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Howard Conner
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Events & Outings

See Calendar

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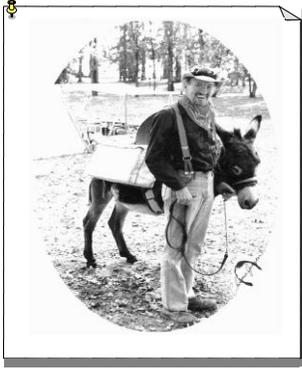
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**Please have all items for
the newsletter to me by
the 25th of the month**



WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

July 2014

July Meeting
Thursday, July 17, 2014
7:00pm

July 19 - Bohemia Mine Tour
August 16-17 – Golden Dollar Outing
August 30- September 1 – Dad's Creek Outing

President's Report

Hello to all, The Miners Meadow outing had a nice turn out. I want to thank all of those who worked in one way or another to make this outing a success. We did have some injuries though, I would like to remind everyone that being careful when you get into the elements is important.

It appears that the judge in the California moratorium case has ordered a mandatory settlement conference. It seems odd that there is something to settle. I understand a settlement in a car accident or injury because each case may be different, but this case is full of laws, rights and grants. There have been many years of discussions where the miners are completely ignored. Why, after all this time would miners want a settlement? A settlement just means that down the road, the greenies can ask for more changes. We need a ruling that is made inline to the Federal Mining Laws. As of this time the June 24th conference went nowhere. He has ordered another conference for September 3rd and 4th. By delaying a ruling, this assures no dredging again for 2014 in California. So I have to ask, why would a judge not make a ruling? Any decision will effect what is happening in Oregon and other states.

WVM President
Jeff Farrand

Meeting Minutes

This month's meeting, held at Old Miner's Meadow, was called to order by Pres. Jeff Farrand. Mike Hunter led us in the pledge of allegiance. There were approximately 54 members and 3 guests in attendance.

Jim P. gave the treasurer's report for the month of May. Howard C. made the motion to accept the report as read, Alan M. seconded the motion and it was accepted.

The minutes for last month were also seconded and approved. No questions were raised in regards to the newsletter and it was stated to be a good one.

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, Cont'd

June 20, 2014

Debi F., our news editor, has requested someone to volunteer to take over her duties. Cassie, Alan and Sue's daughter graciously stepped up. Thank you, Cassie!

Claims: Larry C. stated that the claim assessment year is almost up so it is very important that you get your assessments for any work that you've done on WVM claims to him as soon as possible. If you need the forms for that you can get them from him. Also if you are planning a trip to Dads Creek remember there will be logging trucks hauling from there and it may be dusty and unpleasant camping anywhere near the road. And, next year there may also be logging off the road to Vincent Creek. There won't be logging on our claim but the trucks will be hauling on the road that runs through it. And the road to Dry Gulch has gotten very rough so use caution especially if you are planning on taking a car up there. A truck would be a better choice.

In old business Gary S. mentioned that the old panning tubs and stands are still available. Another group had expressed interest in a couple of them but they haven't picked any up yet. If you could use one, call Jim P. at 503-390-7327.

Joan F. noted the event put on by Louie and Rita's Relic's. Rita has a business in Sweet Home, is a member of WVM and has donated a claim to us. Please be sure to patronize her store for your mining needs.

Howard C. then talked about the agenda for the following two days. This included the evening's entertainment with Jim P., Gary Wolf, and Howard, the Duck Races, Poker-chip Hunt, and Metal Detecting.

Past Outings: Beverly Beach one attendee stated that it was cold and very windy and fortunately no sneaker waves this year. Asked if there was any gold found he replied, "I didn't get rich". But it was still a nice walk up and back.

Vincent Creek, Alan M. said about 16 members were there. The weather was great for the most part except Friday night they had a rain storm with lightning and thunder. They had a great potluck on Saturday night. He thinks everybody went home

with some gold – some more than others-- but all in all a great outing. Also a walking cane was found there, so if it is yours you can call Jim P. at 503-390-7327.

New Business: Mike H. had stopped at Whites Metal-Detectors in Sweet Home and looked at their museum. He found it to be very interesting and they have offered to put on a thing for us if we call and make a trip there. Perhaps they will give us a tour of their manufacturing process so we can see how their detectors are made. Mike suggests that this could be a new outing for next year. Sounds good, Mike.

John Hefty remarked on the lack of road-side camping in the Quartzville corridor. This has been implemented due to the amount of litter and trash left behind by campers. Hopefully that problem can be resolved by simply "pack it in—pack it out". Jeff F. requested that WVM grant a life-time membership to one of our members, Steve Hefty. And due to life and health issues Jim P. made the motion to grant that request. Howard C. seconded the motion and it was approved by vote. Allan Beeker generously donated a belt buckle and gold pan to be used as prizes for our contests. Leonard Allen also donated a gold pan. Thanks to both of you, that was appreciated.

Government Affairs: Jeff related the court rulings in California, or perhaps the non-rulings. The presiding Judge has decided to have negotiations with both sides of the dredging issue on how to proceed. So it is still a waiting game on that front. Mike H. attended the last meeting of the Governor's council and listened to their presentations on Lamprey eels and Mussels and on and on. Fish and Game stated that the eels need to be protected. Another issue brought up was the removal of all the fill on top of bed rock with dredges. Mike explained the fill was still there, but in a different spot on the bed rock. And still no discussions on measure 838.

And lastly, Jeff wants to remind us all that it is important to document all of the lead and harmful materials that's removed from the streams while dredging. Give the documentation to our claims guy Larry Coon or bring to the monthly meeting for collection. Next the motion was made to close this meeting, it was seconded and approved. Until next time, Patti.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 19th - Bohemia Mine Tour – Cottage Grove
Penny Esplin will lead the hike up to the old mine site. Meet here at the Wal-Mart parking lot at 9:30 Saturday morning in Cottage Grove. She will have a flag on her vehicle. At the fire lookout tower Howard C. will be spreading the ashes of the late Steve Landis. For further information call Penny at 503-588-9251.

August 16th-17 – Golden Dollar Outing
August 30- September 1st – Dad's Creek Outing

Past Outings

The 2014 Miner's Meadow outing is now a terrific memory of great fun, new and old friends, outstanding food and entertainment and unusually nice weather. Approximately 54 members attended the June meeting held on Friday evening and another 15 or so, showed up on Saturday. There were some 24 mobile rigs and/or tent camps set up. Once again, a great big thank you goes out to all who helped: release and recapture the duckies, provided and cooked food for the early morning donuts and lunch pot luck, set-up and ran the games and provided the evening entertainment. With your attendance, next year's outing will be even better....so be there!!

As of 4 PM on Sunday 6-29-14, Leah's big toe has healed up nicely and Cecil has undergone surgery on his little pinky to release the swelling. He will be in Salem Hospital until the first week of July, or longer, if it is decided additional surgery is necessary.

The 2015 Miners Meadow Outing has been reserved for the last weekend of June on the 25th through the 29th. Start planning now so that many more of you can take part in all the fun, fellowship and mining education that can be ours when we all get together and rejoice in our freedom to enjoy our great Oregon resources and each other.

See you at the August meeting!

Members' Corner

Gary Earle at Capitol Prospectors has donated a 3" special sluice for the July club raffle. The sluice retails for around \$100 and Gary wants the proceeds (at least \$200) to go to Cecil Beckstead to help with his medical bills. Eben, and others, have left

additional equipment with Gary for the same purpose. Gary is collecting cash donations as well as selling raffle tickets at his shop. We will "pass the hat" during the July meeting in addition to selling raffle tickets for the items donated. We, as friends and fellow miners, have always come together when one of us is having a "time of great need". We know for a fact that Cecil and Leah both are very grateful for our collective efforts and prayers."

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

