

SWWGP Newsletter

July 2021



Presidents Message

WE ARE BACK!!! July 11th 12:30 Board Meeting, 2:00 General Meeting

It has been a long time (March 2020) since we have had a general meeting. Tell your friends that meetings are starting. Come early and visit with members old and new. All the board members and committee chairs have been working together for the last 16 months to keep everything on track, updated and ready to go. We have improvised to keep bills paid etc. As you all know we are a non profit and most of our income comes from our raffles etc.

We have some fun things planned so I hope to see you all at the meeting.

Debbie

MASKS

Covid is not gone, and even if you have been vaccinated please feel free to wear a mask. I am not going to be the mask police and check to see that you are or aren't vaccinated. Be cautious and help to keep our members safe and healthy. As with all gatherings there are folks who have some health issues so please be courteous.

GENERAL MEETING

Our general meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2021 and will be held at the Minnehaha grange at 2 o'clock. Come a little early and visit with others.

We have a great raffle lined up. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Tammy will be selling the 3 month raffle tickets as well. Those prizes include a pair of gold nugget earrings, a mans watch, outdoor cooker 2 Chinook Winds lodging packages and more. Tickets for this raffle will be sold thru our Sept meeting bar-b-que. That meeting has been changed to Sept. 19, 2021.

We are still deciding on a place and food.

Be sure to sign in at the membership table and update your information. Everyone signing in will receive a raffle ticket for a special drawing. Be sure to get your membership card and a medical information card.

NEW RULES

There are new gold and fish rules, and you need to update the ones you carry with you to the new one.

MISSING EQUIPMENT

We are missing some equipment belonging to the chapter. Please bring it to the meeting and give it to Don Spellman or Dennis Witcher.

We are going to start charging a \$25 deposit (cash or check only) on each piece of equipment being checked out. Your deposit will be refunded when you return the equipment and all parts in good working order and clean.

OPEN POSITIONS

We have 3 open board positions that need to be filled. See Debbie or Jeff.

We also need people to serve on some committees as well as hospitality help, see Jeanne.

Outing committee members, Someone to take over the Official Facebook page.

2 people to help with raffle on meeting day.

Steve K. would like to have a couple of folks to help him with set up and tear down of the chairs and table upstairs.

MEMBER LOST

We have lost another member. Dan Shelton has passed away. Dan lost his fight with cancer. His willingness to help everyone and his sense of humor will be greatly missed. His name will be added to the memorial plaque.

If you know of any other member who has passed away please let Debbie W. or Dave Conti know so we can put their name on the memorial plaque.

SUNSHINE

Jeanne G. is our new sunshine person. Please let her and Debbie know of anyone who is ill, recovering from an accident or surgery, etc. Jeanne will send a card and message from the chapter members as well as flowers as needed.

Our thanks to Ann Erickson for the fantastic job she did as the Sunshine person.

PAY DIRT, STORE AND APPERAL

We are planning to have paydirt for sale at the meetings. The store will have items for sale and t-shirts will be available to purchase. If you don't see something you would like to purchase we will try to order is for you.

BAR-B-QUE /PICNIC

We are working on the details for the bar-b-que/picnic. We know the date is Sept. 19,2021. Which is the 3rd Sunday, no meeting the second Sunday of Sept. We are working on food ideas, games etc. We will have panning, horseshoes, raffle, and some metal detecting. If you have an idea please let us know.

FREE TABLE

We will have a table with some items that you can take. This will be on a first come first serve basis but please share. These are items that have been donated to the Chapter.

Equip Your Vehicle for Prospecting Season

Some of the richest gold mining areas are very remote, located many miles from the nearest town. This is one of the things that makes gold prospecting such an enjoyable outdoor activities, but it also means that you need to go prepared so that you stay safe out in the backcountry.

If you spend enough time in the backcountry, you are likely to encounter a tricky situation. Whether that is getting lost, a flat tire, breaking down, or just losing your direction for a little while, having the proper preparation in place will keep you safe.

Before leaving town, make sure you tell someone exactly where you are going. Hopefully you will be accessible by cell phone, but some areas don't have coverage. Remember that, and never depend on your cell phone to keep you out of trouble!

Here are just a few things to keep in keep with you when you venture into gold country:

A good vehicle—one that has high clearance and 4WD is best

Survival Gear—A first aid kit, dehydrated food, and plenty of water

GPS—handheld GPS Units are inexpensive, Bring extra batteries

Map—don't depend on your GPS, Bring some other maps too.

Compass—learn how to use it properly with your map

Executive Board	(Elected)		
President	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Vice President	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicaajeff@msn.com
Secretary	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Assistant Secretary	Van Meter		vmeter@comcast.net
Treasurer	Patti Long	503-320-3854	palong48@gmail.com
Board of Directors	(Elected)		
	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
	Maurine Koppi	3609079295	koppi@comcast.net
	Jim Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
	Tammy Binford	503-766-7814	kaycbear99@gmail.com
	Edna Nelson	503-307-0852	rockhounstool1966@yahoo.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 Coordi-	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	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Tina Long	503-544-3695	treasuretrove67@hotmail.com
Picnic, Holiday Din-	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Librarian	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Membership	Edna Nelson	503-307-0852	rockhound-
Newsletter	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Outing Coordinator	Scott Long	971-219-1079	mthoodfire74@hotmail.com
Safety Officer	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	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	360-907-2602	harmonicaajeff@msn.com
Sunshine	Ann Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
T-Shirts	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Webmaster	Dennis Clevenger	360-281-6338	dennisc@pacifier.com
Historian	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicaajeff@msn.com
Assistant	Deborah Lee	360-624-6565	deborah35@me.com
Gold Buyer	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
PayDirt	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.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	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Leigh Anne Chavez	503-531-2770	ohwell1956@yahoo.com
Facebook	Shawndell Albright	503-289-3536	northrains@gmail.com
Assistant			
Raffle	Jim Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
Assistant	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Assistant	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
Chapter Store	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Chapter mailing address: 5400 NE Highway 99 STE G Vancouver WA 98665			

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/>

GPAA <https://www.goldprospectors.org/>

[HPA application process.](#)

<http://mylandmatters.com/>

FACEBOOK EDUCATION LINKS HERE

<https://www.facebook.co/SWwashingtonGoldProspectors>

Thanks to these companies for supporting our activities.

Pro Caliber	McCord's Vancouver Toyota	AKAU Lodge 760-500-1329
Designs of all kinds	Creekside Prospecting	Roaring Camp
Whites Metal Detectors	Armadillo Mining	Spin it Off
Chinook Winds Casino & Resort	Fossickers	Thrive Life
Quick Badge	Dana's classic Flowers and Gifts	Northwest Detector Sales
Danner Boots	Danas Classic Hair Supply	Oregon Treasure Trail Society
Lost Adams 541-340-0931	Packwood Prospecting and Mining Supply	American Mining Supply
Ron Farnsworth Scrap Metal Pickup	Topside Mining	The Gold Lab
Gold Getter	Wilson Brothers	Avon Products—Bug Guard
AAA Precious Metals	Sportsman's Warehouse	

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.