

Officers

President

Louie Frick
541-327-1210
mining@teleport.com

Vice President

Steve Landis
503-999-8876

Secretary

Jeff Farrand
503-371-3652

Treasurer

Marshall Phares
503-749-1006

Government Affairs

Richard Morganstern
503-378-0987
rit57@yahoo.com

Committees

Claims

Bob Howell

Gordon Davis
Howard Conner

Events & Outings

Howard Conner
Louie Frick
Don Hammer
Bob Howell
Wes Jeffers
Stephen Landis
Janie Miller

Programs

Howard Conner

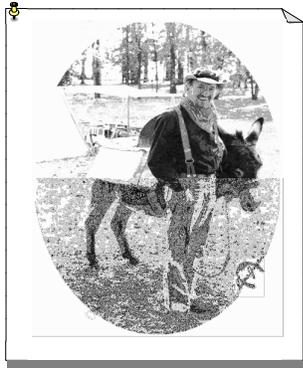
Website

Don Hammer
Trudy Schrader
Diane Smith

Newsletter Editor

Tom Bohmker
541-917-4249
E mail :
cascademountaingold@gmail.com

**Please have all items for
the news letter to me by
the 25th of the month**



WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

September 2008

President's Report

Next Meeting

Sept. 19th 2008
7:00 pm

President's Report:

Special thanks to ALL who have contributed to our new trailer project. It's ready for the club to use.

Our many thanks to Tom Q. for dealing with the Forest Service about the gate permit issue at Vincent Creek and getting it resolved. So any member going to this or any WVM claim remember to have your membership card current and available. Also our thanks to Paul M. for the work that he has done not only on Vincent Cr. but on our other claims too.

I have gotten a couple of comments on the politics (gov't affairs) that are brought up at the meetings. Some say that this is kind of boring; some say interesting. Boring or not, you folks need to start getting involved in some way or another. I must say that the number of years that I have been a small scale miner and have attended a few of the hearings, meetings, briefings, etc. the head count is usually about the same people (and very few people). We all need to show support for the hard working activists for mining rights. Start getting involved even if it's just a letter or email to your representative on your feelings on these issues. The day you can't do the mining you enjoy may be upon you. And your thought will be - how can they do that? - how come no one did anything about this? May be it's because you (we) didn't.

On a lighter note - the Club needs some reports on the "finds" (not specific locations) on our claims. Let's be sure these claims are producing and worth keeping. Bob H. is head of claims committee.

Soon to come outings: Miners Meadows - Sept. 19-21 and Beverly Beach - Oct. 3-5

Upcoming: Club officers election time is near. Be thinking of electing to volunteer (or volunteering to elect a friend).

Lou Frink, President WVM

Also in this Issue

- Letter about Vincent Creek "Pass" for access to mining claims
- Found Nuggets?, "yes"....Was it quick and easy? "No": interview w/ Brian Malloy
- Moe and Joe's recent "Sleeper Creek" discovery in Northern California now claimed and in production
- Sunstone Outing Report

Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2008

Jeff Farrand Secretary

President Louie Frick of the Willamette Valley Miners, called to order the June 2008 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 51 members and 3 guests.

Louie Frick asked the new members and guest to stand and introduce themselves and the members greeted them.

The meeting minutes for July was approved as read with the correction that Claudia Wise is retired from the Environmental Protection Agency. The Treasures Report given by Marshal Phares was approved as read. The IRS forms have been completed for the clubs non-profit status.

The new trailer is ready to move. It has a spare tire. Thank you to Gary Schrader for donating a jack and tire wrench.

Tom Quintal spoke for Government Affairs. Good news, there is no permit required for the Vincent Creek claim, but you do need to have a current club membership card on hand at all times at the claim so the Forest Service can verify your right to be on the claim. Having your card on you or posted in the windshield is a must when you are on any Willamette Valley Miners Claims. Close the gate anytime you go through it. The court hearing for the NPDS permit will be on September 5th.

Tom is still working on the Briggs Creak claim for the club. He informed the club that this is a beautiful area and that there is very good gold to be found. He said " it is the best claim we have for nuggets." A work party will be needed but not until all the paperwork and finalization is complete. Good directions are being worked on.

There is a question on if anyone is finding gold on the Old Farts Claim at Walker Creek. There is no reason to keep this claim and spend the money and do the up keeps required if it is not producing any gold for the members. Notify any officer of your findings or lack of. You don't need to divulge any secrets, just how you are doing.

September 19th thru the 21st is a Miners Meadows Outing. There will be a pot luck. The camp site is split equally among the attending members. Beverly Beach is scheduled for October 3rd thru 5th. This is a great time to get together and do some beach sluicing.

There needs to be some work parties scheduled for the claims to be cleaned up and trails put in.

The Large Item for the raffle has been purchased and tickets are being sold. The large item is a Garret Metal Detector with a pin pointer, headphones, pouch and other fixings.

The meeting was adjourned and handed over to Wes Jeffers at the raffle table.

Club Outings/Events



Miner's Meadow, Sept 19th - 21st - Last Miners Meadow Outing for the year.

As many have experienced, this can be a social event, camping time, enjoy out doors, tell long winded (and some times true) mining stories and there are always a few present that "flash" (show off) their pokes of gold. More importantly, it is a good opportunity for new members to get some hands on experience at gold panning, sluicing and the like from experienced prospectors. Contact Howard Conner 503-299-0262

Trudy's comments:

Everyone who comes to camp splits the cost of the days they stay. Makes for a very cheap camping trip with the more that camp the cheaper it gets. There will also be a potluck on Saturday and I forgot to ask Don if he was going to do his famous turkey or if the club was going to furnish the meat. Will have to find that out at the Sept. meeting.

Beverly Beach,

Oct 3-5 , It is easy to find small colors of gold, and sometimes appreciable amounts on this very pretty hidden little beach that also yields nice fossils (like the shell oil sign, just not that big) Contact: Wes Jeffers 971-563-5080.

Metal Detecting

Nov. 1st : TBA, contact Gary Schrader 503-859-3132

Report from Sunstone Outing

Tom Quintal and Jim Perky were the only WVM members to participate in the Sunstone mining trip in South Eastern Oregon at the Dust Devil mine over Labor Day weekend. Tom Q. recovered over 100 kts. of dark red and medium orange stones including over 1000 kts. medium to large clear stones. The Dust Devil mine does not charge for the clear stones. Recovery

of good colored stones and quantity was minimal for the time and energy spent at the Dust Devil mine where Jim P. and Tom Q. spent most of their time mining. The main pit has changed drastically from last year where high dollar stones in the past were plentiful for energetic miners. The owners of the Dust Devil mining claim will be opening new ground that will improve miners chances to obtain higher quality and quantity Sunstones.

My visit to the Spectrum Sunstone Mine was a disappointment. The miners at the Spectrum mine who worked the conveyor belt for one hour at a cost of \$200.00 were disappointed in quantity and color quality. Most of the stones retrieved from this belt were in the light orange range. Dark red, Dark Green and Watermelon have the highest values. The hand diggers were few and far between at this site. I investigated the BLM Sunstone site and it is a free digging area. BLM site had only a few people over Labor Day weekend. The folks at the BLM site I spoke to were not impressed with their finds. BLM only allows hand digging tools to recover Sun Stones. Traveling to Sunstone country is a long drive from the valley area. The last thirty or so miles to the mines you will experience roads that are very dusty and the gravel roads can be hard on tires, so have a good spare. I will not be returning to the Dust Devil mine before talking to some folks I know who make frequent trips there. This will help me determine the productivity and quality of stones being mined.

Tom Quintal

Mining Regulations Changes?

WVM folks try to listen to one or more of the radio interviews Hal Anthony will have with various stations and you will receive a good understanding of the 1866 Grant. I occasionally mention this issue at some of the WVM meetings, but there is limited time to cover this subject. Unfortunately Hal's resides in the Grants Pass area. Grants Pass is a 5 1/2 hour round trip from Salem for our evening meeting. It is to far from Salem, or I know Hall would be happy to give WVM a seminar on this subject. Hal has done this for other mining and Off Road ATV associations in his immediate area.

The Grant or Act dated July 26, 1866 is where the 1872 mining law originates from and RS 2477 public access to our Federal lands. Hal has done extensive research on this subject and it is nice to see some of his work will receive attention and help inform citizens of their rights regarding open access to public lands. As many of you may already know, congressman Rahall with the help of the GREEN folks tried to water down the 1872 mining law this year without success. Senator Reid of Nevada did not push the Rahall bill as Nevada is still heavy into mining. It will come up again as this was not the first attempt to take away your rights or limit them to keep folks off public land and the minerals they contain.

What we are seeing with the various Travel Management Plans are roads being closed right and left creating Wilderness areas without a vote of Congress. This is a direct violation of RS 2477 public access to Federal land, again in violation to the Grant of 1866. Without hardly any resistance from the public, our US Forest Service and BLM are forcing road closures using regulations like 261 and others to override the 1866 Grant.

Tom Q. WVM

Radio Shows featuring Hal Anthony:

Hal is starting to receive quite a few guest appearance invitations to speak on radio talk shows about his Mineral Estate Trust research and findings. This radio show below, out of Colorado, is just one with a confirmed time (9pm to 11pm) and date (10/7) for interview and airing.

Welcome to Truth Quest with Melodee
<http://www.freewebs.com/inmort/>

10/7 Hal Anthony extensively researched the mineral estate trust established by the Act of July 26, 1866. The government promotes wilderness areas are or will be off-limits to mineral location. However, the Grant of 1866 forbids this sort of treatment; Just as Section 8 of the Grant allows for access to all the public domain by anyone without any permission, and in particular for mineral entry. Its trespass absolutely identifies an agenda, the least of which is the abolition of private property. extensively researched the mineral estate trust established by the Act of July 26, 1866.

And this one here: Dr. Gianni Hayes' Radio Show
www.giannihayes.net November 12th, 9:00pm-10:00pm, EDT--prime time

And a local radio show host out of Medford Oregon; Bill Meyer KMED Radio <http://www.BillMeyerShow.com>, is to chat with Hal this Friday about a show for this area.

And one out of Florida has emailed an invitation: Keith Vyzygoth IV Beyond the Grassy Knoll
<http://www.beyondthegrassyknoll.com/>

Moe and Joe's "Sleeper Creek" discovery in Northern California

In the July 2008 issue of the WVM newsletter we discussed "Sleeper Creeks" and gave examples. Two close friends of mine a couple years ago found a sleeper creek in Northern California and seem to be doing very well. In the June 2008 issue Moe and Joe's very successful dredging operation on the upper Sacramento River just downstream from Dunsmuir along I5 were described but now have shifted operations to their new claim, a "Sleeper Creek". **What do we mean by Sleeper Creek?**

Certain creeks and streams that never received much attention in the gold rush or from gold historians and lure may now yield excellent yields by today's gold miners. They are Sleeper Creeks.

During the height of the gold rush there were discoveries of placer gold in such drainages and some limited production but for various reasons they creeks were never worked out. Often times they were just not as rich as other nearby drainages that were sometimes worked bank to bank 2 or 3 times. However, even a low grade placer gold drainage may still have a few hot crevices that by today's standards are very, very rich. Remember, many placer diggings need to produce \$5 a day per miner back then to buy the expensive supplies, tools (and imported bottled refreshing beverages). This amounts to about 1/3 of an ounce per day per man often using hand tools and crude sluice boxes that did not recover much of the small flakes and colors.

Additional reasons that certain gold bearing creeks were little worked and soon overlooked include:

- Limited or seasonal water supply, no ditches were built to support small hydraulic mines
- Narrow canyons with big boulder piles,
- Narrow canyons with too much run off, no room to easily build diversion or "wing dams" or flume the water to access the creek bottom.
- The locality was far from supply routes
- High elevations that limit work to a very short season
- Gold was very small colors and flakes and excessive black sand
- Sometime the claims were all held by one or two owners that held but did not work the ground.
- Most of the gold was not on easily accessible low benches but was deep under the water in crevices

Different methods of finding "Sleeper Creeks"

- Read the old mining journals, newspaper accounts and mining histories.
- Talk to the old timers and residents of mining country
- Study the old maps, check out creeks near existing drainages known to carry good gold.
- "Pick up Prospect": drive all the old logging roads you can and sample each creek or dry gulch. If no water is available, dig out samples and use vehicle to transport to water to pan or sluice (be sure to mark each sample as to where it came from, I have confused my self doing this several times when one sample had good gold in it but exactly which spot did it come from?)
- "the Heel and Toe" Method, just go out and hike when there are no roads to these isolated areas, you would be surprised at how much better the gold

may be just ¼ mile to 2 miles from where you have to park.

Moe and Joe's discovery method at their new "Castle Prospect" claims? They just used Four trackers to buzz up and down many, many logging road over some years in the area south of Dunsmuir to Lake Head, both east of I 5 and eventually west to the drainage of the upper Trinity River. Finally at the end of a seldom used logging road they saw a creek with water. Sure enough it panned some color. A hike up and down shown a few piles of boulders from long ago mining but no claim posters or any sign of recent mining activity. It was a year later that they figured out exactly where they were....no claims had been filed for miles down this drainage. Last summer they started dredging...they decided not to file a claim that would advertise their find. They saw no one up there the whole summer. They started in a boulder pile and slowly worked their way through using a winch to pull the 2 to 5' diameter boulders out. They found some 2 to 5 dwt sized nuggets (upwards of ¼ oz) and nice heavy rough flake gold. Common daily clean ups were as low as 2 dwt per day and sometimes 5 dwt and more. Interesting but not super rich. With just over a week left before the end of the season they finished this tough rock pile and ahead of them was a section of exposed bedrock with hardly any overburden: a blow off section. In their decades of dredging experience they had learned that usually in a fast moving little creek such exposed areas did not have the deep colored red pack material that can be so rich. However in this case they quickly found crevices which were pack with nice gold. As I recall they made about a pound of gold in the couple of weeks. Suddenly they became more enthused about this location. During the winter as gold prices soared they noticed that new claims started to be staked down stream of their discovery. It was time to go public and claim the location!

This summer they continue to dredge this new area. From all evidence it had been little worked if at all since the early days of the gold rush. Interestingly in early August of 2008 they reported working back in a boulder pack that had a soft red pack underneath in contrast to the heavy red pack found else where on the claims. However they still were finding some good gold on bedrock. Their largest nugget was just under a half ounce and 8-12 dwt of flakes and nuggets per day were the norm with peak days over an ounce. They are continuing to keep a low profile and will work until the end of the season every day!

By Tom Bohmker

• Found Nuggets?, "yes"...Was it quick and easy? "No": interview w/ Brian Malloy

This is the transcript of an interview with WVM member Brian Malloy and the WVM newsletter Editor, Tom Bohmker

WVM: *Brian you were kind enough to give me a private showing of your hard won personal collection of placer gold. I saw many interesting samples from lots of different*

areas of Oregon and other states that you have panned, sluiced and dredged including some nice heavy nuggets upwards of a half inch long you recently found. How and when did you get interested in gold mining?

Brian: Of course I was always into camping, hiking, fishing...well being outdoors...then the fishing regulations became so constrictive such as catch and release caused me to want some thing new. Then 8 years ago a friend showed me how to pan up at Quartzville. My wife and I really liked it and we always got a little color and we were slowly learning the ropes. About 5 years ago another friend John had a 3" dredge and I went with him to Quartzville and by the second trip of 5 days or so I was getting the hang of it! It really helps to go with someone who has done it before. We came home with some flakes and a couple of pickers and finally had something to show and rattle in a bottle. I was starting to really get serious!

WVM: So what was the next logical step in "getting serious?"

Brian: We filed a claim up on Canal Creek (this would be a mile or two above Miner's Meadow at Quartzville; ed) There was some decent gold on it but later the BLM sent us a letter saying that the mineral rights belonged to someone else! The episode took up time and energy but it was a learning experience!

WVM: So how did this lead to the next adventure?

Brian: I also learned how to focus on the task at hand. John moved around a lot with his dredge but I wanted to thoroughly check out a particular location with lots of test holes. In 2006 I bought a new 4" dredge with air and John suggested a spot in southern Oregon in the Applegate country near the claim of a friend. John had dredged there in the early 1990's and made it sound as if it was worth the extra driving. The first trip down we didn't get much, however.

WVM: Well, apparently you persisted and it was worth it?

Brian: Yes, we found the camping excellent but on the second trip found just scattered small flake gold. In 6 days we amassed about 2 dwt (1/10thoz). However it was more than I had gotten before and I did find an area some distance downstream that didn't look like it had been worked. We had just been dredging right at the camp site where obviously it had been worked over a bunch.

WVM: Where you able to check out your new spot?

Brian: I had to wait until 2007 to hit that spot out in the middle. I ended up dredging a hole 12' wide, 15' long and found no gold in the overburden...not even any flour gold. However as soon as I hit bedrock I could see heavy flakes and nuggets in the crevices...I could pick them out with my fingers...it is really fun...I recovered pea sized nuggets and some nearly 1/2" long, all together 10 dwt in just a couple of days. I must have hit a virgin spot!

WVM: Were you able to find more in that area?

Brian: The area was spotty. However I moved on the wrong side of the turn, you know, the outside of the bend and found some tan colored pack. As I dredged down I saw the color of the overburden changed from a tan color to a deep red and the material was packed more tightly. Little flakes and even pickers were visible in this layer. However when bedrock was reached there was nothing on bedrock! This was some flood deposit that did not obey the normal rules. On this last day of our trip I found 3 dwt in just one hour of dredging!

WVM: You must have thought about this all winter?

Brian: Yes, and of course we took a winter vacation trip to Arizona where sometimes we have dry washed or metal detected and found some gold. But finally earlier this summer (2008) we joined John and my friend from Colorado, Jerry and set up two four inch dredges and one 3". We were there a week and found about 7 dwt but after I had to return to home for work they had a great time in some newer (perhaps from the strong '96 storm) material deposited along the edges of the stream., John quickly found 5 dwt and Jerry 10 dwt of flake gold. Later Jerry moved about a mile away and started behind a big boulder out in the middle. The first foot had flood debris, loose sand, sticks, old leaves and1.5 dwt of gold. You just wouldn't expect that to be on top. Underneath was the rich red hard pack...he was certain he would really do well. Can you believe it...there was nothing else there, even on bedrock!

WVM: Wow, that is something! Was the whole area lean and barren of gold?

Brian: No, just nearby was a big boulder over 3' in diameter that he managed to move and found over 10 dwts.

WVM: So how did the summer end for you and your partners?

Brian: Well the partners who are retired, don't have jobs and are there most of the time have found more than just a couple of ounces! I went down the first weekend of Sept and helped another friend bring in a brand new dredge from California. I helped run this high capacity unit dredge for Saturday and a little on Sunday. We did really well and took out about 2 1/2 ounces!

WVM: What are your current mining plans now?

Brian: I am going down this next weekend and will dredge for a bit and then help my partners pack out their units. All summer long I have been able to go up to the Calapooia River (near Brownsville, OR) for one day outings. No camping is allowed on Weyerhause's 15 miles of gold bearing stream but the panning is great. I also found some places to dredge and at times found some nice picker nuggets. Next year I plan to go with Jerry back to Alaska to the open for recreational stream north of Fairbanks that he spent 2 months at in the summer of 2007. In the last 2 weeks that summer he started finding the good spots that really had some nice gold. He came home and showed us the just over an ounce nugget and 16 other ounces of nuggets and heavy flakes!

WVM: Yes, I remember I was at your home when he came back from Alaska with all that gold. There was very little what we would call "flake gold", the bulk was big enough to stay on a 10 mesh screen! We wish you well and hope to have you come home next fall with some nice gold to show us. Thank you for sharing your story with us!

Letter about Vincent Creek "Pass" for access to mining claims

 United States Department of Agriculture	Forest Service	Blue Mountain Ranger District	P.O. Box 909 John Day, OR 97845 (541)575-3088 Fax (541)575-3081 TDD (541)575-3089
---	----------------	-------------------------------	---

File Code: 2810
Date: July 30, 2008

Mr. Tom Quintal
Willamette Valley Miners
P. O. Box 13044
Salem, OR 97309-1044

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
NUMBER: 70060810000482240163

Dear Mr. Quintal

I am in agreement that the current Willamette Valley Miners (WVM) membership card can be used as valid identification to access your Vincent Creek claim known as Sour Dough Pete #1 & 2. This would eliminate the need for renewal of the current Access and Travel Management Permit to go behind the pole gate closure on Road 2010-986.

The WVM membership card must have the current year and holder's signature on it. Club members behind the pole gate working on the claim, must either have a copy of their membership card displayed on their vehicle dashboard, or have the card on their person. As in the past, access will include a portion of Road 2010-986 to the dispersed campground area at the end of Road 2010-987, and to the work area located near the end of Road 2010-940. These roads are highlighted in yellow on the enclosed map. Members will still be required to close the gate every time they go through it.

Your suggestion to use the monthly Willamette Valley Miners newsletter to get this membership identification information out to all active club members is excellent. I also request that you please send Pamela M. Uebler a current copy of your newsletter for her file records. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Pamela M. Uebler, Lands & Minerals Program Manager, at (541) 575-3462, or e-mail puebler@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,


BROOKS SMITH
District Ranger

cc: Jim Mabe
Pamela M Uebler



Caring for the Land and Serving People

Printed on Recycled Paper

<i>Fine Recovery</i> Portable Mining Equipment	Louie's Welding 1307 Talbot Rd.S.E. Jefferson, Or. 97352
CUSTOM MANUFACTURING	Louie Frick Owner 541-327-1210
* e-mail; mining@teleport.com	
	METAL DETECTORS AUTHORIZED DEALER
CLIFF WINSTON OWNER	
Cliff's Discount Detectors 4934 Center St. NE Salem, OR 97301	503-581-3395 Ph cliff4934@msn.com

	1045 Main Street Sweet Home, OR 97386
Dredges & Sluice Boxes: Dry Washers Power Sluices: Whites Metal Detectors: Keene Dealer: Gold Pans	
541-367-2237 gold2@centurytel.net	Toll Free 866-367-4061 www.oregonprospecting.com

armadillo <i>Mining Shop</i>

DREDGES • DIVE EQUIPMENT MINING SUPPLIES • DETECTORS THERE'S NO SALES TAX IN OREGON MAIL & PHONE ORDERS WELCOME 541/476-6316 2041 N.W. VINE • GRANTS PASS, OR 97526

ALLEMAN  Detector Sales 769-1914
--

Willamette Valley Rocks Lapidary Equipment & Supplies
Bill Staggborg Owner Dealer: Covington Engineering & Ameritool-Inc. Rough Opal, Jasper & Agate Opal Jewelry & Finished Opal
541-653-8750 www.willamettevalleyrocks.com stores.ebay.com/Willamette-Valley-Rocks 1400 Candlelight Dr. #227 - Eugene, OR 97402
<small>Discounts for club members</small>

CASCADE MOUNTAINS GOLD

Est. 1968

Mining Consultants, Publishers, Fisher & Falcon detectors
Mining Books & Supplies
Tom Bohmker (503) 606-9895

Classifieds

Wild West Gold Sales

I Buy & Sell Gold nuggets and Fines no amount is too small. email: wrtckenhaines@comcast.net
Ph: 541-791-9986

For Sale

Wet Suit "Farmer John" style, *Brand new*, never worn. Medium Sized, fits 5'4" to 5'9", 130 to 170 lbs. Includes weight belt...\$150 or offer, 541-926-8153,

Lost and Found Dept

Lost- a dry suit hood left behind at the recent Miner's Meadow Outing. If you know whereabouts contact 541-401-3718

Suction Nozzle for Sale

Recently I organized my mining storage and found a used but little worn Keene 2 ½ suction nozzle. This is great for working shallow water, connects to 1 ½" fire hose. \$49.00

Tom at 503-606-9895

Wet Suits For Sale

3 large wet suits 2 1/4 & 1 1/8

Call 503-897-2737

Wanted: Stories and technical accounts for this newsletter. Contact the editor.

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

