

THE GOLD PAN

The Newsletter of the
Comstock Gold Prospectors

February 10, 2014



BLACK BILLIE*

Next Meeting February 25, 2014

Speaker: Richard Harris (our club attorney)

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Mark your Calendars !!!)

March Meeting – 03/25/2014

Speaker: Chris Ralph

1 Year Gold – NYSE

<u>02/10/2014 – Last</u>	\$1275.00
One Year High (at closing)	\$1276.00
One Year Low (at closing)	\$1273.00

1 Year Silver – NYSE

<u>02/10/2014 – Last</u>	\$20.06
One Year High (at closing)	\$20.26
One Year Low (at closing)	\$20.02

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

Board Meeting is held at 6:30pm

General Meeting

4th Tuesday of each month

7:30 PM at the

Masonic Wadsworth Lodge #25

2425 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV

*Life/Honorary members need to submit a signed renewal application during the first quarter if you haven't already done so.

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

The newly elected is in place and we are looking forward to serving all in our club. Mainly, we want input from our membership as to the goals and the day to day operations.

We encourage the membership to bring forth ideas and suggestions to any board member either in person, phone or email.

We especially need inputs on future speakers, demos and membership retention. Many of us know people in the “gold community”, who may be willing to give a presentation.

Also there is a wealth of knowledge within our membership. We would greatly appreciate if some of our members would step up and share with us their knowledge and experiences.

You do not need a PhD. in speaking nor should you be reluctant to do a presentation of interest to our fellow club members.

Contact any Board member and we will help in any way. As to the speakers we will be having in the next couple of months. Richard Harris (Our club attorney) will be our guest speaker in February. He will be doing a presentation on “Seven Horrible Ways to Screw up the Small Miners Exemption”. Richard is truly an expert on the Mining Laws. It should be very informative!

Chris Ralph will be our speaker in the month of March.

The membership would also like to thank Webb Varnum for his information on pigmatites.

Webb is a writer of educational material pertaining to the mining industry and a valuable source of information! He has several awards from the California Federation of Mineralogy Society and American Mineralogy Society.

Feel free to approach Webb with questions and samples you may have. If you do bring your samples to Webb, Please tell him where they were found. Thank You, Webb.

We would also like to thank Hugh for bringing in his dry washer and the demo and the origin. It seems to be a well thought out unit. Hugh and Ron have had success with it the first time out- even in material that was not dry!

I believe the dry washer will become more important for our membership given the negative climate in California and us looking for more desert claims in Nevada. Thank You, Hugh!

We would suggest that if any member wants to bring equipment to our meetings. As in detectors, crushers, sluices, etc. Please do. Many of us have not used some of this equipment. It would be beneficial to all for visual and hands on demos!

You would not be required to "schedule" a demo...just show up and you will be accommodated.

Our membership has dropped for 2013 because of the reduction of new members. In 2009 we had 149 new members, 2010 we had 65, 2011 we had 88, in 2013 we had 28!

The reason could be the price of gold and a local GPAA. Just a guess, We need to do things to maintain our membership.

We have had suggestions including inviting family members and friends to the meetings, better raffle items, more speakers, more demos contacting UNR for possible student memberships and speakers, and better outings.

We need your input and will consider all suggestions and present the ideas to our membership for discussion.

Now as to outings, Aubrey has given up the post as Outing Chair. He and Terry got us off to a great start in 2013. We need another chair volunteer to take over the Outings Chair.

This position requires planning and participation by the membership to make outings successful, educational and fruitful. The position may seem Burdensome, but with participation and attendance of our members it would be enjoyable and rewarding.

Remember, the club equipment can only be used at planned club outings. We have invested a considerable amount of money into this equipment. Let's use it!

Speaking of outings, we have signed up for a booth at the 2014 Gold Prospecting and Mining Summit put on by the ICMJ at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds in Placerville, Ca. This will be Saturday and Sunday, April 5&6.

We need volunteers to host our booth either for the weekend or a few hours a day. We have a volunteer (Ralph Wieser) who will spearhead the event.

This is a great opportunity to view equipment and attend the lectures and hands on events. As an inside, we attended two years ago (last year was cancelled) and signed up 15 new members. Well worth the trip!

The winter has been a dry one and therefore good for prospecting, especially our Nevada claims. It has been rumored that the streams are shallow which enables prospecting in areas that were in deep or underwater. We encourage you to contact members through Facebook, email or phone if you are planning to venture out. The new members would appreciate the opportunity to go out with "experienced" and "seasoned" prospectors.

Our Placerites outing was interesting to say the least! Harley has done extensive research in the area (over 1500 acres). Though 15 claims were already taken, there is a lot more out there.

Feel free to contact Harley and prospect the area. We are looking for another claim, preferably in Nevada. It looks like the licensing of the three claims in the Sacramento valley (Rochester Mining District) will be signed up shortly. If anyone would consider a licensing of your claims to the Club, let us know.

Well, until next time...
Happy Valentine's Day
Your President...Jim Richards

We Tried

By Bill Vogt

In November 2013, Harley Ponsler, Member At Large, brought to the attention of a couple of Claims Committee members that there was an area called the placerities that looked like it was becoming available for claiming.

I met with Harley and Justin Shaw (VP and head of the Claims Committee) and we looked over the data that Harley had. There are 12, 160 acre claims spread across 7 sections that the owners have not filed their 2014 paperwork on.

Harley gave a brief history of the area and we were all in agreement that this was an area the Club would be interested in. We decided that we would try and find a 20 acre area that would be claimed by the Club and the remainder of the area would be opened up to Club members with the hope that some members would want to lease back to the Club.

Weather conditions at the time were not suitable for a field trip so Harley was going to do further research to try and pick the best area for us to check when conditions were better. On December 13 (the day after our Christmas Party) the three of us went to Lovelock to check out things at the recorder's office. We confirmed that the claim holders had not filed their 2014 paper works and also had not sold the claims. We also confirmed that this area had not been re-located.

On January 13, Harley presented his findings to the Claims Committee and it was decided to go to the area on the 17th and check it out. On January 17, the following Club members went to this area to check it out: Ken and Virginia Brown, Steve Clark, Toni Deherra and Al Gottsch, Bob Fainelli, Ed Lifur, Harley Ponsler, Jim Richards, Justin Shaw, Sherm Tresca, and Bill Vogt.

Harley had identified an area where he thought we had a good chance of finding something for the Club. He had split it into three separate areas so we broke into 3 groups and headed for our designated areas. All of a sudden Steve Clark's voice came over our walkie talkies "I have spotted a new claim marker". Then there were other voices with the same bad news.

When we got back together we determined that there were 15 new 20 acre claims located on

December 22 and they pretty much covered the area we were interested in. Harley did have a secondary spot that was broken into two areas so we went to those areas and checked them out. We panned and metal detected for a couple of hours and found virtually nothing.

There was evidence of a lot of dry washing having been done in the area so maybe we need to check that out in the future. For now, the Claims Committee has decided to let all Club members know about this area to get more boots on the ground. Harley gave a presentation at the January meeting and a map of the area was handed out to interested members.

The area under consideration is sections 19, 20, 30, and 31 of T33N, R30E, and section 36 of T33N, R29E, and section 1 of T32N, R29E, and section 6 of T32N, R30E. The previous claim names were Mahogany #1 - #12. There are 2 other claims in this area that are active, Placeritas #1 and #2, as well as the 15 new claims we found at the southern end of this area (MJ-1 through MJ-15).

Club members are encouraged to check this out and if they find an area that they think would be good for the Club they should contact Justin. Also, if any member does locate a claim and would like to consider leasing it back to the Club they should also contact Justin.

In addition, I will be available to help anyone who needs help with locating a claim. The above information and directions from Reno is also included on the map that has been included in this newsletter. Happy Prospecting.

COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

January 28th, 2014

Jim Richards called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Board Members Present: Jim Richards, Nadine Miller, Linalu Bowman, Justin Shaw, Ken Walls and Harley Ponsler.

Motion to call meeting to order: Harley Ponsler
Second: Linalu Bowman
Meeting called to order

Members Present:

Bud Miller, James Bowman and Lisa Walls

Motion to accept correction to the minutes: Nadine Miller
Second: Harley Ponsler
Voted and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Read by Nadine Miller

Motion to accept the treasurer's report: Harley Ponsler
Second: Linalu Bowman
Voted and Accepted

Claims Report:

Justin Shaw: There are 1,900 acres available outside of Placerites near Lovelock.

Motion to accept claims report: Harley Ponsler
Second: Ken Walls
Voted and accepted

Membership Report:

Membership is now at 272. There are 18 lifetime memberships available. 5 members dropped, 3 added.

Motion to accept membership report: Harley Ponsler
Second: Nadine Miller
Voted and Accepted

Old Business:

None

Motion to accept old business: Ken Walls

Second: Harley Ponsler

Voted and accepted

New Business:

Bill for legal fees is \$908.66 for conference on lease agreement.

Membership is low. Maybe we should go to UNR and ask them to attend our meetings. Maybe we can offer a student discount.

Arrange more outings, get better raffle prizes. Maybe get a signup sheet for members to demonstrate what they know at meetings and outings. We got 15 new members last year.

ICMJ: let's get a booth for new members from California and maybe Quincy and Auburn areas. Ask for student speakers at UNR for our meetings. We can also advertise on Craig's List.

Reno Gold show: we need a booth.

Mining Journal: April 5-6, 10-5 Sat/Sun 10-4.

Placerville Fairgrounds Gold Show. We need volunteers for 2 days and the club will cover expenses.

Motion to accept new business: Harley Ponsler
Second: Justin Shaw
Voted and accepted

Outings:

No outings are planned at this time. Aubrey has resigned as outings chairperson. We need someone to volunteer as our outings leader.

Motion to accept outings report: Harley Ponsler
Second: Ken Walls
Voted and passed

Motion to Adjourn the Board Meeting:
Harley Ponsler
Second: Nadine Miller
Voted and approved
Board Meeting adjourn at 7:15

Minutes prepared by Linalu Bowman

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Rudy Albitre,	Fernley, NV
George McGee,	Orangevale, CA
Neal Niederman,	South Lake Tahoe, CA
Jon & Marina Thompson,	Larkspur, CA
Keith Warmboe,	Placerville, CA
Steve Weiler,	Boyes Hot Springs, CA

**COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**

January 28th , 2014

Motion to call meeting to order: Al Gottsch

Second: Virginia Brown

Meeting called to order: 7:30pm

President Jim Richards began the meeting at 7:30
PM by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Corrections to Minutes:

Virginia Brown donated the Christmas
decorations to the club, not loaned.

Motion to accept minutes: Teresa Jones

Second: Grant Garrison

Voted and Accepted

Treasurer's Report: Read by Nadine Miller

Motion to accept: Al Gottsch

Second: Ken Brown

Voted and Accepted

Membership Report:

Membership is now at 272. There are 18
lifetime memberships available. 5 have
dropped, and 3 added.

Motion to Accept Membership Report: Al Gottsch

Second: Lisa Walls

Voted and Accepted

Claims Report: By Justin Shaw

There are 1,900 acres available for claims in
Placeritas near Lovelock. Harry Ponsler brought
this to the clubs attention.

After several trips to Lovelock and the court
house, the club was ready to stake a claim when
someone else beat them to it by 2 weeks.

Over half of area is still available. Lots of
sampling holes were done, but no bedrock in
sight. This area is all 2 wheel drive and good
roads when dry. Maps are available, talk to
Harley for more information.

Thank you for turning in assessment forms.

Motion to Accept the Claims Report: Virginia
Brown

Second: Grant Garrison

Voted and Accepted

Old Business:

Bill Vogt: Our historian, Picture albums are
up to date. When on outings please take
pictures.

Bill Vogt and Al Gottsch attended a
meeting in Bridgeport to stop the hold on
and removal of access to 1.8 million acres
because of a blue-legged frog.

This will close all roads and campsites.
Next meeting will be in Sacramento if you
can attend.

All information is on the web at the
Northern Alliance.

Brandon Rhinehart: (the illegal dredger in California) has filed his appeal. He is now 2 to 3K in the hole.

Any donations can be given to Bill Vogt for forwarding. The environmentalists are after him first and then all of us.

Motion to accept Old Business report: Grant Garrison
Second: Virginia Brown
Voted and accepted

Outings:

No outings scheduled at this time. Aubrey has resigned as outings leader, we need a volunteer.

Motion to accept Outing Report: Al Gottsch

Second: Virginia Brown

Voted and accepted

New Business:

ICMJ: Placerville fairgrounds April 5-6 Sat 10-5 and Sun 10-4 we will get a booth. Volunteers to set up and man demonstration at clubs expense will be Ralph Wiesor, Bill and Irene Vogt, Ken and Virginia Brown will help on Sunday.

Sweet Potato is still very icy and slippery.

New Members: We need more raffles, possibly better raffles, and more outings.

Jim Richards will be going to talk to the professor of mines at UNR, maybe get a student body who may wish to come in as a guest speaker. We could possibly give the UNR students ½ off for membership, maybe even place maps and fliers in the booth on campus on Parr Blvd.

Motion to accept new business: Grant Garrison
Second: Webb Varnum
Voted and accepted

Club Notices:

Post on Facebook when you are planning on making a trip to our claims. Maybe have a mini group. Please pick up your trash.

Hugh Ezell demonstrated a dry-washer built by Bruce Avery. A 12 volt and/or hand crank, easy clean out, 40 pounds, and very quiet, price \$750. Contact Hugh Ezell for more details.

If anyone's phone number or e-mail has changed since you signed up, please let Bill Vogt aware.

Guest speaker for Feb: Richard Harris on how to blow a claim.
March: Chris Rolf.

We would like to Thank Irene Vogt for her yummy oatmeal raisin cookies. Anyone who would like to bring something, contact Bill Vogt.

Motion to accept club notices: Webb Varnum
Second: Al Gottsch
Voted and accepted

Speaker: Webb Varnum

Spoke on pigmatites and the minerals found in them. We are prospectors, not just miners. For specimen and mineral identification call Webb.

Attendance Drawing: Gary Dickerson won one ounce of silver, CONGRATS!!

Membership Drawing: James Wisor was not present, next month the drawing goes to 2.

Guests: Erwin Kingsley and Diane Albrecht

Thank you for attending our meeting, hope you had a good time, love to see you again.

Meeting Adjourned:

Motion to adjourn meeting: Nadine Miller
Second: Al Gottsch
Meeting adjourned : 8:20pm

Guests: 2

Minutes prepared by Linalu Bowman.

We now have new clothing and accessories available for Men and Women. Stop by the table and check it out. Thank You, Debbie Morrow!!!



Board of Directors – 2013

President: Jim Richards - 775/225-2494
Email: rsmokinguns@yahoo.com

Vice President:
Justin Shaw- 702/701-1370
Email: justbcuz147@gmail.com

Secretary: Linalu Bowman - 775/337-6100
Email: renoclutchbrake@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Nadine Miller - 775/867-3550
Email: nmiller@cccomm.net

Member at Large: Ken Walls- 775/846-6357
Email: eurekaprospecting@gmail.com

Presidential Appointees - Support Staff:

Membership/Chairperson & Historian: Bill Vogt - 775/747-3145
Email: wvogt@sbcglobal.net

Facebook Co-Administrator/Newsletter Editor:
Lisa Walls - 714/742-3024

Email: comstockgoldprospectors@gmail.com

Clothing Custodian: Debbie Morrow-775-425-1727 Home/ 775-846-4388 Cell
Email: mсмоosenv@yahoo.com

Equip. Custodian & Raffle Coord.
Mike Maxwell – 775/348-1620
Email: mdmbfd@att.net

Sargeant of Arms: Jim Bowman – 775-337-6100
Email: renoclutchbrake@sbcglobal.net

Webmaster and Facebook Administrator:
Leland Wong-775/ 882-5704
Email: llw1345@att.net

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RAFFLE TABLE. . .

Help to pay for the meeting hall. Please remember to contribute. It does not really matter what it is. Clean out your garage. If you don't have a use for it, someone else does. Don't throw it away; put it on the table. One man's garbage is another's man's gold! Thank You!!

Mike Maxwell
Comstock Gold Prospectors
PO Box 20781
Reno NV 89515-0781
Web site: <http://www.cgpgold.org>

TO PLACE OR RENEW A BUSINESS AD:

Send a check to:
Comstock Gold Prospectors
C/O Editor P.O. Box 20781 Reno, NV. 89515-0781 Include your ad layout, and your phone number or email address.

Half Page Ad: \$25.00 per month
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Full Page Ad: \$50.00 per month

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