

THE SLUICE BOX

June 2017

DCPA meets on the 2nd 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. Nick: 541-993-2372 or <u>houseofgall@gmail.com</u>

From the Meeting:

We didn't hold a typical meeting at Pine Grove Community Church this month, as we held our Annual June BBQ instead!

We all started gathering about 10am. Around 11:15 everyone was rearing to get at the food so we ate, and then sat around and talked awhile as we let all the food settle. Then we turned everyone loose on the field of play with their detectors for 45 minutes. Ed Julian won first place and Brian Whitaker came in a close second.

There were 24 members and guests present.

No meeting was held.

Claims:

No new news.

Outings:

In June, we combine our Club Outing with our Annual BBQ; and as such, no Outing to a DCPA claim was held. Our next outing is on July 15th to the Middle Creek Claim for a Cleanup trip, and I imagine we'll be able to fit in some time for prospecting. I for one am particularly interested in the top end of this claim. We'll meet at McDonalds off exit 103, Riddle, at 8 AM.

Treasure Hunt:

Speaking of the Middle Creek Claim, the treasure hunt of last year was in this area. As far as I know, Gary never went and dug up the treasure. Perhaps he'll offer some more clues at the July meeting, just in time for the July outing? Come to the July meeting to find out!

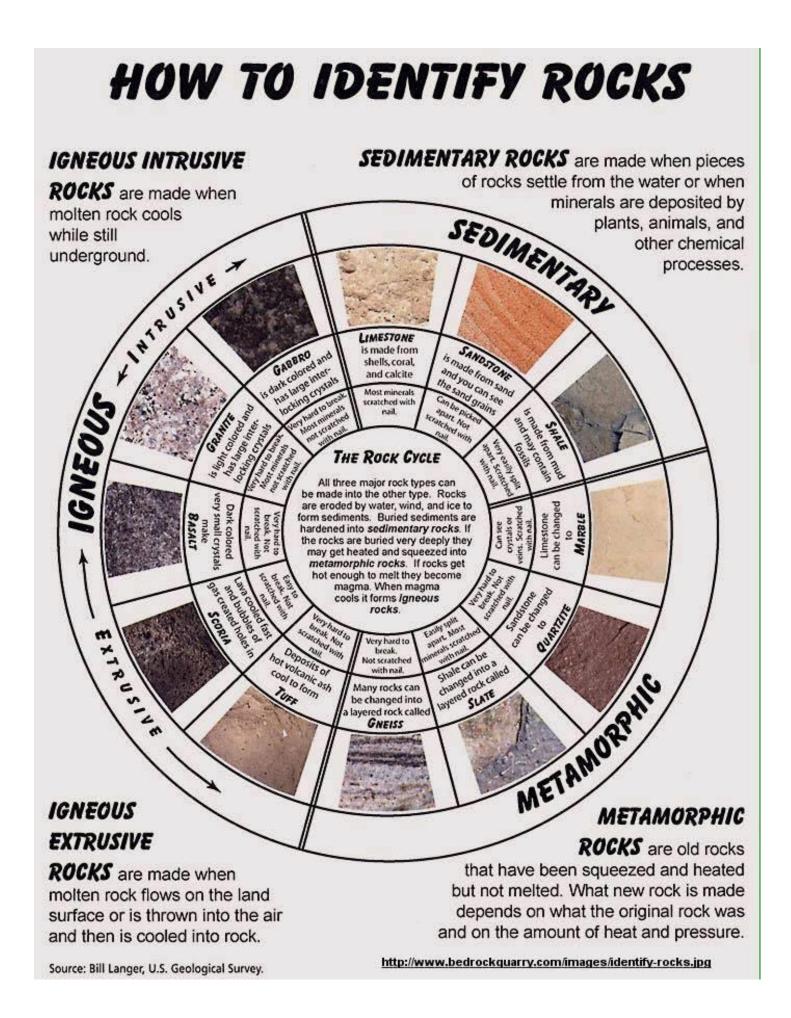
Legislation:

On Friday, June 2, 2017, at 6pm, a joint meeting of the Waldo and Galice Mining Districts held in Grants Pass, Oregon; a drawing was held for the benefit of the Waldo & Galice Mining District's legal fund by the Western Culture Conservancy. For 2016- and 2017 you could win 1/2 lb. of gold and tons of other prizes.

In case you bought raffle tickets, won something, and wasn't contacted, you can find the Winners list here: http://www.waldominingdistrict.org/winnners-list-june-2/

Education:

As we're all on a walk of learning more about mining, most of us appreciate learning about the different kind of rock we see when looking for that shiny yellow metal gold. Here's a guide that shows how to identify classes of rocks.



Kerby's Corner:

Outcrops----Croppings

by J.P.Wallace, Sumpter, Oregon Jan. 26,1900

That portion of a vein which appears on the surface is called the outcrop or cropping, and the course of such cropping is known as the line of the outcrop. The line of outcrop and strike correspond exactly when the vein is vertical or when the surface of the country is horizontal. With any other inclination other than the vertical, outcrops will necessarily vary in position with the irregularities of surface; the lower the angle of dip the more winding will be the course of outcrop, especially where the strike of the vein is crosswise to the gulches and ridges. In locating a claim no attempt should be madeto follow the irregular course of the croppings, but it is important that all croppings be well within the boundary lines. Thorough prospecting, therefore, for the line of outcrop should be made. When this is determined, the strike of the vein is made known by extending the line horizontally-on the level-at right angles to the average dip of the vein.

Croppings differ much in appearance and character. Some are very prominent and rise to a height of many feet above the ground, while others are comparatively insignificant. Hard massive quartz, or some of the but slightly mineralized metamorphic rocks, commonly make up the most conspicuous outcrops. Rocks containing a large percentage of metallic minerals decompose and wear away more readily than others. Quartz which is impregnated with iron, copper or lead sulphides is often much honey-combed and disintegrated and seldom furnishes prominent outcrops. Ribbon quartz and banded rocks, because of their loose character, and therefore, greater susceptibility to atmospheric influences, crumble more rapidly than massive quartz. Lodes containing much fluorspar, [calcite], or feldspar decompose easily.

Surface waters, by their oxidizing and dissolving powers, often so completely change the original texture of outcrop zones as to render the identification very difficult. The oxidizing effect of the atmosphere, coupled with that of heavy winds and pelting rains, also materially aid in the surface changes of ore deposits. Certain metallic constituents in an ore are dissolved out and carried through underground channels to the surface, or else allowed to sink to lower levels in the vein where they may be deposited in a more concentrated form; other minerals are reduced to oxides, chlorides and carbonates, and these, together with the unoxidizable and not easily soluble minerals, such as gold and platinum, remain in the porous and honeycombed vein filling. Chemical processes of this kind are called "weathering." The zone of oxidation usually extends in depth to the drainage level of the district. This varies in different districts and in different lodes in the same district; water level is found beyond the influence of alteration. Lodes seldom outcrop their entire length; usually they protrude only at intervals along the strike and occasionally in but one place. This lack of surface continuity determines nothing as to the horizontal extension of ore bodies in

depth. Outcrops vary in width from 1 inch or less to 100, 200, or 300 feet.

Croppings are often very misleading in appearance; the least attractive ones sometimes prove to be the most remunerative. Yellow mud, reddish clays, brownish, blackish, whitish or rust dirt-all seemingly barren-occasionally astonish the prospector with their high metallic contents. It is generally impossible to estimate with any degree of

accuracy the value of such decomposed products without an assay, and this should always be had. Even if low in grade where examined, the present condition makes it probable that a higher degree of mineralization and concentration exist elsewhere in the same deposit and calls for further exploration. Many prospectors rely exclusively on panning and amalgamation for the determination of gold values, but these are not always trustworthy. In not a few cases clay and talc outcrops show no colors by the most careful panning and yet yield good results by assay. Oxidized iron outcroppings, rich in gold., sometimes refuse to give up their values to amalgamation, and gold in a finely divided condition is not always saved in the pan.

Alteration of metallic minerals in vein outcroppings may be partial or complete. When only partially oxidized, these minerals will either be found bunched or scattered in the deposit and are indication of the ore likely to be encountered in depth. Gold-bearing surface ores which have undergone considerable alteration are generally higher in grade than the same ores prior to oxidation. Undecomposed gold-bearing surface ores, as a rule, are neither richer nor poorer than the same ones in depth. Oxidation, therefore, is enriching in its tendency. These are well established truths, but they are often very difficult for the average prospector and miner to learn.

Surface decomposition in a gold-bearing pyritous ore produces a reddish or brownish oxide cropping, more or less intermingled with fragments of quartz and earthy matter. This is commonly known as the vein capping, gossan, or iron hat, and varies in thickness from a few to many feet. Veins of this character are sometimes so extensively decayed that they have in places crumbled to fragments, and the accumulated remains which hide from view the real lode are often so rich in free gold as to be worked with great profit by sluicing, same as placer gravel. Nearly all prominent gold mining camps have furnished examples of this kind. Decomposed croppings are generally wider than the veins they cover.

Galena decomposes to lead sulphate and this in turn to lead carbonate. Croppings of the latter present a white, gray or brownish appearance, but not infrequently they are colored reddish or yellowish from admixture with iron oxides and other minerals

Quartz carrying decomposed ruby silver is commonly stained a light to dark red color, but when combined with other metallic minerals the color varies.

Weathered zinc ore deposits are commonly indicated by a soft, whitish clay-like outcrop, which contains the zinc in the form of carbonate or silicate. Both are oxidation products from zinc sulphide. The color varies sometimes from greenish to brownish.

Cinnabar ores usually furnish an ocherous-like cropping, resembling reddish oxidized iron ores or red clays, and are often associated with a brownish or black opal and more or less quartz and lime carbonate. [calcite]

A black, brown or gray cropping is common to many ores. Most of the copper deposits have had a dark brown or blackish outcrop, although a dark red or light brown is not wanting. The blue and green copper carbonates occasionally appear as croppings, and in some instances mark the site of valuable deposits; but, as a rule, a very small amount of these stains a very large rock surface, and, therefore is often misleading as to the amount of copper present.

The croppings of graphite, chromite, and manganese oxides, manganiferous iron ore and antimony sulphide have a black, iron-black or dark steel-gray color. The hematites, magnetites and iron carbonates vary in color at the surface from brown to reddish and from black to blackish-brown.

Both brittle silver [stephanite, a sulphide of antimony and silver] and silver glance [argentite, silver sulphide], when decomposed, constitute the so-called "black sulphurets" of miners. Surface quartz containing these rich silver ores is often much blackened and honeycombed, and not infrequently black lumps or nuggets of silver occur in the croppings.

Antimonial silver, antimonial sulphide of silver, and seleniuret of silver all show more or less blackish croppings.

Horn silver [cerargyrite weathered in desert conditions, silver chloride] is a secondary product, occurring usually at or near the surface in thin crusts, which are spread over the surfaces of the gangue rock and in minute seams through it, but often in irregular lumps, filling cavities in the gangue. It resembles wax or putty, and is colored greenish, yellowish, or brownish, but often is many colored and of an earthy appearance when much decomposed. To one unfamiliar with this ore it appears to be of no value.

Some lodes do not outcrop and these are said to be "blind." In such cases the vein fissure terminates before reaching the surface, or, if it did once outcrop, the back of the lode is now covered up by later formed strata, lava flows, wash or slide rocks. Blind lodes occur in all mining camps and are generally discovered accidentally during the prosecution of work in adjoining properties. Often a hint of their presence is given through broken quartz or other mineralized gangue rock found intermingling with the soil. When decomposition is rapid, the back of a lode is often worn down and washed away by heavy rains to such an extent as to form a depression or trough, which marks the course of the vein, and this trough in time becomes partially filled from the sides with debris and sometimes grown over with grass or brush. In other cases the trough becomes the track of a stream, and the stream eventually cuts out a canyon, with the wall rocks bounding it and the vein on either side. The back of the lode will then be in the bed of the stream.

Blind veins may be looked for along the line of displacements(faults) and in association with dikes; in both cases the lode is apt to be covered either by disintegrated dike material or by loose rock, soil and rubbish of various kinds.

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. However, if you're a vendor and the item is used, I don't see why I can't post the ad. If you have an ad in here and the item has sold, or you know the person and know it has sold, please let me know.

E-mail them to me: <u>houseofgall@gmail.com</u> Send photos if you like. I'll get them in. If you don't have e-mail then please call me at 541-993-2372.

Used Equipment: Slightly used Whites VX3 Metal Detector with coil cover: \$959; New Minelab X-Terra 505 Metal Detector with Koss UR30 headphones, Pro-Pointer pin pointer, 9 inch 18.75 kHz mono coil plus finds pouch & baseball cap: \$800. Walt @ 541-315-2030



DCPA 2017 OUTINGS SCHEDULE ALL OUTINGS ARE RAIN OR SHINE OUTING MEETING TIMES ARE 8 AM

- February 18th: Red Mine #9 (meet at old Myrtle Creek 7-11 / 24 Hour Mini Mart next to Saw Shop)
- March 18th: Neskia Beach (meet at the Winston Dairy Queen)
- April 15th: Island Creek (meet at McDonalds off exit 103, Riddle)
- May 13th: Cow Creek Claims Cleanup (meet at McDonalds off exit 103, Riddle)
- June 17th: BBQ Fun Day, 10 AM (Douglas County Fairgrounds)
- July 15th: Middle Creek Claim Cleanup (meet at McDonalds off exit 103, Riddle)
- August 19th: Red Mine #9 Cleanup (meet at old Myrtle Creek 7-11 / 24 Hour Mini Mart next to Saw Shop)
- September 16th: Island Creek (meet at McDonalds off exit 103, Riddle)
- October 14th: Whiskey Run (meet at the Winston Dairy Queen)
- November 18th: Red Mine #9 (meet at old Myrtle Creek 7-11 / 24 Hour Mini Mart next to Saw Shop)
- **December 16th: 7 Devils Wayside** (meet at the Winston Dairy Queen)