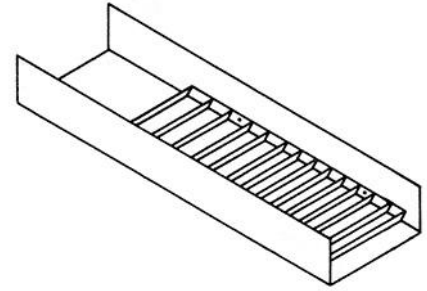




Prospectors Association

444 Winchester PMB 12-D,
Roseburg, OR 97470



THE SLUICE BOX

June 2015

DCPA meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Pine Grove Community Church, 1729 Buckhorn Road, Roseburg, OR 97470 at 7:00 pm. There is an optional potluck starting at 6:30 pm. The Board of Directors meeting is at 6:00 and open to all members.

Dues are \$12 per year for single or family. New members need to attend at least 4 functions (meeting, outing, gold show, picnic, etc.) to qualify to purchase claim cards at \$5 each. This allows you to cross claim a 25 foot radius area on a claim that's yours exclusively to mine for that year.

Sunshine: If you know of anyone who is ill or has had a death in the family, etc let me know so I can send them a card. Walt: 541-459-3489 or wrevens@yahoo.com

From the May Meeting:

Unfortunately my notes are in Oregon and I'm in North Carolina so I'll have to wing it.

Reports:

The minutes of the last meeting and treasury report were read and approved.

Claims:

Mike Eschelmann passed around a signup sheet for a Claims Committee. We're hoping to have a meeting soon.

Membership:

We had over 30 members present. We currently have over 100 members; close to 150 if you count children.

Camp Millennium:

On Sunday June 21 our local charitable organization Camp Millennium will be having their weeklong event. For those of you who don't know, they sponsor kids with cancer and family members for a week of camping, fun and games.

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DCPA hosts a free panning booth on Registration or “check in” day. We need folks to man the tubs and show the kids how to pan for gold.

Last year Mark Salars brought a couple of metal detectors and threw some coins out on the bare ground for kids to pick up. They really enjoyed that!

We’re going to have a metal detector experience for the kids. We might need loaner detectors from the members otherwise I’ll try to bring some from my store.

I can’t help in the panning booth because of my wrists but would be more than happy to head the Metal Detecting portion. Rather than throw coins out on the ground, I’m sure we can find some grassy area to let them hunt similar to what we do at the picnic. I could also use a volunteer for that too. (I e-mailed out forms for background checks back on May 22nd.)

We had another nice raffle.

Meeting adjourned.

Outings:

The annual DCPA Picnic will be held on Saturday June 13 at Umpqua Park at the south end of the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Set up will be at 9:00. It usually starts around 10 or 11. There will be two coin hunts a couple of hours apart. Other games include panning and dowsing contests. The Board supplies hamburgers, hotdogs and drinks. The rest is Pot Luck.

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING THE SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH. INSTEAD THERE WILL BE A SHORT MEETING AT THE END OF THE PICNIC!

The Gold Outing for June will be the 20th. We will be going to the New White Quartz Claim on Middle Creek to do our annual maintenance work and some mining as well. We’ll meet at the McDonalds at the Riddle 103 Exit at 9:00 am.

There will be no Metal Detecting outing in June except for the coin hunt at the picnic; although folks could bring their metal detectors to New White Quartz. Rumor has it that past President Gary Sturgill buried several ounces of gold and silver there and hasn’t gone back to get it yet!

The Camp Millennium panning and metal detecting for kids with cancer and their family members will be on Sunday June 21st. It will be held at Camp Kellogg, I believe. I went to their website and can’t see where it’s been changed from last year. The time for Panning is from 11 to 2. The Metal Detecting will be from 2 to 3. We will meet at the old Ray’s Food Place in Sutherlin at 9:00 am.

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(Outings Cont.)

July 18th we'll be going to DCPA 1 and Bottoms Up on Cow Creek for maintenance work and mining.

Kerby's Corner:

The file for this is on my home computer. It will be included in next month's newsletter.

From the New 49ers

“Motion to the Superior Court of San Bernardino to Prevent California from Enforcing its Unconstitutional Moratorium upon Suction Dredging and Return to the 2009 Regulations until they can be Updated in a Way That Does Not Break the Law.

Update as of 19 May:

“Judge Ochoa of the Superior Court of San Bernardino has now issued an [Order](#) which confirmed his [earlier Ruling](#) that California created an unconstitutional “scheme” of first enacting Section 5653 of the DFW Code which requires suction gold dredgers to obtain a permit from the State, and then enacting Section 5653.1 which prevented DFW from issuing any suction dredge permits. His Order and Ruling declared that both the State's recently-adopted 2012 dredge regulations and the moratorium preventing the issuance of permits are unconstitutional, illegal and unenforceable.

This was a huge win for our industry!

This Ruling has prompted some people, particularly along the Klamath River in northern California, but also in other places, to resume gold dredging operations. But the Department of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) has continued to enforce the unconstitutional moratorium. DFW wardens initially were out on the river generally harassing dredgers about breaking the law. They have written some criminal citations. They even seized some equipment. That prompted The New 49'ers a few weeks ago to file for an immediate injunction in Siskiyou County Superior Court to force DFW to stop enforcing a moratorium that has already been found unconstitutional by the California court system. Had we got our day in court, this seemed like it would have been a slam-dunk for our side!

But the State's attorneys scheduled an immediate hearing in front of the San Bernardino Court, requesting that our motion for an injunction be stopped in Siskiyou County because the California Judicial Council has decided that all suction dredging cases be consolidated and resolved in front of Judge Ochoa. Judge Ochoa agreed, and a hearing date for our motion for relief from DFW's unlawful actions has been set for 23 June in San Bernardino.”

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“Meanwhile, in an effort to get the matter resolved more quickly, several suction dredgers on the Klamath River refused to sign the promise to appear portion of the criminal citations they were being issued (unlawful dredging), opting instead to be arrested. Ultimately, one of those very courageous guys ended up in jail with The New 49’ers Legal Fund hiring James Buchal to represent him. That hearing in front of a Siskiyou County judge was to take place within 48 hours.

Mr. Buchal was motioning the Court to dismiss all charges, order a return of all seized equipment, and order DFW to not bring any further dredging cases in Siskiyou County. Had we got our day in court, this also seemed like it would have been a slam-dunk for our side!

What we had not planned on was that the Siskiyou County jail is completely full of people serving time for felony convictions. Our local sheriff Lopey was objecting strenuously that in order to incarcerate a suction dredger for a rather minor misdemeanor charge, he was going to have to release a hardened criminal back onto the streets. This all caused quite a stir at the jailhouse in Yreka while all the key players were trying to figure out what to do. Ultimately, according to my limited understanding, the District Attorney decided to defer the charges (or something like that) and let the dredger out of jail with no agreement that he appear in court at some later time. Once the dredger was released, the required 48-hour hearing in front of a judge was lost. So it was kind of like being arrested and let go. What can I say; it’s California!

Therefore, as it is now, it does not look like there are any civil or expedited criminal remedies available to us in Siskiyou County to get this rogue agency off our backs.

Yes; I know there are some very important due process issues in play here. We have considered all possible options, and have decided that our best course of action is to wait it out a little longer and place our hope for a 2015 dredging season with Judge Ochoa – who knows more about our plight than any other judge in the country.

Several dredgers have signed a promise to appear (for unlawful dredging) in Siskiyou County on 9 June. I’ll be surprised if the State moves ahead with that, but we shall see.

We filed our opening salvo in San Bernardino yesterday (May 18th). The relief we are asking for is to return to the 2009 suction dredge regulations which were in affect at the time that the unconstitutional moratorium was imposed upon our industry – and stick with those until they can be updated in a way that does not break the law.

I am following with the key moving documents, the proposed Order, supporting Declarations, including several which provide an abundance of science to support our position. The links begin with a letter to the judge explaining that his decision to prevent civil relief in Siskiyou County has prevented suction dredgers from access to any timely due process to prevent the continuing unlawful conduct of DFW. You can see that we are really making our strongest effort to regain hassle-free suction dredging in California this year”

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Miner's Mall:

This will be a monthly classified advertising area for members who want to buy or sell prospecting and mining equipment. This is for members only. No retailers please. I will approach the board about selling business card size ads for vendors. However, if you're a vendor and the item is used, I don't see why I can't post the ad.

E-mail them to me: wrevens@yahoo.com Send photos if you like. I'll try to get them in. If you don't have e-mail then call me at 541-459-3489.

For Sale: Used White's DFX Coin & Relic Metal Detector with rechargeable battery, \$450.00
Paul Demers @ 541 673 5625

For Sale: Slightly used Minelab 705 General Purpose Metal Detector \$625 Tom Bohmker,
Cascade Mountains Gold @ 503-606-9895. email: cascademountainsgold@gmail.com.

For Sale: Used small Keene high banker, foldable and portable with an electric motor/pump and no hoses, \$250; Stephen Trout @ 541 391 2406 in Elkton.