South West Washington Gold Prospectors February 2017 Newsletter

Letter from the President

The weather outside is frightful! at least it has been esp. when it comes to our meetings. As much as we hate to cancel and/or reschedule a meeting it was necessary last month. Hopefully we are past the real bad weather. We tried to contact everyone, Mark sends out the e-mail and I make approx. 60 phone calls. My apologies to anyone we may have missed. Please update all of your info., make sure we have your e-mail and phone number.

The next 2 months are going to be a little hectic with the sportsman show and the gold shows.

Please take a moment to check out the various sign up lists and volunteer where you can.

Volunteers are one of the reasons our chapter is so great.

See you at the next meeting, Sunday Feb. 12.

Debbie

Our raffle tickets are here!!!

Our chapter raffle tickets are available to sell. Remember that you can sell these tickets to anyone. They are not limited to our chapter members only. Please see Debbie and get your tickets.

These are not the tickets to get into the Gold and Treasure Show.

Flyers are available to help sell tickets. They contain information on all of the prizes that are available to win.

Tickets are \$1 each. We will draw the winners on March 26th at the end of the Gold and Treasure Show. Winners need not be present.

Please sell these tickets to everyone, this is our chapter raffle fundraiser.

Contact info. Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215, or e-mail ddwitcher@yahoo.com.



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

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.

GOOD NEWS!!!

GPAA has committed to holding the Gold and Treasure Show for 2018 at the Clark County Event Center. Target date is March. Brandon asked me to get the proposal again this year with available dates. He will make a date decision soon. We asked for the event center, we asked for a years notice. He has given us what we asked for. So now we need to step up to he plate and hit a home run with an outstanding show.

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	(Volunteers appointed by club/		
Education	Volunteer needed		
Equipment Manager	Randy Harper		rh82065@hotmail.com
Facebook	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.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	user 764554@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

CALENDAR

We are working on this years calendar and should have it ready soon. Missing the meeting last month has delayed a lot of items we needed to work on.

If there is something that you want to do or an outing you would like to see us have , please let me know.

We can always add more to the calendar as the years progresses.

Debbie

Portland Clubs Gold Show Raffle

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The drawing will be Sunday March 26 at the Gold Show. Need not be present to win as long as you put your name and phone number on the ticket. Purchase tickets at the PGPI Feb. and March Meetings as well as the Gold Show

Do you enjoy the newsletter?

We need you to submit articles etc. Please don't leave this up to a few people to contribute to this newsletter. Have an interesting story that relates to mining, our chapter, been on an outing, etc? please consider writing up a short article and submitting it so other may enjoy it as well. It is your newsletter.

Have an idea for the newsletter, contact Mark and he will check into it for us.

SPORTSMAN SHOW

The Sportsman Show is Feb. 18-19. We need some folks to sign up to help with that show. It is the Albany Or. show. We are assisting our fellow GPAA members from Brownsville.

SIGN UP SHEETS

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

Buy, Sell, Trade

Wanted!!!!!

Rock cutting and processing equipment, jewelry making equipment. rock saw, grinders, cab machine, flat lat, etc. Call, Debbie 360-695-3215

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

Goodbye Boo Coo

As most of you are aware our "adopted grandfather" for the Chapter passed away in Dec. 2016.

We will have a card at the meeting for you to sign and send your thoughts, memories to Leah Boo Coo life partner. Randy Harper will be leaving for his memorial shortly after our meeting so he will give the card etc. to Leah.

We will miss you BOO COO!

Collection for Veterans

We are continuing to collect food, toiletries, warm clothes for veterans. Pet food for their animals. Not all of these veterans are homeless. Please bring your donations. Boxes will be provided. Any questions please contact Debbie.

Name Tags

Everyone who ordered a name tag please bring \$7.00 and to pick up their tags from David Conti @ the sign in table at the next club meeting. Our name tags now have the new , updated logo on them and they turned out great .

OUR GOLD SHOW TICKETS ARE FINALLY HERE!!!!!

Ken has tickets and you can they are ready to sell. \$5 each, the chapter will keep 2.50 and the balance goes to the GPAA. Tickets at the door are \$10. Ken has tickets ready to sign out, and we will have them available at the meeting.

Club Name Tags

Name tags orders will be taken at the January meeting.

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



Sample

SWWGP MONTHLY MEETING

The Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors' meetings are the second Sunday of every month beginning at <u>2:00 pm</u> 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

Raffle Tickets

We will have approx. 3 months to work on selling them so lets all pitch in and sell/buy them. We will draw the winners at the end of this years Gold and Treasure show.

Winners need not be present.

Here are the prizes:

- 1) Chinook Winds Beach Get away package 2 nights standard room, show tickets for 2, Dinner for 2.
- 2) Chinook Winds Golf get away package 2 nights standard room, golf for 2, Dinner for 2.
- 3) Gold and Quartz specimen
- 4)Rock Tumbler
- 5)Silver Prospector Bar 5 troy oz. .999 pure
- 6) 2Prospector silver coins, one is the first in a special limited edition series
- 7) One of a kind gem stone necklace made exclusively for SWWGP

Some prizes may change before ticket printing Dec. 5th, 2016

Tickets are \$1 and all proceeds will benefit SWWGP

Questions call Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215

In addition to you purchasing tickets, you can sell them at your church, work, other organizations and clubs, etc. think outside the box.

Puyallup Gold Show update

We will not be hosting the Puyallup show!

I was given incorrect information when the GPAA and the State director asked me to bring it to the chapter to see if we could host the show.

In talking with the Port Orchard Chapter President he told me that they had not been contacted about hosting the show. They would like to host the 2017 gold show and include other chapters from the area. They have their non profit tax status and have had it for at least 3 yrs. He is contacting the GPAA to get everything going and would like any help that we are able to give them. I have let Richard Robinson of the GPAA know that since the local Chapter has not only the desire but the ability to host the show we will take a booth and give them any support we can but will not be hosting that show. I will be available to Their President to help him any way I can. He has only been their President since June of this year.

I am so proud of our Chapter members for being willing to step up and help out our fellow mining members from the chapters to the north, as well as the GPAA.

This is a great opportunity for those chapters and Alan is trying to build the same relationship up there that we have with Portland and Brownsville.

Now that we know that that show is covered we can concentrate on co-hosting the Portland show. Debbie

Outings/Education

We need a Education committee Chairperson and some committee members.

Bill Adams is not able to chair this committee as he had planned. He has a lot of personal committments that will not allow him the time he wanted to give to the chapter to chair this committee.

Would you like more information on mining, geology, etc.? Please let me know and we will try to arrange it.

Is there something you think might be fun and/or educational for our chapter members? Let me know and we will see about setting up and outing and putting it on our calendar. Outing can be for a day or a week. Some examples are our trips to Whites Metal Detectors, Day Break Park, out beach mining trip, Roaring Camp etc.

Show and Special T-shirts

As announced at our November general meeting, all those who are going to volunteer for the gold and treasure show this year need to sign up asap. Also we will need your t-shirt size.

We are asking that you contribute \$5 per person towards your shirt. It is expensive for our sponsor Designs of all Kinds to do the shirts. They have provided shirts for the last 2 years and again will be providing shirts for all 3 Chapters who are hosting the show.

Remember your shirt not only identifies the Chapter sponsors as well as you as a volunteer, but is your entry into the show and to get your food from our chapter.

Please sign up asap.

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.

If you need infomation, want to know what is involved, time needed or to volunteer, Please contact Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215

This Months Featured Sponsor

McCords Vancouver Toyota and RV Center has been a sponsor for our chapter for the last 3 plus years. They have been in business since 1992and sell both new and used towable RV. including such brands as Travel Lite, Rockwood, Sylivan Sport, Coachman, Apex, Residence and Powerlite just to mention a few.

The RV center has supported our Chapter with generous donations and have been a vendor for three yrs at the Gold and Treasure Show.

They are a full service dealer in Association with McCords Vancouver Toyota. There is a parts department and service shop.

RV Center Manager Tom Lewis would like to remind folks that they are the only new RV dealer in Clark County and they carry a large inventory of new RV's. No need to fight the bridge traffic. They are local! Tom says they have enjoyed the relationship with SWWGP. Chapter members are easy to communicate with and are fun to be around. Being a sponsor to SWWGP has been a positive experience and they look forward to many more yrs to come. Sponsorship has added to there business. Looking to buy an RV etc? Mention you are a member of SWWGP or saw them at the Gold and Treasure show for a discount or if you are in the area stop in and say "Hi" and thank you for supporting SWWGP.

GPAA Gold and Treasure

This years show is March 24th,25th,and 26th, 2016. At the Expo Center in Portland, Oregon. Jerry Johns and the Portland Chapter are taking the lead this year. Our chapter has made the following commitment so far. We are planning on having a booth again, we will help with set up, and tear down as well as provide show labor.

We need to try to get more vendors. Over the last 2 years we have signed up 14 vendors so they are off the table to us, they become GPAA vendors. We need to think outside the box on vendors. Would you visit their booth at the gold show? Sign 'em up. You can contact me for help if you need it.

We also need to grow our Chapter sponsors as well.

This is a joint venture between Portland, Brownsville and the Vancouver chapters to host the GPAA Gold and Treasure Show. Please help Jerry to lead all of us toward another successful show. Remember just because it is being held in Portland does not make it a Portland show it is all of ours. We need to do our part, so please volunteer as we will all benefit.

This is a great opportunity provided to us by the GPAA.

Las Vegas Summit

Interested in attending the Las Vegas Summit? Want to help out at the Las Vegas Show?

Please contact Debbie 360-695-3215. Dates are April 21-23 2017. There is limited space at the summit.

I have been asked to teach a class and present our our new member packet again. Randy Harper has been asked to speak again but we are not sure if he will be able to attend. The planned Host hotel is South Point.

Committees

Assistants and Committee Members:

We need some assistants and/or committee members for the following, T-shirts, Chapter Store, Membership, Library, Sunshine bereavement (part of the Sunshine committee) Outings, Awards, Adopt a high way, and many more.

Most of these already have a chairperson. This is a great opportunity to get involved, give a little bit of you time helping out.

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions please contact Debbie Witcher 360-695-3215 or ddwitcher@yahoo.com

Outings Committee

We need volunteers for our outings committee. You will need to come up with ideas for outings. What are you interested in doing, seeing? Others may be too. We need suggestions for day trips, local and otherwise, week-end trips, etc..

Here are a few of the things we did this year: Whites metal detectors, beach mining, polka dot agate and Richards rock ranch, Roaring Camp, Daybreak, Lewisville, copper creek.

Please sign up and or give suggestions. Lets get our calendar started for next year.

Library

We are in need of a new Librarian

For those of you who may not know we have a Chapter library. It contains books, magazines, DVD's, etc. Once you are a member you are entitled to check out materials for up to 30 days. You need to sign the log book with your information and what you are borrowing. Please do not keep the materials longer than 30 days so someone else can borrow it.

We currently have materials that have been checked out since April as well as missing materials. This is an honor system so please do not put our librarian in the position of having to call you to bring the materials back.

Our librarian is Dave Conti so if you have any questions or want to donate something to the library please contact him.360-256-0892 or user764554@aol.com

Chapter Store

Our chapter store carries a lot of items including t shirts and mning equipment. Needing something and don't see it? Just ask Maurene Koppi or Patti Long, they will see what they can do for you.

NOME TRIP

Those of you who have signed up to go to the AKAU Lodge need to make your transportation arrangements and give me the date and time you will arrive in Nome so we can make arrangements for you ride to the Lodge. I would like to have a short meeting with everyone who is going after this months meeting. Lets meet downstairs in the kitchen/eating area. If you have questions please bring them with you and I will try to answer them. Final payments should be made by the gold and treasure show if possible.

December 2016 SWWGP General Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:16

Guests 4 77 in attendance

Secretary's minutes from the Nov. 13th meeting were read and approved

Treasurers report was read and approved

The new board of directors were introduced

Safety presentation delivered on Ice safety

It was announced that a food collection box for veterans will be provided at each meeting

Volunteers are needed to volunteer as Sargent at arms

Volunteers need to sigh up for volunteering at the gold show.

A motion was made and passed to have the club purchase 75 t-shirts and then have gold show volunteers donate 5.00 towards the purchase.

Volunteers are needed for a librarian and an assistant.

Committee sign up sheets are available

Help is needed for the Albany sportsman show to help the Mid Valley chapter.

Help is needed for the Puyallup gold show on March 17th - 19th

There is an Idaho outing Jun 2-5. the cost is 25 dollars for an individual or 50,00 per family. More information to come

Dave Conti reported out on an outing to Roaring Camp. There is a sign up sheet for those interested

Debbie is looking into setting up a visit from a Roaring Camp representative to present to the chapter.

Randy and Steve were presented an award for all of their hard work for the chapter.

Rick suggested that those of us with Facebook pages to direct our friends to the chapter Facebook page

Next meeting at 2 o'clock on February 12th, 2017

MID-VALLEY PROSPECTORS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Roy Houtz 541-990-1148
Vice President Brian Rinehart
Secretary/Treasurer Art Waugh
Equipment Manager Wendy Houtz 541-990-6214
State Director (WA,OR) (Appointed by GPAA)

control (W/A,OA) (Appointed by G1704)

Steve Lewin 971-212-5996goldpan123@yahoo.com

All e-mail should be directed to midvalleyprospectors@yahoo.com



2017 Calendar of Activities

January 2017

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

GPAA Oregon/Washington Chapters

Auburn — Auburn Green River Valley Gold Prospecters — 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 De
partment, 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, Milwau kie, 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) 2016 Oregon/Washington Rock & Mineral Shows

You can view a complete list of the 2017 Rock & Mineral Shows listed for Oregon and Washington by visiting the websites below: OREGON — http://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php? ShowState=OR WASHINGTON — http://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=WA

February 2017

11-12—OAK HARBOR, WASHING-TON: 52nd annual; Whidbey Island Gem Club, Oak Harbor Senior Center; 51 SE Jerome; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; free; Dealers with spectacular earth made gem's and precious mineral specimens as well as pre-cut slabs to make your own masterpiece at home. There is also a silent auction for rough material's and a spinning wheel for the kids. Watch live demonstrations and view club members exhibits. All visitor's get a free raffle ticket for door prizes. contact Keith Ludemann, (360)-675-1837; e-mail: rock9@whidbey.net

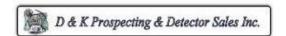
March 2017

17-18—COLVILLE, WASHINGTON: Annual show; Panorama Gem and Mineral Club, Colville Ag and Trade Center; Colville Fair Grounds, 317 West Astor; Fri. 8:30-6, Sat. 9-5; Free Admission; contact Bill Allen, (509)-935-8779; e-mail: sagostore2@charter.net

24-26—SPOKANE, WASHINGTON: 58th Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show; Rock Rollers of Spokane WA, Spokane County Fair and Expo Center; N.604 Havana; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$6, Seniors \$5, Children 12 and under free; Fossils, crystals, minerals, handcrafted jewelry, lapidary supplies, demonstrations, hourly door prizes, youth activities, grand prize.; contact Vonnie Dillon, (509)-951-8173; email: showchair@rockrollers.org

25-26—BELLINGHAM, WASHING-TON: 55th Annual Rock and Gem Show; Mt. Baker Roc and Gem Club, Bloedel Donovan Community Center; 2214 Electric Avenue; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission; Fine jewelry, minerals, gems, rocks and rock art, and fossils will be shown and sold. There

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



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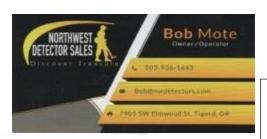


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