

# SWWGP

## Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors

July 2023

Next Meeting July 9th 2:00, Board Mtg. 12:30

### **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

We have some chair positions open and we have election coming up soon (Nov.) Please consider filling a position or running for an office or board position. Volunteers are vital to the health of the chapter. Many organizations and clubs are failing or struggling because they don't have enough people to help. Fortunately for us that is not the case. We have a lot of folks willing to help out with different things.

It takes all of us to make our chapter successful. Everyone one who set up outings, to those who teach panning to those who help with set up ,etc. you get the point. You all are very valuable to the chapter and if I don't tell you enough you are appreciated. Thank you.

### **OUTING DIRECTOR**

We need an outings director, that person will be responsible to help out with the outings calendar, set gold, metal detecting, and mineral outings.

You do not have to attend each event, but we do need to make sure we have someone to lead the outing. That lead person will make sure everyone signs in, give them a raffle ticket and run the drawing. Easy peesy.

The director will work with the President on scheduling.

**NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS NOW AVAILA-**



# CLARK COUNTY FAIR



## CLARK COUNTY FAIR

We have a display area through the grange at the fair. There is no cost to us and this is a good place to tell folks about our chapter and mining. We will have chapter members staffing the area on Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>. 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> from 12-6. If you are at the fair on those days please stop by our display area and see if our folks need a break. This is a great place to present positive information about our chapter as well as the type of mining we do.

## 2023 OREGON TRAILS DAYS

Friday, July 21, 2023 (All day) to Sunday, July 23, 2023 (All day)

Oregon Trail Days will be held July 21-23, 2023

Oregon Trail Days is an annual event hosted by Puget Sound Free Trappers and the Tenino Area Chamber of Commerce. The event offers a parade, a rock and gem show, black powder shoots, Pioneer Village, vendors of all kinds, and lots of food!

For more information, Parade and Vendor applications visit the Tenino Area Chamber of Commerce website at Oregon Trail Days (OTD) - Tenino Area Chamber of Commerce ([teninoacc.org](http://teninoacc.org))

Oregon Trail Days: July 21-23, 2023

Parade: July 22, 2022



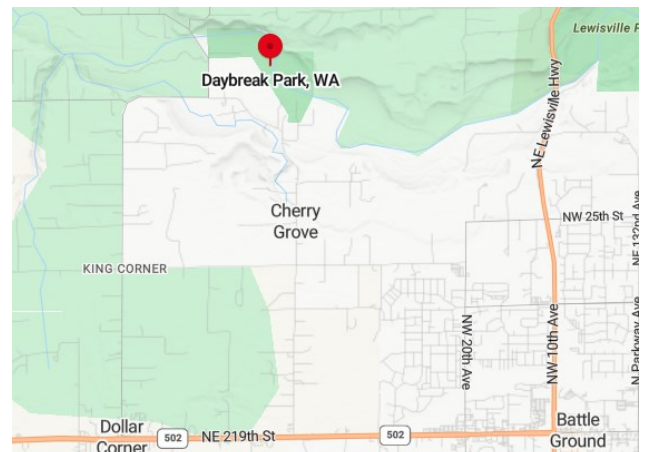
## DAYBREAK

We had a good turnout (approx. 35) for our Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup> outing at daybreak park. There was some gold found. Many of us enjoyed just visiting with each other. Wayne Tipping won the drawing.

Our next daybreak outing will be on SAT. July 22, 10-2.

Drawing 1ish. Be sure you sign in and get your raffle ticket. Bring your chair, lunch/snack, beverage and panning stuff.

Come join us on Sat.



## **CLAIMS**

We will have final discussion on keeping or not keeping the claims. We need input from those of you who go up to the claims or intend to this year.

Maintaining these claims is a large expense to the chapter.

We need to do the paperwork and pay the fee to renew the claims in Aug.

We will also be deciding if we want to continue to payout the \$400-\$600+ a year for the maintenance if we choose to keep the claims.

So, if you are a chapter member, use or plan to use the claims, please attend this meeting.

## **PICNIC**

Our annual picnic will be held Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> 2023 at Daybreak Park. Currently Jeff W. is planning on B-B-Qing for us again.

Chapter will provide meat, buns, condiments, and dinnerware. Please sign up to bring a dish etc. or 2. Also bring at least 1 bag of ice, your chairs, and beverage.

We will be filling panning tubes with ice to keep food cold.

Sign up at membership table. Kid's prizes, lots of fun raffle prizes. Come join us and have fun.

Panning at river, metal detecting, and more.

## **NEW HOSPITALITY JAR**

We have a new hospitality jar that has been donated by Jay Collman. This will allow for transparency for all donation. There is no tip jar. All donations are to go to the chapter treasurer for the hospitality fund witch benefits all of our members. Monies will be turned in at the end of each meeting.

## **EDUCATION**

Dave Urick will be present our education feature this month.

## **GPAA MEMBERSHIP**

The winner of the GPAA 1 yr. membership is Genna Louie

## **APPEAREAL**

Be sure to check out items at the t-shirt table and the chapter store. Need a special order? Ask Maurine t-shirts, or Dennis Store.



## CAMPFIRE APPLE CRISP

3-4 apples cored

1/3 cup oats

3 cups brown sugar 1/2 cups whole wheat flour

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1/3 cup butter

2-3 tablespoons white sugar

Aluminum foil

In a bowl, add, oats, brown sugar, whole wheat flour, and butter, mixing with a fork until pieces of butter are evenly dispersed throughout the mixture.

Add in chopped apples, cinnamon, and white sugar mixing together.

Take 3 pieces of long foil (about a foot and half), fold each side up and pinch ends together forming a boat like shape. Place the ingredients in the center of the aluminum foil, folding the sides over and pinching to seal the package. Place on the grate over the fire pit, cooking for about 15-20 minutes.

If your fire doesn't have a grate, place the package in the fire pit, on the edge furthest from the flames, rotating once after 10 minutes of cooking.

## EQUIPMENT

Here is a partial list of equipment that our members are able to check out:

Pans, gold cubes, metal detectors, panning tubes, dry washer, sluice, mini sluice, hi banker, trammel, rocker box, vacuum, .

We have a dredge but it needs some parts.



There will be a complete list soon. Contact Dennis W. to check out items. Ron

Koppi is a backup person. There is a \$25 refundable deposit as long as item returned in good working order, with all parts, and clean.

Dennis, Ron, Maurine and Debbie will be cleaning out storage. We have items that may be for sale or free. That is to be determined. We will let you know. There is not room for a lot of folks to help with this so thank you to those who volunteered.



PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE

EST. 1990



A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation

***PLP exists to "Represent and assist outdoor user groups and individuals interested in keeping public and private lands open to prospecting, mining and outdoor recreation through education, scientific data and legal means."***

**June 2023**

**Save the Date!**

***Downieville Gold Rush Days is Fast Approaching!***

PLP will be at the Downieville Gold Rush Days event August 11-13. Come out and enjoy the festivities and great food. There will be live demonstrations and expert speakers to help you learn more about upping your prospecting game. PLP will have our famous paydirt bags, hats, and for the first time available for purchase, our new RECLAMATION DREDGING T-Shirts! It's okay to feel good about the fact that small scale miners are repurposing their dredges to clean up our waterways. We have always cared about our outdoor environment, but we have stepped up our game when it comes to recycle, reuse, repurpose. In 2008 the State of Washington gave dredgers there the Quicksilver AWARD for removing mercury from Washington's waterways. Watch the short video which also references state sponsored studies that found dredges actually leave the waterways cleaner than they found it: <https://youtu.be/Wke15rWFnFg>

Those members that have taken advantage of PLP's Dredge Reclamation have been making California waterways cleaner than they were before. Thank you PLP Members for doing such a great service for our environment and leaving the earth better than you found it. The grand finale, so-to-speak, at Downieville Gold Rush Days is that PLP will be holding the 2023 Grand Raffle Drawing on the last day, giving away \$THOUSANDS\$ of dollars' worth of major prizes! It is always fun to win, but even more fun to win in person!

BLM Claims Update: One of our members received a call from BLM telling them that a mining claim they hold will need to be amended down in size or additional people added as Claimholders since there are currently not enough claimholders to meet the 20 acres per claimholder. BLM quoted 43 CFR 3833.33 as the governing regulation for this action, and they are correct. How does a situation like this happen? Explanation: Over 20 years ago this person and his partner bought an 80 acre claim from 4 people that had originally filed it. This person and his partner have been filing the annual paperwork for almost a quarter of a century, and BLM has never said anything until now. We told them they need to comply because BLM not enforcing a rule for quite some time doesn't make the rule invalid. The only exception to the 20 acre per claimant rule is if you can prove a valuable deposit. The bar is very high, and it's costly to prove a valuable mineral deposit. We suggest that in many cases that the simplest way to correct the situation is to add trusted partners to your list of claimants, unless you're willing to amend the claim down in size, which most people probably would rather not do. A time limit wasn't set by BLM, but it is wise to not let things like this drag out for an extended period.

Supporting PLP's Annual Grand Raffle also helps us continue to fight for your rights!

A book of 12 tickets is only \$10. We have a lot of great high value prizes, and a list of those prizes is in the latest ICMJ Prospecting & Mining Journal. You can't win if you don't enter! Tickets are available NOW to purchase by phone for the **August 13th, 2023, Grand Raffle Drawing**. (Moved forward from July 13th - the tickets will say July 13th.) You can call our toll-free number (844) PLP-1990 which is (844) 757-1990 by the August 9th deadline or Mail a Check by the August 1st deadline (to the address below) and specify the number of ticket books you wish to have mailed to you.

If you like this information, **USE IT WISELY**

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Your PLP Board of Directors

The original. No compromise. Standing 33 years strong for Multiple Use on Public Land "RIGHTS"!

## **SWWGP General Meeting: June 11, 2023**

Meeting was called to order by 2:10 PM by President Debbie Witcher.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Secretary's Minutes:** The minutes from the April meeting were approved with one correction: Chinook Winds is not one of the 3-month raffle prizes for June; it is part of the 3-month raffle in September. It was moved, seconded, & passed to approve as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report** was read. It was moved, seconded, and approved as presented. There were still tickets available for the PLP drawing at 12 tickets/\$10.

### **Committees:**

**Claims:** Costing \$2000 to keep up the 2 bundles of 2 claims each, the board presented the membership some options:

Continue with claims as usual.

Let the claims go.

Transfer them to individuals from group members who will pay all fees, do all paperwork, etc.

Discussion about the claims, roads to the claims, gold or lack of finding gold on the claims, parking near claims. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the farther 2 claims will be kept by group. Final decision about the two nearer claims being vacated or transferred to interested members must be made by the July meeting since the due date for fees is September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Hospitality:** Help is needed with Hospitality; sign-up list in back.

**Memberships:** Edna Nelson - 2 new members.

**GPAA:** 71,915 points available to get items for the group from the GPAA catalogue. There will be a list of items that the group has for use or renting out. There is a rotating group of members who will check into viable options.

**Newsletter:** Mark Mattila, editor, needs articles for the newsletter.

**Outings:** Rick Beehler went over outings to Quartz Mt, Opal Dig & other locations. See FaceBook for details or call him at 360-606-6855.

The outing to Sunset Falls private property was deemed too difficult for many to get to the river. Instead, there will be an outing at Daybreak Park on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Sign in & each person will get an attendance ticket for raffle items. Bring chair, equipment, food, beverage; 10 AM to 3 PM with raffle drawing around 1 PM.

**Pay Dirt:** More gold will be bought for raffle items.

**Raffles:** You can receive a free raffle ticket if you donate item(s) to a raffle.

The September 3-month raffle will include the trip to Chinook for two (1 night lodging, dinner & show), gold cube, gold & wall clock made by Oregon Hunters Association.

**Events:** There were only 6 people who could go to Coos Bay for a great day for 150 kids. There were lots of activities. More volunteers are needed for next year.

**Safety:** Ron Koppi went over a list of items that should be in your vehicle when traveling, especially far off the beaten track. He conducted a wilderness Quiz to pinpoint how to cope with the unexpected.

### **Nominations & Committee Chairs:**

Chairs are needed now for Education and Outings director.

Four Board members are: Tammy Binford, Charlie Hord, Preston Griffin, Jeanne Gieg

Vice President Jeff Wooldridge is leaving his position due to his moving.

The Treasurer Michele Quackenbush needs to be reaffirmed.

**GPAA membership kit** was raffled to any non-GPAA member who wants to belong to GPAA, 1 ticket per person.

### **Associations:**

**PLP** - After discussion it was moved, seconded, and passed to renew membership with PLP, (\$150.00).

### **Small Scale Miners Action**

– After discussion it was moved, seconded, and passed that SWWGP would join as a group (\$300). A collection for the fee was gathered with the group's treasury making up any deficit. Individual members can join at \$25 per person.

### **Annual Picnic:**

There is a sign-up sheet for those who can help Jeanne Gieg & Debbie Witcher with the picnic. It will be on September 17th at Daybreak Park.

**Sunshine:** Ann Erickson has volunteered to be the Sunshine Chair.

**Doug Croonquist** passed away June 2, 2023. There is a card for Sandi and family. Flowers will also be sent from the group. His name will be added to the SWWGP Plaque of those members who have passed.

**Clark County Fair:** Linda Caton, Superintendent of Open Class Hobbies & Crafts, is letting the SWWGP have a nice cabinet to showcase gold prospecting. There is no cost to do this. A sign-up sheet is in back for those to help design & put up display in the cabinet. Set-up will be Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>. The Fair is from August 4th to August 13th. The exhibit must be removed on the last day of the Fair or by noon the following day. For those who volunteer to be there for a 4-hour shift, a parking voucher & entry tickets will be given. There is a sign-up sheet for this committee.

After break for refreshments, birthday was sung for those who had May or June birthdays.

### **Bylaws:**

Under GPAA bylaws, there are 5 executive members: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership. It was moved, seconded, and passed that Membership Chair is added to executive committee, to be in line with GPAA. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Assistant Secretary be allowed as part of the Executive Committee when the Secretary is not available. It takes 3 of the executive committee to have a meeting.

Next meeting will be June 9th, Sunday, at 2:00 PM in the Minnehaha Grange.

After the raffles, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Van Meter Hord, Assistant Secretary

<b>Executive Board</b>	(Elected)		
President	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Vice President	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Secretary	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Assistant Secretary	Van Meter Hord	360-699-2174	vmeter@comcast.net
Treasurer	Michele Quackenbush	360-608-5345	quacky@pacifier.com
Assistant Treasurer			
<b>Board of Directors</b>	(Elected )		
	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
	Maurine Koppi	3609079295	koppi@comcast.net
	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
	Jan Hurtubise	360-571-2473	eyedocmebe@comcast.net
	Van Meter Hord	360-699-2174	vmeter@comcast.net
<b>Claims Chair</b>	Preston Griffin	360-903-2054	griff11546@gmail.com
<b>State Director (WA)</b>	(Appointed by GPAA)		
	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
<b>Committees / Chairs</b>	Appointed by chapter President		
<b>Education</b>	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
<b>Equipment Manager</b>	Don Spillman	360-773-8708	Golddigger357@outlook.com
<b>Fundraising Coordi-</b>	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Assistant			
<b>Hospitality</b>	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant			
<b>Picnic, Holiday Din-</b>	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
<b>Librarian</b>	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
<b>Membership</b>	Edna Nelson	503-307-0852	rockhound-
<b>Newsletter</b>	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
<b>Outing Coordinator</b>			
<b>Safety Officer</b>	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Steve Keesee	360-269-2341	None
	Betty Erickson	503-801-1452	bettyerickson13@yahoo.com
<b>Sargent at Arms</b>	Steve Keesee		None
	Daniel Keesee	360-269-2341	
<b>Sunshine</b>	Jeanne Gieg		
<b>T-Shirts</b>	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
<b>Webmaster</b>	Jan Hurtubise	360-571-2473	eyedocmebe@comcast.net
<b>Historian</b>	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Assistant			
<b>Gold Buyer</b>	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
<b>PayDirt</b>	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.



<b>GPAA Points</b>			
<b>Name Tags</b>	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
<b>Awards</b>	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
<b>Picnic and Holiday</b>	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant			
<b>Facebook</b>	Rick Beehler	360-601-6855	rickbeehler@ymail.com
Assistant			
<b>Raffle</b>	Kerry Wookdridge		
Assistant	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Assistant	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
<b>Chapter Store</b>	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](http://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>

If anyone is cleaning out their garage and you have a tumbler just collecting dust I might have a home for it. I am trying to get my wife and daughter addicted and need a little help. A 3 pound single or bigger would be outstanding.  
Mark Mattila



### BUY SELL TRADE

For sale drill press, make offer

Free wire storage baskets, 2'x2' x4 foot long. 4 available. See Dennis.

## OUTINGS CALANDER

Since Ronda is not able to work on outings at this time, I have taken it over until we have another volunteer. John will still be working on gold outings.

We have some of the scheduling for the outings etc.

This is only a partial schedule and more will be add. Any suggestion you have will be welcome.

July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting

July 22<sup>nd</sup> Daybreak Park

Territorial days waiting for date.

Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> meeting

Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> Daybreak Park

Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> meeting

Sept.17<sup>th</sup> picnic at daybreak, 3 month raffle drawing

This is only a partial list:

Still working on the following,

More outings at Lewisville, Daybreak, Our Claims

Bingo Bus

Spin it off factory (local)

Sunstones

Fossils

Rice Rock Museum

Cape Disappointment

?????????????? Suggestions please

Again this is only a partial schedule. All outings, events etc. are weather dependent.

**Thanks to these companies for supporting our activities.**

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Designs of all kinds 360-892-5597	McCord's Vancouver Toyota	AKAU Lodge 760-500-1329
AAA Precious Metals	Creekside Prospecting	Roaring Camp
Whites Metal Detectors 1-800-547-6911	Armadillo Mining	Spin it Off
Chinook Winds Casino & Resort	Fossickers	The Gold Lab
Quick Badge	Gold Getter	Northwest Detector Sales 503-936-1443
Danner Boots 877-432-6637	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	De Rouse Prospectors Treasure Trove 917-798-8699

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