

APRIL 2026 ISSUE

# COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS

The monthly newsletter of the Comstock Gold Prospectors



## Presidents Letter

As the snow melts and the creeks start calling, I hope this finds you all with your pans ready to go and your spirits high for another season of chasing the Gold Fever.

Our March general meeting on the 24th was wonderful with our membership growing and having the company of Wayne Farnham. Which I would like to thank on behalf of the club for his claim usage donations.

Downieville Days would not be possible without him. As we all know that is the largest event our club co-hosts and most visited areas. We have many events coming up with the soonest Farm Days at Rancho San Rafael Park Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. 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 April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting  
-George

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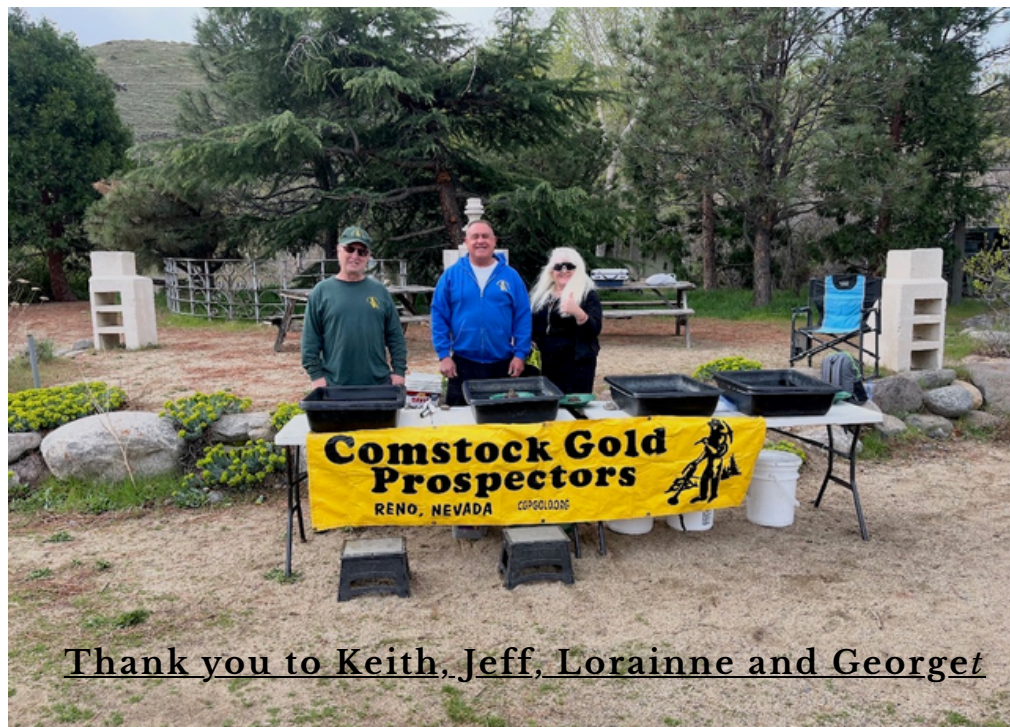
**Board of  
Directors/Appointees**

**Meetings held 4<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday of the Month**

**Next Meeting  
April 28<sup>th</sup> 2026**

# CALANDER OF EVENTS

Upcoming Club Meetings, Club Events, Member Events and Outings



**No  
April Fooling  
about it**

*April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 a  
handful of volunteers  
came out to assist  
with the panning  
demo for Great Basin  
Outdoor School*

## Planning Ahead

**Mark your Calendars for the upcoming Meetings**

| Month | Monthly Claims<br>Committee<br>meeting | Monthly<br>Club<br>Meeting | Outings and<br>Events                                                          |
|-------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April | April 13 <sup>th</sup>                 | April 28 <sup>th</sup>     | April 26th Farm Day<br>10-1 Rancho San Rafael<br>Park -Reno, NV                |
| May   | May 11 <sup>th</sup>                   | May 26 <sup>th</sup>       |                                                                                |
| June  | June 9 <sup>th</sup>                   | June 23 <sup>rd</sup>      | June 6 <sup>th</sup> Panning Demo<br>Carson Valley Museum<br>11-2 Gardnerville |

# April Guest Speaker



**April Guest Speaker is  
Austin Metz "Nevada Expeditions"**

## *Guest Speakers*

### **Upcoming Guest Speakers**

*New Speakers Welcome*

#### **May Guest Speaker**

*Chris Ralph*

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



#### *To be Announced* **June Guest Speaker**

*We are hoping to fill the June  
spot with outdoor training, on  
what to look out for and how to  
handle hazardous situations.*

*Requested by popular demand.*

*If you know of anyone please  
let us know.*

# *Juli's Tidbits*



*Don't be concerned about the years in your life, rather the life in your years. The Comstock Prospector's Club continues to do some amazing events. April 1st the club demonstrated some prospecting skills for the Greater Outdoor School at Mayberry Park. Farm Day at San Rafael Park will be Sunday, April 26, 10am – 1pm. June 6th the club will be the featured demo club at the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center in Gardnerville. Let's not forget our event of the year, DOWNIEVILLE GOLD RUSH DAYS September 18-20.*

*At our March meeting, it was announced that Rachelle Cranney will be taking on a couple of more positions for the club. Not only is she the fabulous Gold Pan Editor but now she is the Vice-President/Claims Committee Chairperson. Rachelle is wanting to make sure our club continues to be the best in the West. Thanks for all your help, Rachelle! We also welcomed 7 visitors, with 5 of them becoming new members. Our very own, Steve, shared his latest adventure to "Fred the Pirate" claim. He worked the tree roots and moved some rocks in the water to pull out .4 & .3 grams of gold, approximately \$155. I think Fred the Pirate claim is the place to go, especially if you want to find your first flakes/pickers. Winners of the silver rounds were Burl, Lorraine, & Paul. Congratulations! The JAHMACH claim on Nelson Creek, Quincy/LaPorte Rd. Is HANDS & PANS ONLY!*

*Ken Mila will, once again, be teaching a gold panning class through TMCC. June 1 will be the classroom setting and June 6 will be the hands-on field trip. Stay tuned for more information as we get closer to the dates.*

*About 12 miles north of Downieville, is the small community of Sierra City, gateway to the Sierra Buttes and the Lake Basin Region. In 1850, Philo Haven and Joseph Zumwalt put up some tents and small rough buildings. These 2 men and others tunneled through the granite Buttes following a quartz vein. Numerous hard-rock gold mines were developed on both sides of the North Yuba River Canyon. These mines included the Colombo, Independence, Keystone, Monumental Great Sierra Buttes, and The William Tell. In the winter of 1852-53 an avalanche destroyed the settlement. Men concentrated on rebuilding the town so they wouldn't lose site of the quartz vein. The towering, jagged Sierra Buttes is breathtaking. A real MUST SEE!*

# Club Outings



**Sunday, April 26, 10 am - 1 pm**

**Activities include:**

- Gold Panning with Comstock Gold Prospectors
- Animal Ark
- Crafts in the Discovery Room
- Listen to stories with the Washoe County Librarians
- Milk Moolissa the milking cow with the Department of Agriculture
- Learn about beekeeping with 4-H
- Meet farm animals with Valley Amigos Ranch
- Garden Demonstrations with UNR Extension Master Gardners
- Antique Tractors and Engines
- Nevada Department of Wildlife
- And many more activities with our amazing partners:  
Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, PBS Reno, WCSO Mounted Patrol, May Arboretum Society and Washoe County 4-H



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](http://WashoeCountyParks.com)

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

*Volunteers always  
appreciated*



*1479 U.S. Hwy  
395 N,  
Gardnerville, NV  
89410*

**\*\*\* June 6th the club will be the featured  
demo club at the Carson Valley Museum &  
Cultural Center in Gardnerville\*\*\*  
11am- 2pm**

## *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 18<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>**

Presenting Sponsor: COMSTOCK GOLD PROSPECTORS - RENO, NV

**3 Days of Wild West History and Fun!**



## *Additional Outing Updates*

*With more small group outings planned in the warmer months coming up we want you to be aware of Poison Oak and Poison Ivy and how to Spot it*

**Poison oak in California is identified by leaves in groups of three with a glossy,, oak-like appearance, changing from red in spring to green in summer and red/orange in fall. It grows as a shrub or vine, often found along hiking trails, in shaded areas, and near waterways in most regions below 5,000 feet.**



# Additional Club News

**Need a refresher course on Gold panning? How about a newbie to the Gold Prospectors and still learning how to find your yellow treasure?**

**Offered at TMCC link provided below  
Class on Gold Panning in the Mother Lode.**

**In person classroom and fieldtrip hands on learning offered at TMCC from Ken Mela**



*Not Yet Available for online registration but you can show interest in the class ahead of time and it will add you to be notified when you can register. Link provided below.*

*[https://truckee.augusoft.net/index.cfm?](https://truckee.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=course.courseinformation&int_course_id=190&int_category_id=2&int_sub_category_id=15&int_catalog_id=0)*

*[method=course.courseinformation&int\\_course\\_id=190&int\\_category\\_id=2&int\\_sub\\_category\\_id=15&int\\_catalog\\_id=0](https://truckee.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=course.courseinformation&int_course_id=190&int_category_id=2&int_sub_category_id=15&int_catalog_id=0)*



***Huge thank you to Wayne Farnham for his contributions to our Downville Days that could not be made possible without him. Also his darling chauffeur for all her help assisting grandpa.***

### **Member Recognition:**

With a heart of our club full of gratitude we want to recognize Wade Lavery for his hours of labor, time and energy into the website, working with members organizing speakers and doing so much behind the scenes. Thank you Wade for all your efforts, our club would not be thriving on this level with you.



### **March Meeting**

*Perhaps not as exciting as Basketball in March*

*However, close to it!*

*We had Silver Round winners Lorainne, Paul and Burl. Several announcements, growing attendance and record breaking membership growth!*



# Classifieds



**Item For Sale by Club Member:  
Asking \$2,000 obo**

**Ph: 831.588.3866  
Email:  
jstherlin3@gmail.com**

**Wheel is close to 2',  
sits on rectangular  
casing that is about  
3'X1'**



**Willing to Pallet Ship  
at buyers expense**

**James Sutherlin  
in the beautiful area  
of Santa Cruz, CA**

## Our Commercial Partners



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



**Connect with Our Agency**  
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



**Downieville River Inn Welcomes**  
  
Comstock Gold Members  
  
10% Discount  
October thru April  
  
121 RIVER STREET,  
DOWNIEVILLE, CA  
  
reservations@downievilleinn.com

**The One With The Pool**

# General Meeting Agenda

March 2026

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

## **Membership Report:**

Total Members: 421

New Member: 7

294 Individual/ 167 Family

Claims Report: Jahhmach 5 year renewal and Ken Bennett 10 year renewal

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

Old Business: Great Basin Outdoor school panning demo

## **New Business:**

## **Outings and Events**

April 26th Sunday Farm Days Coming up!

June 6<sup>th</sup> Carson Valley Panning Demo

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 Zamacona – 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