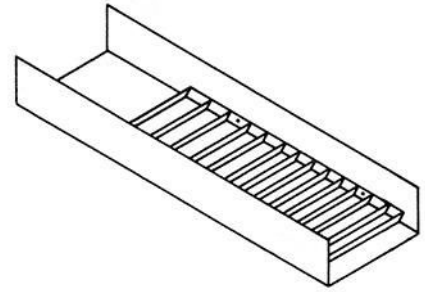




444 Winchester PMB 12-D,  
Roseburg, OR 97470



**THE SLUICE BOX**

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## February 2018

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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. Nick: 541-993-2372 or [houseofgall@gmail.com](mailto:houseofgall@gmail.com)

### From the Meeting:

- Called to order at 7:11 PM
- 36 Members and 9 Guests present (2 guests joined the club at this meeting)
- New Members and Guests introduced
- Old business read
- Motion to approve the reading of the Minutes was carried and approved
- Treasurer's report was given; \$2137.00
- New business: Scotty had a telephone meeting with the BLM today. The subject was concerning the possibility of opening up the upper section of Island Creek where we mined all the time. He floated the idea about possibly getting a gate installed on the end near Roseburg Forests' property. It seems it could be feasible. They'll have another meeting with him within a week or two
  - We also want to find out if this area is claimable. Scotty will be looking into whether we can claim it or not
- Break taken

- Last month, President Scotty Rintoul had a pad of paper available for folks to write down what they wanted out of the club. So, Scotty did a recap of items that people wrote last month. Some of them he spoke to are:
  - Learning how to use the LR200 and file a claim. We'll work toward making this happen and hold some learning sessions this year
  - How to get all the gold out of concentrates. Scotty says there's the hard way and the easy way. Scotty said Marv Rapose can tell us about that. Scotty also said that classification is the key. We'll hold some learning sessions when the weather gets warmer
  - How to learn more about prospecting, meet people and learn more about metal detectors
  - To learn more about the local geology and where to find gold. Scotty pointed to Floyd Jenkins. Stay tuned
  - Learn more about mining
  - Learn about the mining laws. We can help here, stay tuned
  - Opportunities to discover about prospecting in Oregon. Go to the next Sportsmen's show, Tom Bohmker writes a bunch of books about mining in these areas, and Tom will be there, and you can ask all kinds of questions.
  - Scotty mentioned that there is a wealth of knowledge among the members here, and encourages everyone to tap into that resource.
- Nick Gall stood and thanked everyone who could participate in throwing him and his wife a DCPA baby shower at this meeting. He also recapped pertinent check-in information about the upcoming Sportsmen's show.
- Door prizes and raffle items were drawn
- A motion was made to adjourn, the motion carried
- Meeting adjourned

### **Claims:**

Mike did get all of our receipts back for all the paperwork we submitted in August last year. It took them that long to get it back to us. Mike has been trying to use the new LR2000, and can't seem to get anywhere with it yet. He saw a notice that they were making some changes to the site, but he hadn't tried it today. Scotty said that the people in the BLM office are supposed to help us out if we have trouble finding the information we're after.

### **Outings:**

In February, the DCPA was presented with a unique, free of cost opportunity to spread the word of gold prospecting throughout our region. Dog Rock Enterprises had offered us an opportunity to co-host a booth with them at the Sportsmen's and Outdoor Show, and we believed it was in our best interest to participate. We took volunteers to run a panning booth over the course of the weekend. We jumped on the opportunity talk to the public about mining, while sparking new interest within our community, and were ecstatic to teach kids how to pan for gold. Armadillo

Mining Shop in Grants Pass had offered their panning booth setup and gave us sand to pan with, and donated vials for the public, and Tom and Sarah Bohmker used some of their gold to salt the bags. The DCPA used the last of the club's gold to salt 153 bags, and they were offered up for sale.

A **very golden thank you** goes out to all the members who volunteered their time to work the panning tubs and teach the next generation about gold prospecting! Thank these Members in person the next time you see them; we all owe them a ton of gratitude for what they did. Some of them put in full days the entire weekend! Thank you, Ed Julian, Randy Waters, Scotty Rintoul, Robert Krewson, Ed Coutts, Don Munion, Terry Johnston, Sean Hart, Craig Moser, Orvie Jordy, Gary Sturgill, and Nick Gall (If you volunteered but weren't mentioned above, please accept my apology, and please let me know; we didn't have any sign-in sheets).

A **very golden thank you** to Gary Sturgill for bringing his larger equipment and having it for sale, while working with the DCPA on partial profits for what may have sold.



I worked the booth on Sunday afternoon, and it was busy! I heard Friday and Saturday were the same. There were people lined up waiting to try their hand and panning some gold! As soon as I arrived, I was star-struck, because Dakota Fred from Gold Rush Whitewater was there, taking pictures and giving autographs!

I got a few good pictures of me with Dakota Fred, and of customers taking advantage of the offerings. If I had only gotten a picture of the look on the face of the little girl I accidentally squirted with the snuffer bottle...



### **Treasure Hunt:**

This is pending a new treasure hoard to be collected and buried. Stay tuned!

### **Legislation:**

Someone posted the following question to a public group on Facebook, and I thought it would be informative to include it here. Since it was a public group (where anyone could see the post regardless of being a member of the group or not, including government organizations/employees) I don't see any reason why I can't publish it here for the benefit of our members who are not on Facebook or didn't see the post. Being that it was pointed out as a

public post, it certainly didn't seem to hinder the conversation. Please read on.

*Q: Has anyone actually been to court and fined in Oregon? Or jail time or anything yet? For dredging? I want someones 1st hand exp(erienc) please. Cali people are getting tickets dismissed.*

*A: (From our good friend Kerby Jackson) The answer is that unlike California, there have been PRECISELY ZERO citations or equipment seizures that anyone knows of. Routine monitoring of ODFW newsletters reveals only two reported agency contacts with miners, one each on the South Umpqua and the Rogue. Both contacts are reported something like this: Fish Cop: "Did you know you're not supposed to be dredging here because of the moratorium?" Miner: "What moratorium?" Fish Cop: "There's a moratorium on dredging. I'm just going to issue you a verbal warning that you're not supposed to be dredging". I know a few miners who've ran into assorted agency employees while mining and it's pretty much been made clear that those entrusted to enforce the moratorium feel they have better things to do and are not interested in the sort of public blow back that generally comes their way after they deal with miners. The last thing these ODFW guys want are lawsuits lobbed into their own laps. They already see us launching legal barrages against the states and their agencies and they understand that promises to make lawsuits very personal are not hollow threats. As a general rule of thumb, a lot of mining is still going on in spite of the moratorium and ODFW are not out looking for miners. I was however, told on good authority that some ODEQ employees were monitoring some popular dredging areas like the "Green Bridge" area on the Illinois River and around Gold Ray and Dole Road.*

*Kerby Jackson went on to say: One thing I do want to stress is that any miners who defy the moratorium had better KNOW where they are mining. Our mining rights apply to a very particular class of ground; namely the Public Domain (easily defined as land open to claim under the Mining Law) and on Appropriated the Domain (ie. your mining claim). Do not be caught mining in areas where you have no legitimate mining rights. We will "go to bat" for miners acting within their rights , but if you are dredging in withdrawn areas, on lands controlled by states, counties or cities and so-called "public mining areas" or parks, you are on your own because you have no defensible mining rights in those areas and are at the mercy of whomever controls the ground. If you are mining within your rights and are contacted or cited, you need to get a hold of the nearest mining organization or organized mining district RIGHT AWAY.*

He went on to post the following link:

<http://galicemining.x10.mx/southern-oregon-mining-resources/the-public-domain.html>

And, if you're new to mining and are unfamiliar with the current litigation against mining, here is a link to Pacific Legal Foundations website, that describes the court case of Bohmker v. Oregon: <https://pacificlegal.org/case/bohmker-v-oregon/> This is likely one of our last stands to get SB838 and subsequently, SB3 repealed.

## **Kerby's Corner:**

I found this website article shared by Kerby Jackson:

Credit: <http://www.geologyin.com/2015/09/how-do-gold-nugget-form.html>

### *How Do Gold Nuggets Form?*



*A gold nugget is a naturally occurring piece of native gold. Watercourses often concentrate nuggets and finer gold in placers. Nuggets are recovered by placer mining, but they are also found in residual deposits where the gold-bearing veins or lodes are weathered.*

*Nuggets are also found in the tailings piles of previous mining operations, especially those left by gold mining dredges.*

*The origin of gold nuggets is a matter of debate. Many gold nuggets formed as clusters of gold crystals from very hot water in cracks and fissures in hard-rocks, often with quartz. Later, weathering released the gold nuggets that end up in a stream due to gravity.*

*But many gold nuggets are found in areas where there seems to be no hardrock gold other than sometimes lots of microscopic gold.*

*Five rival theories then apply, and they might all be right:*

*1- Gold nuggets form because gold is malleable, bendable and sticky. During transport small gold particles may stick together or indeed be cold-welded together by pressure and shearing in movement of gravels down a slope or in a stream bed. Shearing and hammering creates a small nugget and then they snowball together by squeezing, hammering and shearing in moving gravels. This sounds impossible but there is a lot of anecdotal evidence for it, such as one of the nuggets shown below. Gold is soft, and behaves like extremely heavy chewing gum that gathers together and sticks together. It is interesting that often gold particles get bigger as nuggets for a few km downstream of the gold source, whereas platinum just seems to get smaller and smaller and platinum nuggets are correspondingly rare - platinum isn't sticky!*

*2- Gold nuggets form because groundwater becomes rich in dissolved gold which sooner or later precipitates in soils and gravels as nuggets. The theory is that the gold precipitates on gold, and so the mass of crystals grows and grows. Now it seems that as well as routine precipitation of gold, the main cause is the role of special bacteria in causing precipitation.*

*3- Gold nuggets form from hard-rock gold that is now completely worn away, and so the gold prospector cannot find any evidence of hard-rock gold. It was there, but the evidence has now GONE!*

*4- Gold nuggets in modern placers come from old placers being eroded. The older placers, known as paleoplacers might be just a few thousand years old such as river terraces, or be millions of years old.*

*5- Gold nuggets weathered out not from 'them thar hills' but from hardrock gold in a zone of weak shattered rock that the stream eroded. Often hardrock gold is missed, being hidden under the placer!*

#### *Composition*

*Nuggets are usually 20.5K to 22K purity (83% to 92%). Gold nuggets in Australia often are 23K or slightly higher, while Alaskan nuggets are usually at the lower end of the spectrum. Purity can be roughly assessed by the nugget color, the richer and deeper the orange-yellow the higher the gold content. Nuggets are also referred to by their fineness, for example "865 fine" means the nugget is 865 parts per thousand in gold.*

## Member's Corner:

- We're adding a new Newsletter section going forward; stories and pictures from our members of that yellow metal that we all love. Please email, text, or bring samples or pictures to the meetings of your take of your gold prospecting treasures, and if there's room, they just might get included in the newsletter.
- Reminder: Membership dues are due in March! You are asked to please fill out a new application at the next meeting you attend (or download, print, fill out, and mail/deliver at a meeting from our website, <http://www.dcpagold.org/>). We are asking that current members fill out a new application, as we have old mailing addresses, email addresses, and we need you to provide the license plate number(s) of the vehicles you plan to use at our claims, as we believe we've had claim jumpers on our claims recently.

## Miner's Mall:

This is 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, we don't see why we 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 Nick know.

E-mail them to me: [houseofgall@gmail.com](mailto:houseofgall@gmail.com) Send photos if you like, I'll get them in. If you don't have e-mail then call me at 541-993-2372 and we'll work something out.

*Used Equipment, Contact Walt @ 541-315-2030:*

- *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.*
- *White's Gold Master V-Sat: \$250*





## **DCPA 2018 OUTINGS SCHEDULE**

**ALL OUTINGS ARE RAIN OR SHINE**

**OUTING MEETING TIMES ARE 9 AM**

**January 15th: Cow Creek Claims** (meet at McDonalds off exit 103, Riddle)

**February 16th, 17th, and 18<sup>th</sup>: Outdoor Show**

**March 17th: Red Mine #9** (meet at old Myrtle Creek 7-11 / 24 Hour Mini Mart next to Saw Shop)

**April 15th: Nesika Beach** (meet at the Winston Dairy Queen)

**May 19th: Cow Creek Claims – Cleanup** (meet at McDonalds off exit 103, Riddle)

**June 23rd: BBQ Fun Day, 10 AM** (Douglas County Fairgrounds)

**July 14th: Middle Creek Claim – Cleanup** (meet at McDonalds off exit 103, Riddle)

**August 18th: Red Mine #9 – Cleanup** (meet at old Myrtle Creek 7-11 / 24 Hour Mini Mart next to Saw Shop)

**September 15th: Cow Creek Claims** (meet at McDonalds off exit 103, Riddle)

**October 13th: Red Mine #9** (meet at old Myrtle Creek 7-11 / 24 Hour Mini Mart next to Saw Shop)

**November 17th: Nesika Beach** (meet at the Winston Dairy Queen)

**December 15th: 7 Devils Wayside or Whiskey Run** (meet at the Winston Dairy Queen)