

## **Officers & Committees**

### **P r e s i d e n t**

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### **Vice President**

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### **T r e a s u r e r**

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### **Government Affairs**

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### **Claims Committee**

Larry Coon  
Joe Garcia  
Don Hammer  
Rick Nelson  
Don Smith  
Todd Stutzman  
Will Winslow

### **Events Committee**

Mary Atkinson  
Joe & Shirley Garcia  
Don Hammer  
Clarence Janzen  
Wes Jeffers  
Dale Russell  
Gary & Trudy Schrader  
Gary Wolf

### **Outings Committee**

Joe & Shirley Garcia  
Don Hammer  
Wes Jeffers  
Rick Nielson  
Dale Russell  
Gary Schrader  
Diane Smith  
Cliff Winston

### **Program Committee**

Wes Jeffers  
Diane Smith

### **Web Site Committee**

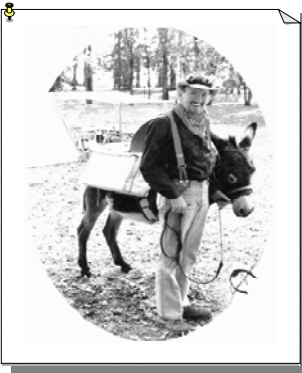
Don Hammer  
Wayne Nisbet  
Dale Russell  
James Scales  
Diane Smith  
Cliff Winston

### **News Letter Editor**

Mary Atkinson  
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Items for news letter in  
by 1<sup>st</sup> of Month



# **WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS**

April 2004

**Next meeting**  
**April 15, 2004**

## **Presidents Corner**

Well, if you were not at the last meeting, you missed a very informative lecture by Dave McCracken on finding the high grade in a stream. (Thanks again Dave.) Dave also donated a beautiful 24 carat gold trimmed tea set for our raffle which Gary Schrader won.

Thanks again for helping at the GPAA show. I would also like to welcome our new members. Be sure you have your member's packet and carry your membership card when at any of the club claims.

We are receiving some pressure from the Forest Service on our Shady Cove claim. If someone asks you if they can pan, sluice, or dredge on a claim and they are not a member, or guest of a member, the answer is a firm NO. Please refer them to a Board Member of the Willamette Valley Miners.

It is time again for the Rickreall Rock and Gem Show. There will be a lot of things to see including a black light show. We will also have a display in one of the cases. Hope to see you there.

Also enclosed is a map to our workshop on May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be covering geology, map reading, Oregon gemstones, reading the stream, types of equipment, mining law, and more. The workshop is from 1 pm to 4 pm +.

## **Outings/Events**

**April 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> Rickreall Rock and Gem Show** We need help for all days and times. We will have a sign up list at the next meeting. Please sign up to help.

**May 1 Basic Mining Workshop** at Dale Russell's

**May 8 Shady Cove Outing/Cleanup/Potluck**

## **GPAA Show**

Thanks to Ray P. for the larger nugget he gave the club to trade for 3 of the small nuggets on the coin drop. We made \$291.50 just on the coin drop, Great going Wes. Also a Thank You to Ken Hanines for the donation of a gold coin for the show raffle. Trudy Schrader was the lucky winner. A big Thank You to all the members that showed up to help.

## Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2004

Juel Russell, Secretary

- The business part of the meeting began at 6:45 pm due to our guest speaker.
- Meeting attendance sign-up sheet was circulated. There were 63+ people present.
- Treasurer's Report was read and approved.
- January and February meeting minutes were accepted as written.
- Dale R. reported that the GPAA show was a success. The quarter drop drew lots of attention to our booth. GPAA donated three shirts to our club to raffle, one at each of our next three meetings. Juel R. was asked to send a thank you card to GPAA.
- The copier is up and running. There are new map packets available for each club member. We need to replace the copier cartridge. Wayne found one on the internet for \$89 plus shipping and handling. Diane S. moved to buy the cartridge, Ellen seconded and the motion passed.
- Dale gave an update on the Snowy Plover situation. The meeting in Pacific City was full with standing room only and over 100 people standing outside. Public meetings are over but you can still comment directly to State Parks until April 19.
- Events Committee reported that the Rock and Gem Show in Rickreall is April 15-18. Mary sent around a sign up sheet for volunteers to help at the show. Dale and Diane will work on a display case.
- Ray Porter was thanked for donating a nugget given away at the GPAA show.
- Dave McCracken donated a tea set with gold plated border to the club to raffle.
- The meeting was turned over to our guest speaker, Dave McCracken.

## Detecting Wish

- T.E

With my trusty metal detector in hand  
I go in search of that piece of land,  
a little patch of dirt that will,  
hold the promise of a gold-find thrill.  
I've studied the manual, ground balanced twice,  
practiced with test nuggets as small as rice.  
Its with hope eternal I begin to swing,  
intently listening for the sound "zing-zing".  
"Gold is where you find it" it has been said,  
But it seems all I'm destined to find is lead.  
But no matter how much of that gray metal I find,  
there's a thought that sticks in the back of my mind,  
The next thing I dig won't be rusty or old,  
Just bright and shiny and nothing but gold.

## Some interesting history I found on the net.

Saving the Delaney-Edwards House



Daniel Delaney's pioneer farmhouse—the scene of his infamous Civil War-era murder—is in desperate need of a new owner. Located just outside of Turner, Oregon (about ten miles southeast of Salem) the homestead has been occupied continuously for more than 150 years. The central portion of the house dates from ca. 1845, and represents a rare and remarkably intact survivor of that era.

A native of Tennessee, Daniel Delaney crossed the plains in 1843 with his ailing wife, five sons, and a young slave girl named Rachel Belden. Rachel was the first black woman in Marion County. Their wagon was one of more than a hundred belonging to the fabled "Great Migration." Led by such distinguished western pioneers as Marcus Whitman, Peter Burnett and the Applegate brothers, this was the first substantial overland emigrant trek across the Oregon Trail.

Having recently sold off his large southern plantation, Daniel Delaney was believed to be quite wealthy. Since there were no banks established in the area at the time of his arrival, it was assumed he hid his money—this was not an uncommon practice. One popular rumor of the day was that old man Delaney kept a sizable cache of gold coins stashed in a nail keg under his bed.

Farming and breeding horses, Daniel Delaney led a quiet life for the next twenty years. His wife's health had deteriorated, and by the 1860's the old man found himself living alone. Stories of his well-guarded wealth always persisted. Fired up by these fantastic tales, a pair of would-be robbers plotted to steal Delaney's elusive fortune.

On January 9, 1865, George Beale and George Baker blackened their faces in an attempt to conceal their identities, and set out for Delaney's farmhouse. Following a brief, but violent altercation, old Daniel Delaney was shot and left to die in his own home.

As for George and George (no relation)—they were quickly apprehended. A sensational trial was held in Salem, ultimately producing dual death sentences for their shocking crime. Their historic "double hanging" (the first execution in Salem) brought curious onlookers and picnicking schoolchildren from Polk, Linn and Yamhill Counties.

The Delaney property has belonged to the family of its current owners for over 100 years and their desire to preserve the house is strong. According to the State Historic Preservation Office, "the Delaney House retains an unusually high level of integrity, and if kept within its historical context, would clearly be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places." Preservation of this irreplaceable historic resource should be considered of the utmost importance.

For additional information and project particulars, please contact:

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408 SW 2nd Avenue Suite #407  
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March 20, 2004

Willamette Valley Miners  
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Salem, OR 97309-1044

Mr. Tom Quintal  
Director of Government Affairs  
Willamette Valley Miners  
1718 Sonya DR SE  
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Attention: WVM Board of Directors  
Mr. Tom Quintal

I hope this finds everyone well and looking forward to the up coming mining season. I have had some time over the past six months to put some retrospect on the last year and also back to the beginning of my time as an officer in the various associations and the jobs I did in those associations. Over all I think that 90% of my decisions were correct and led the small mining community in the right direction and we have done well for ourselves. I do not take credit as I only helped push like many others to get the community up over the hill to the next gas station. But, what about the last 10%, I know that some of my decisions hurt others and my strict line on protocol seemed to be overwhelming, I understand that you can't make everyone happy that some toes would be stepped on, it is the only way to move forward and help protect what we all hold very close to our hearts. I know that those of you who have been in the guts of big business understand what I mean but it is a difficult concept for others to deal with.

With this letter I hope to correct one of the 10% decisions. I made several decisions last year one of which I regret now to have made. If I had called the person involved this may have been avoided. I am not going to discuss the events as it needs to be bad water under the bridge and therefore, it does no one any good to rehash it. This letter is personal and is not as an officer of any association. This is personal and between myself and WVM and Tom. Please understand that I, as an officer of any association, that I am not doing these jobs to win a popularity contest. I also understand that not everyone will like the positions I take and the decisions I make. I am here to do the job the Board of Directors and By-laws of the association tell me to do. With that understood.

To the Board of Directors and Members of Willamette Valley Miners I would like to say that I am very sorry for any and all inconveniences that I may caused you last year

To Mr. Tom Quintal I would like to publicly say that I am very sorry, and this is beyond the private talk we had last weekend, for any and all inconveniences that I may have cause you personally.

Sincerely,



John Holleman