

Drywasher's Gazette

January 2025

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 – Jan 7, @ 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 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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Celebrating 2024 and Looking Forward to 2025



Early in December the Club gathered at the Pinon Hills Community Center to celebrate another year of gold and dirt filled adventures. Prospectors of the Year went to Joe Dixon and Albert Naki was Treasure Hunter of the Year. The grand prize for the Finds of the Month winners went to Rosie and Lee, taking home a 50-watt solar panel and a Keene Drywasher respectively. Donations of toys were collected for Spark of Love. Thank You to everyone who attended.



Membership Renewal is Due in January

Renewals are \$40 and need to be paid by January 31, 2025. It's easy to quickly pay online with options like Zelle available. Just use the club's e-mail address and don't forget to add your name and membership number in the notes.

Zelle your \$40 payment to:
valleyprospectors49@gmail.com

You can also use the VP website online form to get an electronic invoice sent to your email. It's easy to pay with PayPal from there. For additional details, see the website - Membership Renewal – Valley Prospectors



Valley Prospectors December 7, 2024 – General Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Schubert @ 12:41 p.m. at Pinon Hills Community Center.

Pledge of Allegiance led by President Schubert.

TREASURER: Treasurer Frost reported on current bank accounts. Year-end interest will go into the general operating account. Membership renewals are ongoing.

ELECTIONS: President Schubert announced the results of the 2025 elections: President Albert Naki, Vice President Lee Skillings, Treasurer Lorraine Frost, Secretary Coreena Ross.

Members at Large: Susan Birrell, Joe Chavez, Garry Devlin, Everett Miller, Katherine Naki, Michelle O'Brien, Diane Railsback, Mike Ryan, Mindy Ryan, Steve Schubert, Brian Teeling, Ernie Tovar. Alternates: John Bonson and Calvin Shipley.

BUSINESS:

1. Attending members voted to "go dark" for July/ August meetings.
2. Thanks were expressed to Everett M. for his work on Finds of the Month. Changes to next year's awards: 1st place 4 raffle tickets, 2nd place 3 tickets, 3rd place 2 tickets, all others 1 ticket. Everett drew tickets for the FOM winners: 6 gold nuggets, 1 solar panel, 1 drywasher.
3. President Schubert expressed appreciation and handed out appreciation certificates and gift cards to committee chairs and Members at Large. VP Birrell, Secretary Railsback, and Treasurer Frost received roses, and certificates.
4. He awarded Prospector of the Year to Joe Dixon, and Treasure Hunter of the Year to Albert Naki.
5. President Schubert received a certificate of appreciation for all his hard work.
6. New President Naki spoke about looking forward to a good year. Next Board meeting TBA.
7. VP Birrell held the Members drawing.

AS OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024

GOLD IS

\$2,648.95 PER OUNCE.

\$85.17 PER GRAM.

<https://pricegold.net/>

Meeting closed @ 1:34 p.m. Joe/Stacey D. held the Lady Luck drawings



WE NEED YOU!!



VOLUNTEER IN 2025

Needed ASAP

Contact valleyprospectors49@gmail.com
or let us know at the next meeting



Club Election Results for the New Year

By Lorraine Frost

Thank you for voting in the Valley Prospector's elections of officers and members-at-large for 2025. Approximately 25% of the registered members voted this year. I hope the online voting option, election runner, made it very easy to respond. Below are the results of the elections. Welcome to the new board in 2025. VP Executive Board: President Albert Naki, Vice President Lee Skillings, Secretary Coreena Ross, and Treasurer Lorraine Frost. Members-at-Large: Joe Chavez, Ernie Tovar, Everett Miller, Garry Devlin, Steve Schubert, Mike Ryan, Susan Birrell, Michelle O'Brien, Katherin Naki, Diane Railsback, Mindy Ryan, Brian Teeling. Our two Members-at-Large alternates are Calvin Shipley and John Bonson.



*Thank you to the 2024 Board of Directors
Left to Right: Secretary Diane Railsback, Vice President Susan Birrell,
President Steve Schubert, Treasurer Lorraine Frost*



*Incoming 2025 Board of Directors
Left to Right: Treasurer Lorraine Frost, Vice President Lee Skillings,
President Albert Naki, Not Pictured Secretary Coreena Ross*



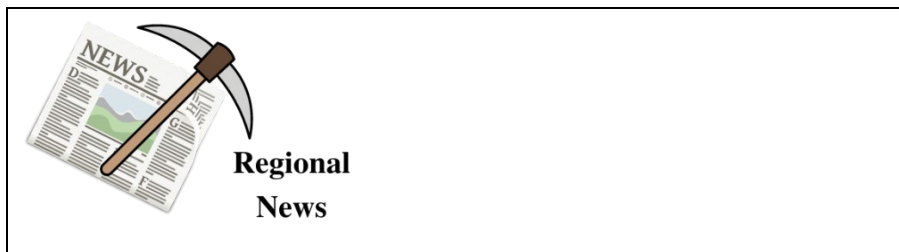
Remember that all prospectors may be judged by the example "You set."

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*



Reprinted from CFMS Newsletter
December 2024

Upcoming CFMS Shows 2025

January 18-19, 2025 – Exeter, CA

Tule Gem and Mineral Society
Exeter Veterans Memorial Building, 246
Chestnut St., Exeter, CA 93211
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: bandgbing@aol.com
Website: <http://tulegem.com>

February 15-16, 2024 – Antioch, CA

Antioch Lapidary Society
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West
10th Street, Antioch CA 94509
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Website: <http://antiochlapidaryclub.com>

February 22-23, 2025 – Vallejo, CA

Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society
Solano County Fairgrounds McCormack Hall,
900 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo, CA
Hours: 10-5
Contact: (415) 254-1506
Website: <http://vjgems.com>

March 1-2, 2025- Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W.
Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA93003
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 8-9, 2025 – Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society
Turlock Fairgrounds, 900 N. Broadway,
Turlock CA
Hours: 10-5
Contact: (209) 499-0533,
skitrish1112@hotmail.com
Website: www.turlockgemshow.com

March 7-9, 2025 - Stoddard Wells, CA

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
I-15 toward Barstow. Exit #157, stay on
Stoddard Wells Road. Follow the signs 7
miles to tailgate
Contact: (831) 406-0214,
president@vvgmc.org
Website: <http://vvgms.org>

From AFMS AFMS Newsletter,
Volume 77, Number 9 — December 2024

AFMS Rockhound of the Year: A Round of Applause

By Judi Allison, AFMS RoY Chair

There is still time to give a round of applause to those hard working, yet quiet, folks who have gone out of their way to do something above and beyond for their club this year. It can be done so simply. Just submit a short write-up of the person's special contribution to your Regional Rockhound of the Year Chairperson. (See list below). It is great fun! And you are encouraged to include a photo, as we enjoy seeing our fellow rockhounds! This honor can be bestowed on an individual or couple. You may also submit an accolade for one of your Junior members.

Remember, they are an important part of our clubs, too. This is not meant to be a life's biography. It is a paragraph or so honoring the person(s) for a special contribution during the specific year. An example might be giving credit to "Joe" who attends every monthly meeting, shows up to quietly help with all aspects of the show, graciously passes on his door prize when he wins one (usually to a child or new attendee), brings ice cream as an extra treat for the potluck. With his quiet demeanor, Joe doesn't want to be an officer, but without his contributions the club would be lacking something special.

I am sure every club has persons who have given a great deal to their club; both those who have been officers, chairpersons and heralded other activities and the "Joe's" of the club. You get to decide who you honor. Just remember, like a round

Regional Chairpersons for AFMS Rockhound of the Year
California: Chris Ward, <chris_ward678@yahoo.com>



Huge Gold Mineral Deposit Discovered in China Has Potential To Impact Global Gold Prices

By Michelle O'Brien



Technicians of Hunan Province Geological Disaster Survey and Monitoring Institute check rock samples at the Wangu gold field in Pingjiang County, central China's Hunan Province, 5 November 2024. Note marked gold on cores. Source: <https://www.sciencealert.com/worlds-largest-gold-deposit-found-worth-over-us80-billion>

The Wangu goldfield is a critical mineral producing region located in Central China and produces approximately 10% of the world's gold production. Recently the Geological Survey of Hunan announced that a new significant deposit of gold has been identified in the region. A geologist and prospector for the Bureau is quoted as saying, "Many drilled rock cores showed visible gold." One ton of ore produced 138 grams of gold. Over 40 veins have been specifically identified with the potential to produce over 300 tonnes of gold. Surrounding and deeper regions promise additional prospects with high gold to material ratios. The bureau also estimated there's another 1,000-ton gold resource at the site at a depth of more than 3,000 meters. Estimates value the deposit at 85 billion USD at December 2024 prices.

The use of 3D and Lydar technology is credited as being a crucial factor in identifying the new source. China is in

desperate need of a local source of gold as the metal is in high demand in the industrial and computer chip production sector. Gold acts as a critical electric conductor in many modern electronic devices. As of 2023 China consumed almost three times as much gold as it produced. Heavy investment in mineral prospecting and developing large scale industrial mining has left a heavy toll on the landscape in the rush for natural resources. The deep depth of the deposit will require additional investment in deep mining technology. One deposit is recorded as 3,000 meters deep or 9,843 feet deep. For context, local Big Bear Lake is 6,759 feet above sea level.



Wangu goldfield deposit in Hunan province could yield over 1,000 tonnes of precious metal. Photo Source: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Hunan>



Example of visible gold in a drill core. Geologists often circle it as part of the recording process.

Source: <https://www.theassay.com/news/pnx-sights-visible-gold-in-diamond-drill-core/>

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Calendar of Events

DATE	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
01/07/2025	General Meeting	Elks Club 6pm
01/25/2025	Victor Valley Museum Old West Days	VP will have a Panning Booth and Needs Volunteers
	2025 Calendar TBD	

** 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.

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.**

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

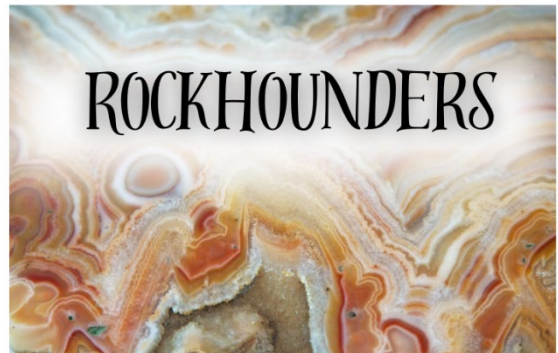
Meeting ID: 830 2666 8634 Passcode: 661754 One Tap Mobile

+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



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SADDLE UP PARTNERS

Come Discover America's
Western Frontier at

**OLD WEST
DAYS**

JANUARY 25, 2025

★ **10AM-3PM** ★

JOIN US FOR CLASSIC CARD GAMES • LIVE MUSIC • TASTY TREATS
FRONTIER ARTS & CRAFTS • HISTORICAL DEMONSTRATIONS



11873 Apple Valley Road • Apple Valley, California • 760.995.8770
museum.sbcounty.gov • @VictorValleyMuseum