

N.W. MT GOLD PROSPECTORS

NUGGET NEWS

Aug. 2011

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Our Aug. outing will be the 13th and 14th at our claim on Libby Creek. So pack up your gear, bring your pan, shovel and bucket. Bring something for the Sat. evening potluck, bring your lunch and drinking water. Dress for all weather and we will see all of you there.

Gold Prices:

As of July 23, 2011
Gold: \$1607.00 Up \$15.00
Silver: \$40.25 Up \$0.84

Hello fellow prospectors,

Glad to see the good turn outs and good weather finally cooperating. Clarence and my world has changed a bit by some fate of health issues. The good news is Clarence is getting stronger every day and life goes on. Clarence started this club, the Northwest Montana Gold Prospectors in 1994 and we have had a ton of fun with it. We have met a multitude of great people and learned much over the years. But as everyone knows things change and we've decided that it is time to move on and work on our Bannack Claim. We will still be up to some outings and meetings but feel it is time to turn the wheel over to some of you.

The friendships that have been made over the years are priceless and I can't say enough about those good times we have had getting to know all of you. Clarence has always tried to keep the club a fun and family oriented time. A place for good old fashioned fun and get togethers without stress. He has done most of the dealing with the Forest Service to keep our club running smoothly and satisfying the government requirements.

We have progressed from sitting along the creek learning to pan to having our own claims with several pieces of equipment. I think many people have learned not only how to mine but have made everlasting friendships. Some may have only been in the club a short time but picked up the tools, skills and knowledge they needed to start their own claims. The club outings gives us a way to be out in the woods, playing in the dirt and water, breathing some fresh air and just a fun get away. Hopefully the N.W. MT Gold Prospectors will go on for a very long time.

This brings us to the request for a new editor. Give us a call if you would be willing to do this.

On another note a BIG CONGRATULATIONS to Milah and Joe Berg as they got hitched legal like on June 18th! Joe and Milah met in the club and found they had a lot in common. Imagine that!

Well, I will sign off and wish all of you loads of gold and tons of fun.

Jill Taber

Minutes from June Meeting

June 18, 2011 Minutes

Meeting held at Libby Creek. 46 Members in attendance

Meeting called to order by Dale Evans Vice President.

May meeting minutes were read and approved.

May treasurers report was read and approved.

Dale thanked Alvin, Braxton, Ron, Billie, Sandy for working on the dump truck. Dale also put time into working on the dump truck. Dale also thanked everyone who helped set up for the common dig. .

There is a lot of work that goes into a dig for the club.

A motion was made to give life memberships to D C Orr and Alvin Benitz for their help with the club.

Approved by the members.

The club sends best wishes for a speedy recovery to Clarence Taber the President of the club.

A moment of silence was shared by the members to remember the passing of Wayne Hartley and Herb Robinson.

A motion was made to have D C Orr come and dig at the next outing in July if Clarence is unable to do the digging.

A discussion concerning leasing of equipment for club outings and keep eyes open for equipment that is for sale that the club may be able to purchase. This was only a discussion.

Discussion was brought up about more test holes. Could be done later in the summer when a dry washer can be used for the sampling. Bob and Linda Taylor would volunteer a dry washer for the sampling. It was suggested that an outing when DC Orr and Clarence could both attend would be beneficial, DC Orr could dig for the outing and Clarence could do the sample digs.

Linda Taylor will reserve the dredge permit for the August outing. Plan is to have one or two dredges running and the trommels for the August outing as we did last year.

A reminder to those who dredge and use the clubs dredge permit, you must keep a daily log of the hours dredging.

Hydraulic hose on the bobcat broke and needs replaced.

Sunday breakfast was discussed. The breakfast trailer is not present and volunteers are needed to go

to town and buy the food and others are needed to cook the breakfast. Mike and Ann Rhoads volunteered to go into town and pick up the food for the breakfast and also to look for a hydraulic hose for the bobcat.

Raffle

Silver round donated by the club won by Ron Maupin

CD Player and CDs donated by Charlie Kins won by John Lyons

Shovel donated by Gary Wilmes won by Billy Moeller.

Bug spray donated by Dick and Linda Browne won by Janet Liston

Bug spray donated by Dick and Linda Browne and won by John Lyons

Gold vials donated by Bob and Janet Liston won by Ron Maupin

Scissor pack donated by Sandy Randall and won by Bob Liston

Hand sanitizer donated by Dick and Linda Browne won by Charlie Nanna

Gem stones donated by Braxton Walborn won by Dale Evans.

Gloves donated by Mike and Ann Rhoads won by Cindy Nanna

Gloves donated by Billie Moeller won by Mike Rhoads

Minutes from July, 2011

July 9, 2011 Meeting of the NWMGP at Libby Creek

35 people attended the meeting.

Meeting called to order by Dale Evans.

June minutes were read and approved.

Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Clarence's status was discussed. He has fluid on the lungs, is taking it easy, he is up and around. We are hoping that he can make it to the August outing.

The club is going to book DC Orr for the August outing to do the dig.

No old business to discuss.

New business:

Do not run machines in the lower ponds, as this costs the club extra money to have them dug out.

Miners moss was taken from a trommel between the June and July outings. It would be much appreciated if it is returned, no questions asked.

Dredging season starts July 15. Fish and Wildlife has not signed off on the permit at this time.

The club needs members to cut the trail out up the creek for dredging access. If you plan to dredge you should also plan to bring a chain saw to access the trail.

Do not dig into the banks when dredging or sluicing, this is an ongoing problem.

Nominations of officers for the coming year or volunteers to hold office would be much appreciated.

Gary Wilmes made a motion to nominate the following : Dale Evans for president, Braxton for president or vice president, Don Roe for vice president, Sandy Randall for treasurer, Ron Maupin for secretary, and for Sgt of arms, Charlie Kins, Gary Wilmes and Billie Moeller.

Dirt that is left over from the common dig and covered with plastic is to be used for the next club outing. This dirt is not for individual use.

2012 Gold Show discussion on prizes, volunteers that may be needed, prices of prizes. Braxton or Allen will be contacted for a detector.

Contact Sandy if you are not getting your newsletter or hear of someone who is not getting a newsletter.

Address changes must be given to the treasurer to update computer and address labels for mailings. There was no newsletter in June.

During the outing members must work for 4 hours on Saturday and all day Sunday, including clean up and loading of the equipment into the trailer to receive a share of that days split.

Raffle:

Top O' Deep donated by the club won by Braxton

Wire cutters donated by Sandy won by Mike Rhoads

Gloves donated by Billie won by Shirley McHenry

Planter donated by Billie won by Reta Wortley

Amethyst donated by Billie won by Ann Rhoads

Hammer donated by Gary Wilmes won by Ken Sharp

Garden fork donated by Ron Maupin won by Shirley McHenry

Magic eight ball donated by Charlie Kins won by Krystin Rhoads

Gold Pan donated by Two Bit Mining Supply won by Shirley McHenry

Salt and Pepper grinder donated by Wes Engman won by Ron Maupin

Coffee cup donated by Wes Engman won by Krytin Rhoads

Gold pan donated by John Slesar won by Reta Wortley

Shower chair donated by Mike and Ann Rhoads won by Wes Engman and donated to the club panners.

Jill here is the nugget story.

The July outing had beautiful weather, with highs in the 80's and no rain. There were 29 members that shoveled, fixed trommels, hauled dirt or picked rock for the Saturday gold split. There were some very nice pieces of gold from the Saturday common operation. The largest piece of gold weighed 1.5 grams . This piece went to Ron Maupin. Everyone was able to walk away with some nice gold this day. On Sunday the gold was just as plentiful. There were some very nice pieces that were panned out of the trommel concentrates. One nice nugget weighed 3.4 grams. In the past, club officers have discussed what would happen if a nice piece of gold was found. Would the club raffle the piece of gold or would it go into the split. The officers discussed using this piece of gold for the 2012 May Gold Show raffle. Prior to the Sunday gold split, with all members of the gold split present, this was brought up for discussion, whether to put the nugget into the split or use it for the May Gold Show Raffle. Sandy gave a discussion on how the club purchases items and what money was spent last year on the prizes. It was discussed that making a pendant of gold from the Libby Creek area would be a good idea. After the discussion and any questions answered, there was a vote on whether to put the nugget into the split or keep it for the May Gold Show. 32 votes were counted, 29 for keeping the nugget for the Gold Show and 3 for putting the nugget into the split. Even with the largest out of the split, there were very nice pieces for all to share.

As always the Saturday pot luck was delicious with good company around the fire that evening. And the Sunday club breakfast was also delicious.

A good time was had by all. Thanks for a good outing everyone.
Sandy Randall, Treasurer.

Sometimes in life we get a wake up call and I got mine. I need to finish a few of the Things I have started. In short Jill and I will be spending more of our efforts at Bannack. Therefore I would want you to accept my resignation as president of NWMGP. Time is precious and I must prioritize. Also I would like to pick up my Grill and trommel to use at Bannack. We are excited about Bannack and we are Thinking in that demension. This poem has always been a favorite of mine and I challenge you to memorize it. Best Regards, Clarence Taber

IF by Rudyard Kipling 1895

IF you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you.
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting.
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream- and not make dreams your master;
 If you can think – and not make thoughts your aim;
 If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
 And treat those two impostors just the same;
 If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
 Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
 Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
 And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:
 If you can make one heap of all your winnings
 And risk it on one turn of pitch-and -toss,
 And lose, and start again at your beginnings
 And never breathe a word about your loss;
 If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
 To serve your turn long after they are gone,
 And so hold on when there is nothing in you
 Except the Will which says to them' "Hold on!"
 If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
 Or walk with Kings- nor lose the common touch,
 If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
 If all men count with you, but none too much,
 If you can fill the unforgiving minute
 With sixty second's worth of distance run,
 Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it
 And – which is more- you'll be a Man, my son!

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If you are planning to dredge you will need to bring your own Wet suit or appropriate attire for being in the cold water.

Remember to renew your membership dues, \$50 for a family membership.
Mail to Northwest MT Gold Prospectors, P.O. Box 3242
Columbia Falls, MT. 59912

Next Outing Aug. 13th and 14th
Take Hwy 2 West about 70 miles from Kalispell, 12 miles from Libby, Cross Libby Ck, take Rd #231 to the left about 12 miles. Stay on the main road. When you come to the Y after the second bridge approximately 9 miles take the left, not the right to Bear Ck. About 2 ½ miles take a left at the Howard Lake sign over a small bridge and short distance to Public Panning area where we camp.