

THE GOLD PAN

The Newsletter of the
Comstock Gold Prospectors

June 14, 2016



BLACK BILLIE

Next Meeting: June 28th, 2016

Speaker of the Month: Mitch from Oilinghouse Mine

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

(Mark your Calendars)

July 26, 2016

August 23, 2016

Sept. 27, 2016

1 Year Gold – NYSE

06/14/2016 – Last	\$1286.00
One Year High (at closing)	\$1291.00
One Year Low (at closing)	\$1282.00

1 Year Silver – NYSE

06/14/2016 – Last	\$17.41
One Year High (at closing)	\$17.50
One Year Low (at closing)	\$17.32

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:

Summer is here and we will not be able to get in the water in California this year. Craig from Western Mining Alliance gave a good summary of what is going on in the courts and bureaucracy in California. This is continuing to be an uphill battle and I believe no short term solutions.

We will be doubling our efforts in finding claims in Nevada!

Craig informed us that another “green” group has filed suit against Rhinehart! These are expensive to respond to especially for the individual who is trying to make ends meet and raise a family. We need to continue our support for the PLP and WMA if we want to continue this fight.

One good thing that Carl mentioned is that the Pacific Legal Foundation may soon be representing our issues as miners in California. <http://www.pacificlegal.org/>. This is a good thing! This group represents groups pro bono and deal with property rights issues such as our situation.

This is from their website. *“On March 5, 1973 government regulators found a foe; mainstream Americans found a friend; freedom in America found new meaning!”* This would take at least 4+ years but I think this would be the only way to proceed.

I also found out that proceeds from your Amazon Smile purchases can be directed to a nonprofit of your choice. It is no additional cost to you and .05% goes to the nonprofit. I noted PLF as my choice. This is a good organization to have on our side. You have to use the Amazon website: <https://www.smile.amazon.com>.

With, using this website every little bit will help. Check it out. We had our Club outing to Tammy this month and will be at Adavenone over the 4th of July weekend. Be sure to sign up for outings and bring your expertise and pot luck.

The outing will be noted on our website. June 1st was the Pershing County Commissioner summation and vote for the Lands Bill. The bill passed the commissioners unanimously with all the wilderness areas included! I feel we did our part for the interests of the Club in that we got Sections 7 and 12 removed from the Blue wing wilderness area. We all hoped for more, but it did not happen. This will be forwarded to congress for a vote maybe in November. There is still time for adjustments to the maps (roads, claims) that will be included in the final maps.

Contact one of us or go directly to the BLM with your inputs. It might not be approved by Congress as we know how efficient “our” government is. Also June 1st will be the oral arguments in the “People vs Rinehart”. The Court has probably already made a decision which will then lead to a decision later this summer...

We will be having our assessment drawing at the July meeting (a month early) so as to keep better on time with the submission of the forms to the BLM. Keep them coming!

Mitch from the Oilinghouse Mine will be our speaker this month. He has been with the mine for over 35 years so we will have a lot of good info and stories concerning the mine. I would like to get another outing to the mine this summer. The last one was excellent!

Well the rivers are deep, swift and cold: the critters are out (snakes!); the poison oak is abundant (even in Nevada), so of course we will be vigilant!

Don't forget the raffle table and speaker topics. Also do not overlook our free listing of “stuff” to sell trade or whatever in our newsletter. Good time to spring clean your garage.

Jim Richards
President for the Gold Prospectors

Thank You Note from Nadine Miller

I want to thank all the people who put a surprise birthday party together in April for me.

*It was a **BIG SURPRISE!!!!***

*Also, Thanks to **Wade Lavery** for making me a **John Deere Tractor** to go along with my picture on Facebook.*

Pershing County Land Bill Update **By Bill Vogt**

In the April newsletter I described a meeting a number of our members attended in Lovelock having to do with a Land Bill being discussed by the Pershing County Commissioners. Much has happened since that meeting which culminated in the Commissioners voting unanimously to pass the bill on to Senators Reid and Heller with modifications. This vote took place at a special Town Hall meeting on the evening of June 1, 2016.

The modifications were the result of six additional meetings, numerous behind the scenes discussions with farmers, rancher, miners, and other interested parties, as well as piles of submitted maps and letters. Two of the meetings were regularly scheduled, Commissioner meeting and the other four meetings were special Town Hall

meetings convened in the evenings. One of the Town Hall meetings was for farmers and ranchers, another was for miners (the best attended), a third was for all others (off road enthusiasts, hunters, environmentalists, etc. – the smallest attendance), and the fourth was to catch anyone that was missed and do a wrap up.

One or more Club member was at each and every one of these meetings representing the Club, presenting written material, and taking part in the general discussion.

So what was achieved over the past couple of months? For the Club, we were able to save about half of Tammy from being included in the Blue Wing Wilderness area and at the same time removed the two local GPAA claims from the same area.

Our President, Jim Richards, and member Hugh Ezzell met with the Friends of Nevada Wilderness (FNW) and were able to convince them to exclude both sections 7 and 12 from inclusion in the wilderness area. It turns out that this organization was the primary group tasked with the responsibility of creating the maps of the various wilderness areas being proposed by this bill. They were receptive to working with all the involved parties and making adjustments to the proposed wilderness areas to accommodate existing mining claims, required roads (they called this activity “stemming them in”), and addressing concerns farmers and ranchers had for taking care of their livestock.

For the citizens of Pershing County I think they got a better bill. If nothing else, there is a much higher degree of buy-in of the community since so many citizens took part in modifying it. One thing the Commissioners were assured of by representatives of both Reid and Heller's office was that they could remove their support of the bill at any time up to the moment it went before Congress and the two Senators would kill the bill. Thus, if any changes occur to the bill as it moves forward that the Commissioners don't like they can stop the entire process.

There was also assurance that the maps that were being submitted could still be changed if something was discovered to have been overlooked but the time window for this is fairly short.

The Club members that were involved in this activity, listed in alphabetical order, were Jim Allen, Kevin Conway, Hugh Ezzell, Al Gottsch, Wade Lavery, Gerry McFall, Harley Ponsler, Jim Richard, Bob Thomasson, Webb Varnum, Randy Watkins, and I. Special recognition is given to the following members. Club President, Jim Richards, attended most of the meetings and was our primary spokesperson presenting several written documents. As previously reported, he, along with Hugh Ezzell, convinced FNW to exclude sections 7 and 12.

Hugh Ezzell was the person who determined that it was FNW that had to be approached and went with Jim. Jim Allen created a larger scale, clearer to read map that then

enabled Harley Ponsler to sound the alarm that half of Tammy was being included in the wilderness area (we didn't know this initially). He also created some Google Earth images that further emphasized the problem. Harley also has the distinction of being the only member that attended all of the meetings.

Wade Lavery became the Club's main contact person for the Commissioners and was on a first name basis with all their personnel. Kevin Conway wrote several excellent letters which were posted on our Web site and made several compelling arguments before the Commissioners for the exclusion of much of the area being included in the Blue Wing Wilderness area as well as some other areas. Webb Varnum made a presentation to the Commissioners and presented a document that showed where interesting and rare rock samples have been found in the past.

This bill still has a long way to go before it is passed and we need to stay vigilant. There are many of us that would like to see the wilderness areas pared down even further and several (Blue Wing for one) eliminated altogether (probably wishful thinking). It was made clear, almost from the beginning, and repeated on several occasions, that there will be no Land Bill presented to Congress that doesn't include wilderness areas. So, while the Pershing County Commissioners were given a significant say in how the bill was worded, they were told from the very beginning that it had to have wilderness areas included.

In conclusion, we were told that going forward Senator Heller's Web site will be the official place for all future documents and maps. If you want to follow the developments go to <http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=pershing-county-lands-bill>.

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

Call to Order: Jim Richards began the Board Meeting at 6:30pm.

Board Members Present:

Jim Richards, Nadine Miller, Justin Shaw and Wade Lavery. Members at Large: Harley Ponsler present, Ken Walls absent.

Support Staff at Board Meeting:

Webmaster: Dave Terwilliger.

Claims Committee at Board Meeting:

Tim Bartlett. (both Wade Lavery and Tim Bartlett signed

Non-Disclosure Agreements as Claims Committee Members)

Support Staff on-site:

Membership/Chairperson & Historian: Bill Vogt, Clothing Custodian: Teresa Jones, Equipment Custodian/Raffle Coordinator: Mike Maxwell and Sergeant of Arms : Al Gottsch.

Support Staff not on-site:

Outings Chairperson: Nancy Terwilliger.

Treasurer's Report:

Read by Nadine Miller. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report: Board Member, Second: Board Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Membership's Report:

Current Membership is 323. Number of Life Memberships available is 15. Activity since last report as follows: Members dropped 3, new Memberships added 7 and Member re-instated 1.

Motion to accept the Membership Report: Board Member, Second: Board Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Claims Report:

Quarterly Assessments Drawing for Silver Round (1ounce) will be at this meeting. We request that any and all assessments on all claims be submitted in time for the drawing.

Motion to accept the Claims Report: Board Member, Second: Board Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Old Business Report:

Look in newsletter for Bill Vogt's article on our Club's participation at the ICMJ Mining Summit. Treasurer tonight has written the check to donate the sum of \$1,170.00 to PLP, went into the mail.

Currently, Adam Paul Laxalt serves as the 33rd and current Nevada Attorney General and with nine counties are currently suing to regain Public Lands Use authority and guidance by the State of Nevada and counties versus Federal entities and outside interests that don't represent citizens of Nevada.

Multiple articles found in the Reno Gazette Journal (RGJ)

have enlighten readers of these counties pushing back, i.e. article written by J. Herman bringing visibility of these outside individuals nicknamed the “Grousegetters” who didn’t succeed getting the Sage Grouse onto the endangered list and it’s protection, but with a tripling of efforts and cash resources have pursued protection through other government agencies without Nevadans and others having any say.

Motion to accept the Old Business:

Board Member, Second: Board Member Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

New Business Report:

•Initially on **March 16th** the Club was interested to see if our claims were going to be affected. There was one map on website and two others presented at meeting with conflicts between them and the challenge was which map is the official map for the bill.

All interests were there, so in early review we wanted to have Wilderness Study Areas removed from this ACT as initially we thought our claims and others were not affected...Attendance (~50) Our initial visit, **Club Members (+5, Round Trip=193mi, 2hr54mn)**

•**Club Members (+7, Round Trip=193mi, 2hr54mn)** again traveled on **April 6th** General Commissioner Meeting (afternoon at County Court House) and presented our position letter (on our website) written by Kevin Conway, reviewed by Claims Committee members and President. There was one map on website and one in meeting. It was discovered that all details were not transferred to one map still. All interests were there; initially we thought our claims and others were not affected... Attendance (~50)

•**Club Members (+8, Round Trip=193mi, 2hr54mn)** on **April 20th** (evening meeting **dedicated to ranching and grazing**) to Lovelock, Nevada attended Pershing County Commissioner’s Meetings. Ranching and grazing interests participants seem to be a different group as was March 16th and April 6th groups were different too! There was one map on website and three in meeting Attendance (+65)

•**Club Members (+14, Round Trip=193mi, 2hr54mn)** went back Wednesday May 4* for (evening meeting dedicated to “Mining Interests”). Subject once again, Pershing County Lands Bill. Another **stronger** presentation by concerned Club Members was submitted demonstrating **our mining claims are being compromised** without equal voice versus wilderness organizations since the inception only visible going back to March 16th. * **We thought our claims and others were not affected, we were wrong...**Attendance (+100)

•**Club Members (+4, Round Trip=193mi, 2hr54mn)** Tuesday May 17th (evening meeting dedicated to other interests that are not ranching and grazing or mining/mineral development, i.e. hunting, birding, hiking, horseback riding, shooting, fishing, ATV, 4x4, motor cycling, mountain/trails biking, parachuting, rock hunting, photography, wild horses, wild burros, history ancient peoples/mining/ranching/etc.) in Lovelock, Nevada attended Pershing County Commissioner’s Meetings. Attendance (+25)

•**Club Members (+4, Round Trip=193mi, 2hr54mn)** Wednesday May 18th wrap up meeting for all interests in Lovelock, Nevada attended Pershing County Commissioner’s Meetings. Attendance (+15)

•**Club Members are requested to attend Pershing County Commissioner’s Meeting.** Wednesday June 1st at 6pm is the next meeting. Discussion and for Possible Action: The Pershing County Commissioners will discuss and consider the relative merits of the proposed Pershing County Economic Development and Conservation Act (the “Proposed Bill”); and possibly take action as follows:

•**Withhold County support for the Proposed Bill and request that it not be introduced before the 114th Congress; or**

•**Postpone County support of the Proposed Bill pending further review and modification to its language and designations; or**

•**Support the Proposed Bill and recommend that it be introduced before the 114th Congress without modification and under the condition that Senators Reid and Heller will “kill” the Proposed Bill should the County, at any time, withdraw its support; or**

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<http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=pershing-county-lands-bill>

Motion to accept the New Business report: Board Member, Second: Board Member 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...

No update: Comstock Mining is rescheduling our above ground mine tour for a later date. They are still welcoming us, just a little later than they had planned. Their insurance at this time excludes us from going underground.

No update: 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.

No update: 49er Days at Roaring Camp: Join them the last weekend in July for family fun, gold panning, contests, swimming and BBQ. Located: just off Hwy 88, near Pine Grove. Take Tabeau Road approximately 1/2 mile to Roaring Camp Office.

Our Club Member, *Ken Walls* who volunteered his time to teach the CCW Class does not have a date as of this meeting, there were unforeseen circumstances that May dates are now exhausted.

Your Secretary is still hopeful with that June is upon us and summer provides further opportunities. We did have plus 12 requests to attend and that can change up or down as individuals make up their calendars.

Please, because I cannot provide date(s) make your own decisions to wait or seek other directions. As Secretary, I apologize for any inconvenience in any delays incurred.

Memorial Weekend there is several informal outings with Tammy being the largest with possible 5 Club Members.

Motion to accept the Outings Report: Board Member, Second: Board Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Report on Club Notices:

CCW Class by Ken Walls: Contact Secretary Wade Lavery directly for CCW class, Date TBD.

Motion to accept the Club Notices: Board Member, Second: Board Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Board Members.

Adjournment: Jim Richards 6:48pm.

COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS **MINUTES OF THE GENERAL** **MEETING MAY 24TH, 2016**

Call to Order:

Jim Richards began the Board Meeting at 7:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance:

President Jim Richards began the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present:

Jim Richards, Nadine Miller, Justin Shaw and Wade Lavery.

Members at Large: Harley Ponsler present with Ken Walls absent.

Support Staff on-site:

Membership/Chairperson & Historian: Bill Vogt, Clothing Custodian: Teresa Jones, Equipment Custodian/Raffle Coordinator: Mike Maxwell and Sergeant of Arms : Al Gottsch, Webmaster: Dave Terwilliger.

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Motion to accept Membership Report: Club Member Second: Club Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

Claims Report:

Vice President Justin Shaw requested any and all assessments on all claims be submitted in time for Quarterly Assessments Drawing for Silver Round (1ounce), to be held at end of meeting.

Motion to accept the Claims Report: Club Member, Second: Club Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

Old Business Report:

Look in newsletter for Bill Vogt's article on our Club's participation at the ICMJ Mining Summit. Treasurer tonight has written the check to donate the sum of \$1,170.00 to PLP, went into the mail.

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Memorial Weekend there is several informal outings with Tammy being the largest with possible 5 Club Members.

Motion to accept the Outings Report: Club Member, Second: Club Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

Report on Club Notices:

CCW Class by Ken Walls: Contact Wade Lavery directly for CCW class, date TBD. Motion to accept the Club Notices: Club Member, Second: Club Member. Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

Guest Speaker:

Craig A. Lindsay, President of Western Mining Alliance

Slide presentation augmented by Mr. Lindsay explaining WMA acts as the voice of the independent miners by research on legal filings, dredging resources and historical resources.

The website **theminingalliance.com** has news, resources, prospecting information, legal filings. I did not receive a bio or summary of the presentation for the newsletter. If before final print I can add written account further than I provided I will certainly add here, as a separate article outside minutes, or at our website.

Club Wear and Club Merchandise:

Call for details and place your order. Clothing Custodian:

Teresa Jones, Home 775/673-5253 between 3pm to 8pm, please leave voice mail with name, phone number and subject. Teresa's Email: teresajones5930@sbcglobal.net



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!

CGPC Quarterly Assessment Drawing:

Our Quarterly Drawing was held tonight for Silver Round (1ounce). Vice President Justin received 32 assessments before drawing and the winner, **Keith Wilson**, was in attendance!

The assessment turn-in breakdown is as follows:

PIRATE -10, WHODO- 6, TAMMY- 5, SHILOH- 2, ALONI- 2, ADAVENONE -2, BLUE WING- 2, ANTELOPE- 1 and OTHER-* 2.

*Old Names used, claims not available any more. You Club Members not only help yourselves and found gold, but this work really supports our requirements with the "MAN" in reporting and showing we are out there and working claims to profit!

Guest Recognition:

Craig A. Lindsay, President of Western Mining Alliance

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

CGPC's fifth meeting of 2016, George Walden ticket number was called for a silver ounce round! Come to our next meeting on Tuesday June 28th, 2016 for the next silver ounce round to be awarded!

Membership Drawing:

CGPC's third meeting of 2016, members Ron Rowe, Dayton called out for five Silver (ounce) Rounds, alas he was not present. Next month on Tuesday June 24th, 2016 there are 6 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: -55

Members: - 52

Guests: 3, no names were available.

Motion to adjourn meeting: Club Member, Second: Club Member. Voted and accepted by attending Club Members

Adjournment: Jim Richards at 9:25 pm

+.+.+.+.+ Special Note:+.+.+.+.+

Club members are going back Wednesday May 4 for "Mining Interests". Subject once again, Pershing County Lands Bill. But with great urgency and immediate research and actions:

Claims Committee reviewing a member's further analysis: "Blue Wing Wilderness... I just compared the Tammy claim map with the map of the proposed Blue Wing Wilderness area. It appears to me that about half of the Tammy claim lies within the wilderness area. The legend for wilderness map shows a brown line representing the boundary of WSA in section 12, the section in which the Tammy is located, and it follows the 1400-meter contour line. The boundary for the proposed wilderness area follows the 1450-meter contour line. This contour line passes through Tammy claim on a generally east-west direction and turns south near the west boundary of the Tammy. The map of the proposed wilderness area clearly shows a prospect in section 12 south of the Colorado Placer Mine within the proposed wilderness area. That prospect is in the southern part of the Tammy claim. Please check my findings. If I am correct we will lose the southern half the Tammy to the Wilderness area."

Claims Committee members reviewing new analysis (also further negatives to other claims possibly

revealed) and have until May 4 to submit another position letter to Pershing County.

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.

<u>WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:</u>	
Bill Kinzie	Downieville, CA.
Charles Stockland	Portola, CA.
George Zanter	Citrus Heights, CA.

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@att.net

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
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