



# WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

June 2014

**June Meeting**  
Friday, June 20, 2014  
7:00pm

June Meeting –

## At Miners' Meadow

June 19-23 - Quartzville Miners Rendezvous

July 19 - Bohemia Mine Tour

### President's Report

I took a drive up to Dry gulch last week. I had to get away from it all. I packed late and drove out early the next morning. The drive up was nice it seemed like it took a shorter time to drive. The Army Corps of Engineers has shut down camping all along Green Peter Reservoir. The reasoning is due to all the messes and damage being done by some campers. The BLM is talking about doing the same along the Creek, pushing everyone into camp grounds. It seemed weird not seeing so many cars and people. There were some camped along Quartzville Creek but still not many until Miners Meadow. Dry Gulch had water in it at the top and the bottom but not in the middle. I went to set up to work and realized I broke one of my own rules. I hadn't fixed or went through my equipment from last year. Fortunately, I used some ingenuity and I was up and runny. I found some gold and had a nice and peaceful day. I was kind of surprised to see no one else up there working as nice of a day it was. I can tell you that the forest road to the claim is washing away. Water that was flowing down the road is cutting ruts into it.

The Miners Meadow outing is this month, If you can't stay for the nights, please come up at the least for the day. Remember that the June meeting is on Friday up at Miners Meadow and not on normal Thursday at the Fire Hall.

Jeff Farrand

WVM President  
Jeff Farrand

### Officers

#### President

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

#### Vice President

Eben Ray  
miningisnotevil@  
yahoo.com

Mike Hunter

[captainmvh@yahoo.com](mailto:captainmvh@yahoo.com)  
[503-502-2382](tel:503-502-2382)

#### Secretary

Patti Perkey  
503-390-7327  
jptoads@q.com

#### Treasurer

James Perkey  
503-390-7327  
jptoads@gmail.com

### Government Affairs

Vacant – Contact Eben  
Ray if interested

### Committees

#### Claims

Larry Coons  
Howard Conner  
Clifford Boren  
George Crutcher

### Events & Outings

See Calendar

### Programs

Howard Conner  
[connerh@centurylink.net](mailto:connerh@centurylink.net)

### Website

Boyd Puckett  
Trudy Schrader

### 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**

## Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2014

The May meeting was chaired by V.P. Eben Ray and called to order by Mike Hunter with Jim Perkey leading the pledge of allegiance. There were 33 members and 5 guests in attendance as per the sign-in sheet.

Thanks to the "treat team" for the goodies. Next month treats will be at Miner's Meadow so everyone can contribute if you wish to.

Jim Perkey presented the treasurer's report. Howard C. made the motion to accept the report as read and Alan M. seconded and it was approved as such. Also, the four 8' tables that were previously approved on have been purchased.

Eben asked for comments on last month's minutes. Joan F. noted that a clarification needed to be made in regards to ideas and suggestions for new outings and work-shops for next year. I asked for new members to submit these ideas when in fact I should have said ALL members, new and old alike. Sorry about that slip-up and thanks Joan for bringing it to my attention. With that taken care of, Howard C. made the motion to accept the minutes as written, Alan M. seconded it and it was approved.

From claims: Larry Coon reported that Dry Gulch has good water in it. If you are planning to dredge there out of the in-water work time you need to have the ODFW waiver that you can get from Larry. Contact him at 541-905-4749. And be sure you have your dash card visible in your vehicle while at the claim. Also, stay on the road-way so you won't get ticketed for trespass on private property.

There seems to be nothing new, good or bad, in regards to the newsletter on the WVM website.

Reporting on the past outings, Howard Conner said the Rickreall Rock & Gem show was a real good turn out. Lots of kids, as usual, and a great number of members that volunteered their time to help out at the booth and panning tubs. Thanks to all. And Ellen C. said she was a lucky winner for one of the show's door prizes.

Mike Hunter reported on the pot-luck picnic, calling it an "interesting social event". There were only 12

members that showed up. He was certainly hoping for more but a good time was had by all, with lots of really good food, good fun and even some good entertainment provided by Jim P. Even the weather was good---cool but dry.

The up-coming outings are:

On June 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the Quartzville Miners' Rendezvous held at the Old Miner's Meadow on Quartzville Creek outside of Sweet Home. This is our BIG outing and it's always lots of fun, rain or shine. The monthly meeting will be held there on Friday evening, the 20<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday there will be the duck races, metal detecting, poker-chip hunt for the kids, all with prizes to be won, and the most wonderful, big ol' pot-luck at noon. Besides our "Campfire Crooners", it would be really great if any of you would join in, so if you can pick, strum, fiddle, blow or sing please do so. It's all just for fun. There is usually plenty of camping space in the meadow even if we need to shuffle rigs a bit to make room. This is strictly dry camping-no water or power. Gates open on Thursday at 2:00p.m and we need to vacate the meadow by 11:00 am on Monday. Also, some of you may be bringing your pets and remember they must be kept on a leash! For further information contact Howard Conner at 503-399-0292.

On July 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> there is an outing scheduled to Dad's Creek outside of Glendale. By last reports there isn't much water available for dredging or sluicing. But this might be a good time to clean out those cracks and crevices in the bedrock. Although with the logging trucks running and raising clouds of dust it doesn't sound very promising. Hopefully there will be an up-dated report at the June meeting. If you have questions contact Howard Conner at 503-399-0292.

On July 19<sup>th</sup> is the Bohemia Mines tour at Cottage Grove. Penny Esplin will lead the hike up to the old mining sites. She suggests you meet her at the Wal-Mart parking lot at 9:30 Saturday morning. She'll have a flag or something to mark her vehicle. As part of the tour, at the fire look-out tower Howard will be spreading the ashes of the late WVM member Steve Landis. What a glorious place to be laid to rest. For further information you can call Penny at 503-588-9251.

Tom Bohmker and Trevor Sheffield related some of the highlights about their visits to some of the mining shows along the West coast. Tom said there is always something different at each of the shows so you get the opportunity to learn something new. Tom also noted that he rates the shows from the standpoint of professional people there while Trevor rates them by the number of good looking women. And congrats to Trevor on his new job. He gets to blow up rocks—how much fun would that be?

Before Tom Quintal gave his report on the Governor's study group he presented the coveted, new and improved, "Vulture Award" to one of our members. It's been dusted, engraved and enhanced with two silver dimes for eyes. And this month's winner is Jim Perkey. Thanks Tom! Now back to business. The Governor's study group has been in session twice now and apparently hasn't accomplished a thing. There will be five more meetings and a power-point presentation on June 20<sup>th</sup> that you are encouraged to attend if you can. Tom suggests that you ask questions at the end of the meetings. This study group is supposed to be dealing with the section 8 of SB838, but can't seem to get past the clams, mussels, bull trout and eels. They say they want to come to a consensus, but what Tom can see so far, we as miners are not getting any good answers to his questions. It seems to be the same old song and dance from the state. If you have questions for Tom you can contact him at 503-371-9474.

In new business, Jim P. reports that soon he will need to purchase more gold for the sand bags we sell and nuggets for the monthly table raffle. Alan M. made the motion for Jim to buy the gold needed. It seconded by Louie F. and approved by the members.

For Good of the Order, Wes Jeffers has been asked by the NW Mineral Prospectors of Milwaukie if any of the WVM members would help them in their booth at the State Fairgrounds on July 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. You would have free entry and free parking. Give Wes a call at 971-563-5080.

Chuck Choate stated that his cousin Jaimie ??? is running for state representative and feels that he may be a good candidate for you to check out for that office. He feels strongly about our 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights and would like to know more

about the issues Oregon miners are facing. We will try to get Jaimie to come to a meeting to hear our concerns and perhaps we could get some other reps to attend also. That should be interesting.

Howard wants to remind all of you to fill out a trip planner if you go out mining, camping, hiking etc., so if something unfortunate should happen people will know where you are and when you plan to return. It's all about safety, folks.

And last but not least, Jim P. wants to thank these people for their time and efforts in helping him make the storage rack for the tent cover poles. Louie F. did the welding on the box brackets, Wes J. is powder-coating them, Gary S. donated the material and helped install the brackets onto the trailer and Jim is making the storage box for the poles to fit into. It's going to be great! We also want to say thanks to Gary for donating a bunch of party supplies and prize items that were given to us.

That's all for this month-- hope to see you at Miner's Meadow.

Patti Perkey

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Miners' Rendevouz: June 19-23**

**Dad's Creek Outing: July 4-6**

**July 19<sup>th</sup> : Bohemia Mine Tour**

### **Miners' Meadow Outing**

The best way to start the summer is to share in the great fun, food, games and mining during our annual Miners' Meadow celebration of freedom, life and friendship. The directions to Miners' Meadow is in the membership packet or on the WVM website. The location is open to tents, RV's or under the stars. The club rents the space and although it is DRY CAMPING two nice pit toilets are on site.

The site is available from Thursday June 19<sup>th</sup> at noon, to 2:00 PM on Monday June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The WVM monthly meeting will be held on Friday night 6-20 @ 7:00 PM, at the outing.

If you can come for only one day.....Saturday June 21 is the day. The famous Ducky Races, Metal Detecting, Poker Chip Hunt, Speed Panning and

other games will be held along with the most fantabulous POT LUCK LUNCH and an evening Fireside boasting great entertainment!

Help make this year's Miners' Meadow outing the best ever!! For more information contact Howard at [503-399-0292](tel:503-399-0292) or [connerh@centurylink.net](mailto:connerh@centurylink.net)

## **Members' Corner**

North America has a rich history as one of the world's leading producers of gold. Today, it produces nearly 16.4 million ounces of gold, representing 20 percent of the world's gold. The region is also a major consumer of gold, responsible for 13.5 percent of consumption in 2000.

The United States is the world's second-largest gold producing nation, and Canada is the fourth largest producer. Mexico, an emerging gold producer, is amongst the top 20 producing countries.

The U.S. gold industry is responsible for more than 66,000 jobs, creating more than \$6 billion in economic activity and individual earnings of nearly \$2 billion annually.

Gold is widely used in jewelry and as a store of value. Gold is also used in a wide range of important commercial and industrial uses, and its unique combination of properties makes it vital to some of our most advanced technologies.

From the Gold Institute web site

- Gold's superior electrical conductivity, its malleability, and its resistance to corrosion have made it vital to the manufacture of components used in a wide range of electronic products and equipment, including computers, telephones, cellular phones, and home appliances.

Gold has extraordinarily high reflective powers that are relied upon in the shielding that protects spacecrafts and satellites from solar radiation and in industrial and medical lasers that use gold-coated reflectors to focus light energy.

And because gold is biologically inactive, it has become a vital tool for medical research and is even used in the direct treatment of arthritis and other intractable diseases.

## **GROWTH TRENDS IN PRODUCTION**

For many years, 75% or more of the gold needed by U.S. manufacturers was imported from other countries. From 1980 forward, however, U.S. gold production climbed steadily -- from one million to more than 11 million ounces annually -- due to important advances in exploration, mining and processing technologies. Today, the U.S. produces more gold than any nation except South Africa, and can meet all of its domestic gold needs while still making 23% of U.S. production available for export. In 1999, this resulted in a positive \$2.7 billion contribution to the nation's balance of trade.

## **EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES**

The U.S. gold mining industry is currently responsible for creating more than 66,000 jobs and nearly \$2 billion in earnings annually. Salaries within the industry are generally as much as 40% higher than the average annual wage.

## **IMPACT ON OVERALL ECONOMY**

Gold plays a key role in a wide range of rapidly developing technologies that are important to the nation's economic health. Billions of gold-coated electrical connectors are used throughout the computer, telecommunications and home appliance industries. Weather and communications satellites depend on gold-plated shields and reflective apparatus for protection from solar heat and electrical interference while in space. Advanced laser technology used in a variety of industrial and medical applications employs interior gold coatings to concentrate its powerful light energy. The automobile industry depends on gold-coated contacts for sensors that activate automobile air bag systems. And modern medicine relies on gold in a wide variety of procedures ranging from the monitoring of heart functions to the chemistry related to diagnosis and treatment of cancer, viral and bacterial diseases and allergies. All of these uses of gold are critical to the global economy.

But even in raw economic terms, the gold industry makes a significant contribution to the U.S. economy:

## EXPLORING

Explorers have searched for gold for thousands of years. It was first found in the beds of rivers and creeks. Our image of the great California gold rush of 1848 is of hardy prospectors panning for gold, sometimes in water up to their waists. Even today, individual prospectors still pan for gold in remote locations. Gold can still be found this way. The gold in riverbeds is known as alluvial gold. But over the years, most of the gold close to the surface has been found.

Today, to meet growing world demand, gold has to be mined. It is found in veins of rocks, sometimes thousands of feet below ground. How do we know it is there? How do we know where to mine?

Exploring for gold today is very different from in the the past. It involves the very latest technology, sometimes beginning with infrared photographs of the earth taken from space satellites. The U.S. Geological Survey makes these maps available to geologists who specialize in looking for anomalies in the earth's surface that indicate gold might be present below the surface. Close-up aerial photos of these areas are then taken and carefully analyzed. Eventually, drilling equipment is moved to the most promising sites.

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We Meet Third Thursday of  
the month, 7:00 pm at  
Miners' Meadow  
For June Meeting

