

P.O. Box 3242, Columbia Falls, Mt 59912

[Http://www.NWMT Goldprospectors.com](http://www.NWMT Goldprospectors.com)

President: Dale Evans 406-291-5610

Vice President Braxton Walborn 406-756-3711

Secretary: Ron Maupin 406-293-5322

Treasurer: Sandy Randal 406-212-7415

Sergeant of Arms: Bill Moeller 406-293-8272

Gary Wilmes 406-257-2705

### **PROSPECTOR “CODE OF ETHICS”**

Before searching/prospecting public sites or lands, always check on laws ordinances or regulations that may govern your search.

Never Trespass! Always get permission when searching/prospecting private property or claims.

Do not litter, dispose of all trash properly.

Build fires in designated or safe areas only.

Fill in and /or leave your prospect holes and piles, try to leave the area in as good as shape or better than it was.

When another prospector is working in a certain area, get permission before using that area.

Please be thoughtful, considerate and courteous to those around you.

**REMEMBER!!**

**You are an ambassador of our club  
and this is a pastime we want to protect.**

**Next Outing:**

**Aug. 11<sup>th</sup> and  
12<sup>th</sup> don't forget  
your shovel,  
gloves, water,  
jacket and  
something for pot  
luck.**

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FAX: 250.489.2624  
EMAIL: NUGGETNORM@YAHOO.CA

WWW.FORTSTEELE.CA

If you have a business card or add you would like in the newsletter please email it or send it to the clubs address and I will get in for you.

Ronald Bates  
P.O. Box 52  
St. Ignatius, Mt 59865  
ATTN: NWMGP

On the issue of repairing and rebuilding trommels and/ or other prospecting equipment.  
\$15.00 hourly shop rate plus parts and supplies  
\$50.00 delivery to Columbia Falls or Kalispell  
\$80.00 delivery to Libby

Regarding new trommels constructed 50% down to cover parts prices pending size requested. Questions or placing orders please call number listed. Please leave a message.

### Gold Panning

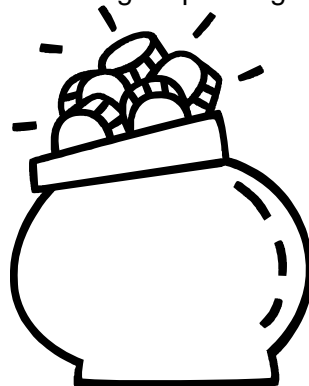
Panning is a lot harder than it might seem. Because water is needed to pan for gold. It is also wet work. Someone digs and shovels dirt and gravel from the banks or the bottom of a creek into the gold pan. This gold pan has a flat bottom and wide shallowly sloping sides. If you are the person doing the panning, you crouch as much as knee-deep in an icy mountain stream with the gold pan. The pan is filled with dirt and gravel. Then you submerge the filled pan in the creek and stir the contents with your hand around and around, removing the unwanted rocks and pebbles. You twist the pan from side to side and tap it with heel of your hand, the purpose being it makes the heavier material sink to the bottom. Then you swirl the contents of the pan, allowing the lighter material to wash over the edge. Just when your hands are good and cold, you have to swirl with the most finesse or you will lose gold over the top of the pan along with the worthless material. More water is added, and the pan is swirled some more, until there is only concentrate left. Gold, as the heaviest mineral, would be the last to wash out, and if it is present, it will be in the concentrate, then you give the a final swirl so the concentrate remains in the angle of the flat bottom and sloping side of the pan in a streak, and you eyeball it carefully.

If there are gold flakes in the concentrate, they do not glitter or sparkle in the light. In its natural state, gold is not as showy as iron pyrites, or mica. Gold has an unblinking, steady gleam to it. And if you bite it or hammer it will flatten, but it won't shatter, Iron pyrites sparkle, are gritty to the bite, and shatter. If you wish to touch the gold with your finger to remove it, the natural oils from your hand would cause the gold, if it were very fine, to float and be lost with the worthless matter in the pan.

Recreational panning is allowed on some public land, but it is always best to check locally at the nearest ranger station. Using a power washer or portable dredge is not considered a recreational activity and requires a permit. If an area is fenced or if it has recently been worked, it is undoubtedly private, panning there is considered at best trespassing, and at worst claim jumping!

Dr. Ben H Parker Jr., world-famous geologist and an expert in gold placers has said, "The old time prospectors didn't find it all." Sizeable nuggets have been found as recently as 1990. But most panners today are lucky to find a couple of dollars worth of gold in an afternoon of panning.

Many mine tours and mining museums offer gold-panning lessons.



Northwest Montana Gold Prospectors  
Treasurers Report for June 2012

Balances Forwarded:

Cash Drawer	\$95.00
Valley Bank - Checking	\$5,700.14
Whitefish Credit Union	<u>\$1,009.20</u>
Total	\$6,804.34

Income:

Merchandise	\$0.00
Interest WCU	\$0.00
Memberships	\$840.00
June club raffle	<u>\$142.00</u>
Total	\$982.00

Expenses:

Kalispell Copy Newsletter	\$158.50
Postage newsletter	\$100.70
Fuel for outing	\$283.48
May kickoff prizes	\$343.46
Water Pump and oil	\$420.56
Pee Wee May kickoff	\$80.00
June outing dig	\$560.00
Membership Return	<u>\$50.00</u>
Total	\$1,996.70

Ending Balance:

Cash Drawer	\$95.00
Valley Bank - Check book balance	\$4,685.44
Whitefish Credit Union	<u>\$1,009.20</u>
Total	\$5,789.64

## July Meeting of the NWMGP

July 14, 2012 60 attended

President Dale Evans opened the meeting. The minutes were read by Secretary Ron Maupin and approved. The treasurer's report was read by Treasurer Sandy Randall and approved.

### Old Business:

Some digging tools were lost/taken from the public panning area. If you know anything concerning these please talk to Braxton or Dale.

Dredging starts Sunday July 15<sup>th</sup>. Permits are available at the Gold Miser prospecting shop in Libby and can be used only on the Libby Creek claim and not in the public panning area or on the Mighty Fine claim. Cherry Creek also has a dredging permit.

A letter was received concerning the dirt left on the mats after the club's outing on Sunday. The member felt that this dirt belonged to the club and should be trapped. Dale explained that the dirt has been run in the past and that it helps with cleanup. He also reminded the members present at the meeting that any member can run the left over dirt that is on the mats and that if they wish to participate in the running of the dirt they are welcome to do this. It was also brought up that the club is to receive a split/share of the gold from this material.

### New Business:

The Rock Chucker's are having the Gem and Mineral show on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of July at the Fair Grounds. Some members have volunteered to do panning at the show. If you want any information concerning the show contact Mila or Joe Berg.

Ron Curtiss has made 2 trommels for the club. A motion was made and the club voted to give Ron a 2 year paid membership. This membership will start in the year 2013.

The September outings were discussed. It was decided to hold 2 outings in September, Sept 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, and September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The October outing will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

Vickie reported that the panning demonstration at Cenex brought in \$32.00. Thank you Braxton, Vicki and Jon for doing the panning demonstrations. Vicki reports that the kids had fun.

It is time to think about the May Gold Show 2013 raffle prizes. Gold nugget, silver round or bar, detector, and money were some of the ideas tossed around.

Dwayne Farmer from Arizona was present at the outing. He invited anyone going to Arizona to contact him. You can look up the Arizona club, Nugget Wranglers, on the computer, nuggetwranglers.net.

The club needs volunteers for the September 1<sup>st</sup> panning demonstrations for the school children at Pioneer Park. Please consider volunteering for this.

Now that the club has more trommels the current trailer is too small to haul them all. A discussion on purchasing a new trailer was done and it was decided by motion that was approved to let the Executive Committee purchase a trailer for the trommels.

Vicki took the floor and presented in writing a written request for by-law changes. These are:

#### Article V

(Old) Section 4. An elected term shall be for 1 year, with no officer serving more than three (3) consecutive terms. After a hiatus of one (1) year any previous officer may run again.

(New) Section 4. An elected term shall be for two (2) years with no officer serving more than three (3) consecutive terms. After a hiatus of one (1) year any previous officer may run again.

(Old) Section 3. Elections will be held at the January meeting.

(New) Section 3. Elections will be held every odd year at the January meeting.

Addition to Article V.

Section 7. Recall-The club has the authority to call a recall election to replace any officer who is not performing their duties.

## Article VI

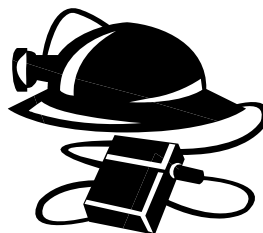
(Old) Section 1. The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasure, and Sergeant At Arms shall constitute the Executive Committee. They shall meet at their discretion. The committee will be notified as soon as possible of any actions by members or emergencies that may affect the club.

(New) Section 1. The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasure and Sergeant at Arms and the previous past President shall constitute the executive committee. They shall meet at their discretion. The committee will be notified as soon as possible of any actions by the members or emergencies that may affect the club.

These proposed changes will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting.

The raffle was held with many prizes offered.

Bill Moeller helper the kids from the College for Kids program from Libby learn to pan and more about the panning area. This program is sponsored by the Libby Public Schools and Lincoln County Campus of Flathead Valley Community College. They put a really nice news letter together ask Bill to see it. Thank you, Bill for being a steward for the club.



# N.W.MT GOLD PROSPECTORS

## NUGGET NEWS

[www.nwmtgoldprospectors.com](http://www.nwmtgoldprospectors.com)

### NWMGP

Outing at Libby Creek  
August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

### GPAA

Gold and Treasure Show  
Butte Civic Center  
Sept 15 & 16 2012  
Butte, MT

### NWMGP

Outing at Libby Creek  
Sept 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>

### NWMG

Outing at Libby Creek  
Sept.29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>

### NWMGP

Outing at Libby Creek  
October 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>  
This outing is subject to  
change.

Sunshine Lady

Vicki Walborn  
406-756-3711

Editor

Vicki Walborn  
406-756-3711

[nwmgpnl@yahoo.com](mailto:nwmgpnl@yahoo.com)

As of July 26, 2012

Gold: \$ 1613.10

Silver: \$ 27.47

June 2012

It was another great outing. So many new faces!! Welcome to all of you. I hope that you enjoy this club as much as we do.

From Dale, I would like to let everyone know that the Saturday meeting did not go as planned. I was exhausted from trying to get everything done for the outing and working a full time job. There is a lot that goes into these outings. If you would like to talk to me about this please call or come see me at the next outing.

Also, we would like to start the next outing out with a meeting around the camp fire at 7:30 a.m. Saturday. This way we can all talk about what needs to be done up on the hill and any safety concerns there are.

We went on what is becoming our annual trip to Bannack, Mt. It was the 150 year celebration. It was as usual a lot of fun. There was a stamp mill there that ran. It was so cool. If you can you should go. Bannack Days are always the same weekend. There is so much to do in this big beautiful state of ours. A good friend of mine said you start to pencil in your weekends with the stuff you want to do and the summer is gone before you know it. If you have a place you would like to tell everyone about send me a story about it and I'll get it in the newsletter for everyone to read about.

