

Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors June 2026

Next Meeting June 14th at 2:00 pm, Board Meeting at 12:30 pm



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank everyone of our members for attending and participating in our meetings, outings, and events. It all counts. From purchasing raffle tickets, to leading a committee, setting up and taking down tables and chairs, leading an outing or event, teaching panning and good environmental practices and much more, it all counts.

We are one of the best chapters and non-profit clubs.

Everything we do affects the community in a positive way.

Think about all those in need we helped with the collection of food, pet food, diapers, money for meals on wheels, clothing and blankets and more.



SPECIAL NOTE!!!

Please **DO NOT RESPOND** to any message asking for money, buy gift cards, pay bills, provide any information on the chapter or our members. These messages are scams. They are harmful to all and cost you money and may give these scammer's access to your personal information. When in doubt please call Debbie W or "Mike". We will not ask any of this from you by text or email especially.

MEMBERS TAKE NOTE

Chris Burns will be holding outings at his claim for chapter members only on Saturday, June 27th for those unable to go on the Montana trip. Additional dates are: Saturday, July 25th and Saturday, August 22nd.

Tanner will be holding outing at his claim for chapter members only on Saturday, June 20th and Saturday, August 18th.

Jamie is still deciding on dates.

Thank you to Chris, Tanner, and Jamie for opening their claims to our members. Please remember carry out any trash you find.

We are a positive force in our community and example for all. I am proud to be your chapter, President.

See you at the June 14th meeting!!

PICNIC

Our picnic will be on Sunday, September 20th at Daybreak Park, the same place as the last couple of years. We will start setting up around 9 am.

The Chapter will provide fried chicken, dinnerware, and condiments. Please, bring 1 or 2 dishes for the potluck, your own chairs, beverages, and 1 or 2 bags of ice.

We will have prizes for the kids, play Bingo (no charge, lots of nice prizes), have our raffles, and more. Come join in on the fun!!

GPAA

Please remember to join and support the GPAA. Mention our chapter so we get the credit. Also check out the new GPAA web site.

GOLD TRAILS

Check out gold trails education with Kevin Hoagland on you tube. He has a master class on metal detecting that you can download and print.

VICE PRESIDENT

We are in need of a new VP. Must be a GPAA member.

See Debbie W. with questions, nominations, volunteers, and what duties are.

We want to thank Preston Griffin for temporarily covering this position until we elect a new VP to fill the 2-year term suddenly left open by the exit of JT Buck from our chapter.

NEWSPAPER ADS

Have you checked out the chapter announcements in both the Tidbits and the Reflector newspapers? If you haven't, please check out those publications.

MINERS RAFFLE

0.83 Gram Gold Piece Metal Detector Club Green Meadows Membership

Myrtlewood Charcutier Cutting Board Pair of Lawn Chairs

Winners will be drawn at the September 20th picnic. There will be no meeting on September 13th. Any chapter business will be handled at the picnic. Winners need not be present to win. Winners will be notified and have 30 days to claim their prize.

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 available at meetings and the picnic.

After we sell 500 tickets another prize will be added for each additional 300 tickets sold.

JUNE MEETING

Dan from Prospector's Treasure Trove and one of our members will be hosting a metal detecting treasure hunt here at our grange in the field. This is part of our education feature. Bring your detector if you have one. He will answer questions and have a couple of detectors available for purchase. Come and learn even if you don't currently have a detector.

FINAL SIGN UP FOR SAPPHIRE TRIP

Please sign up and verify that you are going on the trip to Montana. The folks in the vans are already covered. We need a head count for the entire group to give numbers to the vendors.

OUTINGS

If you have an idea for an outing, please contact Jamie or Debbie W.

I am working on the date for the Mammoths at Coyote Canyon and it looks like it will be September 26th or October 3rd, I need your input so I can reserve the date. It will be early afternoon. Additionally, it is about a 3-4 hour drive, 2 hours there, and the drive back.

There will be a slide show and talk. They will show us what is involved in cleaning, preservation and displaying of the bones etc. We will also go to the dig area to observe and more.

Please sign up and if you want a specific date make a note on the signup sheet.

NAME TAGS

Queenie will have the name tags that were ordered for pick up at the June 14th meeting if you haven't already picked them up.

PAY DIRT

We will have more pay dirt at the June meeting. Dirt from Prospector's Treasure Trove and from the Gold Baron.

T-SHIRTS

Need a chapter t-shirt? Now is the time to buy one and take advantage of the savings. \$20.

Myrtle Point Kids Day

There were 10 people from our chapter at the event. We had over 100+ young folks that we taught panning. Everyone feels that their time and personal funds spent were worthwhile to do this event.

We have been asked to come back next year, and I have been assured they have a sponsor to provide the money for the gold. We, however, do need some more people to go to Myrtle Point and help out.

Tony and Kris Hess, Thomas and Ray Malone, Norm and Betty Erickson, Doug and Lou Buckendahl, Leena Valkyrie and Debbie Witcher were those in attendance. Thanks to all of you. You are very much appreciated.

A special thank you to Tony and Kris along with "pup" for hauling the tables, pop-ups, supplies and me down and back. We need a commitment from our group by January 2027. Please sign up to help and participate in this event.

Sunny days are happy days!

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Executive Board | (Elected) | | |
| President | Debbie Witcher | 360-695-3215 | ddWitcher@yahoo.com |
| Vice President | OPEN | | |
| Secretary | Van Hord | 360-699-2174 | vmeter@comcast.net |
| Treasurer | Michele Quackenbush | 360-608-5345 | quacky@pacifier.com |
| Assistant Treasurer | OPEN | | |
| Board of Directors | (Elected) | | |
| | Ron Koppi | 360-921-3833 | koppi@comcast.net |
| | Maurine Koppi | 360-907-9295 | koppi@comcast.net |
| | Jeanne Gieg | 360-673-3179 | jeannegieg@gmail.com |
| | Preston Griffin | 360-903-2054 | griff11546@gmail.com |
| | Charlie Hord | 360-910-8414 | batray@comcast.net |
| | 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 |
| | Lisa Young | 503-260-2698 | Lbw.young@gmail.com |
| | | | |
| Claims Chair | 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 | OPEN | | |
| Equipment Manager | Dennis Witcher | 360-695-3215 | ddwitcher@yahoo.com |
| Assistant | Ron Koppi | 360-921-3833 | koppi@comcast.net |
| Fundraising Coordi- | Debbie Witcher | 360-695-3215 | ddwitcher@yahoo.com |
| Assistant | OPEN | | |
| Hospitality | Jeanne Gieg | 360-673-3179 | jeannegieg@gmail.com |
| Assistant | Maurine Koppi | 360-907-9295 | koppi@comcast.net |
| Assistant | OPEN | | |
| Picnic, Holiday Din- | Jeanne Gieg | 360-673-3179 | jeannegieg@gmail.com |
| Assistant | Maurine Koppi | 360-907-9295 | koppi@comcast.net |
| Librarian | Queenie Garden | 360-839-4802 | |
| Membership | Lisa Young | 503-260-2698 | Lbw.young@gmail.com |
| Newsletter | Mark Mattila | 360-609-6813 | chipper49@outlook.com |
| Outing Coordinator | Jamie Louie | 971-212-5664 | jamlou@comcast.net |
| Assistant | OPEN | | |
| Safety Officer | Ron Koppi | 360-921-3833 | koppi@comcast.net |
| Assistant | Steve Keesee | 360-269-2341 | None |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Sargent at Arms | Steve Keesee | 360-269-2341 | None |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Sunshine | Ann Erickson | 360-260-3225 | annerickson5755@comcast.net |
| T-Shirts | Maurine Koppi | 360-907-9295 | koppi@comcast.net |
| Webmaster | Jan Hurtubise | 360-571-2473 | eyedocmebe@comcast.net |

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Historian | OPEN | | |
| Assistant | OPEN | | |
| Gold Buyer | Ron Koppi | 360-921-3833 | koppi@comcast.net |
| Pay Dirt | 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.

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|---|----------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Name Tags | Queenie Garden | 360-839-4802 | sharongarden@gmail.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 | OPEN | | |
| Facebook | OPEN | | |
| Assistant | OPEN | | |
| Raffle | Tammy Binford | 503-766-7814 | kaybear99@gmail.com |
| Assistant | Charlie Hord | 360-910-8414 | batray@comcast.net |
| Assistant | Ron Koppi | 360-921-3822 | koppi@comcast.net |
| Assistant | OPEN | | |
| 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/groups/southwestwashingtongoldprospectors>

Gold and Fish Book: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/mining/>

HPA Rulemaking: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/hpa/rulemaking/>

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

HPA Application Process: <http://mylandmatters.com/>

Thanks to these companies for supporting our activities.

Designs of all kinds
360-892-5597

McCord's Vancouver Toyota

AKAU Lodge
760-500-1329

AAA Precious Metals
503-253-8591

Creekside Prospecting

Roaring Camp
209 296-4100

Whites Metal Detectors

Armadillo Mining

Spin it Off

Chinook Winds Casino & Resort

Fossickers

The Gold Lab

Quick Badge

Gold Getter

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

Prospectors Treasure Trove
Dan Rouse 971-708-8699

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.