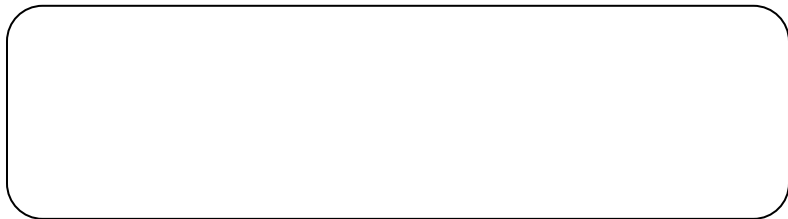


# ***DRYWASHER'S* GAZETTE**

**September 2020**

**Send Exchange Bulletins to:  
Lorraine Frost PO Box 293990  
Phelan, CA 92329-3990  
valleyprospectors49@gmail.com**



**Web Site: [www.valleyprospectors.org](http://www.valleyprospectors.org)**

**Email: [valleyprospectors49@gmail.com](mailto:valleyprospectors49@gmail.com)**

**Mail: Valley Prospectors, PO Box 2923, San Bernardino, CA 92406-2923**

**Next General Meeting: January 28, 2021, 7 PM – 9 PM (Tentative)**

## Mission and Code of Ethics

Valley Prospectors Inc. is a non-profit educational organization dedicated

“To Promote Gold Prospecting as a healthy family activity.”

You’re invited to be our guest at the General membership meetings that are

held on the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm

in the Knights of Columbus Hall at:

1729 E. Baseline Street, San Bernardino, Ca. A map is on our website.

The Board of Directors meeting will be at 6 pm before the General Meeting at the Knights of Columbus Hall in San Bernardino.



## “A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION”

Remember that all prospectors may be judged by the example “You set.” Leave flora and fauna as you found it. “Do Not Destroy Any property, public or private!” “Obey all laws”. Please do not litter,

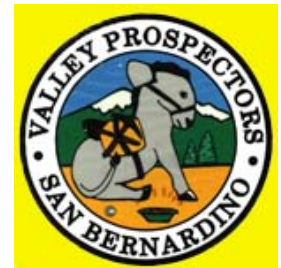
\*Each member of Valley Prospectors should strive to set a good example for others.\*

## Officers for 2020

<b>Executive Officers</b>			<b>Chairpersons</b>		
President	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564	Apparel	Trish Dudley	480-490-0975
Vice President	Steve Schubert	951-943-0535	Blood Bank	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
Secretary	Judy Lepper	951-674-3207	Budget	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
Treasurer	Vacant		CFMS	Bural LaRue	909-874-5664
			Courtesy	Susan Birrell Diane Railsback	760-954-1915
<b>Board of Directors</b>			Editor	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
John Bonson	909-794-4401		Asst. Editor	Vacant	
Dan Cornia	909-797-6111		Finds/Month	Garry Devlin Sherry Livingston	951-768-0880
Garry Devlin	951-768-0880		Lady Luck	Albert Naki	909-733-6473
Bob Dudley	480-225-5013		50/50	Sherri Livingston	909-875-2090
Trish Dudley	480-490-0975		Gold Sales	Art Fairchild	951-897-5433
Gene Lepper	951-674-3207		Historian	Corena Ross	530-274-1838
Sherri Livingston	909-875-2090		Librarian	Vacant	
Jill Molson	909-887-8024		Membership	Andrea Frost	760-868-6564
Mike Muir	909-882-9052		Name Tags	Andrea Frost	760-868-6564
Albert Naki	909-733-6473		Programs	Steve Schubert	951-943-0535
Katherine Naki	909-733-6441		Refreshments	Michelle O'Brien	
Bruce Sherman	951-780-7715		Outings/Retired during the week	Don Osborne	951-817-0524 714-287-0782
<b>Alternates</b>			Claims	Bob Dudley	480-225-5013
Stu Luce	909-560-0474		Show & School Rep.	Steve Schubert	951-943-0535
John Howell	951-247-1037		Wagon Master	Mike Dunkerely	760-608-3228
Tommy Purscelly	909-820-1898				

## CLAIMS

**The 2 Burro's Placer Claims** 20 acres  
**Coolgardie Placer Claim Harvey's Oro Rico** 120 acres  
**Gold Venture & Pickett #3 Placer Claims**, 20 acres ea.  
**Hungry Man 1, 2, 3, 4 and Chunker Placer Claims** 550 total acres  
**Indian Gulch and Indian Flat Placer Claim** 60 acres  
**Jackass 1, Placer Claim** 160 acres  
**Miner's Folly Placer Claim** 60 acres  
**Moriah Placer Claim** 15 acres  
**Pickett #2 Placer Claim** 30 acres  
**(Cajon Pass) Summit Placer Claim** 60 acres



## **Prez Says – Lorraine Frost – Sep 2020**

Trying to get back to normal despite Covid-19 restrictions, Wild Fires, and closures that continue to negatively impact our ability to hold meetings or outings. The VP Board has strongly recommended that all events and outings for 2020 be canceled until this crisis is under control. So, although 2020 has been a challenge, we continue to have hope that this crisis will pass soon. Again, please note that **all outings for the remainder of the year have been canceled.**

I was able to hold two Valley Prospector Board meetings online with limited Board Members in attendance. Below is a synopsis of our latest meeting on September 24, 2020.

### **Valley Prospectors' - Board Meeting Minutes – Sept 24, 2020**

Lorraine thanked all the board members that were able to join the Zoom meeting. Nine members were in attendance. Lorraine reviewed the current finances of the club. All Claim documents and fees have been sent and paid. The one large outstanding bill for the club will be the CFMS fee which is due in October. Steve Schubert outlined how these fees provide liability insurance and other benefits to club members. The bottom line, the club remains solvent. The club currently has 271 active family memberships. There is still great interest and people have been joining via our website and Paypal. Lorraine was not able to get the July or August Newsletter out. She is working on the September newsletter and wants to add interesting local history articles. A further discussion on what to do about scheduled outings, meetings, and events were conducted. Since the Covid-19 restrictions are still in place in California, board members did not think it prudent to conduct any activities until restrictions have been lifted. This information will be shared with the membership. Discussion on plans for nominations of 2021 officers and board members. Since the 2020 officers and board members have not been able to fulfill a full term, it was recommended that the current officers and board members be presented for the 2021 elections. Members will be asked to vote Yes or No to accept the entire slate of nominees. This will be mailed to all members in November along with their membership renewal request. Garry indicated that this was called a White Ballot. The Zoom meeting was ended with appreciation to all who provided input.

## **Wagonmaster Report –**

**All outings for the remainder of 2020 have been canceled due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Members should check with local offices, National Forest or BLM, to ensure the claim areas they wish to visit are open.**

## **Have you visited a Valley Prospector Claim lately?**

Be sure to submit your claim report. Our claim chair, Bob Dudley, uses this information to file our work assessment documents on an annual basis. You can submit the online form and it will be emailed directly to Bob so that Valley can record claim work assessment. He will collect these through the year. Don't forget to report your Northern Claim visit.

<https://www.valleyprospectors.org/claims/claim-report/>

## **Remembering our Fellow Valley Prospector Members**

We mourn the loss of **Robin White** and **Lee Hoffman**.

On May 14, 2020, we lost Robin White, a long time member. We last saw him at the February Pomona Gold Show. He was still excited about prospecting. The club was able to purchase some of the gold Robin had found in past years and this will be used in our Gold Panning demonstrations and Gold Shows. He will be greatly missed.

In addition, we just recently heard of Lee Hoffman passing on September 25, 2020. I had a chance to talk to his wife, Dee. This was unexpected, but her family and friends are supporting her during her loss. Please keep both families in your thoughts and prayers. Both members shared a great deal of their love for prospecting. We honor them now.



## **Valley Prospectors' Inc.- General Meeting Minutes – July 25, 2020**

Submitted by Mary Schubert

Steve Schubert, Vice President of Valley Prospectors, called the July 25, 2020, general meeting held at the Miner's Folly Claim in Big Bear to order at 12:05 pm. Sixteen people joined the meeting. Steve shared that the club purchased gold from the White Family Trust, Robin White's Family. This will help the club during their Gold Show panning demonstrations. The previous month's outing had 30 members and 6 guests in attendance. The next upcoming outing will be August 16-23 at the Northern Claims, (NOTE: this outing was canceled after this meeting, however, some members still visited the Northern claims in August). Bob will be checking on a potential new claim up north. He may need some volunteers. No refreshments were shared due to the virus restrictions. Esmelia Cowen and Bruce Sherman were selected to receive a prize for attending. Steve and Mary Schubert provided the prizes. Tommy Purschelly made a

motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Brian Teeling. The motion was approved and the meeting ended at 12:35 pm.

### **Report on the Big Bear Outing for July 24-26, 2020**

The weather was beautiful, but a little cold at night. We had a total of 21 members and 4 guests come by over the 3 days. Violet shoveled for Steve and found her first gold. She was very excited. Kelly found a ratchet and ring metal detecting Saturday.

### **Local Gold History**

The following article is reprinted with permission from the September 3, 2020 Mountaineer Progress.

### **The Man, The Mountain, The Gold Mine**

*From the archives of the Mountaineer Progress*

His name was Charles Vincent Dougherty. He lived in seclusion near Mine Gulch on Baden Powell.

Known as Charles Tom Vincent, he was a rough, grouchy old man with few friends, who preferred to live a solitary life in the high elevations of the San Gabriel Mountains, for whom Vincent Gap is named.

Vincent meandered around Arizona, the high desert of California, the Valyermo area, and the local mountains. Reaching the area above Wrightwood, he found the most "beautiful spot that he had ever seen." There he built his cabin. While hunting bighorn sheep, he saw a sheep leap and disappear into the wooded hillside. Following the sheep, he not only noticed the typical rock of Wrightwood inside a cave but, a clearly defined vein of gold. Vincent discovered gold on the east slope of Mount Baden-Powell. He named the find after the sheep he was hunting at the time. He made his claim stake to the Big Horn and Blue Cat mines. For many years, he continued working on his tunnels and ditches, hauling ore back by wheelbarrow to the stamp mill, to refine by running crushed ore over a mercury chute, then sacking the gold to take to the city once a year.

Subsequently, he sold his interest to a mining company and continued to live in this cabin until his death in 1926. Bighorn Mine developers turned it into the largest gold mine in Los Angeles County, with miles of tunnels spanning six levels, and a stamp mill perched precariously on the side of the mountain.

Vincent lived a fiddle foot life, avoiding contact with other people. On a hunting expedition, this time accompanied by a friend (a rare occurrence), they were attacked by three grizzly bears, which they had surprised. Vincent managed to shoot and kill two of the bears, but when his gun jammed before he could get off another shot, he attacked and killed the third with just a knife.

In 1926 Tom Vincent, as he lay dying in an L.A. hospital, told his doctor he had a confession to make. He said his name was actually Charles Vincent Dougherty, and he was a wanted man. 40 years earlier he hooked up with a partner, Lockwood, and the two prospected for gold through Arizona. Trekking the Mojave, they zigzagged over the region, with their pack mules in tow. When they discovered gold, they made a claim and built a shack and set to work. They heard three fellas discussing how they were going to rob the claim's occupants and take over the claim. Vincent and Lockwood thought that was a rotten deal and decided to spy on them. Vincent and Lockwood returned to their cabin after a day of working their claim to find three men ransacking their home. They raised their rifles, one rifle being a large single-shot Remington Rolling-block .50 cal., and blasted through the walls of the small cabin, killing the desperadoes inside! They buried them there and then figuring that the law would be chasing them down, the duo decided to flee without further ado. They abandon their rich claims, but Vince knew he could find others, as he did.

His reason for confessing, he said, was to make his real name known so he could be buried in L.A.'s National Cemetery. He had fought in the Civil War, in the 8<sup>th</sup> Ohio Infantry, and had even been wounded at Chancellorsville, particularly the Battle of Gettysburg fighting in July 1863. Vincent had signed up for the Union Army, 8<sup>th</sup> division infantry, at 13 years old, because he wanted to be with his older brother. He was tall for his age and records also show him as signing up at age 18.

Vince lived a solitary life by choice. He was a fighter, from his boyhood days on through Gettysburg and his trip west, and his one desire was to be buried with other fighters. He was full of high spirits, always kind and generous to the few he liked.

Source: *Wrightwood Historical Society derived from Dorothy Evans Nobel and edited by George F. Tillitson.*

Perhaps once the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, the club can plan a trek to Vincent Miners Cabin – that is if it wasn't burned down in the BobCat Fires.

Learn more about the Vincent mines at

<https://hikingguy.com/hiking-trails/best-la-hikes/big-horn-mine-trail-hike/>

<https://californiathroughmylens.com/big-horn-mine-vincent-cabin>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxQWF2pAVMQ>



## “Miners Sales”



Members: One ad, 3 times through the year for free. Commercial ads are \$5.00 per month