3 month raffle is under way and you can purchase tickets at ther meetings and the picnic. The tickets will be drawn at this years picnic. You do not have to be present to win. Be sure your name and phone # are on the ticket and that we can read it. If we can not read it, it will be thrown out.

Prizes are :

Danner certificate approx. value is \$400.

\$50 dirt bag from Roaring Camp.

Thrive life package donated by Valerie Coy.

Miller Table donated by American Mining Supply.

Pepsi Stadium cooler/back pack donated by Scott Long.

Gold Nugget

One of a kind gemstone necklace donated by Steve and Edna Nelson.

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Remember proceeds go to help support the Chapter

Elections

We will start taking nominations for the following offices starting in Sept. Elections are in Nov and officers installed in Dec.

Open positions are:

President

Secretary

Claims director

And 4 board of directors

To fill vote and/or any of these positions you must be a GPAA member, and a Chapter member in good standing for at least 6 months. Any Chapter member can nominate someone. Start thinking about who you want to lead the Chapter in these positions.

Chapter Business

As I and many other board members will be out of town please contact Richard Pluff Jr. 503-957-6884 July 28- Aug. 5 with any Chapter business that can not wait.

From Aug .5 thru Aug 12 contact Vice Pres. Jeff Wooldridge.

You can always text me.

Outings Leaders Needed (no training required)

We need people to suggest and lead outings. Many outings require as little as 15 min. of your time. Take a group to one of our claims, Daybreak park, Lewisville Park or ?????? You can schedule an outing for a week-end day or during the week. You decide.

Bonus!!! You get a raffle ticket entry into the Golden Awards raffle for taking the lead. Try it you'll like it. Contact Debbie W 360-695-3215 ,for info. Paperwork and questions

They can now have a warm coat.

In May a local sportswear company at our request donated boxes of sportswear items our chapter to sort and distribute to the needy in our area.

Vice President Jeff Wooldridge and chapter members Ken Didier, Ron Koppi and Jim Erickson made the trip to the co-operate offices and warehouse with the intent of picking up 48 boxes of re-thread items. Much to their surprise there was about 160 boxes given to us. Luckily Jeff had taken his 30 ft. covered trailer to haul and store the boxes in. These gentlemen loaded, stacked those boxes almost completely filling that trailer top to bottom.

Now what!! We were semi-prepared to deal with 50 +/- boxes but 160...wow! As always our chapter members step up for the challenge and on short notice 10 days later assembled a crew of about 20 to tackle the job of sorting, fixing, and distributing the clothing including coats, jackets, and shoes.

We unloaded the trailer and went to work sorting, repairing and re boxing these items to be delivered to the various charitable and needy groups. We had some socks, and a few back packs as well.

We salvaged as much as possible understanding what might be of help to someone in need, or for someone who might be homeless. Lots of the shoes and boots that were not useable still had perfectly good shoe laces. The laces were removed and paired up ready for use by someone. We all know how expensive boot and shoes laces are.

All of the child's and most of the small adult coats and jackets were set aside to be given to the local schools in the fall for the child in need program. Imagine the smile on a child's face when picking out a coat or jacket for themselves. They may have gone without a warm coat otherwise.

The rest of the items went to organizations such and the Salvation Army, Goodwill, a joint church distribution center and 10-15 local veterans organizations all who help people in need including the homeless.

This was our first attempt at partnering with this company and combining our efforts to assist those in in need in our community. We now have a handle on the logistics and delivery needs involved in this project and will be doing it again.

A special thanks to everyone who worked on the project, and to Jeff Wooldridge for making the arrangements with his employer.

June 2017 SWWGP General Meeting Minutes

9 guests

74 in attendance

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

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

The drawing for the 3 month raffle will be held at the picnic

The picnic menu was expanded to add steak and chicken

License plate holder logo "I'm a gold digger" was chosen

Jeff reported out on the Columbia sportswear donation

The Aug 19th Hollywood rock ranch outing may be changed due to the eclipse

Ken provided a demonstration on a miller table

The gold show committee mtg. was June 28th

Daniel's safety report was on bears, cougars and heat exhaustion and stroke

Daniel will lead the upcoming elections committee

GPAA kits are available for \$84.50

There are sign up sheets for outings leads

Rick reported out on the Polka Dot mine

Rodney reported out on the beach outing

There is a request for additional Sargent at Arms

There is a sign up sheet for an upcoming outing to Whites

Next meeting at 2 o'clock on September 10th, 2017

2017 Calendar of Activities

January 2017

February

March

17-19 Puyallup Show
 17-19 Portland/ Gold Show
 28th Newsletter info due

April

9th Chapter Meeting
 24th Newsletter info due

May

14th Chapter Meeting
 19-21 Cape Disappointment
 29th Newsletter info due

June

2-5 Baker LDMA joint outing
 11th Chapter Meeting
 17-18 Polka Dot Mine
 Newsletter info due

July

9th Chapter Meeting
 16th Picnic
 24th Newsletter info due
 28th—Aug. 11th Nome trip

August

1-11 Nome trip
 13th Chapter Meeting **Cancelled**
 19th Hollywood Rock Ranch **Cancelled**
 19th Daybreak Park Outing
 28th Newsletter info due

September

4th Labor Day Albany Outing

GPAA Oregon/Washington Chapters

Auburn — Auburn Green River Valley Gold Prospectors — 3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm. River Estates Club House, 3611 I St NE, Auburn, WA (253-833-2255)

Bremerton — Western Washington Prospectors 2nd Saturday, 1:00 pm., Elm Lutheran Church, 5911 E Hillcrest Dr., Port Orchard, WA (360-830-4613)

Brownsville — Mid Valley Prospectors — 1st Sunday, 1:30 pm. Brownsville Fire Department, 600 E Blakely Ave, Brownsville, OR (541-990-5148)

Everett— Everett Gold Prospectors 2nd Friday, 7:00 pm., Silver Lake-Alfy's Pizza, 9620 19th Ave, Everett, WA

Longview — Fire Mountain Prospectors — 3rd Saturday, 10:00 am., Bob's Sporting Goods, 1111 Hudson St., Longview, WA (360-274-3396)

Portland — Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc. 3rd Sunday, 12:00 pm., Milwaukie Grange, 12015 SE 22nd, Milwaukie, OR (503-258-8553)

Vancouver — Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors — 2nd Sunday, 2:00 pm. Minnehaha Grange 4905 NE St Johns Road, Vancouver, WA (360-695-3215)

2017 Oregon/Washington Rock & Mineral Shows

July

7-9—PORTLAND, OREGON: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Oregon Convention Center; 777 NE MLK Jr Blvd; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5

15-16—DARRINGTON, WASHINGTON: Annual show; Darrington Rock and Gem Club, Mansford Grange; 1265 Railroad Avenue; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5

21-23—TENINO, WASHINGTON: Annual show; Washington Agate and Mineral Society, Parkside Elementary School; 301 Central Avenue E; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5



Gold Show Meeting

We held our first gold show meeting for the 2018 show on Sunday June 25, at one o'clock at the Grange. My thanks to everyone who showed up in the 100 degree weather. All of the 6 chapters were represented either in person or by proxy.

Here is a summary of what was decided:

Meeting notes will be made available to Chapter Presidents and they will be responsible to get them to their members. We will not spend the time going over them at each meeting unless there is a correction or addition. Please read them early on.

There will be no aggressive behavior of any kind. Rumors and gossip will not be tolerated. Any issues will be brought to the respective Chapter Presidents to settle, or to Debbie Witcher, then to the GPAA if necessary. This is the discussion and agreement Brandon has with Debbie. We represent ALL of us and the GPAA. Lets make sure we are giving a good impression.

All participating Chapters will abide by the majority rule. Pertaining to money matters each chapter will have 3 votes if there is no agreement. Chapters not able to attend may send a proxy to vote for them. This worked well last year.

The GPAA raffle will be divided as follows: will have agreements for Chapter Pres. To sign

The total number of gold show volunteers will be divided into the raffle proceeds after all costs are deducted. That will determine how much a share is worth. Then each chapter will receive one share for each volunteer working the show. Each Chapter will be responsible to have their members sign in each day they work. All rosters will be turned in to Debbie W. at the end of each day and copies will be provided to each chapter. So if you have people not signed in, you will not get credit for them. No one is to sign anyone else in. The more folks you have working the bigger the share you will get. The Chapter Presidents and treasurer(or designated rep by the Pres.)will participate in the counting of the monies and verifying the split. All receipts will be turned in by the end of show. No monies will be paid out unless approved by the joint show committee. We will try to have all funds to be combined with the raffle proceeds, collected and to the show treasurer(Ken Didier) within 2 weeks of the show, sooner if possible. Our hope is to settle the raffle and have all chapters paid within 30 days or less. All chapters will be asked to contribute a person(s) for each day. SWWGP will be in charge one day and Portland the other. Days to be determined. Again this has worked well the last 2 years.

Volunteers are asked to supervise their children. We can not have children running around. No children on set up day. There is potential for them to get injured with set up and tear down, so please no small children. We will try to have an activity area set up for children. More to come on that.

As with last year, all volunteers must use proper hygiene and be properly clothed. Any questions see me.

We will have t-shirts again, more details on that later.

We need to work on advertising, so start getting business commitments. We need outside funding to accomplish what we have in mind, and it is a great opportunity for the business. Debbie is checking with Sam and Brandon to see what dollar figure the GPAA is willing to match. Since we are started early this year, we are looking into ads on the buses, as well as radio. Other avenues are the newspaper, tv.online, visitor centers to name a few. Many of these are little to no charge.

We will be having a raffle for volunteers. Here are some examples of what you can get a ticket for:

Get a vendor=ticket, put up a flyer/poster and document it +get a ticket

Sell 10 gold show tickets=ticket

Each day working the show=ticket

Get a sponsor=ticket

Debbie is working on prizes. Each chapter is asked to donate to this raffle.

GPAA will have tickets and posters to us soon.

We have vendor contracts now. See you Chapter Pres.

We will be working with the Event Center on setting up a metal detecting demo area. This should help vendors with sales.

SWWGP and Portland both have 10 security vests. We will need more people as we have a larger area. We will not have a host hotel this year but will make available a list to vendors, volunteers etc

Randy Harper has been given a budget of 1500 dollars to use for Celebs. 300 dollars each.

Talked about putting up poster in the lobby showing things like the get the lead out program, GPAA/LDMA outings, tribute to Buzzard, Boo Coo, old mining pictures.

Parking is \$6 per day or pass is \$10.

Food committees will be set up. Portland to lead one, Vancouver the other.

Meet and Greet to be discussed. Debbie has catering figures. Other details to be worked out.

Looking for corporate sponsors for a few non profits like the Red Cross Disaster preparedness, meals on wheels, Veterans, search and rescue, food collection. These groups are not allowed to sell anything. Info only. \$200-250 fee.

Next meeting Sept 24th 1 o'clock at grange. Get you vendors signed up. We have approx.. 120 spots. Lets fill it. Need help, questions, suggestions contact Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215



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

Ron Farnsworth Scrap Metal Pickup	Topside Mining	Northwest Detector Sales
9 Cent Color Copies	Creekside Prospecting	Ruth Enterprises
Whites Metal Detectors	Armadillo Mining	Thunder Reef
Chinook Winds Casino & Resort	Fossickers	Thrive Life
Quick Badge	Danas classic Flowers and Gifts	Danner Boots
Jensen Wood Crafts	Danas Classic Hair Supply	AKAU Lodge
RDK Plastics	Packwood Prospecting and Mining Supply	American Mining Supply Roaring Camp
Designs of all kinds	The Gold Claw	The Gold Lab
Gold Getter	Wilson Brothers	D&K Prospecting & Detector Sales Inc.
AAA Precious Metals	Sportsman's Warehouse	Avon Products—Bug Guard
Pro Caliber	Nayhely's Place	Spin it Off
Oregon Treasure Trail Society	Gold Rush Nugget Bucket	Lucky Dog Supply
Lost Adams	McCord's Vancouver Toyota	LAMAR Advertising
Danner Boots	Wilson Bros.	Roaring Camp
Gold Claw		

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.