

Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors News

Volume I Issue 2

Southwest Washington Gold

May 2012

Ernie Stinson Wins Logo Contest

By Kameron Mitchell

It is now official! The membership deliberated over the eight or so logo entries and Ernie Stinson's Logo entry was chosen. There were many excellent entries and we thank all the artists for taking the time to provide the chapter with their ideas.

President Al knows of a company that can make the logo into a patch, a sticker, and other things, but the company needs a more finished product to copy.

I have tried to make it look good, but I do not have any computer graphics programs. What you see is a hand-printed copy. Coloring it was a very painful process as I had to color it pixel by pixel using Microsoft "Paint"!!

Any computer artists out there? We need a member or friend who is willing to "professionalize" our logo and provide that finished logo. Please help out!



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Our New Logo (Draft)



The President's Adit - Opening Message

Not available at press time.

SWWGP Website Published

By Kameron Mitchell

The SWW Gold Prospectors website has finally been published. Although there are many things left to do to complete the website, anyone can now go and take a look. Our web address is:

SWWGoldProspectors.org

Many hours of effort has been spent by our web master Rosalie Mitchell. Never having done

something like this, she stepped up and volunteered to build the site anyway. I may be biased, but I think she did an outstanding job!

Many of the pages still need to be fleshed out and much content still needs to be added.

Rosalie has the following pages

set up: Home, About Us, Gallery, Outings Calendar, Contact Us, Terms and Conditions, and Links. Some of the information is just holding a place for more complete information when we find it.

There are plans for additional pages, e.g., Meeting Minutes,

Private Areas, etc. but if there is something you'd particularly like to see, please let Rosalie know. You may contact her by email

brosalie@comcast.net or simply let her know at the next meeting. Your help will be appreciated.

The Nugget Patch—Editorials

By Kameron Mitchell

"Flatten and save your aluminum"

All clubs, organizations, and groups from the smallest to huge businesses require funds to continue providing its goods or services. Our Chapter is no different.

We had a discussion in a previous meeting concerning ways to raise money to help us in our efforts at educating the public with the truth about our favorite pastime.

One idea I did not hear was collecting aluminum cans to sell to a local recycler. We all use many cans in a month, and typically give them to the garbage company. I would like to see all members flatten and save your aluminum cans. (Oregon members can be excused.) When you have a large garbage bag full, take them to one of the monthly meetings. I am willing to recycle them when we have enough to

make it worthwhile to sell. It may not garner thousands of dollars, but selling them will raise a few extra much needed dollars.

Also, it seems whenever we go out to our favorite outdoor area to camp, prospect, hunt, fish, or whatever, there are cans strewn around. Pick those up and save them for the club. This will two goals: clean up the environment and help make us some money!

ExClaims ! —Letters to the Editor

"I hope to hear from you soon."

I still haven't received any emails or letters yet. I hope to hear from you soon. If appropriate, I will publish them in our next editions. I don't know if you noticed the Nov-Dec GPAA

magazine's letters, but our own logo winner, Ernie Stinson, had a letter published. Way to go!

Email the editor at:

kameron.m@comcast.net

Did you Know?

Platinum melts at 3224° F

Specific gravity is 21.45

Gold melts at 1945° F

Specific gravity is 1932

Lead melts at 621° F

Specific gravity is 1134

Promising Prospects—Outings & Events

GPAA Italian Bar outing 2003

Upcoming Meetings:

May 13, 2012
June 10, 2012
July 8, 2012
August 12, 2012
September 9, 2012
October 14, 2012
November 11, 2012
December 9, 2012

OUTINGS

The outings committee has not provided the newsletter with any dates yet. We will be listing them here as soon as possible. Keep checking as we will be updating this frequently. Also, check the website as you will see the calendar there before receiving the next Newsletter. I can hardly wait to get out there! How about you?

Humankind has unearthed approximately 3.3 billion ounces of gold.

The ocean contains approximately 25 billion ounces of gold.

Two men recovered 2400 ounces of gold in 7 hours with a rocker box in Little Creek, AK near Nome.

The beaches near Nome have yielded the most gold of any other beach in the world.

Concentrates—Meeting Minutes Highlights

Business Meeting 4/8/12 Not available at press time

Panning Demo

By Kameron Mitchell

At our last meeting, Al Lewis brought a panning trough, pans, and some concentrates to demonstrate panning.

The gold that was panned was very interesting: he painted lead pieces in gold! What an excellent idea. It was an great way to teach panning without the fear of losing any gold! An added benefit is it builds confidence in a new panner while learning the properties of gold. He also had on display a spiral panning machine. These ma-

chines really can make panning easy. Once they are set up correctly they separate very cleanly the gold from the black and lighter sands.



Desert Fox Spiral Panner



Old Time Panners

Rich Placer Deposits — Educational Articles

Let's Go To The River

by Kameron Mitchell

The weekend is coming up and you've only got one day for your favorite pastime. What are you going to do? What can you do? I'll tell you what I do: I get all my hand tools together and head for my local stream to do a little sluicing. The question then comes up, "What should I take?" I made a list of things to take with me and placed all my small stuff together in a single pack. You'll notice the first item on the list is my lunch. I usually get so involved in what I'm doing that I forget to eat at lunch time. Then about 2 hours later, my body says you've got to give me some nourishment. It is very important to have a lunch readily available. And don't forget your beverages to keep yourself well-hydrated. Here is the list of what I take with me and you may be able to see most items in the picture to the right.

- Lunch
- Sluice Box
- Shovel (#2)
- Pry Bar (small, medium, large)
- Rock Hammer and Chisel
- Small Sledge
- 5 gal. Bucket (and/or 2-1/2 gal)
- Gold Pan and Safety Pan
- Various sizes of Classifiers
- Snuffer Bottle and Gold Vials
- Screw Drivers
- Crevicing Tools
- Whisk Broom
- Tweezers
- Turkey Baster or gold sucker
- Small Hand Shovel
- Small hand trowel
- Large Serving Spoon
- Protective Glasses
- Black Sands Container
- Rubber Gloves
- Band Aids
- And don't forget extra clothes in case you fall in the water! Be careful; the rocks can be very slippery.

Also, let someone know exactly where you will be going and what time you expect to be back. You never know what might happen and it's nice to have someone covering your back. Then, when you get back home, let them know you have arrived home safely so they don't worry.



Sluice Box



Panning Kit

Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors

Meets 2nd Sunday every month at 1:00 pm
Minnehaha Grange Hall No. 164
4905 NE St. Johns Road
Vancouver, WA

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GPAA Mission Statement

The mission of the Gold Prospectors Association of America is to further the advancement of gold prospecting and treasure hunting by:

1. Developing an organization that actively encourages camaraderie, fellowship, and personal contact among people with the same interests in gold prospecting;
2. Adhering to environmental laws;
3. Following the Bureau of Land management, Forest Service, and Army Corps of Engineers laws and doctrines;
4. Promote increased public awareness of ecologically sound prospecting and small-scale recreational mining for adults, families, and children;
5. Teaching club members how to prospect for gold and treasures;
6. Developing teachers and mentors;
7. Educating the general public about the history of gold prospecting and of the importance of mineral extraction.

The Tailings Pile — Other Notes of Interest

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS !!

I need your help writing this newsletter! Any of you who would like to write an article or editorial is wholeheartedly welcome to send your writings to me. I may need to edit some content and/or shorten them due to space limitations, but I will try to keep that to a minimum. Reporters are sought! I may not be able to make all outings and of course I can't see all that happens, so help in reporting on what you see

will be appreciated. Also, more than one of you may report on the same outing or event. I can compile the information. Don't be shy. Short story writers: send me your compositions. I would like to include a story with each issue in a "Around the Campfire" section and I don't want to use and reuse my own!! I'm not sure of the space we will have available, but I will let you know soon. Thanks for all your help.

JOIN US !!

All interested parties are invited to attend one of our monthly meetings. There will be opportunities to learn about prospecting laws, methods, and equipment as well as some hands-on practice. Soon there will also be outings to enjoy the pleasures of prospecting for gold. Become a member of one of the newest chapters of the Gold Prospectors Association of America. (GPAA membership is required to be a voting member but it is not necessary to join in the fun.)