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Events & Outings

See Calendar

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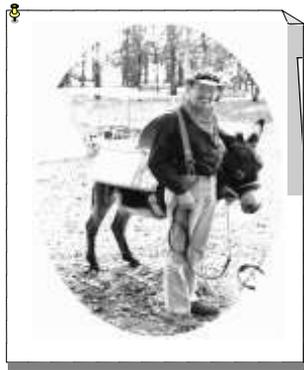
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Please have all items for the newsletter to me by the 25th of the month



WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

August 2012

Meeting

August 16, 2012
7:00 pm @

August 14-19 – Clackamas Co. Fair – Canby

Bohemia Mine Tour has been cancelled. Steve Landis will be having surgery the first part of August.

August 30-31 – 2nd Briggs Creek Outing

September 1-3 – 2nd Dad's Creek Outing

August Meeting Program

Eric Metz from Department of State Lands will give a presentation on the General Authorization permit and other issues DSL may implement that could affect placer mining in the future.

President's Report

It is interesting how many miners are not aware of the issues that are before us involving permits, rulemaking, and laws. Yes, I am sure that everyone is aware of the California ban on dredging, but what about the details involved and the pending lawsuits from both sides. I get questions on which permits are needed for what. The more I try to answer, the more questions are asked. I have my personal opinions on the permits, especially the 700 NPDES permit. All I can say is, if you are going to get the permit for what activity you wish to do, know your rights, read up on the laws and know what you are signing. How about the EPA, they claim suction dredging has been illegal for the last 40 years under the Clean Water Act, they just have been nice and not been enforcing their strong arm as of yet. Section 402 exempts discharge of dredge material going back into the same water it came from and section 404 gives jurisdiction to the Corps of Engineers, not EPA.

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

President's Report Cont'd

How about the 700 NPDES permit, it is in court because DEQ thinks that suction dredges fall under the same permit given to municipal sewage treatment plants and other large discharge pollutant industries. How about the Forest Service shutting down roads. Public Lands for the People (PLP) are in the thick of this fight. Roads are getting gated, piles of dirt are being pushed up as a barricade, all to stop you from using public lands. I could go on but I hope you are getting the point. Read up, get informed, write your representatives and senators, know your rights, and fight for those rights. It will take all miners, not just a select few, or you will lose it all. For a great place to start, go to <http://www.jeffersonminingdistrict.com/>

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

Jeff Farrand

Well folks like some of us have been saying all along the Environmental Movement has shifted to Oregon big time. Now that California is in the bag the Waco's are moving North. Some miners have not stepped up and keep sitting on the sidelines not supporting our permit litigation fund that EOMA, Waldo Mining and other Oregon mining associations are working so hard to raise enough money to litigate our current 700 overly restrictive NPDES industrial permit. If you think the current 700 permit is hard to comply with. ODEQ and NEDC have conspired to make your future permit impossible to deal with. Isn't it nice to see how corrupt ODEQ is with your tax dollars by giving NEDC \$7,500 dollars in an out of court settlement, also as part of their settlement allowing NEDC to become a stake holder for the next 700 permit by allowing NEDC to write up a big fat wish list for your next suction dredge permit that miners will never be able to comply with. How about doing what Chuck Chase and a few other miners are doing by writing or calling your state senators and representatives to let them know what is going on with ODEQ and NEDC since this is just one good example.

What is it going to take for Oregon miners to wake up, or is it too late???? As I have said many times

before, you might start thinking about selling all your mining gear while it still has some value.

You snooze you lose.

Tom Q.

In the Sixth Article of the Constitution it states:

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding. The 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution reads like this: No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. Federal law is the supreme law of the land and that State judges have to honor federal law over State laws. Privileges are grants given from the federal government, usually in the form of laws, such as the Bill of Rights, but equally important is the Federal Mining Act of 1872.

Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2012

The Willamette Valley Miners' monthly meeting was called to order by Vice Pres. Alan Mitchell, Jeff was out of town. We were led in the pledge of allegiance by Sue M.

As per sign in sheet, we had in attendance 48 members and 2 guests. Larry C. reports we now have a membership of 359 members.

The Treasurer's report given by Larry Coon was approved. Minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Reports from:

CLAIMS- Larry C. is busy keeping up with all the paperwork for claims. And he reminds us to clean up messes (our own or not) on the claims and fill in your "holes" because FS, BLM, and others (agencies) are watching. Be a responsible miner!

NEWSLETTER- no report.

WEBSITE- Trudy S. reports that the rebuilding process is continuing and our professional is doing a good job. Question was asked if we might be able to have a chat room on the site? Answer was: probably not but maybe a forum could be looked at.

PAST OUTINGS- June 18-30 was a lengthy visit to Briggs Creek. Only a few made the trip but quite a lot of trail/claim maintenance was accomplished and then time for some fun - excellent gold was found. Also found was a slight dispute with the next claim over, Wild Cat. There will be ongoing discussions over this matter for sure. Aug. 20 there will be a meeting at Briggs Creek claim with the Wild Cat owner.

June 21-25 was Miners Meadow gathering on Quartzville Creek. There was a report already written in the July newsletter but Howard C. summed up the event as EXCELLENT !

July 4-8 was Dads Creek and we have no report as apparently no one attended or at least came to this meeting to give us a report.

RAFFLES TABLE- Gary S. says "keep the donations coming" and our thanks to all who 'play and invest (?) monthly. Next month there will be a large nugget drawing.

GOV'T AFFAIRS- Glenn Z. reports that he has attended more meetings and some with only 4 miners showing. Being proactive with government affairs is to all our benefit, at least use your e-mail voice and also be an informed person. In the upcoming election be aware of who is a mining rights friendly candidate and if they win we need to be sure to communicate and thank them for the support and encourage them to continue. Glenn has a business card - he reports much concentrated information at the meetings and it's hard to record it

all, but if you keep in touch with him you can follow along and be a proactive miner.

OLD BUSINESS: Treasurer Larry C. is in a continuing challenge with IRS and our tax status. Now even our non-profit filing is in question. He has asked for help with the paperwork and Glenn Z. has offered to help. Thanks.

NEW BUSINESS: Howard C. announced that Northwest Mining Association conference - "Thoroughly Modern Mining in a Technology Based World" - is happening Dec. 2-7 in Spokane WA if anyone is interested in attending. Then the discussion was on the registration fee (a little steep for most). But info is in our library if you're interested.

PROGRAMS- Tonight the speaker was Kyle Gehrke from Wholesale Sports in Salem. He gave lots of info on GPS and answered questions. Saturday, July 28, 10am is the GPS outing led by Boyd Puckett starting from our fire hall meeting location.

In August we will listen to Eric Metz from DSL. Come with your questions on our public lands, GA permit, etc. and we hope many members to be present to show 'mining rights people in force'. Howard reminds us that as programs director he is always open to suggestions for upcoming meetings.

GOOD TO THE ORDER-

1. Tom Q. had an "unusual rock" to pass around and wonder what is it? He found it on his Sharpes Creek claim.

2. Patty Perkey found a key at the Dry Gulch WVM #1 claim. It's labeled "garage door". Anyone lose a key? - she has it.

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by: Joan Frick, secretary WVM

UPCOMING OUTINGS AND EVENTS

August 14-19 is the Clackamas County Fair in Canby. A booth representing and promoting mining is run by Wes Jeffers. This is not an official club event but we do benefit for sure, so he would appreciate help. You must dress in "miner period" costumes (and he gives a prize) too. More info call Wes at [971-563-5080](tel:971-563-5080).

August 25 is the Bohemia Mine Tour

Has been cancelled. Due to illness. Steve Landis has to have surgery at the beginning of August. Please remember him and his family during this time.

Briggs Creek 2nd outing August 20-31

More mining time and not so much maintenance. Contact person is [Tom Quintal 503-371-9747](tel:503-371-9747). The driving instructions and maps to the claim are in your membership packets. August 20 there will be a special meeting at the claim with the person who owns Wild Cat, an adjoining claim, over disputed ownership of both and the paperwork.

Dads Creek 2nd outing Sept 1-3

-- It has multiple WVM claims on it. There are a number of areas along the claim to rough camp and they are accessible with camp trailers around 28 ft. + vehicle. WVM 3 is the first claim as you turn onto the road along Dads Creek. There are many places to prospect with bedrock, shallow in some spots and deep on others. There is gold, one day you might not find any and the next you hit a good spot. Bedrock is the key for the better stuff. Flood gold is on the top. Directions: Off I-5 use exit 80 to Glendale, at stop sign set your mileage to "0", go straight to Glendale. After 2.6 miles, turn right and cross over Cow Creek River, (within a block) then turn left. This puts you on Ruben Road. Go an additional 9 miles to road #32-7-21 which is on the right. There are many sharp turns, small shoulders and sometimes gravel on this 9 miles of paved road. When you turn right onto the service road it is clear you are in the right spot because there is a large area of rock taken from the hillside on the left. Find a spot in this area or travel further up to WVM 4 and 5. There are more areas along 4, 5, and 6 to camp along. Contact person is [Jeff Farrand 503-371-3652](tel:503-371-3652)

Its not too early to start thinking on our 2nd outing to the beach. **Beverly Beach is the place on October 6-7.** Contact person is [Wes Jeffers 971-563-5080](tel:971-563-5080).

Member report on Miners Jubilee

The Miners Jubilee in Baker City July 20-22 has come and gone. You missed a fantastic event that happens every year on the third weekend in July. Why not try it sometime? Tom Bohmker was there with his booth promoting his books and mining in general. Louie and I noticed he had a prime location and we hope he did really well - he looked busy, busy. We enjoyed our visit and also several eastern Oregon sites. Maybe next year will bring more WVM to this huge event. A nice booklet describing the Jubilee is now in our library - check it out.

Louie and Joan

Raffle Corner

Allen won the nugget and Dale Looney won the wallet. Next month a large nugget will be the large raffle item. It is valued about \$300.00 so it may take a couple of meetings to raffle off!! We will also have the usual nugget, table and 50/50 raffle. Don't forget to bring something for the table.

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e-mail: mining@teleport.com

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 7/2012

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 4 inch and 5 inch nozzle. Optional accessories: Nugget trap extension,

5 inch hoses & power jet, extra jet manifolds and all hose connection use quick couplers. NO PUMP OR ENGINE WITH THIS SALE.

Working deeper holes requires the 5.5 hp engine with a 300gph pressure pump. Excellent dredge to back pack into remote locations.

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

