



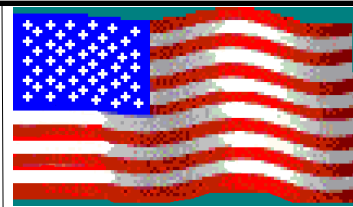
Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors News

Volume II Issue 2
February 2013

SW Washington Gold Prospectors

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Happy Valentine's Day



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Novak Wins Gold!

Bob Novak was the proud winner of January's very nice gold nugget. Here at right he is standing next to president Al Lewis. Not pictured are the gemstone winners Ernie Stinson and Kameron Mitchell.



Sex on the Beach — by Kameron Mitchell

There I was on the Mexican Riviera with my wife having sex on the beach. No, not that kind! The drinkable kind. It contains vodka, peach schnapps, orange juice, and cranberry juice. There are other recipes, but I digress.

As I sipped on this screwdriver wannabe, I began to think about the Mayans.

Didn't they have all kinds of gold, silver, and jewels? Where did it all come from? I know the Spaniards stole (were given) a lot of gold but did they at least hide some of their gold from the Spaniards?

Being so flat and not seeing the geological structures I've always associated with gold, this area didn't seem like the place where these valuable things would be prevalent. So, with my muddled brain, I still figure they must have obtained these valuables from other areas. But where?!!

I know there have been many, many dollars worth of golden Mayan artifacts

found and although I wouldn't mind discovering some, I'm more interested in the raw materials. Besides, I believe in most of these states, relics, especially found by foreigners and gringos like myself, must be given to the state government.

With my imagination, even dulled slightly by drink, I can see the Mayans finding Sutter's Mill-type nuggets, flakes, and fines that could easily be manufactured into beautiful jewelry by their artisans. Maybe I could find one of their stashes!

So how did some of that gold find its way to the Yucatan? While visiting the pyramids, the guide told us that the Mayans had a very good road system. Although they didn't have the speedy transportation of today, as I'm sure you realize, gold was moved very efficiently. They probably thought time was on their side, but they were wrong about that, which is a regrettable historical fact.

I've discovered that in what is called the Guerrero Gold Belt in southern Mexico (in the states of Guerrero, Oaxaca, and Chiapas) there is an estimated 15 million ounces of gold! I'd be willing to bet that there are other areas with gold as well. I've got a lot of homework to do! As in most gold bearing areas of this nature, the big companies have claimed up the bigger deposits. I don't mind, I'll take a small one!

Now that I'm back home, I realize that even here a lot of homework must be done to find gold. I also realize that it is less expensive to travel to areas near home. And bribery isn't a major part of the law system here either. There are even beaches to mine here, sex or no on the beach! But, dreams are nice, aren't they?



Sex on the beach

Concentrates — Meeting Minutes Highlights

Business Meeting 1/13/13 (unofficial minutes)

The secretary read the minutes of the December 9, 2012 regular meeting and they were approved. The treasurer presented his report and it was accepted.

Membership Secretary Locnikar described the membership requirements of participating in a minimum of three activities within a calendar year, and reminded everyone that signing in at an activity is the responsibility of the individual. Also, be sure to check the membership roster to correct any errors in your contact information.

President Lewis presented certificates of appreciation for services provided during 2012 to the following: Myron Hastings, Kameron Mitchell, Rosalie Mitchell, Betsy Shepherd, Robert Gregory, Judy Stevens, Daniel Keese, Steve Keese, Kevin Ford, Terry Eldred, Pat Locnikar, Ernie Stinson, Scott Atkinson, Herb Gunn, Bill Tatum, and Wayne Deaton. Safety officer Randy Harper reminded everyone that water is high, fast and cold this time

of the year, so be sure to have someone with you when you're out, and have a way to warm up.

Librarian Ernie Stinson described materials available for members to be signed out and to be brought back at the next meeting.

Webmaster Rosalie Mitchell stated that a for sale or trade section has been added to our website.

Newsletter editor Kameron Mitchell requested more input from members, even if it's only a paragraph.

Equipment custodian Dave Greer described items that may be checked out by members. Unfinished Business

1. Shirts that have been ordered plus a few extra are here. A shirt was presented to Ernie Stinson as the award for winning the logo contest.

2. The current status of the tax exempt application is that we are waiting for the IRS to assign a federal identification number, which is needed on the application form.

3. The audit committee appointed in December reports that revenue and expenses matched up.

4. The Gold Show in the Columbia Hall at the Salem fairgrounds is on March 29-30. A sign-up sheet to work in our booth and at the front door collecting admission fees is available at this meeting and also at the February meeting. We will get the same size booth as last year.

New Business

1. President Lewis asked for volunteers to serve as Randy Harper's assistant safety officers. Members volunteering and appointed as assistant safety officers are Betsy Shepherd and Dave Greer. At least one safety officer must be present at all outings.

2. There was a discussion about possible outings this year. For a potluck barbecue lunch outing at Lewisville Park in early August, Steve Lewin will try to get a reservation at a picnic shelter and donate any expenses for that reservation. There may be an outing at

Vancouver's Wintler Park along the Columbia River to learn how to use a "beach box" owned by Terry Eldred. An outing to learn how to dredge, taught by D&K personnel was mentioned, which may involve taking a class from D&K before the outing. Members present indicated an interest in joining with other GPAA clubs for outings. Also, Steve Lewin proposed a "hard rock" mining outing at a to-be-disclosed location on a mountain. President Lewis proposed several outings this year at the Blue Moon claim out of Sweet Home, Oregon, one involving dredges.

3. Steve Lewin reported that there is a new ranger in the district where the Copper Creek claim is located, so he is basically starting over on the issue of opening up access to Copper Creek.

The gold nugget was won by Robert Novak, and gemstones were won by Ernie Stinson and Kameron Mitchell.

Promising Prospects — Outings & Events

Upcoming Meetings:

February 10, 2013
 March 10, 2013
 April 14, 2013
 May 12, 2013
 June 9, 2013
 July 14, 2013

Upcoming Outings:

August 17, 2013

OUTINGS

The outings chair, Steve Lewin, has been working hard at planning some fun outings for us this year. One that we all will be looking forward to will be what has become our annual BBQ. He has reserved an excellent covered site named "Dogwood" at Lewisville Park just north of Battle Ground, WA on August 17th. The preferred weekends were already reserved. There is running water, picnic tables, restrooms nearby, and easy access to the river. Set this Saturday aside now! More information on this and other outings will be forthcoming.

[Check the website for the latest info on outings!]

[www.swwgoldprospectors.org]



Lewisville Park Fun 2012





Exclaims !!

So, how's being among the Silent Majority working for you? Generally speaking, the Silent Majority is conservative thinkers. I, admittedly, am a member and I don't know what I can do about it. I am what I am: don't stir the pot; follow the rules; keep quiet; you know the rest. But look what is happening to us. The loud voices are being reported as "the American people have spoken!" Really? Do most Americans think that the government should provide us everything? Do we no longer think that with hard work we can achieve the American Dream? It appears that nearly 50% are looking

for a handout now. You know, "why work hard if I can get it free?" What shortsightedness and selfishness! I heard Bob Beckel this past week say in essence, "Is the nearly 17 trillion in debt causing you any financial issues right now? No? Then don't worry about it! It's OK." And our Sec. State Hillary Clinton said that we shouldn't worry about what happened in Bengazi, We can't do anything about that now. With this kind of mindset so prevalent nowadays, it's time we silent ones start speaking up or soon we won't be able to pan for gold let alone afford to buy the pan! - Kameron Mitchell

GPAA Mission Statement

The mission of the Gold Prospectors Association of America is to further the advancement of gold prospecting and treasure hunting by:

1. Developing an organization that actively encourages camaraderie, fellowship, and personal contact among people with the same interests in gold prospecting;
2. Adhering to environmental laws;
3. Following the Bureau of Land management, Forest Service, and Army Corps of Engineers laws and doctrines;
4. Promote increased public awareness of ecologically sound prospecting and small-scale recreational mining for adults, families, and children;
5. Teaching club members how to prospect for gold and treasures;
6. Developing teachers and mentors;
7. Educating the general public about the history of gold prospecting and of the importance of mineral extraction.

Retorts



It goes to show what you might find in the creek beds when you're looking for gold. It's not ours.

Becky Beck

[To the Club]

I would like to say thank you to all of you for your kind get well wishes. It is nice to know that people still care. I'm much better and will be back to my old self soon. See you next month at the meeting.

Chris Beck

The Panning Gourmet

Green Chili Turkey Stuffing By Helen Howard

Very savory and smells divine while cooking.

Serves about 10 persons.

Ingredients

1 package Pepperidge Farm cubed stuffing mix
 16-ounces chicken broth or vegetable broth
 1/2 liter bottle Vermouth
 1 small can green chopped green chili
 1/2 tablespoon garlic powder
 1/2 tablespoon sage
 1 cups chopped onions
 1 cups chopped celery
 1/2 pound butter

Directions

Chop onions and celery into small pieces and sauté in 1 pound butter until soft, approximately 10 minutes. Add green chili and cook an additional 5 minutes. Line a 14-inch Dutch oven, or a 12-inch deep Dutch oven) with liner or heavy duty foil. Empty packages of bread cube stuffing mix into the Dutch oven. Add sautéed onions, celery, and chili. Add vermouth, chicken broth the seasonings and stir. The mix should be very wet. Pat surface flat and cover with lid. Cook over 9 coals on bottom and 14 coals on top for approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. Check at 1 hour to see if the top is browning. If not, add a few more coals to the top.

Rich Placer Deposits — Educational Articles

The Legislative Corner - By Pat Locnikar

Oregon The Oregon legislature convenes on Monday, February 4, but most of the bills that were pre-session filed have already had a first reading and were referred to committees. SB 115, prohibiting use of motorized equipment for placer mining, was described in last month's newsletter as LC 2125. In addition, the following bills may be of interest:

SB 12, filed at the request of State Treasurer Ted Wheeler, would prohibit the use of ATVs in the beds or banks of any waterway in the Common School Forest Lands or the Elliott State Forest Lands designated and set aside as described in ORS 530.450 to 530.520. However, ATVs may cross the banks and beds of these waterways if traveling on a roadway that crosses the waterway.

SB 370, sponsored by Senator Bates, would prohibit commercial placer mining in Oregon unless a permit is obtained from the Department of State Lands, which would be in addition to any other permit required by law. "Commercial placer mining" is not defined in the bill, and the department is directed to define that term by rule. An annual fee of \$125 is required for the issuance of this permit.

SB 401, also sponsored by Senator Bates, would significantly expand the list of waterways designated as "scenic waterways," now also including creeks, effective as of January 1, 2014. As you may recall, removal-fill permits are not issued for prospecting on scenic waterways. Significant additions include portions of the Mollala River, Illinois River, Chetco River, Sandy River, Brice Creek, and Quartzville Creek.

All four of these Senate Bills have been referred to the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. In addition, SB 370 has been referred to the Judiciary Committee if/when it leaves the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. As of January 31, the Environment and Natural Resources Committee has not posted any meeting agendas online.

HB 2396, sponsored by Rep. Witt, and co-sponsored by Rep. Buckley, Clem, Doherty, Frederick, and Matthews, adds a definition for "large woody debris," as any downed wood that captures gravel, provides stream stability or provides fish habitat. Then, this term is added to the definition of "material" in the removal-fill law provisions. This bill has been referred to the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. This committee has not yet set a date for any hearing on this bill.

Washington The Washington Legislature convened on January 14, 2013 and must complete all work by April 28, 2013. The following bills may be of interest:

HB 1111, sponsored by Rep. Taylor, Overstreet, Short, and Shea, would empower the Washington Attorney General to condemn land owned by the federal government that is forested or available for active forestry uses. Any land acquired by the state under this provision must be made available for sale to private landowners for active forestry uses. This bill was referred to the Capital Budget Committee on January 16, but has not yet been scheduled for any hearing.

SB 5254, sponsored by Sen. Chase and Shin, would require that the

Fish and Wildlife Department prohibit activities that harm or disturb spawning beds of salmon, steelhead, and other fish on all rivers and streams where spawning activities occur. Included in the list of prohibited activities is digging or removing gravel from spawning beds. The department is directed to determine the time periods when these activities are prohibited. Note: as the Gold and Fish Pamphlet already contains timing restrictions for dredging, and prohibits untimed digging within the wetted perimeter, this bill will likely have more of an impact on boaters and fishermen using waders. This bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources & Parks on January 24, 2013, but has not yet been scheduled for a hearing.

SB 5266 and SB 5391 concern the Discover Pass. SB 5266 would require all persons renewing a vehicle's license to purchase a Discover Pass unless the person affirms that (1) the vehicle will not be used to access any place where the pass is required, (2) the person plans to buy a pass at a later time when the vehicle will be used where the pass is required, or (3) a pass has already been obtained and is valid for at least the next six months. SB 5266 was referred to the Natural Resources & Parks Committee on January 24, 2013 but has not yet been scheduled for a hearing. SB 5391 would exempt off-road vehicles with a valid off-road vehicle permit from the requirement to display the Discover Pass at locations where off-road vehicle activity is allowed. SB 5391 was referred to the Natural Resources & Parks Committee on January 29, 2013 and is scheduled for a hearing on February 5.

The Trading Post



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The Tailings Pile — Other Notes of Interest

- It was reported that SyFy channel has a new series on ghosts and gold miners. You might like to check it out.
- Don't forget to bring your items to the swap table to either sell or trade. Remember a donation to the club for each item you sell.
- All members in good standing may advertise for free. Send or give the editor your want ad or for sale ad.
- Reminder: we have an ongoing food drive for the needy of our area. Bring in two non-perishable

food items to any meeting and receive one free raffle ticket!

- Remember, we have a metals and aluminum can drive. Please bring in all your scrap metals and crushed aluminum cans for selling to a recycler. All proceeds are to go to the club.
- Be sure to always sign in at meetings and outing to be credited with attendance. To be a member in good standing you must attend three meetings or outings each year.

- Please update your personal information with the secretary.
- Tune up your metal detectors! An outing may be coming soon. Don't have a detector? Check out the club's.
- Did you know? Gold can be found in 23 states: AL, AK, AZ, CA, CO, GA, ID, MD, MI, MT, NV, NM, NC, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, and WY. WOW!!

Heads Up to all Smokers — Both the Oregon and Washington legislatures are considering bills that would prohibit smoking a pipe, cigar or cigarette in a motor vehicle containing any passengers under the age of 18. (Oregon SB 444 and Washington SB 5230) Under both bills, this infraction can be enforced only if the law enforcement officer stops the vehicle for another traffic infraction. Neither bill requires that the person smoking actually be the driver. The Washington bill limits enforcement to a verbal warning for the first six months after the effective date of August 1, 2013. The Oregon bill does not include the verbal warning provision, but rather would impose a fine of \$250 for the first offense, \$500 for the second offense, and \$1,000 for third and subsequent offenses.

**Southwest Washington
Gold Prospectors**

Meets 2nd Sunday every month at 1:00 pm
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Join us !

All interested parties are invited to attend one of our monthly meetings. There will be opportunities to learn about prospecting laws, methods, and equipment as well as some hands-on practice. Soon there will also be outings to enjoy the pleasures of prospecting for gold. Become a member of one of the newest chapters of the Gold Prospectors Association of America. There are no membership fees and GPAA membership is not required to join in the fun.



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To: