

THE GOLD PAN

The Newsletter of the

Comstock Gold Prospectors

FEBRUARY 13, 2016



BLACK BILLIE

Next Meeting: FEB. 23, 2016

Speaker of the Month: Steve Herschbach

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

(Mark your Calendars)

Mar. 22, 2016

Apr. 26, 2016

May 26, 2016

1 Year Gold – NYSE

01/15/2016 – Last	\$1239.00
One Year High (at closing)	\$1242.00
One Year Low (at closing)	\$1233.00

1 Year Silver – NYSE

01/15/2016 – Last	\$15.79
One Year High (at closing)	\$15.83
One Year Low (at closing)	\$15.67

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

PRESIDENTS LETTER:

look forward to full and swift waterways this spring.

Though we will not be dredging in California this year, there should be good opportunities for panning, snipping and whatever we can do that is “legal”. The courts have put off any dredging decision until the “higher” have made a decision. I would not plan on dredging in California this year.

The New 49'ers have are urging dredgers to apply for a “water quality permit” or “waiver” for a suction dredge -permit. These applications are in a “gray area” though it might work. Refer to the new 49'ers February newsletter: <http://www.goldgold.com/newsletter-february-2016.html>.

The forest service is taking comments on 25 for free camping spots for prospectors and other groups. This would be a permitting process. The intent is to get people off of 49 alone the Yuba...more to follow. We elected not to comment.

I gave an informational talk on the structure of the MMAC and its intentions. The ICMJ is the best location for current info on the MMAC and PLP. The whole idea in a nutshell, is to restore the Rights to miners as set forth in Federal mining laws. These Federal laws are being ignored or re-interpreted by other than Federal agencies and are “ruling” by intimidation and or arrest and confiscation. The MMAC and PLP with a lot of time of those involved are trying to spearhead this movement.

The “heart” of this effort is the “2015 Minerals and Mining Regulatory Reform Act-A Clear Path

We are getting good snow this winter and can

Respecting Mining Rights". This bill will be presented to congress this year. This bill can be reviewed online at www.mmacusa.org as well as info in the ICMJ.

Some highlights of the bill:

- They are trying to remove jurisdiction from city, county, and state agencies and the forest service.
- mining related ,would revert back to the BLM.
- Operations that do not add chemicals shall not be considered a pollutant under the Clean Water Act.
- Suction dredging will not be an addition or discharge.
- No existing public lands after 1976 shall be removed from operation of the Mining Law of 1872, and many more provisions.

We should all review the bill and keep informed of its progress so as to be up to date and be able to answer questions.

The GPAA wants to have another wounded warrior outing with us at a desert claim this year. There will be more to follow and will update you later, The Pleasant Valley School panning demo is coming up March 22 at 10am. This is a fun time and we will need about 10 volunteers. Bill will be taking names of those interested and we will be signing up volunteers.

We also need volunteers at our booth at the ICMJ Summit in Placerville April 16-17. We need at least 4 per day. Sign up at the February meeting! Some of us have got rooms in Placerville for the event...rooms are getting scarce, so Folsom or the road to Auburn (Scotts Valley) might be the only other option.

Steve Herschbach will be our speaker this month...the metal detector guru! Bring your detectors and questions.

Ron Hamilton has come forward to help with the custodial duties (along with Dave). Thanks for the eyes on our interests!

The outing to Virginia City has been postponed until March, Larry (Comstock Gold) said that the underground tour will not be available but the above ground will be full of info and history!

The raffle table needs items as usual. I would encourage people to also step up for a demo or presentation at our future meetings. Do not forget our classified section of the newsletter if you want to do spring cleaning!

All for now;

Jim

Membership/Historian Miscellaneous **By Bill Vogt**

I announced at the last meeting that I had completed the photo album for 2015 and would be posting more pictures from 2015 on our website. Those pictures have now been posted on the web and the albums (two) are available at any meeting for members to review.

This year, like last, I have put all of the pictures on a CD that is for sale for \$5.00. In addition, in each event folder where the pictures are grouped, I have added a PDF file that describes the event along with some dialog concerning some but not all of the pictures in that event.

If you would like a copy of this CD and cannot make the meetings, please send me a check or money order for \$5.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping. The check should be made out to the Comstock Gold Prospectors and mailed to the Club's PO Box (see renewal application).

Please include a note indicating how many CD's you want (you may buy as many as you want but please include the shipping fee for each) and where you want the CD's mailed. I still have some 2014 CD's and can make more, if needed, so indicate the year as well. The money collected helps defer the cost of maintaining the Club's history (picture development, albums, etc.).

For some unknown reason, the people who print and mail the newsletter used our January 2014 database to mail the January 2016 newsletter (did not affect email subscribers). As far as we have been able to determine this meant that 15 people who are no longer in our group got the letter and 9 members who have switched to email delivery during this time span may have gotten the letter

both ways. In addition, there were 12 people not on the 2014 list that are on the 2016 list. Half of them have email addresses so the newsletter was emailed to them with an explanation and the remaining seven had the newsletter re-mailed. There were also 6 members who have changed their addresses during this time period and we will take care of them if and when they are returned.

If you did not get your January newsletter and would like a copy just contact me. If you have access to the private side of our website you can also get the newsletter that way.

At the January meeting I volunteered to organize our effort at the ICMJ Summit in Placerville, CA, April 16 and 17. We will have a booth like we did in 2014 and we will mainly be showcasing our Club.

We will also be having a raffle like we did in 2014 but this time the Club is going to match the money collected, up to a total of \$2000.00 (counting cost of raffled items), with the total proceeds going to PLP. Based on experience gained from the 2014 show I think it would be best if we had at least 2 people scheduled at the booth all day on both days (10Am – 5Pm Saturday, 10Am – 4Pm Sunday).

If you know you are going to be going to the Summit and would like to help with this project please let me know (phone, email, or meeting). I would like to be able to complete the scheduling by the end of the March meeting (March 22).

COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS
MINUTES OF THE BOARD
MEETING

JANUARY 26TH, 2016

President Jim Richards began the meeting at 6:30pm.

Members Present:

Board: Jim Richards, Nadine Miller, Harley Ponsler, Justin Shaw and Wade Lavery. Absent: Ken Walls

Support Staff, Sargeant of Arms : Al Gottsch

Meeting called to order: Wade Lavery, Second: Harley Ponsler

Correction to Minutes: Noted that The Gold Pan Issue date, January 18, “2015” should have been “2016”.

Motion to accept the Corrections to Minutes: Wade Lavery, Second: Justin Shaw

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Treasurer’s Report: Read by Nadine Miller

Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report: Wade Lavery, Second: Justin Shaw

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Membership Report: 305 members. There are 15 lifetime memberships available. Activity: 1 added and 0 dropped.

Motion to accept the Membership Report: Wade Lavery, Second: Justin Shaw

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Claims Report:

United States Forestry Service (USFS) has notified the Club because we do own claims in Sierra County on the Yuba River of their future consideration, plans and development for unapproved camping sites for different parties (i.e. mining rights holders). They are seeking public comment and our Claims Committee has discussed and found no reason to provide comment to USFS at this time and will follow future notifications that affect Club interests.

The Club is reminded by the Claims Committee

to explore and work Pirate as members have found good results just this last month. The Club owns nine claims. We are prioritizing adding a Nevada claim before adding to our California claims.

As the weather gets better in the near future plan to try Blue Wing, it is a 160 acre dry placer licensed claim near our Tammy claim.

We asked members to report road conditions so we may inform the members at the next meeting and in the following newsletter.

Again, VP Justin Shaw commented that our Lucky Linda neighbor is still positive.

Again, KVB, a Yuba River claim near Downieville, CA next to Sweet Potato is completely valid and fully usable. Until further notice just ignore any in the field comments by any individual(s).

Motion to accept the Claims Report:

Wade Lavery, Second: Justin Shaw

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Old Business:

Your elected 2016 Board of Directors have started their responsibilities and look forward to serving the membership in the Club's best interests.

We thank you for your support and all of the membership, are asked to volunteer when and where one can to make our Club of value to all members.

Motion to accept the Old Business: Wade Lavery, Second: Justin Shaw

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

New Business:

On January 20th Judge Gilbert Ochoa of the San Bernardino Superior Court issued a ruling

staying all the pending suction dredge cases subject to the outcome of the, Rhinehart Supreme Court Case.

The States of Washington and Idaho have placed new licensing for machinery to be secured to work Federal Mining Claims.

It just keeps coming!

Motion to accept the membership report: Wade Lavery, Second: Justin Shaw

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Outings Report:

In looking forward for your planning...CGPC's participation and volunteering is welcomed in the future...

Club participation has been extended to work with GPA for a June/July outing. Details to follow as when, where and volunteer needs are defined.

Motion to accept the membership report: Wade Lavery, Second: Justin Shaw

Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Club Notices:



Welcome again! Call for details and place your order ahead of time, and have it all ready at the next meeting. Clothing Custodian: Teresa Jones-775/673-5253 cell Email: teresajones@sbcglobal.net

Adjournment: Jim Richards 7:00pm

COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
JANUARY 26TH, 2016

Motion to call meeting to order: David Matthews, Second: Randy Watkins

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

Correction to Minutes: Noted that The Gold Pan Issue date, January 18, “2015” should have been “2016”.

Motion to accept the Corrections to Minutes: Club Member, Second: Club Member

Voted and accepted by the attending Members.

Treasurer’s Report: Read by Nadine Miller

Motion to accept the treasurer’s report: Club Member, Second: Club Member

Voted and accepted by the attending Members.

Membership Report: 305 members. There are 15 lifetime memberships available. Activity: 1 added and 0 dropped.

Motion to accept membership report: Todd Jones Second: Webb Varnum

Voted and accepted by the attending Members.

Claims Report:

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unapproved camping sites for different parties (i.e. mining rights holders). They are seeking public comment and our Claims Committee has discussed and found no reason to provide comment to USFS at this time and will follow future notifications that affect Club interests.

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Again, KVB, a Yuba River claim near Downieville, CA next to Sweet Potato is completely valid and fully usable. Until further notice just ignore any in the field comments by any individual(s).

Motion to accept the Claims Report: Club Member, Second: Club Member

Voted and accepted by the attending Members.

Old Business:

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We thank you for your support and all of the members are asked to volunteer when and where one can to make our Club of value to all members.

Motion to accept: Club Member, Second: Club Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Members.

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The States of Washington and Idaho have placed new licensing for machinery to be secured to work Federal Mining Claims...it just keeps coming.

Motion to accept: Club Member, Second: Club Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Members.

Outings Report:

In looking forward for your planning...CGPC's participation and volunteering is welcomed in the future...

We're are in, we have a booth space reserved at Gold Prospecting and Mining Bi-Annual Summit in Placerville, CA Saturday and Sunday April 16th & 17th. Your Club contacts are Jim Richards (President) with Bill Vogt (Membership) who is heading up our volunteering and raffle for this event. Be sure to make plans to attend this event, it's known to be quite informative to all levels of prospecting and mining.

Club participation has been extended to work with GPA for a June/July outing. Details to follow as when, where and volunteer needs are defined.

Comstock Tour proposed for February has not been firmed up as of this meeting. Please stay alert to inclusion of date and details by the President or our website.

Pleasant Valley Elementary School Panning Demonstration at Easter Break, date is unknown at this time.*

Motion to accept: Club Member, Second: Club Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Members.

***JUST IN:** while I was putting the finishing touches to the Newsletter, we have a date for The Membership's participation. It will be held on Tuesday March 22nd, 2016, from 10AM to 12PM @ 405 Surrey Dr, Reno, NV 89521.

Thank you Bill Vogt and Jeff Hiller, Teacher. We have our CLUB meeting for March that same day...it's a Comstock Gold Prospector day of being involved!!!

Club Notices:

Club participation at Gold Prospecting and Mining Bi-Annual Summit in Placerville, CA Saturday and Sunday April 16th & 17th includes a raffle for this event where by we are supplying prizes.**





He is manufacturing them in low quantities and shall have them for sell exclusively through Placerville Hardware.

He wanted a sluice he could backpack in his explorations and felt this donation for the club would be unique and new to those who come by the booth this coming year.

Many thanks to George! (Thanks, for supporting, George goes to Tom Williams and Keith Warmboe... all CGPC members)

Our Club shall supply other items. Raffle proceeds will be matched by Club resources up to and not to exceed \$2000.00 (cost of raffle prizes and matching funds) to support litigation fighting dredging court cases.

Looking For Outing Partner(s):

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.

Thank you for attending our meeting, hope you had a good time, your participation to be informed and also share your experiences is key to an active club such as ours, continue to see you again!

No CGPC Assessment Forms Drawing tonight.

CGPC claim assessments are vital for decisions the club makes on claims and their maintenance each year. If you used a club claim please get them in for the next meeting!

Guest Recognition: 3 guests; Kevin Plunk, Richard Miller and one other the Secretary was not able to identify were in attendance and we thank you for visiting and sharing you interest in the club first hand.



****JUST IN**, a CGPC Member located in California, George McGee, is donating a custom sluice for CGPC's Raffle at ICMJ Mining Summit in Placerville - April 2016.

New Members Present:

Del Hardy and Jim Cartoni (family membership, **Raye Ann**)

New Members Present Drawing:

Jim Cartoni (family membership, **Raye Ann**) won the silver ounce round.

Attendance Drawing (ticket(s) supplied at sign-in table):

CGPC's first meeting of 2016, Life member **Mike Maxwell** ticket number was called for a silver ounce round!

Come to our next meeting on Tuesday February 23rd, 2016 for the next silver ounce round to be awarded!

Membership Drawing: **CGPC's first meeting of 2016**, members **Paula and Gerald Baer of Reno** were called out for a silver ounce round, alas neither was present. This month on Tuesday February 23rd, 2016 there are 2 silver ounce rounds to be awarded. A random number generator is used to select a possible winner from our Membership Roster and your chance to be picked is always a possibility.

Total attendance: 48

Members: 45

Guests: 3

Motion to adjourn meeting: Randy Watkins

Second: Wade Lavery

Voted and accepted by attending Members

Adjournment: Jim Richards at 8:35 p.m.

CGPC Ongoing Requests:

If anyone's phone number or e-mail has changed since you signed up, please let Bill Vogt made aware tonight! Purpose: Bill can update the rooster and mailing list.

If there is anyone who would like to bring snacks, cookies, cakes or pies to the meeting. Please: contact Bill Vogt.

Webb Varnum is available for CGPC members for rock and mineral identification.

Bill Vogt, is available for CGPC members to field general questions on claim ownership, remember there's the "Good, Bad and The Ugly" in pursuing a claim.

<p><u>WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:</u> Nicholas Lionberger, Crockett, CA</p>
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Member Looking For August Partner

Member Daniel Gall, who lives in Castalia, North Carolina, is planning a month long trip to Nevada/California in August and he is interested in teaming up with someone who knows the area and is familiar with most of our claims.

Daniel is a retired geology professor with a BS, MS and PhD in geology who uses the methods of his science to look for placer gold. He is well equipped for just about any method of prospecting and camping and his sole companion is a dog.

Anyone who is interested teaming up with Daniel while he is here should call him at 919-223-4123 or email him at Gabriel_dgg@yahoo.com. You could also write him at 8106 Edwards Rd., Castalia, NC 27818

BOARD OF DIRECTORS-2016

President: Jim Richards - 775/225-2494

Email: rsmokinguns@yahoo.com

Vice President:

Justin Shaw- 702/701-1370

Email: justbcuz147@gmail.com

Secretary: Wade Lavery – 775/384-1668 (home)

Cell-650/823-8658

Email: wadelavery@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Nadine Miller - 775/867-3550

Email: nmiller@ccomm.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- 2016**

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:
Teresa Jones-775/673-5253 cell
Email: teresajones@sbcglobal.net

Equipment Custodian/
Raffle Coordinator:
Mike Maxwell – 775/348-1620
Email: mdmbfd@att.net

Sergeant of Arms:
Al Gottsch – 775/673-8532
Email: bodop72@gmail.com

David Terwilliger-home-775/ 241-0186
Cell-775/ 530-8294
Email: dptwig@sbcglobal.net

Outings Chairperson:
Nancy Terwilliger 775/530-8284 cell
Email: 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>

**TO PLACE OR RENEW
A BUSINESS AD:**

SEND A CHECK TO:

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C/O Editor P.O. Box 20781 Reno, NV. 89515-0781 Include your ad layout, and your phone number or email address.

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