



WILLAMETTE VALLEY MINERS

September 2014

September Meeting
Thursday, September 18,
2014 - 7:00pm

Officers

President

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

Vice President

Eben Ray
miningisnotevil@
yahoo.com

Mike Hunter

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

Website

Boyd Puckett
Trudy Schrader

Newsletter Editor

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

September 12th - 14th-Cedar Bend

October 11th - Beverly Beach

October 18th - Event Planning Committee

November – Officer Elections

President's Report

I apologize to those who normally get their newsletter by e-mail. Somehow the August newsletter didn't make it out even though I got confirmation it did. It took time to find out what happen. Doing things this way is a trial by error but it is getting figured out. It is important to help keep the Association's funds from dwindling. Just remember that if for some reason you didn't get the newsletter by e-mail, you should always be able to get it from our web-site. If you fail to get one for consecutive months, you should contact us so we can confirm your e-mail is correct.

Elections are coming up in November. Nominations will be needed to fill all the officer seats.

Jeff Farrand

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

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

Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2014

The August meeting was called to order by V.P. Mike H. and Pres. Jeff F. led us in the pledge of allegiance. There were only 23 members in attendance tonight. Thanks to Ellen C. for bringing the cookies; she and Joan F. volunteered to be the "treat team" next month. Thank you.

Jeff set up his computer that showed some photos he took of a ghost town at Bodie, Nevada that he and his family visited recently. This was at one time a booming gold mining town with up to a thousand buildings and a population of 7,000 people. It was founded in the late 1800's but started to dwindle around 1910 and in the 1940's the government shut down all mining there. Some folks stayed on to act as caretakers, so to speak, and in the 1960's the state took possession and made the site a state park. Some of the buildings are still standing and you can see some with furnishings still inside. There is also a huge stamp mill there that you can tour. He highly recommends that if you are ever in the area to be sure and give it a visit.

Jim P. read the treasurer's report for last month. Howard C. made the motion to accept the report as read, Mike H. made the second, and it was approved by vote.

Jeff asked for any comments on the minutes in last month's newsletter but there seems to have been a hiccup in it being in the newsletter or not, and whether it was in an e-mail or not. Some people got it and some did not for whatever reason. Howard C. made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted, Larry C. made the second and it was approved by all, except for Joan F. who opposed the motion. But it was all in good fun (I hope).

From claims, Larry C. stated that the claim assessments for WVM have been filed and done. As an added note, Jim P. reports that the BLM now requires a notarized power-of-attorney to authorize an association member to sign claims documents on behalf of the association. Since he is the elected treasurer Mike H. made the motion to allow Jim to have that power-of-attorney, Howard C. made the second and it was approved by vote.

Reporting on the past outing to the look-out tower

at Cottage Grove, Howard C. highlighted some of the trip. He said it was a clear and glorious day and you could see from Mt. St. Helen's to Mt. Shasta. The Forest Service was up there and was nice enough to unlock the gate to the tower so Howard could spread the ash remains of Steve Landis. Those members that attended had a good time cruising around the mountain side but didn't get the chance to see many of the old mining sites. Jeff F. and Howard will be going down there to the Star Mine soon to check out that site so we'll look forward to hearing about that next month.

Larry C. reported on the outing to the Golden Dollar claim. There were only five members that participated in that trip and he thought everyone found some nice color.

At the A.C. Gilbert House Mini-Maker Faire Jim P., Mike H., Larry C., and Gary E. manned the panning tubs while Barbara H. and I sold 33 gold bags and handed out an informational paper in regards to mining and the battle miners are facing in Oregon. Thanks to Joe G. for those. All in all it was a good day for the first year event. In fact, we have been invited back next year to be part of a nature display inside the museum grounds. Mike H. has the contact information if WVM wants to participate again. This is a good opportunity for us to educate the public about mining activity.

Wes J. and Tammy R. reported that their booth at the Clackamas County fair went very well, "monster tent" and all. And she was kind enough to hand out some WVM brochures so maybe more opportunities will arise for public education.

The upcoming outings are:

September 12th-14th is to the Cedar Bend claim at Quartzville. George Crutcher is your contact person for information on that. Call him at 503-779-6955.

The outing to Beverly Beach that was scheduled for October 4th has been changed. So please note it will be held on October 11th. Wes J. is the contact person and you can call him at 971-563-5080.

On October 18th is the planning committee meeting. This is the time that all the events and outings are scheduled for the next year. So put your thinking

caps on and suggest any ideas you may have for things to do or see or places to go for WVM. Please let one of the board members know, bring it up at our next meeting or join in the planning. It will be held at Louie and Joan's home in Jefferson. Contact them at 541-327-1210.

Upcoming elections in November for our new officers are fast approaching. Starting in September nominations will be taken to replace all officers. If you know of anyone that would be a good candidate you can nominate them, or would volunteer yourself please do so. It's important that all members take a roll in the government of our association.

After the break Jeff F. related a little story about going to a local garage sale. As he was leaving a woman showed up with a tray full of "crappy jewelry" like every woman wants (his words, not mine). Anyway, she also had a lot of sunstones and one of those was priced at \$600.00. It was a beautiful shiller specimen and Jeff was feeling quite proud that he even knew what they were. And he says he owes it to being part of WVM.

In government affairs Tom Q. stated we need to go to the DEQ website to check the new regulations regarding your 600 permit, particularly Section C in the application part. At the Governor's study group they still believe that we (miners) should be put into "management zones". These zones are areas they think may be negatively impacted by suction dredging that may harm certain species (i.e. lamprey, mussels, other shellfish, etc.). Then they may not issue permits for these zones, or if you have a claim in one of these zones they may want you to purchase an individual permit. And this way they can say they're not shutting you off from your claim. It's possible they will combine all the permitting under one agency. What these permits could cost is undetermined. It seems like they want to price us out and take away more and more of our 1872 mining rights to appease all these other parties represented at the study group. The DSL says they are over their 850 general authorization permits so that means chances are if you applied now for one you may not get one. And, they want to know how many permits you've had since 2006. The more permits, the better your odds. This study group just can't seem to come to any consensus about anything so it's hard to say what is really going to happen. And still no clarification on SB 838. Oh boy! Mike

H. has also been attending these meetings and would like to see more of us at the study group as a show of force.

In old business Jim P. said that we still have the old panning tubs and stands and some small mining equipment in the WVM trailer that needs to be disposed of. The tubs and stands will be sold to any member and the equipment will be raffled. Mike H. made a motion that any proceeds go into the legal fund. Then a discussion was raised as to where to put those proceeds so in the end Mike made a motion to withdraw his original motion and it was seconded. Jeff would like an inventory taken of the equipment to see what's what before any action is taken.

In new business Howard C. related that member Lloyd B. has been absent for some time due to his wife's health issues. She will be undergoing surgery the end of August so let's keep them both in our thoughts. Also, George C. recently had a medical procedure done and we wish him well.

Howard has had to remove some of the materials in the library due to lack of space. These are mostly high altitude photos of Oregon mountains so if you should need any of these let him know because he's storing them now at his home. And the GPAA show next year will be in Portland at the Expo Center. Dates and times are in their magazine and I'm sure we will have more details in the future.

For Good of the Order Howard presented the "Old Buzzard" to the newest recipient, Louie Frick. And the resemblance is quite uncanny. Congrats Louie! See you all next month, Patti.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The upcoming outings are:

September 12th - 14th-Cedar Bend is to the claim at Quartzville. George Crutcher is your contact person for information on that. Call him at 503-779-6955.

October 11th - The outing to Beverly Beach that was scheduled for October 4th has been changed. So please note it will be held on October 11th. Wes J. is the contact person and you can call him at 971-563-5080.

October 18th is the planning committee meeting.

Member's Corner

Josh's Nugget Patch : Progress Report
by WVM Member Tom Bohmker

Cascade Mountains Gold [503-606-9895](tel:503-606-9895)

As related at WVM meetings our son Josh Bohmker wanted more mining adventure this summer after the summer of 2013 dredging season spent mostly building and testing a big super dredge up in Oroville, WA. It was 5 weeks in process before they started their deep (30'+ depths) efforts to tap a rumored rich pay streak. The season was at the end when my wife and I visited one weekend and he moved the dredge barge into shallow water so we all could "play dredge". Of course after weeks of finding just a little flood gold after 40 minutes in 3' of water on bedrock we found a 2 ounce nugget. The next day a flat 1/2 ounce showed up. A few DWT's of small nuggets and flakes were also recovered.

So Josh, wife and kids moved to Cave Junction Oregon this summer after he got a part time job working as an instructor for a zip line adventures at the tree house resort there. Of course he had mined some over the years in SW Oregon and was anxious to do some more prospecting. I thought he would dredge but I knew my friend Bill Adams (who goes by the handle "Lost Adams") had been researching the exact location of a isolated pocket diggings that had produced several thousands of ounces of gold out of surface trenches 5' deep in 1904. Bill had been wanted to take me in as a partner for several seasons but I just didn't have the time and energy available for such a project. At my suggestion Bill went down and joined forces with Josh. The old diggings were located on a 45 degree slope on the state border between Cave Junction and California. They were able to locate the diggings properly and with my old mining partner Dan buy some good detectors (Minelab X Terra VLF). On the first time Josh found a nice piece of quartz and country rock with a nice splatter of gold across it in early July.

Meanwhile they spent over a week searching for a lost pocket mine (the Miller Pocket) on a tributary of the South Umpqua River. WVM member Trevor and I joined them one day. There was a total of seven of us searching the second growth timbers

hills. We found quartz veins, test holes and no gold. Finally Josh got back to searching more at the border diggings where he had found some gold.

With persistence, Josh found 3 small chunks of high grade gold. The original pocket was worked out long ago. However the miners dug a ditch to a creek and used the water to wash the soil surface around the pocket through sluice boxes and recovered another 300 ounces. The tailings flowed down the steep hill side and in places covered virgin soil containing "float" from the pocket with several feet of material. Some of the masses of gold/quartz ended up going through the sluice system and were detected. In places where the virgin soil was detected more nugget like pieces of gold were recovered. Our mining buddy Dan purchased a more expensive Pulse Induction detector (Whites TDI) which the first time used on the property found some large pieces deep below (over a foot) where the VLF had already searched. One piece is the size of a tennis ball, has perhaps 10 to 15 % gold and weighs 9 ounces. Another the size of a golf ball is perhaps 40 or 50% gold and weighs nearly 3 ounces. Last Sunday Josh reported he found over a 1/2 ounce of more solid pieces. It is hard to tell how much more is to be found. With the help of Bill and Samantha of Armadillo's Mining Shop Josh filed 2 claims.

At some future meeting I will have photos, maps, ore and gold specimens to show.

Conclusion:

- Even "worked out" pocket diggings can yield gold in the dump or down the hill from discovery site.
- Well documented sites may not have been detected
- You may have to hike an long ways, and do a lot of searching to find a "nugget patch"
- Some larger nuggets were found on surface under the pine needles just 4 ' from several holes dug a few days before. A careful search takes persistence.
- It is best to use the newest, best detectors.
- Josh and Dan were greenies with detectors, yet they were persist ant in learning the ways.
- If the detector sits in the closet and you watch mining videos all weekend it is less likely you find much gold.
- It is unlikely he will get rich as the gold is well dispersed on the slope but he is certainly having fun and adventure!

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



Oregon
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

503-269-8640

Capitol Prospecting LLC
Mining Supplies

Buy - Sell 1815 Capitol St. NE
New - Used Salem, OR 97301
CapitolProspecting@hotmail.com Private Showroom
CapitolProspecting.com By Appointment

Tim's Gems and Faceting

Hobbyist, gemstone hunter and faceter. Have uncut and cut stones available. Can also facet your stones and do some repairs to damaged and/or broken stones.

Tim Bronson 503-507-2255 or email tbrnsn@gmail.com

Cascades Mountains Gold
Est. 1968
PO Box 33
Independence, OR 97351
503-606-9895

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

Classifieds

For Sale: Mine Lab X-Terra detector, \$650. This is Minelab new model VLF detector especially good for small gold in mineralized soil. We purchased 3 of these in June 2014 that were used to find Josh's new nugget patch on the Oregon/California Border this summer. We found they were much better pin pointing than the expensive and deeper seeking PDI machines we also use. This one has been only used one day and has the smaller 9" coil, lots of warranty left. (9/14)

Tom , Cascade Mts. Gold [503-606-9895](tel:503-606-9895).

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

