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Secretary

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Treasurer

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Committees

Claims

Larry Coon
Joe Garcia
Don Hammer
Wes Jeffers
Gary Wolf
Diane & Don Smith
Will Winslow

Events & Outings

Mary Atkinson
Fred & Cindy Fellabaum
Joe & Shirley Garcia
Don Hammer
Wes Jeffers
Janie Miller
Gary & Trudy Schrader
Diane Smith
Gary Wolf
Cliff Winston

Programs

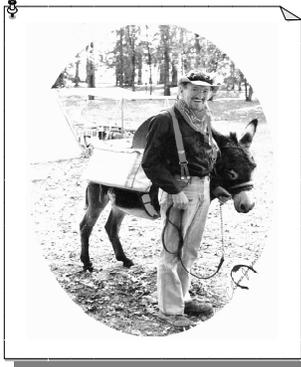
Diane Smith
Wes Jeffers

Website

Don Hammer
Cliff Winston
Paul Messersmith

Newsletter Editor

Mary Atkinson
alderslope@proaxis.com



WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

December 2005

President's Report

Christmas Party

December 10, 2005
12:00-4:00

05 is winding down and time to look forward to 06. It's great to have two new officers who have not served in that respect before. Louie Frick as Vice Pres. and Andy Miller at Treasure. Trudy and I can sit together in the audience for the first time in several years.

This news letter has the new calendar included and it looks like a well planned year. The June outing at Miners Meadow will be very special with some extra activities if all goes as planed.

I hope to see many of you at the Christmas Party on the 10th, the gift exchange and Bingo is fun and of course all the good food is a extra good thing.

\$15 dues are due for 2006

Outings/Events

Dec 10 - Christmas Party 12:00 – 4:00

Jan 21 – Rice Museum - Portland

Christmas party Dec 10, 12:00 – 4:00. It is a potluck with the club buying the meat and punch. There is a gift exchange (\$5.00 +) for those who want to participate. Bingo, slide show of club outings for the year and other fun stuff. There is no club meeting in Dec., just the party

We have no kitchen where we have the party so no where to cook anything.

Thank you to Rita and Steve from Oregon Prospecting Supplies for the nice box of raffle items they donated to the club.

If you have changed your email/phone number or address please let us know by sending a note to the club mail box.

If you have a mail box key to the club mail box please turn it in to a club officer.

Meeting Minutes
Nov. 17, 2005
Ken Haines, Secretary

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Willamette Valley Miners was called to order by President, Gary Scradar at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were 36 of the 162 club members and 1 guest. This meeting was conducted at its usual location, The Marion County Fire Hall, 300 Cordon Road N.E. in Salem, Oregon. The meeting room is easy to find, it is on the ground floor, in the rear of the building, closet to the truck bays.

As the meeting began, President Gary, reminded the group that this was the last formal meeting of 2005.

December's gathering will be the annual Christmas Party and potluck. The Christmas Party will take place on Saturday Dec. 10th, from 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m. at the same Fire Station, but in the adjoining larger meeting room, downstairs. Anyone with mining, prospecting or detecting pictures, from this year's events, can get those to Don Hammer as soon as possible, so they may be included in the Christmas celebration. There will also be a gift exchange for those interested in participating this year. The cost to participate is a wrapped gift in the \$5 to \$10 price range to share with those participating. For anyone planning to attend the Christmas Party, there is no cost to attend, unless you want to participate in the gift exchange. Just bring a favorite holiday dish to share with others at the potluck, and come to relax and share some fun with other members. There will be a sluice box, door knocker and more raffles during the afternoon of the party.

Minutes from the October meeting were approved, and the Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

2006 Willamette Valley Miners memberships are now being accepted. Annual family dues are \$15.00 for the entire family, wow, what a bargain.

Don Hammer also announced that the 2006 meeting room payment had been made to secure the facilities for an additional year.

President Gary Schrader introduced Linn County Sheriff's Detective, Dale Boring, who was attending this month's meeting to inform club members of the alleged swindles reported to have taken place next door to the WVM-1 claim in the Quartzville vicinity.

According to Linn County Sheriff's Reports dated Oct. 19th, 2005, Detective Boring shared some of the allegations brought against David Nonnemaker, regarding his legal right to the property in question. Those reports implied that Mr. Nonnemaker had supposedly been granted permission by one of the absentee owners to spend 2-weeks on the private property to assess the future potential of mining there. It appears that Mr. Nonnemaker did a little more than the owners had bargained for. Detective Boring arrested Mr. Nonnemaker on criminal charges of aggravated theft and racketeering for his alleged efforts at selling and or leasing property and timber, which he didn't own or have any rights to sell or lease. Once in custody, the investigation turned up other similar schemes in other parts of the country, that Mr. Nonnemaker was involved with. The Detective said that David Nonnemaker has a criminal history in other states, and this alleged series of crimes is part of a pattern. The Linn County Sheriff's office wants to hear from anyone that may have been harmed by his activities or feel that they have information valuable to the on going investigation.

If you would like to speak with Detective Dale Boring or Case Agent, Brad Kelly, contact the Linn County Sheriff's Office at: 1 800 884 3911 or 541 967 3950 or 541 917 6680.

It would appear that the Judge in this case doesn't feel as strongly about these improprieties as do some of the miners and timber companies. Mr. Nonnemaker was released from custody when his wife came up with a mere \$2,500.00 to bail him out.

Under the topic old business, was the nominations for 2006 officers for the Willamette Valley Miners.

Nominated for 2006 President was Don Hammer.
Nominated for 2006 Vice President was Louis Frick.
Nominated for 2006 Secretary was Ken Haines.
Nominated for 2006 Treasurer was Andy Miller.

Other club positions that required nominations were:

Librarian Nominee was Howard Conner.
Newsletter Editor Nominee was Mary Atkinson.
Raffle Master Nominee was Wes Jeffers.

After some discussion about creating another Board Member Position in the club, the suggestion was tabled by President Gary Schrader for lack of support at this time.

Under the topic of new business, Trudy Scradar said that a group of ladies in the club are working on a

fund raising quilt to be raffled during the GPAA show coming up in 2006. Anyone with suggestions or wanting to help with this fundraiser, please contact Trudy Schrader @ 503 859 3132. Raffle ticket prices will be announced in the near future.

A motion was passed to use the donated defense fund to support The Eastern Oregon Miners Group in their endeavor to defend Oregon's miners from the whims of the Special Interest Groups, which threaten to close down mining as we know it in Oregon.

During the break, the members were given the opportunity to purchase fundraising raffle tickets to support our club. Proceeds of the raffles and other fundraising events are used to publish our monthly newsletter and to keep our annual family memberships affordable. Please remember to help with raffle items, your generosity each month is what keeps our raffles fun and interesting.

After the break, Don Hammer reported that he had discovered the clubs website was probably originally donated, and that is one of the reasons for not being able to access certain portions that are now in need of repair. He suggested that the Willamette Valley Miners move the site to Peak Internet in Corvallis, so that the club would be able to work with Peak and himself to update and preserve the website. Don also said that he has already separately secured the club's domain on the web. A motion was passed to allow Don Hammer, as Chairman of the Website Committee, to negotiate with Peak Internet and purchase the service required to facilitate our website

Larry Coon, Chairman of the Claims Committee reported that all the club claims are up to date with paperwork.

In the absence of Fred Fellabaum, Don Hammer reported for the Events and Outings Committee. He said that next years outings are now posted to the clubs website. There is also some interest in getting enough members together as a group to reserve a private tour of the Rice Museum this winter. Anyone interested in participating in an informative tour of Oregon's mining history, please contact Gary Schrader 503 859 3132, Fred Fellabaum 541 928 1312, or Don Hammer 541 924 0620.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the raffles were held and Paul Messersmith won the gold nugget for the evening.

Meeting adjourned Happy Prospecting

A few years ago the club held a writing contest, and I thought I would print the story's that were in the contest when there is room in the news letter.

Aging Miners Lament

By
Trudy Schrader

Don't mind the dirty windows
The stains upon the wall
This house is meant to live in
By all who come to call

The dishes may be in the sink
The tub may have a ring
But all who enter through our door
We hope will laughter bring.

The coffees hot an in the pot
The vittles are a cook'n
Come on in and sit a spell
And tell us of your look'n

Have you found a likely spot
To dig and pan or sluice
Or are you just a lot like us
Just run'n out of juice?

Bones they ache, muscles creak
The wet suit ain't a fit'n
It's kinda hard to get worked up
As younger we ain't get'n.

We'd like to be a pan'n
Or driving down the road
To see if we can find a place
That has the mother load.

But when we find a likely spot
And get down to the water
We find that it is way to cold
And wish'n it were hotter!

So here we sit upon the bank
And gaze with long'n eyes
At all that water flow'n oer
What is the golden prize!

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Anything you want in the newsletter please get to news letter editor
No Later than the 1st of the month.

Willamette Valley Miners

PO Box 13044
Salem OR 97309-1044

**We Meet at 7:00 pm at
Marion County Fire Hall
300 Cordon Rd NE
Salem OR**

