



WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

January 2009

Meeting

January 15, 2009
7:00 pm

Officers

President

Paul Messersmith
541-926-8153
messersp@comcast.net

Vice President

Eben Ray
503-769-3284

Secretary

Karen Phares
503-749-1006
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Treasurer

Lloyd Bridgman
bridgmon@juno.com

Government Affairs

Tom Quintal
503-371-9747
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Paul Messersmith
541-926-8153

Committees

Claims

Howard Conner
Gordon Davis
Bob Howell
Paul Messersmith

Events & Outings

Programs

Howard Conner

Website

Don Hammer
Trudy Schrader
Diane Smith

Newsletter Editor

Debi Farrand
503-371-3652
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Please have all items for the news letter to me by the 25th of the month

President's Report

Happy New Year! I trust you all had a happy and safe Holiday season. 2009 will no doubt turn out to be both exciting and challenging. The October planning committee put together a pretty comprehensive outings and workshop schedule – as they say – “something old and something new!” I look forward to participating in the various events as they unfold.

With major changes on the political front, both nationally and statewide, and the formation of “Federal and State Green Teams”, you can bet there will be new and difficult challenges regarding our type of activity. I believe all individuals, groups, and organizations that utilize public lands and resources will have to remain ‘on guard.’ Surely we all know what the consequences will be if we don’t!

The following is a list of goals and tasks that I discussed with the Board that we feel need to be addressed during the coming year:

- Rebuild the inside of the new trailer to accommodate the Club’s ‘stuff.’
- Organize well attended work parties to build trails and improve signage on Old Farts Dream, WVM#1, and the upper claims on Dad’s Creek.
- Organize a timely trip to Briggs Creek to build trails and thoroughly investigate the ‘value’ of this new claim.
- Maintain our membership numbers in the 200+ range.
- Encourage and promote more communication and interaction between and among members, especially folks new to gold prospecting.
- Continue to update and consolidate the library with perhaps the addition of maps, particularly for those areas where the Club holds claims.
- Look into acquiring some non-powered mining equipment (sluices, pans, classifiers) to be loaned out to new members at selected outings (Miners Meadow, Beverly Beach, etc.)

Hopefully you will have the opportunity to attend the first activity of the new year – Rice Museum Visit on January 17, 2009. The exhibits are outstanding, yes even unforgettable! Try not to miss it. More details will be discussed at the January meeting.

On behalf of the Board, we look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Paul Messersmith
President

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
December, 2008**

There was no December Meeting.

Treasurer's Corner

Membership Notice: Please be reminded that your 2009 dues are due by the end of March if you wish to continue to get the newsletter and have legal use of the club claims. As of January 1st, you are asked to have the enlarged membership card in the window of your vehicle if you are on one of the club's claims. The card is available for \$1.00 along with your dues. Dues are still \$20.00 plus \$1.00 for the card. If you do not plan to go to any of the claims then \$20.00 is all you owe. Finally, please notify me when you renew your membership if you have had any changes in address, email, phone, etc. Thank you. You can renew your membership at the meetings or mail it to: Willamette Valley Miners P.O. Box 13044 Salem, OR 97309-1044.

Lloyd Bridgmon lbridgmon@juno.com 503-749-1679

Outings/Events

Outings/Events coming in 2009--

January 17 - The Club outing for January is to visit and tour this fascinating display near Hillsboro. Think a rock is just a rock? You'll see beautiful and fascinating ones like never before from around the world and locally. Also see fossils, petrified wood, meteorites, a florescent mineral show, man made crystals and more.

The Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals is nationally recognized. It is the finest rocks and mineral museum in the Pacific NW and one of the best in the nation.

On Jan. 17 we will meet at what is now Harbor Freight (4675 Portland Rd., Salem) just off of I-5 at 11:45am. Or you can journey on your own, need to be at the museum at 1:00pm.

To get to the museum: travel I-5 north toward Portland to exit at Hwy 217, follow this to Hwy 26 (near St.Vincent Hospital) turn west (left) toward the coast. Travel to exit 61 and turn right at the stop light onto Helvetia Rd., proceed only 100 feet, turn left on Groveland Drive (a frontage road) and travel 1.3 miles. You have arrived, turn into and down the driveway and find a place to park.

General admission: \$7 Seniors: \$6.

Contact person: Louie and Joan Frick
ining@teleport.com 541-327-1210

Quartzville Miners' Rendezvous:

This four day weekend Club outing, usually held in mid to late June is the year's most popular and best attended outing. It's held in the locked, enclosed *Miners Meadow* camping area which is managed by BLM. The camping area reservation fee for this outing is paid for by the Club. Located a couple miles upstream from Yellowbottom, the camping area is fenced and has 'pit toilets'. There is, however, no potable water at the site and is dry camping only. The area is very large and can accommodate any size camper, travel trailer or motor home. We've never run out of space! The chance of rain during the outing: 50:50!

- Members and their families begin arriving Friday with checkout time being late Monday morning. During the next three or four days, some or all of the following activities unfold:
- Potluck Saturday afternoon – the Club furnishes the meat which includes one or two deep fried turkeys, hamburgers and hotdogs
- Prospecting on WVM#1, Cedar Bend Placer (club claims), and/or Quartzville Creek
- Metal detecting contest with great prizes
- A rubber duckie race with cash prizes
- GPS/GeoCaching activities with prizes
- Equipment demonstrations/partnering with fellow club members
- Campfire chit-chat - sharing successes and failures
- Possibly several guitar players to entertain the folks around the campfire

Items to consider bringing if you have them available:

Firewood, free standing canopy, mining tools and equipment, metal detector, GPS unit, food to share at the potluck

Revised 12/14/08

GEOCACHING OUTING

There will be a geocaching outing on Saturday, 2-21-09 at Silver Falls State Park. Everyone will meet at the main entrance to Silver Fall State Park at 9:00 a.m. Bring your GPS and warm clothing. This is an outdoor outing, so dress for the weather. There will be a short GPS orientation first in the parking lot

and then everyone will be given coordinates for nearby geocaches. There will be a contest to see who can find all of the geocaches first. This is an outing designed to teach new GPS users how to use their GPS device and introduce members to geocaching. Plan on attending this outing for a fun and educational experience.

For questions regarding this outing, you may contact Boyd or Kathy Puckett at 503-769-7285. If you need directions to Silver Falls State Park or are unsure of where to meet, contact us. We'll see you there!

Gary's Raffle Corner:

The Club conducts raffles at every meeting. There are three levels: first, there is always a 'big' raffle item with the prize being anything from a complete prospecting kit to metal detecting equipment to a backpack dredge unit to something a little less elaborate; secondly, a gold nugget, and lastly, the table raffle. The 'big' item usually takes several meetings to reach the payoff level (when 15% over the cost is reached, the item is raffled off), the nugget is raffled each meeting, and then there's the table raffle. The table raffle consists of donations from club members and offers a range of useful items – gloves, magazines, shovels, picks, etc. Tickets for all levels of raffles are \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00.

Gary Schrader, our new raffle master, has announced that the next big raffle will consist of a four foot (4') sluice with some additional accessories (gold catcher gold pan, classifier, snuffer bottle and a couple of vials.)

All proceeds go toward offsetting the general expenses of the club.

Member's Corner:

Congratulations to Art Leppin of Dalles on winning the Fisher metal detector and accessories raffled off at the Christmas party. Hours of enjoyment are sure to follow.

Les Sheffield, Tim and Clinton McCraven are proud new owners of a 60 acre claim on McQuad Creek (upper Q'ville Creek area). Good luck guys.

Paul M. and Bob Howell hauled their high-bankers (power sluices) onto one of their favorite gravel bars on Q'ville Creek before December's cold snap set in. No pickers, twickers, nuggets or puggets but lots of flake and flour.

<i>Fine Recovery</i> Portable Mining Equipment	<i>Louie's Welding</i> 1307 Talbot Rd.S.E. Jefferson, Or. 97352
CUSTOM MANUFACTURING	Louie Frick Owner 541-327-1210
* e-mail: mining@teleport.com	
	

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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

Garrett Scorpion Gold Stinger Metal Detector
Good as new. Good for coin-relic and gold hunting
\$325.00 Ph. 503-859-3132

Suction Nozzle

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

Mercury for Sale

Dan @ 541-401-0922 (Sweet Home)

Wanted

Gold Screw

Dan @ 541-401-0922 (Sweet Home)

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

