

MARCH 2026 ISSUE

COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS

The monthly newsletter of the Comstock Gold Prospectors



Presidents Letter

May this be our most golden year yet! With gold prices holding strong (hovering well above recent highs and exciting everyone in the prospecting world), there's no better time to gear up, hit the claims, and enjoy what we love most: chasing that yellow metal responsibly.

Our February general meeting on the 24th was wonderful with our impromptu Speaker Lino Zamacona, sharing specimens of his recent gold finds. We have many events coming up with the soonest Farm Days at

Rancho San Rafael Park April 26th and with that **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**. Only 2-4 hours of your time. If you haven't visited one of our claims lately, now's the time – our claims are there for you to enjoy! Please also fill out the claims report so we can have enough of them before September and be ahead of the game!

Happy Prospecting and Hope to you all at the March

24th meeting

-George

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**Board of
Directors/Appointees**

**Next Meeting
March 24th 2026**

No March Speaker



Guest Speakers

Upcoming Guest Speakers

New Speakers Welcome

April Guest Speaker

April Guest Speaker is Austin Metz “Nevada Expeditions”



May Guest Speaker

Chris Ralph

He is a well-known professional prospector, author, and educator in Geology and Gold Prospecting



Juli's Tidbits

A ONE TRACK MIND ISN'T TOO BAD IF THE TRACK LEADS YOU SOMEWHERE.

Our February meeting started out with a relatively large crowd.

I think the 60mph winds we had that day blew everyone in.

We had quite a few new members sign up and Don, Tom, and Ken won silver rounds. With gold staying above \$5,100.00 and silver hovering around \$90.00, don't let your club membership lapse. You still have until April 1st, before you are dropped.

**Our club is in need of a Treasurer. Let George, the president, know if you can help with this position. Once again, we had a surprise guest speaker. Our very own, and my husband, Lino Zamacona, shared our recent trip to "Fred the Pirate" claim on the Yuba River.*

The three days, in the beginning of February, were breathtaking .

The temperatures were in the high 50s low 60s, definitely t-shirt weather. Each day Lino spent 4 hours classifying and test panning. When he found a honey-hole he just classified and filled up about 3 buckets per day of dirt (6 half filled buckets so he could carry them to the truck. I helped with this part). When we got to our Nevada home, he ran the dirt through a Gold Cube. The total was 1.3 grams which would fetch us about \$200 at today's prices.

WARNING! You will catch gold fever on the Pirate claim. The only cure is to get back to prospecting so Lino & I are heading back to the Yuba real soon. Thank you to those who signed up to help at Rancho San Rafael Park Farm Days, April 26, 10am-1pm.

DOWNIEVILLE GOLD RUSH DAYS – SEPTEMBER 18-20!!!!!!!!!!!!!! What is the lure of gold? Gold is extremely dense which makes it 19 times heavier than water. Gold is a great conductor and is virtually immune to oxygen and will not corrode, tarnish, or rust. Its luster and deep yellow color have lured men and women beyond comprehension. If you stare at gold long enough it begins to glow, succumbing to "gold fever". When gold was discovered in 1848 on the American River where they had just built a saw mill in Coloma, California, lots of doubt surrounded the claims of that find. Months later word got out in San Francisco that, indeed, gold was discovered. The 1849 Gold Rush began, drawing hundreds of thousands of people to the American, Feather, Sacramento, Tuolumne, and Yuba Rivers. Eventually reaching the upper North Fork Yuba River, Francis Anderson discovered the first gold on September 14, 1849, calling the area The Forks, since 2 rivers came together. The Downie River was named for William Downie who led an expedition to that area. Several buildings were built in 1850 followed by a fire destroying most of the buildings. In 1852, a bar was built out of bricks and it still stands today as the St. Charles Place in the old Craycraft building. Stay tuned for more exciting news and activities at Downieville Gold Rush Days



Club Outings

Rancho San Rafael Regional Park



Saturday, April 26, 10 am - 1 pm

Activities include:



- **Gold Panning** with Comstock Gold Prospectors
- **Crafts** in the Discovery Room
- Listen to **stories** with Washoe County Librarians and check out the **Bookmobile**
- **Milk Moolissa** the milking cow with Department of Agriculture
- Learn about **beekeeping** with 4-H
- Meet **farm animals** from Valley Amigos Ranch
- **Garden Demonstrations** with UNR Extension Master Gardeners
- **And many more activities with our amazing partners:** Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation, Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, and May Arboretum Society

Short Tail Coffee will have warm drinks and snacks for purchase.



Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, 1595 N. Sierra St., Reno, NV 89503
775.785.4512 WashoeCountyParks.com

*Bring your kids, grandkids, friends, husband or wife;
FUN for the whole family
Show off your Panning Skills
Volunteers always appreciated*

Outings Continued...

Later in the Year we have
Downieville Gold Rush Days.

Get your rooms reserved,
campsites booked and
calanders marked for this fun
filled weekend for the
Comstock Gold Prospectors

*This is the time
network, build
friendships and enjoy
your fellow
clubmembers and the
club*

DOWNIEVILLE
GOLD RUSH DAYS
PRESENTED BY:
COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS - RENO, NV

**Downieville
Gold Rush Days 2026**
September 18th - 20th

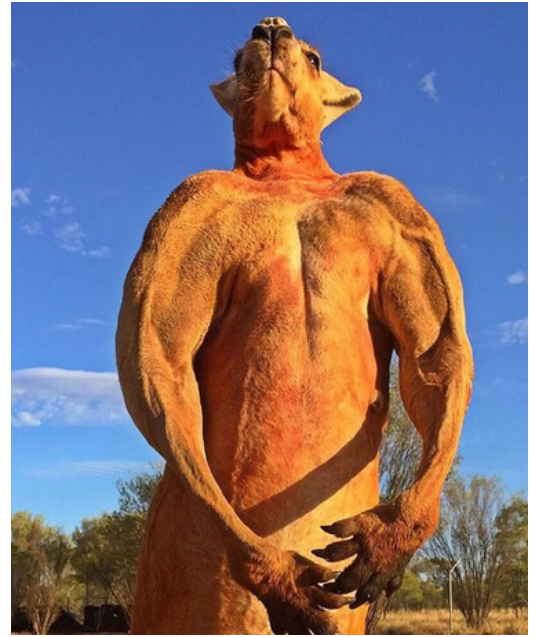
Presenting Sponsor: COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS - RENO NV

3 Days of Wild West History and Fun!



Membership Update

With a huge thank you to Jeffrey Benik for collecting everyones membership applications! It is not an easy task to wrangle all the wild west members in every year, but luckily he has what it takes to make it happen as you can see.



If you have not turned in your membership application PLEASE do that ASAP or see Jeff before or after the meeting

Membership Statistics March 18th, 2026 12:15

294 MEMBERSHIPS (167 INDIVIDUAL and 127 FAMILY)

20 Snailmail The Gold Pan

362 Email The Gold Pan (280 Emails #1 + 82 Emails as #2)

26 Lifetime Members

12 Honorary Members

6 Licensee Annual Renewals (Members We License Claims, September 1st)

60 New Members in 2026

146 Members from Nevada

132 Members from California

16 Members From (AZ, FL, HI, IN, MO, NC, PA, TN, TX, UT, WA)

365 Members Website Access (283 Primary and 82 Family)

14 Current Members Have No Website Access (No Computer)

15 New Member Kits Mailed This Year

233 Member Cards Mailed This Year

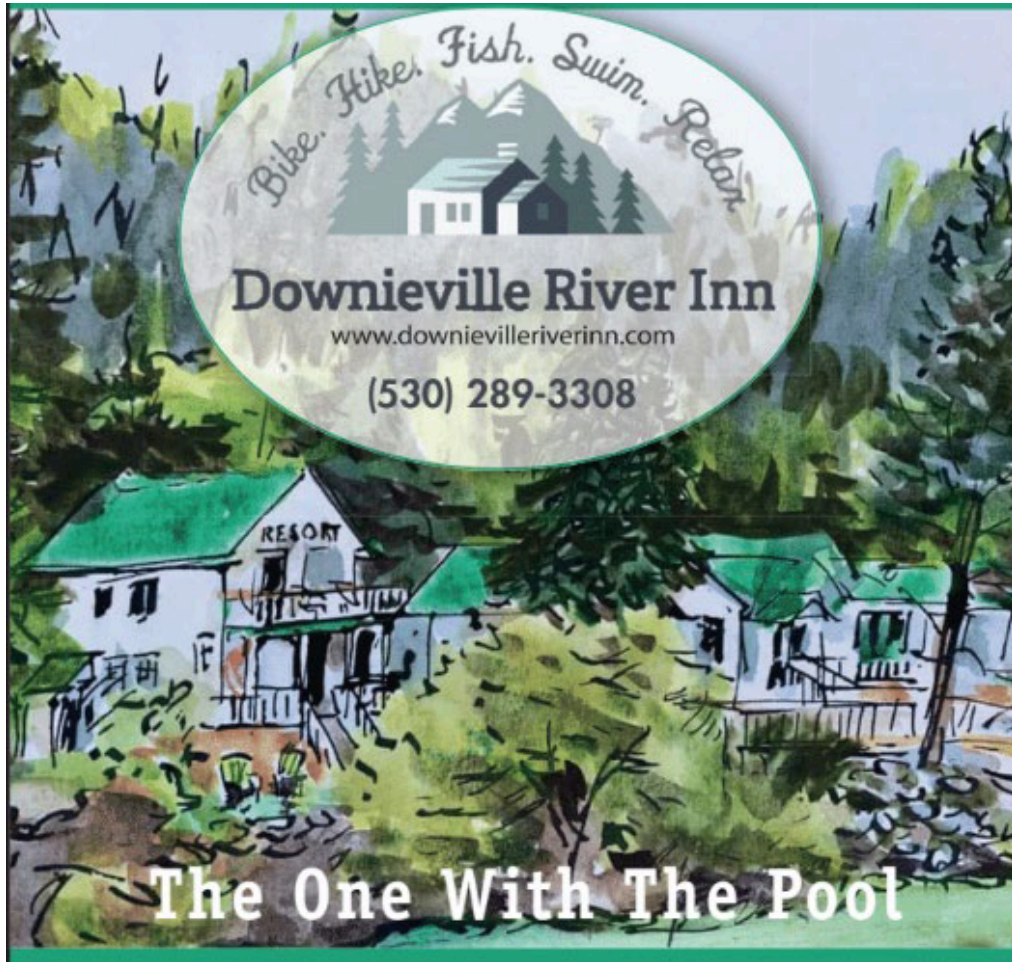
233 Bylaw Requirement; Signed Applications on File

35 Members logged into WEB Site in last 30 days

NOTE: The Statistics above reflect the current status of the Membership Roster system.

Taken from website

Classifieds



Bike. Hike. Fish. Swim. Relax

Downieville River Inn
www.downievilleinn.com
(530) 289-3308

The One With The Pool

Downieville River Inn
Welcomes

Comstock
Gold
Members

10% Discount
October thru April

121 RIVER STREET,
DOWNIEVILLE, CA

reservations@downievilleinn.com



AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

Rachelle Cranney and Associates LLC
6180 Mae Anne Ave Ste 4
Reno, NV 89523
PH: 775.284.0425

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Ask us about your Costco Discount, Good driver Discount,
Over 50 Discount
Refer a Friend have them mention your name and we send you \$10
Digital Amazon Gift Card



General Meeting Agenda

February 2025

Meeting Called to order: 7:30pm by: President George Eglinger
Correction to minutes: No Corrections

Membership Report:

Total Members: 294

New Member:

167 Individual/ 127 Family

Claims Report:

Claims Committee Meeting: Meets Monday at 11:30am Denny's /
Reach out to George or Rachelle for questions

Old Business:

Updated claims information

New Business:

Outings and Events

Outings Report:

April 26th Farm Days Coming up!

Downieville Gold Rush Days Sept. 18-20th

2026 Elected Officers and Board Members by Wade Lavery • 03/14/2026

2026 Elected Officers and Board Members:

President: George Eglinger – 775.722.8554 Email: President@cgpgold.org

Vice President, ACTING:Rachelle Cranney – with support from George Eglinger

Secretary: Julianne Zamacoma – 707.758.5297 Email: Secretary@cgpgold.org

Treasurer: Jim Richards – 775.225.2494 Email: Treasurer@cgpgold.org

Membership: Jeffrey Benik – 775.250.4188 Email: Membership@cgpgold.org

At Large Member(2): Hamilton Reed – 775.841.1294 Email: AtLarge2@cgpgold.org

At Large Member(1): Keith Wilson – 775.450.5723 Email: AtLarge1@cgpgold.org

2026 Presidential Appointees – Committee Chairs, Support Staff & Volunteers:

Christmas Party/Chairperson: OPEN Email: OPEN

Claims/Chairperson: OPEN Email: OPEN

Clothing Custodian: Hamilton Reed – 775.841.1294 Email: Clothing@cgpgold.org

Equipment Custodian: Grant Garrison – 775.359.9238 Email: Equipment@cgpgold.org

Gold Pan Editor: Rachelle Cranney – 775.846.8372 Email: rachelle.neilsen@gmail.com

Historian: OPEN Email: OPEN

Outings: OPEN Email: OPEN

Raffle Custodian: Keith Wilson – 775.450.5723 Email: Raffle@cgpgold.org

Sgt. at Arms: Jeffrey Benik – 775.250.4188

Web Administrator: Justin Shaw – 775.409.8560 Email: j.shaw@disroot.org

Web Master: Justin Shaw – 775.409.8560 Email: j.shaw@disroot.org