

Drywasher's Gazette

February 2023

Send Exchange Bulletins to:
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Mail: Valley Prospectors, PO Box 2923, San Bernardino, CA 92406-2923
Next Meeting – Feb 7, 2023, @ San Bernardino Elks Lodge
2055 Elks Dr, San Bernardino, CA

Mission and Code of Ethics

Valley Prospectors Inc. is a non-profit educational organization dedicated
To promote Gold Prospecting as a healthy family activity.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

General Membership Meeting held first Tuesday of each month at 6:00
pm at the Elks Lodge at 2055 Elks Dr, San Bernardino, CA.

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Heavy Winter Rainstorms Could Mean Great Things for 2023 Prospecting

Heavy rains bring lots of opportunities for new gold movement on our normally dry mountain and desert claims. Water runoff moves gold, much the same way as it moves in rivers and creeks.

Be safe and stay out of washes and gulleys if rain is expected even several miles away. Flash flooding is always a risk and flash floods can occur when the local sky is blue, but it's raining at higher elevations.

After the land dries out, it is a great opportunity to start test pitting to get on the gold again. New deposits may have been exposed through erosion.

(Photo from <https://www.blm.gov> showing common flash flooding behavior)



SHOWS & SCHOOLS

**From the Desk
of the Show &
School Chair**

*Welcome to
the New Year.*

We have one show so far this year. We have been invited to Gold Pan and Gold Sales at the Ventura Gem and Mineral Society on March 4-5, 2023 at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 10-4. Hope you can make it.

The GPAA has decided not to have any shows in 2023. We always get New Members at our Gold Panning Booth. It takes a few people to man the gold panning, but it takes everyone in Valley to keep the club going.

-Steve Schubert

Flash Flood Safety Tips

Know before you go if there is a flash flood warning for your area. (remember clear skies do not always mean it is safe!)

Never walk through moving water during a flash flood. Even 6" of rushing water can knock you off your feet.

Never drive through water of unknown depth, even if it looks calm. Flash Floods often cause extreme erosion and can create deep ruts hidden by muddy water.

Flash Floods can start as trickles and become powerful torrents in a matter of seconds. As soon as you see signs, move to higher ground as fast as you can.

More Info: <https://www.blm.gov/flash-floods-tread-safely>

Valley Prospectors Presidents Message February 2023 PREZ SAYS

Hello all, I am very happy to share with you that our books are balanced! Our planning meeting was fantastic, and we accomplished most if not all of our agenda. Now it is very important to remind all of our members that as we go out into our claims that we remember that we are not alone out in the desert. Even though it is wintertime, most of our little critters are hibernating and they find a peaceful place to dig a hole and sleep. We like to use our shovels and dig, let's be careful, mindful that sometimes we interfere with their spot.

That is why we should also go as a team, in case something goes wrong, A Snake Bite, Dead battery, or even getting stuck in the mud or sand. I remember back in 1972, my sister called me up at one in the morning asking me if I would ride out to "Butt" Rock over by Lucerne Valley. Our Brother and her husband got stuck in a dry lake, that wasn't so dry. It didn't look wet, but it was just wet enough to sink your tires.

With a lot of digging, and a couple of boards we were on our way home at 7 am on a beautiful Sunday morning.

We should always be on the watch when we go out to have fun searching for our motherlode.

As we venture into the month remember your sweetheart on February 14th, "Happy Valentine's Day"



Always remember to check out our calendar for all of our outings. Stay safe and keep healthy.

Garry Devlin
President 2023



Valley Prospectors January 2023 - Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Garry Devlin @ 6:10 pm, at Elks Lodge #836 on January 3rd, 2023.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Steve Schubert.

Minutes posted in the December newsletter. Motion to approve by President, Voice consensus.

Treasurer: Report given by L. Frost. She reports that the year 2022 books closed. She has prepared the books for the budget meeting Saturday 01/07/2023.

EVENTS	ANNOUNCEMENTS	MEMBERSHIP
01/15, Red Mountain tour, 10:00 a.m. @ Owl Museum 01/29, Redlands bottle hunt 02/07, G. Willoughby bottle hunt presentation 03/4-5, Ventura Gem Show 04/01 Cabochon class, Hesperia	Larry Kennedy passed. We need a Historian.	L. Frost reports 279 members, 8 lifetime members, 134 members renewed, 137 members expired. She will send email reminders. After 02/01, a \$20 late fee applies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finds of the Month: Everett introduced a new "chip" voting process.

Editor: Michelle is working with Coreena.

Claims: need for more info on Plan of Operation for Union Flats.

Apparel: Rosie will add to inventory as needed.

Education: no definitive plans for school programs.

Break at 6:30 p.m. Reconvene at 6:50 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS: none to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Budget meeting, 01/07 @ LDS church in Colton, 11:00 a.m.
2. Editor Michelle asks if listing cell numbers in the newsletter is advisable. Discussed. Voice Consensus was no numbers to be listed. L. Frost offered her landline as an alternative.
3. Treasurer Frost made a motion to apply future \$100 first time dues payments to the general fund for six months. First by Art, second by Susan. Discussed. Passed by consensus.
4. Steve reminded members of Ventura Gem Show 03/4-5. He reported GPAA will sponsor no Gold Shows this year.

FEBRUARY SPEAKER



George Willoughby will be joining us
at the next General Meeting
on February 7, 2023 6pm

Topic: Bottle & Relic Hunting

PRESENTATIONS: President Devlin presented members with gate bars.

DOOR PRIZES: name tag to Lee, attendance to Mary, 50/50 \$27 to Everett who donated it back to the club.

Treasure finds of the Month went to Susan.

Gold finds went to Ernie 3rd place, Susan 2nd place, Calvin 1st place.

President Devlin closed the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Lady Luck drawings were held.



CFMS News

Visual Program Requests

As of this writing there only been very few requests for programs from our library. This is not nearly the activity that we had hoped for. I would like to suggest that the program chairs consider requesting from our library as there are a great number and a great variety to choose from. They can be used at meetings, shows, special events and for any other creative activity that may be appropriate.

The most popular subjects over the last few years have been Red Treasures of the Rockies (gorgeous rhodochrosite from the Sweet Home mine in Colorado with history of the mine) #57, German Agates #22, Flint Knapping #43, Franklin, NJ-Fluorescent Mineral Capital #3, Sedimentary and Vein Agates #4, and Tree Stories #2.

No postal fees are charged to CFMS as an anonymous donor covers them.

By Sharon Rogow,
CFMS Committee Chair
Dec. 2022 Newsletter

From AFMS

Top 5 Winning Original Bulletin Articles 2022 Adult Category

1. "Vermont Rocks!"
by Alice Wack, Burlington
Gem & Mineral Club
(EFMLS)
From: Burlington Gem &
Mineral Club Newsletter, 11-
12/21

2. "Fossil Hunting"
by Ted Gray, Santa Lucia
Rockhounds (CFMS)
From: Rockentour, 10/21

3. "Rock Hunting on the
Kokernot 06 Ranch-A
Rockhound's Dream"
by Terry Roberts, East
Texas Gem & Mineral
Society (SCFMS)
From: Rock-N-Rose, 4/21

4. "Safety is No Accident"
by Ilene Olson, Wyoming
State Mineral & Gem
Society (RMFMS)
From: Jade State News,
12/21

5. "Cool Cobbles from North
Georgia Streams"
by Tom Faller, Georgia
Mineral Society (SFMS)
From: Tips & Trips, 1/21

*These articles were written by
the AFMS associated Club
members. The Drywasher's
Gazette is looking for articles
from our members too. Reach
out to the newsletter Editor
Team for more info.*

Items For Sale

2019 Can-am Defender Side by Side

Has very low mileage,
windshield, mirrors
Asking price is
\$8250.00.
Call Tom (760) 220-0424

Look Here for Great Deals

*Looking to clear out your prospecting?
Contact the Newsletter Crew at
valleyprospectors49@gmail.com
for more details on placing ads*

REMINDER
2023 Membership

Late Renewal Dues Later than January 31, 2023
will be assessed a late fee.

It's easy to quickly pay online with options like
PayPal and Zelle available. Just use the club's e-
mail address and forget to add your name and
membership number in the notes.

PayPal and Zelle send payments to:
valleyprospectors49@gmail.com

For additional details, see the website

Drywasher's Gazette

2023 Board & Committee Members

*If you need to reach out to any Board or Committee member,
e-mail valleyprospectors49@gmail.com Phone: (760) 868-6564
or look on the club website directory under Members Only.*

Executive Officers

President	Garry Devlin
Vice President	Susan Birrell
Secretary	Diane Railsback
Treasurer	Lorraine Frost

Board of Directors

Joe Chavez	Albert Naki
Stacey Dixon	Katherine Naki
Art Duysings	Coreena Ross
Rosie Duysings	Mike Ryan
Sherry Livingston	Mindy Ryan
Dwayne Lowrey	Ernie Tovar

Alternates

Randy Lunn (1)
John Bonson (2)
John Howell (3)

Chairpersons

Apparel	Rosie Duysings
Blood Bank	Lorraine Frost
Budget	Lorraine Frost
CFMS	Bural LaRue
Courtesy	Sherry Livingston
Co-Editor	Michelle O'Brien
Co-Editor	Coreena Ross
Finds/Month	Everett Miller
Lady Luck	Stacey Dixon
50/50	Sherri Livingston
Gold Sales	Art Fairchild
Historian	Stu Luce
Librarian	Mark Lash
Membership	Andrea Frost
Name Tags	Andrea Frost
Programs	Susan Birrell
Claims	Lorraine Frost
Show & School Rep.	Steve Schubert
Wagon Master	Varies by Outing

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) VP Summit Placer Claim 60 acres

AS OF MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2023...

GOLD IS

\$1.841.32 PER OUNCE.

\$59.20 PER GRAM.

<https://pricegold.net/>

Calendar of Upcoming Events

DATE	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
Feb 10-12	Quartzite Gold Show	<i>On your own</i>
Feb 26	Hungry Man Claim Outing	<i>Leaving Camp Cajon Marker @ 9:00am</i>
Mar 3-5	Ventura Rock & Mineral Show	<i>Contact: Steve Schubert Volunteers Needed</i>
Mar 19	Summit Claim Outing	<i>Leaving Camp Cajon Marker @ 9:00am</i>
Apr 1	Cabochon Making Class	<i>Contact: Susan Birrell Limited Spots Open</i>
Apr 22	2 Burros Claim Outing	<i>Meet at Claim</i>
Apr 27-30	Meteor Crater/Dobell Ranch Holbrook, AZ	<i>Contact: Susan Birrell</i>
May 20	Oro Rico-Coolgardie Gold Outing	<i>Meet at Starlight Donuts in Barstow at 7:00am</i>
Jun 3	Indian Gulch Claim Outing	<i>Leaving Fawn Park in Fawnskin, CA @7:00am</i>
July 21-23	Miner's Folly – VP Club Picnic	<i>Sat Noon Meeting and Games</i>
Aug 4-13	Yuba River Claims Outing	<i>Contact: Coreena Ross (Wagon Master)</i>
Sept 16	Randsberg Mining Days	<i>Local festival starts @8:00am. Claim outings done independently.</i>
Oct 21	Archeology Day Minor Miner Event	<i>Full day of Rock Activities for the kids location TBD</i>
Oct 27-29	Ord Mountain Rendezvous	<i>Metal Detecting events, potluck, great get together with other local clubs.</i>
Nov 18	2 Burros Claim Outing	<i>Meet at Claim</i>
Dec 2	Annual Holiday Party & Potluck	<i>11am-2pm Pinon Hills, CA</i>

*** As always events are subject to last minute change due to weather or availability. Please make sure to check the Facebook group for any last-minute update. If you are not on Facebook, please e-mail or text another member who has access.*



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*

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.

Board of Directors meet at 5 pm before the General Meeting at the Elks Lodge. – Join in for Tasty Tuesday in their dining room.

Can't make it in person? Join in via Zoom meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89402779413?pwd=cEtyZjZ5UVVPT2xZMmdEeFRrT0hoZz09>

Meeting ID: 894 0277 9413 Passcode: 958417

One Tap Mobile

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