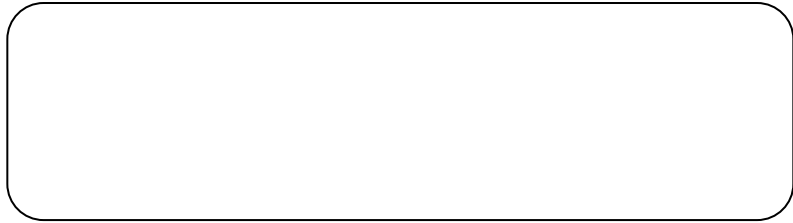


DRYWASHER'S GAZETTE

January/February 2022

Send Exchange Bulletins to:
Valley Prospectors
PO Box 2923
San Bernardino, CA 92406-2923
valleyprospectors49@gmail.com



Web Site: www.valleyprospectors.org

Email: valleyprospectors49@gmail.com

Mail: Valley Prospectors, PO Box 2923, San Bernardino, CA 92406-2923

Next General Meeting: February 1, 2022, 6 pm - San Bernardino Elks Lodge

Mission and Code of Ethics

Valley Prospectors Inc. is a non-profit educational organization dedicated

“To Promote Gold Prospecting as a healthy family activity.”

You're invited to be our guest at the General membership meetings that are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Elks Lodge at: 2055 Elks Dr, San Bernardino, Ca.

The Board of Directors meeting will be at 5 pm before the General At the Elks Lodge. – Join in for Tasty Tuesday in their dining room.



“A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION”

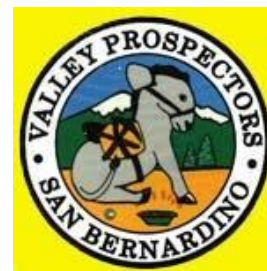
Remember that all prospectors may be judged by the example “You set.” Leave flora and fauna as you found it. “Do Not Destroy Any property, public or private!” “Obey all laws”. Please do not litter.

Each member of Valley Prospectors should strive to set a good example for others.

Valley Prospectors Officers and Members-at-Large 2022					
Executive Officers			Chairpersons		
President	Garry Devlin	909-875-2090	Apparel	Vacant	
Vice President	Tommy Purscelley	909-820-1898	Blood Bank	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
Secretary	Steve Schubert	951-943-0535	Budget	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
Treasurer	Lorraine Frost (Life Member)	760-868-6564	CFMS	Bural LaRue	909-874-5664
			Courtesy	Susan Birrell Diane Railsback	760-954-1915
Board of Directors			Editor	Coreena Ross	530-274-1838
Susan Birrell	760-954-1915		Asst. Editor	Lorraine Frost	760-868-6564
John Bonson (Life Member)	909-794-4401		Finds/Month	Bural LaRue	909-874-5664
Larry Kennedy	909-574-0863		Lady Luck	Albert Naki	909-733-6473
Bural La Rue (Life Member)	909-874-5664		50/50	Sherri Livingston	909-875-2090
Stu Luce	909-560-0474		Gold Sales	Art Fairchild	951-897-5433
Jill Molson	909-887-8024		Historian	Vacant	
Mike Muir	909-882-9052		Librarian	Vacant	
Albert Naki	909-733-6473		Membership	Andrea Frost	760-868-6564
Katherine Naki	909-733-6441		Name Tags	Andrea Frost	760-868-6564
Diane Railsback	760-954-1915		Programs	Tommy Purscelley	909-820-1898
Bruce Sherman	951-780-7715		Refreshments	Michelle O'Brien	
Ernie Tovar	909-492-4479		Claims	Bob Dudley	480-225-5013
Alternates			Show & School Rep.	Steve Schubert	951-943-0535
Joe Chavez (1)	909-553-1722		Wagon Master	Varies by Outing	
Mark Lash (3)	909-792-4473				
Coreena Ross (2) (Life member)	530-274-1838				

CLAIMS

The 2 Burro's Placer Claims 20 acres
Coolgardie Placer Claim Harvey's Oro Rico 120 acres
Gold Venture & Pickett #3 Placer Claims, 20 acres ea.
Hungry Man 1, 2, 3, 4 and Chunker Placer Claims 550 total acres
Indian Gulch and Indian Flat Placer Claim 60 acres
Jackass 1, Placer Claim 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



NEW CLUB MEETING DAY – FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM 6-8 PM

2022 PREZ SAYS – Garry Devlin - January 2022

Valley Prospectors President Message

Fellow Prospectors it was wonderful to see all that came out, and those on zoom. We had a great evening. We have quite the hall to meet in, we requested a room more private and larger, and the Elks provided. We had a few motions on the floor, and they all passed. Please read the minutes for what passed." I have a small space". There was a comment that was brought up on the floor. Why don't we have more gatherings, so we can learn how to do prospecting like they do in other clubs.

Good question.

So I am asking all of our member Prospectors. Who are willing to step up to the plate and take some responsibilities and when the weather is better, and Covid is under control. We can once again return to the club we once were before the fear.

I ask everyone to take a look at what you can do, what talents that you have to offer, because the teachers we have are each other. Like the shows that we do, Steve teaches you how to pan, so you can show others what you have been taught. The shows are coming up soon before you know it, they will all be over.

The planning meeting was excellent, and the food was mighty tasty. The budget was worked out, and our audit was completed.

Hope to see all of you, this month at the San Bernardino Elks Lodge. Thank you for this Privilege

President Garry Devlin

Membership Renewals - Now Due

Be sure to renew your membership - still only \$40 annually - no later than January 31, 2022. A renewal notice was mailed to every member that needs to renew. You can send a check, pay online via PayPal (small convenience fee) or send \$40 via Zelle (Memo Name and Membership number on transaction) to valleyprospectors49@gmail.com Email valleyprospectors49@gmail.com if you have any questions.

At the January meeting, the members voted to invite past members whose membership has lapsed to be reinstated at the \$40 renewal fee. The \$100 reinstatement fee is waived. An email will be sent to all inactive members for the past five years, as approved. They have until March 31, 2022, to take advantage of this offer. The members felt due to Covid-19 restrictions and the worsening economy we should reach out to our valued past members.

Blood Bank News – Lstream.org

CRITICAL BLOOD SHORTAGE. Thank you to Bural La Rue for his recent donations to Lifestream. Your donations of blood were critically needed, and it is just another way for our club to support our community. If you can donate, mention **MVP** as our club code. You help so many people with your kind donation.

<https://www.lstream.org/>

February 1, 2022, 6 pm – 8 pm PST - General Meeting Zoom Information

I want to invite those members who can't attend in person to join us via Zoom. **Please note the new meeting id and passcode.** Below is information to join a Zoom Virtual meeting if you have a computer. If you don't – no problem. You can join the meeting with your telephone – just call 1-669-900-6833, enter the meeting number and passcode and you will hear us all. Let's stay connected in 2022.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81123262617?pwd=cndNd1BOTGJqd2NubFhDd0I1NDdRUT09>

OR Call 1-669-900-6833 Meeting ID: 811 2326 2617 Passcode: 728291

January 4th, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes

Order: 5:10 rollcall 10 present 2excused 7absent. 15-minute break. The meeting resumed at 5:25. Minutes of the last meeting Lorraine 1st Bruce 2nd approved. Treasurers report by Lorraine Membership report by Andrea. Claims report: all claims recorded and fees paid. Courtesy: Susan, we need donated prizes. Club apparel: we need someone to chair this committee. Andrea Has a 3d printer that can make small items for sale. We need a wagon master chair to lead new Members out to the claims. Use the buddy system when going out to the claim for safety. Gold Sales: Art we need gold nuggets for the Feb. show raffle. 50/50 raffle: Sherri covid had an effect on Ticket sales. CFMS: Bural, CFMS antelope valley show May 6,7,8th. Library: we need a chair for the books. Historian: need a chair. Old business; Lorraine handed out new gate bars for 2022. New Business: Susan, the kids club wants to be called Minor Miners. Adjourn 6:10 pm. Minutes submitted by Steve Schubert.

January 4th, 2022, General Meeting Minutes

Valley Prospector General Meeting Minutes – January 4, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steve Schubert. Courtesy: No guests. Minutes of the last meeting Art 1st Calvin 2nd approved. Outgoing Officers (2021): President Lorraine Frost, Vice-President Steve Schubert, Treasurer N/A, Secretary Judy Lepper. Incoming Officers (2022): President Garry Devlin, Vice-President Tommy Pursculley, Treasurer Lorraine Frost, Secretary Steve Schubert. Bank of America signatories will be Garry Devlin, Steve Schubert, and Lorraine Frost. Treasurers report by Lorraine, budget and club audit on January 8th. 50/50 raffle: Sherri. Special raffles: gold nugget raffle in February. Refreshments: Michelle snacks, Lorraine cookies. Membership report by Lorraine, 281 family memberships. Wagon Master: Ernie gave a report on Thanksgiving outing, roads bumpy, next outing GPAA Show in February. Finds of the Month: Thanks Bural for chairing. Editor: Coreena Ross January 10th deadline. Claims report: all claims recorded and fees paid. CFMS report by Bural. Club Apparel: we need someone to chair this committee. Programs: No planned program, heard from members about their experiences on club claims. Serve Refreshments: 7:15 pm. New Business: Put the \$100 initiation fee into the general fund instead of claims fund for 1 year, Bural 1st, Art 2nd, approved. Raise fee for PayPal to 5% to cover fees charged to the club. Invite old members, from the last 5 years, to rejoin for \$40, waiving the \$100 reinstatement fee through March 31, 2022, Lorraine 1st, Coreena 2nd, approved. Andrea has a small 3D printer, laser engraver, and CNC carver that can make small items for sale, looking for idea recommendations. Door Prize Winner: Mike Ryan. Badge Winner: Mark Lash, Brian. 50/50 Winner: Ernie. Motion to Adjourn: Art 1st, Andrea 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm. Minutes submitted by Steve Schubert.

If you have club outing pictures, articles please e-mail them to valleyprospectors49@gmail.com

Valley Prospectors Club Outing Schedule 2022

Jan 4	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
Jan 8	VP Board 2022 Planning Meeting – Schubert's House – 1 pm
Jan 22	Hungryman Hike – Meet at McDonald's – Hwy138 offramp at 9 am
Feb 1	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
Feb 5-6	GPAA Gold & Treasure Show – Postponed to July 23-24 – See Below
Feb 25-27	2Burros – on Sun, Feb 27 th meet at 9 am Randsburg Jail for an escort to the claim – Steve Schubert Wagonmaster
Mar 1	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
Mar 5-6	Ventura Gem & Mineral Show – Ventura County Fairgrounds – Sat 10-5 – Sun 10-4
Apr 5	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
Apr 24	Meteorite Hunting – Coyote Dry Lake in Barstow – Take Exit 189 off I15 N toward Fort Irwin Rd – meet at 9 am just over the Bridge on Fort Irwin Road and Outer Hwy 15N – High clearance vehicle recommended
April 30	Summit Saturday – Meet at McDonald's - Hwy 138 offramp at 9 am
May 3	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
May 6-8	CFMS Gems, Minerals, Fossils & Jewelry Show – Antelope Valley Fairgrounds – Fri-Sat 9-5 – Sun 9-4
May 20-22	2Burros – on Sat, May 21 meet at 9 am at Randsburg Jail for an escort to the claim – Steve Schubert Wagonmaster
Jun 7	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
Jun 10-12	Big Bear Claims (Miner's Folly) – Meet at 9 am at Miner's Folly to caravan to Jackass 1 claim – Brian Teeling Wagonmaster
Jul 5	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
Jul 15-17	Big Bear Claims (Miner's Folly) – VP Member Appreciation Picnic at 12 noon on Saturday, July 16 – food and games provided
Jul 23-24	GPAA Gold & Treasure Show – Pomona Fairgrounds – Sat 10-5 – Sun 10-4
Aug 2	NO MEETING
Aug 5-14	VP Northern Claims – Union Flat Campground – VP Gathering on Aug 7th at Noon
Sep 6	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
Sep 11	Summit Sunday - Meet at McDonald's - Hwy 138 offramp at 9 am
Sep 16-18	Randsburg Claims (2Burros) – Old West Days – Sept 17-18 Valley Prospectors may host a Gold Panning Booth
Oct 4	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
Oct 21-23	VP Rendezvous – Ord Mountains, Barstow - All local prospecting and metal detecting clubs are welcome
Nov 1	VP General Meeting – San Bernardino Elks Lodge – 6-8 PM
Nov 12	Coolgardie – Meetup TBA
Dec 3	VP Christmas Party - 11 am – 3 pm - TBA

Minor Miners Events and Activities

Our Minor Miners have spoken, and they have selected their new club name. We will be meeting at the club outings listed below. If you are a member of Valley Prospectors and have a Kindergarten-12th grade child or grandchild you would like to sign up for, please contact Susan Birrell-Diane Railsback at birresus@yahoo.com. We will be working toward badges and the education of all things Rocks and Minerals!

Minor Miners events for 2022

Jan 22- Hungry Man Claim Metal Detecting - Rock Bingo for Minor Miners.

Feb 27-Two Burro's Claim - We will have a Minor Miner activity.

Apr 24-Meteorite Hunting in "Barstow" area We will use metal detectors and magnets.

May 7- CFMS Gem Show- Panning for gold for Minor Miners and touring the free Rock and Gems show. ID rock scavenger hunt-bring a phone.

June 11-Holcomb Valley Jack Ass 1 and Indian Gulch Claims- Rock Craft for Minor Miners.

July 16- Miners Folley Claim- Club Picnic- Rock Craft, Gold Panning Techniques for Minor Miners.

Aug 7-Union Flat Campground-Yuba River Hands-on sluice gold recovery for Minor Miners.

Sept 11- Summit Claim Prospecting with the family. Rock/Mineral Bingo

Oct 22- Ord Mountain Outing- Rock Talk and rock fun!

Dec 3- Christmas Party for Members and Minor Miners.

This are what we have scheduled, so far! There will be more events coming
Susan Birrell and Diane Railsback

59th Annual Ventura Gem, Mineral, Lapidary, and Fossil Show

After a year off due to the pandemic, the Ventura Gem and Mineral Society is back! Ventura Gem and Mineral Society will hold its annual 59th show. The date of the show is March 5th and 6th, 2022. The time is Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Ventura County Fairgrounds in Ventura, CA (10 West Harbor Boulevard). The show is free. Kids will enjoy varied activities and we will have a Gold Panning Station. See demonstrations of lapidary arts and exhibits from private collections of minerals, fossils, and lapidary work from throughout Southern California. Raffle prizes will be drawn at the end of the show and a silent rock auction will be held hourly. Fifteen plus dealers in fossils, minerals, lapidary equipment, slabs, etc., will be on hand along with the Second Hand Treasures Store featuring flea market items, used books, and plants.

For more information or to enter a display contact, Jim-Bruce Thompson. His phone number is (805) 659-3577

And his e-mail address is jbraceth@roadrunner.com.

For more information come and visit the Ventura Gem and Mineral Society website at vgms.org.

Have you visited a Valley Prospector Claim lately?

Be sure to submit your claim report. Our claim chair, Bob Dudley, uses this information to file our work assessment documents on an annual basis. You can submit the online form and it will be emailed directly to Bob so that Valley can record the claim work assessment. He will collect these throughout the year. Don't forget to report your Northern Claim visits too. <https://www.valleyprospectors.org/claims/claim-report/>

Survival Gear on the Claims

President Garry Devlin has a list of suggested essentials that should be kept in a car while going out prospecting on the Valley Prospectors Claims. Before you leave to go to a Valley Prospectors Claims here are some useful suggestions while out on the claims.

Tell a friend what claims you are going to and what time you will be returning from the claims. Make sure this person has the make, model, and license plate of your vehicle. Have your friend alert the proper authorities if you do not return from the claims.

The items that should be in your vehicle are a blanket, shovel, whistle, flashlight, non-perishable food such as fruit bars, peanut butter, crackers, payday candy bars, lifesavers, or jolly rancher candies, etc. 3 gallons of drinking water per day, Gatorade. A bucket, feminine pads for large cuts, duct tape, tie wire, first aid kit, jumper cables, toolbox, spare tire with air in the tire. A fully charged cell phone and a cell phone charger. A roll of quarters and some one-dollar bills for the coin-operated machines.

Campfire Permits on the Valley Claims

Some of the Valley Prospector Claims require a campfire permit. The claims on the Yuba River require a campfire permit. Cal Fire has the permit process online and you need to watch a video and answer eight questions and you get the campfire permit for free. Here is the link for the campfire permit. <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/>. Go check out the Cal Fire Website for more information about the campfire permit.

EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES

By Tony and Sandie Fender

As Reprinted by permission from CFMS January 2022 Newsletter

CFMS has been hosting a series of workshop/classes for about 40 years. There are two locations where these classes are held, one in Southern California at a location called Zzyzx near Baker on Interstate 15. The other is in Northern California at a location called Camp Paradise in the town of Strawberry Valley, north of Marysville. Zzyzx is normally held for one week in the spring, and Camp Paradise is held for two weeks in the late summer. Both locations include accommodations and three meals a day. There are evening programs including specialized demonstrations of techniques not otherwise included in the classes.

Classes are offered in several disciplines within the lapidary and jewelry arts arena. These include lapidary, casting, basic silversmithing, advanced silversmithing, beading, enameling, precious metal clay, dichroic glass, wirewrapping, chain maille and carving. Each discipline has an experienced teacher, the needed equipment and tools and usually materials necessary to make projects. I will try and send a write up on one of the classes each month.

The basic silversmithing class is intended for students who either have never done any silversmithing before, or who need a refresher course in the skills necessary to make silver jewelry. The class is two and a half days long and the class size is severely limited so that the students get good individual instruction. The course includes handout material for the students to take home. This class lets you learn which tools and equipment are necessary for the novice silversmith on a budget.

Randsburg, California

A Brief History as provided by <https://westernmininghistory.com/towns/california/randsburg/>

The Gold discoveries in and around the future town of Randsburg came at a time when much of the mining west was experiencing a depression. The district would go on to be Southern California's largest gold producer.

The first gold discovery was at Goler (between Red Rock Canyon and Randsburg) in 1893. This discovery drew many miners to the area and the surrounding hills were heavily prospected. In 1895 a party of prospectors found placer gold at the foot of Rand Mountain and soon traced the source of the gold to an outcropping near the top of the mountain. This discovery would become the fabulous Yellow Aster mine, and a minor rush to the new Rand district was on.

At the time of the discovery the nation was in the grip of a depression, and the miners that flocked to the new district had been struggling to survive in places like the Panamint Valley and Mojave Desert. These desert prospectors that converged at Randsburg comprised what was known as a "poor man's camp". Some of them had to abandon their claims out of hunger while others ground the gold out of their ore by hand to come up with the \$1.60 fee to file their claim.

Development of the district was slow during the first year and by the end of 1895 Randsburg had just thirteen buildings - some of them canvas. By the summer of 1896 so many promising claims had been filed that news got out of the riches at Randsburg and the real rush began. By 1897 the town had a population of around 2,500 and over 300 buildings.

Some of the important mines of the district were the Big Norse, [King Solomon](#), Monkey Wrench, Minnehaha, Bully Boy, Napoleon, Gold Coin, and of course the famous Yellow Aster.

A railroad was completed to Johannesburg (about two miles from Randsburg) in December of 1897. The mines increased production, more people flooded into the town, and by 1899 the population was over 3,500. On January 19, 1898 a fire burned half of the town.

As the decades passed the gold mines of the Rand district faded, but discoveries of tungsten at Atolia and silver at Red Mountain kept the towns of the district alive. The 1930's saw a resurgence of gold mining activity during the depression years.