



Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc

GPAA Portland Oregon Chapter



The Official Newsletter of the GPAA

The Prospector

Volume 15 Issue 09

Website: www.PortlandGoldProspectors.org

September 2015

Chapter Meeting:

September 20th 2015

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

Meeting Begins at

--- 1:30 ---

Dates to Remember...



September, 2015

Our next meeting:

On September 20th, 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

From the President's Desk

Please join us on Sunday, September 20th. Come see what you missed out on with the Vancouver Chapter (at Copper Creek). The work party at TYRoy was cancelled due to fire dangers and we will want to talk about setting up a new date to get that reclamation done for this year.

I have included the notice from Waldo Mining Districts "Oregon Placer Mining Issues" that lets us know what's going to happen with the "5 Year Moratorium", scheduled to go into effect in Oregon January 2, 2016 (4 short months away). Please read it – and let's talk about what you can do. Donations are needed to help fight this on the legal front – this is for real.

We need your help – we need folks to demonstrate their equipment and talk about their special mining techniques (ie show and tell). Volunteer to help educate others on the break. We also need your help at outings, one to attend and secondly, help others who don't know what you know about how you do your prospecting. If you like to metal detect – come show off your talents with your equipment. You'd be surprised what you can teach others.

Also, don't forget your canned donations, or your "silent auction" items. Bring your checkbook – we'll have two five gallon buckets (again) of TYRoy "paydirt" for the Silent Auction.

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 August 16, 2015

Milwaukie Grange Hall, 12015 SE 22nd Milwaukie, OR

Meeting called to order by President Dave Chiara at 1:32 pm

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

Attendance:

51 attendees at the meeting

3 visiting guests were present

Meeting minutes:

Because the August Newsletter was not sent to members electronically or posted on our website prior to the meeting date, the Minutes of the July 2015 meeting were read aloud by Melinda Dorning.

A **Motion** was made and seconded to accept the Secretary's report as read. 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:

Dave Chiara mentioned that we are an affiliate of Eastern Oregon Mining Association and receive their newsletter each month for review by our members or through a link on our website.

Report on Club Claims: Ken Burns

Ken talked about the work on the Tyroy claim near Baker City. Although it is 300 miles away, they have found a nice amount of gold which makes the trip worthwhile. The Association does not hold other claims since purchasing and maintaining claims is usually expensive. He mentioned that forest fires and very dry conditions in the Baker City area have made it questionable for a return trip by our members until rain arrives. The use of power equipment may be banned by authorities until further notice.

Dave Chiara and Ken Burns have received an approval letter from B.L.M. regarding our request to change the equipment needed to further the mining and reclamation at the Tyroy claims. If conditions allow, members can help with reclamation near the week-end of August 29-30. Those attending should sign up ahead of time (sign up sheet on the table).

Outings: Jerry Johns and Dave Chiara

Jerry discussed the schedule of group events for the year as listed in the previous newsletter. Several members dredged on August 8 & 15 where the location was changed from Daybreak Park to Lewisville Park because of a honey bee invasion. Signing up is recommended so you can be notified of time/place changes.

Lewisville Park in Washington allowed dredging on August 8 and 15th. Clint encouraged other members to go to outings and said he really enjoyed the dredging experience.

During about 2 hours of dredging the members retrieved many pieces of lead fish weights. Richard Ruth made a **Motion** to retain any lead found and to display this at the next Gold Show. The Motion was seconded and passed.

- August 22 – North Fork of Santiam River – 3 Pools campground (a new location where two rivers meet). Sign up sheets on the table. Panning and sluicing here with a DEQ 600 permit.
- Sept. 6 – Lewisville Park, WA
- Sept 26 – Group outing at Copper Creek (GPAA claim) in Washington
- October 10th – Beverly Beach mining

Dave Chiara stated our Association has been invited to participate with the Vancouver, WA and Brownsville, OR GPAA Chapters at the Copper Creek site on August 28 and 29 during the filming of an episode of the Gold Trails TV show. Dave asked for members to participate and represent our group.

Also, Dave mentioned he appreciates the Vancouver, WA GPAA Chapter members for showing our members places we can dredge and new places to try our prospecting skills.

Anyone who participated at the Tyroy event at the end of June through July 4th was asked to fill out work assessment forms and return them to Dave. This form is important to document our work at the claim and reduce our fees.

Safety:

Jim Dorning discussed being safe during the extreme fire hazard season. He suggested that if you go out mining you should take possible fire fighting equipment including, shovels, hoses, gloves, work boots, and a list of your equipment. In the past, forest service personnel have requested equipment from private citizens in emergency situations. Being very aware of the dry vegetation is important to be sure you do not do things that can cause a spark that may lead to ground fires.

Newsletter:

Dave Chiara mentioned that Bill Bench has agreed to be a temporary newsletter editor. The newsletter is usually 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. Dave requested a volunteer newsletter editor to take over. This is a good opportunity to volunteer and help out the organization

Website:

The webmaster is a paid person who does not live in our area and, at times the information needed is not distributed as quickly as desired. Dave suggested a member who has knowledge of group email distribution (such as mailchimp) is needed. If you or someone you know can help with distribution of our newsletter via group emails, please contact Dave Chiara.

Library:

Joe Weber told members the library is for their use once they are full members. Several books are available to help you learn how to build your own mining equipment. Please let Joe know if there is a title you would like the association to purchase for members. Library materials should be returned the following month so others can enjoy them also. If you have outstanding library loans, please return the book.

Membership:

Joe explained that membership with Portland Gold Prospectors can be obtained by simply attending 3 meetings or a combination of meetings and events. Membership with GPAA is not required to become an active member of Portland Gold Prospectors. For those who join or renew membership with GPAA, he asked that you tell GPAA you are a member of Portland Gold Prospectors to earn the association special points. Also, when signing the roster, please note your GPAA member number if you have one.

Old Business:

Discussion followed about the next GPAA Gold Show at the Portland Expo in April 2016. We will be co-sponsors with Brownsville GPAA and Vancouver, WA GPAA Chapters. This time we will have more input at the planning stage. Dave encouraged more members to get involved. He asked that if you have family members involved in the media, newspapers, TV, radio, etc. to have them contact Dave as we need to increase our contacts. Also, we will be looking for more vendors and those who have an association with outdoor recreation are good prospects. Please be thinking about increasing the scope of the show and bring your ideas to the meetings. The proceeds from the major raffle held by GPAA were split between the chapters who assisted. This is our largest money raiser, so we want to make it even better.

Ken Burns mentioned we have raffled a back pack with mining tools in the past. He asked members to think of other ideas for our club raffle. Also, items that members make or want to donate are very helpful. Someone suggested we have several raffle items and multiple cans to deposit tickets.

Joe Weber talked about the demo that we provided a few months ago at a Cabela's store. This was an opportunity to contact future members and educate the public on the positive side of mining. Some of the perks of volunteering were a free lunch, a store discount and a fun time. Joe said since we have no dues for PGPI, the best way to help is to volunteer a few hours. Dave plans to contact the Cabela's store about a future event.

Tyroy Project

Dave told members that the area that was worked on and fenced in early July now has been undercut by people who are digging there. This may be from local people who access the claim without permission. Since it is dangerous to undercut this way, members were warned not to undermine the area above you. He asked members to think safety first. Also the local farmer has cows that could be injured. Bob Burns suggested members take pictures of the area before they begin digging and then pictures again when they leave to document the conditions.

The plan for a garage sale this summer has been postponed until next year. Also, a spaghetti feed is still a possibility. This would require a few volunteers to organize the event. Contact Dave if interested.

Audit Committee: Bob Burns

Bob reported that several members helped to review our financial records for an official audit. Thanks go to Bill Bench, Betty Bench, Ron Barnes, and Joe Wood. They reviewed a sampling of records and reported that bank records are neatly organized. All receipts should be attached for reimbursement requests.

Silent Auction Items:

Dave mentioned the silent auction item at the August meeting is local honey. Members are encouraged to bring items for others to bid on. The donation helps our association because we do not charge dues.

Code of Conduct: Dave Chiara reminded members to contact a Board member for any concerns about conduct or dealing with other members.

New Business:

Vern Freitas asked members to become familiar with the American Mining Rights Association (AMRA) who have discussions on the Gold Prospectors radio station.

Jerry Johns talked about the Oregon DEQ 600 permit for highbanking and sluicing (free) and the 700 permit for dredging (for a fee) that are needed to comply with Oregon laws. In Washington State the new Gold and Fish booklet (free) is required and can be obtained by mail or printed online.

Dave stated the approved equipment amendment from the BLM will allow a group to return to the Tyroy claim for reclamation this fall. Depending on weather and fire conditions, they plan to work there on Aug 29-30. Those who sign up will be notified.

He also asked everyone to sign in on the sheets on the front table and attempt to make the email written clearly.

Dave Chiara thanked the kitchen staff and those who donated cookies. He encouraged members to buy club sweatshirts for cooler fall weather and assorted hats.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm after the raffle was held. The winner of the gold nugget in the \$5.00 raffle was Charlie Foster.

(Respectfully submitted by Melinda Dorning, Secretary)

<u>Outings Calendar and Upcoming Events</u>	
Saturday Oct 10th	Beverly Beach - Beach Mining
Sunday Oct 18th	PGPI Association - Business Meeting at 1:30pm
Tuesday Nov 10th	FREE PIZZA - 1st planning meeting for Annual (Pot Luck) Banquet to be held in January
Sunday Nov 15th	PGPI Association - Business Meeting at 1:30pm. Annual Elections to be held
Wednesday Dec 9th	2nd planning meeting for annual banquet.
Sunday December 20th	PGPI Association - Business Meeting at 1:30pm
Thursday Jan 7th, 2016	3rd and final planning meeting for Annual banquet
Sunday Jan 17th, 2016	Annual Banquet - swearing in of officers, Door prizes

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

WALDO & GALICE MINING DISTRICTS
P.O. BOX 1574
CAVE JUNCTION, OR 97523
MINERS WORKING TOGETHER TO SAVE OUR HERITAGE

OREGON PLACER MINING ISSUES

By Tom Kitchar – President, Waldo Mining District -- August 20, 2015

As you should know by now, the 2015 Oregon legislature **did not repeal** the 2013 Oregon Legislature's Senate Bill 838 or **the FIVE YEAR MORATORIUM** on all motorized placer mining in, and 100 yards to either side of stream segments designated as Essential Salmon Habitat (ESH), or has populations of bull trout or lamprey eels (or some other special critter).

The moratorium is **scheduled to begin January 2, 2016**, and ends (unless extended) January 2, 2021.

This means no dredging, hi-banking, power sluicing, or use of a motor driven pump of any kind, no trommels, excavators, dozers, winches or even small battery-powered devices such as mini-concentrators or gold wheels. DEQ has stated this (ban) even includes use of a motor to drive an air compressor for breathing air. If taken to the extreme, it could be construed to include your vehicle used to haul equipment/supplies incident to your mining if driving within 100 yards of a closed stream.

VIOLATION of the moratorium is a Class A Misdemeanor,

punishable by a fine of \$6,250 and/or up to 1 year in jail. (Serious stuff).

Up until now not much has been done about the moratorium as it was thought best to wait to see if the 2015 legislature would repeal the moratorium - they didn't. (There was a bill introduced, "SB 830", which would have repealed the moratorium - but was so filled with the greenies dream wish-list that all mining would be impossible anyway and such a bill would be harder to fight (in court) than the moratorium - so we did not support SB 830).

HOWEVER, it now seems almost certain the moratorium will go into effect next Jan. 2. As far as we know, NOTHING can stop it at this point - other than a court order. (There is a slimmest of slim chances that the 2016 "Short-Session" legislature could or would repeal the moratorium in Feb/March..... several month after the moratorium kicks in, but with the Democrat Super Majority this seems unlikely).

WHAT'S BEING DONE

Rich Angstrom of the Oregon Concrete and Aggregate Producers Association (OCAPA), and lobbyist for OCAPA, along with a Dave Hunnicutt from Oregonians In Action are forming a new state-wide mining org, the Oregon Mining Association (OMA) in an attempt to band all miners together to speak with one voice to help stop future bills like 838. Rich has also gotten the Western Resources Law Center (WRLC) to fight the moratorium (in court) "pro bono" (free) in support of all miners in OR. WRLC claims (on their website) that they train up-coming new lawyers who want to defend industry interests from over-zealous agencies and green lawsuits, etc.. Sounds good.... right? Here's the "catch": WRLC is a part of Lewis & Clark U in Portland... the very same school that trains the upcoming green lawyers. *We're sure there's no conflict of interest!*

Our "*problem*" (if we have one) with this is, and even if there is no conflict of interest and the two branches of the school are separate: **Are ANY of them miners?**

Do they know anything about mining and in particular the small-scale placer mining that the moratorium will ban in about 90% of all gold bearing stream in OR.? Doubtful.

ASK YOURSELF THIS: Are you willing to sit by and let a group of *non-miners* decide the fate of small-scale mining in Oregon? Or, are you interested in doing something about it (the moratorium)?

1.

The looming doom of the moratorium prompts us to at least try to do something about it. As much as

we would like to, we can't sit by and let a bunch of law students and other non-miners deal with this. "They" have nothing to lose (whereas we and other have everything to lose.... what value is a claim no one can work?).

Rich and the WRLC have not (as far as we know) made a decision as to what is the best way to attack the moratorium and have mentioned filing for a preliminary injunction in federal court soon, and/or waiting until "someone" gets caught in violation and then defend that person(s).

Our attorney, James Buchal, advises filing for a preliminary injunction in federal court ASAP. There is a "rush" to file as we need to file in Federal court before anyone else mistakenly files in State court (which is why the cases in CA are all in State court, someone blew it and filed a suit in state court and when Buchal & PLP tried to file in Fed. court the Fed. court said the issue was already in State court and refused to hear the case).

For the last 15 years, Buchal has handled many mining related cases (admittedly not winning most of them -- I have been involved with most of them and do not blame Buchal but instead the obviously green biased judicial system). He has more recently been one of the leading mining lawyers dealing with the moratorium in CA and is defending Rinehart. For the last 4-5 years he has been studying the mining law, state laws, and the issue of preemption (i.e.; *Can the State prohibit something (mining) the Federal law allows, grants, and encourages as a "Right"?*)

With this much practical experience with small-scale mining, the mining law, the courts, and moratoriums, it would seem strange, and even stupid to not hire Buchal to file in Fed. court to stop the moratorium.

The Oregon moratorium should be easier to kill than the one in CA. CA only bans suction dredging whereas OR is going to ban "all motorized placer mining" - leaving no alternative methods to mine except totally by hand. The CA moratorium called for time to do studies and write new rules that fully mitigate every possible significant effect before permits could be issued.... whereas nothing in SB 838 even hints at a purpose for the Five Year moratorium. SB 838 does not call for any studies, reviews, committees, etc. during the 5 years. No reason is given.

THE BOTTOMLINE:

Last week I met with the heads of the Galice Mining District and we (Waldo & Galice) decided to retain Buchal to fight the moratorium. We have contacted Buchal and given him the Go Ahead.

We are currently looking for Plaintiffs, and fund raising. We hope to raise the necessary \$\$ through pure donations as there is no time to arrange and hold a raffle.

PLEASE SPREAD THEWORD.... WE need \$\$\$\$ for this.

DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO:

Waldo Mining District OR, you can send them directly to our attorney, James Buchal at:

P.O. Box 1574 James L. Buchal

Cave Junction, OR 97523 Murphy & Buchal LLP

3425 SE Yamhill St., Suite 100

Portland, OR 97214

NOTE: Please make a note on your check that it is for: "OREGON MORATORIUM FUND"

Will we win? Who knows...

The only thing for sure is, if we don't fight back, we will most assuredly lose!

Tom Kitchar – President, Waldo Mining District

P.O. Box 1574

Cave Junction, OR 97523 mythicalmining@cavenet.com (541) 660-7096 (cell, leave message)

2.

Below is a copy of Section 2 of SB 838, the part dealing with the moratorium. Read it yourself.

SB 838 – SECTION 2, THE MORATORIUM

SECTION 2.

(1) A moratorium is imposed until January 2, 2021, on mining that uses any form of motorized equipment for the purpose of extracting gold, silver or any other precious metal from placer deposits of the beds or banks of the waters of this state, as defined in ORS 196.800, or from other placer deposits, that results in the removal or disturbance of streamside vegetation in a manner that may impact water quality. The moratorium applies up to the line of ordinary high water, as defined in ORS 274.005, and 100 yards upland perpendicular to the line of ordinary high water that is located above the lowest extent of the spawning habitat in any river and tributary thereof in this state containing essential indigenous anadromous salmonid habitat, as defined in ORS 196.810, or naturally reproducing populations of bull trout, except in areas that do not support populations of anadromous salmonids or natural reproducing populations of bull trout due to a naturally occurring or lawfully placed physical barrier to fish passage.

(2) The moratorium does not apply to any mining for which the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries issues an operating permit under ORS 517.702 to 517.989.

(3) In areas where the moratorium does not apply as described in subsection (1) of this section, the Department of State Lands shall limit the individual permits issued under ORS 196.810 and the general authorizations issued under ORS 196.850 to not more than 850 permits and authorizations for mining described in this section at any time during the moratorium period. The Department of State Lands shall give priority, to the greatest extent practicable, to persons who held permits or authorizations for the longest period of time before January 1, 2014.

(4) Any maps developed by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, or any other state agency, that delineate the area of the moratorium established by subsection (1) of this section are not subject to the rulemaking requirements of ORS chapter 183.

(5) Violation of the moratorium established by subsection (1) of this section is a Class A misdemeanor. (i.e.; up to \$6,250 and/or 1 year in jail)

SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2013 Act becomes operative on January 2, 2016.

SECTION 4. Sections 2 and 3 of this 2013 Act are repealed on January 2, 2021.

3.

The above is the most important message you will be dealing with for your Oregon mining rights – do nothing and you will lose your mining rights in Oregon.

You can do a lot – help fund the legal battle, give what you can and then stay involved, read about what you can do (contacting your legislator, etc.).

If you fish and hunt, remember, that too is in jeopardy because the folks that want to shut down mining also want to keep you out of the woods and off the streams. It's a control issue and by doing nothing you let them win. Freedoms are not free, they have to be fought for and protected against all those who want to take them away. Next they will be demanding you turn in your weapons, then what – how can you protect yourself from them then? We are in a battle and a lot of what you love to do is in the balance.

Remember your forefathers and parents fought for a Free America. Many of them gave their lives for these freedoms. It's your turn to maintain and defend those freedoms for your children and grandchildren. If we lose these freedoms, most likely they will never see them again and will be enslaved to the demands of others.

**If you wish to donate, send your check to: Waldo Mining District
P. O. Box 1574
Cave Junction, OR 97 523**

**Or you can send them directly to: James L. Buchal
Murphy & Buchal LLP
3425 SE Yamhill St. Suite 100
Portland, OR 97214**

Note: Please make a note on your check that it is for: “OREGON MORATORIUM FUND”.

Remember, this fight is for real and we only have a few more months to stop it. Thank you. Dave Chiara (a fellow miner).



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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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Payment Plan @ Sign-up

Gold Life Membership	20,000	9,500
LDMA Membership	45,500	18,200

Once Expedition is Paid-in-Full

Alaska Expedition	22,750
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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

Board Members At Large

2014-2016

2015-2017

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

Supporting Members

Librarian: Joe Weber Joewebo01@yahoo.com	Safety: Jim Dorning mdorning@frontier.com
Equipment: Ken Burns 503-631-3071 cruisehl@yahoo.com	Newsletter: Bill Mutton billsgreatgifts@gmail.com
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.