

SWWG



May-June 2022

Next meeting is June 12TH, 2021 at 2:00

Board meeting is at 12:30

Presidents Message

My thanks to everyone who has stepped up to help at chapter functions. It is a lot of hard work, and for the most part a lot of fun. When we volunteer it is very satisfying even though we may not gain any financial benefit.

We are off to a good start for this years activities and there are more in the planning stage.

We have a lot of new people interested in joining our group so be sure to make them feel welcome.

See you At the May first meeting 2 o'clock.

Debbie W.

President SWWGP

360 695 3215

THANK YOU

I wanted to thank all of you for your hard work and making our first booth at the big garage sale a success. For the first time having a booth we did very well. Not only with sales, potential new members, we had 32 people sign up to receive chapter information, but some of us made some important connections for outings and education.

Everyone said they had a lot of fun and enjoyed to people.

We are signed up for the next sale on July 2, Saturday, which is an outdoor sale and predicted to have a 3 to 4 times the sales increase.

So sign up to work and join the Fun!

GOLD SHOW

A big thank you to all of the Vancouver Chapter folks who donated their time to the Portland gold show. Especially since most of the Vancouver folks received nothing for their hard work and efforts. . You guys are great!!

GARAGE SALE

We have a booth at the N.W. largest garage sale on Sat. July 2nd. A one day event.

We are teaching gold panning and this is not only a fund raiser but also educational. We need about 20 -25 people to work our booth. We will provide entry for all, parking is 6 or 7 dollars. Everyone who worked the last sale had a lot of fun.

If you are able to help out please contact Debbie W. 360 695 3215 or ddwitcher@yahoo.com.

ASAP. If we do not have enough people to work we will have to miss this opportunity.

Shifts are approx. 3-4 hours and you will have plenty of time to visit the other booths. We will be outside with the majority of the vendors. Hours for most are 9 to 4.

Also, just a reminder that our next meeting is scheduled for June 12th at 2 o'clock

PLP CORRECTION

Walt from PLP wanted to make a correction. When you get the permit for dredging you do have a report to file for the amount of lead etc. you take out of the rivers.

We also want to thank him for taking the time to come and speak with us. It was very interesting and educational. For anyone who would like to join PLP I have the paperwork. Fees are: single \$50, Family \$75, Business/club/ mining district \$150.

PARKING FEES GPAA SHOW

Jeanne and Preston have money for those who worked the show Sat. and/or Sunday.

Please see them if you have not been reimbursed.

OUTINGS

With the water running fast and being cold, we are holding off on any outings. We are lining up outings and if you have any suggestions please let Debbie W. know. We do still need an outings chair.

We are keeping in mind travel and gas prices.

LEADING AUTHORITY REVEALS

3 SURE-FIRE TIPS GUARANTEED TO MAXIMIZE YOUR GOLD YIELD

Are you tired of working your butt off and coming home empty-handed? Spending thousands of \$ on equipment only to recover a few tiny specks of gold? Well don't tear up your prospecting club membership card just yet, the solution may be simpler than you think!

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Felix Paydirt. I have been prospecting in the Golden Heart of Alaska (Fairbanks) for more than 10 years. I can certainly attest that even when sitting on an abundant supply, some days offer up nothing but disappointment. I know the gold is there, so why am I not finding it? Sometimes the answer is right in front of our noses. Let me share with you a few useful tips that I occasionally have to remind myself of.

#1) KEEP YOUR EQUIPMENT WELL TUNED AND USE IT PROPERLY

Gold mining equipment sustains a lot of wear and tear, and sometimes outright abuse. When it's worn out and we continue to push it, can we rightly expect it to perform up to standard? How do you perform under those conditions?

When I skip scheduled maintenance on a loader in order to meet a deadline, invariably I will end up spending twice that time on repairs while production comes to a complete halt. End result - no gold.

One of my clients recently complained about poor performance of a spiral panning machine. He insisted the material he was running was sub-standard. But it turned out that the circulating pump had malfunctioned, causing the drive tube to load up with gold - undetected! Nuggets, flakes, fines - it had all been accumulating in that tube unseen to the user. Quite a haul when he finally found it. Make sure your equipment is dialed in and functioning according to the manufacturer's instructions!

I have spoken to several prospectors who like to collect metal detectors but have not found much gold with them. You know the investment can be in the thousands. Modern technology is quite impressive. But those tools are only useful in the hands of a qualified user. Hunting for gold with a metal detector is an art. Anyone can certainly become an artist, but it ain't easy. If it was easy, gold would not be worth over \$1000/ounce. This brings me to my second tip.....

#2) PERSISTENCE

I don't know how many times I've quit working an area that seemed to be drying up, moved to greener pastures and then discovered that the original spot still had plenty of great potential. Impatience is not our friend.

It happens on all scales. Prospectors will work a creek for a couple hours, get bored with the lack of color, pack up and go home. Meanwhile, another guy will stick it out and continue to work that creek. He might change his strategy, adjust his location (or his equipment). But it's his patient persistence that separates him from the crowd. He works hard and does not give up easily. You'll readily recognize him. He's the one with more gold in his vial at the end of the day.

Of course, stubborn persistence would not be the course of wisdom if the location is entirely unproductive. Thus, tip number 3.....

#3) PROSPECT AT A PROVEN SOURCE

Who doesn't dream of making new gold discoveries on uncharted virgin ground? Is it possible? Absolutely, if you invest the time, do your homework and have the funds to do the testing. More often, though, we save time and money by locating proven deposits.

In large scale mining, we can research old (or recent) drill logs, geological surveys, production records, etc. In recreational mining, it's as simple as going where other prospectors go. Local and national clubs such as the GPAA are a valuable source of information. If other club members are recovering good color on a particular river with a 2" dredge, it stands to reason that you should be able to do the same, provided of course that you pay attention to tips #1 and #2.

One very popular way to maximize yield is to purchase gold concentrates from a proven mine. That's my specialty. I have claims in Alaska's hottest pay zone, the Fairbanks Mining District. I do the heavy work, process the ground to a rich concentrate and ship it off to you to recover the final product - gold. It's not just any gold, it's **Felix Paydirt's Gourmet Gold**.

Depending on circumstances, some buy my concentrates to supplement their mining activities. Others rely solely on my gold to satisfy their prospecting needs. Poor health, bad weather, location, lack of time - these are all good reasons to order my gold. It's also a great way to test new equipment or technique. Whatever your reasons, it's the fastest short-cut to a high yield pay streak.

There's only so much gold in the ground, and we've only got so much time on the ground. Let's make the best of both!

p.s.- keep an eye on your mailbox. I'll be sending you some practical information that I think you'll find very useful.

Note: Felix Paydirt is a year-round Alaskan resident. While his family has been in the mining industry for more than 50 years, Felix began offering his concentrates to prospectors in 1998. Over the past 16 years he continues to perfect his art and is respected worldwide as the foremost provider of premium gold-bearing concentrates.

Your comments or questions are welcome at customerservice@felixpaydirt.com

FREE SAMPLES are available at his website, click on <http://felixpaydirt.com/>

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Our mailing address is:

Felix Paydirt's Gourmet Gold
2521 E Mountain Village Dr.
Ste. B

KITCHEN HELP

Jeanne is planning to be out of town for our next meeting so we need someone willing to run the snack and coffee area. Please let Debbie W know if you can help.

COOS BAY

Thanks to everyone who was able to travel to Coos Bay and help with the panning etc. for the youth fair May 8th. Even with the cold rain, thunder and lightning everyone had a good time and enjoyed working with the kids.

PICNIC

Please sign up for our club picnic to be held at Daybreak Park. No fees. We need to get an idea of how many will attend so we can budget for the meat etc. that we provide. This is a potluck bar-b-que. More details to follow.

AUGUST 20 EVENT

At the writing of this newsletter we are still waiting to hear back on our proposal to the equipment co for the fund raising, educational panning event. We expect to have an answer very soon, and should be able to go over details at the meeting if we come to an agreement.

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

On May 15th we held a fund raising committee meeting to talk about ways to improve on the booth at the garage sale, and some other proposed fund raisers. It was a very productive meeting with lots of ideas and out of the box thinking. We came up with the proposal for a major fundraising and educational event we have been invited to. My thanks to everyone who gave up your Sunday afternoon to participate.

Executive Board	(Elected)		
President	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Vice President	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Secretary	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Assistant Secretary	Van Meter		vmeter@comcast.net
Treasurer	Deana Yoakum		deana3325@gmail.com
Board of Directors	(Elected)		
	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
	Maurine Koppi	3609079295	koppi@comcast.net
	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
	Tammy Binford	503-766-7814	kaycbear99@gmail.com
	Edna Nelson	503-307-0852	rockhounstool1966@yahoo.com
Claims Chair	Preston Griffin	360-903-2054	griff11546@gmail.com
State Director (WA)	(Appointed by GPAA)		
	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
Committees / Chairs	Appointed by chapter President		
Education	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
Equipment Manager	Don Spillman	360-773-8708	Golddigger357@outlook.com
Fundraising Coordi-	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Assistant			
Hospitality	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant			
Picnic, Holiday Din-	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Librarian	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Membership	Edna Nelson	503-307-0852	rockhound-
Newsletter	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Outing Coordinator			
Safety Officer	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Steve Keesee	360-269-2341	None
	Betty Erickson	503-801-1452	bettyerickson13@yahoo.com
Sargent at Arms	Daniel Keesee	360-269-2341	None
Sunshine			
T-Shirts	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Webmaster	Dennis Clevenger	360-281-6338	dennisc@pacifier.com
Historian	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Assistant			
Gold Buyer	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
PayDirt	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Other committees will be formed as needed. Please let Debbie Witcher know if your name was missed or if you would like to serve.			

GPAA Points			
Name Tags	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
Awards	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Picnic and Holiday	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant			
Facebook			
Assistant			
Raffle	Kerry Wookdridge		
Assistant	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Assistant	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
Chapter Store	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Chapter mailing address: 5400 NE Highway 99 STE G Vancouver WA 98665			

Links

Website: www.SWWGoldProspectors.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SWwashingtonGoldProspectors>

Gold and Fish Book: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/mining/>

HPA Rulemaking web page: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/hpa/rulemaking/>

GPAA <https://www.goldprospectors.org/>

[HPA application process.](#)

<http://mylandmatters.com/>

FACEBOOK EDUCATION LINKS HERE

<https://www.facebook.co/SWwashingtonGoldProspectors>

Let Mark know if you have something that you would like to buy, sell or trade to post in the newsletter..



Thanks to these companies for supporting our activities.

Designs of all kinds 360-892-5597	McCord's Vancouver Toyota	AKAU Lodge 760-500-1329
AAA Precious Metals	Creekside Prospecting	Roaring Camp
Whites Metal Detectors	Armadillo Mining	Spin it Off
Chinook Winds Casino & Resort	Fossickers	The Gold Lab
Quick Badge	Gold Getter	Northwest Detector Sales
Danner Boots	Danas Classic Hair Supply	Oregon Treasure Trail Society
Lost Adams 541-340-0931	Packwood Prospecting and Mining Supply	American Mining Supply
Ron Farnsworth Scrap Metal Pickup	Topside Mining	

Please support these vendors as they support us with contributions and in many cases discounts. We will be doing interviews with many of them so we can get to know a little more about them.