

# ***DRYWASHER'S* GAZETTE**

1

**March 2016**

**Send Exchange Bulletins to:**

**Mike Kline, Editor**

**125 N. 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: February 31<sup>st</sup>, 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	Jill Molson	951-522-3545	Apparel	Pat Ferraccio	909-649-1555	
Vice President	Art Fairchild	951-897-5433	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	Sandy Harter	951-216-5502	
<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	Harry Crawford	760-248-6683	
Sandy Harter	951-216-5502		Gold Sales	Art Fairchild	951-897-5433	
Harry Crawford	760-248-6683		<b>Historian</b>			
Dan Cornia	909-797-6111		Lady Luck	Dan Cornia	909-797-6111	
Bob Wright	909-981-7505		Librarian	Bruce Sherman	951-780-7115	
Garry Devlin	951-768-0880		<b>Membership</b>			
Bruce Sherman	951-780-7115		<b>Name Tags</b>			
Pat Ferraccio	909-649-1555		Programs	Art Fairchild	951-897-5433	
Sherry Livingston	909-875-2090		<b>Refreshments</b>			
			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 request a copy by mail & one will be mailed to you for \$6.00 or Call Pam Maguire at: 951-316-2568

## 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

### President's Address

President's Message:

Thank you everyone for your help since the beginning of this year. More and more people are coming forward to make Valley Prospector's Inc. the wonderful friendly group it has always been.

We still need a Secretary to help carry the load. Please volunteer at least for a while. Last month we got a full time Refreshment's Chairman in John Howell. Who will volunteer next? The more people that get involved in the everyday operations of the group make the group more responsive to each member.

If you have suggestions for the club, please email me so that I can share the ideas. E-mail is [molsonbeagles@yahoo.com](mailto:molsonbeagles@yahoo.com). I thank everyone for making this club work for everyone. Jill Molson.

## “Our 40th Year”

Happy 40th Anniversary Valley Prospectors  
By Lorraine Frost

**What was the Pasture Fair?** Back in the 80's the club wanted to get together and have fun. One of the major events that were sponsored was the **Pasture Fair**. This was held in Redlands in a pasture next to Hal Speicher's house. The event was like a big end of the year party. In a 1991 newsletter, it was scheduled in early November. We cooked turkey's in the ground, held metal detecting contests, had lots of kids games, had a cow patty throwing contest, and I remember one year getting dunked in a tank of water. It was So much fun.

Our Pasture Fair lives on in the October Rendezvous'. We invite local Gold Clubs to join us in our celebration. Let's not let this tradition dwindle into obscurity. We need a coordinator for our 2016 October Rendezvous. Dunk has all the particulars. Won't you consider becoming part of the future history of Valley Prospectors and support the 2016 October Rendezvous. Give me a call – 760-868-6564. Enjoy the 40<sup>th</sup> year celebrations.

### Valley Prospector Board Meeting 2/25/16

The meeting was called to order by the President, Jill Molson, at 6:03 P.M.

Board members in attendance: Jill Molson, Art Fairchild, Sue Baranauskas, Dan Cornia, Pat Ferraccio, John Bonson, Gene Lepper, Bruce Sherman, Sherry Livingston, Sandy Harter, Garry Devlin, Harry Crawford, Steve Schubert, and Bural LaRue. Penny Straight excused. No minutes to be approved.

Treasurer's report will be presented at General Meeting tonight by Sue Baranauskas.

Membership report by Steve Schubert: if there are 5 new memberships due to the GPAA show, the cost of the booth will be covered. No Editor's report. No Claim's report. No Program tonight, but next month there will be a presentation on the Community Response Team. By Art Fairchild.

Courtesy report by Sandy Harter: new mugs individually decorated for members as door prizes.

Club Apparel report by Pat Ferraccio: Sandy Harter is looking at a new shirt vendor, looking at art work, men like shirts and denim, but women like scoop neck tops. Shirts will be ordered. There are plenty of hats.

Gold sales by Art Fairchild: GPAA show brought in good sales. He bought gold from a member.

50/50 raffle by Harry Crawford; okay. No CFMS report. No Blood Bank report.

Library report by Bruce Sherman: received 23 books from Pam and Roger Maguire and 7 or 8 books from Jerry and Cathy. Lady Luck by Art Fairchild: special raffle tonight, gold, \$25 bag and \$50bag, and yellow bucket.

Finds of the Month by Garry Devlin: he can set the number of awards per class.

No Historian report. Old business: Pat Ferraccio said that his wife makes quilts and could make one for Christmas Party raffle. He will make it happen. New Business: 2 complaint letters. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

## Valley Prospector General Meeting 2/26/16, Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Jill Molson at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Garry Devlin.

Courtesy by Sandy Harter: guests were introduced, one new member, Jim Danner.

Lady Luck: Art Fairchild has 3 separate raffles tonight with 2 gold bags (\$25 & \$50) and a yellow bucket worth \$99.

Contest in the newsletter for silver coin: oldest Drywasher's Gazette was Mary Schubert with 1983 issue.

Minutes of the last General Meeting were approved. Motion by Mary Schubert and seconded by Monte Quinn.

Treasurer's Report by Sue Baranauskas and 2016 budget discussion. Art's motion to have income balance out to match budget, change miscellaneous by plus \$23,000, Gene Lepper seconded, discussion resulted in a vote to table the motion until a later time. John Howell motions to table budget for one month, Albert Naki seconds, and motion passes. Budget is tabled for one month. Upcoming event: West Coasters have Rendezvous April 22-24, 2016.

50/50: Harry Crawford reminded people to buy their raffle tickets.

Refreshment chairman is John Howell. Next month we will have doughnuts brought by Charity, Kelly Crawford and Mary Schubert (2 dozen each). Membership report: Steve Schubert expects 4 more new members from GPAA show last weekend.

Finds of the Month: Garry Devlin asked every member to come over and vote for the best displays.

Library: Bruce Sherman shared the quantity of the books available for loan from the library. Lots of books.

Editor's report: Mike Kline said that the newsletter goes to the printer on the morning of March 7. Copy needs to be received preferably by 3/5-6/16. Claims: BLM has a proposal in 2017 Budget to increase the maintenance fee for small miners. Proposal might cause Valley Prospectors an extra \$20.00 a year in fees. John Howell will get the information to Michael Kline so it can be printed in the newsletter. We will have a writing session at the next meeting. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own stationary for the activity. Letter need to go to Congressman, Senator, District Office of BLM ans Interior and Washington, D.C. Offices. Congress will probably get bill in August 2016 and vote in January 2017.

Old Business: Pam Maguire made a motion that we order 50 calendars for approximately \$240 total for the Christmas Party favors (one per family). Motion passed with 3 dissenting votes.

Steve Schubert says that they have a gold school visit planned at the end of May and the girl students like to have women to teach them how to pan. Mary Schubert said that there was only one donation of blood last month made by Monte, thank you Monte. New Business: PLP has a fundraiser on October 1<sup>st</sup> (\$20 donation, plp.org).

50/50: Pam Maguire won the raffle. Door Prizes: Mary Schubert and Lucky (new mug) won the door prizes.

Finds of the Month: gold (1<sup>st</sup> Mike Prosky, 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Schubert, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Don Baranauskas) and treasure (1<sup>st</sup> Don Baranauskas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Albert Shipley). Motion to adjourn, seconded. Passed.

### 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**

### UP COMING EVENTS

Apr. 22, 23 & 24 <sup>th</sup>	West Coasters Rendezvous	-----	Rancho Jurupa Regional; Park
June 18 & 19 <sup>th</sup>	Underground Gold Miners Museum Gold Show	-----	Alleghany, Ca

## **Pomona Gold Show**

A great time was had by all at the GPAA Gold Show. We had a gold panning booth and showed a lot of people how to pan. A couple beautiful nuggets we raffled off. One was won by club member John Howell. We had a great crew working the show. I wish to thank everyone who came out to the show it was great seeing some members from Valley Prospectors we hadn't seen in quite a while. Wish to thank ALL the workers for our booth: Don and Sue Baranauskas, Art Fairchild, Lorraine and Andrea Frost, Trisha and Bob Dudley, Harry Crawford, Rusty and Lorain Howe and their daughter, Horst Friedrich, Pat Ferraccio, Stu Luce, Floyd Dalton, Cindy Mandell, Lois Papner, John Howell and Jack Howell, Steve and Mary Schubert. THANK YOU ALL FOR THE HELP. As you can see we had a great crew and lots of help.

May there always be gold in your pan. Thank you Steve



# “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

## For Sale

1992 HOLIDAY RAMBLER MOTORHOME  
32 FEET -- 66,494 MILES  
\$12,000 OR BEST OFFER, Call; ARLENE EDER -- 951-242-2285

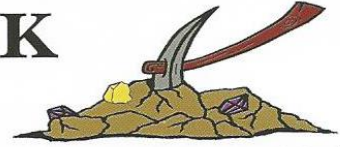
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## URGENT CALL TO ACTION

### PLEASE SHARE WITH EVERY GOLD CLUB AND MINING CLAIM OWNER:

Mining claim owners.....BLM has just released its new 2017 budget proposal and guess what, they are attempting again to eliminate the small miners waiver. For those miners who own 10 claims or less, one can file the small miner's waiver for about \$10.00 per claim making holding a claim affordable. What this proposal will do is eliminate this and make holding mining claims so costly that most miners will not be able to hold them or afford them.

The proposal is almost word for word what they proposed last year which raised the fees by unbelievable amounts. Last year's proposal was shot down; this one needs to be as well.

Imagine you own a claim of 160 acres; you pay property taxes on it and your small miners waiver fee, that is still affordable at typically under \$100 annually. What this will likely do is raise that amount you pay for this one claim from \$10 (waiver) to over \$1,200 for that same claim. For Associations and clubs like GPAA, Coarsegold, Delta, East Bay and UPI, their costs could go into the 10's of thousands or even more. Let that sink in for a minute.

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This is all by design folks; they cannot attack the 1872 mining act, so they just use regulation and strangling fees to make it so expensive that the normal miner and gold club cannot afford it. They are trying to require special permits to mine.....but then don't issue permits or even have a process in place to apply for the permit they say you need.

Fees, yellow-legged frog, sue and settle, EPA, BLM, USFS, and DFG the list goes on and on. We have to band together and when things like this come up, you must respond.

Call your Congressperson today and tell them to strike this language from the budget proposal period. Click here to find your [Congressperson](#) ....make the call.

Click [BLM Budget Proposal](#) to see the actual text proposed by BLM to raise the fees, it is on page BH-11.

This does not pertain to just hard-rock mining. If you read the actual language, it is written to be inclusive and will affect placer claims.

### 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

### BLOOD BANK NEWS - "MVP"

#### **Why is it Important to Give Blood? One Donation Can Save Several Lives**

One pint of blood can be separated into three primary components which can help up to several people in need:

**Red Blood Cells** - carry oxygen to the body's organ and tissues. These cells are needed for accident victims and surgery patients. They can be refrigerated and stored for only up to 42 days.

**Plasma** - is 90 percent water, makes up to 55 percent of blood volume and is needed for organ, burn and shock patients. Plasma can be frozen and stored up to one year.

**Platelets** - are an essential factor in blood clotting and give patients with leukemia and other cancers a chance to live. These can be stored at room temperature no longer than 5 days.

All three of these important components that make up a pint of blood are made in the body's bone marrow.

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/>

Thanks to our recent Blood Donor Hero's: Monty Quinn

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>

### FOUR MONTHS AMONG THE GOLD-FINDERS IN CALIFORNIA, Part 1

The following are some excerpts of the diary of a man who was there in the early days of 1848. The name of his book is:

*The California Gold Fields in 1848, Being: FOUR MONTHS AMONG THE GOLD-FINDERS IN CALIFORNIA; THE DIARY OF AN EXPEDITION FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO THE GOLD DISTRICTS, By J. TYEWHITT BROOKS, MD.*

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Ever since we had been at the saw-mills we had heard it constantly said that at Weber's Creek the gold was to be found in far greater abundance: and to Weber's Creek we determined to go. The stream thus called is a small tributary to the northern fork of the Americans' River. We struck our tents yesterday morning, loaded our horses, and took our departure.

Some few of them worked in the bed of the river, but the great majorities were engaged in the ravines leading up the mountains. The greatest quantity of gold dust was found in the former, while the latter yielded the best specimens of lump and scale gold. We were told that, though the side gullies were very rich, yet they were more uncertain than the main stream. Lumps of gold, weighing several ounces, were continually met with, but a morning was often wasted and nothing found; whereas, if a man stuck to the main part of the stream, and washed all day long, he was sure of his ounce or couple of ounces of gold. For these reasons we determined to stand by the river

Towards evening we entered the valley drained by the stream called Weber's Creek. There was quite a camp here not to the same extent as the Mormon diggings, but still the washers were numerous. After a few weeks, these washings had become nearly as crowded as the Mormon diggings were when we left them, and immense sums have been made by some of the luckier adventurers amongst the ravines. The whole valley is dotted over with tents and green bush arbors, and there is hardly a water course but which is sprinkled with miners digging, sifting, and washing. About half of the people work together in companies the other half shift each for himself. There are hundreds of Indians, many of them fantastically dressed, for they can purchase fine clothing now, even at the extravagant rates at which all articles are charged at Weber's store. The atmosphere continues exceedingly sultry, and the miners who work by the river, out of the shade, have in several instances sunk exhausted under the toil. Dysentery, produced probably by unwholesome food, has also begun to show itself, and altogether the aspect of things is anything but cheerful.

Yesterday, a large party, many of them Mormons, started for the Bear River, a small stream which runs into the Sacramento, and is said to be about fifty miles distant, due north from where we are encamped. Not long afterward, we determined to start for the Bear River as well. After our arrival, rested somewhat late on Saturday morning to make up for the fatigues of the journey from Weber's Creek. On surveying the Bear River country we found ourselves in a perfect solitude. Not an Indian, far less a white man, was to be seen. The fertile valley of the Bear River with its luxuriant grass, in which nestled coveys of the California quail seemed almost untrodden by human foot, and sloped in great beauty between the ridges of rocky hills and peaks of granite, with dark ravines and canons between, which hemmed it in. Our first care was of course to try the capabilities of the country in the way of gold; we therefore separated ourselves, and sought different points of the channel of the stream, and different chasms, which in the winter time conducted the mountain torrents into it.

One of the exploring parties was dispatched to follow up the stream towards its head. They travelled the distance of some ten or twelve miles, crossing some of the more important tributaries of the main river, and had the good fortune to strike upon a spot where a slight examination was sufficient to prove that the gold existed in great abundance in the sand and shingles, and imbedded in flakes amid the rocks. To-day we have moved the camp to this spot; and, as we are now beyond the reach of aid from white men, and have begun to feel that we must be (for some time at least) a self-supporting party, our first thoughts are turned towards making arrangements for obtaining a supply of food, and for insuring our security. Bradley, Joe White, and Jose, are to be our hunters; Malcolm, Lacosse, and M'Phail, are to set to work to-morrow to make a couple of cradles, the carpenter giving them an occasional helping hand, but occupying himself principally in superintending the construction of a large shanty, sufficient to accommodate the whole party. The hunters had good on their first day, and came in with a couple of fat bucks. The trapper had also snared a number of quails, so that our table was nobly furnished. Our dinner, also included a dessert of fruit similar to apples in taste, but not larger than well-grown gooseberries. We are now regularly settled on the Bear River, and have, as yet, seen no signs of human life around us. The reports, therefore, which we heard at Weber's Creek of the gold-finders having penetrated into this valley, would appear to have been without foundation.

As soon as our building labors were over yesterday, we set to work digging and washing, and were very successful. The country about here is of course much more rugged than in the lower diggings. The soil, mineralogically considered, does not seem to vary materially from that in the neighborhood of Weber's Creek. If anything, it is more impregnated with gold. On Friday, Don Luis discovered a large rough lump in a canyon about a mile from the shanty; and the next evening a similar lump, though rather smaller, was picked up by Bradley in one of his hunting excursions.

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The past week has been in many respects an eventful one. On Friday, while several of us were rambling about the neighborhood of the camp, exploring the numerous mountain canons which lie between us and the Sierra Nevada, we found, among the loose particles of rock which had crumbled away from the sides of the ravine and fallen to the bottom, several lumps of gold of a much larger size than any we had before met with. This induced us to examine the upper part of the ravine, where promising traces of gold were readily detected; further examination convinced us that the precious metal existed here in far greater quantities than in the locality where we had been at work for several weeks previous; and we were, moreover, satisfied that it was to be obtained with much less difficulty.

As being found in solid lumps, the unpleasant labor of washing was dispensed with. We therefore determined, on the following morning, to remove all our implements to this spot, the only disadvantage of which was its being situated rather far off from our place of encampment. The ravine we proposed moving to was nearly half-a-mile distant. After breakfast, Bradley, Lacosse, and M'Phail, accompanied by the old trapper, set off on a hunting expedition, for our stock of provisions were now getting very low, leaving Jose and our legal friend at the camp. The remainder of the party, including myself, proceeded to the ravine with our implements, and after working a few hours we succeeded in procuring more gold than we had obtained in any two days during the past week.

By September 1st, there have been several discussions as to the prudence of keeping the large quantity of gold we have already procured in camp, when we are liable to be surprised by the Indians, who for the sake of it would tomahawk and scalp us all round. I don't like this suggestion, for the amount is sufficiently large to tempt any one to make off with it; besides it would be dangerous to send it without a strong guard. To-day we have put ourselves on short rations, as our stock of provisions is getting very low. September 2nd. The camp generally seems to be in favor of Bradley's proposition. Some of the more timid ones consider that we shall be in constant danger for the next two months before the rainy season commences, when we must give over work. It is a great pity that the gold was not sent down at the time Lacosse and the trapper left.

## Joke of the Month

### **An old prospector.....**

An old prospector shuffled into town leading an old tired mule. The old man headed straight for the only saloon in town to clear his parched throat. He walked up to the saloon and tied his old mule to the hitch rail.

As he stood there brushing some of the dust from his face and clothes, a young gunslinger stepped out of the saloon with a gun in one hand and a bottle of whiskey in the other. The young gunslinger looked at the old man and laughed, saying, 'Hey old man, have you ever danced?'

The old man looked up at the gunslinger and said, 'No, I never did dance, -- and just never wanted to.' A crowd had gathered quickly and the gunslinger grinned and said, 'Well, you old fool, you're gonna' dance now,' and started shooting at the old man's feet.

The old prospector in order to not get a toe blown off or his boots perforated was soon hopping around like a flea on a hot skillet and everybody was laughing fit to be tied. When the last bullet had been fired the young gunslinger, still laughing, holstered his gun and turned around to go back into the saloon. The old man turned to his pack mule, pulled out a double barreled shotgun, and cocked both hammers back. The loud, [audible](#) double clicks carried clearly through the desert air.

The crowd stopped laughing immediately. The young gunslinger heard the sounds, too, and he turned around very slowly. The quiet was almost deafening.

The crowd watched as the young gunman stared at the old timer and the large gaping holes of those twin barrels. He found it hard to swallow.. The barrels of the shotgun never wavered in the old man's hands.

The old man said, 'Son, did you ever kiss a mule's Butt?'

The gunslinger swallowed hard and said, 'No. But I've always wanted to.

# 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	