

# THE GOLD PAN

The Newsletter of the  
**Comstock Gold Prospectors**  
June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018



## **BLACK BILLIE**

**Next Meeting: June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

*\*Our Guest speaker for June 26<sup>th</sup> is Chris  
Ralph*

**\*Deadline for submissions to the Newsletter will  
be July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018!**

(Mark your Calendars)

*July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

*Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

*Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

### **1 Year Gold – NYSE**

<u>06/15/2018 – Last</u>	\$1278.00
One Year High (at closing)	\$1294.00
One Year Low (at closing)	\$1274.00

### **1 Year Silver – NYSE**

<u>06/15/2018 – Last</u>	\$16.54
One Year High (at closing)	\$17.19
One Year Low (at closing)	\$16.46

#### **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

*\*Personal Ads: Are free to Members for a maximum of three editions of The Gold Pan Newsletter!*

### **PRESIDENTS LETTER:**

Chris Ralph will be our speaker this month. We urge all to attend as he has more knowledge of mineral exploration, where, what and when than all of us combined! He is a contributor to the ICMJ and will have insight and updates on the goings on in California and elsewhere.

Dan certainly has got everyone's attention on the Ken Bennett and the access situation. There have been several members going to the KB and doing improvements over the past few weeks as well as Dan.

A big plus is that the "police", plowed the road to the abandoned pickup and removed it. The road was greatly improved and "straightened" by their road work. We feel that the KB is now accessible for the "somewhat" hardy. ATV'S, trail bikes or hiking is the norm past where the pickup was...no Yugos. The truck was a blessing for us...in the future we shall be on the lookout for abandoned vehicles if we need road repair!

There is good gold to be found on the KB so this should be a rewarding destination for our members this summer. Thanks again to Dan for his efforts!!! Check our website for updates, bring hand tools and notify forest service of your entry.

The road to the Oro Mucho was also somewhat "repaired" recently, though the later part still needs to be used with caution. Also, we request our members to make sure you are prospecting on the **CLEARLY** marked Oro Mucho claim and not the other ones that are nearby. Bring your maps for clarification and your Club ID to all claims! Be sure and fill out assessment forms for all your visits.

We are lacking assessments for Antelope, Shiloh, Catherine's Secret, Patriot and Jack 1-4. We have to have these soon for our BLM filings! Forms can be downloaded and filled out to mail in or bring to Club meetings or can be filled out online. Remember, besides most importantly the BLM requirement, there is a silver round drawing quarterly for the turned in forms...the more you fill out, the better your odds.

The GMT Gold Master was acquired by Wade for \$320. Thanks Wade and all those who participated. The June item is the Turbo Tent Pine Deluxe 4 starting at \$100. July

will be the Tesero Lobo Super Traq starting at \$225. Refer to newsletter for descriptions and upcoming.

Dan bid \$200 for the Keene 3” dredge. Good deal. He and I then moved the dredge out of the trailer, loaded our items from storage (thus terminating our storage) into the trailer and moving the loaded trailer to Grant’s ranchita where the trailer and Club stuff will be residing. Thanks again Dan and thanks Grant for accommodating us!

The Club outing over Memorial Day was well attended (about 15) at the Tammy/Blue Wing. Big food provided by Randy!!! Report to follow.

Also, the annual Pleasant Valley Elementary School panning demo will have occurred June 19<sup>th</sup> with the usual eggs Benedict appreciation breakfast for the volunteers after the demo. We always have a good turnout and are appreciated by the school. Thanks Bill...especially for the breakfast!

June 28<sup>th</sup> is the annual BLM free mining claim workshop. You have to preregister at “BLM to host free mining claim workshop/BLM.” This is a good course with a large packet of materials and good instruction with question and answer.

Cowboy Con is still on in July...I am not getting much info lately though I hope to have more info this month. We contributed \$500, with Club approval, to WMA for their efforts in California concerning mining and prospecting. We also renewed out PLP membership of \$100 for the same purpose.

And as to the political front in California and the Federal level, the latest ICMJ (jun18), has an update from Scott Harn about Dredging in 2019! The permit cost of about \$200. (ICMJ.com, “California to Allow Suction Dredging in 2019”), and federally (publiclandsforthepeople.org “Small Miners Amendments to SB145”).

And...We still need a Clothing custodian and speaker and or demos at our upcoming meeting.  
Thanks...JR

### **“44 Special” Claim**

By Bill Vogt

The license for this claim has been signed and the claim is now available for prospecting by our members. This 80-acre claim is located just north of Downieville along Pauley Creek. The map for this claim is included in this newsletter and has been posted on our website as well as pictures of the claim and its access under Claim Menu/Claim Pictures.

Since this is a licensed claim please read the terms of the license listed in the title box of the map. Also, as stated under General Information, the access trail to and through

this claim is a “very popular” downhill bike trail so be alert for fast moving bikes and yield to them. There will also be times when the trail is closed due to races so check the schedule before going ([www.downieville.com](http://www.downieville.com)).

### **Perils of Locating a Mining Claim**

By Bill Vogt

By now you all know about the Memorial Day outing to Rye Patch being changed to Tammy/Blue Wing but most of you don’t know the nitty gritty of why this change was necessary. The main purpose of this trip was to see if it would be worthwhile to locate a claim in an area that had become open.

As reported in a previous article an initial trip on April 20<sup>th</sup> showed the area had some promise and it was decided that we would go back over the Memorial Day holiday weekend.

Here are the details of the initial trip and the plans for the follow-up trip:

The section in question was 20 of Township 32N, Range 32E, Mount Diablo Meridian. This section has been entirely claimed for many years with lode claims named Dusty and some number. These claims were all closed in February of this year because the claimants had not filled a proof of labor to satisfy the previous year Small Miner Waiver.

This section is one that has been watched for several years by the Claims Committee and it had been previously determined that we would want to check it out further should it ever become available.

In December of 2017, even before the lode claims were officially closed by BLM, another individual who has located several claims in the Rye Patch area over the years located placer claims in the entire SW quadrant and a portion of the NW quadrant.

This just left the East half and portions of the NW quadrant open for further claim locating.

After monitoring the county and BLM databases and seeing no indications of further claiming activity and a committee member visiting the area and finding no indication of claim activity, it was decided to investigate the area on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

At that time no indication of any new claim activity other than the claims previously identified in the SW and NW quadrant was found on the ground in the form of location notices, discovery monuments or corner posts. This confirmed what we had observed in the databases and since our April trip had positive results the Memorial Day outing was planned.

After the April General meeting and the word was getting out that this area showed some promise we became concerned others might claim it up prior to our trip.

Because of this concern two committee members made another trip to the area the weekend after the meeting and located on the ground four new placer claims for a total of 120 acres in the NE quadrant. The intent was that should any of these turn out to be viable the locating process would be completed, and the claims would be licensed back to the Club.

Again, on this trip and a subsequent follow-up trip no other evidence was found in the field that anyone else was locating any other claims.

All this changed the weekend before the planned trip when a check of the BLM database revealed that the entire area had been reclaimed by the original claimants with 36 lode claims. They were later found in the county database recorded incorrectly in the wrong section. The time line was as follows. The original claims were closed by BLM on 2/16/2018 with an effective closure date of 12/30/2017.

The new claims were located on 2/12/2018 and were recorded with the county and BLM on 5/10/2018, 87 days later. Since the location date precedes our April 20<sup>th</sup> trip and our subsequent locating of four claims it negates all that activity and our stakes have all been removed.

Also, since these new claims are lode claims and consume the entire section our rationale for the outing was negated and that is why it was rescheduled for Tammy/Blue Wing.

Now that you have the facts some of you might be wondering are these new lode claims valid. Since you have 90 days to record a location in the field with the county and BLM they have met that requirement.

But what does locating in the field entail? At a minimum there is supposed to be a discovery monument containing a document with very specific information describing the claim. In addition, for a lode claim there is supposed to be four corner posts. Given that one corner post could be, and usually is, the discovery monument and that claims located next to each other, as these are, could share corner post that would mean at a minimum 50 posts for these 36 claims.

During four separate trips not one of these posts was found. One could conclude from this that these claims have not been properly located and therefore are not valid.

While the claims might not be technically valid there are other considerations. The claimants are the original claimants and have a historical investment. In addition, since they had to relocate these claims they have shelled out at least \$7200 so they have a financial investment.

How likely are they to allow us to file placers over their lodes without a fight? Do we really want this fight?

So, what have we learned, **Nothing**. This has happened to us before and will probably happen to us again. Such are the perils of locating a mining claim.

## **Memorial Day Outing**

By Bill Vogt

Many members who had rescheduled from Rye Patch (see "The Perils of Locating a Mining Claim") to Tammy for the Memorial Day weekend backed out at the last minute due to the existing and forecasted weather. For those brave souls who ventured forth despite the dire forecasts the conditions were far different from those predicted (not uncommon for Tammy).

Out of the entire four days there was less than 15 minutes of rain which was very light and occurred late Saturday evening. All the attendees reported that the roads in and out were dry and in good conditions. Friday and Saturday were mainly cloudy with some heavy winds Friday, but conditions were tolerable. Sunday had fewer clouds and Monday had none. In all the weather conditions were good.

Randy Watkins and George Walden were the first to arrive on Friday. Gerry McFall and Bill Hillery greeted them but left shortly afterwards and never returned. My wife Irene and I were next, and we were followed by Web Varnum and David Mathews who caravanned in with us from highway 95. Al Gottsch and Toni DeHerrera had intended to follow us in, but the door of their trailer tore off and broke some of the windows on the way from Lovelock and they decided to return home.

Later in the afternoon Emil and Mario Tzekov arrived accompanied by their mother Vesa. Randy's son Jake along with his wife Jenie and children Ashlynn and Cameron came in Saturday and they were followed by Richard and Jonnia Speidel. The only other people to come out were Bud and Nadine Miller on Sunday afternoon who visited for a short time, did some prospecting and returned home.

As planned there was a pot luck dinner on Saturday night. The entree was a delicious stew prepared by Randy. He had been assisted earlier in the day with potato and carrot peeling by Web, George, and his grand-daughter Ashlynn. Randy had also prepared a Dutch oven berry cobbler which was excellent as always and was a match for the famous Dutch oven pineapple upside-down cake prepared by the Vogt's.

The Vogt's also contributed little smokies basted in barbecue sauce which were a big hit for Randy's grandchildren. David provided a colorful and tasty fruit bowl and the Speidel's brought homemade cornbread muffins and some croissants which were perfect for sopping up the stew broth. The Tzekov family added fruit

filled bites to the desert array. Nobody went away from the feast hungry.

As far as prospecting, metal detecting and re-circulating sluices were the main methods in as much as the soil was still too wet for dry-washing. I suspect that within a couple of weeks that method will work just fine if there isn't any rain in between.

Emil and Mario scaled the mountain and went to places I doubt most of our members have been to. They are in excellent shape and when I asked them what their jobs were they said they were personal trainers which made perfect sense.

Randy's son and his family went home Saturday evening after the pot luck. Randy, George, David, and Webb left Sunday morning. Irene and I followed by the Speidel's left Monday afternoon. The Tzekov brothers planned to leave later Monday afternoon. It's my understanding that our VP was on his way to join us for Saturday dinner but made a wrong turn. I will leave it to him for the telling of that tale.

**Used Member Donation "AS IS"**

**Description: white's Turbo Tent Pine Deluxe 4**

**Starting Donation: \$100.00**

**\$10 increments**

**Open 23May-close 24Jun.**

**At Monthly Meeting Announcement of Highest Donation - Takes Item**



**Used Member Donation "AS IS"**

**Description: Tesero Lobo Super Traq**

**Starting Donation: \$225.00**

**\$10 increments**

**Open 27Jun-close 22Jul.**

**At Monthly Meeting Announcement of Highest Donation - Takes Item**



**Used Member Donation "AS IS"**

**Description: Gold Grabber with Weima motor, pump**

**Suggested Retail: \$500.00**

**Used Pricing: \$150.00**

**Starting Donation: \$100.00**

**\$10 increments**

**Open 25Jul-close 26Aug.**

**At Monthly Meeting Announcement of Highest Donation - Takes Item**



**Used Member Donation "AS IS"**

**Description: MineLab X•TERRA 705**

**Starting Donation: \$250.00**  
**\$10 increment**  
**Open 29Aug-close 23Sep.**  
**At Monthly Meeting Announcement of**  
**Highest Donation - Takes Item**



**COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS**  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD**  
**MEETING MAY 22, 2018**

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

**Board Members Present:**

Jim Richards, Justin Shaw, Teresa Jones and Wade Lavery. Members at Large: Harley Ponsler and Tim Bartlett.

**Support Staff at Board Meeting:**

Webmaster: Dave Terwilliger.

**Claims Committee at Board Meeting:**

Chairman Mr. Shaw with fellow Board Members Richards, Lavery and Member at Large: Ponsler.

**Support Staff on-site:** See General Meeting Minutes.

**Correction to Minutes:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** See General Meeting

Minutes.

**Membership's Report:** See General Meeting Minutes.

**Claims Report:** See General Meeting Minutes.

**Old Business Report:** None.

**New Business Report:** See General Meeting Minutes.

**Outings Report:** See General Meeting Minutes.

**Report on Club Notices:** See General Meeting Minutes.

**Adjournment:** Jim Richards announced at 6:49pm.

**COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS**  
**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL**  
**MEETING MAY 22, 2018**

**Call to Order:** President Jim Richards began the General Meeting at 7:30pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Jim began the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Members Present:** See Board Meeting Minutes.

**Support Staff on-site:**

Membership/Chairperson & Historian: Bill Vogt, Equipment Custodian/Raffle Coordinator: Keith Wilson, Sergeant of Arms: Al Gottsch and Acting Club Custodian Toni DeHerrera.

**Correction to Minutes:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** Was read by Teresa Jones.

Motion to accept in: General Member meeting,  
Second by a Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

**Membership's Report:** 349 members, 15

lifetime memberships available, Activity: 6 added, 7 dropped and none reinstated.

Motion to accept in: General Member meeting,  
Second by a Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

### **Claims Report:**

#### **Jim Allen's Claims and the Club's Oro Mucho claim:**

•A reminder, that the Club (Board & General) voted to support with Club monies 50% for access improvements (road repair bond & associated fees) is still in planning and no plans have been finalized.

Our Member Jim Allen has informed CC of a postponement of access improvements until maybe this September. The Club will pivot off this experience for future work at other claims.

•We are at nine claims. Other license agreement(s) are being updated and being discussed with current owners. Certainly, all should recognize that the Claims Committee is very active in behalf of all our members.

Motion to accept in: General Member meeting,  
Second by a Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

**Old Business Report:** None.

### **New Business Report:**

•With ongoing donations for donated items shall be a monthly activity through September, see President's message for updates.

•Cowboy Con July 25 - 29 - will need volunteers - need about 8 metal pans for period correct panning and volunteers will need to be outfitted like prospectors of the time. President Jim Richards is the event coordinator. A sign-up sheet will be available at back table.

•Use of the public storage locker was discontinued before 30day notice had expired. Club materials went into trailer then moved to Grant Garrison's home in Sparks. The dredge was sold. Thanks to Warren and Grant in this effort.

Motion to accept in: General Member meeting

Second by a Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

### **Outings Report:**

•The Claims Committee (CC) had an outing at Rye Patch with Club Membership (22) and guests (3) on April 20th. Since then the CC discovered that previous Claim Owners had reinitiated their claims areas we were looking at and are not available now.

During tonight's meeting the possibly of a Tammy/Blue Wing outing is now proposed for Memorial weekend (1-4 days). We had a strong showing of hands (15) in support and we now have an outing!

Members were informed that an on- site potluck with Randy Watkins cooking up a beef stew shall occur on Saturday.

•Paradise Elementary Panning Demo - June 19th - Have some volunteers, could use a couple more -Bill Vogt is the event coordinator. A sign-up sheet will be available at back table or email/call Bill directly to participate.

•Looking for Event Coordinator for a September outing in Downieville, contact our President, Jim Richards, by phone (775-225-2404) or by email ([rsmokinguns@yahoo.com](mailto:rsmokinguns@yahoo.com)) if you would like to support the Club for this proposed event.

Motion to accept in: General Member meeting

Second by a Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

### **Report on Club Notices:**

- Outings Chairperson Position is open.
- Website is up and running, try it out. Forum on Washoe County Lands Bill created.
- The Club received a donation of \$320.00 by Wade Lavery. The White's GMT GOLDMASTER E-SERIES Detector has a new home.
- In June**, the Turbo Tent Pine Deluxe 4 starting at \$100 is up for a donation! Bidding begins 5/23 and ends 6/24. Remember, all bidding is to be submitted to the President, Jim Richards, by phone (775-225-

2404) or by email ([rsmokinguns@yahoo.com](mailto:rsmokinguns@yahoo.com)) during the open and close dates only.

•**In July**, the Tesero Lobo Super Traq detector starting at \$225.

Motion to accept in: General Member meeting,  
seconded by a Member.

Voted and accepted by the attending Club Members.

**Guest Speaker:** Sorry, no Guest Speaker tonight.

•**June's guest speaker is Chris Ralph!**  
**CGPC welcomes the return of this author, editor and friend of the Club!**  
**A small miner's authority on exploration for gold and a contributor to the ICMJ!**

**Club Wear and Club Merchandise:**

Clothing Custodian: position is now open.

**Looking For Outing Partner(s):**

Please use our Website Forums Menu, and then the 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.

**CGPC Quarterly Assessment Drawing:**

A reminder the quarterly assessment drawing for Silver (ounce) round is coming June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Assessments submitted online or by hard copy at June meetings shall be in the drawing. **GOOD LUCK!**

**Guest Recognition:**

Welcome to four Guests tonight, hopefully you felt welcomed and decide to join!

**New Members Present:**

Three new members joined us tonight, welcome and thank you goes out to **Janet & Paul Cox and Jack P. Wyse Jr..**

**New Members Drawing:**

Congratulations to **Jack P. Wyse Jr.**, he received a specimen box with a display of gold.

**Attendance Drawing:**

(Ticket supplied at sign-in table): In attendance CGPC's member **Pamela Sanchez** ticket number was called for Silver (ounce) round!

Come to our next meeting on Tuesday June 26th, 2018 for the next Silver round to be awarded!

**GOOD LUCK!**

**Membership Drawing: for six Silver (ounce) Rounds:**

**CGPC member drawn; in attendance was Robert Swank of Reno, he won six rounds!**

Our next meeting on Tuesday June 26th, 2018, we will return to draw for silver (ounce) round.

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.

**GOOD LUCK!**

Thank you for attending our meeting, we 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, we look forward to seeing you again!

**Total attendance: 59**

**Members: 55**

**Guests: 4**

**Motion to accept the Club Meeting Minutes and adjourn meeting:**

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

Adjournment: Jim Richards announced at 8:26pm.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS-2018**

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

**Vice President:**  
**Justin Shaw- 775/409-8560**  
Email: [jshaw@openmailbox.org](mailto:jshaw@openmailbox.org)

**Secretary: Wade Lavery – 775/384-1668**  
(home)  
Cell-650/823-8658  
Email: [lavery531@me.com](mailto:lavery531@me.com)

**Treasurer: Teresa Jones - 775/376-1787 cell**  
Email: [Teresajones5930@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Teresajones5930@sbcglobal.net)

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

**Member at Large: Tim Bartlett**  
Cell- 775/971-3202

### **PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES- SUPPORT STAFF- 2018**

**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:**

***\*Volunteer Needed ASAP\****

**Raffle Coordinator: Keith Wilson –**  
**775/775-450-5723**  
Email: [argoone86@gmail.com](mailto:argoone86@gmail.com)

**Sergeant of Arms:**  
**Al Gottsch – 775/538-7316**  
Email: [bodop72@gmail.com](mailto:bodop72@gmail.com)

### **Webmaster:**

**David Terwilliger-home-775/ 241-0186**  
Cell-775/ 530-8294  
Email: [dave@dptwig.com](mailto:dave@dptwig.com)



### **New Members:**

James Jacobs	Dayton, NV.
Heidi & Steve Smith	Lincoln, CA.
Mark Johnson	Henderson, NV.
Charlene Thiessen	Henderson, NV.
Janet Cox	Sparks, NV.
Paul Cox	Sparks, NV.
Xu Le	Sacramento, CA.
Jeff Utberg	Sacramento, CA.
Gary Hagstrom	Sparks, NV.
Irina & Ross Hernandez	Fresno, CA.
Louis & Susana Yannotti	Culver City, CA.
David & Tina Ellsworth	Loyalton, CA.
Steve Hawkins	Yucca Valley, CA.



### Free TV:

A great pre-flat screen TV (Sony FD Trinitron WEGA 36XBR450) in excellent condition free to any Club member, willing to haul it off without my help (235 pounds – main reason I'm getting rid of it).

If interested contact Bill Vogt at [wvogt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wvogt@sbcglobal.net) or 775-747-3145.



### 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!!

Keith Wilson  
Comstock Gold Prospectors  
P.O. 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  
Quarter Page Ad: \$12.50 per month  
Full Page Ad: \$50.00 per month

### AD: ISO Metal Detecting Equipment

By Al Gottsch



- Looking for a used **Fisher Gold Bug** (complete)
- Looking for a larger (11") **Elliptical coil for a Fisher Gold Bug**

**Please Contact:**  
**Al Gottsch @ 1-775-538-7316**