

# The Prospector

Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.

GPAA Portland, Oregon Chapter



May/June, 2022

## Members' Corner by Rocky Tester

TYROY didn't disappoint for 2022. It threw everything it had at us this year. Last year was a low water issue; this year we had so much water it was difficult to start mining. Looking for gold is a very hard task at hand, but it's sought after because of its rarity and value. I went over 2 days early to get my camp set up. Les, Zeke, and Cindy were already there. Les was waiting for the tractor, which was delayed 3 days. When the tractor arrived, we discovered that it was in rough shape but it worked. The bad thing was, though, it was too muddy and wet to get started working with it. Les was going nuts wanting to get out and get things ready for the incoming members.

I waited 6 days to dig my first shovel of pay dirt, because the area for digging pay dirt was full of water. Bob Naylor and I pumped it out four different times, but it kept coming back. Mark Kirk and I decided to dig in the pit for pay dirt. There was an undercut about 4 feet down where a layer of gravel was showing. The mud was so deep that it was trying to pull my muck boots off. We filled nine buckets and put them in Bob's trailer, which was hitched to a four-wheeler. When we got to the highbanker, Mark said he would start with three buckets. Bob and I took the other six. When we got through running them, we did the cleanup. We dumped all the cons in a ½ inch classifier on a bucket. This next moment will be talked about for years! I caught a glimpse of a flash of gold and carefully pulled it away from other material. What I found was the biggest gold nugget I have ever seen in the field. Bob and I were stunned when I pulled it out. There before us was a ½ ounce+ nugget. This was exactly what all of us dream of finding in our quest for gold.

Mark and Pierre were the first ones we showed. We weren't sure if we should show the other members because we didn't want a stampede to the exact location where we found the nugget. We got back to camp and decided to show Jerry, the

claims director. I don't think I've ever seen Jerry's eyes bug out so far. He was absolutely stunned. Gold that large at TYROY wasn't even in his wildest dreams! That night we showed the nugget to all of the members. They now have hope that gold was truly there.

The irony of it is that when Mark Kirk selected the three buckets he was going to run, it could have turned out that he would write this. What I find fascinating is how long that nugget could have been there, Âthousands or millions of years or maybe the beginning of time. We were the first humans on earth to touch and hold this wonderful nugget we call gold.



# Secretary's Report April 17, 2022

## 2022 Portland Gold Prospectors Board of Directors

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gmlewis238@msn.com

### Vice President:

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wc1378@q.com

### Treasurer:

Jim Erwin 503-519-6200  
jimerwin223@gmail.com

### Secretary:

Yolanda Kragerud 503-775-0886  
YKragerud@yahoo.com

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Mark Kirk  
mvkirk@frontier.com  
Kelly Huffman 503-688-3544  
huffy54.outlook.com  
Charlie Foster 503-630-7669  
fostercr@rconnects.com  
Richard Ruth 503-663-9087  
richard.ruth5@comcast.net

### 1 Year Board Members:

Rocky Tester Samuel Garcia  
Steve Kragerud Joe Weber

### Board Members at Large

Larry Sharp Gene Howard

### Claims

Jerry Johns 503-686-9422  
jerryjohns@gmail.com

### Hospitality:

Elaine Ruth 503-663-9087  
richard.ruth5@comcast.net

### Newsletter and Website:

Tim Snyder 503-481-1133  
WrshpMzshn@gmail.com

Milwaukie Grange Hall  
12015 SE 22nd Ave.  
Milwaukie, Oregon 97222

**Meeting** was called to order by President Mike Lewis at 1:30 P.M. who also led the Pledge of allegiance.

**Attendance** - 32 attendees and 2 guests were present.

**Treasury Report** - Cindy read the Treasury Report for the month of April because Jim wasn't present at the meeting.

**Meeting Minutes** - A motion was made and seconded to accept the Secretary's Report of the previous month as written and published in the April newsletter. The motion was approved by the members present.

**Gold Show 2022** - The recent Gold Show was a huge success for our club. We couldn't have made this possible without all our members who volunteered and participated in the event. We made quite a bit of money this year which is great since this is our biggest fundraiser for our club. We made \$342 raffling off our gold cube, \$736 for our metal detector and \$725 for the gold nugget. We made \$167 selling snuffer bottles and a whopping \$2,705 off the main raffle plus we haven't even counted how much that we made off the quarter drop yet.

**Richard Ruth Memorial** - Our annual event will be taking place this year the first 2 weeks of June. Jerry is currently struggling with renting a Backhoe because they are all rented out from April until July. There are a couple of options available which Jerry is currently working on. He will be keeping us posted on the situation and should know more by our May meeting. Worst case scenario is that we would have to postpone our outing until possibly September.

**Panning Demonstration** - We will be doing another Panning Demonstration at the Sportsman's Warehouse in

Tanasbourne on May 7th from 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. We need 4 or 5 people to participate in this event. There is a sign up sheet for anyone interested in volunteering.

**Leftover dirt** from the Panning Booth from the Gold show - There are about 6 or 7 buckets of dirt that came from the panning booth from the recent gold show. After discussing the situation and voting on it we came to the decision that we will have a demonstration at our next meeting and will use a gold cube and run some of the material and get the Gold out of it. We will also use a bucket or 2 at our panning demonstration at the Sportsman's Warehouse. All gold that we get from all the material will go back to our club and be used to fill our gold bags that we sell and whatever else we can use it for.

**Prospector's Treasure Trove** - Dan Rouse attended our meeting and told us about his new retail store that is opening in Beaverton. He is selling all kinds of prospecting equipment which also includes metal detectors. He is also selling online so if anyone needs anything check out his new store.

**Raffle for Painting** - Ken Diddier has painted a very nice Painting that he has donated to the club to be raffled off. We will start selling the raffle tickets in May and continue through June. The drawing will be in July and we will announce the lucky winner. Raffle tickets will be \$1 each.

**Raffle** - The Raffle was held with \$1 and \$5 tickets. Sara Vangorder was the lucky winner of the Gold Bag. Sam Garcia was the lucky winner of the Gold Nugget. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 P.M. Respectfully submitted by Yolande Kragerud, Secretary.





## PRESIDENT'S BLOG

### April, 2022

As you may know, Richard Ruth passed away in March. We lost a wonderful friend and member. Richard was always happy to lend a hand and provide insight into the club and its various activities; he also handled the gold needed for the "quarter drop," "gold" bags, and raffle prizes – always with meticulous detail. We will miss him. We were glad to see Elaine Ruth and Dorothy Ruth at the March meeting. It provided an opportunity for people to visit with them about Richard, sharing memories and reaffirming how much Richard meant to everyone.

Thank you to Clark Niewendorp for his interesting presentation on LIDAR (light detection and ranging) at the March chapter meeting. It is a fascinating technology and has many uses. (To download a PDF of Clark's presentation click here.: [LIDAR Presentation](#). It's a big file; about 50 Mb.)

The Portland GPAA Gold and Treasure Show was held on April 9th and 10th, with set-up on April 8th. Thank you to everyone who helped with the show! It couldn't have happened without you! PGPI was the "host" chapter, since the show was in Portland. We had volunteers from PGPI, the Mid-Valley Chapter, and some additional volunteers from the Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors Chapter. Dorothy Ruth was absolutely awesome manning the "quarter drop" on both days! And a special thank you to Jim Erwin for all of his effort organizing the volunteers' participation the show. Our ore cart façade was also a great addition to the show. We will have more discussions about the show at the April meeting on April 17th, including the income realized from the show. **In the interim, THANK YOU again to everyone who helped make the show a success!!**

**Thank you too to Northwest Detector Sales for their donation of raffle prizes to PGPI for the show.**

- >> **Since we received very little food donated at the GPAA Gold and Treasure Show, we want to add to what we have by asking for donations of food, including pet food, at the April Chapter meeting on April 17th. There will be boxes to donate food and pet food inside the Grange Hall. They are labeled Oregon Food Bank. Thank you!**
- >> On May 7th, we are planning to hold a panning demonstration from 10AM-2PM at the Sportsman's Warehouse located at 10645 NE Tanasbourne Drive, Hillsboro, OR 97124 (503) 844-9100. We need 3-4 volunteers to help. A signup sheet will be available at the April chapter meeting.
- >> We have tentatively scheduled the Chapter's two week outing at our TYROY claim for the first 2 week of June, starting Saturday June 4th

and ending on Saturday, June 18th. Barring unforeseen circumstances, we should be able to start processing material on Monday, June 6th. >> **Please note that we were recently informed that all tractors for rent in Baker City and La Grande have already been rented, starting in April – July. Jerry Johns is exploring other sources, however, if we can't find the right equipment to use at the claim, the outing will have to be rescheduled. We are sorry for any inconvenience.**

- > Please remember that Tim Snyder, who creates the chapter's monthly newsletters and handles the club's social media accounts and website, is interested in any stories related to prospecting from anyone in the club for publication in the newsletter. You can forward your story/information to Tim via email @ [wrshpmzshn@gmail.com](mailto:wrshpmzshn@gmail.com)
- > We also want to invite anyone at our meetings who has an interesting story to tell or something about prospecting to demonstrate or wants to show what they have found while prospecting, etc.– to let me know so we can either make time during the meeting or schedule time at the next meeting.

Hope to see you at the April meeting. Thank you and Happy Prospecting!

*Mike*

Mike Lewis, President  
Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.  
503-413-9283  
[gmlewis238@msn.com](mailto:gmlewis238@msn.com)



Photo by Cindy Wright





Photos by Mark Kirk



Photos by Gretchen Lewis

# Secretary's Report May 15, 2022

Milwaukie Grange Hall  
12015 SE 22nd Ave.  
Milwaukie, Oregon 97222

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Lewis at 1:30 P.M. who also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance** - 44 attendees and 4 guests were present.

**Treasury Report** - A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasury Report that Jim read for the month of April.

**Meeting Minutes** - There was no newsletter read this month it will be combined with next months newsletter.

**TyRoY aka Richard Ruth Memorial** - The annual outing is just weeks away. The dates are June 6th until the 17th. Good news is that we found equipment to rent and we should have plenty of water this year. Looks like we are going to get a good turnout of people. There will be some first time people coming to the outing so we encourage people to share their equipment with them so that everyone has a good time and gets gold. There will be a pizza party one night and of course our Potluck which will be on Saturday the 11th. There will be a couple other dinner get togethers at some local restaurants in the area also. Don't forget to get your ATV Permit if you don't already have one they only cost \$10 and are good for 2 years. There is dry camping at the claim or RV parks, hotels and motels in Baker City depending on where you want to stay.

**Treasure Trove** - Dan Rouse who is the owner of Treasure Trove attended our meeting this month and introduced himself and has business cards for anyone who wants one. He sells all kinds of prospecting equipment if anybody needs anything.

**Demonstrations** - At break time check out some demonstrations of prospecting equipment. Cindy Wright has her Highbanker set up and will be running paydirt, Kelly Huffman will be demonstrating his Miller Table and Mike Lewis is running his Spiral.

**Patches for Sale** - We still have iron on patches available for \$6 if anybody wants to buy one.

**Raffle Tickets for Painting** - We are selling raffle tickets for the lovely painting that Ken Diddier painted. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. We will hold the drawing at our September meeting.

**Raffle** - The Raffle was held with \$1 and \$5 tickets. Tim Snyder was the lucky winner of the Gold Bag. Rocky Tester was the lucky winner of the Gold Nugget.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Yolande Kragerud, Secretary.



# PRESIDENT'S BLOG May, 2022

Thank you to everyone who made the trip to the Richard Ruth Memorial Outing at the club's claim, at TYROY near Baker City. We had a great turn out in spite of saturated ground and difficult driving conditions, along with extremely wet weather.

During the first week, we got lucky and had three days of decent weather which allowed for some material to be processed. Even with the challenges of the weather and the saturated soil, we found some great color!

However, with the forecast of additional rain, and the backhoe already getting stuck several times, plus the potential difficulty on the road coming into/out of the dig site and the camping area, the group made the decision to cut the outing short.

***I want to apologize to anyone who was planning to come the second week of the outing, with a special apology to Sam Garcia who came up to the claim without knowing the rest of the outing was canceled.***

Thank you to Jerry Johns for making the outing as positive as possible under difficult circumstances. And thank you to Les Currier for his expertise in running the backhoe, with the difficulties of completely saturated soil.

We hope next year's outing will provide the right balance of water and weather as it appears we are in a good pocket of paydirt.

>Please remember that Tim Snyder, who creates the chapter's monthly newsletters and handles the club's social media accounts and website, is interested in any stories related to prospecting from anyone in the club for publication in the newsletter. You can forward your story/information to Tim via email at [wrshpmzshn@gmail.com](mailto:wrshpmzshn@gmail.com)

>We also want to invite anyone at our meetings who has an interesting story to tell or something about prospecting to demonstrate or wants to show what they have found while prospecting, etc.— to let me know so we can either make time during the meeting or schedule time at the next meeting.

Hope to see you at the June's meeting. Thank you and Happy Prospecting!

*Mike*

Mike Lewis, President  
Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.  
503-413-9283  
[gmlewis238@msn.com](mailto:gmlewis238@msn.com)



## DEMONSTRATION DAY May, 2022

Cindy Wright with her high-banker.  
Mike Huffman with his Miller table.  
Mike Lewis with his spiral wheel.





# RICHARD ROTH MEMORIAL OUTING at TYRoy

June 4 - 11, 2022

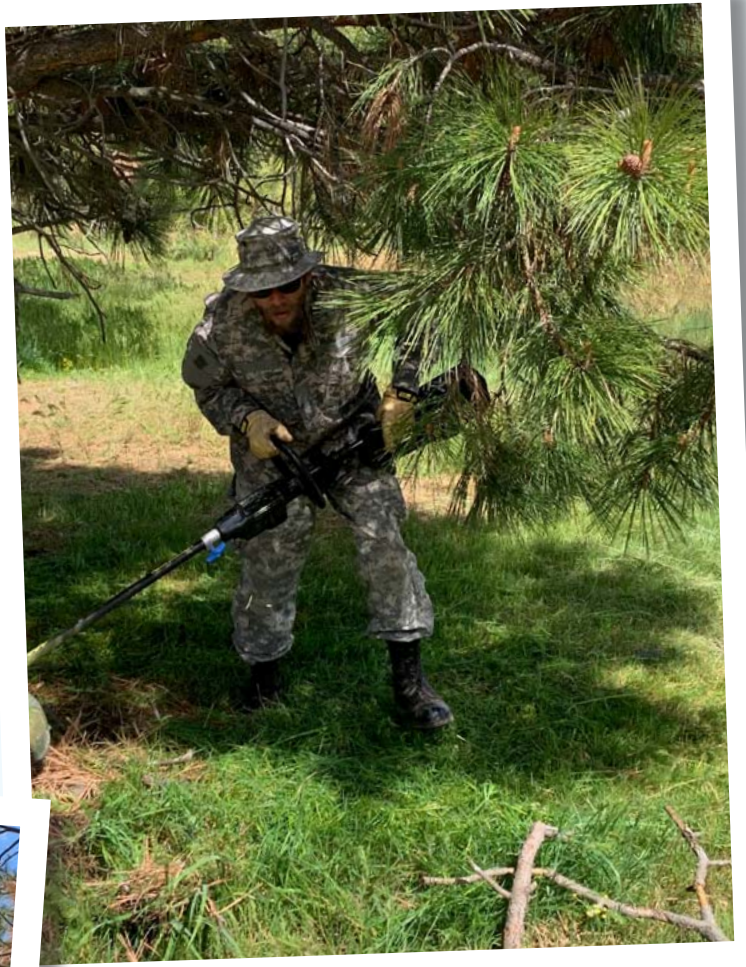
Photos by Mark Kirk













The new **Washington Gold and Fish** pamphlet is now available. You must have it with you whenever you prospect in the state of Washington.

Download a copy to print here: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/hpa/types/prospecting>



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