

# Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors February 2026

Next Meeting February 8th 1:30, Board Meeting 12:00



## **FEBRARY MEETING TIME CHANGE**

Since our meeting is on Super Bowl Sunday it has been requested to have a short meeting so folks can enjoy the game. We will start the Board meeting at 12:00 pm and the General meeting at 1:30 pm. The game starts at 3:30 pm so you should have enough travel time. I will get you on your way ASAP. We will be meeting downstairs for this meeting.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Since winter has arrived, this is a reminder of the importance of making sure we have corrected and updated information for you. In the event we need to cancel or change a meeting or event time or date we will post on Facebook, the web page, and send out an e-mail notice. And you can always check with me. If you have any questions talk to Lisa or Debbie. Enjoy the Superbowl and may your team win!! See you at the meeting!!

Debbie W

## **VALENTINE'S DAY**

When you sign in at the Membership table be sure to get a raffle ticket for a Valentine gift drawing. Sorry adults only due to gambling rules.

## **REMINDER**

When you either join or renew your GPAA membership, please remember to tell them to credit our Chapter. We get points for memberships, and we use those points to purchase items for the Chapter.

## **THANK YOU, WALLY!!**

Wally is donating monies from the sale of embroidered bags specially made for our Chapter members. They are very nice and can be personalized.

## **SUGGESTIONS**

We still need suggestions for the following: outings, safety, education, and treats.

## **PICNIC**

We need to have someone bring a bar-b-que to the picnic on September 20th and do the cooking. If you can help? Please, contact Debbie W.

## **TERRITORIAL DAYS**

We will be discussing our participation in last year and this year's upcoming Territorial Days in Amboy. We need input from those of you who previously signed up and worked the event last year as to if we think it is worth our time and effort.

## **ROARING CAMP OFFER**

Roaring Camp has extended an invitation to our chapter to go as a group next year. I need to know what interest you might have. The date is still to be determined. There is a sign-up sheet at the Membership table for those interested. If you have not been there before, there are tent sites, cabins, and 2 houses that can be rented. Lots of mining activities, snack bar and small store, bathrooms with hot showers and more. Please see Debbie W, if you have questions.

## **MYRTLE POINT KID'S DAY**

The sponsorship funding has been secured to purchase the gold for the event. We will be teaching the young people panning and they get to keep the gold. The date is Saturday, May 2, 2026. We need at least 6 more panners to sign-up to go. I will again try to get us a discount at a local motel/hotel. There is dry camping available. This year we have a program to look at that shows some of the activities from last year. Can you spot any of our members? Please do not remove the program as it is the only one we have.

## **SAPPHIRE TRIP**

Van sign-up will be ending at the end of the meeting. Those riding in the van will be splitting the cost of the van and gas. Jan and Ana will be driving. Debbie is in the process of arranging for a discount on rooms, but everyone must make their own reservations and pay for rooms, food, etc. You can share a room if you want and split the cost.

We will have an itinerary soon. Also, we need a count of everyone that is going including those who are driving their own rig, so reservations for the sapphires, etc. can be arranged. So far, we are looking at adding the ghost town, mining museum, and some gold mining activities.

Please see Jamie, Jan or Debbie W.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

We have a section for members to post items for sale, trade or free. Or even request an item you are looking for. You need to send Mark a write-up for the buy, sell, and trade section. Be sure to include your name, phone number and the item in question. We will not be able to write your copy for you.

<b>Executive Board</b>	(Elected)		
President	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Vice President	J. T. Buck	360-210-8039	jt buckgolddigger@gmail.com
Secretary	Van Hord	360-699-2174	vmeter@comcast.net
Treasurer	Mike Quackenbush	360-608-5345	quacky@pacifier.com
Assistant Treasurer			
<b>Board of Directors</b>	(Elected )		
	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Preston Griffin	360-903-2054	griff11546@gmail.com
	Charlie Hord	360-910-8414	batray@comcast.net
	Mike Kersteter	360-852-6381	None
	Jan Hurtubise	360-571-2473	eyedocmebe@comcast.net
	Van Meter Hord	360-699-2174	vmeter@comcast.net
	Lisa Young	503-260-2698	Lbw.young@gmail.com
<b>Claims Chair</b>	Preston Griffin	360-903-2054	griff11546@gmail.com
<b>State Director (WA)</b>	(Appointed by GPAA)		
	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
<b>Committees / Chairs</b>	Appointed by chapter President		
<b>Education</b>			
<b>Equipment Manager</b>	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Assistant	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcasr.net
<b>Fundraising Coordi-</b>	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Assistant			
<b>Hospitality</b>	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant			
<b>Picnic, Holiday Din-</b>	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
<b>Librarian/Name Tags</b>	Queenie Garden	360-839-4802	sharonmgarden@gmail.com
<b>Membership</b>	Lisa Young	503-260-2698	Lbw.young@gmail.com
<b>Newsletter</b>	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
<b>Outing Coordinator</b>	Jamie Louie	971-212-5664	jamlou8@comcast.net
Assistant	J T Buck	360-210-8039	jt buckgolddigger@gmail.com
<b>Safety Officer</b>	Preston Griffin	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Steve Keesee	360-269-2341	None
<b>Sargent at Arms</b>	Steve Keesee	360-269-2341	None
<b>Sunshine</b>	Ann Erickson	360-260-3225	annerickson5755@comcast.net
<b>T-Shirts</b>	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
<b>Webmaster</b>	Jan Hurtubise	360-571-2473	eyedocmebe@comcast.net

<b>Historian</b>			
Assistant			

<b>Gold Buyer</b>	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
<b>PayDirt</b>	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.

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**GPAA Points**

<b>Name Tags</b>	Queenie Garden	360-839-4802	sharongarden@gmail.com
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<b>Awards</b>	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
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<b>Picnic and Holiday</b>	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
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Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
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Assistant			
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<b>Facebook</b>	J.T. Buck	360-210-8039	jt buckgolddigger@gmail.com
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Assistant			
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<b>Raffle</b>	Tammy Binford	503-766-7814	kaycbear99@gmail.com
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Assistant	Charlie Hord	360-910-8414	batray@comcast.net
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Assistant	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
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<b>Assistant</b>	J T Buck	360-210-8039	jt buckgolddigger@gmail.com
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<b>Chapter Store</b>	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
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Chapter mailing address: 5400 NE Highway 99 STE G Vancouver WA 98665

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**Links**

Website: [www.SWWGoldProspectors.org](http://www.SWWGoldProspectors.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/southwestwashingtongoldprospectors>

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/>

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**Thanks to these companies for supporting our activities.**

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AAA Precious Metals	Creekside Prospecting	Roaring Camp
Whites Metal Detectors 1-800-547-6911	Armadillo Mining	Spin it Off
Chinook Winds Casino & Resort	Fossickers	The Gold Lab
Quick Badge	Gold Getter	Northwest Detector Sales 503-936-1443
Danner Boots 877-432-6637	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	
Prospectors Treasure Trove Dan Rouse 971-708-8699 11572 SW Pacific Hwy Tigard OR		

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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.