

# THE GOLD PAN

The Newsletter of the  
**Comstock Gold Prospectors**

March 14, 2015



## ***BLACK BILLIE\****

*Guest Speaker: Bill Vogt*

**Next Meeting Mar. 24, 2015**

### **UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

(Mark your Calendars)

April 28, 2015

May 26, 2015

June 23, 2015

### **1 Year Gold – NYSE**

<u>03/14/2015 – Last</u>	\$1152.00
One Year High (at closing)	\$1159.00
One Year Low (at closing)	\$1157.00

### **1 Year Silver – NYSE**

<u>03/14/2015 – Last</u>	\$15.57
One Year High (at closing)	\$15.67
One Year Low (at closing)	\$15.48

***ALL MEMBERS WELCOME***

**Board Meeting is held at 6:30pm**

**General Meeting**

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month

7:30 PM at the

Masonic Wadsworth Lodge #25  
2425 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV

### **LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT:**

We now are pretty well organized for the up and coming season with the new claims, dredging is coming back and we have a good committee leadership!

Our new website is up and running and is user friendly with lots of good information and postings. We encourage all of our members to give it a try and provide input and suggestions.

Our Club will have attended a “grass root” summit sponsored by the American Mining Rights Association, March 14<sup>th</sup>, in Sacramento.

We will be participating in expressing our opinions regarding issues emanating from government agencies and bureaucracies.

We have been frustrated in regards to contacting the government and are looking forward to establishing a method to effectively have our “voices” be heard and perhaps have more of an impact. Kind of like what the NRA does.

By organizing our groups with “like” interests we are looking to create a “louder” voice. Most of us do not want to get involved on these matters but I think we have to in order to preserve our interests.

The “other” groups are very well organized in letter writing, contacting the various agencies and attending public forums regarding these issues.

The issues facing us now are the sage grouse placement on the endangered species list, the small miner waiver and the latest is placing the government lands in NV (87%) into state management and control (Senate Joint Resolution 1). A good thing, for those of you that want to follow NV legislature bills and to express an opinion, I refer you to <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Opinions/78th2015/A/>.

You will be able to follow bills and sessions as well, as giving your opinion and yea or nay support. The history of why 87% of the state (57 million acres) is in government hands is quite interesting (Alaska is #1 and we are #2).

I will be bringing a speaker from Carson to give a little history lesson at a future meeting. It is the opinion of some in that the management and control of 87% by government agencies has led to the mismanagement of much of the state as witnessed by the destruction of sage grouse habitat due to millions of acres (under their management) of range land fires.

The privately owned and managed acreage did not have nearly the destruction of wildlife habitat. I will be attending an off highway vehicle meeting this month in Carson. I should also be getting more information as to these and other government goings on. The legislation that affects them is directly tied into our activities.

**The Peasant Valley School panning demo is coming up, March 30th at 9am. We need about 12 volunteers or so and will have sign-up sheets at the March meeting.**

We will be having a Champagne brunch immediately following (just kidding!). We have enough gold for the pans but we need more for future events. Please let us know if you are willing to sell some to the Club. Thanks.

Bill V will be the speaker this month. His topic will be claim ownership and possession and should be very informative and appropriate to our activities. We are also looking for speakers

or demos at our future meetings. We need suggestions of topics and presentations. Chris Ralph's presentation was really good this last month, so much so that I believe that some of our members are making travel plans to sunny West Africa! Don't forget to pack your bullet proof vests with your metal detectors!

**The Reno Gem and Mineral show is coming up this May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. We may be having a panning demo and will be looking for volunteers. This is a good event!**

Linalu and Jim Bowman are taking a leave of absence from their Club duties. Wade Lavery has volunteered to take over the secretary duties. **Thank You, Wade!!!** Al will be taking over as Sargent at Arms for Jim's position at the March meeting. **Thank You, Al!!!** We haven't heard anything new as to California dredging. It has been pretty quiet. Dredging will be commencing this year as outlined in our last newsletter.

Until next time  
Jim

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

February 24th, 2015

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

**Board Members Present:** Jim Richards, Nadine Miller, Linalu Bowman and Harley Ponsler

Motion to call meeting to order: Harley Ponsler  
Second: Nadine Miller  
Meeting called to order

**Members Present:**

James Bowman and Dave Terwilliger

**Treasurer's Report:** Read by Nadine Miller

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

**Claims Report:**

We are still having problems with  
"Frank" at Lucky Linda. Do we want to  
pay a surveyor for the 200 foot dispute?  
No.

Since Justin was not available and Bill  
Vogt was busy with check in, Bill will  
do the claims report, to the membership  
at the general meeting.

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

**Membership Report:**

Membership is now at 296. There are  
16 lifetime memberships available.  
7 added and 3 dropped.

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

**New Business:**

Carson City Research Management  
Program is an environmental protection  
agency and a "Friend of Nevada  
Wilderness" wants to add 800,000 acres  
which will make approximately 5  
million acres of wilderness in Nevada,  
California, Utah and Idaho unavailable  
to off-road of any kind including miners,  
ranchers, snowmobiles and the like to  
protect the sage grouse.

Now is the time to write your  
congressmen to let them know how this  
will affect you. The American Rights  
Mining Association has a meeting on  
March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Inn in  
Sacramento to try to get a grass roots  
origination together to voice public  
opinion against this.

The meeting will be Saturday from  
10am to 2pm

Also Obama's budget waiting to be  
signed will eliminate the small mine  
exemption. This means our club will be  
paying \$4,100 per year just to keep our  
claims.

Motion to accept new business: Harley  
Ponsler  
Second: Nadine Miller  
Voted and accepted

**Outings:**

March 30<sup>th</sup> Pleasant Valley School gold panning  
demonstration.

Motion to accept outings report: Harley Ponsler  
Second: Nadine Miller  
Voted and passed

**Club Notices:**

The New 49ers has a website that keeps on top  
of the Rhinehardt case and the PLP.

Motion to accept club notices: Harley  
Ponsler  
Second: Nadine Miller  
Voted and passed

Motion to Adjourn the Board Meeting:  
Harley Ponsler  
Second: Nadine Miller  
Voted and approved  
Board Meeting adjourn at 6:50

*Minutes prepared by Linalu Bowman*

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

February 24th, 2015

Motion to call meeting to order: Al Gottsch  
Second: Virginia Brown

Meeting called to order: 7:30pm

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Read by Nadine Miller

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

**Membership Report:**

Membership is now at 262. There are 16 lifetime memberships available, 7 added and 3 dropped.

Motion to Accept Membership Report: Dave Terwilliger  
Second: Virginia Brown  
Voted and Passed

**Claims Report:**

The Claims Committee was looking at a claim upstream of the Lucky Linda. This claim was open but the previous owners back filed paperwork to hold it. We have filed and abandonment.

We are still having problems with "Frank" at Lucky Linda. Just be sure and stay on our side of the claim marker and "stand your ground". It is a legal claim and it is ours. Record any confrontation. Take pictures if you can. Tell him he is incorrect.

All claims are accessible at this time. Many of members have gone out already. The road to La Porte is open.

Patriot Brothers claim where the Feather and the Nelson meet is also a "*valid*" claim verified by the BLM and forestry. Our claim goes from 100 feet from the Nelson.

New Valley 49ers, have declined to exchange claim usage.

Bob Edwards: Ken Bennett is not accessible totally to the river. You can drive most of the way but many trees are down.

If you are planning to do any dredging, follow the 1994 rules for California. Notify fish and game of your intention to dredge, the size of your dredge, where you plan to dredge.

Make an effort to do the right thing and get it recorded

Motion to Accept the Claims Report:  
Virginia Brown  
Second: Al Gottsch  
Voted and Accepted

**Outings:**

Nancy Terwilliger: March 30<sup>th</sup> Pleasant Valley School from 10am to 2pm for panning demonstration and we do need volunteers.

On May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Gem and Mineral show at the Livestock Event Center.

We still need instructors.

May 31<sup>st</sup> We may go to the Tammy.

July 4<sup>th</sup> We may go to the Adavenone

September we may go to the Rye Patch Nugget Shoot, Dayton Valley Days, TBA

Please let Nancy know when and where you want to go.

Motion to accept Outings Report: Virginia Brown

Second:

Voted and accepted

**New Business:**

Carson City Research Management Program is an environmental protection agency and a "Friend of Nevada Wilderness" wants to add 800,000 acres which will make approximately 5 million acres of wilderness in Nevada, California, Utah and Idaho unavailable to off-road of any kind including miners, ranchers, snowmobiles and the like to protect the sage grouse.

Now is the time to write your congressmen to let them know how this will affect you. The American Rights Mining Association has a meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Inn in Sacramento to try to get a grass roots origination together to voice public opinion against this. The meeting will be Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm

Also the AMR (American Mining Rights) has a letter online that you can sign.

Wade Laverly volunteered to organize and contact members to urge letter writing. Also there is a link on Constock website to AMR.

Also Obama's budget waiting to be signed will eliminate the small mine exemption. This means our club will be paying \$4,100 per year just to keep our claims.

Motion to accept new business: Al Gottsch

Second: Virginia Brown

Voted and accepted

**Club Notices:**

Bill Vogt: 2014 club pictures are available on disc and for sale for \$5

Jerry Hobbs of the, New 49ers has passed away. The club has an interesting story of his life on their website.

**LOOKING** for mining partner: between age 20 and 50, no- smoker, no drugs, non-drinker with 4X4 (who doesn't care if it gets scratched) with *gold fever*. No experience necessary. Please call 415- 601-7858.

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

If there is anyone looking to bring snacks, cookies, cakes or pies to the meeting to snack on. Please: contact Bill Vogt.

Webb Varnum is available for rock and mineral identification.

Prospecting Contact List is available for members who wish to get together. Sign up if you are going out or if you want to go out. Let us know what you want to do: panning, sniping or sluicing.

Motion to accept club notices: Virginia Brown.

Second: Al Gottsch

Voted and accepted

**Speaker:** Chris Ralph: Metal detecting in Africa

**Guests:** Joe Campbell R.F. Seidl, Cliff Abbot, Lynda & Qrzie Lewis

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

**Assessment Forms (turned in) drawing:** Not at this time.

**Attendance Drawing:** Jim Richards won a silver ounce round.

**Membership Drawing:** Sheryl & Kevin Ness of Susanville not present. Kenneth Armstrong of Reno was not present. Next month goes to 11 silver ounce rounds.

**New Members Present:**

Jim Callender  
Todd Jones  
Cole McLachlan  
Dave Nelson  
Rachelle Wolf (our insurance agent)

Jim Callender won a silver ounce round.

Motion to adjourn meeting: Al Gottsch  
Second: Nadine Miller

Meeting adjourned: 8:55pm

Total attendance: 67  
Members: 62  
Guests: 5

*Minutes prepared by Linalu Bowman.*

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:**

Jim Callender	Sparks, NV.
Jeff Duncan	Nevada City, CA.
Shona Torgrimson	Nevada City, CA.
Andrea Ellington	Reno, NV.
Mike Peyerl	Reno, NV.
Todd Jones	Fernley, NV.
David Nelson	Fernley, NV.
Angie & Cole McLachlan	Reno, NV.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS-2015**

**President: Jim Richards - 775/225-2494**  
**Email: [rsmokinguns@yahoo.com](mailto:rsmokinguns@yahoo.com)**

**Vice President:**  
**Justin Shaw- 702/701-1370**  
**Email: [justbcuz147@gmail.com](mailto:justbcuz147@gmail.com)**

**Secretary:**  
**Linalu Bowman – 775/323-4004**  
**Cell-775/721-3599**  
**Email: [renoclutchbrake@sbcglobal.net](mailto:renoclutchbrake@sbcglobal.net)**

**Treasurer: Nadine Miller - 775/867-3550**  
**Email: [nmiller@ccomm.net](mailto:nmiller@ccomm.net)**

**Member at Large:**  
**Harley Ponsler - 775/673-8532**  
**Email: [HEPGEO@aol.com](mailto:HEPGEO@aol.com)**

**Member at Large: Ken Walls- 775/846-6357**  
**Email: [eurekaprospecting@gmail.com](mailto:eurekaprospecting@gmail.com)**

**PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES-  
SUPPORT STAFF- 2015**

**Membership/Chairperson & Historian: Bill Vogt - 775/747-3145**  
**Email: [wvogt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wvogt@sbcglobal.net)**

**Facebook Co-Administrator/Newsletter Editor:**  
**Lisa Walls - 714/742-3024**  
**Email: [comstockgoldprospectors@gmail.com](mailto:comstockgoldprospectors@gmail.com)**

**Clothing Custodian:**  
**Debbie Morrow-775/846-4388 cell**  
**Email: [msmoosenv@yahoo.com](mailto:msmoosenv@yahoo.com)**

**Equipment Custodian/  
Raffle Coordinator:**  
**Mike Maxwell – 775/348-1620**  
**Email: [mdmbfd@att.net](mailto:mdmbfd@att.net)**

**Sargeant of Arms:**  
**Jim Bowman – 775/291-1236**  
**Email: [renoclutchbrake@sbcglobal.net](mailto:renoclutchbrake@sbcglobal.net)**

**Webmaster Administrator:**  
**David Terwilliger-home-775/ 241-0186**  
**Cell-775/ 530-8294**  
**Email: [dptwig@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dptwig@sbcglobal.net)**

**Outings Chairperson:**  
**Nancy Terwilliger 775/530-8284 cell**  
**Email: [naterwilliger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:naterwilliger@sbcglobal.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>

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