

THE GOLD PAN

The Newsletter of the
Comstock Gold Prospectors

April 13, 2014



BLACK BILLIE*

Next Meeting April 22, 2014

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Mark your Calendars)

Future Meetings:

May 27, 2014

June 24, 2014

July 22, 2014

1 Year Gold – NYSE

<u>04/13/2014 – Last</u>	\$1318.00
One Year High (at closing)	\$1322.00
One Year Low (at closing)	\$1316.00

1 Year Silver – NYSE

<u>04/13/2014 – Last</u>	\$20.06
One Year High (at closing)	\$20.06
One Year Low (at closing)	\$19.94

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

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

By the time you read this we will have done the Pleasant Valley School panning demo and the ICMJ Summit. Coming up next is the panning demo at the Dayton Valley Days Saturday May 17.

We need about six members to participate in this event. It will be outside at Gold Canyon Creek (site of first gold discovery) in Dayton. The Dayton Historical Society has budgeted \$200 for some gold for the panning and we would like to purchase the gold from our membership.

Let us know if you can help out.

We will be working with the GPAA on a Wounded Warrior outing to one of our claims. Al Gottsch will be coordinating this event. The dates and logistics will have to be worked out before we make a commitment.

After these events (which help to validate our tax exempt status), we will be concentrating on club outings. We still need an outing Chairperson...any volunteers?

There will be a Club outing to examine some possible claims in Rye Patch, probably in May or June. We will have our Club equipment at this prospecting event. Steve Herchbach (new member) replaced Chris Ralph as our speaker this month.

He gave us a great presentation on metal detectors and shared many years of experience with us. How about that 6.5 oz. nugget?! Metal detecting will probably be playing a more important role in our prospecting especially with government agencies becoming more intrusive in our activities!

No permits, very few rules and light and portable. Steve is the go to guy for detectors! Visit his website; detectorprospector.com for info and questions.

I have been following the impact that upcoming government actions will have on our Club and lifestyles. I attended the NV Off High Vehicle commission this month and I am learning what the possible placement of the sage grouse on the endangered species list will have on the use of public

AND private lands. Eleven states (almost all of northern NV) and 15 million acres!

Granted, most of us are apolitical but I believe we should be informed of these upcoming government actions. Our website will have some links posted for information on these subjects and groups that are providing inputs.

In response to some members noting trash on our claims we would encourage our members to do a "walk through" and tidy up a bit, even if it is not our doing.

The "county mounties" are around and if they observe clean areas this is a good thing for all prospectors.

Leave No Trace (LNT.org) provides information on this subject. The government seems to be trying to prevent us from using OUR public lands.

The lower we are on the radar screen the better!
We are looking into a one day Ham radio class. There are Ham repeaters in all of our areas of prospecting. This would be a good and inexpensive emergency tool as well as communicating with your partners. The class is about 7 hours (including 35 question test) with a 95% pass rate.

Dave Book, who is a HAM instructor, will be our guest speaker at the April meeting. He will introduce us to HAM radio and benefits to users.

HAM radio fills the gap between cell phone (non-existent in some areas) and satellite phones (very expensive). Also the initial cost of the radio is about the same as a cell phone with the added benefit of NO subscription fees!

Dave will be conducting a HAM cram course in Virginia City the 31st of May at the Pipers Opera House the cost is \$25 plus \$15 for the test.

You can visit nvcon.org for information. If that does not work for us, he might be able to conduct a class with 20 or so members. He will give us that information at the April meeting.

We would like to thank Linalu for her Gold Miners Vacation story. Thanks Linalu!

If anyone wants to add something to the newsletter, feel free. Also if anyone wants to bring equipment for a demo to a meeting or give a presentation let us know.

Jim Richards

ICMJ Summit Report By Bill Vogt

This year the Club had a booth at the ICMJ Summit in Placerville on April 5 and 6. Attending to the booth on both days were my wife Irene and I along with Ralph Wisner.

Much appreciated relief and help was provided on Saturday by Jim Richards and Justin Shaw and on Sunday by Ken and Virginia Brown.

We were all kept very busy promoting the Club and selling raffle tickets. Our raffle consisted of three prizes. The first place prize was a Falcon MD20 metal detector which was won by Mike Matus of Camino, CA. Mike is also a new member to the Club having joined Sunday, the day of the drawing.

The second place prize was a Blue Bowl and it was won by Laith Leboa (Bo) of Placerville, CA. Bo is also a Life member (#28) who joined in 2005. The third place prize was a membership to our Club and it was won by Arturo (Art) Jimenez and his wife Lisa who are from Elk Grove, CA.

The first and second place prizes for the raffle were provided to the Club by **Ken Walls** at his costs and the money we took in minus costs will be given to Brandon Reinhart to help with his legal defense.

Brandon is the young prospector who was found guilty of dredging without a permit whose conviction is working its way through the appeal process. The handout we gave to visitors to the booth regarding the raffle and Brandon will be available at the next meeting.

At that time it will also be announced how much will be sent to Brandon as the result of our being at the Summit. Brandon was at the Summit on Saturday along with his wife and children and his father. We took the opportunity to get pictures of him with both Jim and Justin.

We can't be certain as to how many people attended the Summit or stopped at our booth but we can provide the following statistics. We sold about 950 raffle tickets. We had a few people who bought one or two and some who bought 24 (\$20.00 worth) but the average was 6 (\$5.00). This would work out to between 150 and 160 visitors bought raffle tickets.

In addition, we handed out about 250 newsletters and a similar number of Brandon write-ups. And finally, we went through two large bags of Costco candy that was donated by Ralph. One statistic that we are really pleased with is we signed up 8 new memberships (3 individual and 5 families).

This is in addition to the new membership that was won. We also got a strong sense that between 5 and 10 others who talked to us would be signing up in the near future.

To help confirm that in the future, we asked them to indicate on the application that they had talked to us at the Summit if they did join.

Several of our new members were steered to us by Tom Williams and other members of his club, Gold Country Treasure Seekers. Tom, who is the President of that club, recently joined our club. His club was actively involved with logistical support for the Summit and they were very helpful to us.

We had many of our members come by and support the raffle. Besides those already mentioned, there was John and Peggy McPherson from Sacramento. John is our volunteer claim custodian for Ken Bennett. He told us that the Forest Service is currently planning to open up the area May 1 and he will keep us posted.

Mike Maxwell, Reno, was there along with his brother and he bought a lot of tickets. Harley Ponsler, Reno, and Tom Knowles, Dayton, were there at about the same time as Tom Newell, Carson City, (we always get these two Toms mixed up). Gary Nielson, Carson City, waved as he went by but we didn't get a chance to talk. Jeff Benik, Reno, stayed long enough for us to get a picture and I am pretty sure I saw Anita Clark, Fernley, but not Steve. I'm sure there were other members but I just didn't spot them or realize that they were members or I have forgotten that I did spot them.

All of us that tended the booth felt that this was very good exposure for our Club. We are very happy with the number of new members that we got and are optimistic that there will be more soon.

Pleasant Valley Elementary 2014 By Bill Vogt

This year's panning demo at Pleasant Valley Elementary School on April 1 was a little chillier and a little snowier than it has been in past years.

Never-the-less, 38 youngsters who were attending Jeff Hiller's Easter break science class braved the elements as members of the Comstock Gold Prospectors helped them learn how to pan for gold.

Manning the pans were Fred Leissler, Jim Richards, Dick Tieben, Sherm Tresca, Webb Varnum, Bill Vogt, David Weingarten, and Keith Wilson. Operating the camera, filling pans and providing support was Irene Vogt. Also on a pan was a friend of the Club and Nadine and Bud Miller, Elise Wiegand (Crickette). Nadine and Bud were

scheduled for panning duty but Nadine became ill at the last moment and asked Crickette to be her substitute.

In addition to the panning demo, the class was treated to a brief discussion about our Club given by Jim Richards and Webb Varnum talked about his favorite subject, rocks.

All the kids found some gold, some pyrite, and some gold colored bb's and appeared to have a good time despite the weather. Some of the gold they found was donated by Dick, Fred and Keith which was very much appreciated. There was some discussion as we were cleaning up that in the future we should consider getting some smaller pans.

Many of these kids are just too small to cope with the larger pans. All of the adults also seem to enjoy themselves despite the weather. Look for pictures of the event on the web, on Facebook, and at the historian table on meeting nights.

COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

March 25th, 2014

Jim Richards called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

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: Justin Shaw

Members Present: Bud Miller and James Bowman

Richard Harris: Sale to non-exempt party should be 60 days not 602 days

Motion to accept correction to the minutes: Ken Walls
Second: Harley Ponsler
Voted and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Read by Nadine Miller

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report: Harley Ponsler
Second: Ken Walls
Voted and Accepted

Claims Report:

Justin Shaw: The placer claims we were looking at in Placeredos were claimed within 90 days.
We owe Jim Allen reimbursement of fees.

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

Membership Report: Nadine Miller

Motion to accept the treasurer's report:
Harley Ponsler
Second: Ken Walls
Voted and Accepted

Claims Report: Justin Shaw

Changes have been made to the leasing agreement with
Jim Allen. Agreement has been signed for Sacramento Canyon claims.

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

Membership Report:

Membership is now at 276. There are 18 lifetime memberships available.
3 members dropped. 4 added. 1 reinstalled.

Motion to accept membership report: Harley Ponsler
Second: Ken Walls
Voted and Accepted

Old Business:

None

Motion to accept old business: Ken Walls
Second: Harley Ponsler
Voted and accepted

New Business:

Jim Richards: suggest we go to Lightening Auction and other auctions to look for raffle items.

Ken Walls: goodie bags are available for clubs, cost \$50 and are worth \$250

Outdoor expo for ham radio instruction, no charge, we will need to pay \$50 for set up items. Anyone interested?

Jim Richards: sage grouse in northwest USA is affecting 15 million acres in 11 states. Also affects ATV, 4x4, off-road, miners, hikers, campers, ranchers and private property.

They live under the sage brush everywhere. Elko is currently killing the ravens because they prey on the sage grouse. Suggest Leland put on our website to inform all people and so that we will know what to look for.

Leave no trace: If you pack nit in pack nit out. Also clean up after others.

Al Gottsch: Wounded Warriors: GPAA and the Reno Metal Detecting and Prospecting Club would like to have an outing, but have no place to go where veterans can approach the creek. Suggest we make Adavone available to them. Also this will help with our 501C status.

Motion to accept New Business: Harley Ponsler
Second: Justin Shaw
Voted and accepted

Outings:

Pleasant Valley School, April 4th, Tuesday, panning for kids demo, from 9 till noon. We need flour gold for the pans.

ICMJ April 5 & 6 in Placerville at El Dorado Fairgrounds

We need a Leader. Demonstrators needed to help new people. Equipment is going to waste as it can only be used on club outings.

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 7:05

Minutes prepared by Linalu Bowman

Motion to call meeting to order: Al Gottsch
Second: Virginia Brown
Meeting called to order:7:30

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

Corrections to Minutes:

Richard Harris: Sale to non-exempt party should be 60 days not 602 days

Motion to accept minutes: Al Gottsch
Second: Ken Brown
Voted and Accepted

Treasurer's Report: Read by Nadine Miller

Motion to accept: Al Gottsch
Second: David Weinhardt
Voted and Accepted

Membership Report:

Membership is now at 276. There are 18 lifetime memberships available. 3 have dropped, and 4 added.

Motion to Accept Membership Report: Al Gottsch

Second: David Weinhardt
Voted and Accepted

Claims Report: Justin Shaw

Justin Shaw: The placer claims we were looking at in Placeredos were claimed within 90 days.

There are over 1300 acres still open for claiming. A post in down at the Tammy and will be repaired on the next visit.

Claims committee meets 2nd Monday of the month at Denny's at Hwy 80 and McCarran at noon all welcome. The next meeting is April 14th. Claims Committee looked at Star Canyon, Did some sampling and found nothing suitable. Star is between Winnemucca and Lovelock.

Anyone interested in sponsoring an activity to sample an area with club equipment for April 26 & 27 at Rye Patch contact Justin. The Tammy is still very wet.

Motion to Accept the Claims Report: David Weinhardt
Second: Al Gottsch
Voted and Accepted

Old Business:

If we go off the small miners waiver as Richard Harris Attorney suggest it would cost us \$5,320 per year.

Please complete all paperwork as work is done.

Motion to accept Old Business report: Al Gottsch
Second: Ken Brown
Voted and accepted.

Outings:

Pleasant Valley school, April 4th, Tuesday, panning for kids demo, from 9 till noon. We need flour gold for the pans. We need 12 volunteers: Who volunteered? Jim Richards, David Weinhardt, Webb Varnum, Bud and Nadine Miller, Ken and Virginia Brown, Al Gottsch, Tony DeHerrera, Sherm Tresca and someone else whose name I didn't get. You only need to pan and interact with the kids. Pans and water will be provided.

ICMJ April 5 & 6 in Placerville at El Dorado Fairgrounds

We need a leader. Demonstrators needed to help new people. Equipment is going to waste as it can only be used on club outings.

Raffle tickets for ICMJ may be sold to members.

Dayton 105th anniversary panning expo May 17th

Rye Patch in September

Webb Varnum is available for rock identification.

Motion to accept Outing Report: Al Gottsch
Second: Nadine Miller
Voted and accepted

New Business:

Outdoor expo for ham radio instruction, no charge, we will need to pay \$50 for set up items. Anyone interested?

Jim Richards: Sage grouse in northwest USA is affecting 15 million acres in 11 states. Also affects ATV, 4x4, off-road, miners, hikers, campers, ranchers and private property.

They live under the sage brush everywhere. Elko is currently killing the ravens because they prey on the sage grouse. Suggest Leland put on our website to inform all people and so that we will know what to look for.

Leave no trace: If you pack nit in pack nit out. Also clean up after others.

Al Gottsch: Wounded Warriors: GPAA and the Reno Metal Detecting and Prospecting Club would like to have an outing, but have no place to go where veterans can approach the creek.

Suggest we make Adavone available to them. Also this will help with our 501C status.

Motion to support Wounded Warriors:

Bill Vogt
Second: Al Gottsch
Voted and passed

DMV now collecting fees for ATV and all off-road which is used to support environmental groups against the miners.

Motion to accept New Business:

David Weinhardt
Second: Virginia Brown
Voted and accepted

Club Notices :

Tell Facebook when you plan to make a trip to our claims. Maybe have a mini group. Please pick up your trash.

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

Motion to accept club notices: Al Gottsch

Second: Ken Brown
Voted and accepted

Speaker: *Steve Hirschbach on Metal detectors*

Attendance Drawing: Al Gottsch

Membership Drawing: Robert Swank

New Members Present:

Steve Hirschbach
Greg Manley

Greg Manley won a starter piece of gold, CONGRATS!!

Guests:

Diane Albrech
John Bradshaw
Ervin Kingsley
Felix Ortiz
Betty Harrison
Dana Munkett

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

Motion to adjourn meeting: Nadine Miller

Second: Al Gottsch
Meeting adjourned 9:13

Total attendance: 70
Members: 60
Guests: 10

Minutes prepared by Linalu Bowman

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Chet & Micah Burress,	Yuba City, CA
John Golbinec,	Cool, CA
Jim & Linda Golden,	Cheyenne, WY
Steve Herschbach,	Reno, NV
Arturo & Lisa Jimenez,Elk	Grove, CA
Gregg & Stephanie Manley,	Fernley, NV
Wayne Mark,Elk	Grove, CA
Michael Matyus,	Camino, CA
Raymond & Robin Rust,	Garden Valley, CA
Barbara & Robert Sulatycky,	Napa, CA
Connie & Thurston Swanson,	Chico, CA
Joseph & Sheila Zitzelberger,	El Dorado, CA

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



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

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:

Harley Ponsler - 775/673-8532

Email: HEPGEO@aol.com

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

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.cpggold.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

Quarter Page Ad: \$12.50 per month

Full Page Ad: \$50.00 per month

GOLD PAN ADS:



Sport & Performance Clutch Specialist
RENO CLUTCH AND BRAKE
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
Free Inspections - Free Adjustments - Free Estimates
65 N Edison Way #7
Reno, NV 89502
Mon - Fri 7:30 - 5:00
www.renoclutchandbrake.com
Limited Lifetime Warranty
775-337-6100
Custom Built Brake Hoses
Family Cars - Performance Cars - Hot Rods
Antique Vehicles - Foreign & Domestic

2010 Keystone Bullet 288 RLS- Ultra Lite, Great Shape, OAL 33.8”@5500#, loaded, sleeps 4+Child, power slide, awning, & tongue lift, microwave, A/C, TV w/remote, stereo, w/outside speakers, DVD outside shower, alloy wheels, very comfy, half ton towable thermal package. **PRICED REDUCED to \$18,500.00 MUST SELL DUE TO FAMILY HEALTH. THANK YOU.**
\$18,500.00 Aubrey Campbell 775/971-0704 Reno

