

The Prospector

Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.

GPA Portland, Oregon Chapter



February, 2023

PORTLAND GOLD PROSPECTORS, INC.

PRESIDENT'S BLOG

February 2023

>>>>>> NO MEETING IN FEBRUARY <<<<<<

Thank you to everyone who attended the January chapter meeting.

Dan Rouse (Prospector's Treasure Trove) contacted me regarding an outing he is planning for Saturday, April 22, 2023, at Daybreak Park on the east fork of the Lewis River, near Battleground, WA. Dan is working on the details – he will need some help from the club to put it all together. More information will be available in next month's Newsletter.

As discussed previously, I have cancer and have started radiation treatments. The treatment regime for the cancer can take one-to-three years.

I have been President of the club for over 5 years. It is time for new ideas and new energy; I will be tendering my resignation at the March chapter meeting. I will help with the transition to a new President and will be available to help with questions or concerns going forward. There are several other members of the Chapter who are knowledgeable and helpful as well. Gretchen will help with the transition on the roster, membership cards, event sign-up sheets, etc.

As stated in previous Blogs, the President assists with planning and organizing chapter outings and events, helps with scheduling demonstrations and speakers for the monthly meetings, and presides over the monthly Chapter Meetings and Board Meetings, which are usually held after the monthly Chapter Meetings. Other responsibilities include

making sure the Chapter Roster is kept current and making sure the Membership Cards are made and the proper Release of Liability forms are signed. The Roster and the Membership Cards, etc., could be done by someone else in a newly created position. There are other responsibilities as Chapter President, including being the contact person for the GPA and being the contact person for people who are interested in learning about PGPI – usually by phone or email.

>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

>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 MARCH Chapter meeting! Thank you and Happy Prospecting!

Mike

Mike Lewis, President
Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.
503-413-9283
gmlewis238@msn.com

Secretary's Report January 15, 2023

Eastridge Church
14100 SE Sunnyside Rd.
Clackamas, Oregon 97015

2022 Portland Gold Prospectors Board of Directors

President:

Mike Lewis 503-413-9283
gmlewis238@msn.com

Vice President:

Cindy Wright 503-701-3073
wc1378@q.com

Treasurer:

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

Secretary:

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

2 Year Board Members:

Mark Kirk
mvkirk@frontier.com
Kelly Huffman 503-688-3544
huffy54.outlook.com
Charlie Foster 503-630-7669
fostercr@rconnects.com

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

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

Attendees - 33 attendees and 8 guests were present.

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

Meeting Minutes - A motion was made and seconded to accept the Secretary's Report of the previous month as written and published in the January newsletter.

Sportsmen's Show 2023 - The Show is scheduled for February 15th through the 19th. The hours are Wednesday through Friday 11:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Saturday 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. and Sunday 11:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. It will cost \$12 to park per day. We still need volunteers to work a minimum 4 hour shift. Jim has the sign up sheet for anyone interested in volunteering for the event. We will be in booth # 1618. Dan Roose will have his booth next to us as well. We will be raffling off a Gold Ingot Bar that we are purchasing from Ken Didier and a Gold Nugget that Cindy Wright has donated to the club. Tickets for the Gold Ingot Bar will be \$10 each and we will sell 300 tickets and tickets for the Gold Nugget will be \$5 each which will be raffled off on Sunday at 3:00 P.M. at the show. Jim used about 800,000 of our 900,529 GPAA points and ordered a variety of merchandise that we will be raffling off and selling at the show.

TyRoy - Our annual event will be the last two weeks in June. If you plan on attending this year you will have to make sure and fill out your release form prior to attending like usual. This is a fun event and we hope to get a good turnout of people this year. Remember, two good sized Gold Nuggets were found last year so we should be in some good paydirt.

New Claims - We are hopeful that we may find some new claims this year and can plan some new outings when the weather gets better. If anyone has any suggestions of places just let one of the Board Members know.

Potluck - We are thinking about having a possible Potluck in April if enough people are interested and want to participate since we haven't had a Banquet in a few years.

President Thank You Gifts - Cindy Wright handmade two really nice Thank You gifts for our President Mike Lewis. He received a Gold Pan Pin with real Gold on it and a

nice Bolo Tie. We cannot thank Mike and Gretchen enough for everything that they do to keep our club running!

Treasure Trove - Dan Roose from Treasure Trove invited us to come to his store on Sunday January 29th at 1:00 P.M. for his "Pros and Cons" presentation and Tom Bonker will be there. Dan's store is full of all different kinds of merchandise for your prospecting needs and if he doesn't have what you need he can probably order it for you. Go check his store out at 10400 S.W. Allen Blvd. in Beaverton.

Gold Bags for Sale - We are selling various sizes of Gold Bags. The prices are \$7, \$12 and \$20. Practice on your panning skills indoors during winter time in the comfort of your own home or garage.

Painting Raffle - We are still selling Raffle tickets for the lovely Painting that Ken Didier painted. The tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Sluice Box Raffle - We are selling Raffle tickets for a small Sluice Box. The tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Raffle - The Raffle was held with \$1 and \$5 tickets. Mike Skroch was the lucky winner of the Gold Bag. Scott Ackley was the lucky winner of the Gold Nugget.

There will be NO FEBRUARY GOLD CLUB MEETING because the Sportsmen's Show is going on that weekend and many members will be volunteering there!

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

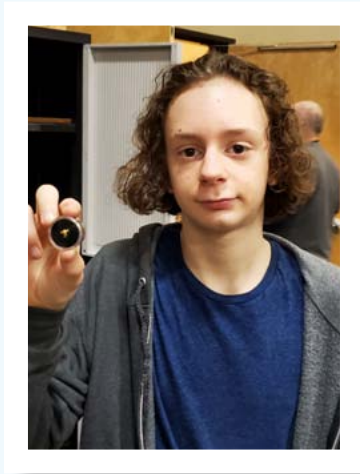
Respectfully submitted by
Yolande Kragerud, Secretary.



PACIFIC NORTHWEST SPORTSMEN'S SHOW

The Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show starts on February 15th and runs through February 19th at the Portland Expo Center. We will have a booth at the show - Booth #1618 - To get to the booth, enter the southernmost building - Hall E. As you enter through the entrance door turn left. Our booth is next to Bend Fudge. (Yes, samples may be available!) The show hours are Wednesday-Friday: 11AM-8PM. Saturday: 10AM-8PM. Sunday: 10AM-6PM. Adult Admission is: \$15.00. Parking is: \$12.00. There are probably coupons online which may save you some money on the admission. Dan Rouse, from Prospector's Treasure Trove, will also have a booth at the show. Hope to see you there!

THANK YOU to everyone from the club who have volunteered to help with the show. We appreciate it!



THANK YOU!

Thank you to the chapter for the great gifts! The gold pan bolo tie clasp and gold pan pin (both with gold from TYROY) were a complete surprise, as you could probably tell at the meeting.

And thank you to Cindy Wright for creating such special gifts. They are both very much appreciated.

Mike

LOST DUTCHMAN'S MINING ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FOR SALE

We received an email from Greg and Gwyn Bowen. They are selling their LDMA membership for \$900. If you are interested, please call 320-216-5751. Please leave a voicemail.

51st Annual Treasure Hunt Northwest Treasure Hunters Club June 16th, 17th, and 18th 2023

Pirates Hoard

Hunt Rounds
Silver Dollars
Detectors
Pinpointers
Silver Coins



Treasure Hunt

Food Truck
Plinko
Trivia
Vendors
Raffles

Before May 31st	After May 31st		Friday		Time
			Registration Check In		12PM to 1PM
Free	Free		Friday Social Event		7:00PM
			Saturday Hunt Events		
\$30.00	\$35.00		Opening Ceremonies		8:30AM
\$50.00	\$55.00		Scallywag Hunt		9:00AM
			Peg Leg		11:00AM
Ages 0-5 \$5.00	Ages 6-11 \$10.00		Little Swashbucklers		1:30PM
\$50.00	\$55.00		Polly Wants some Silver		3:00PM
\$30.00	\$35.00		Treasure Island Surprise		After sunset
			Sunday Hunt Events		
\$50.00	\$55.00		Rat's Hidden Treasure		8:30AM
Free	Free		Kiddies Hoard		9:30AM
\$50.00	\$55.00		X Marks the Spot		10:30AM
			Closing Ceremonies		12:30AM

Chairman

Matt Armes 509-680-0899

Armes.Matt@gmail.com

Chairman

Charles Kyle 509-505-3349

Charleskyle84@yahoo.com

Registration

Linda Scott 509-995-4268

Bottles1950@gmail.com

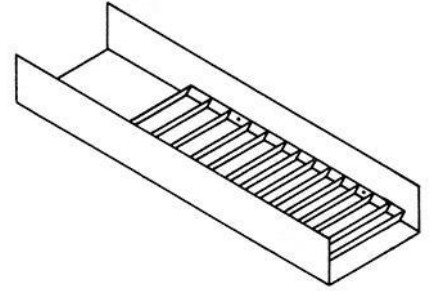
- All entries received by 1/31/2023 will be entered in a drawing to receive 50% of their entry fee returned and entered in the Silver round drawing.
- All entries received by 5/31/2023 will be entered in a drawing for 1 of 5 Silver rounds.

Check us out on Facebook at – Northwest Treasure Hunters Club Spokane





444 Winchester PMB 12-D,
Roseburg, OR 97470



THE SLUICE BOX

January of 2023

DCPA meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Pine Grove Community Church, 1729 Buckhorn Road, Roseburg, OR 97470 at 7:00 pm. The Board of Directors meeting is at 6 and is open to all members. The Potluck starts at 6:30.

Dues are \$20 per year and are the same for single members or families. Renewed in January. Late after the March meeting.

Sunshine: If you know of anyone who is ill or has had a death in the family, etc., let me know so I can send them a card. Walt: 541-315-2030 or dcpagold@gmail.com

A Message from the President:

I hope this finds everyone in good Health and Spirits!

It's a new year and there's so much ahead. We've incorporated Rock Hounding and Metal Detecting into our Outings.

We're going to investigate trying a few Gold Panning Booths to gain new members. Now that the Raffle is back, you can receive five extra tickets to the **Main Raffle** for bringing a guest.

I'm going to try and stay on top of having some sort of Education Program for the Meetings.

Until next time, may you always find Gold at the bottom of your pan.

Walt

541-315-2030

dcpagold@gmail.com

Claims: The BLM has removed Owners' names and addresses from their Database. This is to comply with As I mentioned before, all our Annual Assessment paperwork has been submitted to the BLM and their website has been updated. Here's an excerpt from their website:

Claims (cont.):

“Under a recent BLM privacy review, names and addresses in all personal accounts within MLRS and LR2000 were newly considered to be Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and thus subject to certain [Privacy Act](#) requirements. While this information remains publicly available under the routine uses contained in [BLM System of Records Notice \(SORN\) LLM32](#), to disclose it the BLM must be able to account for any such disclosures. In other words, if someone asks for or looks up your personal name and address, to comply with the Privacy Act the BLM must be able to log and track that request before providing that information.”

You can read it in its entirety here:

[Update on the Mineral & Land Records System \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

What’s really irritating is that this is supposed to be Public Information. It allows folks to seek out claim owners and either ask whether the claim might be for sale or permission to prospect or mine there.

Legislation: PLP: We met our \$3000 goal! Public Lands for the People has started the necessary research to get us back in the water. This in no way guarantees that we’ll find anything in the state’s Statutes. However, I’ve heard from more than one person that Oregon had a Reclamation Dredge permit available as opposed to a DEQ NPDES 700 (Pollution Discharge Permit). It will take them at least 3 to 4 months before they’ll be able to report any findings, so please be patient.

Please continue to support them. A single membership is \$50 and will allow you to legally dredge in California. The Klamath river is just below the border, only a few hours away for most of us. If you’re a New 49er member, they have claims near the Rest Area on I-5. You can get an Associate membership online for \$150. It allows you to go to all their outings for free and one week on any of their properties. For LDMA/GPAA members, you’ll have to travel a little farther south. You could also join the Shasta Miners club in Redding. Don’t forget Republic Mining and Prospecting Association. They have claims there also! Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen!

Withdrawn Areas in Southern Oregon: Recently, several of the gold-bearing rivers and creeks in Southern Oregon have been either changed to Essential Salmon Habitat or added to Oregon’s National Wild and Scenic Illinois Rivers. I just found this out and have not had sufficient time to investigate. The bottom line is the state usually has Public Comment Hearings and periods of time to respond and contest. While the state contends to have followed those guidelines, claim owners complain that they never gave constructive notice!

Withdrawn Areas in Southern Oregon (cont.)

Senate Bill 3 left only 7% of the waterways open to dredging with a designation of Non-Essential Salmon Habitat. I believe this to be considered a loophole in the state's desire to shut down in-stream mining in Oregon altogether. Two or three years ago they closed the Bohemia Mining District to dredging as our tailings are polluting Dorena Reservoir. I got the impression that the state Department of Environmental Quality aka DEQ, is systematically shutting down the few areas still open to Motorized Mining, especially Suction Gold dredging.

Christmas Party: There was lots of food and fun! The gift exchange was amusing, to say the least. I learned the hard way not to speak too soon. I jokingly told the picker of the Quit ticket I'd give them \$20 if pulled mine out. Needless to say, I was the winner and \$20 poorer!

Outings: Our Outing/Meeting last month was our Annual Christmas Party.

This month we're going to the Crater Rock Museum in Central Point. We'll meet at the McDonalds, off the 103 Riddle Exit @ 9:00 a.m. and caravan down. They open at 10. Weather permitting, we may head over to the Gold Nugget Wayside near Gold Hill and do a little prospecting if we have time afterward.

In the past, we've had outings planned for the whole year and published a list for reference. The upside is members would know ahead of time where we're going and when. On the other hand, if we plan as we go, we can look at weather conditions ahead of time and choose activities accordingly. That way we don't have to go in bad weather or cancel altogether!

I'd like to have a Clean-up show and tell. Folks could bring in their favorite Concentrate Processing Equipment so that others, new people especially, can get a glimpse at the latest offerings. We also discussed having a Swap Meet, where members could unload and/or acquire used gear. Later in the year, we'll be visiting the Bohemia Gold Mining Museum in Cottage Grove with a trip out to my shared claim on Sharps Creek afterward.

North Bend Prospectors used to have an annual campout at Foster's Bar on the Coast. Jim and Diane also had one at their place out in Umpqua. Is anybody interested in a Weekend Outing? Depending on the time of year, Umpqua Gold is nice and plentiful!

We also need to visit each of our claims at least once to take care of the Annual Maintenance Work.

Report: Crater Rock Museum, January 14th

A handful of us met at the Mickey Ds off the Riddle exit, then caravanned down to the Crater Rock Museum in Central Point. The crater Rock Museum is 81,000 square feet of displays, many of which are individual or club donations.

Report: Crater Rock Museum cont.)

Afterward, we stopped by the Gold Nugget Wayside, an “Open to the Public” Prospecting area that is 2.4 miles out of Gold Hill on the Rogue-Umpqua Scenic Byway (Highway 234). This on the Rogue River. There were a few gravel areas but some close to the shore seemed to be mixed with cement to keep them from eroding.

There were areas up on the bank; you could tell by where the debris is in the trees and bushes, how high the water gets. We all tried a few places but didn’t have much luck before the rain started. I found a hole in a tree trunk with rocks and sand in it. The only thing I forgot was a bucket so panned some of it out. If there was any in there, it was too small to see with the naked eye.

I’m thinking about us having a lecture at our next meeting on “How to read a River” followed by a caravan to different areas to see the “before” effects of where the gold would land.



The Travelers



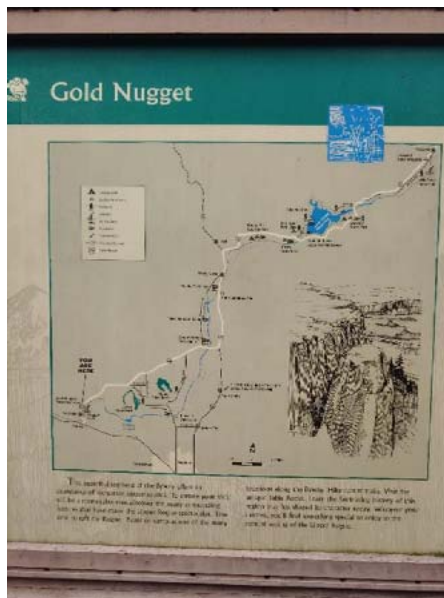
Nice Gold Display



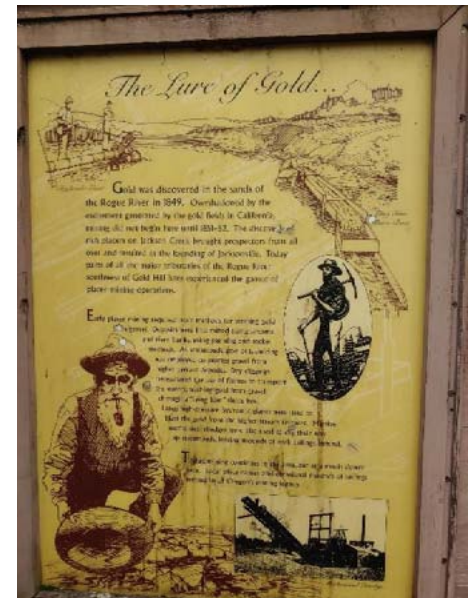
Barbara Trying Her Luck



Floyd Sampling Black Sand



Historical Sign #1



Historical Sign #2

You can view more photos in our Face Book Page Albums under the Media Tab.

Education: Gold Detecting in Oregon by Walt Evens

Threshold: A Gold Detector has a background hum that it uses as a reference point. You're after anything that interrupts it and causes it to make a sound. This is referred to as the Threshold because you set it at the "Threshold" of your hearing. In other words, as soft as you can and still hear it. Some general-purpose machines have it, also.

Ground Balance: In order for a Detector to see a Metal Object properly, it needs to cancel out the Minerals in the ground that would create "False" Signals. This is called Ground Balancing. Back in the day, this was done manually. You turned it on, adjusted the Threshold, and pumped the coil up and down a few inches. There was an adjustment knob or two. If it made a louder noise going down to the ground, you turned it down. If it made a louder noise going up in the air, you turned it up. The goal was to set it so there is no change in the hum in either direction. The Fisher Gold Bug 2 still uses this method. Most machines these days are automatic. You either press a button and bounce the coil up and down, or you do nothing, and it does it for you. Some even have Auto-Tracking which reads the ground and adjusts it as you go. Others have the ability to do both.

Conductivity: A metal detector measures the way a target conducts electricity. Some elements work better for that than others. Iron, Silver, and Copper are great conductors. Aluminum, Gold, and Nickel are not. They only put Gold on Cable TV Parts because it doesn't rust or corrode. There are two types of metal detector technology, Very Low Frequency, or VLF, and Pulse Induction, or PI.

Frequency: VLF uses a radio frequency, measured in Kilohertz to create the Magnetic Field that passes over a Metal Object and sets it off. The pros are sensitivity to smaller less conductive metals like gold, and less expensive. The cons are lack of substantial depth and susceptibility to overdoses of mineralization. PIs use a series of pulses to create the Magnetic Field. The Pros are that it handles high amounts of Mineralization and has great Depth. The cons are they're more expensive and until recently, were useless on small gold.

Types of Gold:

Placer: Gold that's been weathered out of the rock and dispersed in streams and dry washes. This is what most of us are looking for!

Lode: Gold that's still locked up in the rock. We're after "Free Milling" gold. In other words, nothing that's microscopic and must be processed with chemicals

Areas: I was once told by a reliable source that the Placer Gold in Oregon is fine with some flakes and an occasional picker. Not the kind Nugget Hunting stories are written about. Is a Metal detector a waste of time then? Not necessarily.

Education (cont.):

Most modern Gold Detectors have a readout for the Ground Phase, in other words, the amount of mineralization present. As a result, one could find concentrations of Black Sand where the gold could be hiding.

Another method is to scan the cracks and other anomalies in the bedrock in search of rusty iron, fishing weights, bullet fragments, and shotgun bee bees. If you're finding these then gold should be there also.

There **IS** detectable Gold in Oregon. With the exception of the Southwestern and Eastern portions, most of it is so brushy, it's impossible to hunt. Even if a fire goes through and burns everything on the ground, you still may not be able to hunt it.

Is anybody here old enough to remember Carbon Core Suppressor Spark Plug Wires? You had to use them in the 70s so you didn't hear your engine through your tape deck. Charcoal which is carbon conducts electricity and would be so noisy that you wouldn't hear a nugget if it rolled up and bit you on the toe! There **IS** a guy in Northern California who successfully hunts in burned-out areas. He's either using a Higher Frequency VLF detector with no Threshold or a PI.

Still, there are old Hard Rock Mine Ore Dumps, tailings from Bucket Line Dredge Operations, and the Hydraulic areas that were mined with high-pressure Spray Nozzles that washed away hillsides and ran them through Sluice Boxes. Southern Oregon is Pocket Gold County. Many of these have been found with large amounts of gold in them.

The pros of Gold Detecting are that you usually find bigger pieces than you do panning or sluicing and there are no government laws against their use. However, there are restricted areas such as National Monuments. The cons are, you don't always come home with gold, it takes a bit of time, practice, and patience to look for nuggets, and some can be quite expensive. Before you learn what gold sounds like, you must first learn what it doesn't sound like! If you're not sure which type of technology you need, Use a VLF when you can and a PI when you must. You'll know when that happens!

Research: Internet search engines like Google have made this so much easier.

Shorty's not so lost Mine of Southern Oregon, available from Amazon

Tom Bohmker's Elusive Pocket Gold Deposits of Southwestern Oregon,

Finding Pocket Gold in California's Klamath Mountains. All of Tom's books are available from goldpannersguide.com

Education (cont.):

Research (cont.): USGS Publications: There are reprints of these for every state with gold in it and sometimes by county. I recently picked this one up, Mineral Resources in Douglas County Oregon; from abebooks.com

Internet: Western Mining History, Oregon Geology.org, Oregon gold.net, mindat.org to name a few.

Mike Wagoner: We lost this long-time member on January 9th. He was gracious enough to allow us to use his claim. If you're inclined to do so, please pray for his family.

GPAA Gold Shows: The organization has decided to do away with its Gold and Treasure shows. Their hope is that the Chapters will band together and put them on instead. I spoke with President Brandon Johnson at the Portland show. When asked about the effect Covid had on their bottom line without the shows, he told me they weren't money-makers.

AK/AU Special Gold Trip: Emily Riedel and her husband, Alex are Sponsoring a week-long Gold Trip to AK/AU Gold Camp in Nome. This is all-inclusive, so includes all their activities, 4-Wheeler, Kayaking, Metal Detecting, Fishing, etc. As a result, it's about twice the price of a normal week there. Plus, you get to hang out with the Reality TV Stars and tour their dredge, the Eroica. It's limited to 20 people. As of Saturday, the 7th, they only had 5 spots left.

Miner's Mall: This is a monthly classified advertising area for members who want to buy or sell prospecting and mining equipment. This is for members only. No retailers, please. However, if you're a vendor and the item is used, we don't see why we can't post it.

If you have an ad in here and the item has sold or you know the person and know it has sold, please let me know. E-mail them to Walt: dcpagold@gmail.com Send photos if you like. I'll get them in. If you don't have an e-mail, then call me at 541-315-2030 and we'll work something out.

For Sale by Walt @ 541-315-2030: We usually don't allow Commercial listings, but Nokta Makro has discontinued their 61kHz Gold Kruzer. It's waterproof to 16'. It has Auto Ground Balance with Tracking. It comes with Wireless Headphones, two coils, and a two-year warranty. You would need the wired headphones to submerge the Control Housing as Wi-Fi doesn't work underwater; **\$375, is a 50% savings!**

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>



Sponsors and Member Businesses



**SUMMIT
TRAILER**

Greg Swanson
greg@summittrailerfmfg.com 503-804-8239

4530 NE 148TH AVE
PORTLAND, OR 97230 971-279-2176

971-279-2006 summittrailerfmfg.com

**Prospector's
Treasure Trove**



www.prospectorst treasure.com



**OREGON TRAIL CHAPTER
KOREAN WAR VETERANS**

4TH TUESDAY
OF THE MONTH
12:00 NOON
DENNY'S CLACKAMAS

P.O. BOX 25
GLADSTONE, OREGON
97027
15815 SE 82ND DRIVE



Menziesii Metals
Jewelry & metalwork
Cindy Wright
West Linn, Oregon
503.701.3073
Etsy; MenziesiiMetals



Sponsors of Tomorrow.™

GOLD RUSH
Trading Post



**Chinook Winds
CASINO RESORT**

1777 NW 44TH STREET • LINCOLN CITY, OREGON 97367-5094
CASINO - 1-888-CHINOOK • (541) 996-5825 • FAX (541) 996-5852
HOTEL - 1-877-4 BEACH 1 • (541) 994-3655
WWW.CHINOOKWINDSCASINO.COM