



Upcoming Events

October 20 Nominations for new officers at the meeting

October 22 Committee meeting to set up 2017 calendar –TBA

November 5 Metal Detecting –TBA—Jim Perkey/Gary Schrader

November 17 Officer Elections

December 3rd Christmas Party 12:00 pm—Howard

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:59 by president David, Mike Hunter lead us in the pledge of allegiance. There were 34 members present, we had Cory from Albany and Zach from Salem as guests. Ebon made an appearance. (Glad to see you)

Thanks to those that brought Cookies.

We approved the minutes from July and August it was moved by Jim and seconded by Ebon.

Treasure’s Report –was approved as read.

Claims– All paperwork has been turned in.

Jeff reported that Dad’s Creek had not been worked much. Jeff and Howard had gone up Labor Day Weekend.

There was also some discussion about claim size and if we needed to have more people to sign paperwork. Currently Jim Perkery is the person on record.

Government Affairs-Mike several other members met with Rick Angstrom to discuss what our next move will be. We need to get the swing votes.

New Business-Joe and Claudia are going to be working on re-organizing our mining districts they will be having a meeting Nov 12 at 9:00 am at the Santiam Grill/ Gold course. They will be election board members for the North Santiam Mining district.

President

David Darnel

Vice Presidents

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Secretary/Newsletter

Amy Goulter-Allen

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Treasurer/Membership

Rick Stepper

503-507-8844

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Minutes –continue

Then they will be in Albany at Loung's Restaurant at 1:00 pm to get the Quartzville Mining District started. If you have claims in either one of these area's you should go to the meeting. For more information contact Joe Green or Claudia Wise

Upcoming Events– Cedar Bend September 17-18 Louise is the contact person. It didn't sound like too many were going, the weather was going to be rainy.

Buzzard-Tom presented it to Claudia

Raffle Table

Nugget-Joyce
22 shells– Ebon
50/50-Wes

Adjourned at 8:57pm

Cedar Bend Outing Report

Sept 17 we did in fact drive up to Cedar Bend outing on Saturday. A very quiet day, raining and grey and we did not stay too long. Had our lunch, Louie tried but did not find gold, we never saw any other Club members and left after a few hours. I'd say outings to our Cedar Bend claim are not too exciting for most members.

See you next meeting, Joan and Louie

Remember to Vote in the election!!



Patches are \$5.00 and will have these at the meetings and Quartzville as well. Hats are \$15 they also come in Gold. If you would like one we have them at the meetings and our Quartzville Miners Rendezvous if you are not able to attend contact one of the officers and we could send you one or more.

NOTICE FOR OFFICER NOMINATIONS & PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CHANGES/ADDITIONS

All WVM Members:

The upcoming meeting is one of the most important meetings of the year to attend for two significant reasons—leadership changes through our nomination process and potentially modifying our Constitution.

Let us be reminded this is OUR club and what you choose to make of it. Know that your voice counts, needs to be heard and resulting actions taken that reflect those voices. We currently have about 185 members on the books; there are about 25 plus members who regularly attend most meetings and are responsible for the decision making. The organization remains open to new ideas and each of your voices help to stay the course of the operations that work, as well, make change for the better.

At this October 20th meeting are the nominations for the annual election of officers the following month.

As your current board member (Treasurer), I wish to invite you to share what's on your mind, as I personally want to hear your concerns and ideas and let others hear them, too. We all agree Officers need to carry forth and implement the vision from the voices of its members and we should nominate those willing to do so.

You may remember all the current officers have met their two-term position limits. According to the WVM Constitution an office holder must vacate their current position (after two consecutive one-year terms) but may be nominated to another position for yet another two-term limit. I really don't know the history for positional term limits, which allows one to continue into a lateral position and remain an officer for the Club. In light of our ability to vote in or out an officer for a one-year term, such a by-law holds sufficient retention of power by the members to change its leadership, one must wonder does such a position restriction make any sense?

In my opinion, the annual election protects and provides the inclusion of new members to leadership but unfortunately, effectively blocks effective leadership whom the Club may be happy with, who knows and effectively carries out their duties of that position and where that person may wish to continue to serve you but must do something else if they wish to stay in a leadership role.

WVM Supporting Staff & Event Leaders

Government Affairs

Mike Hunter
503-502-2382

Claims Committee

- Larry Coons
- Howard Conner
- Clifford Boren
- George Crutcher

Events & Outings

See *Events Calendar*

Howard Conner
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Website

Trudy Schrader

Newsletter Editor

Amy Goulter-Allen
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You're invited to include articles, classified ads, promotional notes, and/or advertisements and pictures of events. Remember to have all newsletter material sent to me by the 25th of each month. Thanks!

CONTACT INFORMATION for event leaders in this issue:

Mike Hunter 503-502-2382

Jim Perkey 503-390-7327

Gary Schrader 503-859-3132

I say this because I am willing to stay-on as Treasure for another year but must vacate even if I am willing and you like what I have done. In the Treasurer's position, it necessarily requires the most commitment of time and training to effectively carry out these Constitutional duties, which can have adverse legal consequences for the Club if performed in error or by omission. As well, the passing of the baton should require sufficient mentoring and oversight before one may act alone.

First, I propose abolishing the "position two-term limit" but protect the one-year service term and election process; further, require an out-going Treasure hold the commitment to mentor the incoming Treasure for three months or until said person demonstrates the competency and confidence to forge-ahead alone for each area of skill and timely perform each legally required mandate. The idea of a formal mentoring for each officer by the former may be considered prudent practice, also. Such a model for support is already supported by our constitutional practice of having "Board" meetings attended by current and former officers as ex-officio members of the board.

I would further propose we add to the Constitution a document retention policy or an overarching guidance statement for the retention of official Club documents, tax and banking statement practices consistent with standard business practices and as required by law.

Finally, it is my hope we will soon address the following matters for exploration and action:

- We are also looking for ideas for other outing locations and activities and would love to hear your ideas.
- Consider action to change the URL internet name to the non-profit ending of "wvminers.org" rather than for-profit dot com ending we currently use.
- If you have a desire to become a board member, you need to be there so we can hear from you.

There is a lot of changes going on in the current laws for miners, and you need to know and understand those changes so you are not violating the law presented in a concise bullet-like format handout, which can be presented in a succinct brief presentation.

Hold a vision and values retreat to discuss our future directions and activities that includes all members.

Looking forward to seeing each of you at the next meeting.

Sincerely,
Rick Stepper
Treasurer

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ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE MINERS' LEGAL FUND TO CONTINUE THE FIGHT AGAINST SB 838. NOW IN THE U.S. 9TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS; AND THE 11-YEAR ON-GOING BATTLE AGAINST UNLAWFUL DEQ PERMITTING NOW IN THE OREGON SUPREME COURT.

PRELIMINARY DRAWING: DEC. 2, 2016
(GRAND PRIZE TO BE ANNOUNCED)

FINAL DRAWING: JUNE 2, 2017
(GRAND PRIZE: 1/2 LB. OF GOLD)

ALL ENTRIES IN THE PRELIMINARY DRAWING WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN THE FINAL DRAWING!

DRAWINGS TO BE HELD AT JOINT MEETING(S) OF THE GALICE & WALDO MINING DISTRICTS IN GRANTS PASS.

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

PRIZES INCLUDE: KEENE HI-BANKER, KEENE POWER SLUICE, WHITE'S MX METAL DETECTOR, GOLD NUGGETS & JEWELRY, SILVER COINS, KNIVES, BOOKS, ETC.; ALONG WITH 1/2 LB. OF REAL PLACER GOLD!

For more information, Official Rules, Prize List, How to Enter, and Entry Coupons go to:
westerncultureconservancy.org galiceminingdistrict.org waldominingdistrict.org

Club Seeks Gold for Purchase

30 mesh gold used in club fund raisers (gold bags) needed urgently. Santa took lots for stocking stuffers this x-mas. Will pay going rate-contact Treasurer, Rick at 503-507-8844

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Gary &
Christina Earle

Submitted by Tom Quintal and Mike Hunter

Subject: Fw: Fire on the Mountain, like you've never seen before!

American Lands Council

<http://www.americanlandscouncil.org/>

American Lands Council · 859 W South Jordan Pkwy, 100, South Jordan, UT 84095, United States

This email was sent to chase3285@msn.com. To stop receiving emails, click here.

You can also keep up with American Lands Council on Twitter or Facebook. Created with NationBuilder, the essential toolkit for leaders.

If a picture speaks a thousand words, the Oregon County Wildfire Documentary is a library in an of itself.

This excellent 20 minute film was produced by BakerCountyWildfire.org, which gives an up-close-and-personal view of the devastating wildfire that roared through Oregon just last summer...the causes and effects, as well as the frustrations of locals who are experts in the care of this land and know how to prevent such devastating fires, but are consistently prohibited by federal red tape and environmental lawsuits.

In August, 2015 a monumental wildfire roared through the Wallowa/Whitman National Forest in Baker County, OR. Not surprisingly, it was caused by a lack of timber management. The hands-off policies of environmental extremists have shut down logging and grazing, and taken away the common sense management that previously kept our forests thriving for more than 160 years. Just 30 years ago, the surrounding areas were economically productive as 6 lumber mills provided jobs and kept the forest clear of dead and dying trees, and ensured that healthy trees could access the sun and water that they needed to continue as healthy forests for all to enjoy. As of 2015, they were down to only 1.

Environmentalists have closed logging operations through lawsuits in an effort to protect the spotted owl. But the spotted owl ended up still being destroyed as they could not compete with the horned owl. In the end, short-sighted lawsuits have only managed to kill both the spotted owl, the forests that all animals rely on, as well as the logging industry that supplied the citizens of Oregon with much-needed jobs.

Over time, the overgrown forests have become a mass of dead and dying trees that increased wildfire threats as the fuel loads built up over the forest floor. No one is allowed to remove dead or dying trees when they are infested with pests and disease. Overgrown forests are unable to survive through natural droughts because there are too many trees fighting for necessary water. When the 2015 fire came in, these flammable situations caused the fire to leap to the crowns of the trees, where it was able to spread quickly, and burned up 90-95% of the trees. In contrast, on the other side of road, the Forest Service was allowed to have a timber sale on land that had not been closed by lawsuits. They marked it responsibly to sell the excess trees, and when the fire came to this well-managed area, it didn't climb the trees, but rather ran through the forest floor at lower temperatures, burning out before causing serious damage. The only part of the forest that was tended responsibly was also the only part that survived this devastating fire.

GRAZING

Federal policies that reduce or forbid grazing are also responsible for the overwhelming destruction caused by these fires...a truth that has been long-known in the ranching world. Cattle grazing reduces the risk of catastrophic wildfires by reducing the underbrush fuel load in and around the forest. The proof is in the forest. Where the grounds were grazed, and dead timber was cleared, the fire did not get out of control. Grazing and logging together minimize the amount of forest that is sitting on the ground, thus reducing fire risk.

ACCESS

Over the past several years, the Forest Service has closed 50-60% of roads in the forest. These roads are supposed to provide critical fire breaks that keep fire from spreading and give firefighters quicker access to areas. Closing these roads costs millions of dollars a year, and then they have to be opened again during a fire, which takes many hours and much more money, slowing down the progress of fire fighters. And when the fire is finally extinguished, more money is spent to close them up once again.

POLLUTION

The after affects of the Baker County fire will be long-lived, especially for those who live in OR. The creek has been running black ever since the fire. The soil all runs down stream. Many ranchers' herds were killed. One rancher shared an excruciating experience of watching a doe who had survived a month and a half with its hoofs burned off. "She died in the middle of the road after a month and a half...It took her that long to come hobbling off the mountain." These deaths are devastating for those who care for cattle or domesticated livestock. As Don Morris shared, ranchers "feel entrusted by God to take care of those animals. Because we're stewards of the land. That's what we do. I mean, they're like family."

Sadly, even if we are wise enough to change our policies today, it will be 100 years before the Wallowa/Whitman National Forest is ever like it was.

It's time that Congress honor its promise to Transfer Public Lands to the states...to the local stewards who know and love the land, and whose lives and livelihoods depend on it.

Willamette Valley Miners

PO BOX 13044
Salem OR 97309-1044

Willamette Valley Miners

Our purpose is to keep alive the spirit and preserve the rights and privileges of all miners and prospectors, by educating and encouraging small-scale mining and helping establish a positive image of today's mineral prospectors and miners.



Meetings Third Thursday of each Month 7:00 PM

Marion County Fire Hall
300 Cordon Rd NE, Salem, OR

