



The Official Newsletter of the GPAA

The Prospector

Volume 15 Issue 04

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April, 2015

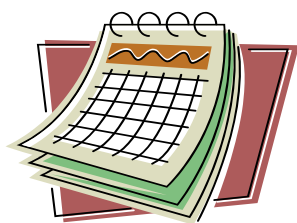
Chapter Meeting:

April, 19th 2015

At the
Milwaukie, Oregon
Grange Hall
12015 S.E. 22nd

**Meeting Begins at
--- 1:30 ---**

Dates to Remember...



April, 2015

Our next meeting:

On April 19th 2015

For every 2 cans of food you bring
in you can get 1 ticket for our
\$1.00 drawing up to 5 tickets



The Presidential Post

Portland Gold Prospectors April 2015

From the President's Desk

Please join us on Sunday, April 19th. We'll be talking about the Gold Show, the Beverly Beach Outing and other important activities coming our way.

If you have any items you'd like to donate to the "silent auction", please bring it/them in with a piece of paper indicating a "starting bid" value. If nothing else, you clear out items you no longer count as treasures and help our Chapter financially, too.

Don't forget to talk with Joe Weber about the UFO outing at McMinnville coming up (it's really a great weekend "adventure" for the family). Last year was a fun time and there are endless things to see.

We will be having discussions on what "you" would like to see your Chapter doing this year as well. We welcome your input and want to hear from you.

If you have friends, co-workers or others interested in learning about prospecting, invite them to join us and find out if it's something they'd like to do as well.

This is a great year to be prospecting and having fun and you can profit by others involvement and even find some gold. Remember memories become golden with time.

Sincerely

David Chiara

Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.

Secretary's Report March 15, 2015

Milwaukie Grange Hall, 12015 SE 22nd Milwaukie, OR

Meeting called to order by President Dave Chiara at 1:39 pm

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

Attendance:

46 attendees at the meeting

6 visiting guests were present

Meeting minutes:

A **Motion** was made and seconded to accept the Secretary's report as written and published in the newsletter.

The motion was approved by the Association members present.

Treasury report: Beverly Parker

The Treasury report was read by the Treasurer to the association.

A **Motion** was made, seconded, and approved to accept the Treasurer's report as written.

Correspondence: Melinda Dorning and Dave Chiara

Dave Chiara explained the content of a phone call and email from Walt Wegner, the current president of Public Lands for the People, where that organization requested our Association to donate \$1,000.00 to PLP to replace funds that GPAA is no longer sending them from the Gold Show Raffle. Since our group does not know how much we will receive from the GPAA Raffle, it was suggested not to commit to an amount until after our accounting for receipts and expenses of the Gold Show.

Claims and Outings:

Ken Burns discussed the exploratory trips that he, Charlie Foster and Gary Upton made to possible group mining locations.

- Little North Fork of Santiam River: day use park outside of Salem. Mining is allowed without motors. They did mossaing and found small gold.
- Humbug Creek: about 75 minutes up the Clackamas River; they found some gold.
- Daybreak Park: County park in WA state; has good access; 35-40 miles from SE Portland. This location is planned for our group on Sunday, June 14.
- Lewis River: County park in WA State; will need Gold & Fish Book to mine in WA and permit for off road travel.

Ken asked for a show of hands for holding more than one event per month. Several people indicated they are interested; therefore, there may be a second event in May.

Current Activities: Jerry Johns

The next activities are the GPAA Gold & Treasure Show on March 28-29 and the Beverly Beach mining trip on Sunday, April 12. Two of our members, Wayne and Walt brought in a beach mining sluice box to discuss successful ways to separate beach gold. Discussion held during the break.

Club Claim: Dave Chiara

Dave was notified by a member that someone who lives in the Baker City area has been driving 4x4 wheel vehicles in and around the ponds on our claims, causing damage. He plans to contact the local sheriff and Don Foster, the local farmer about damage. He has not discussed the problem with B.L.M. Our notice level plan of operation is pending submittal to B.L.M. authorities. Organization members plan to be at the claims for various times this summer depending on the availability of water in the ponds. Dave asked members to let him or another officer know before they plan to be on our claims and reminded that no mechanical digging is allowed currently.

GPAA Gold Show: Joe Weber

The head office of GPAA told Joe that more volunteers are needed to work at the show. Joe scheduled 2 shifts per day (9:00 am – 12:30 pm; 12:30 pm-4:00 pm). For people who want to fulfill their new member requirements, each shift worked will equal attending 1 PGPI meeting (3 total needed for full membership per year). Dave Chiara told how the GPAA used to handle the Gold Show, and this year they are turning the raffle over to the Portland Chapter and Vancouver, WA Chapter, who will benefit from a 50/50 split of the major raffle proceeds giving us the opportunity to make more money. Jerry Johns explained that 15 volunteer positions must be filled at each time slot; that is 30 positions per day. Positions needed are cashiers, wrist banders, panning booth (demo panning), GPAA sales booth, door security, floaters, selling raffle tickets at major GPAA raffle area, our group booth with 4 people to handle quarter drop, raffle, cashier, plinko game, also set up and tear down of the whole event. Members were encouraged to sign up for at least 1 shift.

Dave Chiara explained that the proceeds from the GPAA Major Raffle will be split between Portland Gold Prospectors and SW Washington Gold Prospectors (Vancouver Chapter) if we handle our part of the responsibilities. Further, he stated that the Vancouver Chapter has done the majority of advertising and arranging for vendors and celebrities to attend this year. They have incurred expenses for celebrities and our association representatives have tentatively agreed to share the documented expenses if we profit more than our share of expenses. This will require our members to authorize a payment to the Vancouver Chapter.

A **motion** was proposed and **seconded** to give the Portland Gold Prospectors Inc. Board members a general authorization to pay to SW Washington Gold Prospectors (Vancouver Chapter) for expenses toward celebrities and other documented Gold Show shared expenses. No amount is known at this time. **The motion passed by a voice vote.**

Everyone was encouraged to attend the Gold Show to see many vendors and attend one of the lectures presented by GPAA. Cost to attend is \$10.00 at the door or tickets can be purchased now for \$5.00

Safety: No report was given this month.

Newsletter: Not in attendance this meeting.

Reminder, the newsletter is available on the Association website. To have a copy mailed to you, there is a \$15.00 annual fee to cover printing and mailing costs.

GPAA Representative: No report given this month.

Old Business:

Code of Conduct: Dave Chiara reminded members to let a Board member know if they have a concern.

B.L.M. and TY Roy Claims: Dave Chiara stated the Notice Level Plan of Operation is still in process. There are several steps to the plan and there could be a delay due to a power set-back area with the Bonneville Power Administration.

Silent Auction: Dave asked for members to consider bringing something to donate for our members to purchase in the silent auction. It can be any useful item.

Dave Chiara thanked the kitchen staff and those who donated cookies. Also thanks went to Wayne and Walt for showing their beach mining equipment.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Melinda Dorning, Secretary

Upcoming Group Events

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Beverly Beach Mining | April 12th |
| U.F.O. Festival (McMinnville) | May 15-16th |
| Day Break Park (WA) | June 14th |
| TY-Roy Claims (Eastern Or) | June-July |

Be on my committee

Outings See Ken Burns

Need volunteers to help check out, select and run outing events.

Newsletter & Emails

If you have not been receiving the Newsletter by Email,

Please email us at portlandgpaa@aol.com

Don't forget, you can also download the Newsletter from our website.

www.portlandgoldprospectors.org

Article of the Month

I found this article on GOLD RUSH NUGGETS .COM it is very well written and has a lot of great information. But as always make sure it is ok for you to be on the property and that you are not on someone's claim or on private property. Also check with the proper authority in the area to make sure it is ok for you to look for gold or other items. Check out the web page for them they really do have a great site with a lot of good information on a wide variety of prospecting. These guys rock!!!

FINDING GOLD NUGGETS WITH A METAL DETECTOR

Finding gold nuggets with a metal detector may seem simple enough, but it can in fact be one of the most challenging types of metal detecting there is. It certainly seems simple enough; you swing your detector until the coil is over a gold nugget, the detector sounds off, and you dig it up. In reality, while it can be very productive, using a metal detector for gold prospecting can also be extremely frustrating, so let's discuss a few of the challenges that you are likely to face when you start looking for gold with a metal detector, and a few tips that will help you get started on the right track.

The first thing worth emphasizing is to use a metal detector that is specifically designed for finding gold. Just about all metal detectors can detect gold, and manufacturers will often claim that their detectors are good at finding gold, but the truth is only a select group is specifically designed for nugget shooting. The average detector that might do just fine locating coins in a park will probably have fits if you take it out to the gold fields. Areas that produce gold nuggets often have a unique set of challenges associated with them, so let's discuss each of them in detail.

One of the biggest problems with most gold bearing areas is the highly mineralized ground that is associated with it. Most ground contains varying amounts of iron, and gold is usually found in areas that have extremely high amounts of it. This causes that vast majority of metal detectors to struggle, as they will sound off constantly because they are sensing the minerals in the ground. The other pest that you will find in many areas is hot rocks, which are rocks that contain a high amount of mineralization that will make your detector sound off as well. A detector with ground balancing is absolutely essential, but still many detectors will have trouble with this, and it can be just about impossible to cancel out the chatter produced by the mineralized ground to be able to distinguish the difference between it and a gold nugget.

Another problem that is common in many gold areas is high amounts of iron trash. The miners in the early days didn't think much about leaving behind junk. Often they were camped right on their claims, leaving behind old cans, boot tacks, nails, bullets, shovels, snuff cans, and just about anything else you can imagine. High amounts of trash can sometimes be overwhelming, even to an experienced detectorist, but it is something that has to be dealt with if you want to be a good nugget shooter.

Another thing that makes metal detecting for gold nuggets a real challenge is that the vast majority of them are very small. While we would all love to dig up those nice softball sized nuggets that we dream about, the reality is that most of the nuggets that are found with a metal detector are pretty small. We are talking little flakes that might be smaller than a grain of rice. So in order to successfully find gold nuggets on a regular basis we need a detector that is sensitive enough to find the small nuggets, while at the same time be able to handle highly mineralized ground and also distinguish the difference between ferrous trash and a gold nugget.

So now that we have outlined the biggest challenges that we will have to deal with when looking for nuggets, let talk specifically about which detectors are best at dealing with these challenges. I will go ahead and outline some specific brands and models that have good reputations as “gold getters”, but everyone has their own opinions about what is best. Do your research, weigh the options, and figure out which is best for your needs.

Without getting too deep into specifics, understand that there are basically two types of technology used in metal detectors today; Very Low Frequency (VLF) and Pulse Induction (PI). VLF metal detectors are an older technology, but are used in the majority of the detectors on the market today. They are best at locating small nuggets at fairly shallow depths. PI metal detectors are a newer technology and were specifically designed to detect larger nuggets at deeper depths. While they excel at searching deeper into the soil, they will miss small nuggets that a VLF will find. They are also much more expensive.

In no particular order, some of the most popular VLF metal detectors are the Fisher Gold Bug 2 and Gold Bug Pro, Tesoro Lobo SuperTraq, Garrett AT Gold, Minelab Eureka Gold, and White's GMT. All of these detectors are well respected for their ability to find small nuggets, as well as discriminate trash and mineralization.

Minelab is by far the winner when it comes to PI metal detectors right now. They basically been the only show in town when it comes to high quality PI detectors, and they are by far the favorite of many serious nugget shooters. The older models include the SD2100, SD 2200 and GP3000, up to the most recent models which include the GPX 4500 and GPX 5000. The Whites TDI is another newer PI detector, but currently it doesn't have near the following that the Minelabs have.

Okay, so now that we have learned about good quality gold detectors and some of the obstacles that we will have to deal with, it is time to actually go out and find some gold nuggets! Check it out.

In [Metal Detecting for Gold Nuggets \(Part 1\)](#), we discussed some of the challenges associated with finding gold nuggets, and we went over a few of the better known brands of metal detectors that have a good reputation for sniffing out gold. In this article, we will continue our discussion of how to find gold nuggets with a metal detector by talking about where to specifically look to find nuggets, and how to deal with some of the challenges that you will face when you are starting out.

The very first thing you should do when you get a new metal detector is read the owner's manual. After you have read it, start at the beginning and read it again. The key to successfully finding gold with a metal detector is to understanding your machine, so take the time to really learn it; how it works, the different adjustments, how to ground balance it, etc. One thing all successful nugget shooters have in common is an intimate knowledge and understanding of their machine.

If there is one "secret" to finding gold, this is it; search where gold has been found before. In the case of metal detecting for gold, you need to search where nuggets have been found in the past. Some areas have produced plenty of gold, but not in sizes large enough to be found with a metal detector. Many of the gold bearing states in the eastern US would be a good example of this. Some areas have produced gold, but only dust and small flakes. If you want to find gold with a metal detector, you need to seek out areas that have a history of producing nuggets.

Don't just metal detect randomly. A common mistake is to assume that just because gold was found in a general area, that you can go anywhere in that area, turn on your metal detector and start digging up nuggets. Find the exact areas that the old timers worked. Look for old placer tailing piles, places where miners hand stacked rocks along a creek. Find those prospects in the side of the hill where someone did some digging. Look for large areas dug up with bucket line dredges or big hydraulic pits. If you are in an arid region, look for drywasher piles left behind by the old timers. Anything that shows sign that gold has been found in the area before is a good indication that it can be found today. The early prospectors were great at finding gold, but they didn't have metal detectors, so you have the chance of finding gold that they missed.

Once you have found a good looking area, it's time to start metal detecting. The first thing you need to do is ground balance your metal detector to the mineralization in the soil. Since you read your owner's manual you already know how to do this (you did read it, right?) If you really have found a good location that was worked by the early day gold prospectors, there is a good chance that right away you're going to get a strong signal from your detector, and you will dig a rusty nail. You'll move forward a few feet and get another hit, and you will dig up another rusty nail. You will go another few feet and dig up ten more nails, an old beer can, four little unidentified bits of iron, and a piece of bird shot. You have learned about the scourge of the modern day prospector... trash.

This is where learning the “language” of your metal detector will really pay off. The fact is that even guys that are really good at finding gold nuggets with a metal detector still dig a lot of trash. It is just a part of the sport, and it is something that you just have to deal with to some extent. However, learning your machine will really help cut down on the amount of digging you have to do. Quality discrimination should be able to separate out much of the nonferrous targets that you go over with your detector, either by producing a different tone than gold makes, or by blanking them out completely. Each metal detector handles it differently, so learning your machine and how different types of trash sound compared to gold are extremely important if you want to be successful.

It's always a good idea to bring a test nugget out into the field with you. Take a small nugget and glue it to a poker chip or guitar pick, something that is not made of metal and large enough that you won't lose it. This will help you tune your ear to the sound of gold and what you should be listening for.

Another bit of encouragement... if you are digging small pieces of lead, you are on the right track. It is almost impossible to distinguish the difference between lead and gold. While this can definitely be frustrating if you get into an area that has bullets and bird shot everywhere, you should also think of it as a good thing. If you are able to detect a small piece of bird shot, you will be able to find a small piece of gold. Often it just takes time, and maybe hundreds of pieces of trash before you are lucky enough to find that first piece of gold, but if you are persistent you will be rewarded.

Metal detecting for gold nuggets is probably the toughest type of metal detecting, certainly much different than digging up coins at the park. Nuggets are generally small, the ground is highly mineralized, and often there is metal rubbish scattered everywhere. Still, when you find that first gold nugget there is a good chance that you will be hooked for life. Good Luck!



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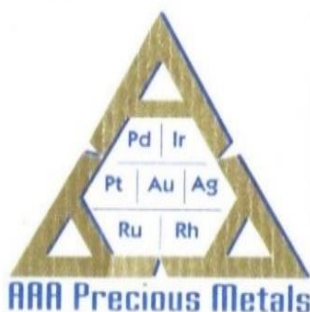
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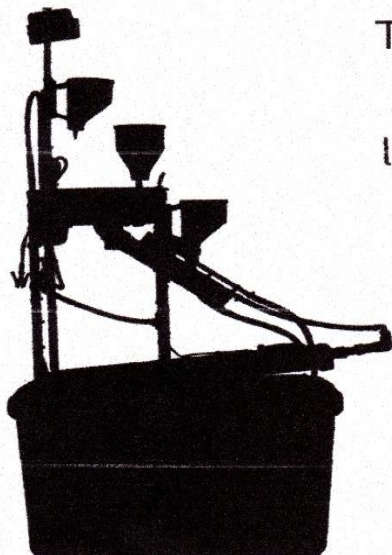


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Western Mining Alliance is Fighting For You But They Need Our Help!!!

The WMA is an alliance of miners fighting to restore our legal mining rights. We need all miners to stand together and fight this illegal taking of mining claims and our rights to mine.

If you won't stand up now we will lose all of our rights. We are an organization founded by some of the most experienced miners alive. We are teamed with other organizations fighting to take back our rights for land use, timber management, fishing, hunting and the other activities we, as Americans pay taxes to use.

We are supported by the mining equipment manufacturers; small businessmen; political representatives and of course by our claim holders. As a member of the WMA you will receive:

- Monthly e-mail updates on the legal fight
- Flash messages on critical events
- Access to our published reports on mining districts
- Join the Watershed district and the mining district

Here's a link to more info http://westernminingalliance.org/?page_id=626

GPAA Membership Renewal Credits

| | 1 Year | 2 Year | 3 Year | 1 Year w/o mining guide |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Buzzard Special | 1,365 | 1,820 | 2,730 | |
| GPAA Membership Renewal | 1,365 | 1,820 | 2,730 | 1,365 |

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|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Gold Life Membership | 20,000 |
| LDMA Membership | 45,500 |

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| |
|---------------|
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| 18,200 |

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WHEN RENEWING, PLEASE WRITE A NOTE OR IF BY PHONE TELL THEM YOU BELONG TO THE PGPI ASSOCIATION OR THE PORTLAND GPAA CHAPTER TO REQUEST OUR ASSOCIATION'S CREDITS.

These credits are used to buy things from the GPAA Catalog. If you do not have a GPAA Catalog, you can go to <http://www.goldprospectors.org/catalog/index.asp?PageName=Catalog> to see what they have available. If there is anything in the Catalog that you would like to have for the raffle, please let one of the board members know.

All members note:

The association earns purchasing points with renewal of GPAA Membership. Please tell them you are a Portland Gold Prospector member

**2015
Board Members**

| | |
|--|--|
| President: Dave Chiara 503-285-8553 dmchiara@comcast.net | Vice President: Jerry Johns 503-649-4702 Jerry.j.johns@intel.com |
| Secretary: Melinda Dorning mdorning@frontier.com | Treasurer: Bev Parker 503-666-4301 bevpark@comcast.net |
| Claims and Outings: Ken Burns 503-631-3071 cruisehl@yahoo.com | Sergeant at Arms: To Be Determined |

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2014-2016

2015-2017

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| Richard Ruth 503-663-9087 Richard.ruth5@comcast.net | Bill Bench swbench@comcast.net |
| Joe Weber Joewebo01@yahoo.com | Charlie Foster 503-630-7669 fostercr@rconnects.com |
| Robert Burns (2015 only) Rdburns77@hotmail.com | Penny Parsons tophillemu@aol.com |

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| | |
|---|--|
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| Hospitality: Helen Burns 503-631-3071 cruisehl@yahoo.com | Webmaster Aaron Jurgens 360-402-0771 aaron@ajcreative.net |

The Printed version of this newsletter is just the most important news about
Portland Gold Prospectors Association Meetings.

If you would like to see the entire Newsletter you can have it Emailed to you
Or go to www.PortlandGoldProspectors.org and you can view or download the whole
Newsletter there. I really want to make it very informative and complete, but it would
Be far too expensive to print out the longer version of the newsletter.