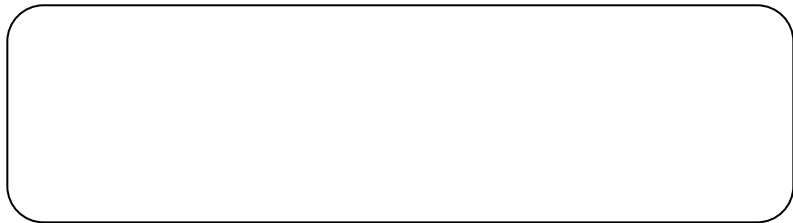


Drywasher's Gazette

October 2024

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 Meeting – Oct 1, @ San Bernardino Elks Lodge @ 6 pm
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 is 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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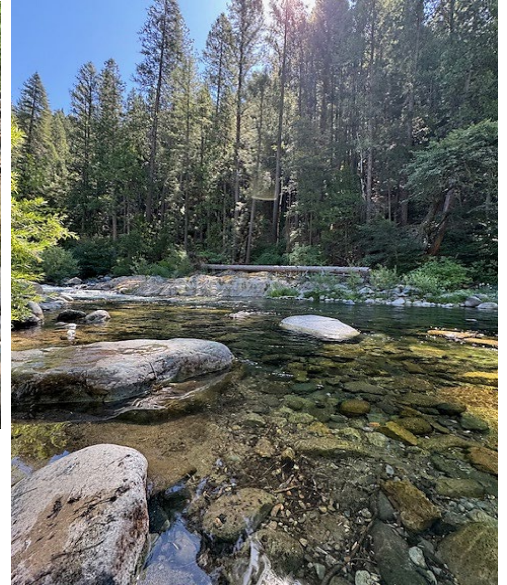




Gold Country Adventures

Exploring the Northern Claims

August saw many Club members venturing north to the Yuba River in search of its bounty. This region has a long mining history and it's the rare prospector who leaves the area empty handed. The Club's claims straddle the North Yuba River with a prominent gravel bar and some have exposed bedrock outcroppings waiting for exploration. A few Club claims in the area take advantage of the rich tributary creeks feeding the Yuba. The opportunity to sluice and snorkel while sniping for nuggets below the currents contrast greatly with the dusty cacophony of a dry washer in full operation. It offers a refreshing respite from the hot and dry conditions of our southern claims and testament to the sheer geographical variety that California has to offer. Club dedicated campsites can be reserved online on the Club's Members Only website.



Just some of the unusual treasures found at the Downieville Museum



Site availability can be accessed through the Northern Claims Parking Permit page. Our Northern Claims Liaison, Stephen Dowling, does a fantastic job coordinating and maintaining the documentation required by the Forest Service. If you have not had a chance to experience these claims yet, it is well worth the drive and time to visit these plentiful placer deposits. A side trip to the local Downieville Museum and a tour of the incredibly intact Kentucky Mine location are excellent side trips for those with an interest in history. Don't forget to grab a Marion Berry Pie Shake from Bassetts Station on the location of an old stagecoach line stop along Highway 49.

Updated Club Claims List

Check out www.valleyprospectors.org for more information and maps to each of the claims. After each trip to a claim, fill out a claim report on the Club website.

Seriously, turn in your claim reports after every claim trip even if you did not recover gold. These records prove that the claim is active and are critical to maintaining claim ownership.

Club Owned Claims

JACKASS #1 PLACER – 160 acres
INDIAN GULCH PLACER – 60 acres
MINERS FOLLY PLACER – 60 acres
PICKETT #2 PLACER – 30 acres
PICKETT #3 PLACER – 20 acres
GOLD VENTURE PLACER – 20 acres
MORIAH PLACER – 15 acres
THE 2 BURROS PLACER – 20 acres
HARVEYS ORO RICO – 120 acres

Private Claims Granting Member Access

VP Summit Placer – 60 acres (Schubert & Lepper)
Hungry Man – 110 acres (Livingston & Devlin)
Hungry Man 2 – 120 acres (Livingston & Devlin)
Hungry Man 3 – 120 acres (Livingston & Devlin)
Hungry Man 4 – 120 acres (Livingston & Devlin)
Chunker – 80 acres (Livingston & Devlin)

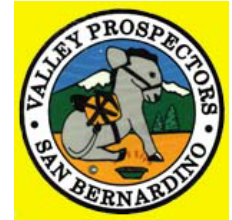
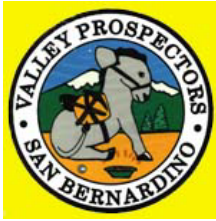
Valley Prospectors of San Bernardino

presents

Rendezvous 2024

October 25, 26 & 27, 2024

Ord Mountain Camping Area



Directions: I 15 North – take Highway 247 (Barstow Road), Barstow – turn right, and approximately 16-19 miles down Highway 247 you'll see a brown BLM route marker 6640 on the road. The road is on the east side. Take a left if you are coming from Barstow on this dirt road and you will see a large BLM Informational canopy sign posted for the area. Follow this dirt road up a small and easy grade. The camp area is on the left side of the road. It is not hard to see and it's easy to get to. GPS coordinates: N34 degrees 41.008, W116 degrees 57.398 Dry camping (primitive)*

SATURDAY - Oct 26, 2024 – Main Events

Biscuit and Gravy Breakfast – 8:00 am by Hi-Desert Gold Diggers

Kids Scavenger Hunt – 9:00 am by Hi-Desert Gold Diggers

Jim Straight Memorial Metal Detector Hunt — 9:30 am \$20 registration by Valley Prospectors

Kids Metal Detecting (free) – 11:30 am

Rock Talk & Activities – 2:00 pm by VP Minor Miners

Gold Panning Contest – 3:00 pm \$5 registration by First Class Miners

– Chili Cook-off –

Entry FREE - Saturday Night – bowls due by 4:00 pm

Potluck starts at 4:30 pm

Bingo after Potluck

Contacts: Lorraine Frost 760-868-6564 Website: www.valleyprospectors.org

*Sawtooth Campground, ½ mile west off Hwy 247 (if you want an improved campground with toilets and tables)

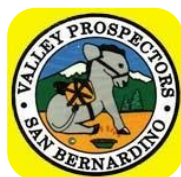
Valley Prospectors Presidents Message October 2024 PREZ SAYS

Thanks to all the members that made the general meeting. Susan made a list of questions about Valley's claims and policies governing the claims. Lorraine, acting as claims chair, answered all the questions and explained our claim policies. Those members that could not attend the general meeting missed a lot of good information about Valley Prospectors' claims. Thank you, Lorraine and Susan, for all your work and a great meeting.

Now down to the elections. There were 26 members at the general membership meeting. That is the exact number needed to fill the executive board, members at large, and committee chairs. We need all of us to pick a job to make Valley Prospectors go and grow in 2025. Please stand up and volunteer to make this club the best it can be. Thank you Valley members for all your support this year. Susan has been the greatest Vice President and her programs at the general meetings have always been interesting. See you at the Christmas party on December 7th.

May you always have gold in your pans.

Steve Schubert
President 2024



GENERAL MEETING REMINDER

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.

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

NEW ZOOM ACCESS CODES FOR All 2024 Meetings

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83026668634?pwd=ZUlyUlpLK1ZOQ1R1aTJmVndJQ0tNdz09>

Meeting ID: 830 2666 8634 Passcode: 661754

One Tap Mobile +16694449171,,83026668634#,,,,*661754#

US+16699006833,,83026668634#,,,,*661754# US (San Jose)By Audio Only: • +1 669 444 9171 US

Want to Contact the Newsletter Crew or any other Committee Member?

Check out the Directory on the Club website or e-mail valleyprospectors49@gmail.com

Valley Prospectors September 3, 2024 - Meeting Minutes

Valley Prospectors General Meeting

Meeting called to order by President Steve Schubert @ 6:15 p.m. at San Bernardino Elks Lodge #836.

Pledge of Allegiance led by President Schubert.

MINUTES: As read in the newsletter. Approved by consensus.

TREASURER: L. Frost reported account balances. All claims have been filed and paid.

COURTESY: One new member.

EDITORS: Michelle and Coreena need photos/stories/histories/women's history/families for the newsletter.

AS OF FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

GOLD IS

\$2,254.30 PER OUNCE.

\$83.07 PER GRAM.

<https://pricegold.net/>

EVENTS:

1. Reno Gem Show 10/14-15.
2. HDGD 9/15 Big Bear
3. Benitoite 9/20 Coalinga. Sign up on the website.
4. Shark Tooth Bakersfield canceled with no interest
5. Yuba River/Union Flats/Picket 2 was a great outing.
6. Rendezvous 10/25-27 plans moving forward.

LADY LUCK: Stacey offering gloves and gold

GOLD SALES: Art looking to buy small gold.

PROGRAMS: VP Birrell will present next month.

CLAIMS: L. Frost reported on an offer for the club to purchase an existing claim Shenandoah currently owned by two members for \$5000 plus fees. Discussion. Motion made Susan/Lee to table the vote to purchase until details about the property are clear.

Break at 7:25 p.m./return at 7:41 p.m. Guest speaker did not appear.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Secretary D. Railsback asks for a volunteer to take the position next year.
2. VP Birrell asks for ideas for Christmas party raffle prizes. Great ideas were offered
3. Bural is having a garage sale 9/7-8.
4. Question of changing meeting place venue? Hand vote shows members are satisfied with the current location.

DOOR PRIZES: Joe C./Lee.

FINDS: Gold: 1st Joe D./2nd Brian. Treasure: Susan.

Motion to close the meeting Michelle/Mark. Meeting adjourned by President Schubert at 7:54 p.m.

Lady Luck was held.



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



Regional News

AFMS June 2024 Vol. 77, No. 7

Rockhound Hospitality Never Goes Out of Style

By Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian

I came across an interesting segment in a 1961 Rocks and Minerals Magazine titled, Visiting Rockhounds Welcome.

Apparently, any subscriber to the magazine could submit their name and address in the monthly publication for free, if they were interested in having traveling rockhounds come for a visit as they were passing through the area. In that issue, there were seventy-one rockhounds from all across the United States who were interested in saying hello.

In the early days of our clubs, rockhounds traveled a lot, eager to visit other collecting areas they read about in the magazines and in the AFMS federation newsletters. It was quite common for them to stop and visit with other rock and mineral clubs. They would arrive as guests at the club meetings to a hearty welcome. If the timing was right, they could enjoy a good field trip with the club or be given the directions to the best spots to explore.

Hospitality never goes out of style, and I would say it has always been a rockhound virtue that has always been a part of who we are for generations. It is something others always notice about us.

Club meetings can get busy each month with business to cover, programs and silent auctions to enjoy, and there's always the clean-up time after refreshments. With all the busyness, a warm welcome to club guests makes a huge, lasting impression. Try and take the time to personally introduce guests to some of your officers or chairmen. Introducing them to some of your long-time members or to those who are wearing what they've made with the rocks they found, is a really nice thing to do. All of these gestures will help people get to know each other better and help everyone feel right at home.

AFMS June 2024 Vol. 77, No. 7

Safety in Numbers

By Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

Safety is not just a list of incidents, reports to write, mathematical statistics, or numbers. Safety is not just a list of skill sets we encourage people to learn. While there are many skill sets in our shared hobby, such as first aid attention, show safety, field trip care, lapidary shop guidelines, safety with driving to our many activities, as well as a myriad of associated safety concerns, one big concern is rarely mentioned, that of our overall health and well-being. Where would we be in our hobby without our overall health and well-being? A growing body of evidence indicates that just by participating in our hobby we generally experience various combinations of the following:

- Lower levels of stress
- Increased amounts of healthy physical activity
- Improved memory
- Motor skill and eye/hand coordination improvements
- Improvements to our emotional health

All that sounds like a pretty good return just for participating in our hobby. Other healthful aspects of our hobby include meetings, field trips, picnics, swaps and shows. Why are such activities healthy? Glad you asked. Our in-person activities are vital to the social needs of our being human. We may broaden our horizons and improve our knowledge and understanding of our hobby with great programs, and we may fill our bellies with fine feasts at a great club picnic, but we very much improve our health and well-being when we participate with the social aspects of in-person activity, with our friendships in the hobby. Far be it for this report to merely be a plea to increase the number of members attending a meeting. It is a plea however, for those who are able, to attend meetings, picnics, shows, and field trips in order that they may benefit from the most human things of sharing smiles, handshakes, warm greetings, and hugs. In the process of that in-person time one experiences the benefit of released feel-good endorphins in the brain, lower cortisol levels (stress associated chemistry), lower blood pressure, and a healthier cardio/vascular system. Studies indicate our enjoyable hobby time helps with our cognitive abilities, improves our memory, keeps us exercised (with improvement to bone density), and likely improves the quality and longevity of our lives. And, on top of all that, it is likely we also experience better sleep, less depression, lower stress levels, less loneliness (another serious and under-appreciated issue), increased problem solving skills, greater feelings of well-being, and have better opportunities to tell bad jokes. What is not to like about all that? Attending meetings can be good for one's health. On the flip side, there are those who say that virtual attendance (such as via Zoom) at club events will be the future of the hobby. Understandably, there are times and places where Zoom meetings are advantageous, although Zoom will not replace a hug, or improve one's bone density. In-person club activity is no health cure all, but the evidence of in-person health aspects are clear. Hope you can attend an in-person club event soon, for your health safety, because your health safety matters.

Drywasher's Gazette

Calendar of Events

DATE	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
SEPT 21	Benitoite Outing Coalinga	\$140 per person Sign up directly on website. https://benitoitemining.com/
OCT 25-27	Ord Mountain Rendezvous	Main Events on Saturday, Oct 26 th . No reservation needed to camp.
NOV 16	Summit Saturday	Meet at Cajon Monument @ 8:00am Steve S.
DEC 7	Annual Club Holiday Party	11 am to 3 pm. Setup from 9 am to 10 am. At the Pinon Hills Community Center

**** 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 updates. If you are not on Facebook, please e-mail or text another member who has access.**

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Email marvin9@verizon.net

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FOR MORE DETAILS.

3" DREDGE W/FLOATS AND HOSES
AND MOTOR \$ 1800.00 OBO

4" DREDGE W/FLOATS AND HOSES
AND MOTOR \$ 2300.00 OBO

**California may no longer allow dredging
like in the past, but other states do*

Got

A Story to Tell or A Picture Worth a Thousand Words?

Contact the VP Newsletter crew by e-mail at valleyprospectors49@gmail.com. We are looking to capture what the Club has meant to its members throughout the years and preserve all the grit, sweat, laughter, and deep sense of community that has gotten the Club to where it is today.