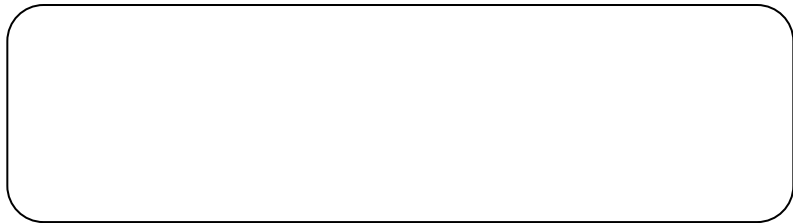


DRYWASHER'S GAZETTE

March 2022

Send Exchange Bulletins to:
Valley Prospectors
PO Box 2923
San Bernardino, CA 92406-2923
valleyprospectors49@gmail.com



Web Site: www.valleyprospectors.org

Email: valleyprospectors49@gmail.com

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

Next General Meeting: March 1st, 2022, 6 pm - San Bernardino Elks Lodge

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 first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Elks Lodge at: 2055 Elks Dr, San Bernardino, Ca.

The Board of Directors meeting will be at 5 pm before the General At the Elks Lodge. – Join in for Tasty Tuesday in their dining room.



“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.

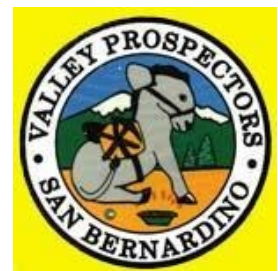
Each member of Valley Prospectors should strive to set a good example for others.

Valley Prospectors Officers and Members-at-Large 2022

Executive Officers		Chairpersons			
President	Garry Devlin	951-768-0880	Apparel	Rosie Duysings	951-237-8051
Vice President	Tommy Purscelley	909-820-1898	Blood Bank	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
Secretary	Steve Schubert	951-943-0535	Budget	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
Treasurer	Lorraine Frost (Life Member)	760-868-6564	CFMS	Bural LaRue	909-874-5664
			Courtesy	Susan Birrell Diane Railsback	760-954-1915
Board of Directors			Editor	Coreena Ross	530-274-1838
Susan Birrell	760-954-1915		Asst. Editor	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
John Bonson (Life Member)	909-794-4401		Finds/Month	Bural LaRue	909-874-5664
Larry Kennedy	909-574-0863		Lady Luck	Albert Naki	909-733-6473
Bural La Rue (Life Member)	909-874-5664		50/50	Sherri Livingston	909-875-2090
Stu Luce	909-560-0474		Gold Sales	Art Fairchild	951-897-5433
Jill Molson	909-887-8024		Historian	Stu Luce	909-560-0474
Mike Muir	909-882-9052		Librarian	Mark Lash	909-792-4473
Albert Naki	909-733-6473		Membership	Andrea Frost	760-868-6564
Katherine Naki	909-733-6441		Name Tags	Andrea Frost	760-868-6564
Diane Railsback	760-954-1915		Programs	Tommy Purscelley	909-820-1898
Bruce Sherman	951-780-7715		Refreshments	Michelle O'Brien	
Ernie Tovar	909-492-4479		Claims	Bob Dudley	480-225-5013
Alternates			Show & School Rep.	Steve Schubert	951-943-0535
Joe Chavez (1)	909-553-1722		Wagon Master	Varies by Outing	
Mark Lash (3)	909-792-4473				
Coreena Ross (2) (Life member)	530-274-1838				

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



Happy Saint Patrick's Day



Valley Prospectors Presidents Message

2022 PREZ SAYS Garry Devlin – February/March 2022

Message from our President Garry Devlin March 2022 Happy St. Patrick's Day. WOW! What a meeting we had last month, Lorraine presented the budget for the year, and it was approved a little over budget, but seeing that we don't use all of the funds during the year, we will probably be under budget. After many years of looking for the three positions to fill, I want to thank and recognize these three wonderful members for stepping up to become the Historian (Stu Luce), Librarian (Mark Lash), Apparel (Rosy Duysings). I don't want to forget our new Editor for getting our newsletter out. (Coreena Ross). We should be very thankful for them for volunteering their time to make this the greatest Prospectors Club in California. Since you are getting your newsletter earlier don't forget about Randsburg, Feb 25-27 Remember if the Wagon Master tells you a time, you need to be there before that time at 9:00 Am, Sunday, because he is leaving at that time promptly. We have a show booth at the Ventura Gem and Mineral Show. The Ventura Gem and Mineral Show will be held at the Ventura County Fairgrounds on Saturday, March 5th and Sunday, March 6th, 2022. The Saturday show hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and the Sunday Show hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We have over 271 families in Valley Prospectors and HELP is in dire need. If you have never been out helping at a show, now is the time to get the experience of a lifetime, meeting and greeting people from all over. Please, step up to the plate and call Steve to place your name on the list and get details about the Ventura Gem and Mineral Show. Once again, we enjoyed the POP-UP Speakers, sharing their five-minute stories with us about their adventures at the claims. Five minutes of pure enjoyment and on all different types of subjects. The Elks raised the prices on the food that they serve, by a few dollars. If you haven't eaten, or stop somewhere before you have come to the meeting remember to bring a few extra dollars to purchase a meal. Remember. if you don't have a shirt with our logo on it, Visit Rosy to buy yourself one. Remember we have 50/50 to help raise funds to help out the budget. So come on out and have some fun.

Just a reminder, we have been having a problem with PayPal, so the \$20.00 late fee is being waived, but if you sent \$60.00 dollars, we thank you for the donation of \$20.00. We also are waiving the \$100.00 fee to past members who could not pay during the Covid 19 for the last two years. It will be forty dollars up to the end of March, so let your friends know. President Garry Cares and wants to see all of the members come back to the Valley Prospectors family. Because this is the Gold Club of California, and where all the excitement is.

New Meeting Date - The First Tuesday of the Month-6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Membership Renewals - Now Due

Be sure to renew your membership – still, only \$40 annually – You now have until March 31, 2022, to renew at the \$40 price. The PayPal link on the website is broken. If you renew online, a request for money from Paypal (\$42 with convenience fee) will be sent to you. A renewal notice was mailed to every member that needs to renew. You can also send a \$40 check, or send \$40 via Zelle (Memo Name and Membership number on transaction) to valleyprospectors49@gmail.com Email valleyprospectors49@gmail.com if you have any questions. Website: <https://www.valleyprospectors.org/membership/>

Please remember, at the January meeting, the members voted to invite past members whose membership has lapsed to be reinstated at the \$40 renewal fee. The \$100 reinstatement fee is waived. An email was sent to all inactive members for the past five years, as approved. They have until March 31, 2022, to take advantage of this offer. Eight (8) members have been reinstated so far. The members felt due to Covid-19 restrictions and the worsening economy we should reach out to our valued past members.

Blood Bank News – Lstream.org

CRITICAL BLOOD SHORTAGE. Thank you to Gene and Judy Lepper for their recent donations to Lifestream. Your donations of blood are critically needed, and it is just another way for our club to support our community. If you can donate, mention **MVP** as our club code. You will help so many people with your kind donation. <https://www.lstream.org/>

Birthday Wishes – January – February – March

We would like to extend a Happy Birthday to all our January, February, and March birthday revelers. Know that your fellow club members are wishing you a wonderful year ahead.

Wishing our Club members Health and Prosperity in the New Year

Dear members, please extend your prayers and support to Gene Lepper who is undergoing total knee replacement surgery on Feb 9, 2022. Also, we heard from Dan Cornia. Dan suffered a stroke and is rehabilitating at Brookdale Senior Living in Loma Linda - 25585 Van Leuven St, Loma Linda. If you get a chance, give him a call to cheer him up at 909-796-5421, Room 137. Please let us know if others need cheering up at valleyprospectors49@gmail.com

VENTURA GEM and MINERAL SHOW

Valley Prospectors will be having a gold panning booth at Ventura Gem Show March 5-6, 2022, in Ventura Ca at fairgrounds Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be camping at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. The cost of the campsites are \$50.00 a night and reservations are needed at the fairgrounds. Volunteers and help are needed to show kids and adults how to pan for gold. If you can help work the booth, please let Steve Schubert know at 951-943-0535.

Thank You and we look forward to seeing you at the Ventura Gem and Mineral Show!

March 1st, 2022, 6 pm – 8 pm PST - General Meeting Zoom Information

I want to invite those members who can't attend in person to join us via Zoom. **Please note the new meeting id and passcode.** Below is information to join a Zoom Virtual meeting if you have a computer. If you don't – no problem. You can join the meeting with your telephone – just call 1-669-900-6833, enter the meeting number and passcode and you will hear us all. Let's stay connected in 2022.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81123262617?pwd=cndNd1BOTGJqd2NubFhDd0l1NDdRUT09>

OR Call 1-669-900-6833 Meeting ID: 811 2326 2617 Passcode: 728291

If you have club outing pictures, articles please e-mail them to valleyprospectors49@gmail.com

February 1st, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. Roll call, 16 present 1 absent and 1 excused. Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting by Lorraine 1st, Tommy 2nd, the motion and the minutes were approved. Committee reports followed, and all were good. No old business, new business, Susan shared that Minor Miners need a budget, this request will be added to the 2022 budget to be voted on by the general members. Coreena asked if some Boy Scouts could join Valley at the August Union Flat Outing. The board approved their participation with the members. The meeting ended at 6 pm. The board meeting minutes were submitted by Steve Schubert.

February 1st, 2022, General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm. The pledge of allegiance was begun by Mark Lash. Courtesy announced there were no guests. Call to approve the minutes by 1st Steve and 2nd Tommy, minutes approved. Lorraine went over the proposed 2022 VP budget, Judy motioned that \$100 from the Gazette printing budget be moved to establish the Minor Miners budget line item. The President called for the vote Andrea 1st Tommy 2nd the budget was approved. Steve shared that there would be special raffles in the future with gold nuggets. Michelle shared there were cookies and treats for refreshments. Membership report, a total of 289 family membership with 8 lifetime, 228 current. We reinvited about 150 old members, so far 8 have come back. Two members have reinstated their Valley Prospectors Membership and their names are George Carpenter and Tom Costley. We are looking forward to seeing them at the meetings and the outings. Wagonmaster report, our last outing was the Hungry Man Claims, the next outing will be Randsburg. Steve shared that he would leave the meeting place, the Randsburg Jail, at 9 am sharp. Burl LaRue covered Finds of the month, lots of finds gold, and treasure, be sure to vote. Thanks to the new committee people, Coreena Ross – Editor, Mark Lash-Librarian, Stu Luce-Historian, Rosie Duysings-Club Apparel. Program Pop-Ups by Steve, Burl, Chad, Susan, and Mindy. Thanks for your sage advice and experiences. Old business: the storage inventory will take place at 10 am on February 24, 2022. No new business. Door prize winner - John. Badge winner - Garry. Finds of the month Gold 1st Joe 2nd Tommy 3rd Steve. Metal detecting 1st Brian 2nd Ernie 3rd Susan. 50-50 Rosie meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm. The general meeting minutes were submitted by Steve Schubert.

Have you visited a Valley Prospectors Claim lately?

Be sure to an annual basis. You can submit the online form and it will be emailed directly to Bob so that Valley can record the claim work assessment. He will collect these throughout the year. Don't forget to report your Northern Claim visits too. <https://www.valleyprospectors.org/claims/claim-report/> submit your claim report. Our claim chair, Bob Dudley, uses this information to file our work assessment documents on

Minor Miners Events and Activities

We will have an outing at the Two Burro's Claim on February 27th, 2022 for the Minor Miners . If you are a member of Valley Prospectors and have a Kindergarten-12th grade child or grandchild you would like to sign up, please contact Susan Birrel or Diane Railsback and our e-mail address is birresus@yahoo.com.

Survival Gear on the Claims

President Garry Devlin has a list of suggested essentials that should be kept in a car while going out prospecting on the Valley Prospectors Claims.

The items that should be in your vehicle are a blanket, shovel, whistle, flashlight, non-perishable food such as fruit bars, peanut butter and crackers, life savers candy, etc. 3 gallons of drinking water per day, Gatorade. A bucket, feminine pads for large cuts, duct tape, tie wire, first aid kit, jumper cables, tool box, spare tire with air in the tire. A fully charged cell phone and the cell phone charger. A roll of quarters and some one dollar bills for the coin operated machines.

Campfire Permits on the Valley Claims

Some of the Valley Prospector Claims require a campfire permit. The claims on the Yuba River require a campfire permit. Cal Fire has the permit process online and you need to watch a video and answer eight questions and you get the campfire permit for free. Here is the link for the campfire permit.

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/>. Go check out the Cal Fire Website for more information about the campfire permit.

Editor's Notes

Dear Valley Prospectors if you have any news articles, pictures, etc. please feel free to e-mail them to coreenaross@gmail.com. I would like to thank Dane for sharing his story about the Yuba River and you can read his article and look at the pictures that he submitted to the Drywasher's Gazette.

Coreena Ross

Dane's Stories of the Yuba River

In 1965 my Dad and I completed the construction of our family vacation cabin approximately 1 mile upriver from the Union Flat campground on the North Fork of the Yuba River where Valley Prospectors owns the claims "Gold Ventures and the Picket 111 placer claims".

From 1965 on, my dad and I began our dredging operations on our property with a 4 inch underwater Keene Engineering dredge. An effective machine for bigger nuggets but I'm sure we lost much of the smaller gold, and we never kept or processed our black sands. The removable sluice was about 6"x14" and we frequently found 'picker' sized nuggets in the last riffles.

We made several good prospecting friends that trained us to be successful in sniping, prospecting, and dredging. Kenny Vance, Bep Athenation, and Lucian King spent many days and weeks with us for the first couple years. With their guidance, my dad and I regularly found enough gold to pay expenses, a few cabin loan payments each summer, and we still put a little cash in our pockets at the end of summer. Being illegal at the time to own more than an ounce of raw gold, we would sell our larger nuggets to jewelers in Nevada City and Grass Valley for up to \$50.00 an ounce. Black market of course. The smaller 'fines' were sold to Knott's Berry Farm for \$32.00 an ounce. They would "seed" their gold panning paid operation for the general public entertainment.

In August of 1967, while sniping my fishing hole in front of our cabin, I located a 5 foot diameter round hole in the bedrock. After removing a sizable boulder with an old WW2 bomb winch, I started to dredge down through the fairly loose rock, sand, and gravels. By noon I had cleared down to about 6 feet deep when my dad took over the dredging. Within 20 minutes, and with the sun directly overhead, my dad made one quick pass with the dredge to reveal a gleaming layer of gold that lit up the hole we had excavated. I saw the gold reflecting from my fishing platform well above the river. Within seconds, huge bubbles were escaping from my dad's regulator as he screamed underwater. I heard nothing but I guessed at his excitement. 4 hours later after sitting on the bottom of this deep hole picking up gold with his fingers and tweezers, my dad returned to the surface with a jar full of gold. Almost 18 ounces total between hand and dredging recovery of beautiful nuggets and smaller pickers. The best 1 days take in the many years of dredging in front of our cabin. The pictures I have included show our cabin and the gold my dad recovered by hand. The sluice box recoveries were not processed yet and never photographed unfortunately.

I always found it amazing how much gold weighs while appearing to be smaller amounts. An average day of sniping would net me anywhere from ¼ ounce to over 2 ounces on a good day. But it always looked smaller in weight than it actually was. 5 days a week we would dredge, Friday nights' dad went to Reno gambling, and Saturday was my sniping day. Sundays I would rest up and go fishing.

Starting at 13 years old and up, I personally made enough money each summer to finally acquire an almost complete coin and my choice of a small gun collection, and still had money left over for school clothing, lunches and a little entertainment money. Looking back today, I wish I had kept every ounce I found.

Written by Dane Peterson
Valley Prospectors new member



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