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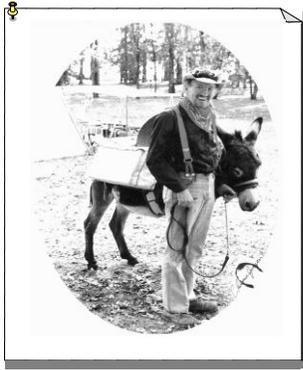
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**Please have all items for
the newsletter to me by
the 25th of the month**



WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

October 2010

Meeting

October 21, 2010
7:00 pm

President's Report

First off, thanks to Jeff for starting and running most of the meeting, great job. We had a larger than normal turn out at the September meeting and our guest speaker, Monty from Monty's coins in Stayton held our attention with his thoughts on coinage and security in the future. Valuable metals? Silver coins? Gold? Maybe Howard can get him in again?

The lead is starting to grow in Jeff's cache finally so remember to bring yours in or at least take a picture and weigh it so we can log the info on how we are helping out our environment.

Winter's coming, get your equipment dry and into storage. Note parts that need to be replaced or fixed so that you can work on them throughout the winter months.

If you have anything that you would like to see in the newsletter, please submit it to the editor and she will give it a try.

Next month is nominations for the next years President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Please think about and submit your preferences or if you would like to experience one of the positions, stand up and be counted. We have no nominations for Treasurer or Secretary and these 2 positions have to be filled. These official positions can be a very positive experience. Also I would like to pursue a possible person to be Membership Chair or at least to help the treasurer with membership sign ups at the meetings and maybe with keeping the membership list current. We are well over 300 members now so the job has grown.

Please remember that if we stay on topic the meetings will move along quickly. If you have something off topic it should be brought up during "Good of the Order" which usually will happen at the end of the meeting.

Keep the gold and gold stories coming in and sharing with us it's always great to hear.

Be safe and find some gold.

Eben Ray

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 September 16, 2010

The meeting was started on time with the Pledge of Allegiance and then new members and guest were greeted. There were 52 members and 3 guests. The Treasurer's report was approved as read and there were no minutes available to be approved.

Monte from Monte's Coins was our guest speaker. He spoke on currency and the value of the paper dollar compared to the value of metals and the ability to barter. Save those coins made from 1964 and prior. I have to say he could make you laugh and depress you at the same time. He could have gone on for much longer.

The October 31st committee meeting to schedule the 2011 outings will be held at 2195 Ellen LN NW Salem. This meeting has been changed to 11am with a small potluck. If you want to put in suggestions or step up and help out with these outings, please attend. Call Jeff at 503-371-3652 if you have any questions.

The Metal Detecting outing is on October 17th at Cascade Park in Salem. Head west on Mission St. from I-5. Take the first left which is Turner Rd. The entrance to the park is just past Wal-Mart. Drive straight back to the pond, go left over the small bridge to find other members.

There will be fundraising to fight the new NPDES permit. The Oregon Supreme Court has also agreed to hear the EOMA's appeal of the 2009 Court of Appeals decision.

Nominations will be held at the October meeting. All positions are open. The Treasurer and Secretary must be replaced as per club by-laws. Please step forward to help.

Submitted by
Jeff Farrand
Vice President

Treasurer's Report

I have not had to much to say in the last few months, so now is the time to start to remind you that registrations are due for the year of 2011. As the application says, membership runs from January 1 to December 31 each year. The club has said that

anyone wishing to renew early, can send their money in starting October 1st. Those of you who wish to renew by mail, may send in your application and dues to the P.O. Box and I will send back your cards. If you want to come to a meeting you may renew there also. For an additional \$1 you can receive a postcard size membership card for your vehicle's windshield.

An application will be in the newsletter for the next three months so you all have one. Please make a copy of it so you can give one to a friend. October and November will be the last two meetings of the year. On December 4th we will have the Christmas party and not have a regular December meeting.

It is very important to keep your address up to date as we have to pay each time a newsletter is returned. Some of you have moved and not sent in a new application with the change of address. If your newsletter is returned two times I will be removing you from the mailing list.

This is why we need a new application every year, please do not send in a check and think you are automatically renewed. As I can not fill out your application for you and sign your name.

Good luck panning and I will see you in the creek.

Treasurer
Lloyd Bridgmon

Outings/Events

Oct 17th Metal Detecting Outing

The people going to the October 17th metal detecting outing will be meeting at 10:00 am at Cascade Gateway Park. It is between the freeway and Turner Road. Turn South off HWY 22 onto Turner Road, go past Walmart till you come to the Park sign and turn East. This takes you right into the park.

Contact person: Gary Schrader 503 859 3132

Raffle Table

The metal detector drawing is this October so you still have time to get your ticket.

The raffle table is looking a little sick again, if you want a table raffle you have to bring something to put on it. It is fueled by the membership, not the club.

Gary

Members Corner

DREDGE, ENGINE AND DIVE EQUIPMENT STORAGE FOR THE WINTER

The engine storage tips should cover most four cycle engines and there will be slight variations with two cycle engines.

Drain all the fuel from the engine gas tank and carburetor or add Stabil fuel conditioner. Stabil will keep fuel usable for many months. It would be a good idea to remove and clean any sediment traps and carburetor float bowl to remove any remaining sediment or corrosion buildup. Once the fuel system is prepared for winter storage, you should drain and replace the engine oil with clean new oil. Remove the spark plug and turn the engine over a few times to splash new oil around inside the engine. Before you replace the spark plug, put about a tablespoon of clean motor oil into the spark plug hole, make sure the engine cylinder is upright, and then slowly turn the engine over 1 or 2 times.

This will help distribute the oil all around the piston, which will help keep the piston rings from developing any rust or sticking. Insert the end of a piece of wood into the spark plug hole, slowly turn the engine over, and feel for the highest position of the piston (top dead-center). This is the position you want to leave the engine in for the winter, with the piston at the top of its stroke, both valves (intake and exhaust) will be closed, sealing the combustion chamber from the elements. Replace the spark plug, cover the engine with a waterproof covering, and put it someplace safe and preferably out of the weather. Come next dredge season all you should have to do is fill the fuel tank with fresh gas (not necessary if you left the tank full of treated gasoline such as (stabil), but fresh fuel is still advised), check the oil level and then remove the spark plug, turn the engine over a few times (vigorously) to blow out any excess oil, and replace the spark plug. It is always a good idea to replace the spark plug with a

new one at the beginning of each dredge season. (Note): Never run your engine with the pump attached unless there is at least some water in the pump being circulated or you risk burning out the pump seal. At home you can safely stick a running garden hose into the pump to keep the seal wet enough to test run the engine. Before you run the engine remove the air cleaner and check for spiderwebs, etc that may have moved in during the winter. Check the pump to make sure there are no surprises, and check the air intake and outlet's on your air compressor (if so equipped) for any dirt or other foreign materials that if allowed to stay could plug or damage the air compressor, or plug your regulator when you plug it in the first time. Make sure your Hooka air regulator is dry and put a zip lock bag over it, then seal close to the hose as possible to keep critters out. Most of the rest of the dredge just needs to be kept clean and dry (if possible), although you should dry out all sluice box carpeting (to keep it from molding or rotting), and cover everything with black plastic or tarp (this will block the sun's ultraviolet light which deteriorates plastic floats and hoses, and helps keep everything clean and dry). Before storage for the winter, make sure your wetsuit is thoroughly clean and dry.

If you follow most of these steps, come next year, you should be dredging on your first day, instead of playing engine mechanic out in the field.

This is a condensed version that was published by Tom Kitchar, president of Waldo Mining Association and found in the November 2004 Waldo News Letter. Thanks Tom Kitchar for the excellent tips.

Summarized and reprinted in the WVM October 2010 news letter by Tom Quintal.

Making My Life Easier

Last summer I went to a location to do some prospecting and was in an area where motorized equipment cannot be used. I found a good spot that showed potential, set up the sluice box and started classifying my material prior to putting it through the sluice. Each classification consisted of filling the classifier with gravel with the gold pan below. I walked 30 feet over rocks and down to the river, crunched down into the river and shook and twisted really hard. After doing this for a number of hours, I was exhausted and my back was sore. I thought to myself on the way home that there has to be another way. Then one day I saw it, a bucket used to

classify. I thought to myself, I can build something like that. So as time went by I slowly gathered pieces and parts. The hardest part was to find the right bucket that I felt would work best and then one day I placed a sheetrock bucket into a five gallon bucket while cleaning the garage and it slid in with plenty of room and rested on the five gallon buckets rim. Of course the garage was no longer important. I started by cutting two inches off of the sheetrock bucket so the bottom of the bucket rested halfway down into the other bucket. I only had ½ inch wire mesh so I doubled it up to get ¼ inch. I formed that over the bottom and up around the sides about 2 inches, trimming some of the wire on the sides to get it to mold better. I then took some thin aluminum metal about two inches wide and placed that around the side over the mesh and screwed it down with short panhead wood screws every inch. I thought that the screws extending into the bucket would be a problem but it wasn't. I then made sure the classifying bucket didn't rub against the 5 gallon buckets side, it was perfect. It took less than a ½ an hour to build. The next day I went to my spot, set up the sluice and went to work. I filled the 5 gallon bucket with water and placed it where I was digging. I placed the classifying bucket in the other bucket and shoveled material into it. I used the handle on the classifying bucket to lift and shake, then dumped out the larger material. I lost water in the 5 gallon bucket but the next shovel full brought the level back up. I continued to do this until the bottom bucket was ½ to ¾ full. I then put that material through the sluice. I was exhausted by the end of the day and my back stiff, but I was able to play much longer and went through more material which equaled more gold. The only flaw was that the handle came off a few times but even shaking the bucket holding the top was easy. I have tried other experiments that people laugh at and claim wouldn't work. Some have failed but they taught me something and drove me to think. Others have been helpful and I feel has increased production a little, this one was a success.

Jeff Farrand

EGGS IN A HAT

Cook Time: 10 minutes

Total Time: 10 minutes

Ingredients:

- 4 slices of your favorite bread
- 4 eggs
- 4 slices of ham or Canadian bacon
- 4 slices of cheese

Preparation:

Warm your skillet or griddle over low heat. Also, be sure to grease the pan up well! Using either a round cookie cutter or a drinking glass, cut out a hole in the center of your bread, being careful not to break the crust. It will still work if the crust breaks, just not as well. Place the bread in the skillet and lightly toast it on both sides. Crack an egg into the hole in the bread and cook until the egg white is almost solid. Flip over and put a slice of cheese and then a slice of ham. Serve when cheese is melted

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Finally after 3 decades (on and off) of research, a new Mining Book

Gold Panner's Guide to the Oregon Cascades
 By WVM member Tom Bohmker. Covers areas to pan w/o a claim from Portland to Cow Creek south of Roseburg,. How to pan mining stories, 87 pages 9 maps.
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Willamette Valley Miners

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We Meet Third Thursday of
the month, 7:00 pm at
Marion County Fire Hall
300 Cordon Rd NE
Salem, OR

