

Nugget News

March

2020

Official Newsletter of the
NorthWest Gold Prospectors Association



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PROMOTING SMALL SCALE MINING , CASUAL GOLD PROSPECTING , RECREATIONAL GOLD PANNING & METAL DETECTING

21st Annual
NorthWest Gold Prospectors'

Gold Prospecting & Treasure Show Edition

March 14th & 15th, 2020

There's Gold in Them Thar' Hills

by "GoldFever Bob" Lowe
"Seeking Cures for What Ails Me"

The search for gold has been one of the most important activities that has shaped the modern world. It was the gold rushes of the 1800's that opened vast western territories of the United States for future settlement.

Gold was the monetary standard of the US and is still universally recognized as a trade medium throughout the world. Gold holds its own against inflation. One ounce of gold could buy a man a new suit of clothes in 1900 and that same ounce can still purchase a new suit of clothes today.

People of all walks of life roam the hills in search of this elusive metal. Most are hobby prospectors, although there are a few hardcore sourdoughs still digging about. You'll become hooked when your mind begins wandering to thoughts of fresh mountain air, the feel of clear cold water, the sounds of abundant wildlife and the excitement of the real possibility of seeing a nugget under the next stone you turn. Once you catch "Gold Fever", you and your family will find fun and adventure in seeking the cure.

Before you jump in your vehicle and rush out to claim your fame and fortune, there are a few preliminary steps you should take. With this article and those to follow, I hope to be your guide as you pursue this unique hobby. The first and foremost thing to keep in mind is, "Gold prospecting is not easy and the chances of striking it rich are about as good as winning the lottery." If it were easy, everyone would be doing it. By keeping this in mind, you can control the major symptoms of "gold fever" and keep your family from having you committed. I've seen many good men and women succumb to the fever by not heeding this warning!

The journey begins, as all prospecting books will tell you, by looking in places where people have already found gold. This is the only thing about this hobby that makes sense. There is no point in wasting your time looking where gold was not found. You will need all the time you can get just extracting the gold you do find. The residents and visitors to the Silver Valley could not be luckier. We have an abundance of gold mining history all around us. The streams and hills from Wallace to Prichard and Murray have produced many ounces of the precious metal. There are currently many active mining claims still producing gold and a lot of area is open to claim.

Before you set out for the hills, you should read all you can get your hands on about gold prospecting. Libraries, bookstores,

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The Northwest Gold Prospectors Association meets
at 7:00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the
Rathdrum Senior Center located at 8037 W Montana Street, Rathdrum, ID
Our regular outings (May thru October) are at Eagle City Park on the weekend following
the monthly meeting with a potluck at 4pm on Saturday. Other outings will be
announced by the President and posted in the newsletter. November thru March
members are invited to meet each Saturday morning at 8:00AM at Kootenai Medical
Center Cafeteria in Coeur d'Alene to solve the world's problems. Please join us.



Nugget News

(Continued from page 1) Hills

local museums and prospecting supply companies are good places to start in your search for gold. They are the sources of the books that will let you know what gold is, where to find it and how to extract it. Many of these books are written by local people with years of experience in prospecting and knowledge of the area. I will discuss these topics with you in detail along with the tools you will need to buy or build and tips to help make this an exciting and rewarding hobby.

We will discuss the different types of maps you can acquire that are necessary and helpful in your quest. Contour maps, ortho-photos, soil maps and tax maps are to name just a few. I will tell you where to find these maps and how to utilize them in your search for gold. Finding your way around by using a map is fun and educational for yourself and your family. There are many things found in the forest that can keep a person on a proper course by using a map and compass.

And lastly, if your search for gold goes beyond the gold pan, we will be discussing the steps you will need to take to file your claim and the regulatory agencies you will need to deal with. It can look overwhelming at first, but I have found that they are easy to work with and are necessary to help us protect our rights, the rights of others and the environment.

While waiting until the season starts, check out a couple of books and start reading. With spring coming, we can look forward to a great year of prospecting. This is a wonderful hobby and pastime, something the whole family can enjoy.

Knowledge is the key for success in all our life's endeavors. It has been said that without knowledge the path to success is a road of hard knocks. This is especially true in our search for gold.

Hours of frustration can be avoided by doing a little homework before setting out for the hills. A visit to the library and local book store can help you gain the knowledge you will need to get started. There are several books available, some by local authors that will give the reader a good foundation for a rewarding hobby.

The MUST HAVE book is *The Coeur d'Alenes Gold Rush and Its Lasting Legacy* by Tony & Suzanne Bamonte. It is the most authoritative book on the rich gold rush history of the Prichard-Murray area on the north side of the Silver Valley.

I also recommend the *Coeur d'Alene Diary*, by Richard Magnuson as a starting point. This book chronicles the first ten years of the history of the Silver Valley. It will enlighten you as to the people, places and events of the time. Remember, you should look for gold where gold has been found. This book tells you of the first gold strikes and where they occurred. It talks about boom towns and mining camps, which are only memories and wide spots in the road today.

Jerry Dolph and Art Randall, area authors, have written books and many articles about the Silver Valley. Jerry wrote *Fire in the Hole*, a book about life as a hard rock miner. Art put together *Eagle City, Pride of the Coeur d'Alene's*, a book about the town that started it all. Art and Jerry co-wrote *Wyatt Earp and Coeur d'Alene Gold*, a book about the travels of Wyatt Earp to the early towns of

Prichard, Eagle City, and Murray. These books and others will verify that gold was found in the area and where to begin your search.

Understanding what gold is and how and where it occurs in nature will help in your search. You don't need to be a geologist to hunt for gold, but knowing the basics of geology makes it easier.

There are many books and articles on prospecting which start by giving the reader the basics. Topics that include rock formations and the difference between lode and placer gold are essential. The effects of erosion by rivers and streams and the many methods of mining should also be studied.

The International California Mining Journal and The Gold Prospectors Magazine are a wealth of information for the amateur prospector. They have entertaining stories, helpful prospecting tips and informative product reviews. They also contain advertisements of companies who offer supplies and services to the gold seeker.

By this time you should be ready to put together the tools you will need. This will depend upon your budget and the type of gold you seek. I suggest placer gold because it is the easiest to obtain with a very small investment in equipment. A shovel, bucket, screen and gold pan is all that is needed until "Goldfever" gets a grip on you. Then you will need to explain to your spouse why you need that backhoe and trommel.

For placer gold in a stream you might consider a gold scope and tweezers for sniping, a sucker tube and pan for sampling, a small in stream sluice box for shovel work or a suction dredge to process more material. A high-banker is used in areas where there are bench gravels (old river channel) and a good metal detector is useful around old tailings and exposed bedrock.

As you can see from your research, there are many tools available to the modern sourdough. Most are time tested and are found in every miner's camp. The better part the mining

Nugget News

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Advertising

Ads are free to our members.

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All ads & stories are due by the 25th of the month preceding the publication month.

experience is the testing of a home-made apparatus. Miners the world over pride themselves in the modification, design and manufacture of the "perfect" gold machine. There are many books that contain plans and ideas to spark the imagination.

A membership in one of many clubs or associations promoting small scale mining and the hobby of recreational gold panning should be considered. The NorthWest Gold Prospectors Association is the largest local group of prospectors with a wide range of experiences

in all aspects of prospecting and treasure hunting. Membership includes access to 16 local mining claims and a subscription to the Nugget News. The camaraderie with fellow prospectors and the sharing of information is a priceless benefit of membership.

If I have used words and phrases that are not familiar to you, visit your local library or book store. The meanings will be found there and you can prepare yourself for any discussion on the details of the methods of mining I have described above.

Most of us have at one time or another dreamed about possessing a treasure map. The lure surrounding a buried treasure or lost mine and the map showing the way to its untold riches have been the foundation of many legends.

The Silver Valley has many of these stories. No one knows for sure if a treasure map ever existed for each these tales, but all is not lost. From the descriptions found in these earlier writings, a treasure hunter can retrace the original footsteps of the people who buried their bounty or found a fabled lost mine by using a variety of modern maps.

On private land, the County Assessor's office has parcel maps showing ownership of the land. A trip to this office can keep you from trespassing on private property and discloses who the owner is so you can ask for permission to prospect or metal detect.

(Continued on page 3) Hills

Grubstakin', Swappin' & Peddlin'

On public land, the Forest Service has many different types of maps. The most important of these is the Forest Travel Map. This map shows most of the open and closed roads. It is helpful in planning an enjoyable trip into the forest.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) also maintains a variety of maps, the most popular of which is the Topographic Map. This map not only shows the roads and the streams, but also the contour (lay) of the land. This map is a must for prospectors looking for old stream beds or flowing float up a hillside.

Ortho-photos are like the topo maps, but show the contour lines overlaid on an aerial photograph of the ground. These are helpful in locating clearings, old roads and possible cabin sites. Ortho-photos and topo maps are available at BLM and Forest Service. Most sporting goods store carry the more popular topo maps.

With any of these maps, a good compass (I recommend the Silva Brand compass) and prior research, a treasure hunter/pro prospector is prepared to begin his search.

There is not enough time to go into the use of a map and compass in this article, but a trip to the library or a Google search can help refine your map reading ability. The Silva compass comes with very good instructions on the use of the compass and map reading.

The national forest has many men placed objects that can keep a person from getting lost. These objects consist of mostly yellow aluminum tree tags that depict the location of a nearby survey monument/corner or where a survey line crosses a road.

The tags are marked with the Section, Township, Range and corner information. With this and a topo and/or travel map, a prospector can see where he/she is and determine where to go next.

Now you are ready. Re-read the stories and pick out the things that can be found today on a map. A creek or river crossing, large rock outcrop, old cabin or barn, so and so's place, old bridge, water flume, mouth of creek, top of pass or mountain, adit or tunnel, valley floor, top of ridge, old railroad grade and the list goes on. All these are clues in seeking your treasure.

Keep your maps updated and protected. I have a set laminated and write on them with a grease pencil. I can erase them over and over again and they are protected from coffee stains and rain.

There are many other maps available showing geology, soils, vegetation, population, etc. Local book stores, libraries, internet and the government offices listed above are good sources for these and many other maps. Don't forget to check with the State Department of

Stop at the **Sprag Pole Sports Bar & Museum** for Great Food & Good Times in Murray, Idaho.

Cedar Village Campground & RV Park at Prichard, ID offers the best in "ROUGHING IT". A full service campground that is near some of the best dining and nightlife on the Coeur d'Alene River. Call 208-682-9404 for reservations. (They have showers at reasonable rates for those who are really "roughing it")

G & G River Stop at the "Y" in Prichard, ID. Your one-stop-shop for all your camping needs. Cold Beer/Pop, Food, Fishing Tackle/Bait, Gas, Phone and still the **Best Ice Cream Cones** around.

Visit the **Bedroom Gold Mine Bar** in Murray. Enjoy beer, wine and cocktails while playing darts or pool. See how it looked in the old days. They now have a kitchen with Pizza and deli sandwiches as well as dinner specials on the weekends, we also serve breakfast on weekends during the summer months and hunting season. Many great pictures to look at.

Prospector Pins (\$5.00) are available for your own use or as gifts. See at meetings or call (208)699-8128

Wanted: Mining videos, books and pamphlets, old owners manuals for detectors, dredges, pumps, etc. for the NWGPA library. Call Bob Lowe @ (208)699-8128.

The Gold Sniper by Gold Fever Bob. Get this effective crevice tube for that hard to reach gold in the cracks of bedrock. Four models to choose from. From \$25 to \$75 Call 208-699-8128.

The Snake Pit (Enaville Resort), in Kingston serves the best "Smoked Prime Rib" in the Northwest. They have a full menu with fast, courteous service.

Rugged Country Outpost, A must-stop, go to food trailer serving the best breakfasts and lunches on the Coeur d'Alene River. Located on Beaver Creek Rd a hundred yards or so from Babin's Junction. Open summers from early morning to mid-afternoon (6:30am to 4:00pm). See ad on page 4! **(Closed for the Season)**

Lands, Army Corps of Engineers and local mining companies. They have maps covering things that are of interest to their operations and could be helpful to you.

My discussion up to this point has given you an advantage that was not available to the gold seekers of yesteryear. Where they followed rumors and each other from one gold rush to another, you can follow precise maps and rely on factual information to locate gold bearing areas. You do this with the knowledge you've gained from your diligent research of the books and records I've pointed you to, many of which were written by those early pioneers.

Once the sourdough's of yesterday found a good source of gold, they had to rely on high priced primitive tools or had to resort to making their own equipment out of the meager supplies and materials they could scrounge up. You, on the other hand, have another advantage in the wide variety of modern and technical equipment available to today's prospector.

Pans, sluices, dredges, trommels, high bankers, dry washers, gold wheels, gas powered vacuums, sucker tubes and metal detectors are a few of the items that can be purchased or built. Vials, tweezers, rock pick, shovel, crow bar, magnifying glass, 5 gallon buckets, screens, knee pads, rubber gloves, rubber boots, wide brimmed hat, bug repellent, bent screwdrivers, spare parts and a set of tools are a few of the things you should consider acquiring. With the above items you will be able to pursue your new hobby in earnest and keep the symptoms of "gold fever" under control.

By now you've learned in your studies that there are three basic types of gold to go after. First is lode gold, which is still in the vein and needs to be blasted out of the ground and processed to extract it. This is hard work, expensive, dangerous and not for the faint of heart. Next is float gold, which has eroded out of the vein and can be found within pieces of quartz at various points down a hillside. This gold can be found by the use of a metal detector and/or processed by hand screening and using a high banker or dry washer. Being part mountain goat helps in the pursuit of float gold. Lastly, there is placer gold, which has eroded all the way from the lode, broke out of the quartz float and settled in a stream channel. It is this gold that inflicts most recreational prospectors with "the fever".

Placer gold is relatively easy to extract using the simplest of tools. The gold pan is still favored by most and people of all ages can participate. There are as many methods of panning as there are prospectors. The basics can be taught in five minutes and can take a lifetime to master.

The sluice box can be made out of various materials including wood or aluminum. A sluice can be set up on legs and have water pumped to it or it can be placed in the stream allowing the water to flow through it. Gold bearing gravel is shoveled into the head of the sluice and washed over riffles placed in the bottom of the box. The gold and black sand concentrate

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(Continued from page 3) *Hills*

(cons) settles out and is caught in the riffles. Periodically, the cons that are collected in these riffles are panned out to recover the gold.

A trommel or wash plant has the same components as a sluice with the added feature of a rotating perforated drum at the head of or over the box. This allows the gravel to be washed, tumbled and classified before entering the sluice. If the gravel you're working contains a lot of clay or is tightly packed this is the tool for you.

By keeping in mind that gold is 19 times heavier than water, probing any exposed bedrock can be rewarding. Sniping is the use of a rock pick or pry bar to break open cracks to expose small nuggets which can be picked up with tweezers. When sniping in the water, the use of a viewer and sucker tube is also favored.

Using a metal detector can help you locate shallow pockets of or individual nuggets buried under the overburden. Where the overburden is deeper or underwater, a suction dredge is desired. This device sucks the sand, silt and gravel off the stream bottom, runs it through a sluice to wash the gold out. The cleaned gravel is returned to the stream channel to provide improved egg laying areas for fish.

High-bankers are used in locations of ancient stream channels or bench gravels where water is available. It works on the same principle as the suction dredge except the gravel has to be shoveled in. Dry washers are like high-bankers but are used in areas where there is no water.

In addition to the mining equipment you'll need which depends upon the type of gold you're after, you'll want to get your camping gear in order. In the beginning you'll tell your spouse that you will be back in "a couple of hours or so", but when the "fever" strikes, a month won't be long enough and you'll be wanting to set up camp next to your claim.

You should get your whole family involved right from the beginning. Recreational gold prospecting is a fantastic outdoor family hobby. Besides, it's easier when everyone is exposed to the "fever" at the same time. The advantage to this is so that you won't have to keep explaining your long absences from home and that you really

(Continued on page 5) *Hills*

Club T-Shirts Are Available

S, M, L & XL are \$14 each
2XL & 3XL are \$16 each

New caps & visors are available
See and purchase at the meetings and the outings
Makes Perfect Gifts

Editor's Note

We are always looking for stories to fill our pages.

Please take a minute to jot down a story (fact or fiction) and send it into me.

Tell us about your experiences, plans or ideas.

Letters to the editor, pictures, jokes (clean, of course), cartoons and ads are all welcome.

Recipes, web pages of interest, email, magazine and news clippings are also needed.

A newsletter is only as good as the article and content submitted.

Please give it a try and wake up the writing genius in you.

Rugged Country Outpost

Located on Beaver Creek Road (red food trailer behind G&G Riverstop Store), RCO serves the best "made to order" breakfast & lunch food items around.

Specialty coffee drinks are also available.

Open 6:30am to 4pm—Wednesday thru Monday

(Closed for the Season)

You can call in your order at 208-682-3012

Gold is \$1,669.50 an ounce! This time last year it was \$1,286.80 an ounce!

**To get your copy of the Nugget News early via email, please send an email to:
bob@goldfeverminingsupply.com
with "Newsletter" in the subject box.**

Prichard Tavern – Still home to its Famous Broasted Chicken also serving Alligator Bites, Frog Legs, Hand Formed Hamburgers and Ice Cold Beer! A great place to meet old friends and make new ones!

Editor's Note: Be sure to try their "Flat Iron Steak"

Notice

Eagle City Park is privately owned and operated and is for the exclusive use of Eagle City Park Members and their guests and is open to all NWGPA members the weekend after the second Wednesday of the month from May thru October, free of charge for day use. Overnight camping during this weekend is \$20 per family for the whole weekend (Friday thru Sunday). Potluck picnic is at 4pm on Saturday that weekend.

You are welcome to come and prospect and / or camp at other times. The fees are \$20 per family per day, \$30 per family per weekend (Friday thru Sunday), \$75 per family per week and \$275 per family per month.

Please call 208-699-8128 for reservations.

To get to Eagle City Park take I-90 to Kingston (Exit 43), then take the Coeur d'Alene River Road to Thompson Falls/Prichard Creek Road (Mile Post 23), take Thompson Falls/Prichard Creek Road (2.6 miles) to Eagle Creek Road, take Eagle Creek Road (1/2 mile) to Eagle City Park entrance on left side of road. GPS is 47°38'51"N & 115°54'37"W

(Continued from page 4) *Hills*

still do love your family. It will also keep the pressure off while you try to find the nugget to make the piece of jewelry you promise your spouse each time you want to go out.

It's curious that with all the tools that are commercially available to today's prospector, why do we insist on trying to build a "better mousetrap" ourselves. Even the old saying, "If it's not broke, don't fix it" doesn't stop us from trying. The old-timers had lots of time to dream up new fangled devices to ease the burden of extracting the gold. And if you'll notice, all the modern equipment is based largely upon their old ways. My grandfather's K.I.S.S. method (keep it simple stupid) of mining is still the best. A shovel, pan, sluice, some water, a strong back and a weak mind was his prescription for the symptoms of the "fever."

My wife tells me that if I'd just listened to my grandfather or spend more time using the equipment that I've bought, as is, and not waste the time and money trying to improve or build something else, I'd probably have more gold now. Sometimes I can see the logic in her thinking and can sympathize with her concern over the money I've spent, but then the "fever" comes out of remission. My strong back tightens, I get jumpy, I break into a sweat, my eyes glaze over, my weak mind wanders and I'm off to the hardware store.

You've done your research, read all the books, acquired a few maps, bought your equipment, combed the hills, and have found a little gold. Now what?

The answer to that question depends on how bad of a hold the "fever" has on you. A few people can get by with an occasional gold panning trip to the mountains. Some need to go each weekend, while others find that prospecting each day from daylight to dark isn't enough.

The answer also depends on how much gold you've found, where your find is, how much red tape you are willing to put up with and how involved in the hobby you want to get.

If you are one of the fortunate ones that can get by with finding a little gold by panning, sluicing, sniping and metal detecting a few times a year, then you've pretty much got it made. All you need to do is find unclaimed public land or secure permission to prospect on someone's claim or join a prospecting club. In most areas this type of recreational prospecting requires no permit.

If you want to step up to a dredge to move more gravel, then you need to secure a dredging permit. They can be obtained at any office of the Idaho Department of Water Resources. The current annual fee is \$10 for Idaho residents and \$30 for non-residents.

High-banking or other methods of prospecting in which you are moving stream water by mechanical means above the ordinary high waterline of the channel (excepting dredges) require a Temporary Water Right Certificate from the Idaho Department of Water Resources. The current annual fee is \$50 and covers an entire drainage basin.

If your find is substantial, you may want to file a claim to limit the extraction of the gold to yourself or to the people you want to give permission to. It is a relatively simple process to undertake and the cost, which has gone up in recent years, is still reasonable. A pamphlet titled "Mining Claims and Sites on Federal Lands" outlining this process is available at Bureau of Land Management and US

A Must Have Book
"Fists Full of Gold" – By Chris Ralph -
Cover Price \$29.95
ISBN: 978-0-9842692-0-4
Goldstone Publishing; 362-pages

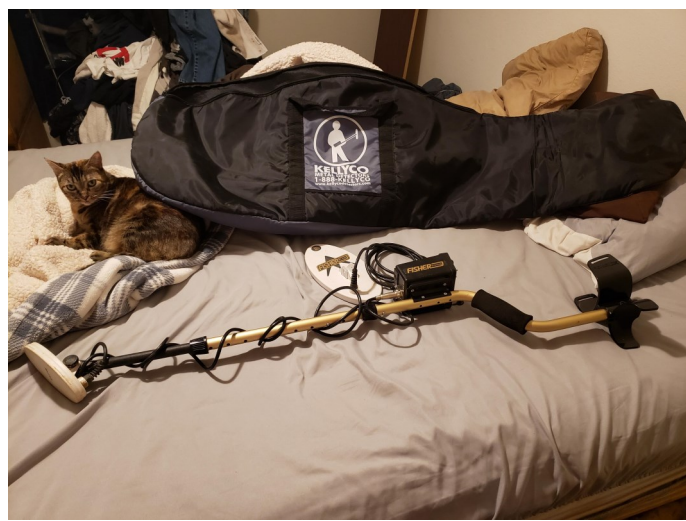
FOR SALE

I am selling my Gold Bug 2.

It has both the 6.5" and 10" coil & a Kellyco bag.

I'm willing to sell it for \$575 to any of our members

Call Nick Masten at 208-651-1521



Forest Service offices. They also have other information and all the necessary forms you will need to file and record your claim.

If the "fever" really gets out of control and your operation will disturb more than an 1/2 acre of ground at one time or you want to trade in your # 2 shovel for a backhoe or front-end loader, then get prepared to do a lot more paperwork. Bonding, reclamation, inspections and reports await you. You will also get to meet representatives from government offices and agencies and be subjected to rules and regulations that you never knew existed. Nuggets as big as hens' eggs is what it would take to get me into this mode of operation.

If any of your work is on land subject to Forest Service control you need to file a POO (Plan of Operation) with the local ranger station. Be sure you are on unclaimed land or have the claim owners' permission.

The people who I've worked with from the offices and agencies I've mentioned above and others have been helpful and a pleasure to work with. They don't make the rules, they just enforce them. My advice is to keep them informed by communicating your intentions and keep an open mind. If they know who you are, where you are at and what you are doing, then they can answer any questions a concerned citizen may pose. And believe me, there are people out there who make it their business to point out anything that is not to their liking. If they think the creek is a little muddied up and they call the officials, it's nice for them to be able to respond that it's so-n-so and they are aware of the operation, instead of not knowing and having to go out to your site and investigate.

(Continued on page 6) *Hills*

**A number of us meet at Zips, across the
highway from the Senior Center for dinner
at 4:30pm on the day of the meeting.
Come join us!**

Eagle City Park Memberships for Sale

#103 Eagle City Mining Company (208-699-8128)
 #94 & 95 Robin & Becky Bird (208-691-1721)
 #55 & 56 James Bonham (208-582-2471)
 #63, 64 & 65 Mark & Lisa Wenig (208)687-2072
 #68, 69, & 71 Margie Coe (208)660-7795
 #34, 35 & 36 Larry Domingo (gray house across from ECP)
 #101 & #103 Eagle City Park (208-699-8128)

Treasurer's Report February, 2020

Balance forwarded January 31, 2020	\$ 14,272.56
Income	
Interest (Paid 2/2/2020)	.51
Memberships	95.00
Raffle: GS Raffle Presale	25.00
Club	97.00
50/50	<u>16.00</u>
	138.00
Club Sales	44.00
Gold Show	<u>678.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 955.51
Disbursements	
Huckleberry Press (Ads for Gold Show)	248.00
Top O' Deep (Gold 18029 @ .40 oz;	
Nuggets .079 oz & .041 oz)	796.50
Nickel's Worth (Ads for Gold Show)	75.30
Pro-Print (Gold Show Printing)	72.40
Rathdrum Senior Center (February Meeting)	80.00
Mark Cook (Reimb. Stamps & Supplies GS)	142.12
Northwest Offset Printing (175 Newsletters)	192.58
US Postal (Stamps for Gold Show Receipts)	11.00
Dollar Tree (Raffle Prizes)	4.24
Walmart (Raffle Prizes)	87.61
Lewiston Tribune (Ads for Gold Show)	326.00
Walmart (Gravel for Gold Cups)	3.68
Harbor Freight (Raffle Prizes)	24.83
Black Sheep (Raffle Prizes)	<u>94.15</u>
Total Disbursements	\$ 2,204.95
Balance in checking as of February 29, 2020	\$ 13,043.12

Diane McCarroll, Treasurer

RAFFLE

February, 2020

Number of Members Attended: 33

Number of Guests Attended: 2

Income:	
Club Raffle:	\$ 97.00
Gold Show pre-sale	\$ 25.00
50/50: \$ 32 Payout:	<u>\$ 16.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 138.00

DOOR PRIZE

ITEM

2 Snappy Grips
 25" Measuring Tap
 4 Cups Frozen Raspberries
 Utility Knife
 Utility Strap

DONATED BY

NWGPA
 Wayne & Diane McCarroll
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 Bob & Pat Beck
 Mel Ellegood

RAFFLE

ITEM

Mini Sluice
 Finishing Pan with Vial
 13-1/2" Gold Pan with Vial
 2 Pack Bungee Cords
 Pick
 Rope Pack
 4 Cups Frozen Raspberries
 Cabela's Multi Tool
 Stretch Cords
 Marshmallow Tree
 Camo Chair
 Tri-Leg Chair

DONATED BY

Dave Peterson
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 Wayne & Diane McCarroll
 Bob & Pat Beck
 Mel Ellegood
 Mike & Nadine Ferry
 Mike & Nadine Ferry
 Mike & Nadine Ferry

**THANK ALL OF YOU WHO BRING IN
 DONATIONS FOR OUR CLUB RAFFLE.
 Diane McCarroll, Treasurer**

*If you ever get caught
 sleeping at work, just slowly
 raise your head and say,
 "In Jesus' name, I pray".*

(Continued from page 5) Hills

If you don't like a rule or regulation, tell them and you might find they agree with you. By working together, we can change the ones that hinder or don't work while balancing our rights to enjoy the land with protecting the environment.

Get involved! There are many groups and organizations out there with agendas that may conflict with recreational gold prospecting/mining. There are many public hearings and policy making meetings going on all the time. These hearings are like a ball game. When only the other team shows up at the ball park at game time, it's called a forfeit. They win and we lose. Up to this point the Environmentalists are the only ones who show up at game time. We need to get our team organized, attend these hearings/meetings and play ball.

Join a prospecting club or organization. They have claims you can visit and enjoy. There are club members with a wide range of experience in every type of gold prospecting who are eager to share their stories with beginners. Monthly meetings and outings help by informing each other of tricks of the hobby and the rules and regulations we work under. And best of all, there is strength in numbers when dealing with policy which affects our rights as recreational gold prospectors.

Gold prospecting isn't easy or everyone would be doing it. But, when you catch the "fever" it takes a lifetime of adventure and enjoyment to seek its cure. Mankind has tried for generations to find the cure and has made untold sacrifices in its quest for gold. We've searched far and wide for the elusive metal and easy ways to extract it. I think my grandfather said it best when he told me years ago, "The amount of gold in your poke is in direct proportion to the amount of sweat on your brow". Keep this in mind in all your prospecting adventures.

Happy prospecting and may the bottom of your pan turn yellow.

(Continued on page 9) Hills

Jinger's Gold-Con Fluid Tube

Saves Hours Of Panning
Simple, Easy To Use

Assembled \$50 - DIY Plans \$20

GoldFever Mining Supply

208-699-8128

www.goldfeverminingsupply.com

Too Much Rolling Stock!



**The Eagle City Park
Limo is for sale.
Runs but needs some
work. Asking
\$4,000.00**

**Bob Lowe @
(208)699-8128**

Refreshment Signup

We have some spots still open for signup. Pick a month that you will be willing to bring snacks to the monthly meeting. Make note of the month you choose so if by some chance you can't make it to the meeting on that date, you can give us a call to find someone to fill in for you. We would like to get at least three volunteers for each month for variety.

For Sale

**Mini Gold Grabber
\$400.00**

Call Eddie Siegel @ 208-712-4974

For Sale

2015 Bennche 700 Cowboy UTV
Approx. 600 Miles
Winch, Dump Bed
NO Issues

Asking \$7000 OBO Call Kevin @ 208-699-2518

Pickles' Mining Supply

42 N Kelly Drive
Cusick, WA 99119
(509) 442-3196

Pans * Sluices * Dredges * Etc.

Club Officers

2019

President:

Wayne McCarroll

208-262-6837

mccarroll2297@roadrunner.com

Vice President:

Bryan McKeehan

509-999-8710

doorguybryan@hotmail.com

Secretary:

Mary Lowe

208-651-8318

mary@goldfeverminingsupply.com

Treasurer:

Diane McCarroll

208-262-6477

mccarroll2297@roadrunner.com

Sergeant of Arms:

Skip Lindahl

509-487-7831

kd7fye@gmail.com

Club Merchandise

Carla Miller (406) 314-0543

Jesse Barker (208) 797-2883

Directors:

Bob Lowe (1yr Jan 2020)

208-699-8128

bob@goldfeverminingsupply.com

Bryan McKeehan (3yr Jan 2020)

509-999-8710

doorguybryan@hotmail.com

Mark Cook (3yr Jan 2020)

208-755-8853

mark2697301@gmail.com

Bryan McKeehan (2yr Jan 2022)

509-999-8710

doorguybryan@hotmail.com

Communication and Newsletter:

Bob Lowe

208-699-8128

bob@goldfeverminingsupply.com

Membership:

Mary Lowe

208-651-8318

mary@goldfeverminingsupply.com

Claims & Gold Show Chairman:

Mark Cook

Activities:

Nomination:

Law and Regulations: Wayne McCarroll

Legislation Liaison:

Internet Website: Bill Izzard

Programs:

Financial Audit:

2020 Club Calendar

Mar 11	Meeting
Mar 14-15	NWGPAs Gold & Treasure Show
Mar 14-15	NWMTGPA Gold & Treasure Show
April 4-5	NCWGPAs Gold & Treasure Show
April 8	Meeting-Election of Officers-Dues Due
May ?	Eagle City Park Opens
May 13	Meeting
May 16	Outing—Claims Tour
Jun 10	Meeting
Jun 13	Outing
July 8	Meeting
July 11	Outing
Aug 12	Meeting
Aug 15	Outing
Sept 9	Meeting
Sept 12	Eagle City Parks Annual Pig Roast
Sept 12	Outing
Oct 14	Meeting
Oct 17	Chili Feed Outing
Oct 18	Eagle City Park closes for season
Nov 11	Meeting
Dec 9	Meeting
Dec 13	Christmas Potluck & Food Drive

All dates are subject to change & other events will be added when dates are known. Check back often & mark your calendars.

For Sale

Two inch Prospectors Plus dredge, 79 c.c. Predator engine, two inch pump and nine foot of hose, two four foot pontoons. All in excellent condition. 3 1/2 foot of riffles, 7inch x 10 inch crash box. \$800.00
Also - sluice.. 32 inch screen, 48 inches over-all. \$40.00

Call Bill @ 509-884-9343 OR Doug @ 509-669-0993

Please email bob@goldfeverminingsupply.com of any changes of your email address or home address to ensure delivery of your newsletter each month!

Refreshment Volunteers

We have some spots still open for signup. Pick a month that you will be willing to bring snacks to the monthly meeting. Make note of the month you choose so if by some chance you can't make it to the meeting on that date, you can give us a call to find someone to fill in for you. We would like to get at least three volunteers for each month for variety.

2020 Refreshment Volunteers

January:	Neil Oliver - Mary Lowe - Wayne & Diane McCarroll
February:	Mike & Nadine Ferry - Steve Booras - Crystal McNeil
March:	Mike Phillips - Bill Pease - Carla Miller
April:	Dan Boss - Julia McCormack - BJ Scheckler
May:	Bob & Pat Beck - Anne Stephens - Mary Lou Robinson
June:	Mel Ellegood - Mike & Nadine Ferry - Steve Goodman
July:	Julia McCormack - Nick Masten - John Fee
August:	Bob & Pat Beck - Mike & Nadine Ferry - John Fee
September:	Wayne & Diane McCarroll - BJ Scheckler -
October:	Russ Brown - Steve Burris -
November:	Bill Pease - Julia McCormack - Mike Fisher
December:	Mary Lowe - Anne Stephens

We need more volunteers.
Would like to have at least 3 people per month.

(We need 1 more for March, September, October & December)

Sign up at the meeting.

Thanks to all who have signed up!

21ST ANNUAL NORTHWEST GOLD PROSPECTORS ASSN. GOLD PROSPECTING ~ AND ~ TREASURE SHOW

Gold & Silver
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MARCH 14-15, 2020

KOOTENAI COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS ♦ COEUR D' ALENE, IDAHO

SATURDAY 9AM TO 5PM \$5.00 12 & UNDER
SUNDAY 9AM TO 4PM FREE

BEVERAGES, BREAKFAST & LUNCH ITEMS FOR SALE
FREE GOLD FOR THE FIRST 100 PAID ADMISSIONS SAT & SUN

Field Guide to Recreational Prospecting in Montana

55 detailed maps
local advice
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89 pages
\$14.95

Gold Panners' Guide to Idaho

by Tom Bohmker
80 detailed maps
useful information
geology of gold deposits
big nuggets
\$29.95

www.goldpannersguide.com

Tom Bohmker (503)606-9895

Kids now days have iPhones to keep them entertained. When I was a kid, we put glue on our hands, just so we could peel it off when it dried!

We now accept major credit & debit cards for membership renewals and purchases of club merchandise.

2020 Refreshment Sign-Up

Need at least 3 volunteers to bring refreshments to each months meeting. Please signup at the meeting and do your part to help out. See page 8 to find dates we need to fill. Thanks!

Notice

The phone number for the NorthWest Gold Prospectors Association is **(208)262-6518**

Email: info@nwgoldprospectors.org

Website:

www.nwgoldprospectors.org

DID YOU KNOW.....

That 1 oz. of pure gold is approx. the size of a cube of sugar? That 1 oz. of gold can be flattened out to 300 sq. ft.? That a mixture of one part nitric acid and 3 parts hydrochloric acid (*aqua regia*) will dissolve gold? That in 1966 all the refined gold in the world would make a cube 50 feet on a side?

What is gold?

Symbol: AU
Atomic Weight: 196.967
Atomic Number: 79
Melting Point: 1063° C (1945° F)
Boiling Point: 2966° C
Specific Gravity: 19.2
MOH's Scale of Hardness: 2.5 - 3

What is a carat?

Pure gold is expressed as 24 carats. When alloyed (mixed with other metals) the following table is used to determine the carat.

24K donated by 100% Pure Gold
18K donated by 75% Pure Gold
14K donated by 58% Pure Gold
10K donated by 42% Pure Gold

How is gold weighed?

0.0648 grams = 1 grain
24 grains = 1 pennyweight (dwt.)
20 pennyweight (dwt.) = 1 troy oz.
12 troy oz. = 1 troy pound

(Continued from page 6) Hills

Bob Lowe is the president of Eagle City Mining Company, Ltd., which owns and operates Eagle City Park and GoldFever Mining Supply. See <http://www.goldfeverminingsupply.com> and is the founder and past-president of the NorthWest Gold Prospectors Association, PO Box 2307, Post Falls, Idaho 83877. They promote the hobby of Recreational Gold Prospecting/Mining. Annual memberships are \$20/single, \$25/couple and \$30/family. A monthly newsletter, the *Nugget News* is available for \$10/year (included in membership). Members have access to club claims and some of our members extend invitations to the membership to use their personal claims. Meetings are at 7:00 pm the second Wednesday of each month at the Rathdrum Senior Center located at the SW corner of Montana Street & Hwy 41 (8037 Montana Street, Rathdrum, ID. During the summer months (May thru October) outings are held the weekend following the monthly meeting. A Clearwater Chapter of NWGPA has been formed in the Lewiston / Orofino area. Contact Wayne Crowder at 509-592-5685 or email 1976nrcs@gmail.com for more information.

Club Cargo Trailer for Sale

2004 12-foot Utility Cargo Trailer.
\$1,500.00 OBO.

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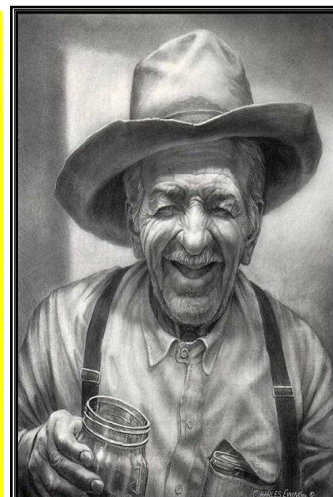
Coy McGaha
sales associate

Phone: (509) 663-5429

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Love generously.
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Recipe(s) of the Month

Crock Pot Hash Browns

1 package (32 ounces) frozen cubed hash brown potatoes
 1 can (10-3/4 ounces) condensed cream of potato soup, undiluted
 2 cups shredded Colby-Monterey Jack cheese
 1 cup sour cream
 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 1/8 teaspoon salt 1 carton (8 ounces) spreadable chive and onion cream cheese

Place potatoes in a lightly greased 4-qt. slow cooker. In a large bowl, combine the soup, cheese, sour cream, pepper and salt. Pour over potatoes and mix well. Cover and cook on low until potatoes are tender, 3-1/2 to 4 hours. Stir in cream cheese.

Pay Day Candy Bars

3 cups salted peanuts
 2 cups peanut butter chips
 2 cups mini marshmallows
 1 (14 oz.) can sweetened condensed milk
 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

Melt butter and peanut butter chips in a large saucepan over medium heat until smooth, then stir in condensed milk, vanilla extract and marshmallows, stirring until smooth and incorporated. Generously grease a 9x13-inch baking dish with butter or non-stick spray, or line with parchment paper, then spread half of peanuts across baking dish. Pour condensed milk mixture over peanuts, then sprinkle remaining peanuts on top. Refrigerate or let sit at room temperature until set, then cut into bars and enjoy.

The Wisdom of Eagle City Ed

You call them swear words.
 I call them sentence
 ENHANCERS!

Inland Empire Metal Detectors

12105 E Sprague, Spokane, WA
 (inside Pine Street Market)

Multi-Line Dealer
 Garrett, Tesoro, Fisher
 Keene, Coming Soon : MineLab
 Detectors, Gold Pans
 And ALL Accessories
 Over 100 Years of Combined Experience
 E-mail: cstreasure@centurytel.net

509-999-0692
208-660-4852

If you get this newsletter by email,
 please feel free to forward
 it to everyone in your
 address book.

I don't mind going to work, but
 that 8 hour wait to go home is
 just ridiculous!

Wyoming Mines, Inc.
 15101 S Cheney-Spokane Rd
 Cheney, WA 99004
 509-235-4955
 jimmycraackcore@yahoo.com
 jim Ebisch—jimmymines.com



North West Gold Prospectors Assn.
 PO Box 2307
 Post Falls, Idaho 83877-2307

