



Northwest Montana Gold Prospectors Club

P.O. Box 3242

Columbia Falls, MT 59912

<http://www.NWMTGoldprospectors.com>

President	Clarence Taber	406-892-3722
Vice-President	Debby Robinson	406-892-4826
Secretary	Jill Taber	406-892-3722
Treasurer	Sandi Randle	406-212-7415
sergeant at arms:	Ric Lance	406-892-1810
	Bob Liston	406-752-8239

If you know of a club member who is ill or needs help,
Prayer or encouragement, call our "Sunshine Lady"
Vicki Walborn 406-756-3711

"CODE OF ETHICS"

Any Violation reflects on all of us!

1. Know and obey the laws, rules and regulations pertaining to mining.
2. Respect private property and mining claims of others. Get Permission First!
3. Conduct your mining activity in a manner that will cause minimal disturbance to others.
4. Plan your operation prior to proceeding to ensure minimal environmental impact and erosion.
5. Restore the area to its original or better condition when finished with your operation.
6. NEVER disrupt or damage wildlife breeding sites, even if it's legal to do so.
7. Remove all trash and debris found in and around all streams, rivers, and campsites.
8. Keep your equipment maintained and in peak operating condition.
9. Use extreme caution when using petroleum products around waterways.
10. MINE SAFELY! No amount of gold is worth your life or the life of others.

CLUB MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER

11-12

AT THE CLAIM

LIBBY CREEK

**Call any member listed above
if you need directions.**

99ER'S NUGGET NEWS

Northwest Montana Gold Prospectors Club

SEPTEMBER, 2010

Editor: Mary Lance

There are two kinds of statistics, the kind you look up and the kind you make up. Rex Stout

IN THIS ISSUE:

Next meeting:

SEPT. 11-12

At the claim

Greetings from the Editor

Gold Prices

August minutes

Advertisements

-Personals:

Mail from Members

GOLD PRICES:

AS OF : Sept 2, 2010

Gold \$1250.04

Silver \$ 19.60

OUR WEBSITE:

NWMTGoldprospectors.com

**Please send newsletter
information to:**

Ric and Mary Lance

email:

marricl@centurytel.net

address: 550 Neighborly
-Way C. Falls, Mt. 59912

**phone: 406-892-1810 cell:
406-253-9335**

Hi friends:

I give up, I guess we just aren't going to have "summer" this year. We went to a "cousins" reunion in Lolo Hot Springs last weekend. Thursday it was 97 degrees. The high Friday was 62 and Saturday 50. How can you plan anything? We had a great time, though. We went to see the Beach Boys in Missoula on Thursday and they are just as good as ever. Keanna, our granddaughter, was impressed how all ages were jitterbugging and having fun together. Kids to youngsters in their 70s were all having a great time. I'll bet some of them had to find some linament for sure the next day.

As usual, Ric gave me the wrong names of people who helped out at Gary and Rita Hall's ramp building. So Ric apologizes to Jim and Joyce Hollopetter for calling Jim Tom. Please refer to the quote above. He just isn't very good with names, but he gets a lot of work done so we had better keep him around.

I am thinking the members of the miners' club are backwards. Why don't you have your multiple dig months when it is warm out? Not in September and October when it is cold? It reminds me of trying to get in the last possible effort to beat winter, when you could be more likely to have nice weather if you started trying to beat the cold in June, July, and August. You notice I said more likely, not guaranteed to have nicer weather. Ric says I think this way because I don't like being cold and try to have a good time at the same time. Is he calling me a pansy??

I didn't get a single report of anyone being brave enough to tease Ric about his pink camera? What is the matter? Do you think he won't feed you on Sunday mornings? He likes to eat too much himself to not fix breakfast. Besides that, he got older a few days ago and probably won't remember who teased him anyway. When you get to be his age, forgetting is easier to do than hold a grudge.

This is the 13th newsletter I have done, so I will be going back and deciding who contributed the most information. Can you believe it has already been a year since I started? To some of you it may seem like a vvvveeeerrrrrryyy long time. I'll let you go and get the rest of this put together. Have a great outing and I will talk to you next month.

Mary

August 14, 2010
NWMGP meeting 70 people present

Clarence started the meeting with introductions of everyone.

Jill read the minutes, they were approved as read.

Sandy gave the treasurers report which was also approved

Old Bus:

Sandy has purchased the tickets for us to sell. The drawing will be at the spring GOLD SHOW of 2011 with the prizes being : a large silver round, a gold nugget and a metal detector.

Clarence gave an update on Gary Hall. Thank you to Ric Lance, grandson Cody, Clarence Taber, Jim and Joyce Hollopeter for their help in building Gary a wheel chair ramp. A big thank you to Western Building Center of Col. Falls for donating the lumber. Also one of our former members, Bob Schaale passed away, his funeral will be Sat. Aug 21 at 10 AM at the Lutheran Church in Eureka.

Braxton : A big Thank you to all those who helped with the Rock Show: Sandy Randall, Jon VanDort, Ron Maupin, Ric Lance, John and Vicki and Braxton.

Clarence told of cleaning his shop where the Spring Kick Off is held and he found a box with vials of gold for the Education Committee. He put them in Sandy's care.

The Newsletter was discussed. A suggestion was made to use the label as a seal. Several suggested we should get the letter out sooner . A motion was made to have the letter out by the first week in the month. It was seconded and passed.

It was also suggested that we have an information sheet to give new members. This had been done a few years ago and Vicki said she would look for a copy we could use or at least update for use.

Vicki explained how the gold split works. A chip is drawn, that number is where we start on the list. Each person then draws a chip to identify his number of the gold split. 8 AM is the start up time on the hill on Sat. If you get there after 10 AM you only get half a split. Vicki is in charge of the list on the hill so get your name on it with her. One extra split is always made for the club and is used at the Christmas party. This is for members only. The gold from the black sand throughout the summer is drawn for from the losing tickets at the Spring Kick Off in May and you have to be present to win this one.

The offer is still standing for a silver round to the person who submits the most information for the newsletter.

Billy M found 2 more nuggets with his detector..... good job Billy, Keep it up.

NEW BUS:

Jon VD gave an update on Miss Penny. She will be having surgery on the tumor on her spinal cord so asked for prayers for her. Ed G lead us in prayer for her and Ed's wife who is also suffering health issues.

It was asked if we could give a lifetime membership to Kevin Reed who has been a member and was a very hard worker until he suffered a stroke. It was voted on and approved.

Bob Liston suggested that the holes near the bank where the dredgers are working should be filled.

Clarence addressed the problem of the huge undercuts made on the claim during non outing time. It is VERY dangerous and could jeopardize our plan of operation. The proper way to do a dig is to clear all debris, duff, trees etc. first, then remove the top soil and pile it to put back during reclamation . Then do your digging for gold. The club will pay for the repair this time. Motion was made, seconded and approved to not have any machinery on the claim when not an outing. This is skid steer size and above. Trommels, high bankers, 4 wheelers are still allowed during non outings.

There may be more than one outing in the next few months but nothing definite was decided yet.

Nominations were brought up as elections will be coming soon. Dale E. and Bob Liston were nominated for VP possibilities. Debbie will serve as VP to finish this term but declined to run next year. Nominations for Sec. are Jill, Anne Rhoades, and Ron Maupin so far.

Ric Lance will take care of putting catch barriers under the pumps.

Debbie Robinson suggested we update our cookbook and sell those again. It was approved. Also she wants anyone who does not have a badge to sign up for one.

We then held the raffle

ITEM

DONATED BY

WON BY

Top o Deep gold dirt
Silver Round
Jewelers Loop
Huckleberries
Cooler for 6 pack
Amythist
Lost Dutchman book
49ers book
Moose cork for bottle
Water bottle
Poke
Dog frame
Western DVD
Sunglasses
Organizer
Murdock Bucket
Wind up
flashlight/radio
Amythest
Huckleberries
Screwdriver set
Poke
Gift knife set
Geode with miner
Murdock bucket
Gold Pan

Club
Club
Estile Hunt
Roper Wikel
Jill T
Billy
Charlie Kins
Charlie K
Debbie R
Wayne H
Wayne H
Debbie R
Debbie R
Debbie R
Debbie R
Barb Brown

Sandy R
Billy M
Roper
Sandy R
Al A
Laura/Dave Bjelland
Barb B
Barb B
Vicki and Braxton

Sandy R
Nancy Miller
Wayne H
Katelyn Wikel
Wes Engman
Janis Lindbaum
Linda Browne
Estille Hunt
Earl Brown
Karen Schnabel
Wes E
Katelyn Wikel
Katelyn Wikel
Jenny Sanders
Linda Taylor
Geo Johnson

John Slesar
Jerry Bartsch
Linda Browne
Roper
Dale E
Don Plepler
Nancy Miller
Janet Liston
Roper

Prospector Corn for Breakfast from Allen

1 big can of cream style corn, This is the only thing it is good for!
1 small can of "Ortega" brand green chilie, chopped
1 pound of bacon
1/2 onion
frying pan

Ok, fry up the bacon, drain off half or a little bit more of the fat.
add the onion and cook until just clear.

Throw in the the chilie and cream corn, salt and pepper to taste, heat until it starts bubbling like it is going to boil. Serve up hot with corn bread, or biscuits

From Allen Think you know everything about gold?

Here's some more golden facts to widen your repertoire and make you a quiz team hero:

1. The word “money” and “mint” comes from the Roman Goddess, Moneta – when the Gauls attacked the Romans it was the geese who were kept as an early warning that alerted the defenders to the attack – as a result of saving all the gold, the Romans built a shrine to “Moneta” Goddess of Warnings and the link between treasure (money) and gold was established;
2. The San Francisco 49'ers are so named after the 1849 Gold Rush;
3. The Bible has more than 400 references to [gold](#) within it, far more than any other element or substance and also there are specific mandates to cover holy furniture with gold especially the tabernacle;
4. Gold is one of the oldest known metals to man having been discovered some 5,000 years ago along with copper;
5. If you think gold is a heavy way of carting your money around, give a thought for those in the days before gold coins were used – cattle, sheep and even slaves were used as forms of currency until gold took over;
6. Hyper-inflation and the ever increasing cost of gold was the main reason for the collapse of the Roman Empire – in AD 307 one pound of gold was worth 100,000 denarii but by the beginning of the end of the Empire, AD 350 it was 2,120,000,000 – the legionaries could not be paid and the barbarian hordes could not be bribed to stay away;
7. In the Medieval times, drinking molten gold with emeralds in it was considered a cure for the Black Death;
8. Alchemists have long sought a way to turn “base” metals into gold but only with modern nuclear science has this become possible except the cost of doing so vastly outweighs the value of the gold produced – nevertheless, it was the search for turning metals such as lead into gold which laid the foundations for numerous scientific discoveries and modern chemistry without which we would have very little of our society today;
9. The gold ducat was introduced in 1824 by the city-state of Venice – gold coins were the standard for the following 500 years and even today, gold plays a significant role in stabilizing economies and underpinning financial transactions on a global basis;
10. The Spanish Inquisition used gold as a form of execution – molten gold was poured down the throat of the victim and this ensured no blood was shed;
11. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York is the largest repository of gold bullion in the world (not Fort Knox, Kentucky as many believe) – most of the gold stored in New York does not belong to the United States but to other countries around the world;
12. The “troy” as in troy ounce, comes from the French city of Troyes where the system of weights and measures was first developed to deal with gold;
13. The purity of gold is described in terms of “carats” – carat is itself derived from carob seeds which were first used as counter-measures on scales for measuring the weight of gold and subsequently diamonds

Fun Golden Facts

1. Gold has been discovered on every continent including both the Arctic and Antarctic;
2. The world produces more steel in one hour than it has produced gold since man began collecting it;
3. Over three-quarters of the gold extracted has been produced since 1910 – the California gold rush helped colonize the West but did little to contribute to the amount of gold reserves in the world;

4. Gold topped \$1,000 an ounce for the first time in history in March 2008;
5. A stock-market analyst questioned whether Google or Gold was the better investment in 2005 when both traded at the same levels – in December 2008 Google traded at \$307.65 but gold was over \$866 an ounce;
6. An ounce of gold can be turned into a thread 50 miles long;
7. An ounce of gold can be hammered into a sheet 15 meters square;
8. The Al-Aqsa Mosque or Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem, Israel is entirely covered by gold leaf;
9. Gold can be eaten! Some countries in the Far East actually use gold as a dietary supplement in jellies, coffee and tea while in the US it is added to liquor such as Goldwasser and Goldschlager;
10. American Indians believed that eating gold could make you fly;
11. The name “gold” is thought to come from the earliest European/Indo-Asian languages – “ghol” or “ghel” can mean yellow, green or bright;
12. Gold is one form of treatment for rheumatoid arthritis;
13. Gold melts at 1064.43 degrees Centigrade;
14. Gold does not rust;
15. 80% of the world’s total amount of gold has yet to be mined – it is still in the ground!;
16. In a productive mine it requires 30 tons of ore to extract one ounce of gold;
17. In a productive mine it takes 400 tons of earth to extract 30 tons of ore to get that one ounce of gold!;
18. 4,000 gallons of water are required to produce one ounce of gold;
19. Pirates broke [gold coins](#) down into 8 pieces to pay their bar tabs – this is the origin of the phrase, “Pieces of Eight”;
20. The first gold rush in America did not take place in California but North Carolina in 1803;
21. The first recorded gold mine was in Nubia, or modern day Egypt some 4,500 years ago;
22. Some scholars have wryly noted that while Moses was on the Mount receiving the Commandments, the Jews had sufficient gold to make a false idol in the shape of a calf which they worshiped – it did not occur to them to buy their freedom with that gold but perhaps this was because gold was not then associated with money;
23. Gold is one of the gifts made to the baby Jesus by the Three Wise Men (along with frankincense and myrrh);
and
24. The chemical symbol for gold is Au, this stems from the Latin word, Aurum from the Greek Goddess of the dawn, Aurora.

Northwest Montana Gold Prospectors

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Membership Fee: \$30 per Household

Please print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Number of family members in household: _____

Type of equipment that you wish to use: _____

Are you a CHEECHAKO (beginner)? _____ or SOURDOUGH (expert)? _____

I/We agree to hold the Northwest Montana Gold Prospectors (hereinafter "the NWMGP"), its Officers and Members free and clear of any group or personal liability for any injury that I and/or my family and/or guests may incur while attending any or all of the NWMGP sponsored field trips, outings, workshops, meetings, or other activities and/or on any property leased, owned and/or under the control of the NWMGP. I/We also agree to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, Standing Rules and Code of Ethics of the NWMGP.

I/We further state that I/we have carefully read the foregoing release and know the contents thereof, and I/we sign the same as my/our free act.

Please print full name *Signature* *Date*
(If membership will include your spouse or family member over 18, please have them sign below.)

Please print name *Relationship* *Signature* *Date*

Please print name *Relationship* *Signature* *Date*

Please print name *Relationship* *Signature* *Date*

STANDING RULES - Copies of the NWMGP By-Laws and Constitution are available upon request.

1. The use of alcohol at the dig site is prohibited and should be limited and prudent in the public panning area.
2. Members are expected to adhere to the NWMGP's Code of Ethics while prospecting/mining.
3. Members are expected to conduct themselves at all times in accordance with the laws of the land and with reasonable behavior.
4. No personal vehicles are allowed at the dig site, with the exception of ATV's.
5. Parents are responsible for their children at all times.
6. Violation of the Standing Rules will result in disciplinary action as determined by the Board of Officers.
7. The Board of Officers or their appointed spokesperson(s) are the only people authorized to speak on behalf of the NWMGP.
8. Fun must be had by ALL!

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Return this signed application and your payment to: NWMGP, Box 3242, Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Revised: 06/01/2006

Northwest Montana Gold Prospectors Information Sheet

OUTINGS: June thru October we meet up at the Libby Creek Public Panning Area. There are camping spots and some places for tents. The dates are as follows starting with the next outing.

Sept. 11, 2010

October 2, 2010, some reclamation, Oct. 9, 2010

May 2011 will be the Spring Kick Off held this year at Braxton and Vicki Walborn's place at 510 North Hill Rd. Starting at 10 AM with the potluck lunch at 12 noon. This is when we do the drawing for the gold from the black sands. This is done from the non winning tickets from the raffles. You need to be present to win these. There is also equipment displays, metal detecting contests, one for the kids and one for the adults, panning contests, kids, individual, relay and games for the kids.

June 18th, 2011 will be the first outing at Libby Creek. The outings are then on the second week end of each month unless otherwise specified.

The rest of the year we meet at the Columbia Falls Community Center on Nucleus Ave. on the second Sat. of each month.

Dec. 11, 2010 will be our Christmas Party with a gift exchange game. Gifts should not be over \$10 and you can mark them for a male or female. This is also when we do the raffle for the clubs gold splits from the outings. You don't need to be present to win. These tickets are in the newsletter throughout the year.

LIST OF THINGS YOU NEED FOR OUTINGS

- 1) Clothing for all types of Montana weather
- 2) Shovel and Gloves
- 3) Drinking water
- 4) Your lunches and food for the potluck held on Sat. evening.
- 5) Snuffer bottle for the gold split
- 6) Chair

HOW THINGS WORK UP ON THE HILL:

We have a person in charge up on the hill, currently it is Vicki Walborn.

It is important to know that we clean up the sluice boxes at a time determined by the person in charge on the hill. We have found over time this works well with as many different speeds that people shovel.

Saturday:

8:00 AM Head up on the hill

10:00 AM If you are not up on the hill by then it is possible that you will not get a split or just a 1/2 split. If you want to be part of the gold split you will need to have your name on the list. It is your responsibility to make sure your name gets on the list, not the person keeping the list.

11:45 AM Start clean up for the lunch break.

12:00 Noon Lunch

1:00 PM Club meeting in the Public Panning Area

2:00PM Back up on the hill

This is a good time to let you know we want you to work what you can. We want you to take as many breaks as you need. We know that this is not the normal activity for some of us and we don't want anyone to get hurt.

4:45 PM Start clean up for the evening

6:00 PM Potluck dinner

7:00 PM Gold split

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Club puts on the breakfast

9:00 AM Start up on the hill

11:30 AM Start the clean up and breaking down of equipment that is coming down the hill and stored in the trailer. Nobody breaks for lunch until all the gear is off of the hill that is not going to be used.

12:00 Noon Lunch

1:00 PM Gold split

Though the outing is over at this point, some members go back up on the hill to run the left over dirt. This is something anyone can take part in. The gold found will be split between the people that have helped.

The List: This is a list of the names of the people that have worked up on the hill or in the creek panning concentrates for the common operation. It is your responsibility to get your name on the list, not the person keeping the list. All you need to do is ask someone and they can tell you who is keeping the list. Currently the hill operation manager is Vicki Walborn.

The Gold Split: All the gold found from the common operation is taken and is split equally between the number of people on the list. Then we take numbered poker chips and put them in the bag. We then pick someone that is not on the list to pick a number out of the bag. This is the position on the list where we start. The biggest pieces of gold are randomly placed on different numbers on the tray. They are never on the same number. As your name is called you will come up and take a chip, then with a snuffer bottle in hand you will go up to the table and the person that did the split will give you your chip and they will snuff up your share of the gold. We do this two times an outing: Sat. @ 7 PM and Sun. @ 1 PM.

The Potluck: We all bring our favorite dishes and eat together. You do not have to bring a dish to be part of the potluck nor do you have to eat with us. We do have a lot of fun and there are a lot of good stories told and lots to learn from the other prospectors.