

The GOLD PAN

The newsletter of the
Comstock Gold Prospectors

April 2010



BLACK BILLIE

Next Meeting April 27, 2010

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Mark your calendars !!)

Apr 27, 2010 - Board/General Meeting
May 25, 2010 - Board/General Meeting
Jun 22, 2010 - Board/General Meeting
Jul 27, 2010 - Board/General Meeting
Aug 24, 2010 - Board/General Meeting
Sept 28, 2010 - Board/General Meeting
Oct 26, 2010 - Board/General Meeting
Nov 23, 2010 - Board/General Meeting

1 Year Gold – NYSE

<u>4/12/2010 – 7:45 a.m. PST</u>	\$1,160.00
One Year High (at closing)	1,214.80
One Year Low (at closing)	868.70

1 Year Silver – NYSE

<u>4/12/2010 – 7:45 a.m. PST</u>	\$ 18.42
One Year High (at closing)	19.21
One Year Low (at closing)	11.89

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

While preparing for your first outing to look for gold, remember to use common sense. Do not simply trust your own choices that may seem perfectly right. They may end up destroying you and your equipment. That is why I encourage us all to cultivate wisdom. What looks good often isn't. Be safe out there and help each other.

Grant Garrison, servant to the membership.

REMINDER: THE GRACE PERIOD FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES HAS BEEN CHANGED

At the February general meeting, the grace period specified by the By-laws (Article III, Section 2e) was unanimously changed from 60 days to 30 days.

If you are dropped from the membership list due to failing to pay your annual dues, you must pay the fee as though you were a new member and, if there is a waiting list, you go the bottom of the list if you want back in.

DID YOU KNOW????

(Contributed by Don Costar,
Comstock Gold Prospectors' first president)

There's a little known fact about the tragic story of the Donner Party crossing the Sierras in 1846. It has come to light that while crossing north-central Nevada, before the wagon train even sighted the Sierras, that many gold coins were buried by the Party.

While crossing the desert between Salt Lake and Nevada, many members of the Donner Party were abandoning their possessions. More and more belongings were being left behind to lighten the loads for the straining animals. All that remained were necessities.

While at the junction of the Reese and Humboldt Rivers, Frazier Reed and his family decided to lighten their hoard of gold coins that they brought from the East.

As you know, \$15,000 in gold doesn't take up much space, but it's considerably heavy. Reed buried it next to a rock outcrop near where the two rivers met.

Reed survived the terrible crossing of the mountains and the unease of the Civil War. It was not until the year of 1865 that Reed and his son returned to Nevada to claim their buried money. Was it the topography that changed in the intervening years or had his memory failed him?

The \$15,000 in gold coins could possibly still be buried there near a rock outcrop immediately north of the present site of the town of Battle Mountain.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Campbell, Aubrey & Jan	Reno, NV
Durfee, Aleta & Mike	Waikoloa, HI
Lavelly, Dale & Kevin	Carson City, NV
Peterson, Steven	Carson City, NV
Rudolph, Patty & Tim	Reno, NV
Sletten, Rachel & Steve	Sparks, NV
Sweeney, John & Renee	Gardnerville, NV
Yoakam, Rod	Reno, NV

DOWNTOWN COIN CLUB ANNUAL \$\$\$ COIN SHOW \$\$\$

On May 15 and 16 there will be a coin show which will be held at the Carson City Nugget, 507 N. Carson Street.. Buy, sell, trade, free appraisal. Coins, Currency, Exonumia, Medals, Gold and Silver Bullion, Tokens, and Collectibles will be featured. Many local dealers will be there. The hours are 10-6 on Saturday, 10-4 on Sunday. Admission is \$2.00 and is good for both days.

TAKE YOUR TIME – NOT YOUR LIFE!

SPEAKER FOR APRIL

Bill Vogt will be our speaker discussing how to research, file, and then maintain claims (primarily placer) in both Nevada and California.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

March 23, 2010

President Grant Garrison called the meeting to order at 6:21 PM.

Board Members Present: Grant Garrison, Bill Vogt, Nadine Miller, Jim Richards, Mike Maxwell, Gary Nielson, Lee Nielson, Claire Wiegand, Tom Newell.

Corrections to Minutes: None

Motion to accept minutes: Nadine Miller. Second: Mike Maxwell. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Nadine Miller. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report: Lee Nielson, Second: Gary Nielson. Approved.

Claims Report: Bill Vogt and Grant Garrison

Ken Bennett: The amended location notice for the Ken Bennett has been filed. Grant Garrison is working on letters to notify the parties that have over filed on the lower portion of the Ken Bennett claims that the Comstock Gold Prospectors consider them to be mineral trespassers on a claim owned by the Club for many years.

7&7: Other than the Ken Bennett claim, the only other claims issue is with the boundaries of the 7&7.

Blue Wing: The Claims Committee is still working on the possible purchase of the Blue Wing claim.

Adavan and Who Do: The La Port road is reported to be open to the Adavan and Who Do claims.

Procedure for Required Annual Claim Activity: Bill Vogt has worked up a procedure that when followed, would insure that the Annual Claim Assessment documentation will be completed correctly and filed on time. Motion to accept claims report and "Required Annual Claim Activity" procedure: Nadine Miller. Second: Gary Nielson. Approved.

Old Business:

Lifetime Members: Bill Vogt has received questions from several lifetime members about the need for completing an application every year. Bill reports that the Bylaws require all members to complete an application each year.

New Bylaws: Bill Vogt distributed copies of the amended Bylaws. The change from a 60 day grace period to 30 days for payment of annual dues is now in the Bylaws.

Tax-exempt: The Club now has tax-exempt, non-profit status. Motion to accept tax-exempt status: Gary Nielson. Second: Jim Richardson. Approved.

Club Insurance: Gary Nielson reported on his research into the insurance policy with the California Mineralogical Society. The policy has extensive coverage and runs about 230 pages. A discussion followed on the level of insurance required for the Club. Gary will do more research on insurance.

Possible Class Action for Dredge Fees: Tom Newell reported on contacting Public Lands for the People President, Jerry Hobbs, about a class action suit to recover California dredge fees for the 2009 season cut short by the moratorium. In summary, the PLP has several lawsuits in play and does not want to consider a class action until Senator Anastad's bill to refund dredge fees works its way through the legislative process. Jerry Hobbs is encouraging miners to look to small claims court for recovering fees.

New Business: The Club will be demonstrating Gold Panning at the Pleasant Valley School on April 13.

Motion to Adjourn: Jim Richards. Second: Gary Nielson.

Board Meeting adjourned at 7:25

Minutes prepared by Tom Newell

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

March 23, 2010

President Grant Garrison called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

Corrections to Minutes: None. Minutes accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Nadine Miller. The treasurer's Report was read and approved.

Claims Report: Bill Vogt and Grant Garrison

7&7: The Claims Committee will meet with the owner of the claim adjacent to the 7&7 on March 29, to resolve a boundary dispute. The Club will locate new boundaries after the spring thaw.

Ken Bennett: An amended Location Notice for the Ken Bennett claim has been filed. Grant Garrison will draft and send letters to all parties that have over claimed the south end of the Ken Bennett claims notifying them that they are in mineral trespass on a valid Comstock Gold Prospectors claim.

Lucky Linda and Shiloh: Bill Vogt is asking for volunteers to make up a work party for putting up signage on the Lucky Linda and Shiloh claims. Date will depend on the weather.

Adavan and Who Do: The La Port road is reported to be open to the Adavan and Who Do claims.

Old Business:

Mineral Identification Class: Webb Varnum reminded Club members of the mineral identification class that he will be teaching on March 24 and 31 at the Reno Gem and Mineral Clubhouse. In a show of hands, ten members indicated that they would be attending the class.

Class Action to Recover 2009 Dredge Fees

Tom Newell reported on the possibility of the Public Lands for the People sponsoring a class action lawsuit to recover California dredge fees for the moratorium shortened 2006 dredge season. Jerry Hobbs, President of PLP said they would not look at a class action until Senator Amastad's bill for refunding 2009 dredge fees works its way through the legislative process. The suggestion was made that the miners could make life interesting for the DFG by filing numerous Small Claims Court actions.

New Business:

Panning Demonstration

The Club will do a panning demonstration at the Pleasant Valley School. The demonstration will start at 8:30 on Tuesday April 13. Grant Garrison asked for additional volunteers to help out.

Vice President

By a unanimous vote, Ron Orbas was elected the new Vice President.

Speaker

Steve Tibbles, Project Manager and Chief Operating Officer for the New Gold Company, Relief Canyon Mine presented a very interesting talk about the history of the property, geology, development plans and permitting process to bring the mine into production.

The operation will be a cyanide heap leach with a CIP recovery circuit to produce an 80% silver and 20% gold product. Heap leach feed is projected to be 0.024 ounces of gold per ton. Direct operating cost are projected to be \$300 per ounce.

We thank Steve for the presentation and wish him well for the remainder of the development and permitting process.

Membership Drawing: Member drawn was not present.

New Members Drawing: One new member present. Fred Sweet got the pieces of gold.

Guests: There were three guests at the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50

Several items including sluices, a generator and a table saw were part of the equipment sale that followed the meeting.

Minutes prepared by Tom Newell.

**WHEN COOKIES ARE PASSED,
TAKE ONE**

Comstock Gold Prospectors
PO Box 20781
Reno NV 89515-0781
Web site: <http://www.cgpgold.org>

General Meeting
4th Tuesday of each month
7:30 PM at the
Masonic Wadsworth Lodge #25
2425 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV
(Corner of Pyramid & York Way)

Board Meeting
4th Tuesday of each month
6:30 PM – prior to the General Meeting
Masonic Wadsworth Lodge #25
2425 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV
(Corner of Pyramid & York Way)
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

Club Officers – 2010

President: Grant Garrison - 775/359-9238
Email: woodygmg@aol.com

Vice President: Ron Orbas - 775/885-9162
Email: rorbas@sbcglobal.net

Past President: Mike Wiegand
775/835-6780
Email: bethemiracle777@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Tom Newell - 775/885-2654
Email: gtn1@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Nadine Miller - 775/867-3550
Email: nmiller@cccomm.net

Membership/Historian: Bill Vogt - 775/747-3145
Email: Wvogt@sbcglobal.net

Editor: Lee Nielson - 775/884-2656
Email: leenielson1@aol.com

Board Members at Large

Mike Maxwell - 775/348-1620
Email: mdmbfb@att.net

Gary Nielson - 775/884-2656
Email: cgnielson@aol.com

Jim Richards - 775/225-2494
Email: rsmokinguns@yahoo.com

Claire Wiegand - 775/835-6780
Email: bethemiracle777@sbcglobal.net

Remember, if you have been elected to a Board position, your attendance is required at **all** Board meetings. If you can not attend, be sure one of the Board members has your proxy to allow for completion of necessary business.

Notice to All: The Board welcomes new ideas about outings, claims, speakers, programs, activities, social events, fund raising, public awareness, training programs, prospecting successes, anecdotes, hints, tall tales, lies, and gossip.

**WHY DIDN'T NOAH SWAT THOSE TWO
MOSQUITOES ??**

The Club wishes to thank you for all your contributions to the raffle table. It helps to pay for the meeting hall. Please remember to contribute. It does not really matter what it is. Clean out your garage. If you don't have a use for it, someone else does. Don't throw it away; put it on the table. ONE MANS GARBAGE IS ANOTHER'S MANS GOLD!
Thank you.

Mike Maxwell, Member at Large

CLASSIFIED SECTION

FOR SALE -- Garret Infinium LS Detector. Like new. Used 1 time. Comes with underwater headphones, also 3 x 7 power DD coil plus big coil. All for \$900.00. Contact Russell Rehbein at (775) 450-2844.

FOR SALE OR TRADE – Garrett Gold Stinger "Scorpion" Metal Detector. Comes with 2 search coils – 9" and 3". Also has DVD and handbook. Used 3 times. Bought new and paid \$500.00. Will trade for gun or rifle of equal value or good deal for cash. Call Jim at (775) 303-2026.

FOR SALE – Like New Pro Line 4-inch Gold Dredge. Just bought in 2009, used 3 days on Yuba River in CA. It has the single sluice box, Honda GX 200 (6.5 HRP) motor, T-80 hookah with a quick coupler single air hook-up, stainless steel reserve air tank, 30 ft. of air hose, new regulator and harness, new full face mask, 20 ft. of suction hose, swivel nozzle, two weight belts with 95 pounds of weight, one with lead shot and the other with standard weights. Motor has only about 12 hours on it and has a warranty too! I am asking \$3,600 for it and also might take part trade??? Also will talk about delivery or shipping. Call Rick Herron at (775) 622-6803.

Indiana Jones – Call Capt. Roberts. Your 5 x 7 glossies are ready. (775) 356-7668.

To place or renew a business ad, send a check to Comstock Gold Prospectors, c/o Editor, 4242 Spring Drive, Carson City, NV 89701. Include your ad layout, and your phone number or email address. Personal ads are free to members for a maximum of 3 editions of the newsletter.

Full Page Ad: \$50.00 per month
Half Page Ad: \$25.00 per month
Quarter Page Ad: \$12.50 per month

The Club drywasher may be rented by Club members for \$5/day, \$15/week. A VacPak is also available. The drywasher is kept at Reno Prospector's Supply (775/329-7553), 315 Claremont St., Reno.

For all of your mining supplies

Reno Prospectors Supply



315 Claremont St. Reno NV 89502-2529 (2 blocks
N of Vassar St. off Wells Ave.)

Phone: (775) 329-7553 Fax: (775) 329-4869

Email: renoprospectors@sbcglobal.net

Web Site: <http://renogoldpros.com>

Store Hours: Tuesday thru Friday - 10 to 5:00 Saturday - 10 to 2 - Closed Sunday and Monday

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