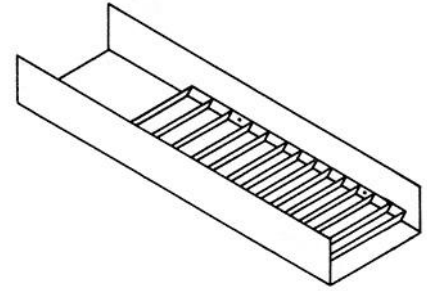




**Douglas County
Prospectors Association**

444 Winchester PMB 12-D,
Roseburg, OR 97470



THE SLUICE BOX

January 2015

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.

Newsletter

I have volunteered to take over both the Newsletter and Membership, two positions that have been vacant for far too long. If anyone has a copy of the original Newsletter Template, let me know otherwise I just started from scratch. I would like to e-mail as many as possible in order to save the club on postage. However, those who don't have e-mail will receive theirs by the USPS. It will also be posted on the club's website:

<http://dcpagold.com/>

Membership

I'm not sure how many members we actually have. I do have a roster from last year that I'll be checking with members attending the monthly meeting. The Fiscal Year runs from January 1 to December 31st. Dues are \$12 and due now. Anyone who has not paid by March 31 will be dropped from the roster.



President Bob Peebles and VP Mike Wagoner

2014 Annual Meeting and Banquet

This event was on Monday December 8, 2014. A short business meeting was held prior to the dinner. Prime rib was served. This was a potluck with the meat, potatoes and beverages provided by DCPA. Side dishes and desserts were supplied by the members.

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Awards and Gift Cards were given to Terry and Vicki Johnston, Ed Julian, Mike Eschelman and Walt Evens for their contributions of time given to the association throughout the year. Each club member received a ticket and a chance to win one of 11 door prizes. Everyone received a “gift” bag and other prizes were handed out as well. There were a couple silent auctions with the proceeds going to Camp Millennium. We had our usual gift exchange and chance to trade for any other present that looked better.

The annual raffle of a VB Systems Black Sand Cleaner and the semi-annual which was a folding sluice were also held.

All in all, everyone seemed to have a good time and enjoy the company of other members on a less formal basis than usual.

Outings

Past President Gary Sturgill has agreed to make an outing schedule for the whole year. He is launching a new business endeavor and may not be able to make all them. We really need some members to step up and be a Wagon master for at least one. A Wagon master is someone who agrees to meet folks at a certain location and time, lead them to the outing and make sure the sign in sheet is filled out. These will be the Saturday after the monthly meeting. This month's outing will be at Island Creek about 9 miles east of I-5 off the Riddle exit 103. We'll be meeting at the McDonalds at 9:00 am.

We will be having metal detecting outings in the future, starting with February. These may be 1 to 2 weeks after the monthly gold outing. Reminder e-mails will be sent out.

Claims

All of the annual paperwork was successfully completed for 2014-2015.

Gold Show

The Gold Show Committee has (with the approval of the Board of Directors) decided to move our 2015 Southern Oregon Gold and Treasure Show to March 20, 21 and 22. This will be the weekend before the GPAA Show in Portland. The plan is that we will hopefully gain a few more vendors on their way north.

Contracts have been mailed out to over 110 merchants. It promises to be a great event.

Old News

County Parks

We were successful in 2014 in convincing the Douglas County Parks Advisory Board to allow metal detecting again. You must go to the County Parks Department located in back of the Douglas County Court House and apply in person or go to their website, download and print the application, fill it out and mail it in. Where it asks which park, I put “ALL”. The permit is good for one year. It can be found here:

<http://www.co.douglas.or.us/parks/pdfs/MetalDetectorPermitApplication.pdf>

Our first detecting outing may be at one of these parks. So get your permit now!



Flags mark metal target “hits”

Mildred Kanipe Park

Back in 2010 Metal Detectorists from DCPA were invited by the Friends of Mildred Kanipe Park to locate some graves in an old cemetery on the property. The rumor was that five graves were there. After finding the five and marking the ground with paint, everyone went their separate ways with feelings of a job well done. Four years later, the park was given a grant to have someone from the U of O come with Ground Penetrating Radar to see what’s under the surface. They invited us back to sort of help relocate the graves. A couple of us had Pulse Induction machines which shoot deeper. When it was all said and done there were over 100 small flags in the ground marking each “hit” all in an evenly lined out grid. The search area was expanded to at least twice its original size.

The park would like to start a small museum so we most likely will be invited back in 2015 to search a few other locations for artifacts. Mildred Kanipe is County park on the historical registry. Metal detecting is allowed. Anything you find you **MUST** turn in to the caretaker who resides in an RV over by Mildred’s home.



Cleanup at Island Creek

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Island Creek

On September 12, the BLM, DCPA and Riddle High School students met at the Island Creek Day Use Area for some clean up in conjunction with National Public Lands Day. There were 10 DCPA members in attendance. The BLM is thinking about closing Island Creek to drive in traffic. Their complaints are trash, crime and the environmental impact from mining. That day the focus was on picking up trash. We were fed lunch from Subway and given a T-Shirt. BLM supplied loaner pick up tools, gloves, safety vests and trash bags.



Reclamation work is a team effort!

On November 15, 13 DCPA members and 3 folks from Stream Savers went back to Island Creek to fill in holes left from miners digging in to the bank and undermining trees and shrubs. Often times miners keep the holes open thinking they'll be back to work them again. Sometimes they never return. Although we put a pretty good dent in the endeavor, there is still much to do. The Board approved hamburgers, hot dogs and chips.

Many thanks go out to Scotty "Digger" Rentoul for trying to keep the place up, often doing the work by himself!

I sent e-mails to the folks at BLM informing them of the work we did. To date, I have not received a response. Hopefully we can get back out there a couple more times and try to keep this valuable resource open.

Miner's Mall

This will be a monthly classified advertising area for members who want to 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.