

The Prospector



Official Newsletter of the GPAA Portland Chapter

Volume 10 Issue 1

Website: www.PortlandGoldProspectors.org

October 2009

Next Chapter Meeting:

Oct. 18th, 2009

**At the
Milwaukie, Oregon
Grange Hall
12015 S.E. 22nd
Meeting Begins at
1:30PM.**



DATES TO REMEMBER...

Our next meeting

November 15th 2009 Chapter Meeting and Food Drive –
Every 2 items given will get you a \$1 raffle ticket

Don't forget the outings schedule at the end of this newsletter. Any suggestions for outings are appreciated. Talk to a board member.

Please submit Newsletter Reports before the FIRST Friday of each Month.

From the Presidents Desk

It was nice to see you all at the last meeting and welcome all the new people to our club. Thank you DAVE ROTAN for the update with your claims. Remember it is time to consider becoming a officer of the club. V.P and SECRETARY positions are going to be open. This is your chance to make a difference in how the club is run. Let's not forget the food drive as it is an ongoing program. If you have any questions talk to ELI. I would to take time to thank all of the hard work that is put in buy the club officers and board members. Without them i could not do the job I do. THANK ALL OF YOU VERY MUCH and I also would like to thank all of the kitchen help.

Sincerely Preston Griffin

Secretary's Report for meeting dated September 20th, 2009

Meeting opened 1:30PM – Milwaukie Grange Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Preston Griffin (Club President) - Welcomed attendees & visitors. 53 total with 2 visitors.

August meeting minutes in newsletter accepted as posted with a correction. Comments attributed to Dave Charia were not his as he was not at that meeting. Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Other Correspondence - Email from WRD about water use permits for high banking. They are still not sharing a lot of information but would like to join us in Oct meeting instead of today's. I (Steve) have contacted both the EOMA and the Waldo mining group about this. Awaiting word back. Dave McCracken about Dredging in Oregon on the Rogue River next year. Good Hi Grade Gold

Robert Caldwell (Club Claims) – Club books are available to new members who have attended a combination of 3 meetings or club outings. He also has 1 year and 5 year club cards

Robert Wedding (GPAA Claims Mgr.) - Blue Bucket update contacted and locked horns with Ken Rucker. Recommended we use Burnt River. Ken wanted letters or phone calls from those that have had bad experience at Blue Bucket. Preston would like those people that feel they have not been treated right, whether it is the material brought to them or otherwise to write it down and sign it then bring the letter in and the board will go over them and then send in to the GPAA office.

Eli /Jim Dorning (Outings) – TYROY Sept 12th & 13th Those that went had a good time, ran out of water, Ken's trammel to screen dry material worked good. They had a very good potluck!
TYROY Sept 26th & 27th sign up sheet on the table

Oregon Gold trip work party for Oct canceled. Rescheduling to May 2010.

Bob Rasey (Safety) – With the weather changing now from warm in the day to much colder at night people are more susceptible to Hypothermia. Once wet it sets in quickly. In the Pacific northwest more people die from Hypothermia than anywhere else in the US. Wear layered clothing and when wet change to dry clothes as soon as possible.

Ken Burns (Equipment Mgr.) - Went over some of the donated items the club has if you need equipment call Ken his number is listed in the news letter under Equipment. 1 3" hi-banker combo , 2 smaller dredges, sluiceboxes, clean-up sluice, gold pans, sifters, classifiers. If you need equipment to use contact him . Phone number in the newsletter.

Curt Barnes (Website) - Web is up, Forum is down (checked 9/17/2009). We get credits each time one of the links to GPAA, 49r's, D&K ...links are used. These credits are used to help pay for the server. Remember to go to the web often! www.portlandgoldprospectors.org

Dave Chiara (Mining Activities) – No comments this month.

Old Business

Club PO Box – New mailing address for club correspondence.

PO BOX 22414 Portland, Oregon 97269-2414

Candidates for Secretary and Vice President – We will need people to consider being candidates for Secretary and Vice President positions. Also need election committee volunteers (to help canvas the club members for likely candidates). Secretary duties include taking meeting minutes then sending in to the editor for the news letter. Also minutes for Board meetings. As officer may sign some of the checks, help with outings, review bylaws

Vice President – assist President when needed, may conduct meetings, sign checks, help with outings, attend board meetings, review bylaws.

Ideas for Other Outings (Eli) – Asked club members to be thinking about places to go for next year.

Possibilities: TYROY, Old miners meadow, rogue river, Copper creek in Washington was brought up and discussed, Oregon Gold trip work party. Please help the club with your ideas. Let a board member know.

Don't forget the food donations. For every 2 items brought in, you will get a \$1.00 raffle ticket.

Announcement before the break – Hat's \$10, Bucket Hats \$11, T-shirts M-L \$12, XL-XXL 14. Sweat shirts M-L \$14, XL – XXL \$16.

Speaker – Dave Rutan

Wanted to dispel myths on the Chetco claims and Emily camp he has all the permits, etc that is needed. Envior's taking potshots at him through the papers trying to stop development of property.

Chetco (9) Claims he went in with 7 state forrest service reps to do validations of gravels kayaked in. Great scenery, Spent 3 days with the forest service using their dredge got some coarse gold.

Wines camp has been very busy this year!

Also selling 12 time shares to Emily camp 90% complete. Fractional interest in real property. Contact him if interested

New Business

TYROY – Richard – With the current claims no motorized digging equipment is allowed! Also Holes have to be filled back in win done. We will be filling a Notice of Intent so that we can use motorized equipment in the future. So until then shovels, picks, non motorized methods only Please.

Oregon Gold Trips Work Party - Penny – Scheduling another work party at Oregon Gold Trips for 1st weekend of May 2010.

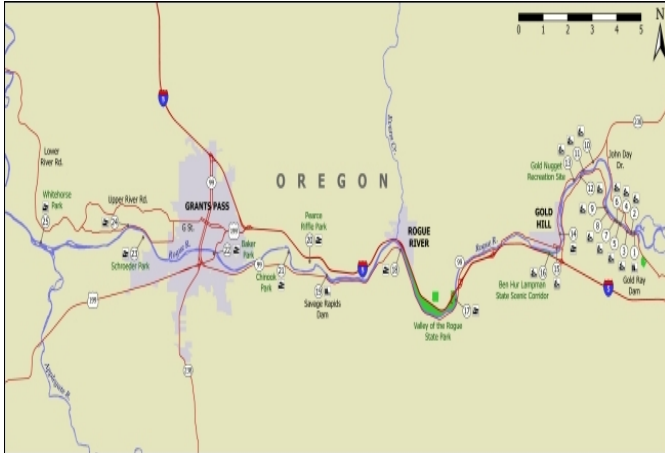
Washington's Gold and Fish Pamplet – Thanks to Scott from NWMP. redging from now until Feb in some areas. For Washington State must have a 2009 Fish & Game Pamplet. You may print out the Gold and Fish pamphlet from <http://wdfw.wa.gov/habitat/goldfish/> or request one from a WDFW office.

Mail Order Gold (Felix's Alaskan Paydirt) – Carl showed what he had received from a 3 pound bag of material. He found 2 grams of gold and 3 to 5 pickers. He felt it was worth the money.

Bill and Linda's Prospecting Page – Has plans for trommels, drywashers, vac pacs, etc. Here is their website: <http://prospecting.50webs.com/1prospecting.html> and here is the site for the vac pac – <http://prospecting.atspace.com/vacpak1.html>. You can also find a **BUNCH** of plans at the GPAA forum website: http://www.goldprospectors.org/newforum/forum_posts.asp?TID=435 (you have to create a user login to access the GPAA site).

From the New 49'ers Newsletter

Within the past year or so, Oregon courts have confirmed the validity of a law which declared the Rogue River as “navigable.” This is a legal term which places the entire river and its bed under the ownership of the State of Oregon. This means that there is no private property, and there are no mining claims, between the normal high water marks of the river. Oregon has placed the entire 37 mile section of river between the Gold Ray Dam and the Applegate River in a “recreational” status. This means the river is open to rafting, boating, fishing, swimming; and yes, suction dredging.



As the stretch of river between the Gold Ray Dam (about 8 miles from Medford) and the Applegate River (downstream from Grants Pass) is a very long one, all of which is gold-bearing, and our time for this project was limited to about a week, we decided to begin within a few miles downstream of the Gold Ray Dam. This is an area where several of our project-participants had previous experience in dredging high-grade gold. We still have a lot to learn about this Rogue River. Our immediate mission was mainly to prove conclusively that high-grade is present there now! So we started in an area where others had found it before.

Here is another thing we discovered to our amazement: Even though the Rogue is a wide river like the Klamath, you generally do not have to dredge very deep to reach the bedrock, or a false bedrock which is made up of cemented gravel. The average depth of gravel we were dredging to the pay-dirt was less than two feet. Our samples were turning up gold results weighing in the pennyweights in places where several local dredgers told us that they ruled out as “*not good enough to dredge.*” With more time, I am certain we will find even higher-grade gold deposits!

This may be a good area for our club to set up an outing to! Appears to be quite a few camping areas in the area.

Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc Outings 2009

✓ Molalla River	Aug 22 & 23	
Mike Malloy Klamath River	Aug 30 through Sept 7	CANCELLED
✓ TYROY	Sept 12 & 13 or Sept 26 & 27	
Oregon Gold Trips Work Party	Oct 15th through 18th	CANCELLED
Open	Oct 24 & 25	

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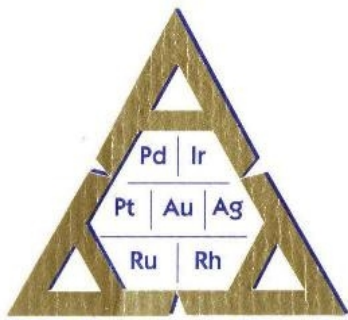
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The gold rush days of California were not without their humor, and some of the stories are funny enough that they are well worth repeating. Now the rush for wealth in those days brought out both the good and the bad, the honest and the deceitful. Not all pioneers were hard working and honest. Because it was (and still is) hard to find a deposit of gold, there was a demand for good gold mines. A sharp trade was driven in mining claims, with a thousand dollars being frequently paid for a piece of ground only thirty feet square, and this at a time when gold sold for only about \$20 per ounce.

One claims broker, Moore Lerty, was particularly successful in selling his claims. His operations were bold, and perhaps for that time, original. He would stake a claim on unclaimed ground within the vicinity of some other mines, digging it down to the layers of good-looking dirt, and then, when no one was watching, he would load an old musket with gold-dust purchased from another miner, and shoot the ground full of gold. It is said that he had been known to punish a claim with two or three hundred dollars worth of gold in this way. If he did not sell the claim, he could wash the dirt, and recover the dust he had salted the claim with. He sold a claim for one thousand dollars in this way to Henry Jones, then considered the sharpest mining man in the old town of Volcano. Jones was very careful not to be taken, and tested the claim for a day or two before purchasing, it is said, even going into the hole at night to get the dirt, so as to be sure that he was not imposed on. He found that all of the dirt was rich in nuggets, so he went ahead and bought it.

With cash in hand, Lerty figured he had really pulled on over on Jones, in spite of Jones' reputation for knowledge about mining properties. The fun of the matter was in the fact that at the end, the place proved to be really rich, one of the best in the camp, and Jones had the last laugh, as he later extracted many thousands of dollars in gold from it. Another of Lerty's salted claims, this one located in China gulch, also proved good, but for Lerty's mining claim sales, rich claims were very much the exception and not the rule. Most buyers got little more than the gold he salted onto his claims. With several of his swindles coming to light and angry miners right on his heels, he fled the California gold country before the wrath of the law began to manifest itself, leaving the country for good. Meanwhile old Henry Jones, with a sack full of gold nuggets was laughing all the way to the bank.

Chris Ralph writes on small scale mining and prospecting for the ICMJ Mining Journal. He has a degree in Mining Engineering from the Mackay School of Mines in Reno, and has worked for precious metal mining companies conducting both surface and underground operations. After working in the mining industry, he has continued his interest in mining as an individual prospector. His information page on prospecting for gold can be viewed at the website noted above.

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Chris_Ralph



GPA Membership Renewal Credits

Buzzard Special	10.00
1 Year Mining Guide Renewal	7.50
2 Year Mining Guide Renewal	12.00
Gold Life Membership	25.00
LDMA Membership	50.00
Alaska Sign - Ups	50.00

The 2 & 3 yr. Mining Guide renewals credits are adjusted because the member is getting a reduced price.

For Alaska sign-up information, please contact the Alaska Administrator.

**2009
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