

The Prospector

Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.

GPA Portland, Oregon Chapter



President's Corner

June 2024

June, 2024

Hi everyone,

I hope everyone is gearing up for their next club outing. There is a LOT to choose from including the fast approaching TYROY. Let's get those shovels in some dirt!

The busy season means there are many ways you can contribute to making our time together enjoyable. Please be ready to pitch in, or at least be flexible and patient with those who stepped up to help organize our events and meetings. Like my good ol' gram liked to say, "the easier you are to please... the more pleased you will be."

Be on the lookout for our snazzy new Portland Prospectors' t-shirts. Thanks to Jessyca who saw a fun opportunity to support the club and made it happen. We sure appreciate it.

A note about our meeting venue: Our agreement with the church runs through September. Our plan is to make a smooth transition to the new facility starting with our October meeting. We have a short list of venue options, but are open to more ideas. If you know of a great place for our meetings, please let us know. We are especially interested in spaces between here and Interstate 5.

See you at the meeting, Sunday, June 16,

John Mink

TYROY update from Jerry Johns:

Exciting times....TYROY is just around the corner. The outing dates are technically Jun 21st thru Aug 7th, but the first two days and the last two days are reserved for opening up the site and closing it back down. You can join us for a single day (although it's a 5+ hour drive over) or for the whole two weeks. We will have a group potluck Saturday June 29th and a trip into town for a steak dinner will be planned at some point. Join us at our next two meetings for details on the outing and get ready for some summer prospecting.



Coming Events

TY Roy

Friday June 21 – Sunday July 7

Tentative: Beach mining

August 24 or 25

Tentative: Barton Park

September 22



UK's 'largest' gold nugget discovered in Scottish river in 2019

Weighing 121.3g, the gold was found in two pieces and has earned the nickname [The Reunion Nugget](#).

From the Editor:

I've been producing the newsletter for seven years and it's time for me to pass it on to someone else. If you're interested please contact me via my email: wrshpmzshn@gmail.com

Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc. Secretary's Report May 19, 2024

Eastridge Church
14100 SE Sunnyside Rd.
Clackamas, Oregon 97015

2024 Portland Gold Prospectors Board of Directors

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John Mink 971-303-6677
minkjem1@gmail.com

Vice President:

Mark Kirk
mvkirk@frontier.com

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Jessyca Harman
jessycaharman@gmail.com

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huffy54.outlook.com

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

Newsletter and Website:

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

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

Attendees - 65 attendees and 3 guests were present.

Treasury Report - A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasury Report that Jessyca read for the months of April and May.

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

Metal Detecting Event - Last month's metal detecting event after the meeting was fun for everyone. A bunch of people participated and had a good time. Thanks to Dan Rouse for putting on the event.

Lawson Bar Outing - The recent Lawson Bar outing wasn't the best weather because of all the rain but that didn't stop about 100 people from coming out and playing in the dirt. A bunch of people found some color and some people even brought their metal detectors. Once again, a big Thank You to Dan Rouse for hosting this fun event.

Public Lands for the People - Our club is officially a member again with this great organization. They have been busy working on protecting miners rights and recently have paved a path for suction dredging in Oregon.

End of Summer Picnic - We will be having our end of summer picnic again this year in September at Barton Park and am looking for someone to volunteer to organize it. If this is something that you are interested in doing just let our President know.

Gold Bags - Our gold bags are now \$30 each because of the high price of gold and it's costing Ken quite a bit more to purchase it.

Raffle for Public Lands for the People - We are selling raffle tickets for the Public Lands for the People raffle. The drawing will be on August 4th. You can buy 12 tickets for only \$10. If interested in purchasing some tickets contact Jessyca. There are a lot of great prizes to be won.

OnX Offroad - This is a great app that you can download to your phone. It helps you find and plan trails, routes and recreation points for ATV, dirt bike, UTV, 4 X 4's and snowmobiles. It costs \$39.99 a year. Check it out on the internet for a free trial period.

Prospector's Treasure Trove - Dan brought some of his highbankers that he is selling at his shop. It's the perfect time to buy some mining equipment from him so you can use it at our upcoming TyRoy outing. He is also selling his hats for \$10.

Membership Cards - Gretchen has been doing the membership cards for over 6 years now so it's time for her to be turning this task over to someone else in July. Jessyca has volunteered to take over this position temporarily until someone else will commit to this.

\$10 Raffle - We had the drawing for the 3 month raffle which was for the Gold Hog, Metal Detector and Silver Coins. Mark Kirk was the lucky winner of the Silver Coins and a couple other guys won the Gold Hog and the Metal Detector.

Raffle - The Raffle was held with \$5 tickets. Andrew Cain was the lucky winner of the Gold Nugget and another gentleman was the winner of the Gold Bag.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Yolande Kragerud, Secretary.

Fair warning: This one makes grown men choke up.

Big Wicked Bill

by Stuart Hamblen

Sometimes in the hush of an evening,
When the winds have gone tired and are stilled;
By the fire I sit dozing and dreaming,
Letting Memory bring back what she will.

She often holds back the curtain of time,
And my heart grows warm when I see:
A sleigh running light over glistening snows,
Just as real as it used to be.

I hear the cry of “Mush!” as a whip licks out,
And cracks like the shot of a gun.
A malemute team coming straight towards me,
Eight dogs and all on the run.

The leader is big and he comes running low,
Pulling that sleigh with a will.
Time never can dim the mem’ry of him:
My lead dog, Big Wicked Bill.

The driver seems worried as he hurries his team,
In fear he keeps looking back.
And as night closes in he hears it again:
The cry of a killer wolf pack.

Then the Northern Lights come out to play,
Like fingers they feel for the sky.
And the driver screams “Mush!” to his weary team,
“You mush or we all got to die!”

The moon looks down on that race of death,
At the wolf pack closin’ in.
And the driver knows if his lead dog falls,
The battle is over for them.

’Til his rifle is empty he drives them off.
Then unafraid they close in for the kill.
Then helpless, he knows his own life depends
On the fangs of Big Wicked Bill.

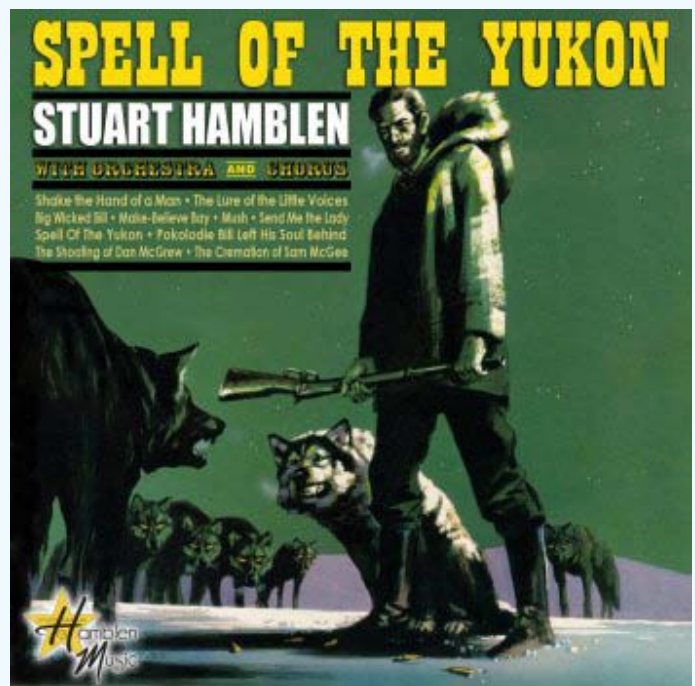
But still running strong Big Bill fights them off,
Right up to the cabin door.
When I get him inside, I soon realize,
Big Bill won’t fight anymore.

“Wicked” I’d named him when he was a pup,
“Wicked”, ’cause he loved so to fight.
But because he stood off that killer wolf pack,
I had lived through a terrible night.

If you’ve never owned a big malemute,
Perhaps you can’t understand:
That ol’ longing I get, ’specially at night,
Just to feel his big head in my hands.

So at times in the hush of an evening,
When the winds have grown tired and
are stilled,
I sit here, just waiting for Memory to call,
Just hoping she’ll bring Big Wicked Bill.

[Click here to listen to Stuart Hamblen
read this poem](#)



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

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