

# The GOLD PAN

The newsletter of the  
**Comstock Gold Prospectors**

May 2010



## *BLACK BILLIE*

### **Next Meeting May 25, 2010**

#### **UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

(Mark your calendars !!)

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>5/10/2010 – 8:00 a.m. PST</u>	\$1,199.80
One Year High (at closing)	1,214.80
One Year Low (at closing)	909.10

#### **1 Year Silver – NYSE**

<u>5/10/2010 – 8:00 a.m. PST</u>	\$ 18.58
One Year High (at closing)	19.21
One Year Low (at closing)	12.65

## **SB889**

By Bill Vogt

On Monday, 5/3/2010, I represented the Club in front of the California Senate Committee on Appropriations speaking in favor of SB889. The bill, if passed, would allow for refunding the 2009 dredging fee to any dredger requesting the refund. I was joined in this effort by 9 other miners from various areas and clubs of California along with Pete Conaty who introduced himself to us as the lobbyist for the New 49'ers. After we had each spoke in favor of the bill the Committee unanimously voted it out to the floor of the Senate. If it passes the Senate it will then be passed to the Assembly where it will go through a similar process.

After the vote was done we left the room and met with the sponsoring Senator, Samuel Aanestad. I personally asked him if there was any chance the legislature would repeal the dredging moratorium. His answer was no, not as long as the current governor was in office. He was also asked what the odds were that this bill would be passed and when. He said he felt that the odds were good and that the total process would probably take until the end of the summer.

We then broke up into smaller groups and went around the Capitol building to various Senators' offices where we left a copy of the bill, a letter of support, and our own personal endorsements. We exchanged e-mail addresses and disbanded with Pete Conaty promising to keep us all up to date on the bill's progress. It was speculated that we might be called on again to repeat the process when the bill moves to the Assembly.

As a final note, I was amused to read in a summary prepared by the Committee staff the following: "If this bill is not enacted, the Department may face legal challenges. To date, there has been one small claims court case against the Department." The case referred to is the one brought by the PLP VP written about in the March issue of ICMJ's "Prospecting and Mining Journal" and discussed at

previous meetings. Just goes to show you what can be accomplished by one person.

area is on the claim and would be a good spot for the discovery monument if one isn't found.

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS**

Anderson, Laura & Ron	Reno, NV
Arnold, Betty & Wayne	Sparks, NV
Ezzell, Hugh & Lileth	Reno, NV
Guthrie, Jimmy	Sparks, NV
Kennedy, John & Warren, Lynette	Wellington, NV
Lundy, Joseph & Lisa	Tooele, UT
Scott, Howard	Silver Springs, NV

**PANNING DEMO  
PLEASANT VALLEY  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

By Bill Vogt

**Date:** 4/13/2010

**Club Participants:**

George Gim  
Al Gottsch (Speaker)  
Bud and Nadine Miller  
Richard Tieben  
Sherm Tresca  
Bill and Irene Vogt  
Mike Wiegand

**School Participants:**

Teacher Jeff Hiller (267-3580) and 22 students

**Event Description:**

Club members arrived at the school between 9:15AM and 9:30AM and set up the equipment (first time for the new equipment). At about 10AM Al went before the students in their classroom and gave a brief presentation on the Club and how to prospect for gold. Al and the teacher both reported that lots of questions were asked and answered. Once Al's presentation was over the kids went to the panning tables and learned how to pan for gold. There were 6 panning tubs set up. In addition to every student finding some gold, there were 2 BB's put in each pan. The students were told that they would know that they had panned correctly if the BB's were still in their pans when they had panned out all the other material. They seemed to get a kick out of finding the BB's (almost like they were gold). All the students had been processed and the equipment taken down and stored in the trailer between 11:30AM and 12 noon.

**Potential Future Event:**

The teacher Jeff said that he was working on doing something similar with a school in Carson City in the June time frame and he would contact Grant with the details.

**LUCKY LINDA AND SHILOH  
WORK PROJECT**

By Bill Vogt

**Date:** 4/8/2010

**Objectives:**

To put up all corner poles and any necessary signs at both the Lucky Linda and Shiloh claims.

**Participants:**

Warren Burns (Driver)  
Brent Grabill  
Tom Newell  
Bill Vogt (Organizer)

**Work Accomplished:**

The group hiked the trail from Rocky Rest Campground to Shiloh which is a round trip distance of about 7 miles. Because this hike took much longer than expected nothing was accomplished at Lucky Linda. The NE and SE poles were erected at Shiloh and three signs were placed on trees near the trail marking the East and West end as well as the middle of the claim. In addition, a sign was placed on a tree near the river and the other signs that were by the river were verified to indicate the Shiloh claim. Also, the discovery monument was located (confluence of Yuba river and Saint Catherine Creek) and the latest paperwork was placed in it.

**Work Remaining:**

All the corner poles for Lucky Linda and the SW and NW corner posts of Shiloh need to be erected. Signs need to be placed at both locations where appropriate (road side only for Shiloh). The discovery monument for Lucky Linda needs to be located and the current paperwork needs to be placed with it. If the discovery monument can't be located then one needs to be erected. The location notice doesn't specify where the monument is located but a good place to look would be at the confluence of the Yuba River and Humbug Creek. That

**Needed  
Newsletter Historian**

By Bill Vogt

I am still missing the newsletter for the following years and months. If you have any of these and want to keep them I will gladly make copies and return the originals to you. If you are unable to get around, just contact me and I will make arrangements to get the items from you. I am also interested in any other items you think should be part of the history of the Club.

1986 (1-5, 6-9, 11), 1987 (6, 8-10), 1988 (10-12), 1990 (6), 1991 (12), 1992 (12), 1993 (1-5, 7-11), 1995 (4, 9-12), 1996 (1 & 2, 4-12), 1997 (1-10), 1998 (4 & 5, 10 & 11), 1999 (1, 3, 9), 2000 (3, 5-7, 11), 2001 (1 & 2, 6 & 7), 2002 (2 & 3), 2004 (9), 2006 (3)

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

April 27, 2010

President Grant Garrison called the meeting to order at 6:25 PM.

**Board Members Present:** Grant Garrison, Bill Vogt, Nadine Miller, Jim Richards, Mike Maxwell, Ron Orbas, Tom Newell.

**Absent:** Gary Nielson, Lee Nielson, Claire Wiegand.

**Members Present:** Al Gottsch.

**Corrections to Minutes:** None. Motion to accept minutes: Jim Richards. Second: Al Gottsch. Approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nadine Miller. Read and Approved.

**Claims Report:** Bill Vogt and Grant Garrison.

### Ken Bennett

Certified letters were sent to the parties that have overstaked the south end of the claim in section 8. The Club received a letter from one party with a warning that Club members had better not go to "his claims" with the added comment that the Club should do a better job with their claims paperwork.

### 7&7

The boundary dispute has not been resolved. It was suggested that the Club consider selling the 7&7. This possibility will be put to a vote before the Club members.

### Tammy

Still trying to negotiate with the claim owner of the adjacent Blue Wing claim.

### Shiloh and Lucky Linda

A four man work crew made the trek to the backside of the Shiloh claim. Two corner post were set and claim signs posted on the trail and at the river bank. The trail and the terrain proved to be a challenge. All the available time was used to get to the Shiloh and back. There was not time to set corner posts for the Lucky Linda.

### **Other Claim Business**

The Claims Committee continues to look for claims in new areas, while focusing on Nevada.

### **Old Business:**

#### Gold Panning Demonstration

On April 13, Club members demonstrated gold panning to 22 students at the Pleasant Valley School. The students proved to be eager panners.

#### None Profit Status

The Club has non-profit status with the IRS and is not subject to federal income taxes. However, It is not sales tax exempt. Sales tax must be paid for Club purchases.

#### Club Insurance

Gary Nielson continues to research insurance coverage and agencies.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Jim Richards. Seconded, Board Meeting adjourned at 7:25

Minutes prepared by Tom Newell

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

April 27, 2010

President Grant Garrison called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

**Corrections to Minutes:** None. Minutes accepted.

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

**Claims Report:** Bill Vogt and Grant Garrison

### 7&7

The boundary dispute has not been resolved.

### Ken Bennett

Certified letters were sent to the parties that have overstaked the south end of the Ken Bennett claims. Six were not received. One party responded with a warning and some negative comments toward the Club.

### Lucky Linda and Shiloh

A work party of four hardy souls made the trek to the backside of the Shiloh claim to set corner posts and post signs. Pictures were on the Club history table. The trail for the most part was in good shape and there were a couple of nice waterfalls along the way. The elevation change was not too bad but it was a long seven mile hike. Off trail was steep with very uneven footing due to small rocks and leaf litter covering the rocks. Poison oak was abundant in some spots.

**Old Business:** None

### **New Business:**

Claims committee is working on locating new claims.

The Club may sell the 7&7 claim. This possibility will be put before the general membership at the next meeting.

The Claims Committee is still looking into the claim adjoining the Tammy Claim.

The Club needs an Outings Chairman. If you are interested, talk to Grant Garrison.

**Speaker:**

Bill Vogt presented an interesting talk on locating and maintaining mining claims. An information sheet with details and websites for doing claims research was passed out. Bill presented a lot of good, useful information. Several questions from the audience followed the talk.

It was a very good presentation, especially for those new to the prospecting.

**Attendance Drawing:** Debbie Morrow won the silver round.

**Membership Drawing:** Member drawn was not present. The drawing at the next meeting will be for three silver rounds.

**New Members Drawing:** Patty Rudolph was the winner of the pieces of gold.

**Total Attendance:** 52 with 43 members and 9 guests.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50

Minutes prepared by Tom Newell.

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

**General Meeting**  
4<sup>th</sup> 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**  
4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:woodygmg@aol.com)

Vice President: Ron Orbas - 775/885-9162  
Email: [rorb@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:rorb@sbcbglobal.net)

Past President: Mike Wiegand  
775/835-6780  
Email: [bethemiracle777@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:bethemiracle777@sbcbglobal.net)

Secretary: Tom Newell - 775/885-2654  
Email: [gtn1@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:gtn1@sbcbglobal.net)

Treasurer: Nadine Miller - 775/867-3550  
Email: [nmiller@cccomm.net](mailto:nmiller@cccomm.net)

Membership/Historian: Bill Vogt - 775/747-3145  
Email: [Wvogt@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:Wvogt@sbcbglobal.net)

Editor: Lee Nielson - 775/884-2656  
Email: [leenielson1@aol.com](mailto:leenielson1@aol.com)

**Board Members at Large**

Mike Maxwell - 775/348-1620  
Email: [mdmbfb@att.net](mailto:mdmbfb@att.net)

Gary Nielson - 775/884-2656  
Email: [cgnielson@aol.com](mailto:cgnielson@aol.com)

Jim Richards - 775/225-2494  
Email: [rsmokinguns@yahoo.com](mailto:rsmokinguns@yahoo.com)

Claire Wiegand - 775/835-6780  
Email: [bethemiracle777@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:bethemiracle777@sbcbglobal.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.

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 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.

**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](mailto: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

Material from many sources is used in *The Gold Pan*. While it is believed that these items are accurate, neither the editor nor Comstock Gold Prospectors assumes any responsibility for their use. Advertiser’s claims are their own, and their products are not warranted by Comstock Gold Prospectors. Material from this publication may be reprinted. Please give credit to the author and *The Gold Pan*.