

Drywasher's Gazette

September 2023

Send Exchange Bulletins to:
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Mail: Valley Prospectors, PO Box 2923, San Bernardino, CA 92406-2923
Next Meeting – Sep 5, 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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Miner's Folly Full of Wins at The Annual Club Picnic



Gary and Steve working the grill expertly prepping a bounty of hot dogs for all at lunch



A young man gets his first look at color in his pan after drywashing and get together.

Brilliant blue skies punctuated with rounded white clouds greeted the Club at the Annual Club Picnic held in the San Bernardino Mountains on our Miner's Folly Claim this year. Perfect weather for a splendid potluck and get together. Steve and Gary manned the grill doling out hot dogs for all. All sorts of treats and dishes lined the tables. An extra

thank you to everyone who contributed to the community feast.

Once again competitors lined up for the gold pan toss game with a slight breeze adding an extra level of difficulty. It's harder than it looks! Later we all tested our mineral identification skills with a few rounds of lapidary bingo. Using a variety of beautiful stones to mark each spot. Early on in the weekend a few young guests learned how to do some drywashing and found their own Californian Gold, continuing the Club's proud history of encouraging prospecting as a family friendly hobby open to all who are willing to put in a few shovelfuls.



Club members sifting through their gem grab bags for treasure before the potluck. Three faceted peridot were hidden in a few lucky bags!

A Hearty Congratulations to John H. Who Won the Grand Prize Nugget!!

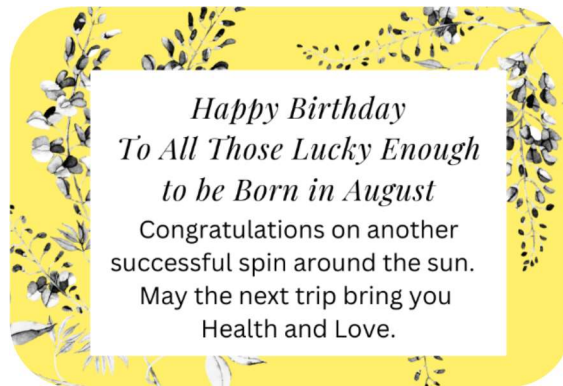


Valley Prospectors Presidents Message August/September 2023 PREZ SAYS

A hearty thank you to everyone in the Club who joined us for the Member's Appreciation Picnic and contributed to the fun. A great time was had by all. Now is the time that we start to think of who will fill the upcoming officers seats. Just imagine you have to fill out a resume for work and it shows that you are or were an officer in a nonprofit organization. That shows leadership qualities. Each of us needs to develop, or experience, at least once, being a leader. What better place to do it? We are all family, and we help each other here.

My two years are coming to an end four more months from now and we vote for someone new, will it be you? Now is the time to prepare, ponder, and to fill a position here at Valley Prospectors. Every one of you each has the qualities it takes. Now is your time to take your place.

Garry Devlin
President 2023



Valley Prospectors July 2023 – Picnic Meeting Minutes

** This special meeting was unplanned and held in order to address a financial need. It was conducted during the Member Appreciation Picnic held at the Miner's Folly Claim.*

Modified meeting called to order by President Garry Devlin @ 1:40 p.m, at Miner's Folly Claim.

MINUTES: as posted/read in the newsletter. Approved.

TREASURER: report postponed to next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Rosie requests an increase in apparel budget to \$1,000. Motion by Susan/2nd Sherry. Discussed. Approved. Car magnets available for \$20.
 2. Sherry requests volunteers for the December party. Michelle will handle table decorations, Susan will handle prizes. Sign-ups at the next meeting. Gold nugget raffle won by John H.
- Meeting adjourned by President Devlin at 1:55 p.m.

****REMINDER**** *No Food will be served by the Elks Lodge on Tuesday, September 5th, 2023. Please plan accordingly.*



CFMS News

PLEASE READ

"The Los Angeles Times has published an article on Rockhounding and the Mojave Trails National Monument (MTNM).

Louis Sahagun wrote it as a follow-up to his 2016 article. Here is the link to the article: <https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2023-07-16/rockhounds-fight-for-access-to-jewels-of-california-desert>

Please share, link, post, read the article, get eyeballs on it any way you can think of.

The next step will be for us to review the BLM's draft and then we will have another opportunity to comment in the Fall. From CFMS June, 2023 Newsletter
**Link may require LA Times login to access. – VP Newsletter staff.*

Show Dates

August 19-20, 2023
Tehachapi, CA Tehachapi Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Website: <https://www.tvgms.orck>

September 16-17, 2023
Monterey, CA Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Website: <http://cvgms.rock>

AFMS News

Rockhound Crafts — Let's Bring More of Them Back!

By Jennifer Haley
AFMS Historian

Part of my job description as historian is to keep an eye out for ideas from our past that might be beneficial for our societies and club members today. One area I have admired about the history of AFMS- affiliated rockhounds is the creativity in the lapidary arts and crafts.

The first society I belonged to kept binders full of all the various craft tutorials with photos found in the old lapidary magazines. They did this so their club members could look through the binders to find new things they'd like to make. I loved looking at these. Whenever I am at a society show, I like going through the stacks of these old magazines to see what I might be missing in my personal collection of lapidary craft ideas.

I have noticed for quite some time now that it seems like there are not as many people having fun working on the many crafts of our past. These crafts can still be wonderful and inspiring today. I have often wondered why this is. I would love to see the enthusiasm come back for the crafts aspect of our hobby. One of the ways to draw in new members is to show off what you can teach people to make. Bring back those wonderful crafts and display them in exhibits at your shows.



In Memoriam of Thomas Purscelley

With a sad heart the club remembers the life of Thomas Purscelley who passed away in June, 2023. He will be missed and our heartfelt condolences go out to his wife Brenda, his family, and friends.

Cont. from AFMS News

Think about creating a program for your society's library of the various lapidary arts and crafts. You can enter a program like this in your Regional Federation New Programs contest, where it may advance to the AFMS New Programs contest.

If all we have are the memories of what we personally have made, and we don't try to pass our skills to new members and the incoming new generations of rockhounds, our hobby will forget some of those treasured skills.

Probably many of your societies have collections of the older craft tutorials from the heyday when the lapidary arts and crafts ideas were bustling. Find them and archive them before the old pages fade away. I recommend making the effort to scan them.

Let's create a new heyday for lapidary arts and crafts. It will be easy to do, and we'll have a lot of fun too.

AFMS Newsletter May, 2023 Vol. 76, No. 4

ADVERTISEMENTS

Whites MX Sport



For Sale
Whites MX Sport
Excellent Shape
Less than 20 hours use!
\$600.00
Contact Kent 951-202-9616



Experience a True Gold Rush Vacation in 2023

Alaskan Gold Country at its finest in a two-week trip to Nome, Alaska taking place the last week of July through the first week of August for a cost of \$4,200.
(Cost does not include transportation to the site.)

For more details, please contact Don Starr - 951-663-3716 or email lindastarr2@gmail.com. He hopes to be at the June 6th VP meeting to answer questions in person as well.

Offered through **AKAU - Alaskan Gold Rush Vacation Adventure Resort**
Website: akaugold.com

Safety Tip

If you ever get lost with no way to charge your cellphone. Change your voicemail outgoing message to the approximate location, time, date and any other descriptive details that might aid someone in finding you. Add any notes like if you are walking towards town or planning to move away from your current position.

If your cell phone battery dies, anyone can still get the information when they attempt to call your number. This could be a real lifesaver!

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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	Sherry 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 SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2023

GOLD IS
\$1,942.72 PER OUNCE.
\$62.46 PER GRAM.

<https://pricegold.net/>

Calendar of Upcoming Events

DATE	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
Aug 4-13	Yuba River Claims Outing	Contact: Coreena Ross (Wagon Master)
Sept 5	Club Member Rummage Sale	Elks Lodge 6pm – Bring Used goods to sell or come to buy
Sept 16	Randsberg Mining Days	Local festival starts @8:00am. Claim outings done independently.
Oct 21	Archeology Day Minor Miner Event	Full day of Rock Activities for the kids location TBD
Oct 27-29	Ord Mountain Rendezvous	Metal Detecting events, potluck, great get together with other local clubs.
Nov 18	2 Burros Claim Outing	Meet at Claim
Dec 2	Annual Holiday Party & Potluck	11am-2pm Pinon Hills, CA

*** 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.*

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 located at 2055 Elks Dr, San Bernardino, CA.

Board of Directors meet at 5 pm before the General Meeting at the Elks Lodge.

Can't make it in person? Join in via Zoom meeting.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89402779413?pwd=cEtyZjZ5UVVPT2xZMmdEeFRrTOhoZz09>

Meeting ID: 894 0277 9413 Passcode: 958417
One Tap Mobile

+16699006833,,89402779413#,,,,*958417# US (San Jose)
 +16694449171,,89402779413#,,,,*958417# US



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*

Club Rummage Sale Returns!

Sept 5th

Elks Lodge

Bring Stuff to Sell

Look for Bargains to Buy

Garage Sale Note: Any equipment with gas or oil needs to be left in the car. Just bring a picture of what you have. Plan to bring cash or have a payment option like Venmo or Zelle. Sale will happen at the normal meeting time.