



The Prospector

Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.

GPA Portland, Oregon Chapter



August, 2024

New Meeting Location

Starting this month we will be meeting at our new location in the Sunnyside Grange

13130 SE Sunnyside Rd.
Clackamas, OR 97015

Looking forward to seeing you there!



Photo from [Rare Gold Nuggets](https://www.raregoldnuggets.com/) website.
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President's Corner July 2024

Hear ye, hear ye;

Please come to our meeting August 18, 1:30 pm PDT at our NEW LOCATION;

**13130 SE Sunnyside Rd.
Clackamas, OR 97015**

That is the most important info, just get yourself to the right place at the right time.

I hope you are all tangled in your crazy summer like me. I am fresh off the Alcan Highway.

Please bring along your patience as we navigate this new space. And some stories about your summer so far.

I hope to see you all there

John Mink

Coming Events

Pacific Northwest Miner's Rally (See pg 7)
August 23-25

Tentative: Beach mining at Long Beach
August 24

Clean Up at Prosector's Treasure Trove
August 31

Tentative: Barton Park
September 22

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 July 21, 2024

Eastridge Church
14100 SE Sunnyside Rd.
Clackamas, Oregon 97015

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

Attendees - 48 attendees and 2 guests were present.

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

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

TyRoy - The big outing was an overall success this year. Jerry Johns said that we had a total of about 80 people show up over the 2 week period. This is definitely the biggest turnout of people ever! Everyone that went found some color and enjoyed themselves. We want to give a big shoutout to Les Currier and his son Zeke. Without these 2 guys we wouldn't of had the paydirt to run. They worked from morning to dusk to accomodate everyone. These guys are awesome!

Cleanup Party - Dan Rouse is hosting a cleanup party at his shop on Saturday July 27th from 10:00 until 5:00 for anybody that would like to attend. Just bring your material from TyRoy that you brought back. There will be some metal detecting going on also. It will be a fun social event.

Public Lands for the People - It's getting near the last minute to purchase some raffle tickets for the Public Lands for the People raffle which is going to be on August 4th. They are giving away a bunch of different prizes. They are only \$10 for 12 tickets.

New Venue - Today is our last day here at the church so we will start meeting next month at the Sunnyside Grange which is located on 132nd and Sunnyside Rd. After our meeting today we will be packing up all our stuff that we have here at the church.

Prospector Days at the Rice Museum - Our club set up a booth at the Rice Museum for Prospector Days and we sold some raffle tickets for some prizes and we had some fun activities for kids. We met some nice people and enjoyed ourselves.

August Outings - On August 2nd there will be a campout at Lawson Bar at the Myrtle Creek Campground. On August 10th there will be an outing at Daybreak Park. On August 24th there is going to be a beach mining outing at Long Beach. Last but not least Dan will be hosting another cleanup party at his shop on August 31st.

Raffle - We had the special raffle for the big bag of Paydirt, the Liberty Silver Coin and the Silver Certificate. Dan Rouse won the Silver Certificate and Mike was the lucky winner of the bag of Paydirt and the Liberty Silver Coin.

\$5 Raffle - Cindy Wright was the lucky winner of the Gold Bag.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 2:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Yolande Kragerud, Secretary.





Photos this page by Mark Kirk

The Cremation of Sam McGee

By Robert Service

*There are strange things done in the midnight sun
By the men who toil for gold;
The Arctic trails have their secret tales
That would make your blood run cold;
The Northern Lights have seen queer sights,
But the queerest they ever did see
Was that night on the marge of Lake Lebarge
I cremated Sam McGee.*

Now Sam McGee was from Tennessee, where the cotton blooms and blows.
Why he left his home in the South to roam 'round the Pole, God only knows.
He was always cold, but the land of gold seemed to hold him like a spell;
Though he'd often say in his homely way that "he'd sooner live in hell."

On a Christmas Day we were mushing our way over the Dawson trail.
Talk of your cold! through the parka's fold it stabbed like a driven nail.
If our eyes we'd close, then the lashes froze till sometimes we couldn't see;
It wasn't much fun, but the only one to whimper was Sam McGee.

And that very night, as we lay packed tight in our robes beneath the snow,
And the dogs were fed, and the stars o'erhead were dancing heel and toe,
He turned to me, and "Cap," says he, "I'll cash in this trip, I guess;
And if I do, I'm asking that you won't refuse my last request."

Well, he seemed so low that I couldn't say no; then he says with a sort of moan:
"It's the cursed cold, and it's got right hold till I'm chilled clean through to the bone.
Yet 'tain't being dead—it's my awful dread of the icy grave that pains;
So I want you to swear that, foul or fair, you'll cremate my last remains."

A pal's last need is a thing to heed, so I swore I would not fail;
And we started on at the streak of dawn; but God! he looked ghastly pale.
He crouched on the sleigh, and he raved all day of his home in Tennessee;
And before nightfall a corpse was all that was left of Sam McGee.

There wasn't a breath in that land of death, and I hurried, horror-driven,
With a corpse half hid that I couldn't get rid, because of a promise given;
It was lashed to the sleigh, and it seemed to say: "You may tax your brawn and brains,
But you promised true, and it's up to you to cremate those last remains."

Now a promise made is a debt unpaid, and the trail has its own stern code.
In the days to come, though my lips were dumb, in my heart how I cursed that load.

In the long, long night, by the lone firelight, while the huskies, round in a ring,
Howled out their woes to the homeless snows— O God! how I loathed the thing.

And every day that quiet clay seemed to heavy and heavier grow;
And on I went, though the dogs were spent and the grub was getting low;
The trail was bad, and I felt half mad, but I swore I would not give in;
And I'd often sing to the hateful thing, and it hearkened with a grin.

Till I came to the marge of Lake Lebarge, and a derelict there lay;
It was jammed in the ice, but I saw in a trice it was called the "Alice May."
And I looked at it, and I thought a bit, and I looked at my frozen chum;
Then "Here," said I, with a sudden cry, "is my cre-ma-tor-eum."

Some planks I tore from the cabin floor, and I lit the boiler fire;
Some coal I found that was lying around, and I heaped the fuel higher;
The flames just soared, and the furnace roared—such a blaze you seldom see;
And I burrowed a hole in the glowing coal, and I stuffed in Sam McGee.

Then I made a hike, for I didn't like to hear him sizzle so;
And the heavens scowled, and the huskies howled, and the wind began to blow.
It was icy cold, but the hot sweat rolled down my cheeks, and I don't know why;
And the greasy smoke in an inky cloak went streaking down the sky.

I do not know how long in the snow I wrestled with grisly fear;
But the stars came out and they danced about ere again I ventured near;
I was sick with dread, but I bravely said: "I'll just take a peep inside.
I guess he's cooked, and it's time I looked"; ... then the door I opened wide.

And there sat Sam, looking cool and calm, in the heart of the furnace roar;
And he wore a smile you could see a mile, and he said: "Please close that door.
It's fine in here, but I greatly fear you'll let in the cold and storm—
Since I left Plumtree, down in Tennessee, it's the first time I've been warm."

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Free Public Admission!!

Pacific Northwest

Miner's Rally 2024

A Rendezvous of Northwest Mining Districts

August 23, 24 & 25

Fri. 10:00–5:00, Sat. 9:00–5:00, Sun. 9:00–3:00

In Historic Liberty, WA

Experience:

- **Learn How to Start Prospecting & Mining**
- **Mineral & Rockhounding Displays**
- **Gold Panning Booth**
- **Metal Detecting Hunt**
- **Equipment Demonstrations**
- **Mining & Mineral Clubs**
- **Outdoor Sports & Recreation Vendors**
- **Free Camping!**
- **Kim's Got Smoke BBQ Dinner**
Saturday 6:00 PM



Presentations:

- **Gold Nugget Display**
Liberty Wire Gold & Nuggets
- **Geology Lectures**
Local Geologists
- **Ellensburg Blue Agates**
Carl Carlson/Chris & Andrew Outside
- **Fine Gold Recovery**
Mike Pung
- **Mining Regulatory Issues**
Dennis Peterson & Dave Green
- **Used Mining Equipment**
Consignment Sales

Special Presentation by:
Shane Corson,

Sasquatch Researcher for

The Olympic Project

Hosted By:



www.swaukminingdistrict.org



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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