

## Officers

### President

Jeff Farrand  
503-371-3652  
jafarrand@msn.com

### Vice President

Boyd Puckett  
503-931-6028  
[Boyd.kathy@wvi.com](mailto:Boyd.kathy@wvi.com)

### Vice President

Alan Mitchell  
541-740-0720  
[Alnmitc295@comcast.net](mailto:Alnmitc295@comcast.net)

### Secretary

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

### Treasurer

Larry Coon  
541-905-4749  
lkc\_eve@hotmail.com

## Government Affairs

Position Vacant

## Committees

### Claims

Larry Coons  
Howard Conner  
Gordon Davis  
Bob Howell  
Clifford Boren  
George Crutcher

## Events & Outings

See Calendar

## Programs

Howard Conner  
connerh@comcast.net

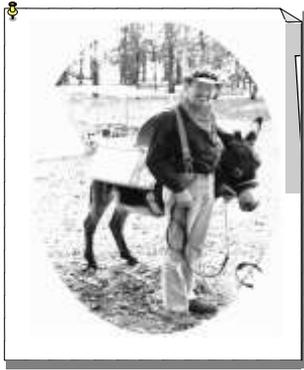
## Website

Don Hammer  
Trudy Schrader  
Diane Smith

## Newsletter Editor

Debi Farrand  
503-371-3652  
dfarrand@msn.com

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



# WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

May 2012

## Meeting

May 17, 2012  
7:00 pm

May 26-28

Vincent Creek Outing

June 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>

Miners Meadow Rendezvous

July 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

Dads Creek Outing

## May Meeting Program

Joe Greene will be speaking on “Small scale gold suction dredging under attack”.

## President’s Report

May is here and many are probably starting to itch around the house to get out and find gold with their equipment. Instead of just grabbing and going, I suggest that you get everything laid out and set up at home as the way you use the equipment on site. Look over everything; make sure nothing is broken or missing. Check hoses for cracks. Check the condition of the engine and pump. Make sure you have extra hose clamps, wing nuts, washers, nuts and bolts. Even if you just pan and sluice, make sure you have the right tools gathered. Paint your stuff with a fluorescent color, I have lost a lot less tools since I’ve done this simple task. A check list of all the equipment used for the specific thing you may be doing also helps. The last thing that anyone wants to do is drive for a few hours and then realize the engine won’t start or you are missing the screwdrivers that tighten down the hose clamps. I recently did this and found a number of issues that could have made things difficult, instead, everything went flawlessly.

On another note, I have found that being an officer for WVM, that you can loose track of one thing while dealing with issues. This last month has been a reality check with a member having a stroke, my heart sunk when I got the news. Then at the meeting I found out about two other members having difficulties with their health. WVM has not just been a place to go find gold, it has also been a place to meet wonderful people whom I can call friends.

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

I hope this is the same for many others. If you know of a member who gets sick or passes away, Let Joan (secretary) know. WVM would like to send out a card to them or their families.

May even a spec of gold in your pan bring you smiles.

Jeff Farrand

## Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2012

The Willamette Valley Miners monthly meeting was called to order by Pres. Jeff Farrand. We were led in the pledge of allegiance by Treasurer Larry Coon.

As per sign in sheet, we had in attendance 56 members and 12 guests/new members of which 8 were brave enough to introduce themselves. Welcome all.

The Treasurers report given by Larry C. was approved.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in the newsletter. The secretary duties have expanded to include sending greeting cards to members etc when needed. If cards are needed such as Get Well, Sympathy, Thank you, or other, notify me at [541-327-1210 mining@teleport.com](mailto:541-327-1210_mining@teleport.com)

Of interest, WVM has received a nice e-mail from a school teacher notifying us that one of her student's show and tell projects included our website and another related metal detecting site:

(<http://www.inetgiant.com/a-complete-guide-to-metal-detecting.html>). His Dad and he use metal detectors. We are pleased to recognize this young person and encourage treasure hunting in many forms.

Reports from:

**PAST OUTINGS/EVENTS** - The GPAA Treasure Show in Salem was a big hit and a very good turnout to help with our booth. The coin drop brought \$208 and 22 nuggets went home with winners. Quite a few new memberships were received. Drawing winners from the show were: Don Esch- mine trip, Ellen Compton-miners theme lamp. The big EOMA/Waldo 1/2 pd. of gold was won by a person from Ohio.

Special Meeting on March 31 was held at Jeff's. Out of this meeting a much needed WVM handbook will be written. The website was discussed and gold

bags were made ready for future events. Also a motion was voted on to have WVM purchase 50 gold pans and offer them for sale at events. This will not be a real moneymaker but good as PR. These pans will be available at the Rickreall Rock and Gem Show on Friday(students' day) for \$3. and after that for \$4.

A trip to Beverly Beach was Apr. 7th. Wes J. reports about 30 people enjoyed the beach mining and excellent weather. No one got rich but had lots of fun. No sneaker waves either!

**UPCOMING OUTINGS/EVENTS** - (from now on these will only be listed in its own column - see more there) Events happening before this news letter gets delivered are: Apr 20-22 Rickreall Rock and Gem Show and basic mining workshop/potluck at the Perkey's farm on May 5th.

**CLAIMS** - Larry C. again reminds us to file the assessment forms when using our claims. Do this all year and not wait until Dec. This would be very helpful to him. Thanks. Remember your permit/waiver for WVM #1 as you must have it on site.

**GOV'T AFFAIRS** - Glenn Z. reports he has begun attending 404 Assumption meetings with input from DSL, ODFW, DEQ, business leaders and miners. This will be an ongoing process. He reminds us that we are not recreational miners but rather small scale miners. We are constantly fighting for our mining rights and litigation costs so please donate funds to help out. The new road closures policy called Travel Management Plan for the Wallowa Whitman area in OR. is being reviewed and thanks to Cong. Greg Walden, we, the general population may have a say on some of this now. Why not use your e-mail voice on this one?? [www.walden.house.gov](http://www.walden.house.gov)  
A new thought for WVM is whether we are a club or an association. General consensus is association holds more clout and we now need to use this term more. Willamette Valley Miners is still our official name and there is no problem with our tax/corp papers.

**NEWSLETTER** - Abrupt bad news from MVP our printer, they have closed. Jeff and others are working on securing a new company to meet our needs. Other item: don't forget to heed Debi's well written plea to help out with more news articles!

**RAFFLE TABLE** - Gary S. is in awe of the amount of table raffle items donated tonight. Thanks. While everyone ponders the next BIG item,

we will have bookends, sunstones, a leather wallet, large nugget as special raffles. The raffles add interest to our meetings and help out some with our funds too. As a special thank you to all who helped with the GPAA Show - all those names were put in a drawing for a nugget. The winner is Larry Coon.

**WEBSITE** - This very necessary function for WVM has been a frustration for sometime now. The conclusion is we just need professional help. Boyd P. suggested his contact would be willing to work with us. Motion by Howard C is to use \$500. to build a user friendly website ASAP. Seconded by Jim P. Approved. Visit [www.bnash.com](http://www.bnash.com) if you want to view a sample of the professionals work. More to come on this for sure.

**OLD BUSINESS:** \* Revision of the Constitution (bylaws). Revisions were on sections under Purpose, Transactions, Guests, Vice Pres, and other small house keeping wordings. They have been read, published and time elapsed. There were no more questions. Motion to accept was made by Eben Ray and second by Joyce Wrightman, approved. \* Looking for a new meeting place. Alan M. reports that he is still (or will be) checking out prospects. Churches, American Legion, PGE, Macleay Grange.

**NEW BUSINESS:** \* New WVM brochures have been revised and printed. \* Members are reporting news of a claim maintenance fees change possibly coming. This may affect WVM and individuals claims too. Kirby Jackson of Jefferson Mining District is one source for this news.

**PROGRAMS** - Tonight we had Claudia Wise presenting "Does Methyl mercury cause significant harm to fish or human health?" In May Joe Greene will be speaking on "Small scale gold suction dredging under attack". June 1 - we have no special program as we will be camping at Miners' Meadow for the Rendezvous. July meeting we will learn more on using a GPS and prep for the July GPS outing with Boyd P.

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by: Joan Frick, secretary WVM

### Events & Outings

What a great day: About 50 people came to the workshop, composed of oldies, and newbies. We talked about how to find and retrieve the elusive gold.

Special thanks to Louie Frick, Wes Jeffers, Jeff Farrand, Larry Coon, Tom Quintal, and Ellen C. for their help and contribution in demonstrations of Dredging, panning, gold wheel use, and cleaning concentrates. Thanks for all of the delicious foods that you-all brought for the potluck, it was just yummy! The special nuggets of old dried grapes that I found in the concentrates of flour, oats, sugar, etc, were simply EYE POPPING M-M-M-M-M-AND M. A very special thanks to my wife Patti for all her help and hard work. (I see a trip to spirit mt.)  
Jim Perkey

**Vincent Creek Outing** is approaching so get your equipment ready to find some gold in NE Oregon. It's happening May 26-28. This outing is a good camping outing with lots of room for RV's of all types. Have warm clothing and possibly rain gear. The elevation is higher than you might think too. As far as equipment, the highbankers work well here and the smaller dredges. This is a great area for sluice box and other hand equipment as well and even metal detectors have been known to find artifacts. While we are there we will do a little claim upkeep so bring along some tools for that type of work. We won't take a lot of your time. Once you're at the gate, look around before you drive a big rig in, most of the larger vehicles park outside the gate! Eben is the contact person and will have more info at the next meeting. Maps are in your member packet and the directions are very accurate. Be sure you display your dash card at this outing. And be sure the gate is always closed. Thanks, Eben [503-508-1497](tel:503-508-1497) [ebenray44@yahoo.com](mailto:ebenray44@yahoo.com) and put Vincent Cr. Outing in the subject line. (NOTE- this outing is right on the large calendar but our wallet calendar is blocked off a week early. May 26-28 is correct.)

**Briggs Cr. outing** starts June 18th through June 30th. Leave for Briggs Cr. early Monday morning June 18th expect 6 hours travel to Briggs Cr. claim. The first week June 18th through June 23rd. is a scheduled for major trail maintenance. June 24th through June 30th scheduled for one week of mining. Return home Sunday July 1st.

Those planning to do trail maintenance, please bring chain saws and a few sharp chains, some 25' to 50' lengths of decent size cable and heavy duty Come-A-Longs, shovels, picks, large long nails or self tapping long screws and 18V drills and extra 18V batteries for foot bridge building, plenty of fuel for

equipment. Chain saw winches would be much appreciated. Jack hammers, generators and 50 foot heavy extension cords to run hammers would be welcome. I guarantee this work party will be one to be remembered. We have a few trail locations on this mile long trail to the claim where a few boulders need to be relocated and a 40 foot long rock wall will be jack hammered to widen the existing trail for safety purposes. Three large downed old growth fir trees need wider path openings and any downed trees across trail that might need clearing. Some pick and shovel work will be needed to widened parts of the dirt trail areas. Possible foot bridges may be built across two trail locations. Some spraying of poison Oak on trail sides is planned. I know it sounds like work, but if we want to use this claim and haul equipment in safely, the trail improvements will be much appreciated by all WVM members instead of just the hardy few who have already experienced the discomfort accessing this claim.

Contact Tom Quintal at [503 371 9747](tel:5033719747) on or before Sunday June 17th if you want to caravan to Briggs Cr. I will be leaving early Monday morning June 18th and plan to return Sunday July 1st. The driving instructions and maps to Briggs Cr. Claim are in your membership packets.

**Tom Q.**

**Miners Meadow Rendezvous** promises to be better than ever!!!! The Meadow campground will be available from about 10am on Thursday, June 21st and end at 11am on Monday, June 24th. (The WVM June meeting happens there around the campfire on Friday night at 7pm.) This is a MUST ATTEND event for those who want to learn more about the many ways to find GOLD in our beautiful Oregon outdoors and of course get to know some really great fellow prospectors. The potluck is on Saturday around noon and we will celebrate eating a huge amount of the best food on earth. WVM provides the meat and cooking and table ware and the rest of us bring the salads, sides, desserts, etc. Gary Schrader will perform magic with his gravity defying hamburger roaster.

Daily we will have the “donut shop” open for your morning around the campfire time. As usual, there will be tons of fun with a metal detector hunt, the famous ducky race, a poker chip hunt for the kids, and a GPS geo cache search for the techy minded people and panning contests for all ages. Did I

mention the great prizes for all the lucky winners??!! If you have enough time you can even do “real” gold mining at you leisure. Near by WVM claims are Cedar Bend and WVM #1.plus Quartzville Creek is available.

On I-5 near Albany take exit 233, to hwy 20 going east thru Lebanon and on thru Sweet Home. Continue east on hwy 20 past Foster Lake, then turn left and across the lake on Quartzville Drive Road. Signs read to Yellowbottom and Quartzville. Continue on to mile marker 26, watch carefully on your right for WVM signs. Turn right off the road, then an immediate left through the chain link gate. The campground is great from tents to RVs. No potable water or power is available so bring your own.

We will have more fun with you there; but we will be there listening to the outstanding Jim Perkey concert, drowning ducks and all the rest no matter what!! Hope to see everyone there! Howard Conner  
[503-399-0292](tel:5033990292)

**Dads Creek Outing** coming July 4-8. More info in the next newsletter. Contact person is Jeff Farrand  
[503-371-3652](tel:5033713652).

### Raffle Corner

Once again we had a good table raffle, thanks to those who donated! Sorry I did not get the name of the nugget winners, I say winners because Eben donated a second nugget so we had two winners! Our large raffle item was a choice between three things, sliced rock bookends, bag of sun stones or a wallet made just for WVM's. The winner picked the bookends so next month we choose between the remaining two items. In the near future we will have a LARGE nugget as the prize so we will keep you posted. (this one may take a couple of meetings to reach it's value!!!)

Trudy and I want to express our thanks for all your support after her strokes and recovery. She is getting better little by little.

Gary Schrader  
PO Box 504  
Lyons OR 97358

### Members Corner

I am pleased to report that the Ninth Circuit court has reversed the criminal conviction of Michael Backlund for residing on his claim. Mr. Backlund

was, as far as I know, the only criminally-charged miner who succeeded in reversing his conviction on appeal.

I am sorry to say, however, that the Court reversed his conviction on the narrowest possible grounds. Specifically, the conviction was reversed because we should have been able to argue at trial that the Ranger's prohibition of year-round occupancy was not lawful. This was only possible because Mr. Backlund had filed administrative appeals of the initial ranger determination. The case now presumably goes back to District Court, where the United States may or may not seek to hold a trial on that issue.

The opinion simply refuses to respond in any way to many of the significant arguments we made for a broader victory, and creates precedent in favor of the Forest Service's position that advance approval of residency on a claim is always required.

In a perfect world of unlimited resources, we would file a petition for rehearing pointing out the arguments the opinion has overlooked, in the (very unlikely) event that environmentalist clerks have pulled a fast one on the judges. We do not live in such a world; although some of you contributed to the cost of Mr. Backlund's appeal, and such contributions were greatly appreciated, such contributions did not cover this office's costs; I have written them off.

**Cliff's Metal Detectors**  
Factory Authorized dealer  
White's, Tesoro, Teknetics, Garrett, Fisher, Bounty Hunter  
Free instruction - Lifetime customer service  
4934 Center St. NE Cliff4934@msn.com  
Salem, OR 97301 503-581-3395

**ALLEMAN**  
Detector Sales 769-1914

**O**regon  
Prospecting Supplies & Rita's Relics  
Dredges & Sluice Boxes: Dry Washers  
Power Sluices: Whites Metal Detectors:  
Keene Dealer: Gold Pans  
541-367-2237 Toll Free 866-367-4061  
gold2@centurytel.net www.oregonprospecting.com

1045 Main Street  
Sweet Home, OR 97386

**Fine Recovery**  
Portable Mining Equipment  
CUSTOM MANUFACTURING  
Louie Frick  
Owner  
541-327-1210  
e-mail: mining@teleport.com

**Louie's Welding**  
1307 Talbot Rd.S.E.  
Jefferson, Or. 97352

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

**For Sale**

Gold Miners Wheel for sale.  
Bought last year new, used only a few times.  
\$275.00 [503-510-1878](tel:503-510-1878) Jeff 3/2012

10" table saw w/cast iron top, belt driven motor recently rewound \$150.00  
Gary Schrader 4/2012  
[503-859-3132](tel:503-859-3132)

**SMITTY BAZOOKA UNDER WATER GOLD DREDGE with 4" & 5" NOZZLES - \$995 (SALEM)**

Smitty Gold Trap Bazooka Underwater Portable Dredge. Includes two quick install nozzles. One 4 inch and 5 inch nozzle. Dredge has an additional jet for deep-hole dredging. Optional accessories includes nugget trap extension, extra jet manifolds, additional 5 inch hose sections with 5 inch power jet if you want to suspend dredge on float system. NO PUMP AND ENGINE WITH THIS SALE. Dredge will require 5.5 hp engine and a 300gph pump for deeper holes. You can use 180gph trash pump for depths up to 15 feet. The Bazooka Dredge can be used in shallow water one foot or more. This dredge is excellent for remote areas and can be back packed as complete unit less pump and engine. It is hard to find this kind of dredge anywhere. Give me a call at 503 371 9747 ask for Tom Quintal WVM member 5/2012

**Wanted**

**Gold Screw**  
Dan @ 541-401-0922 (Sweet Home)

# Willamette Valley Miners

PO Box 13044  
Salem OR 97309-1044

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

