

South West Washington Gold Prospectors Newsletter December 2018



DECEMBER

Presidents Message

Christmas is fast approaching, this is the time of the year we spend with family and friends. Our holiday dinner is that opportunity for us to enjoy the company of our fellow chapter members. Elections are over, a new year is just around the corner, The gold and treasure show is in planning stages, we are lining up new outing and education all in all a busy time. Hopefully you will be able to take time out of your busy schedule for the Dec. Meeting. See ya there!!!!!! And have a very Merry Christmas!

HOLIDAY DINNER

We will have our holiday dinner at our next meeting. Please remember to bring your dish. The chapter will provide the meat, and dinner ware. Contact Jeanne G. 360-673-3179, if you need a suggestion as to what to bring. Many of you singed up at our last meeting



SURVIVAL BOTTLE / 1ST AIDE BOTTLE

WIDE MOUTH BOTTLE 1 QT. OR MORE
CARIBEANER CLIP
CLEANSING WIPES
EM. SURVIVAL BLANKET
ASSORTMENT OF BANDAIDES
MINI 1ST AIDE KIT
HEAT PADS (HAND WARMERS)
CANDY
TWEEZERS
10 FUNCTION ARMY KNIFE
5 IN 1 WHISTLE/COMPASS
ASPRIN
TYLENOL
IBUPROFIN
BENADRYL
WATERPROOF MATCHES
DRYER LINT IN PLASTIC BAG FOR FIRE STARTER
ROPE BRACELET
ORANGE PANCHP
FLASHLIGHT
33 GAL GARB BAG
1ST AIDE DIRECTIONS
SLIP BALM
WATER TABLETS
Gauze
TAPE
TRIANGLE SLING



Membership Committee

When signing in for attendance at the SWWGP meeting please be sure to verify name, address, and phone number. If you are a current GPAA/LDMA member be sure to give us your membership number. Let Mark know if you are not receiving chapter emails.

Edna Nelson

503-307-0852

rockhounstoo1966@yahoo.com

Everything fits into bottle, you will find other things to add.

Committee Updates

Membership	Check your membership cards for expired dates. Many of the cards will expire on December 31st. Let Edna Nelson know if you need her to make you a current membership card.
Store	lots of items are available, don't see something just ask.
Gold bags	We hope to have plenty of gold dirt bags available they make great stocking stuffers.
Historian	Working on scrap books, Debra and Kelly in Texas right now she will get caught up soon.
Sunshine	Nothing to report
Raffle	Our guru is still under the weather so Ron, Scott, Jeff, Preston and Debbie will be handling it again this month
3 month raffle	Last chance to get your tickets see Tammy



VOTING RIGHTS

We have a change to our bi-laws concerning your right as a chapter member in good standing to vote in all elections. You no longer need to be a GPAA member. ANY chapter member in good



GOLD SHOW TICKETS

Tickets should be available at our Dec. chapter meeting. Remember to check out and sell tickets. Each ticket is \$5. We make \$2.50 for each ticket we sell. This money goes to help support the chapter and is a good deal for those ticket holders. Tickets at the door are \$10 so they save \$5 by buying pre-

STATE DIRECTOR OUTING

Steve Lewin will be doing an outing for us at the claims at Copper creek. He will coordinate with our outings director Scott Long for a date. More to follow.



ROARING CAMP

If you are interested in going to roaring camp for a group outing next year, the dates are May 19 thru@6th 2019.

If you have any questions please contact Debbie W.

GPAA REORGANIZATION

The GPAA has done some reorganization with in the GPAA. Sam Servetter is in charge of the Gold and Treasure Show, and Brandon has taken over the Chapters, Kevin Hoagland is in charge of the claims.



HOLIDAY DINNER

The chapter will provide the meat (ham and turkey) as well as dinnerware and condiments. The following is a list of some suggested dishes you may want to choose to sign up for. Contact Jeanne G. 360-673-3179, if you need help. Please feel free to bring something not on the list if you want to, these are only suggestions.

HOT DISHES

Bread Dressing, Green Bean Bake, Mashed Potatoes, Scalloped Potatoes, Gravy, Little Smokies

SALADS

Green Salads and salad dressing, Jell-O Salad, Macaroni Salad, Potato Salad, 7 Layer Salad

VEGETABLES

Corn, Peas, Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes, Yams

APPETIZERS

Cheese and crackers, Chips and dips, Veggie tray, Fruit Tray, Relish Tray

DESSERTS

Cool Whip, Ice Cream, Cookies, Pie, Cake, Candy

MISC.

Cranberry sauce, Apple sauce, Rolls and Butter

DRINKS

Coffee tea will be provided



For a metal, gold tends to be rather shy and sneaky, its discovery difficult and it occurs in the oddest places. For example, small traces of gold have been found in the leaves of the

3 Month Raffle

We will be drawing our raffle prize at the Dec meeting. I spoke to Betty and Augie and whoever wins can check with them for a special price for a second person to go with them. Remember air fare is extra but you can shop for some good deals.

All proceeds go to help support the chapter so get your tickets. We will draw the winning tickets at our Dec. Meeting. Winner need not be present to win. We will make every effort to notify you within 1 week. You have 30 days to claim your prize. You can sell tickets to folks not in the chapter too.

GPAA KITS

Remember if you are not currently a GPAA member to take advantage of all the benefits available to GPAA members and join or renew your membership.



November 2018 Meeting Minutes

- Meeting was called to order at 2:07
- There were 2 guests in attendance
- The secretary minutes were read, a motion to accept was made and passed
- The treasurers report was read, a motion to accept was made and passed
- A motion was made and passed to open the voting for officers and board members to all chapter members in good standing.
- A motion was made and passed to all a vote by hands for this election as there were no opposed positions
- State Director update, Steve announced that there will be an outing coming up on the copper mine claim date tbd
- Election results: Vice President - Jeff Wooldrige Treasurer - Patti Long
Board of Directors - Rick Beehler, Candy Croonquist, Scott Long, Tina Long
- There is a new sign up sheet for a committee to discuss issues, suggestions for partnering with the GPAA
- Preston is replacing the signs with metal ones on the two claims
- The next gold show meeting is at Elmers Dec. 1st at 2:00
- There will be paydirt at the next meeting from Roaring Camp and Colorado
- GPAA kits are available
- Don is looking into getting magnets for locating meteorites
- See Dave Conti for ordering name tags



screened suction hose with bucket

For Sale
4" Gold Dredge \$1850.00

D&K Gold Dredge with Keene pump, Thomas Air pump, Dual air hoses with regulators and safety bottle. 6HP Briggs & Stratton engine, 17' of dredge hose,

For information call Ken at 503-887-0008

The best way to get rich during the California Gold Rush was by selling mining pans for nearly \$250 in today's dollars and eggs for \$92 each

[E.L. Hamilton](#)

James Wilson Marshall's discovery of gold flakes in the American River in the Sacramento, California, Valley in 1848 set off more than Gold Rush Fever. The non-native population of the territory exploded from less than 1,000 to more than 100,000, speeding its ascension to statehood (granted in 1850). A total of \$2 billion's worth of gold was extracted, though wealth was concentrated among the few.

Gold-mining towns sprang up all over the region, and savvy entrepreneurs made their fortunes by selling food and supplies to the miners—at extremely inflated prices. Indeed, one of the richest men to emerge from the California Gold Rush was a general-store owner named Sam Brannan, who inflamed people's passions by marching down a street waving a bottle of gold and shouting, "Gold! Gold from the American River!"

Even the U.S. president was swept up in the fever. "The accounts of abundance of gold are of such an extraordinary character as would scarcely command belief were they not corroborated by the authentic reports of officers in the public service," President James K. Polk announced in a State of the Union address in December 1848.

Like any dream of hitting the lottery, gold-mining required timing, luck, and hard work. The earliest to arrive in 1848 and 1849 fared well enough. Men (and a few women) poured into the region from ever-widening circles, by land and sea, first from the California area itself and nearby Oregon, then from as far away as Mexico, Peru, Hawaii, and China. They arrived with little more than they could carry. They needed food and tools.

California's remote location and sparse population meant most supplies were imported from vast distances. In just a few short months, prices for food, dry goods, and supplies tripled. As the major port where goods were unloaded and sold, San Francisco boomed.

Edward Gould Buffum was the first journalist to write a book about the Gold Rush, *Six Months in the Gold Mines*, published in 1850. In it, he described having a breakfast of bread, cheese, butter, sardines and two bottles of beer with a friend and receiving a bill for a then staggering \$43, according to *Smithsonian* magazine, the equivalent today of \$1,326.70.

Pans the miners used cost 20 cents before 1849, but soon rose to \$8, or \$246 in 2017 dollars. Boots cost \$6, or \$185. A shovel went for \$36, or more than \$1,000. Food was just as dear. The price of eggs rose from \$1 per egg to \$3, or \$92.56. Rice was \$8 per pound, or \$246.83. Beef cost \$10 per pound, or \$308.54.

By comparison, coffee beans, crackers, and oranges sound relatively affordable, at .51 per pound, or \$4.63. [Calculations via inflation calculator at in2013dollars.com, which uses Consumer Price Index along with historical study conducted out of Oregon State University] Those starved for information paid a pretty price: Old newspapers sold for \$1 each, or around \$30 today. The merchant Sam Brannan built a store next-door to Sutter's Fort, where Marshall first discovered gold. During the height of the rush, Brannan made \$2,000 a day from miners.

The region's population continued to swell during the early 1850s even as the opportunity to strike it rich dried up. New manufacturing methods required capital and centralized control of deep-lode mining in the hands of a wealthy few.

Some of the most iconic American entrepreneurs launched their careers and empires during the Gold Rush. The early seeds of Philip Danforth Armour's meatpacking empire were planted when he went to California and sold food to miners. Levi Strauss peddled dry goods, including his sturdy denim cloth (though the iconic blue jeans weren't manufactured until 1873). Henry Wells and William Fargo established a banking business. John Studebaker made wheelbarrows for miners.

Buy Sell Trade

Have something to sell or give away? Looking for something to buy? This is a free service to our Chapter members. Please send an email to Mark Mattila with the information and pictures at chipper49@outlook.com

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 their family as well.

aerickson@q.com

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 \$8.00 for each tag that includes up to 2 lines of engraving.

Questions?

Contact David Conti

user764554@aol.com

360-256-0892



MEMBERSHIP CARDS

If you need an updated membership card be sure to let Edna know. Also we have medical cards available.



OUTINGS/ EDUCATION

We need your suggestions for outings and education.

There is a list started at the membership table. Please contribute.

A.K.A.U. LODGE SPECIAL

Betty and Augie have a Dec. special for those folks who want to go to the lodge in Nome, Alaska this year. Sign up and make your purchase in DEC. 2018 and you get 1 week at regular price (\$2500) and the second person can go for \$1000, that's a \$1500 savings. For any questions or to make a purchase contact Betty at 760 500 1329.

MEMBERSHIP CARD

Don't have a current membership card? Let Edna know when you sign in at the membership desk.

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

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	Patti Long	503-320-3854	palong48@gmail.com
Board of Directors	(Elected)		
	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	503-754-0612	mthoodfire74@hotmail.com
	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
	Sandy Croonquist	503-661-5529	exetor1325@comcast.net
	Tammy Binford	360-449-2714	kaycbear99@gmail.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 Coordinator	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	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Leigh Anne Chavez	503-531-2770	ohwell1956@yahoo.com
Picnic, Holiday Dinner	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-254-9309	koppi@comcast.net
Librarian	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Membership	Edna Nelsom	503-307-0852	rockhoundstoo1966@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Outing Coordinator	Scott Long	503-754-0612	mthoodfire74@hotmail.com
Safety Officer	Ron Koppi	360-254-9309	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	360-254-9309	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 Dinner	Jeanne Gieg	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
Assistant	Richard Pluff jr	503-957-6884	magicdragon1956@hotmail.com
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

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/>

Education



Dave Urich will be speaking to our chapter about his summer work experience in Nome, Alaska

If you have a topic or idea for future education or would even like to share your knowledge on a topic or piece of equipment please let Mark know.

The average person has about 0.2 milligrams of gold in their body at any given time, found mostly



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Ron Farnsworth Scrap Metal
Pickup

Topside Mining

Northwest Detector Sales
503-936-1443

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Creekside Prospecting

Roaring Camp
209 296-4100

Whites Metal Detectors
1-800-547-6911

Armadillo Mining

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Chinook Winds Casino & Resort Fossickers

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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
12/9	Board 12:30 and Chapter 2:00 meetings and holiday dinner
1/13/19	Board 12:30 and Chapter 2:00 meetings
1/19	Cape Disappointment Prospecting
2/10/19	Board 12:30 and Chapter 2:00 meetings
TBD	Copper Creek Outing