

# ***DRYWASHER'S* GAZETTE**

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**January 2016**

**Send Exchange Bulletins to:**

**Mike Kline, Editor**

**125 Leslie Ct.**

**Banning, Ca. 92220**

**E-mail: [ladygolddigger1246@yahoo.com](mailto:ladygolddigger1246@yahoo.com)**

**Web Site: ["www.valleyprospectors.com"](http://www.valleyprospectors.com)**

**Next General Meeting: January 28th, at 7:00 PM**

## **Mission and Code of Ethics**

Valley Prospectors Inc. is an educational organization dedicated  
‘To and Promote Gold Prospecting, as a healthy family activity’.  
You’re invited to be our guest at the General membership meetings that is  
held on the last Thursday Of each month at 7:00 pm  
in the Knights of Columbus Hall at:  
1729 E. Baseline Street, San Bernardino, Ca... Map is on our website.  
**The Board of Directors meeting will be at 6pm before the General  
Meeting at the Knights of Columbus Hall in San Bernardino**



## **“A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION”**

Remember that all prospectors may be judged by the example “You set.” Leave flora and fauna as you found it. “Do Not Destroy Any property, public or private!” “Obey all laws”. Please do not litter,  
**\*Each member of Valley Prospectors Inc. should strive to set a good example for others**

## Officers for 2016

<b>Executive Officers</b>			<b>Chairpersons</b>		
President			Apparel	Pat Ferraccio	909-649-1555
Vice President	Jill Molson	909-887-8024	Blood Bank	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
Secretary	Kelly Crawford	760-248-6683	Budget	Sue Baranauskas	909-335-7113
Treasurer	Sue Baranauskas	909-335-7113	CFMS	Bural LaRue	909-874-5664
			Courtesy		
<b>Board of Directors</b>			Editor	Mike Kline	951-797-9450
John Bonson	909-794-4401		Asst. Editor	Pam Maguire	951-316-2568
Penny Straight	909-301-2437		Finds/Month	Garry & Sherry Devlin	951-768-0880
Gene Lepper	951-674-3207		50/50	Jill Molson	909-887-8024
Sandy Harter	951-216-5502		Gold Sales	Art Fairchild	951-897-5433
Harry Crawford	760-248-6683		Historian		
Dan Corina	909-797-6111		Lady Luck	Dan Corina	909-797-6111
Bob Wright	909-981-7505		Librarian	Bruce Sherman	951-780-7115
Garry Devlin	951-768-0880		Membership		
Bruce Sherman	951-780-7115		Name Tags		
Pat Ferraccio	909-649-1555		Programs	Jill Molson	909-887-8024
Art Fairchild	951-897-5433		Refreshments		
Sherry Livingston	909-875-2090				
			Outings/Retired during the week	George Howison	951-734-7530
<b>Alternate Board</b>	<b>Members</b>		Claims	Pam Maguire	951-316-2568
Steve Schubert	951-943-0535		Show & School Rep.	Steve Schubert	951-943-0535
Mike Dunkerley					
Bural LaRue	909-874-5664				

## CLAIMS

**The 2 Burro's Placer Claims** 20 acres

**Coolgardie Placer Claim Harvey's Oro Rico** 120 acres and the New "**Straight Gold**" 120 acres

**Dumb Luck** 40 acres

**Gold Venture & Pickett 3 Placer Claims**, 20 acres ea.

**Hungryman 1, 2, 3, 4 and Chunker Placer Claims** 550 total acres

**Indian Gulch and Indian Flat Placer Claim** 60 acres

**Jackass 1, 2, & 3 Placer Claims** 160 acres

**Miner's Folly Placer Claim** 60 acres

**Moriah Placer Claim** 15 acres

**Pickett 2 Placer Claim** 30 acres

**(Cajon Pass) Summit Placer Claim** 60 acres

**NOTICE:** We have a new plan of operations for the northern claims. If you are planning on going up north in the next 4 years you must have one with you to work the claims up there. It is on the web site to print out but it is 42 pages. You can buy one printed out at the meeting for \$3.00 or call Judy Carpenter at 951-674-3207 and she can mail you one for \$6

# “Our 40<sup>th</sup> Year”

## Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Valley Prospectors By Lorraine Frost

How did Valley Prospectors get its start, you are asking? Well, I was at the very first meeting. It was held at Coast Federal Savings and Loan on Highland Ave in San Bernardino in 1976. We met in a conference room above the bank. I had just started college and was a freshman at California State College, San Bernardino (which became a university in later years). I remember about 12 people at the meeting, someone brought donuts. We had all heard about some organization named Gold Prospectors Association of America (GPAA). GPAA's founder, George Massie and his sidekick, Woody, came to talk about how we could form a club that would help others learn about gold prospecting. We had a few old hands at it in the meeting. Dick Haskell, Bob and Mary Beth Winsel, Ray and Mickie Graeber, Bob and Mickie Morey, myself and a couple more names that seem to allude me.

We were all excited about the prospects (no pun intended) and decided to start a club. We met on a monthly basis at the bank for several years. There was a composition notebook that we all signed into each meeting. We would kick in \$1 for the donuts someone brought. Mary Beth Winsel handled the money; I think we start with about \$12 in the kitty.

We have certainly come a long way from those first days. I hope to share with you many more tidbits about our beginnings. I'll be looking to develop a list of all past Presidents. I have some of the first newsletters produced by the club and some early photographs. And I have many many stories about how we all came together to find gold and help our fellow prospector.

Valley Prospectors has a very rich history and several clubs spun off of Valley for a variety of reasons. I'm glad to still be so closely connected with Valley. Let's all count our blessings and share the wealth of the many friendships we have forged as being a part of this great club. We have stayed true to our beginnings – help others learn about Gold Prospecting. I'm looking forward to sharing my memories in the coming months.

## **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**



Help schools get the extra's they need by saving box tops for education. These labels are on cereal, snack bars, fruit snacks, Kleenex and lots of other products. Please bring to club meeting and give to Mary Schubert. Thank you, Mary

## **Welcome to our new members**

**Welcome to our new members:** Mike and Karyn Neul, Stewart & Eileen Luce and Ed & Claudia Heinrich

## **PICTURES NEEDED**

I am looking for pictures that you have taken thru the years at club events. I need them for a calendar to make and hand out at the Christmas party in December. If you have some interesting pictures please email them to me at [ladygolddigger1246@yahoo.com](mailto:ladygolddigger1246@yahoo.com) or bring them to the meeting and give them to me. Thank you, Pam Maguire

## **Refreshment chairperson needed**

I have enjoyed filling in and doing refreshments for part of this past year – now – it's time for someone to step up and do refreshments for 2016. All it takes is making coffee once a month for general meeting and getting volunteers to bring goodies. It will start with the Jan. general meeting on Jan.28<sup>th</sup>.

**NO CHAIRPERSON NO COFFEE**  
Call -- Mary 951-943-0535

## January 10, 2016 Board Meeting

Meeting opened at 1:05 pm by president Judy Carpenter resigning her position as president, and . left the meeting. V.P. Jill Molson took over the meeting. Oct. 2015board meeting minutes accepted as written. Pam M 1st & Gene L 2nd. Jim Straight Birthday!!! Happy Birthday Jim... Mary S stated that Jim Carson past away Aug 2015. CFMS Burl L. next show Sept 16, 17, 18, Placerville Fairgrounds. first come first serve. Please let Lorraine F. know if you give blood. Pam M. gave blood this month. Discussion on Rules and Regulations, Constitution and By Laws of Valley Prospectors will be put in the News Letter. 1st by Pat F. 2nd by Bruce S. Old Business , Steve S. Feb 20th 21st FairPlex, Pomona, Gold Show. Sandy H. will take over courtesy 2016, Thank You Sandy... Called to adjourn at 3:30pm 1st by Pam M. 2nd by Art F... Minutes by Kelly Crawford, Secretary, for Valley Prospectors, Inc. 2016

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### **BLOOD BANK NEWS - "MVP"**

#### **Who Can Donate Blood?**

A full 37 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to donate blood. The unfortunate fact, however, is that, nationally, only 5 percent actually do. Locally, in Southern California, only 3 percent of those eligible actually donate. To donate the gift of life, you must:

- Be at least 15 years of age
- 15 and 16-year-olds need a written LifeStream parental consent

Interesting Fact: About 1 billion red blood cells are found in just 2 to 3 drops of whole blood.

Let's help increase the number of Southern California donors - mention "MVP" as our group so you can be counted. Check out the local donation centers at <https://www.lstream.org/>

The need is constant, the process is simple, and the results are priceless. Valley Prospectors - Supporting our Community one donation at a time.

Lorraine Frost, Blood Bank Chairperson (760) 868-6564

<mailto:LFrost35@gmail.com>

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### **Message from Acting President:**

Happy New Year everyone, Let's hope that this year pulls us all together.

At the Board Meeting, 1/10/16, our President Judy Carpenter resigned as President of Valley Prospectors. The Constitution notes that we must have an election to elect a new President for 2016 at the January meeting.

There will be no coffee or refreshments at the January meeting, because no one volunteered to bring refreshments and we need a refreshments chairman to organize them each month. Please volunteer if you can. Two people can do it together to share the responsibility.

I am working on getting good programs for each meeting. If you have some suggestions of what you'd like to see presented, please let me know. I'd like programs for new inexperienced prospectors and experienced prospectors. We all need to grow by learning new techniques and learning about new products on the market. I will post the programs on the calendar as soon as they are scheduled, so more people can take advantage of the program.

The calendar has been set for the year. We hope to see all of you at the meetings and at the outings.....Jill Molson.

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### **Past Presidents message, final.**

My term has come to an end for the last time, no more Executive Board for me. Time for new blood which we have in our new Executive Board. I think this is a first for Valley Prospectors, an all-female Executive Board.

As my term ends, so do all Committees. The new President will appoint her choice for all Committees, if you want to stay in your position, contact Judy Carpenter. The full Board will vote on her appointments. This is something in the Constitution that has been overlooked for many years.

I urge all new Board Members to read and learn the Constitution and the Rules and Regulations of Valley Prospectors.

This is the only way this Association can continue to operate, they were written for a reason.

I would like to thank everyone for another good year. We didn't always agree on things, but there is a process to follow if you want to change things. Lest we not forget, Valley Prospectors Membership has the final say on just about everything this Association does. So to keep this Association strong, get involved and help, volunteer, just helping clean up after a meeting is actually a big help. Valley Prospectors is Yours!

Thank you all, Kent Bryant, President..... For the Last Time, really!



# “Miners Sales”



Members can run 3 times through the year for free. Commercial ads are \$5.00 per month. Send ads to; [ladygolddigger1246@yahoo.com](mailto:ladygolddigger1246@yahoo.com) or Call 951-316-2568

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## For Sale

Light weight utility trailer w/loading ramp 10' x 5' x 2' sides, single axle, steel frame, aluminum floor, 3 new tires, recently packed wheel bearings. Great for hauling all your prospecting equipment, a real Coolgardie special Asking \$1000 or Best offer Tom 909-584-8618.....

## For Sale

Dear Fellow Prospectors, I am a former member of Route 66 Gold Mining Club and I live in Whittier, CA. At age 70, gold prospecting is too much work for me. I would like to sell the following two pieces of my gold mining equipment: 1. Keene Dry Washer with hand Crank and DC Motor. The new ones cost approximately \$829. I purchased it new, have only used it twice, and I am asking \$400 for it. 2. Keene 2" Highbank/Combination Power Sluice and Dredge Kit (I never used it), 5-HP Briggs & Stratton Engine (includes extra hose). New this would cost approximately \$1,500. I am asking \$500. All of the equipment is in excellent condition. (See attached pictures.) Please contact: Don Eschbach, Phone: 562-943-8736, Email: [donkathyesch@verizon.net](mailto:donkathyesch@verizon.net)



## For Sale

NEED TO SELL ONE OF MY DESERT FOX SPIRALS ALL COMPLETE AND COMES WITH AN EXTRA WHEEL WHICH IS CALLED THE REPLACEMENT WHEEL \$ 300.00 ALL COMPLETE WITH THE CARRYING CASE, / TOM 909-584-8618.

## For Sale

Old hand crank puffer, \$125.00 / Call Sam 909-887-0505

# HELMS OUTPOST



Mining Equipment & Supplies

Handmade Items

Pet supplies

**Hours:**  
**Wed, Thurs, Fri 8am-5pm**  
**Sat 8am-12pm**

Come see Wanda and Toni for your mining needs!!!!

Sharing space with:

## TONI'S GROOMING

Dog & Cat Grooming



14444 California Ave Suite C  
 Victorville, CA 92392  
 (760)868-5838

Gold Mining Club Members Get 5% off your Mining Equipment and Supplies purchase with Valid Membership Card

### Purposed Change To Article V Section F of the Rules and Regulations

#### Currently reads:

(F) Report **both to the Board and** to the general membership on any potential new claims for the Association. The report must include the results of the research and the sampling as well as any other requirements such as a bond notice/plan of operation, equipment restrictions, along with a yes/no recommendation (to purchase or locate) The final yes or no decision must be made by the general membership.

As proposed revision (parts to be deleted are lined out and added portions are in *italics*):

(F) Report both to the Board and to the general membership on any potential or actual new claims (if located) for the Association.

(1) The report must include the results of the research and the sampling as well as any other requirements such as a bond notice/plan of operation, equipment restrictions, along with a yes/no recommendation (to purchase **or locate**).

(2) *An annual budget appropriation of \$1500.00 must be made to cover the cost of either a refundable deposit on the purchase of an existing claim pending membership approval or the cost of locating a new claim (BLM and county filing fees).*

(3) *Should a potential claim be available for location rather than purchase, the claims chairperson, after research to ensure there are no existing, active claims and adequate sampling, may file claim paperwork expending from \$300.00 (for a 20 acre claim) up to \$1400.00 (for a 160 acre claim) without further authorization. The location of the new claim must be reported to the general membership at the next general meeting and in the Drywasher Gazette.*

(4) *To maintain the corporation right file the small miner's waiver to the claim maintenance fee, claims may transferred title into the name of one or more V.P. members with a signed agreement for the Corporation to maintain the claim with*

*necessary filings and payment of any taxes, while permitting members to work the claims without fees. It must include an agreement to transfer title to another member or the corporation if they do not maintain their membership and that title automatically reverts to the corporation in case of death.*

(5) The final yes or no decision *to purchase, keep a newly located claim, sell a claim, or abandon a claim* must be made by the general membership.

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**Discussion:**

The stricken portion of the main paragraph *requiring* a report to the board was removed because it conflicts with Article V Section 8 of the Constitution and Bylaws requiring the Claims Committee to be *and must be a separate entity* from the Board of Directors. As a courtesy, the Claims Chairperson *may* give a report to the Board but cannot be required to do so. Because of some serious discussion this year over the internal procedures for locating a new claim, it was felt by these needed to be better delineated in the Rules and Regulations. In sub-section 1, the requirement to report a recommendation to locate a claim (not purchase) was deleted as to some serious concerns about length of time it takes to accomplish a location if it has to be taken to the Board and general membership for approval and get authorization to expend club funds. There are several “paper-hangers” active especially in the Coolgardie, Big Bear, and Dale areas. If they discover that a claim is open (and especially if someone is interested in it) they immediately file on it, and you have lost it unless you are willing to buy it at their price.

Sub-section 2 was added to ensure funds are available immediately to pay the necessary filing fees if locating a claim or a required refundable deposit if purchasing one.

Sub-section 4 was added to codify the ownership.

## **Lost Mines and Treasure Tales and Bubble Memory**

I thought that you and your organization might find the following useful and interesting.

I have published a series of books in the Amazon Kindle system which I call the *Lost Mines and Treasure Tales* series, includes stories I found while doing research for the *Mines of the American West*. The general approach here was to find the oldest references possible, to try to access data on the lost mines and treasures before “time and rumor” had a chance to massage the true facts. (These books, including *Lost Mines and Treasure Tales of California*, are currently available for free rental through the Amazon Prime/Amazon Unlimited program.)

*Lost Mines and Treasure Tales of California: (Published April, 2015)*  
*Lost Mines and Treasure Tales of Arizona: (Published January, 2015)*  
*Lost Mines and Treasure Tales of Western North America: (Published January, 2014)*  
*The Lost Adams Mine: (Published January, 2014)*

To preview these, and my other books on Amazon, you can go to my Amazon Author Page and click on the individual book of interest. That will take you to the book’s title page where it can be previewed. My Author page can be found at: [http://www.amazon.com/Ivan-Herring/e/B005P0F3MA/ref=sr\\_tc\\_2\\_0?qid=1449839572&sr=1-2-ent](http://www.amazon.com/Ivan-Herring/e/B005P0F3MA/ref=sr_tc_2_0?qid=1449839572&sr=1-2-ent)

Also published recently was the fiction book *Bubble Memory*, the first book of the *Jonathan Fisher Series*. This series depicts a US Intelligence Operative, who, under the cover of being a large international buyer of raw materials, engages in various assignments in the field of intelligence gathering. This series is intended to be “realistic” in its approach; no big car chases or extended shootouts. In the real world those invariably end with the elimination of the Agent and another “Line Out” in the books of the National Security Agency. In keeping with the directive “Every day we are not in the newspapers is a day we win”, Jonathan’s approach is as low-key possible, although at times he may attain unwanted notoriety. Jonathan is a “small-town boy” from a modest background who is student of history, culture and geography. A bit of a “Renaissance Man”, his diverse educational background and wide range of experiences serve him well in surviving the trials he faces. As such many of the locations are viewed from their historical and cultural as well as economic and political significance. The data targets assigned sometimes may seem a bit mundane, but in aggregate they contribute significantly to our Country’s better understanding of the intent and capabilities of our enemies, friends and neutrals.

Other series I have published include *Mines, Ghost Towns and Legends of the American West*, over 20 different e-books covering individual Western counties. These are, in order of their publication dates:

*Mines of the American West – San Diego County, California: This book contains over 1,350 entries from San Diego County (The modern county boundaries) relating to mines, mining companies and lore of San Diego County. The book contains over 600 entries for Gold mines and Gold-related properties, more than 150 Gemstone related entries and more than 50 entries related to Tungsten. This book, containing 794 Kindle Pages was published December 10, 2015)*

- Mines of the American West - Los Angeles County, California: This book contains over 870 entries from Los Angeles County relating to mines, mining companies and lore of Los Angeles County. (This book, containing 412 Kindle Pages was published July 16, 2015.)*
- Mines of the American West – San Mateo and San Francisco Counties, California: This book contains 109 entries from San Mateo County and 31 entries from San Francisco County, relating to mines, mining companies and lore of the two Counties. (This book, containing 106 Kindle Pages, was published June 5, 2015.)*
- Mines of the American West – Navajo County, Arizona: This book contains over 435 entries (182 Kimble pages, Published May 25, 2015) relating to mines, mining companies and lore in Navajo County, Arizona.*
- Mines of the American West – Apache County, Arizona: This book contains over 815 entries (438 Kindle Pages, Published April 16, 2015) relating to mines, mining companies and lore in Apache County, Arizona.*
- Mines of the American West – Santa Cruz County, Arizona: This book contains over 1,360 entries (612 Kindle Pages, Published January 29, 2015) relating to mines, mining companies and lore in Santa Cruz County.*
- Mines of the American West – Greenlee County, Arizona: This book contains over 550 entries (272 Kindle Pages, Published November 2, 2014) relating to mines, mining companies and lore in Greenlee County.*
- Mines of the American West – Graham County, Arizona: This book contains approximately 825 entries (412 Kindle Pages, Published October 8, 2014) relating to mines, mining companies and lore in Graham County.*
- Mines of the American West – Cochise County, Arizona: This book contains over 1,880 entries (939 Kindle Pages, Published August 1, 2014) relating to mines, mining companies and lore in Cochise County.*
- Mines of the American West – Gila County, Arizona: This book contains over 1,735 entries (792 Kindle Pages, Published March 13, 2014) relating to mines, mining companies and lore in Gila County.*
- Mines of the American West – La Paz County, Arizona: This book contains over 1,375 entries (736 Kindle Pages, Published November 24, 2013) relating to mines and mineralization in La Paz County.*
- Mines of the American West – Yuma County, Arizona: This book contains approximately 700 entries (295 Kindle pages, Published August 1, 2013) relating to mines and mineralization in Yuma County.*
- Mines of the American West – Pima County, Arizona: This book contains over 2,275 entries (over 1,000 Kindle pages, Published June 28, 2013) relating to mines and mineralization in Pima County*
- Mines of the American West – Pinal County, Arizona: This book contains over 2,525 entries (837 Kindle pages, Published January 19, 2013) relating to mines and mineralization in Pinal County.*
- Mines of the American West - Coconino County, Arizona: This book contains over 900 entries (238 Kindle Pages, Published July 19, 2012) relating to mines and mineralization in Coconino County.*
- Mines of the American West – Mohave County, Arizona: This book contains over 2,225 (709 Kindle Pages, Published June 19, 2012) entries relating to mines and mineralization in Mohave County.*
- Mines of the American West – Riverside County, California: This book contains over 1,390 entries (274 Kindle Pages, Published April 1, 2012) relating to mineralization in Riverside County.*
- Mines of the American West – Millard County, Utah: This book contains over 530 entries (161 Kindle Pages, Published March 17, 2012) relating to mineralization in Millard County.*
- Mines of the American West – Maricopa County, Arizona: This book contains over 1,340 entries (357 Kindle Pages, Published February 29, 2012) relating to mineralization in Maricopa County.*
- Mines of the American West – Calaveras County, California: This book contains over 2,400 entries (454 Kindle Pages, Published January 6, 2012) relating to mineralization in Calaveras County.*
- Mines of the American West – San Bernardino County, California: This book contains over 3,350 (587 Kindle Pages, Published November 25, 2011) entries relating to mineralization in San Bernardino County.*



*Mines, Ghost Towns and Legends of the American West – Yavapai County, Arizona: This book contains over 2,200 entries (360 Kindle Pages, Published September 30, 2011) relating to mines and mineralization in Yavapai County.*

*Mines, Ghost Towns and Legends of the American West – Eureka County, Nevada: This book contains over 625 (167 Kindle Pages, Published September 26, 2011) entries relating to mineralization in Eureka County.*

*Mines, Ghost Towns and Legends of the American West – Nye County, Nevada: This book contains over 2,100 entries (477 Kindle Pages, Published September 20, 2011) relating to mineralization in Nye County.*

The following series is a collection of interesting articles found while researching materials for the Mines of the American West series. Many of the articles are from the second half of the 1800's and early 1900's, and reflect times and values that have sadly slipped away – casualties of "Modern Times". (These books are currently available for free rental through the Amazon Prime/Amazon Unlimited program.)

*Musings From the Frontier, Volume 1: (Published in March, 2013.)*

*More Musings From the Frontier, Volume 2: (Published December, 2013)*

The first book of the Riches Beneath Your Feet series was written on a California subject:

*The Potential for Platinum Group Metals in California, USA: part of the Riches Beneath Your Feet series. This book is available to be loaned, for free, to members of the Kindle Prime organization and available for purchase for \$9.99. (166 Kindle Pages, Published January 27, 2012)*

I started a series on some of the more colorful characters of the Western United States, many of whom were famous or infamous in their time, but are hardly memories today. These are stories taken directly from newspapers of the day, then consolidated and sequenced, to depict their lives; or at least the interesting parts. An example is the first book in the series, about Roy Gardner, probably the most famous outlaw you have never heard of. (This book is currently available for free rental through the Amazon Prime/Amazon Unlimited program.)

*Roy Gardner: Train Robber, Escape Artist, "Nice Guy" (Published January 14, 2015)*

## **Finding Gold While Cleaning Up Old Workings**

Wolf Creek, Boston Ravine, and Grass Valley ravine were rich. Woodpecker ravine paid well, but not so well as the others I have mentioned. Pike Flat, through which Wolf Creek runs opposite Grass Valley to the north, had a very rich lead, which extended about half way the length of Pike Flat, and then turning to the left, run out in the old Point and Day diggings at the edge of the flat and on the hill. The Day Company found a specimen of clear gold worth five hundred dollars (clear means that it had not rock mixed with it). The Flat was about twelve feet deep down to the bed rock. The lead was from six inches to two feet deep, and thirty or forty feet wide. The Day and Point diggings paid well, the latter more regularly than any other diggings I ever worked in. The trouble with these mines was that they did not last long. None of them lasted longer than five or six years, and many not so long as that.

The miners ran a ditch and tunnel into Pike flat to drain the mines, as it was very wet. We on the point were troubled somewhat with water, but little, however, as our claims did not extend far into the flat. We had a flume at the end of our runs into which the "tailings" ran. We cleaned out this flume once in three or four weeks, and even then did not save all the gold, for some would run away with the dirt. Nothing was ever invented capable of saving all the gold. It was fine as flour. We never found any pieces of gold at the point larger than two or three dollars. The Day Company ran their "tailings" into a ditch which had never been cleaned out. No one knew how much gold was in the ditch, but the Company offered the gold for sale for fifteen hundred dollars, but no one would take it; so it was cleaned out by them selves, and they realized \$10,000. The expense of cleaning the ditch was not more than one hundred dollars. What a little fortune for us, if we had only known the amount of gold in the ditch.

We worked on our claims at Shady Creek for two years, and then sold out for eight hundred dollars each, which was four or five times as much as we paid. One of the partners sold his share later for one thousand dollars. One time when I was at work on my point claims, before selling out at Shady Creek, Clark, one of my partners, came to me with a specimen which he had found while at work washing some tailings. It consisted of a quartz rock a little larger than my fist, one end of which was full of gold. The Day Company evidently had not seen the specimen when they worked the ground for the first time. I asked him how much it was worth, and he said between two hundred and fifty and three hundred dollars. We weighed it as well as we

could, and estimated the value at two hundred and sixty-nine dollars. It was put up at auction, and knocked off to me for two hundred and seventy dollars. I intended to take it home with me, but having use for the money I crushed it, and realized two hundred and sixty-nine dollars, losing just about one dollar by the operation.

One Sunday morning I started for Shady Creek over the stage road, called Robinson's road, from the name of the man who had built it, and as I was drawing near the bridge over the South Yuba River, I met a suspicious looking man on horseback. He wore a big cape which covered him all up but his legs. After he had passed me, he suddenly stopped and asked me the time of day. I told him I did not know, still keeping my eyes on him and walking away as fast as I could. I thought the man intended to rob me. At that time I still had the specimen with me, which I was intending to show to my partner Edward at Shady Creek. I didn't give the stranger a chance, however, to get the "drop" on me. I arrived at Shady Creek, and my partners told me I had the best specimen they had seen for a long time. I came home by stage, as I did not care to encounter any more men in long capes, especially when I had the two hundred and seventy dollar specimen.

There was an old shaft on our upper claims full of water – it was essentially like a well. Two years before all the miners in that vicinity used to clean up their gold here. It was supposed there were several hundred dollars in the shaft, as some gold is always wasted in cleaning up. One morning three men put a windlass in the shaft, and commenced cleaning it out. I told them the ground belonged to us, and forbade them working there. They said they used to "pan out" there and so had the right to clean out the hole. I went down town to get the sheriff to stop them. One of the lawyers told me that it would cost ninety dollars to employ the sheriff, and it would take all day to execute the necessary papers. In the meanwhile the shaft would be cleaned out.

He had a suggestion and wanted to know the location where I was at work, and how many men I had with me. I told him on the Point claims, where ten or twelve men were working. He said they had no right to clean out the shaft, and advised me to take my gang and forcibly put the intruders off the ground. At noon we all went to where they were cleaning out the shaft, to see if we could not make them leave. I had a talk with them before we commenced operations in forcing them to leave. They finally consented to leave it out to the decision of a "court" of three men. They were to appoint one man, I another, and the two appointees would select a third. I told my man whom to have for the third man. He was a ditch agent and an old miner. The three men decided in my favor, I asked the men who were working on the shaft if they were satisfied, and they said they were, and left. Clark, my partner, was very indignant because I left it out rather than force them off. He said, "Put them off the ground." I told him it was better to leave it out to a decision, as no honest miner would decide against us, and besides all trouble would be avoided. We afterwards cleaned out the shaft, and realized between three and four hundred dollars by cleaning out that short little shaft.

## **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

2016 Renewal Dues are dues by January 31, 2016

Please pay now! Remember to include a renewal form (make any necessary changes such as mailing addresses, spouses, emails or phone numbers) Please make your check or money order payable to: Valley Prospectors and mail to: Valley Prospectors Post Office Box 2923 San Bernardino, CA. 92406

## VALLEY PROSPECTORS, INC. ANNUAL DUES RENEWAL FORM

**Membership Renewal Dues is \$40.00 and due on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year**

**Please make checks payable to:  
Return this form and payment to:**

**Valley Prospectors, Inc.  
Valley Prospectors, Inc.  
Membership Chairperson  
P.O. Box 2923  
San Bernardino CA 92406**

Upon signing, member agrees to have read and understand the Valley Prospectors Rules and Regulations for all claims, and hereby agrees to the following:

“I understand and agree to acquire all necessary permits, Park passes, Wilderness passes that are applicable to my prospecting activities. I will fill in all holes dug while prospecting; and to prospect in an environmentally responsible manner. In addition, I understand that prospecting in certain areas can be dangerous, including but not limited to: open pits/shafts, wild animals and reptiles, not being prepared for weather conditions, along with the possible presence of noxious gases or chemicals. I assume my own responsibility and accept all risks, as well as that of any of my family or guests. I agree to hold the Valley Prospectors, Inc. and any affiliated claim or property owners, or managers harmless of any liability.”

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues are due on January 1<sup>st</sup> A \$20 late fee beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>. March 31<sup>st</sup>. On April 1<sup>st</sup>, your membership will be terminated. If you want to reapply for membership you will have to pay the Initiation Fee of \$100.00, in addition to the annual dues of \$40.00.**

**Please Print this and Mail in with Payment**

## 2016 Schedule of Events

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Notes</b>
January 28	VP General Meeting	7 pm – 9 pm
January 30	Metal Detecting and Sampling at Silver Lake	Meet at Arco Station on D St. Victorville at 10 am
Feb 19	<b>GPAA Gold and Treasure Show</b>	Pomona FairPlex – Valley Panning Booth setup 3 pm
Feb 20-21	GPAA Gold and Treasure Show	Pomona FairPlex – 10 am – 4 pm
Feb 25	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm Knights of Columbus, SB
Feb 27-28	GPAA Gold and Treasure Show	Las Vegas – no VP Panning Booth
Mar 19-20	<b>Coolgardie</b>	Harvey's Oro Rico Claim
Mar 31	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm
Apr 23-24	<b>Coolgardie</b>	Harvey's Oro Rico Claim
Apr 28	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm
May 26	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm
May 27-30	<b>Coolgardie</b>	Memorial Weekend at Harvey's Oro Rico Claim
Jun 25-26	<b>Big Bear</b>	Miner's Folly Claim
Jun 30	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm
Jul 23-24	<b>Big Bear</b>	Miner's Folly Claim
Jul 28	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm
Aug 20-21	<b>Big Bear</b>	Miner's Folly Claim
Aug 25	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm
Sep 17-18	<b>Old West Days</b>	Randsburg – Burro's Claim
Sep 24-25	<b>Coolgardie</b>	Harvey's Oro Rico Claim
Sep 29	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm
Oct 22-23	TBD	Rendezvous or Randsburg
Oct 27	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm
Nov 17	VP Board Meeting VP General Meeting	6 pm 7 pm
Nov 24-27	<b>Coolgardie</b>	Thanksgiving Weekend at Harvey's Oro Rico Claim
Dec 4	VP Christmas Party/Mtg	