

# Nugget News

January

2018

Official Newsletter of the  
NorthWest Gold Prospectors Association



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PO Box 2307  
Post Falls, ID 83877

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

## Mark your calendars NOW! 19th Annual Gold & Treasure Show

March 17th & 18th, 2018

In the Jacklin Building (#25) at the Kootenai County Fairgrounds

Learn all about Small Scale mining, Gold Prospecting & the exciting hobby of recreational gold panning. See the latest in small scale mining equipment and metal detectors. Try your luck at our hands on panning booth. Learn how & where to prospect for gold or look for treasure. Visit our gold display and talk to our members about their experiences.

Fun for the WHOLE family.

Thurs Gold in Them Thar Hills....

### Attention All DIY Prospectors!

You have about 2 ½ months to finish those modified / homemade mining equipment projects before the contest. If you haven't started, you need to get into gear. I'm sure you have a piece of equipment that you would like to tweak in order to work better or handle differently. Maybe you can build a better wash plant, dredge, suction nozzle, sluice box, riffles, crash box, ATV trailer, power sluice, clean-up apparatus, you name it.....

This is your chance to put your ideas to the test and possibly win one of 3 cash prizes. \$75 to 1st place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place.

All entries are judged by the 19th Annual Gold & Treasure Show Attendees on March 17th & 18th.

### January Refreshment List

Bill Pease, Mike & Dee Ferry, Liz Canady

We need more volunteers. Would like to have at least 3 people per month.  
Sign up at the meeting.

### THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A PIONEER

Bennett had one old bridle ox called Old Crump, which had been selected to carry the children, because he was slow and steady. How in the world do you expect it to keep the children on?—said I. “Well”—said Bennett, with a sort of comical air, about the first relief from the sad line of thought that had possessed us all—“We have taken two strong hickory shirts, turned the sleeves inside, sewed up the necks, then sewed the two shirts together by the tail, and when these are placed on the ox they will make two pockets for the youngest children, and we think the two others will be able to cling to his back with the help of a band around the body of the ox to which they can cling to, with their hands.” Now if Old Crump went steady and did not kick up and scatter things, he thought this plan would operate first rate. Now as to the mule they proposed as we knew how to pack the animal, that we should use her to pack our provisions so they would go safe.

From a piece of hide yet remaining John and I made ourselves some new moccasins, and were all ready to try the trip over our old trail for now the third time, and the last, we hoped.

Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. Arcane had taken our advice, and in cooking had not put too much of the flour or beans into the soup for the children and they had gotten along

(Continued on page 3) Autobiography



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 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.



# Letters to the Editor & Other fun "Stuff"

By "GoldFever Bob" Lowe, Editor



## So, Ya Wanna Be A Prospector.... Part 3

By Virginia Hanks (aka Rockhunter)

Montana! I looked at the card again closer. Benjamin Jones, It read. "You're Benjamin Jones," I asked. "Yep, but only my sainted mother called me Benjamin," he said as he tapped the card with the stem of his pipe, "everyone else calls me Jeb." "Where in the blazes is Blue Mountain, Montana," I asked? "Bout a 4 hour drive from here, Sonny. You take the freeway over Lookout pass and take the ramp off at the first Podunk town you come to. Signs there will tell you how to get to Blue Mountain. Can't get lost, plan on being there at least 3 months."

Jeb got up to go and pushed the stuff I bought over my way. I stood up and gave him my hand. After we shook hands, he reached in his pocket, got the rock out and tossed it to me. Said, "This will give you something to think about." Then turned and gimped out. I tossed the rock up and down a couple of times, then looked at it again. Yep! Something to think about all right. A rough looking dude peeled off from a group of other rough lookers, and sauntered over my way. "What you say there Sonny, Got an interesting rock? Mind if I take a look at it," then he took it out of my hand, looked at it real close, then tossed it up and down a couple of times. "Kinda heavy, looks like hematite.. Mind if I keep it?" "Yes, I mind," as I snatched it from his hand. "A friend just gave it to me." "Well you don't have to get huffy about it," he grumbled as he walked back to his group. Wow! I'm thinking. Some people have some nerve. Not to mention he ticked me off calling me Sonny. Those guys must have known Jeb and knew he had a claim, otherwise why bother me when they seen him toss me the rock. Wonder what color they are?

I gathered up my stuff and went out to my truck and put in in the canopy. Man I got a whole lot of stuff to get done if I'm going to get ready by Monday.

First off, I have to see the landlord of the apartment I have not far from the lake. I paid him 3 months in advance and told him to keep an eye on my place. Now I know he won't set foot near it.

When I got home, I fixed myself some lunch then sat down at my computer to make out a list of things I had to do. I knew I could depend on Marge next door to take care of things in my apartment while I was gone. First I had to take my sleeping bags to the laundry. Next came the laundry right here.

When I got back, Marge was standing in the hall with my mail and wondered why I was home so early. I had to tell her about losing my job and about Jeb and the mine. I showed her the rock and told about that darn chipmunk. I

(Continued on page 7) Prospector

## Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Wayne McCarroll at 7:13 PM and Wayne led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by Secretary Mary Lowe and were moved and seconded to approve as read.

The treasurer's report was read by Treasurer Diane McCarroll and was moved and seconded to approve as read.

Wayne welcomed 30 members and 4 guests.

Wayne announced the evening's program would be an informative video made on claims located in Liberty WA titled "Ancient Tertiary Mining."

Under old business Wayne reminded everyone of the food, clothing and personal hygiene drive for the Morning Star Boys' Ranch and the local women's shelter. Items can be brought to the annual Christmas potluck and white elephant gift exchange scheduled December 17 at the Rathdrum Senior Center with set up at noon.

Wayne mentioned the great turnouts at the Saturday breakfast get togethers at the Kootenai Medical Center 8:00 AM. A great way to keep in touch and begin your weekend activities.

A sign up sheet for meeting refreshments is being sent around for 2018.

Under new business, Wayne turned the meeting over to Mark Cook for the 2018 gold show update. Mark has set up a website for the show under [NWGPAGoldshow.com](http://NWGPAGoldshow.com). He has received 28 RSVPs' already from vendors. Currently we are selling raffle tickets on the cash and a mini trommel donated by Gold Fox. Advertising will begin in approximately a month for the show. Currently he is also working on seminars to be held during the show that will be of interest to those attending and encouraging members to bring in their homemade and custom equipment for display at the show.

## Nugget News

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NorthWest Gold  
Prospectors Association

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Advertising  
Ads are free to our members.  
Display ads are free to  
vendors at our gold shows. Call or  
write for details and rates for other  
advertising.

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

No meeting was held in November or December for the MMAC according to Steve Wright, the next meeting is scheduled for January 14.

We are still in need of someone to head up the Program Committee to keep our meetings interesting as well as informative.

The election of Directors will take place at the January meeting. Candidates must be club members in good standing and may elect to run for the Board by declaring their candidacy by notifying the nominating com-

mittee. In order to be listed on the ballot all candidates must declare their intentions 10 business days prior to the voting meeting. Newly elected officers will be considered members of the board immediately following certification of the election results by the club secretary. The board shall compile a record reflecting policy, procedure and normal operation as circumstances arise.

Under Legislative and Regulatory Updates there is a bill to limit the Antiquities Act HR 3990. The National Monument Creation and Protection Act was passed by the House Natural Resource Committee.

Briefly, this bill would still allow the President to designate National Monuments up to 640 acres to allow protection of antiquities, but would require varying degrees of approval for larger monuments based on their size. Any new monuments proposed greater than 85,000 acres would require an Act of Congress.

Under the Endangered Species Act the Pacific Legal Foundation has petitioned the US Fish and Wildlife Service in an attempt to force the agency to define the terms "species" and "subspecies." There have been instances documented that their designations were not based on sound science. The goal is to provide relief from the Endangered Species Act of abuses and critical habitat designations across the country.

(Continued on page 9) Minutes

## Grubstakin', Swappin' & Peddlin'

nicely, and even began to smile a little with satisfaction after a full meal. They got along better than John and I did when we got hold of the first nutrition's after our arrival on the other side.

We must leave everything here we can get along without. No clothing except that on our backs. Only a camp kettle in which to make soup, a tin cup for each one, and some knives, and spoons which each happen to have. Each one had some sort of a canteen for water, which we must fill up at every opportunity and we decided to carry a shovel along, so we might bury the body of Capt. Culverwell, and shovel up a pile of sand at the falls to enable us to get the oxen over. Every ox had a cloth halter on his head, so he might be led, or tied up at night when we had a dry camp, and they would most assuredly wander off if not secured. Old Crump was chosen to lead the train, and Rogers was to lead him. We had made an extra halter for this old fellow, and quite a long strip of bed ticking sewed into a strap to lead him by.

This packing business was a new idea, and a hard matter to get anything firmly fixed on their backs. We had made shoulder straps, hip straps, breast straps and breeching as the correct idea for a harness.

The only way we could fasten the band around the animals was for one to get on each side and pull it as tight as possible then tie a knot, as we had no buckles or ring in our harness. The loads of the oxen consisted of blankets and bedding and a small, light tent of their sheeting about four by six feet in size. We rose early and worked hard till about the middle of the forenoon getting all things ready. They had been in a state of masterly inactivity so long in this one camp that they were anxious to leave it now forever. Only in progress was there hope, and this was our last and only chance. We must succeed or perish. We loaded the animals from the wagons, and some of the oxen seemed quite afraid at this new way of carrying loads. Old Crump was pretty steady, and so was the one with the two water kegs one on each side but the other oxen did not seem to think they needed any blankets on these warm days.

Mrs. Arcane was from a city, and had fondly conveyed thus far some articles of finery, of considerable value and much prized. She could not be persuaded to leave them here to deck the red man's wife, and have her go flirting over the mountains with, and as they had little weight she concluded she would wear them and this perhaps would preserve them. So she got out her best hat and trimmed it up with extra ribbon leaving some with quite long ends to stream out behind. Arcane brought up his ox Old Brigham, for he had been purchased at Salt Lake and named in honor of the great Mormon Saint.

Mrs. Arcane also dressed her little boy Charlie up in his best suit of clothes, for she thought they might as well wear them out as to throw them away. She made one think of a fairy in

**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 chose from. From \$20 to \$75 Call 208-699-8128.

**The Snake Pit (Enaville Resort)**, under new management 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. See ya in the spring!

guy and flying apparel. In the same way all selected their best and most serviceable garments, for it was not considered prudent to carry any load, and poor clothes were good enough to leave for Indians. We set it down as a principle that we must save ourselves all we could, for it would be a close contested struggle with us and death, at the very best, and we wanted to get all the advantage for ourselves we could. As we were making the preparations the women grew more hopeful, as it seemed as if something was really going to be accomplished.

Bennett and Arcane were emphatic in their belief and expressions that we would succeed. "I know it—Don't you Sally?" said Bennett very cheerfully, but after all Mrs. Bennett could not answer quite as positively, but said "I hope so."—Mrs. Bennett's maiden name was Sarah Dillely, which I mention here as I may otherwise forget it afterward. She realized that hers was no easy place to ride, that they would have hard fare at best, and that it must be nearly or quite a month before they could reach a fertile spot on which to place her feet. One could easily see that the future looked quite a little dark to her, on account of her children, as a mother naturally would.

High overhead was the sun, and very warm indeed on that day in the fore part of February 1850, when the two children were put on Old Crump to see if he would let them ride. The two small children were placed in the pockets on each side, face outward, and they could stand or sit as they should choose. George and Melissa were placed on top and given hold of the strap that was to steady them in their place. I now led up Mrs. Bennett's ox and Mr. Bennett helped his wife to mount the animal, on whose back as soft a seat as possible had been constructed. Mrs. Arcane in her ribbons was now helped to her seat on the back of Old Brigham and she carefully adjusted herself to position, and arranged her dress and ornaments to suit, then took hold of the strap that served to hold on by as there were no bridles on these two.

Rogers led the march with his ox, Bennett and I started the others along, and Arcane followed with Old Crump and the children. Bennett and Arcane took off their hats and bade the old camp good bye. The whole procession moved, and we were once more going toward our journey's end we hoped. The road was sandy and soft, the grade practically level, and everything went well for about four miles, when the pack on one of the oxen near the lead got loose and turned over to one side, which he no sooner saw thus out of position, then he tried to get away from it by moving sidewise. Not getting clear of the objectionable load in this way he tried to kick it off, and thus really got his foot in it, making matters worse instead of better. Then he began a regular waltz and bawled at the top of his voice in terror. Rogers tried to catch him but his own animal was so frisky that he could not hold him and do much else, and the spirit of fear soon began to be communicated to the others and soon the whole train seemed to be taken crazy.

They would jump up high and then come down, sticking their fore feet as far as possible into the sand after which, with elevated tails, and terrible plunges would kick and thrash and run till the packs came off, when they stopped apparently quite satisfied. Mrs. Bennett slipped off her ox as quick as she could, grabbed her baby from the pocket on Old Crump, and shouting to

(Continued on page 4) *Autobiography*

(Continued from page 3) *Autobiography*

Melissa and George to jump, got her family into safe position in pretty short order. Arcane took his Charley from the other pocket and laid him on the ground, while he devoted his own attention to the animals. Mrs. Arcane's ox followed suit, and waltzed around in the sand, bawled at every turn, fully as bad as any of the others, but Mrs. Arcane proved to be a good rider, and hard to unseat, clinging desperately to her strap as she was tossed up and down, and whirled about at a rate enough to make any one dizzy. Her many fine ribbons flew out behind like the streamers from a mast-head, and the many fancy fixin's she had donned fluttered in the air in gayest mockery. Eventually she was thrown however, but without the least injury to herself, but somewhat disordered in raiment. When I saw Bennett he was standing half bent over laughing in almost hysterical convulsion at the entirely impromptu circus which had so suddenly performed an act not on the program. Arcane was much pleased and laughed heartily when he saw no one was hurt. We did not think the cattle had so much life and so little sense as to waste their energies so uselessly. The little mule stepped out one side and looked on in amazement, with out disarranging any article of her load.

Mrs. Bennett, carrying her baby and walking around to keep out of the way, got very much exhausted, and sat down on the sand, her face as red as if the blood were about to burst through the skin, and perspiring freely. We carried a blanket and spread down for her while we gathered in the scattered baggage. Then the oxen were got together again, and submitted to being loaded up again as quietly as if nothing had happened. Myself and the women had to mend the harness considerably, and Arcane and his ox went back for some water, while Rogers and Bennett took the shovel and went ahead about a mile to cover up the body of Capt. Culverwell, for some of the party feared the cattle might be terrified at seeing it. All this took so much time that we had to make a camp of it right here.

We put the camp kettle on two stones, built a fire, put in some beans and dried meat cut very fine, which cooked till Arcane came with more water, which was added, and thickened with a little of the unbolted flour, making a pretty good and nutritious soup which we all enjoyed. We had to secure the animals, for there was neither grass nor water for them, and we thought they might not be in so good spirits another day.

(Continued on page 6) *Autobiography*

## 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.

## January Meeting Program

*To be determined!*

**Gold is \$1,302.50 ounce! This time last year it was \$1,150.90 an ounce!**

**To get your copy of the Nugget News early via email, please send an email to: [bob@goldfeverminingsupply.com](mailto: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 \$10 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 \$10 per family per day, \$20 per family per weekend (Friday thru Sunday), \$65 per family per week and \$250 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

# Sage Creek Gold Adventure Hard Rock Jim – December 2017

I took my first rock samples at Sage Creek, Idaho in 1993 when I was a geologist working for a major mining company. The fact that some of the samples contained over 1 ounce per ton (opt) gold did not impress management because the target was “too small”. I filed the information away and when the Spokane office was closed in 1996 and many of us were laid off, my interest in Sage Creek returned. In 1997, I acquired some claims there with a couple of partners and created a marketing report which attracted the attention of a junior mining company that soon leased the property from us. Roughly three miles away, at Indian Creek, the UL and KB Mines produced somewhere around 50,000-100,000 ounces of gold from similar rock averaging about 0.50 opt gold. We developed a geological model based upon the Indian Creek mines because the ore there was bedded. That tabular morphology makes it easy to predict the location of ore that is not exposed on the surface. Those beds could be projected over to Sage Creek where we were working. Based upon the widespread showings of mineralized rock, we thought it was possible there could be as much as 500,000 ounces of gold on our claims in similar bedded gold mineralization.

The main area of interest at Sage Creek had no bedrock outcrop, but had lots of iron-stained rock rubble that contained the gold mineralization (Figure 1, page 8). That area was on a ridge top, so we decided that it could not have rolled down a hill, but was probably almost in place, weathered out of the bedrock. Twenty-two samples of that iron-rich rock contained an average of 0.33 opt gold, and some samples contained small specks of gold. At that time, the average sample contained about \$120 worth of gold per ton of rock. We submitted a Plan of Operations (POO) with the Forest Service. Our POO proposed excavator trenching in several areas of the property. Trenching in the area which contained the gold-bearing rock samples was denied because the Forest Service determined that we would disturb some historic prospects there (that meant a few small historic prospect pits would be disturbed by the trenching). So our trenching program was unsuccessful. A few years later we drilled 6 core holes with inconclusive results (that industry jargon means we got diddly for gold mineralization). This suggested that our geological model was not completely correct. We did not intercept bedded gold mineralization in all the places we should have.

In 2016, we submitted a new POO that again requested trenching in the main area where gold-bearing rock was scattered around on the ridge top. This time, the Forest Service granted us permission to excavate the area of historic prospect pits where work was previously forbidden. It only took a change in management at the Forest Service district office. One anti-mining manager finally retired, and was replaced by a more reasonable manager. Such are the whims of the government worker. This also shows the necessity of persistence.

The new work initiated in 2015 was spurred by the fact that gold prices above \$1,000 per ounce were pretty consistent, and might stay that way for the near future. We had the mill in Phillipsburg, Montana do some metallurgical studies on samples from our claims. Those studies suggested that recovery could be as much as 95% at the mill. A second test was completed by Frank Reed of Hayden, Idaho (Figure 2, page 8). I took about 200 pounds of material to Frank which he processed through crushers, small mills, and finally a vertical vortex sluice of his own design. From that 200 pounds, we estimated that we recovered about 0.05 ounces of gold (Figure 3, page 8), which would mean a grade of about 0.50 opt gold, worth about \$600/ton at that time. Based upon our calculations (TABLE 1, next column), it seemed possible that we could make \$100-\$200/ton profit simply by excavating the ore and shipping it to the mill at Phillipsburg. The permitting was simple since we were just making a rock quarry.

It all seemed so simple. But like any battle plan, the plan falls apart once the battle starts. We exposed 400 tons of gold-bearing material with a track-mounted excavator owned by Gordon Hammond. Representative samples of that material averaged only about 0.08 opt gold, roughly 1/4 of the gold grade expected based upon preliminary surface samples. This meant that the rock was sub-economic for direct shipment to Philipsburg, Montana without concentration.

Although the heavily iron-stained rock which we originally sampled on the surface was found at a depth of 2-5 feet in outcrop, it was not a continuous bed. The gold-bearing rock occurred as irregular blocks suspended in a clay matrix, and this clay diluted the ore-grade rock significantly. I decided that there were two likely possibilities. The first of these was that the gold ore formed in lenses rather than a continuous bed. The alternate possibility is that the brittle, gold-bearing bed broke into separate pieces during folding, and was enveloped in the adjacent shale that flowed around the broken fragments. Either way, our target concept did not hold together there.

We still intend to do additional work on the prospect and try to find another area nearby where the gold-bearing rock has better continuity. It looks like our break even cost, at \$1250 per ounce gold would be about \$250 per ton gold, which means we would need an average grade of mineralized material of at least 0.20 opt gold. A test shipment of 600 tons was proposed because concentration of that ore would yield about 20 tons of high-grade material, the minimum that was acceptable at the smelter. Metallurgical testing indicates that the concentrate would consist of both sulfide and oxide material.

**TABLE 1**

**Sage Creek Gold Project  
Potential Profitability Table  
(Assuming 75% Gold Payment & US\$ 200/ton total cost)**

<b>POTENTIAL PROFIT PER TON</b>			
<b>US \$/ounce gold</b>	<b>Opt gold 0.33*</b>	<b>Opt gold 0.50**</b>	<b>Opt Gold 0.72***</b>
<b>1300</b>	<b>\$122/ton</b>	<b>\$288/ton</b>	<b>\$502/ton</b>
<b>1350</b>	<b>\$134/ton</b>	<b>\$306/ton</b>	<b>\$529/ton</b>
<b>1400</b>	<b>\$147/ton</b>	<b>\$325/ton</b>	<b>\$556/ton</b>
<b>1450</b>	<b>\$159/ton</b>	<b>\$344/ton</b>	<b>\$583/ton</b>
<b>1500</b>	<b>\$171/ton</b>	<b>\$363/ton</b>	<b>\$610/ton</b>

\* Average grade of 22 historic samples  
\*\* Average grade of nearby mine in similar rock  
\*\*\* Average grade from 2015 metallurgical tests  
Opt = ounces of gold per standard ton of rock

**75% Gold Payment = 90% gold recovery at the mill &  
15% loss to con broker/smelter**

**For Sale**

Fisher Gold Bug II with 3 coils, a 14", 10", and a 6" coil with skid plates. Also a chest mount harness.  
All in very good condition:

**\$400**

call Steve at 208-773-9053 or see me at the next meeting.

*(Continued from page 4) Autobiography*

We had little trouble in packing up again in the morning, and concluded to take a nearer route to the summit, so as to more quickly reach the water holes where Rogers and I camped on our first trip over the country. This would be a hard rocky road on its course leading up a small rocky canyon, hard on the feet of the oxen, so they had to be constantly urged on, as they seemed very tender footed. They showed no disposition to go on a spree again and so far as keeping the loads on, behaved very well indeed. The women did not attempt to ride but followed on, close after Old Crump and the children who required almost constant attention, for in their cramped position they made many cries and complaints. To think of it, two children cramped up in narrow pockets, in which they could not turn around, jolted and pitched around over the rough road, made them objects of great suffering to themselves and anxiety and labor on the part of the mothers.

Mrs. Bennett said she would carry her baby if she could, but her own body was so heavy for her strength that she could not do it. Bennett, Rogers and myself hurried the oxen all we could, so that we could reach the water, and let Bennett go back with some to meet the rest and refresh them for the end of the day's march, and he could take poor little Martha from the pocket and carry her in his arms, which would be a great relief to her. Arcane also took his child when he met them, throwing away his double barrel gun, saying:—"I have no use for you."

When the women reached camp we had blankets already spread down for them, on which they cast themselves, so tired as to be nearly dead. They were so tired and discouraged they were ready to die, for they felt they could not endure many days, like this.

We told them this was the first day and they were not used to exercise therefore more easily tired than after they became a little used to it. We told them not to be discouraged, for we knew every water hole, and all the road over which we would pilot them safely. They would not consent to try riding again, after their circus experience, and Mrs. Arcane said her limbs ached so much she did not think she could even go on the next day. They had climbed over the rocks all day, and were lame and sore, and truly thought they could not endure such another day. The trail had been more like stairs than a road in

*(Continued on page 9) Autobiography*

**December 13, 2017**

**RAFFLE**

Number of Members Attended: 34	Income: Raffle = \$ 107.00
Number of Guests Attended: 4	
50/50: = \$36.00	Payout = \$ 18.00
Gold Show Presale Raffle	<u>\$ 20.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$145.00</b>

**DOOR PRIZE**

- ITEM**  
 Army Knife  
 Trowel  
 5 in 1 Survival Tool  
 Folding Scissors  
 Cordless Drill/Driver

**DONATED BY**

- Re-donated  
 NWGPA  
 Lindahl  
 Lindahl  
 Mike Fisher

**RAFFLE**

- ITEM**  
 Gold Grabber  
 Pick  
 Finishing Pan & Snuffer Bottle  
 2 Snappy Grips  
 2 Vials & Tweezer Snuffer  
 Gold Trap Pan  
 Shovel  
 Knife  
 12 in 1 Multi-Tool  
 3 piece Handy Hex Keys  
 Bag of wheat Pennies  
 5 Dental Picks

**DONATED BY**

- NWGPA  
 NWGPA  
 NWGPA  
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 Bob Beck  
 Bob Beck  
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**Treasurer's Report  
 December 2017**

<b>Balance forwarded November 30, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 13,439.33</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Gold Show	150.00
Interest (Paid 11/30/17)	.43
Membership	50.00
Raffles	125.00
Gold Show Raffle	20.00
Club Sales	<u>30.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 375.43</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>	
Christmas Party gift/Wrap, Meat & Senior Center	\$ 307.36
Gifts & Wrap = \$224.22	
Meat for Party = \$18.14	
Rathdrum Senior Center (room) = \$65.00	
Rathdrum Senior Center (December Meeting)	65.00
Progressive Printing (Newsletter)	207.56
Office Supplies	7.41
State Tax Commission (6%) 7-1-17 to 12-31-17	6.06
Advertising & Graphic Setup (Gold Show)	<u>104.56</u>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 697.95</b>
<b>Balance in checking as of December 31, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 13,116.81</b>

Diane McCarroll, Treasurer

**Wanted:**

Gold Claim close to Noxon, Mt. Have up to \$2,500 to spend.  
 Call Jerry Torok at 406-847-8673 or  
 email at: grizjt@montana.com

## Jinger's Gold-Con Fluid Tube

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*(Continued from page 2) Prospector*

put some clothes in the washer while I was talking to her. Mentioned as to how I was going to have to go to a thrift store and pick up some clothes to work in. She said not to get in too big a hurry there. She said, "remember that dude that stayed a while with me last year?" "yeah, but what has that to do with me?" "Well!" she said as she grabbed my arm and drug me out and over to her apartment across the hall. We went to a closet in her extra bedroom and she pointed at a large box. "He left and never came back. Left his clothes here. He was your size and I bet everything in this box will fit you. Perfectly good grubbies. All clean too. You might as well have them since I was just going to take them to the thrift store one day any way." We went back over to my place and I opened the box and looked through it. Great, 3 pair of jeans, right size. briefs, socks, tee shirts, and 2 pair shoes. A bit wider than mine but good enough to wade in the water with. Great, one thing to cross off the list. "

Thanks a bunch Marge, this really helps me out a lot. I'd like you to have the stuff in the fridge and freezer while I'm gone, and water my plants too." I knew there would be no problem there because I've gone the same thing for here a couple of times when she was out of town. "I'll take good care of things while you are gone. I can't get over it. You are going to be a prospector." "Well that's the plan, I said as I started putting the extra clothes in and old duffel bag. Next day I went and got my sleeping bags and cleaned out the back of the truck. Put some of my other clothes in a bag. Put my pillow in a clean garbage bag and started to load stuff up in my truck. I debated about taking my laptop but figured what the heck, it don't take that much room and I can charge it from the cigarette lighter in the truck.

I sat down for a bit and looked over my list. Just about got everything done. The phone rang and I answered it. It was Julie and she was almost hysterical. "Joe! Joe! You got to help me!" she cried. "This place is a madhouse, you got to come back and take over and fix things." "Whoa there gal, remember I was canned. I don't work there any more." "But the Boss wants you in tomorrow to straighten things out." she sobbed. "There are 4 other guys that work there, he can get one of them to do it. What happened anyway?" I asked? "The new guy screwed up all our orders and deleted a whole lot of stuff on that computer, he don't have an idea how to use." "That's just great, so the cowardly Boss asks you to call me because he knew I would do most anything for you, huh?" "But Joe, we are getting desperate.. All the other guys quit when they saw how that turkey messed things up and the Boss had canned you for him." Well! I'm sorry to let you down babe, but I have a new job already. In fact with what experience I have, I'm already a junior partner. Tell that cowardly Boss, no dice. And karma is a bitch." I hung up and laughed out loud. Yep karma is a real bitch, Boss. I might have stretched things a bit but what the heck. If that darn coward can't correct his own mistakes then he has no business being a Boss. Next morning early I had coffee and toast with Marge. After a hug or two, I was ready to hit the road. "You are going to be a prospector now, Well take care and call me when you can," cried Marge After another hug, I was in the truck and on my way. Blue Mountain, here I come.

To be continued.....

## Club Officers

2017

### 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:

Darin Faires  
509-481-0968

darinfaires@msn.com

### Directors:

Diane McCarroll (1yr Jan 2018)  
208-262-6477

mccarroll2297@roadrunner.com

Bryan McKeehan (3yr Jan 2020)  
509-999-8710

doorguybryan@hotmail.com

Greg Mertens (2yr Jan 2019)  
208-641-7777

jafcotrenchless@yahoo.com

Mark Cook (3yr Jan 2020)  
208-755-4190

mark2697301@gmail.com

Wayne McCarroll (2 yr Jan 2019)  
208-262-6837

mccarroll2297@roadrunner.com

### Communication and Newsletter:

Bob Lowe  
208-699-8128

bob@goldfeverminingsupply.com

### Membership:

Mary Lowe  
208-651-8318

mary@goldfeverminingsupply.com

**Claims:** Mark Cook

**Activities:**

**Nomination:**

**Law and Regulations:** Wayne McCarroll

**Legislation Liaison:**

**Internet Website:** Bill Izzard

**Programs:**

**Financial Audit:**

## 2018 / 2019 Club Calendar

### 2018

Jan 10	Meeting
Feb 14	Meeting
Mar 10-11	NWMPGA Gold Show (Kalispell)
Mar 14	Meeting
<b>Mar 17-18</b>	<b>NWMPGA Gold Show</b>
Apr 11	Meeting (Dues are Due)
May 5-6	GPAA Gold Show (Boise)
May 9	Meeting
May 12	Outing
Jun 1-4	Snake River Invitational (LDMA)
Jun 13	Meeting
Jun 16	Outing
Jul 11	Meeting
Jul 14	Outing
Aug 8	Meeting
Aug 11	Outing
<b>Sept 8</b>	<b>Eagle City Park Pig Roast Potluck</b>
Sept 12	Meeting
Sept 15	Outing
Oct 10	Meeting
<b>Oct 13</b>	<b>Outing—Chili Feed</b>
Nov 3	Saturday Morning Breakfast Starts
Nov 14	Meeting
Dec 12	Meeting
Dec ?	Christmas Potluck

### 2019

Jan 10	Meeting
Feb 14	Meeting

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

Please email

[bob@goldfeverminingsupply.com](mailto:bob@goldfeverminingsupply.com)

of any changes of your email address or home address to ensure delivery of your newsletter each month!

### 2018 Refreshment Volunteers

Jan:	Bill Pease, Mike & Dee Ferry, Liz Canady
Feb:	Greg Mertens
Mar:	Norm Sabens, Pat & Bob Beck, Julia McCormick
Apr:	Joe & BJ Scheckler, Mary Lowe
May:	Karen & Forest Pulis, Mike & Dee Ferry
Jun:	Julia McCormick
Jul:	
Aug:	Evelyn Clark
Sept:	Pat & Bob Beck, Julia McCormick
Oct:	Christopher Culter
Nov:	Russ Brown, Steve Burris & Mike & Dee Ferry
Dec:	

We need more volunteers. Would like to have at least 3 people per month. Sign up at the meeting.

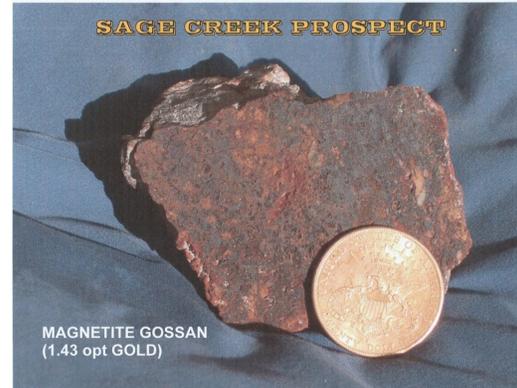
Thanks to all who have signed up!

### Coeur d'Alene Mining District Association Minutes

#### Note!

Due to a miscommunication, we were not able to get the Avista Conference Room for our November meeting. The meeting was cancelled and the next meeting will be scheduled and announced after the Christmas Holiday.

Submitted by Bob Lowe, Secretary



**FIGURE 1 SAGE CREEK FLOAT SAMPLE (\$20 GOLD PIECE FOR SCALE)**



**FIGURE 2 FRANK REED PROCESSING GOLD SAMPLES**



**FIGURE 3 GOLD AND BLACK SANDS RECOVERED FROM 200 POUNDS OF ROCK (SILVER DOLLAR FOR SCALE)**

*(Continued from page 6) Autobiography*

its steep ascent, and our camp was at a narrow pass in the range. The sky was clear and cloudless, as it had been for so long for thus far upon this route no rain had fallen, and only once a little snow, that came to us like manna in the desert. For many days we had been obliged to go without water both we and our cattle, and over the route we had come we had not seen any signs of a white man's presence older than our own. I have no doubt we were the first to cross the valley in this location, a visible sink hole in the desert.

The women did not recover sufficient energy to remove their clothing, but slept as they were, and sat up and looked around with uncombed hair in the morning, perfect pictures of dejection. We let them rest as long as we could, for their swollen eyes and stiffened joints told how sadly unprepared they were to go forward at once. The sun came out early and made it comfortable, while a cool and tonic breeze, came down from the great snow mountain the very thing to brace them up after a thorough rest.

The slope to the east was soon met by a high ridge and between this and the main mountain was a gentle slope scattered over with sage brush, and a few little stools of bunch grass here and there between. This gave our oxen a little food and by dipping out the water from the holes and letting them fill up again we managed to get water for camp use and to give the animals nearly all they wanted.

While waiting for the women Bennett and Arcane wanted to go out and get a good view of the great snowy mountain I had told them so much about. The best point of view was near our camp, perhaps three or four hundred yards away, and I went with them. This place where we now stood was lower than the mountains either north or south, but were difficult to climb, and gave a good view in almost every direction, and there, on the back bone of the ridge we had a grand outlook, but some parts of it brought back doleful recollections. They said they had traveled in sight of that mountain for months and seen many strange formations, but never one like this, as developed from this point. It looked to be seventy-five miles to its base, and to the north and west there was a succession of snowy peaks that seemed to have no end. Bennett and Arcane said they never before supposed America contained 216 mountains so grand with peaks that so nearly seemed to pierce the sky. Nothing except a bird could ever cross such steep ranges as that one.

To be continued.....

*(Continued from page 2) Minutes*

In CA there is a new definition adopted for a suction dredge which is any mechanized device used within a 100 yards of a waterway for the purpose of excavation or processing minerals. So what originally seemed an optimistic outcome for miners quickly turned against them.

McCracken now feels the miners' problems will never be settled in their state courts. It is his perception that from the Governor's office on down they are being influenced or controlled by super environmentalists and special interest groups.

To further reinforce these thoughts, CA Governor Jerry Brown has expressed an interest in barring the sale of vehicles powered by internal combustion engines.

After a refreshment break, the video was shown.

After asking for any other old or new business the raffles were held and the meeting adjourned at 8:50.

Mary Lowe Secretary

### The Coeur d'Alenes Gold Rush and Its Lasting Legacy

The 1883-84 gold rush drew thousands of fortune seekers to Prichard Creek in the remote Coeur d'Alene National Forest in Northern Idaho. They were met with excitement, disappointment, success and failure, but the impact of the gold rush extended far beyond the initial hysteria. It marked the birthplace of the internationally renowned Coeur d'Alene Mining District (known locally as the Silver Valley), the mineral wealth from which became the economic backbone of the Inland Northwest. This book details an array of topics relating to the search for gold in the North Side region of the Coeur d'Alene District; the hastily built mining towns, including Eagle City and Murray; stories about the people and the challenges they faced; and the subsequent hard-rock mining of gold and other newly discovered minerals. The book also covers noteworthy roles the region played in the early days of the U.S. Forest Service, the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps and a logging industry in hot pursuit of the largest remaining stands of coveted white pine.

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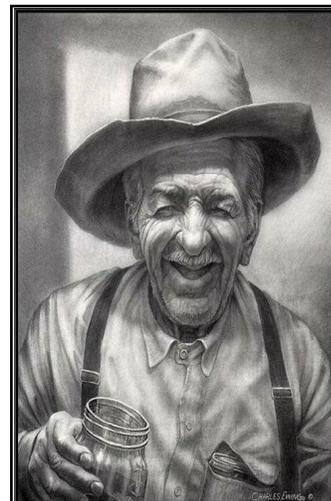
**Or: Bob Lowe has a supply for sale at  
\$47.70 including tax.**

### 2018 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!*

*Plan your life as if you'll live forever.*

*Live your life as if you'll die tomorrow!*



**Live simply.  
Love generously.  
Care deeply.  
Speak kindly.  
Leave the rest to God.**

# Recipe(s) of the Month

## Stuffed Mushrooms

### Ingredients

- 3 slices bacon or bacon bits/crumbles
- 1/2 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
- 3 drops Worcestershire sauce
- 2 dashes ground black pepper
- 1 pound mushrooms, stems removed
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

### Directions

Preheat an oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Place the bacon in a large, deep skillet and cook over medium-high heat, turning occasionally, until crisp and evenly browned, about 10 minutes. Drain the bacon slices on a paper towel-lined plate; crumble the drained bacon into a bowl. Stir in the cream cheese, 2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese, Worcestershire sauce, and pepper until evenly mixed. Spoon the filling into the mushroom caps and place into an 8x8-inch baking dish. Sprinkle with the remaining 2 tablespoons of Parmesan cheese. Bake in the preheated oven until the mushrooms are tender and the filling is golden brown, 25 to 30 minutes.

**DELISHOUS!!**

# The Wisdom of Eagle City Ed

**I ordered pizza 5 minutes before the new year. When it arrived, I told him that I refused to pay for it as I had ordered it last year.**

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it to everyone in your  
address book.

It's called Karma  
and it's pronounced  
Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha

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15101 S Cheney-Spokane Rd  
Cheney, WA 99004  
509-235-4955  
jimcrackcore@yahoo.com  
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January 2018  
**Nugget News**