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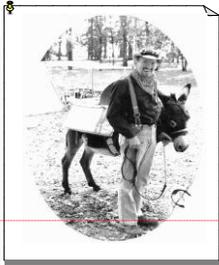
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**Please have all items for  
the newsletter to me by  
the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month**



# WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

March 2010

## Meeting

March 17, 2011  
7:00 am

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## President's Report

Hello Everyone,

February meeting was a full house and nice to see everyone there.

Thank you to everyone that gave me their trust and allowed me to have their e-mail address I will guard it and will not send you any JUNK. To everyone else please let me have your e-mail address you will only hear from me on very important issues and I will use the BCC so no one else will get your address.

The GPAA Gold show will be here soon if you want to help out at the show let Wes know. We can always use a hand in the club booth. Also the Rickreall Rock and Gem show is coming soon and this is your chance to improve your panning techniques while working in the warm. We could sure use some help in Richreall as well.

The meeting ran very well and even with a guest speaker, every thing covered, cleaned up, and after meeting visiting I was out of there before 10. Remember once the meeting is called to order it is a meeting and everyone that has something to say will be heard. However if you approach the front table and start talking with me you are taking away from everyone else. If you have a topic that you want to bring up great, if you can let me know before the meeting I will get you in, in the correct area of the meeting. I am working on having an agenda for each meeting so as to run quickly and get to the fun stuff sooner. The agenda will include **THE Good of the Order**, usually at the end of the meeting, this is where you can tell your story or bring up a subject not covered in the meeting. Remember that it is your Club and your meeting and you will be heard, if you're not on the agenda you can still comment and please do. Questions are always good and should be asked any time during our meetings.

Sincerely

Eben

*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

February 17, 2011

The Willamette Valley Miners' general meeting was called to order by President Eben Ray. Howard C. led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. We had another full room of members in attendance but I don't have a total. Seven new members introduced themselves (some with spouse/partners). Welcome.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

The treasurer Larry C. gave the financial report. Again this month he reminds, the membership yearly dues are due.

Report from the RAFFLE TABLE was given by Gary S. and Jim P. The present BIG raffle - "metal detector" is to be drawn tonight and also the "silver round" tonight. EOMA/Waldo raffle is ongoing. Be sure to promote this. Joe and Claudia are working with Les Schwab Tire Co. to help promote this too. The beautiful wood display box for gold, which was built by Jim P., is being raffled after 2 meetings. The next BIG raffle item is a GPS valued at \$300.

OUTINGS: past outings report were –

1. A short rehash of Brownsville;
2. Roseburg Gold Show held Feb. 4-6. Louie F. and Tom B. each had their own booths to sell products. It was a good Show.

Upcoming outings are:

Metal Detecting on Mar. 19;

The GPAA Gold Show on Apr. 1-3 and for this we need lots of volunteers to man our Club booth; and Rickreall Rock and Gem Show on Apr. 14-17 and we need volunteers for this too.

\* A strong reminder from these Spring Shows is new membership. Meeting attendance and Club participation definitely increases so be sure to be welcoming and friendly and share your "mining experiences" with new people.

GOV'T AFFAIRS : Tom Q. again is doing a terrific job of keeping the Club informed of the complicated workings of government. Question was asked of the "litigation and funds being raised by EOMA/Waldo". He (and Joe G.) explained again the clean water act, DEQ, NPDES, Senator Atkinson, and more. The point is read your permits, know your rights. (SEE \*Website links) Government is not backing down, we're in a

challenge for sure. Tom also furnished 12 new Mineral Trespass signs (ORS 517.30) that need to be posted on our Club claims. Bob D. presented paper work on the dredge permit variance for Dry Gulch claim. While researching his own claim, he became aware of this info for the Club. The Claims committee will check on it.

PROGRAMS: no report given.

NEWSLETTER: no report given. But of note -- I add that Debi (and Jeff) are doing a terrific job. Why not help her out with some articles, etc. - info needs to be submitted by the 25th of the month.

OLD BUSINESS: \*The question of the "gold" being collected was discussed. And Trevor S. and Tom B. donated more tonight. Thanks. It was decided that Pres. Eben would confer with all donors by phone and get a consensus and report back to us.

\*There was a short rehash discussion of being sure to display your Club sign on vehicle dashboard while on our claims. Also, a warning of "weirdo" in the Quartzville area claiming authority to harass miners. Be watchful and report to the sheriff.

NEW BUSINESS: \* Claims: A reminder that the committee consists of Larry C, Howard C, Skip D, Bob H, and Jim P. Larry has updated the Club packets with corrections on claims verbiage, maps, etc. Thanks.

\* Website: The site has been updated and new links added for Gov't Affairs and lots of information. Thanks Don H. and Tom Q. Check it out!

No further business. The meeting concluded with "speakers" (when no program - this will be a new feature. Interesting!)

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Frick, Secretary WVM

## Outings/Events

**March 19<sup>th</sup> - Metal Detecting outing** - Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 9am. We will meet at south parking lot of the State Fairgrounds. (off Sunnyview) For more info call Jim Perkey at 503-390-7327.

**February 26** – The bagging party was a great success with 11 people and food for twice that many. Potlucks are so much fun, you never know what will show up. We had Lasagna, pizza, fried

chicken, all kinds of cookies, meats and cheeses, apple pie and if I forgot anything forgive me.

We now have 480(?) bags of sand and gold ready if I heard Larry's count right. We still have plenty of gold to make up more when we need them. What we need for the shows were discussed, signs, table cloths, bottles, small bags, pictures etc. Also who would go out to get them or make them up.

Everyone who was there learned a little more about each other and some hidden talents came out that will be usable for club things. It did get a little loud at times like when Jim P. tried to hog all the raisin cookies (he did share after he had his fill). I think everyone enjoyed the day.

Gary & Trudy

### Raffle Table

Yeha! I got lucky and won the nugget this month! Miracles do happen some times.

When we have another large item for our club (after the GPAA show) it will be a GPS! We are looking at one that can be used in a car, boat, RV, bike or in the field, something everybody can use. This one is in the \$300.00 range so hopefully it won't take to long to let it go. Maybe 4 or 5 meetings.

Don't forget to buy your tickets for the permit Drawing. There are some great items that will be given away.

Gary

### Member's Corner

Mining News from the Roseburg Show: Feb 5-6 2011:

By club Member Tom Bohmker

This event was hosted by the Douglas County Prospectors and was a bigger, better show than last year. The show this year from my standpoint was highlighted by the social aspect. Numerous miners and friends from the past showed up to my "Cascade Mountains Gold" booth to visit, talk about their latest mining efforts, what detector worked well for them, and the strange looking bedrock up at "gold tease gulch". Of course for those visitors in our age bracket there was the conversation about the health struggles of a mutual miner friend and of course the centerpiece of any visit: **when they show off their gold.** Conversely there are also the long, detailed and amazing tales of why some of

them recovered very little gold, you know like fishermen stories, the big nuggets that got away.

Meanwhile we saw lots of small time gold prospectors and miners including that ranged from long time acquaintances "Big John" Holstrum dressed in buckskins to well read intellectuals well versed in the mining mystic to the expected younger males 20 to 30 years of age that were chomping at the bit for adventure to many young families who enjoy the out of doors and showed up with their children in strollers and in hand. Such people are very proud of their gold that they had prospected and mined. To them even if the fruit of their efforts is a only a small corner of a bottle holding some gold flakes it is worth a whole lot more than the going spot price of \$1350 per ounce. The common thread of this diverse group was a common interest in gold and they noticed I enjoy displaying placer gold from at least 75 localities in S. Oregon so they felt compelled to pull out their own pokes and gold bottles to pass around and in many cases get it weighed. Several bottles with raison sized nuggets graced the counter, some large 1 to 3 1/2oz white quartz and gold nuggets were passed around and commented on. One "ouncer" was for Sale for \$1,300, a deal if a person had the \$. One miner showed us a large bottle of thick flake gold, quite rounded and rough with smaller flakes to a few pieces that may have weighed 3 or 4 grains, some 6.2 ounces total and claimed he had 22 ounces more. Several had some nice nuggets and high grade gold ore they had detected.

Billy Smith, A local miner from Canyonville area (Coffee Creek) usually flashes around a big sized pill bottle crammed with big nuggets: deservedly he gets a lot of attention with this. This year was different. I've known that Billy since the 1980's or so has refined his own gold and for friends. Over the course of the years he has built up quantities of the major impurity in natural gold, that is Silver in the form of slag or precipitate. For every 10 ounces of raw gold processed he may take out one or two ounces of silver bearing sludge from the processes he uses. With the higher prices of silver he has started to process all of this dross and showed people a 20 ounce bar, something on the order of a cigarette pack in size of home poured silver.

Jon came by and visited and we talked about the old days when he and his partners were dredging down the Illinois a few miles below us at McCaleb Ranch in 1981. We knew back then they were doing well

with their 8" dredge, they worked everything in the channel and a friend witnessed them finding a ¼ ounce nugget. At the time they said they were doing good, but years later Jon told me the whole story. They had dredged the area just downstream where Betty McCaleb's late husband had discharged the sluices from his hydraulic operations in the 1930's and in the 3 ½ months took out over 120 ounces. Jon promised to again bring his photo album I have seen before. My favorite picture was of the two miners sitting on their dredge holding the take from one long day in the cold water in Cache Creek, near Kantishna, Alaska: 40 ounces. Their take that summer in 1985 as I recall was over 300 ounces.

There was a lot of talk about the low snow in the mountains and chance of low stream levels this year is the weather report. Needless to say the environmentalists will use this as more evidence to ban mining, walking off the pavement, spitting into the grass etc. as the miners battle in court for their rights. Of course if it was high snow in the mountains and high water levels, they would find different reasons to try to ban all mining and access outdoors.... There were also talks at the gold show about detectors, basic mining, pocket gold prospecting, and mining regulations that are so important these days.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Salem show this Spring.



Mining books, where to find gold, Falcon and Fisher Detectors  
Book publishers and small mining consultants

*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. \$17.50, \$2.00 postage.

**Classifieds**

**Wild West Gold Sales**

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

**Need a claim for dredging this summer.**

Experienced dredges with 4" dredge and hooka need decent diggings. Can travel, already have grubsteak, good truck and provide own camp. Dependable and hard working. Good references. Contact Eric @541-852-1929  
email: ericgalloway@hotmail.com

**For Sale**

Only 3 Falcon Pin Point Detectors left at the old price. The price is going up and I can only get 3 more at the old price of \$219.95 each. The new price will be \$249.95 but the ability to pick out gold flakes the size of the period in this sentence will be the same. Tom @ Cascade Mountains Gold 503-606-9895

**Garrett Scorpion Gold Stinger Metal Detector**

Good as new. Good for coin-relic and gold hunting \$325.00  
Ph. 503-859-3132

**Wanted**

**Gold Screw**

Dan @ 541-401-0922 (Sweet Home)

# Willamette Valley Miners

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**PLEASE CLEARLY PRINT ALL INFORMATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check:**     New Member     Membership Renewal

Please accept my application for membership in the Willamette Valley Miners Club. I understand that the association is a non-profit organization of members with a common interest in small scale mining and Mineral prospecting. I have read and understand the agreement below.

**Annual Family membership dues - \$20.00**

**Membership card for dash - \$1.00**

**Membership year begins in January**

As a member of the Willamette Valley Miners I hereby agree to abide by the rules and guidelines established by the club. I acknowledge that small scale prospecting may involve inherent dangers and I hereby release the Willamette Valley Miners Club, its officers, and claim holders from any and all actions, causes of actions, claims, damages, or injuries that may occur on any and all claims controlled by the Willamette Valley Miners Club, or other clubs who we share claims with. I further agree to hold the Willamette Valley Miners Club, its officers, and claim holders harmless from the results of any accident or incident that may occur while I am on said lands controlled by the Willamette Valley Miners Club or claims shared with others clubs

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Must be signed by spouse for family membership)

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send application and remittance to:**

Willamette Valley Miners  
PO Box 13044  
Salem Or. 97309

**Willamette Valley Miners**

PO Box 13044  
Salem OR 97309-1044

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

