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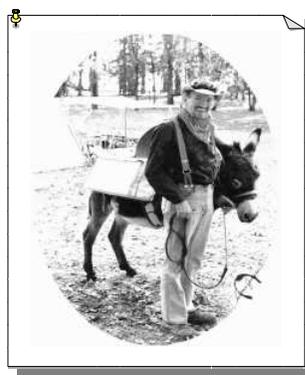
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WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

October 2007

President's Report

Fall has arrived (officially) and it was evident at the Miners Meadow outing. We had nice weather until late Sunday. There was good food, good friends, fun games and even some gold found. (Isn't that right Trevor?) Thanks to all who helped it be a successful outing.

The September meeting program of stone faceting and jewelry making was quite interesting. Thanks to Don and Diane and Ed for sharing and inspiring. Also thanks to Tom for sharing the sunstones that he has found and the mining tips for finding them.

Clackamas County Fair exhibit was productive. Thanks to Wes and the volunteers for the funds added to our treasury. And the recognition of Wes to the volunteers for their many hours of service there.

Remember the Events Committee meeting at the home of Paul Messersmith in Albany (October 13 at 10:00am with potluck). With this very important group maybe we can get outings, events and whatever club agenda informatively carried out with contact individuals for all the activities. To help in any part of this system would be of great assistance to your club and your participation is greatly appreciated.

Louie Frick
President WVM

Events & Outings

Oct 13 2008 Events Planning Meeting - time

Oct 18 Club Meeting 7 PM Program: John Alleman WVM member {How to set up a metal detector, proper use of tools and metal detecting etiquette}

Oct 20 Picnic

Nov 3 Shady Cove

Nov 8 Meeting Elections

Nov 15 Meeting 7 PM Program: Tom Bohmker WVM member and author of books showing (site specific locations of gold deposits in Oregon and surrounding states

DEC 8 Christmas Party

Please note Programs for club meetings are listed here under Events & Outings.

Newsletter

Anything you want added to the newsletter let me know Email gcross004@web-ster.com. Or send articles to Gaylyn Cross 10038 S New Era Rd #70 Canby Oregon 97013. Any questions call 503-260-1583. Please have all items to me by the 25th of the month

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

Meeting Minutes

President Louie Frick of the Willamette Valley Miners, called to order the September, 2007 general meeting at the regularly scheduled time of 7:00 PM. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Marion County Fire Station, 300 Cordon Road NE, in Salem, Oregon. In attendance were 45 members and 6 guests. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written in the August newsletter. The treasurer's report, given by Marshal Phares, was also approved. Marshal reported that most of the club's funds are now in an interest bearing savings account so it will accrue interest.

In the program, Tom Quintal passed around his display of sunstones from the Dust Devil Mine in SE Oregon and explained how the operation works. You can bring your own tools or they will provide everything you need. They will also provide food and if you call ahead, they may even be able to provide you with a trailer to stay in at no cost. You can keep any clear sunstones you find, but you have to pay for any valuable stones. The cost ranges from \$1.50-\$5.50 a carat. They will keep anything you decide you don't want.

Don Smith talked about the Spectrum Mine, which is close to the Dust Devil Mine. At the Spectrum Mine you pay for a specific amount of material or you can pay for time on a conveyor which costs about \$200.00 an hour. As many people as you want can work the conveyor for the same price and you can keep what you find.

Don and Diane Smith showed their display of cut and polished stones and jewelry and explained how ring casting works.

Ed Pritz displayed his faceting machine and explained how it works.

Louie read a letter from an August guest who did not feel welcome at that meeting. Please try to make an effort to help make all of our guest feel welcome. Louie apologized for not introducing all the guests and greeting them. He will call the August guest and try to make amends. We are always glad to have new members. There will be a sheet on the counter at the meetings so people can let others know if they are going on an outing and would like others to go with them. Please write down your name, phone number and when and where your outing will be.

Howard Conner reported on the Miner's Meadow outing. The food was really good and the weather was great. Steve Landis donated the hot dogs and hamburgers. Thank you Steve. An eight year old boy found the ring, lost it, and found it again for the metal detecting event. The GPS event had a glitch when all the toy cars, being used as markers, "drove" away. Despite this snag, it was a very successful outing. The club booth at the Clackamas County Fair was also a success and we were welcomed to come back to other events. Wes Jeffers rewarded the volunteers who helped

out. Big thanks to Wes for heading up this event and doing much of the preparation for it. Wes does a lot of volunteer work for our club and other clubs as well. We hope to see more members step forward and volunteer their time too. This event was not sponsored by our club, but we had members who assisted. The meeting was adjourned and handed over to the raffles.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

9/11 came and went without a response from DEQ on the permit litigation. Instead, they filed for yet another time extension.

Below is part of an article that will be in the upcoming Sept. issue of the WMD Newsletter, exploring "why" DEQ still desires more time:

Considering that DEQ and the Attorney General (AG) have known of NEDC's challenge to the permit since September, 2005 (a full two (2) years now), it begins to stretch the imagination when they would have us believe that this "*Ms. Fjordbeck*" is just too darned busy... and that no one else in the AG's office could possibly lend a hand! First it was because she was busy "...*completing a brief...*" Then it was "...*drafting ballot titles...*" (Since May 29th?). Now she is too busy because all of a sudden she is responsible for "*nearly 70 Measure 37 cases...*" (Note: it makes one wonder just "when" she was assigned these "*nearly 70*" cases... before or after briefs were filed in the permit case?). What's next – on Oct. 9 will they need more time because Ms. Fjordbeck has been overworked and needs a vacation? Or is busy filing? Or washing windows?

That the State needs more time to work on the issues in this case is a good sign that they know they blew it. What really may be going on is a mad scramble to make sure all the important behinds are covered before the do-do hits the proverbial fan!

Another item of interest is that according to DEQ's motion of Sept. 11, the NEDC did not object to DEQ's requests for more time -- which makes one wonder... It was NEDC that filed the first challenge to the permit. "*WHY*" would they want, or at least not object to DEQ having more time to prepare and respond? Some might speculate that the only logical reason that makes any sense is if NEDC, DEQ (or at least some at DEQ), and the Attorney Generals Office (or at least some at the AG's Office) are somehow working together, maybe even in collusion, to the detriment of the miners. Could it be that they "know" EOMA is right, and are now secretly working together to delay the inevitable as long as possible? Or to (hopefully) find some loop-hole that will (theoretically) save them? These continued delays really makes one wonder... if you were the govt., and

you believed you had the legal authority to do something, would you not fight like a tiger to protect your authority?

The only other possible reason that makes any sense is if they (DEQ/AG, or NEDC, or all 3 together) are hoping that some new federal legislation will be enacted, changing the rules of the game (i.e.; amending the Clean Water Act by removing the term “*navigable waters*”, which would have the effect of making ALL waters, anywhere, “*waters of the United States*”).

Buchal's message of 9/12 says he believes a response from EOMA is warranted, and for what it's worth, I agree. A very strong response (objection).

DEQ/AG has had over 2 years to prepare for this case. During the writing of the new (2005) permit, DEQ was asked many times by the Miners Committee where the authority was to make this a NPDES permit. DEQ consistently claimed they were clear that they had this authority... so, if this is true, what's taking so long??

Tom Kitchar Waldo Miners President & Miners associations Permit Spokesman

Miners Meadow Outing

The Miner's Meadow outing Sept. 14 to 17 was a huge success with good weather, great food, fun times and much socializing. Approximately 38 campers attended with most in mobile housing. Trudy and Gary Schrader treated us to early AM treats cooked in a Dutch oven and at lunch time to hamburgers and hot dogs cooked in a vertical charcoal cooker Gary invented.

Eleven, or so, detectorist participated in the metal detection hunt. Pennies galore (500) kept the hunters on their knees while looking for the special prize items. First prize went to a highly motivated young man Chaz Lamb for finding a small "diamond" ring (twice). Second prize was won by Diane Smith for locating a serpentine gold ring. Third prize went to Gary Schrader for finding three small rings and he also won fourth place for locating the most pennies - 92. A little over 300 pennies were turned in so many await others discovery.

The GPS Hunt was not so wonderful. Seems others in the vicinity found the cute little Match Box cars, used as the targets, too irresistible to leave alone and out seven put out only two were found by our teams. Next year we will use less desirable targets. Despite the problems participants got great practice in map reading GPS functions and hiking, and hiking! First place was won by Don & Ruth Hammer with the assistance of Diane Smith, as was second place. GPS units are both

wonderful and perplexing so prior to next years Miner's Meadow outings we will have a monthly meeting program devoted to map reading, GPS coordinate systems and putting the two together.

The only thing that was lacking was a whole lot more members to share the total fun with. Hope to see you all at the meetings and in the dirt. Thanks again to all who helped make this a great outing.
Howard Conner

Cliff's Corner

A.K.A. Cliff's Metal Detectors

1. Are most metal detectors basically the same?

Metal detectors are like cars, they have many different technologies, features, and performance characteristics for their intended use. There are five basic types of metal detectors:

- General Purpose-Coin/Relic/Treasure
- Gold Prospecting
- Underwater & Salt Beach
- Cache Hunting/Deep Searching
- Industrial & Security

Some metal detectors are designed specifically for one type of searching. For example, gold prospecting detectors are designed to be extremely sensitive to small pieces of gold. General Purpose models are typically not designed to detect metals as small as a grain of rice, however, offer far superior trash metal rejection compared to prospecting models.

When purchasing a metal detector, it is important to consider what type of metal detecting you will do most often, and prioritize according to your typical usage.

2. How deep do metal detectors detect metals?

The most frequently asked question and unfortunately the most difficult to answer! Most general purpose models are factory equipped to search for coin & jewelry sized metals at depths of 8 to 12+ inches depending on metal size and alloy. To significantly and consistently detect beyond 12 inches requires larger accessory search coils, and/or to give up attempts to eliminate trash metals. The 15" search coil responding to all metal alloys can detect larger metal items (coin jars) at depths up to four feet. However, sensitivity to single coins is greater with smaller search coils. White's TM 808 can detect 55 gallon drums at 16 feet, car-sized metals at 20 feet. However, it is not likely to respond to individual coins or pieces of jewelry.

Detection depth varies with many factors:

- The size, shape, exact metal alloy, and

orientation of the object in the ground. Objects of a greater surface are detected at greater depths. For example, a coin lying flat exposes a greater surface area than a coin lying on its side and will be detected at a greater depth.

The size of the search coil. Search coils come in a wide range of sizes and shapes- 4", 6", 8", 9.5", and 15". There are also differences in the configuration of the coils inside the search coil producing different shape search patterns. The larger the search coil, the deeper it can detect larger metal items. However, it is more difficult to use in trashy areas with less depth to small metal items. Smaller search coils provide better separation in high trash and better sensitivity to small metals.

Soil conditions and the amount of minerals in the soil. The higher the soil mineralization, i.e. the presence of magnetic and/or conductive properties, the more difficult it is for a metal detector to cancel the interference these soils produce. Detection depth is reduced in severe grounds. Depth may increase or decrease with subtle changes in the soil conditions, more noticeably with the entry level models. Soil mineralization varies widely around the country & around the world.

The experience and skill of the operator. There's no substitute for experience. Knowing how to operate your detector and understanding the signals will significantly increase depth.

The metal detector used and the selection of settings, particularly All Metal or Discrimination.

3. What types of things will a metal detector help me find?

All metallic objects. Example: gold, silver, iron, nickel, copper, brass, aluminum, tin, lead, bronze. Metal detectors will not detect non-metal items such as gemstones, diamonds, pearls, bone, paper, or stone figures.

4. What is discrimination?

Discrimination is the ability of a metal detector to tell the difference between different types or alloys of metals. This allows you to selectively dig up only those types of metals likely to be of interest to them. There are audio (speaker/headphone) types of discriminators and visual (meter, LCD) types. Higher end models have both types. The idea is to increase the odds in favor of digging valuables, and decrease the odds of digging trash.

5. Can a detector be set only to respond to gold?

No. There are too many variables with exact alloys and sizes to pin it down tightly enough to dig only one type of metal. For example, a large piece of gold may read high on a display or audio discrimination scale and a

small piece of gold may read low on that same scale. Gold with some copper, silver, or platinum within its natural alloy will indicate differently. And other metals with similar electrical characteristics may read identically. Lead and aluminum are the most difficult common trash metals to eliminate. Even with the most sophisticated detectors available, expect to dig some trash. But good discriminator increases the odds in your favor.

6. What is operating frequency?

Frequency in a metal detector is referred to in kHz. (Kilo hertz). It is the number of times the signal is transmitted and received by the detector every second. For example a metal detector operating at 6 kHz will transmit and received 6,000 times per second and at 50 kHz 50,000 times per second.

As a rule, lower frequency detectors offer better sensitivity to copper and silver and better overall detection depth and trash rejection. Most general purpose models operate at lower frequencies.

Higher frequency detectors are more sensitive to small metals and natural gold. However, they have difficulties with discrimination against nonferrous (not-of-iron) metals. Their sensitivity to small metals makes them tedious to use around trashy areas. Most gold prospecting detectors operate at higher frequencies.

7. Are there any good places left to hunt?

Nobody gets it all. Just because an area has been hunted before doesn't mean a person with patience and a modern detector can't still find the "good stuff" just about anywhere. Spending time with research can still turn up places which may never have been searched. Seasonal changes such as storms, frost heaves, and erosion, can also renew areas, particularly beaches.

8. What is the difference between "two filter" and the higher end" four filter" models?

Two filters and four filters are terms used to describe the amount of electronic circuitry a metal detector uses to deal with both discrimination and ground mineral elimination. A two filter model will work great in low to medium ground minerals and offer faster response between close together targets in trashy areas. Two filter models are user friendly, lightweight, and less expensive. Four filter models typically detect deeper in mineralized ground, have superior audio discrimination and depth, and offer more advanced features.

9. What will target ID displays or meters do for me?

Many models have displays that indicate the likely identification of the metal detected. This is in addition to the audio discriminator. Once an audio signal of interest is heard the display will give a second, independent, opinion about whether the target is a good target, or trash. You dig less trash with an ID display.

ID displays are a very accurate measure of a target's "electrical phase". Unfortunately, many different metals have the same electrical phase. The Target ID will increase your odds of digging good alloys and decrease your odds of digging trash alloys. If, in a given area, a particular indication consistently turns out to be trash, such indications in that area are likely to continue to be trash and can be ignored.

10. I want to go metal detecting with friends and family. Will more than one detector interfere with each other?

Yes. Like models operating on the same frequency will interfere with each other if operated within 100 feet. To search with a partner nearby, at least one of the instruments requires the frequency shifting feature. The XLT® and DFX® have this feature.

11. What about these entire different sized search coils? Do I need accessory search coils?

The standard equipment search coil is ideal for all-around searching. A person may want to use a smaller search coil for extreme trash (lots of close-together targets). A person may want to use a larger size for increased depth. Larger search coils 15", are recommended for larger targets (jars of coins) at extreme depths. Remember, with a 15" search coil, sensitivity to coin sized targets decreases.

12. What about a carrying case for my metal detector?

For everyday use, the gun style detector bags are recommended. The detector and accessories can be installed and removed easily, without taking the detector apart. Shock-proof cases are intended for more serious storage and travel.

13. Do I need headphones?

Headphones will increase battery life, increase privacy, and increase your ability to hear signals clearly against background noise. They are of benefit to those even with good hearing. Crisp sound is typically more important than wide frequency specifications. In most cases, higher impedance headphones (100 ohms) offer crisper sounds.

14. What about rechargeable batteries?

Rechargeable batteries will save you money if you use your metal detector often, at least once or twice a week. If you use your metal detector once a month, rechargeable batteries will not likely save you money. Rechargeable batteries do offer the same metal detection performance—most models use voltage-regulated system.

15. Where can I use a metal detector?

You must have permission to search both private and public property from the owner or person in charge of managing the property. In most cases you can locate the owner, or available permit system, through City Hall or the country seat.

If the area is city owned contact the Parks and Recreation Department. If it is a State or Federal Park,

contact the superintendent or grounds keeper. Known and marked historical sites, historical parks, and historical monuments are typically off limits to all metal detecting.

Start with your own yard. Valuables can be found anywhere people have congregated, gathered, lived, sat, walked, played, camped, picnicked, traveled, or fought. Any place inhabited before 1965, is likely to have the older styles of collectable coins.

16. How do I recover the target once I decide to dig it up?

Care must be taken to use the appropriate digging tool for the terrain, and not to leave unsightly excavations or holes. There are hundreds of digging tools designed to minimize the impact on grass and vegetation, and avoiding damaging the items found. Sand scoops are all that is needed in some areas. In others, a hand gardening trowel or spade. Challenging ground conditions may require more sophisticated tools.

Some areas may have rules on the type and size of digging tools allowed. Make yourself aware of these rules; respect the laws and restrictions in your area. Unsightly holes left unfilled are dangerous to people and livestock, and are detrimental to the continued use of detectors.

17. What is sweep speed?

All modern detectors require some movement (sweep) of the search coil in order to respond to metals. If the search coil is swept too slowly, metals do not respond, or do not respond at as great of depths. Every model has an ideal search coil sweep speed, usually between two and four seconds per pass. Experimenting to find the ideal search coil sweep speed allows optimum detector performance. A first time user typically has to practice to find their comfortable search coil sweep technique. Seeing others with good search coil sweep habits is a big aid in learning. Practice makes perfect. The desire is to sweep the search coil evenly with the ground in smooth even swings. Overlap each pass by at least 50%, always keeping the search coil in motion. Recognizing where the beep is on each pass and shortening the passes to zero in on the location (pinpoint) takes some practice as well.

18. What about the after market devices that are said to add depth to my detector, do they work?

A well-designed metal detector has all the usable detection depth (gain) built into standard features. The only way to significantly increase depth is to maximize the standard features or use a larger search coil. There are many aftermarket devices that can make it easier to hear the metal detector, giving the impression of greater depth. Their degree of success depends on the individuals hearing abilities.*whiteselectronics.com

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MINER CHARGED FOR PUBLICLY PRACTICING TO BE A GEOLOGIST

On August 9, 2007, long-time friend and mining advocate Jan Alexander, who among other things runs a small consulting business helping miners fill out Notices and Plans of Operation, was charged by the Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners (OSBGE) for “*publicly practicing to be a Geologist*” without being registered by the state, when she helped prepare three Plans for mining in the Baker City, OR, area.

The OSBGE has levied a fine of \$3,000 (\$1,000 for each violation). According to:

ORS 672.505

(4) “Geologist” means a person engaged in the practice of geology.

(6) “Geology” refers to:

- (a) That science that treats of the earth in general;
- (b) Investigation of the earth’s crust and the rocks and other materials that compose it; and
- (c) The applied science of utilizing knowledge of the earth and its constituent rocks, minerals, liquids, gases and other materials for the benefit of humanity.

(7): “Public practice of geology” means *the performance for another* of geological service or work, such as consultation, investigation, surveys, evaluation, planning, mapping and inspection of geological work, that is related to public welfare or safeguarding of life, health, property and the environment...

672.525

(8) A person shall be construed to publicly practice or offer to publicly practice geology if the person:

- (a) Publicly practices any branch of the profession of geology;
- (b) By verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead or card, or in any other way, purports to be a registered geologist, or through the use of some other title implies that the person is a registered geologist...
- (c) Offers to provide any geological services or work recognized as the public practice of geology for a fee...

It appears as though Jan has been a thorn in the BLM’s (Baker Field Office) side for a number of years because she had the audacity to help miners defend their rights from the anti-mining bullying efforts of the BLM. Not able to get rid of her in any other way, BLM contacted the OSBGE and somehow managed to convince them that “*even though they (BLM) had accepted her work for years and years*”, all of a sudden Jan was “*publicly practicing Geology*”!

On March 30, 2006, OSBGE wrote to Jan asking for clarification to questions about “quarry design”, “slope stability”, “pond designs”, “pit design”, etc. involved in the Plan and Notice that BLM had sent them. Jan replied to OSBGE April 18, 2006, explaining that she did not design these plans. Her role was solely to describe on paper the

methods of mining that the miners told her they were using, and the methods they told her they planned on using to mine this ground.

According to the OSBGE minutes of March 15, 2007, OSBGE received additional information for evaluation. Jan was never informed that they were seeking additional information. As yet, she has never had a chance to respond to, nor review, this information for accuracy.

On August 9, 2007, Jan received a notice of intent to impose civil penalties of \$3000 from OSBGE.

Jan does not believe, nor has she ever represented, that what she was doing was the “*public practice of geology*” or practicing as an “*engineering geologist*”, or any other type of geologist. She is rather amazed that the sketches and descriptions of typical mining operations that were submitted in order to proceed with a BLM Plan of Operations would be (or even could be) construed as “*geologic*” in nature.

One would think that merely filling out a form, or typing up a Plan for a miner (for a small fee), as the miner directs, and then submitting it to the BLM for the review of their geologist and other professionals would not require any special certification from the State. How the submission of a Plan to the BLM for their review and approval can be seen as a threat to the “*public safety*” of the citizens of the State of Oregon is difficult to understand. Imposing the **maximum penalties** on someone who had no idea that filling out such paperwork required by the Federal Government (i.e.; BLM) would or could be considered as “publicly practicing geology” by the State is a mind-boggling injustice. *It certainly looks like an attempt by the OSBGE to feather their own nest by collecting unjustified fines for their own budget.*

If the OSBGE can fine Jan for helping a few miners with their required paperwork, then no miner may safely hire someone to help them with their paperwork without fear that they, or the consultant won’t be charged with “*publicly practicing to be a Geologist.*” It even gets worse. If you hire your buddy to mark out the boundaries of your claim, he could be charged with “*publicly practicing to be a surveyor!*”

Jan and her husband have hired an attorney and plan to fight this ridiculous fabricated witch-hunt. The charges seem to hinge on 1) did she practice Geology “*for another*”? (yes); 2) did she “*receive payment*”? (yes); 3) did she “*do the work of a Geologist*”? (no); and 4) did she ever “*claim, advertise, or hint to be a Geologist*”? (no).

The Alexander’s are not making any plea for donations to help with the legal expenses, but anyone that would like to help them may make a donation in their name through the WMD.

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
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