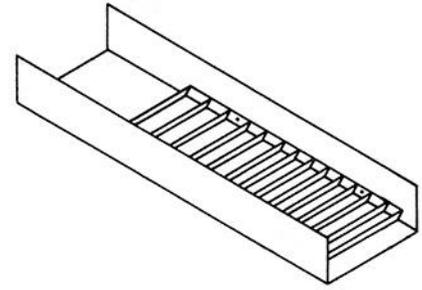




**Prospectors Association**

444 Winchester PMB 12-D,

Roseburg, OR 97470



**THE SLUICE BOX**

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**February 2016**

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DCPA meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at the Pine Grove Community Church, 1729 Buckhorn Road, Roseburg, OR 97470 at 7:00 pm. There is an optional potluck starting at 6:30 pm. The Board of Directors meeting is at 6:00 and open to all members.

Dues are \$12 per year for single or family. All members need to attend at least 4 functions (meeting, outing, gold show, picnic, etc.) to qualify to mine on our claims unless it's an official outing.

**Sunshine:** If you know of anyone who is ill or has had a death in the family, etc let me know so I can send them a card. Walt: 541-459-3489 or [wrevens@yahoo.com](mailto:wrevens@yahoo.com)

**From the Meeting:**

1. Meeting opened by President Gary Sturgill
2. Minutes read and approved.
3. Treasurer's report read and approved.
4. Claims report given.
5. Legislative report given.
6. Gold Show
7. Outing Schedule – New Treasure Hunt announced.
8. Special nugget given.
9. Raffles done.
10. Meeting Adjourned.
11. Education Presentation done.

**Claims:**

Almost all of our paperwork is back from the BLM and plans are being made for a Claims Class.

**Legislature:**

Most of my report was from the January Newsletter. However, the Galice Mining District (GMD) has decided to make a resolution and mail it to the state.

## Page Two

### Legislature (cont.):

The first Mining Law was enacted in 1866 and modified in 1872. There have been several ratifications over the years with the last one being in 1955. One thing has not changed over all that time; the ability of the Mining Districts to govern the miners, set policy and laws as well as enforcement. GMD listed all the mining activities that have been done in the area since its inception in 1853. They stated that the miners will continue to do so regardless of what the state says. The difference this time is that the state now has to either acknowledge the districts right to govern or take them to court.

Currently there are miners in the water as I write this. Here is a link to an article in the Jackson County Mail Tribune:

<http://www.mailtribune.com/article/20160114/NEWS/160119773/101033/NEWS>

### Gold Show:

Due to there being a moratorium in place by the state, it was decided that a Gold and Treasure Show at this time would be fruitless. We may combine with the Gem and Mineral Club at their show next year.

### Outings:

Gary Sturgill has come up with an outing schedule for 2016. Something new will be a Treasure Hunt that will go all year long with the winner being crowned at the December Meeting and Banquet.



**The wind pushed Gary off the log!**



**Fred Richardson learning from the Master!**

### January Outing:

We went to an area that Gary Sturgill calls the Wayside. It's a little further out Seven Devils Road. Unlike Whiskey Run and Nasika, this one has picnic tables and a bathroom with flushable toilets!

## Page Three

We started from Winston around 8 a.m. The local forecast here was 43 degrees and rain. The coast looked more promising with 53 and a 27% chance. Before we got to Myrtle Point we could see some blue sky through the clouds and were feeling a hopeful. A little bit later I saw some lightning flash in the distance ahead of us.

We stopped at the little store in Coquille to take on food supplies and use the restroom. When we got ready to leave there was another flash of lighting. The wind came up and was so bad that it blew one of the double doors open. The lights went off and on a couple of times. We all looked at each other wide eyed and wondering if we had made a mistake coming to the coast. Gary just stood there with this really sly grin on his face. We decided that we'd come that far so we headed down the road to our destination. We ran over some debris and crossed a downed communication line on the way.

When we got there it was still a bit windy but after a few minutes it died down, the sun came out and it was a pretty decent day. Gary was smiling broadly as if to say "I told you so!"

We set up our sluices and went to work. I had a hard time digging in the creek with my arthritis. On Gary's advice I went closer to the surf to set up there and just run sand. I took my shovel and 2 inch PVC sucker and laid them down on the ground. I turned around to go get my sluice when Fred yelled that my stuff was floating away. A wave had come in quickly and unexpectedly. I managed to keep my shovel but my hand pump is "sleeping with the fish"! There was a minus tide so we didn't think anything like that would happen. A couple of times they came all the way up and flooded the sluice boxes!

We had a pretty good time and finished the day with a Fish and Chips lunch at one of the local eateries. A golden time was had by all!

You can view the rest of the photos in my Facebook Album here:

[https://www.facebook.com/walter.evans.7/media\\_set?set=a.10153506441127054.1073742004.751307053&type=3](https://www.facebook.com/walter.evans.7/media_set?set=a.10153506441127054.1073742004.751307053&type=3)

### Gold Outings:

For the next two months will be at the Beach. Winter is the best time to go because of storms and the availability of water. **February 13: Whiskey Run; March 19: Nasika Beach. We will meet at the Dairy Queen in Winston at 8 a.m.**

## Page Four

### Special Nugget Award:

Scotty Rintoul aka Digger donated a nice nugget to go to the person who attended the most events. The winner was Board Member Ed Julian.

### Education Presentation and/or Guest Speaker:

We are bringing this portion back. We also decided to do this after the meeting so those who didn't want to stay could leave; giving the speaker more time to talk. Our guests for January were Steve and Rita Houston from Oregon Prospecting, now Oregon Detector Sales. With the advent of prohibitive legislation, they've decided to concentrate on less restrictive methods of prospecting such as metal detecting. Steve used to work for Whites. He talked about various models and brands, how they operate and the differences. Their telephone number is 541-403-3197. Their website is: [www.oregondetectors.com](http://www.oregondetectors.com) Be sure to like them on Facebook!

### Kerby's Corner:

*"That would be correct about Quartzville (Yellowbottom) corridor. That is managed by BLM as a recreational mining area. (A couple of years ago, I assisted a miner in challenging that withdrawal. We got PART of the claim, as it turns out there were really multiple withdrawals involved and we beat one of them on a bar, but lost the one in the creek. We made about 15 acres of the 20 stick). BLM has specific regulations for that withdrawn area. One press release BLM issued states the following: "Only recreational mining is allowed with 1/4 mile on either side of Quartzville Creek, and does not extend to any of Quartzville Creek's tributaries. Mining laws and regulations for prospecting apply outside of the corridor." As you can see, BLM plainly identifies a difference between the corridor (withdrawn) and the Public Domain areas outside of it, even though they don't go into the details about the areas that are not withdrawn. Their guidelines for INSIDE the corridor are on the following link. <http://archive.statesmanjournal.com/.../pdf/J0193632820.PDF>*

*From a historical perspective, the author is 100% correct, but the 1955 Surface Resources Act did much to destroy our rights (and I believe unlawfully so, for reasons I will not share publicly for fear of informing BLM and USFS of some legal tactics that will eventually be used to challenge the 1955 Act - possibly soon). That being said, the author's reference to 43 CFR 3809.2 is actually quite interesting because it illustrates where that "subpart" (which is the 3809 regs that BLM routinely use to club miners on claims) actually apply and that is in part to "all operations authorized by the mining laws on public lands where the mineral interest is reserved to the United States". This is from 3809.2(a), which is the club used to clobber miners and note that it states it applies "on public land where the mineral interest is RESERVED TO THE UNITED STATES".*

**Kerby's Corner (cont.)**

*"I believe that the writer is of the opinion that this section is describing minerals subject to lease/sale opposed to those which are granted by location, but the term "reserved to the United States" merely means a right or estate that has been set aside by the government and over which the nation's government (Congress) has the right to dispose under the Public Land Laws. Our mining law falls plainly into that category, in that although the minerals ARE granted to the people, the 1866 Act actually placed them into a reserved status. Needless to say, I think the author is misinterpreting what "reserved to the United States" means. Beyond that, I kind of tend to agree with his ideas, but will merely say that he has made the wrong argument to justify his ideas. Putting it another way, the real issue is the 1955 Act, which MUST BE DESTROYED if we want our rights back.*

**Pocket Mining by Alex Quartz; NUMBER III; Free or Decomposed Pockets (cont.)**

*In the Northern Counties of California above Shasta, and throughout Southern Oregon, the contacting seam or stringer is generally lime. It is invariably white and often in a chloride form than any other. This combination of minerals which exists in pockets of this class only decomposes the ledge where the pocket occurs, and the ledges in nine cases out of ten are barren of gold eighteen inches and two feet on either side of the pocket. Sometimes a color of gold cannot be found six inches on either side of where the decomposition ends. Those pockets mostly occur in soft, yellow porphyry which contains a large percentage of lime and iron and is prolific in small stringers of quartz and lime. When the prospector is hunting for a trace, and he finds this soft porphyry formation, he forms his ideas as to how the ledges run. Then he commences panning around the base of the hill, point or ridge, taking his panfull's about 25 or 30 feet apart until he pans around the base of the hill. If he does not find a trace then, and still believes that there are pockets above, he goes a hundred yards or so farther up the hill or rising ground and pans around the same as before, so that if there should be a trace above that did not reach down as far as the foot of the hill or point, he will catch it in his second panning around the hill.*

*Many pocket hunters follow this method. They find out where there has been a short gulch that paid well to placer mine, and, when they find out at what point the pay quit, they pan on either side of the gulch on the side hill until they find where the gold came into the gulch and then follow it up to the pocket or to where the pocket has been. In most cases, where the short gulches have been rich, the pockets which fed them are all out and gone; but if the pocket hunter once finds the ledge where one of the principal pockets came from, he then has the main key to the situation. He follows along the same ledge, for it is likely to pocket in another place."*

**Pocket Mining (cont.):**

*“Then, again, it often occurs that where the pocket is broken away and gone down into the gulch, there is one or more still existing underneath where the first one was. If he does not find a trace on either side of the gulch, and there is a little gold still in the gulch, he follows the gold until he finds where it leaves the gulch and follows it up the hill until it leads him to where it originally came from.*

*I know where traces, and what would be called slim ones at that, have been followed for over half a mile to a pocket amounting to no more than \$50; and in one particular case in southern Oregon, I followed a trace over three-fourths of a mile and found the pocket.” To be continued....*

**Miner’s Mall:**

This will be a monthly classified advertising area for members who want to buy or sell prospecting and mining equipment. This is for members only. No retailers please. I will approach the board about selling business card size ads for vendors. However, if you’re a vendor and the item is used, I don’t see why I can’t post the ad.

E-mail them to me: [wrevens@yahoo.com](mailto:wrevens@yahoo.com) Send photos if you like. I’ll try to get them in. If you don’t have e-mail then call me at 541-459-3489.

**For Sale:** Slightly used Minelab 705 General Purpose Metal Detector \$625 Tom Bohmker, Cascade Mountains Gold @ 503-606-9895. Email: [cascademountainsgold@gmail.com](mailto:cascademountainsgold@gmail.com).

**For Sale:** Used small Keene high banker, foldable and portable with an electric motor/pump and no hoses, \$250; Stephen Trout @ 541 391 2406 in Elkton.

**For Sale:** Slightly used (Demo) Tesoro Outlaw Metal Detector with 3coils: \$519; Slightly Used (Demo) Fisher CZ21 Underwater Metal Detector with 10.5 inch coil: \$1000. Used Gold Genie Spiral Wheel: \$300; Used D&K 3 inch Highbanker/Dredge Combo with 6.5 HP Honda Engine and P185 pump: \$1000.00. Walt @ 541-315-2030