

Nugget / June 2009

**The Rocker Box**

**Bob Baldwin– President**

Hey Gold Guys & Gals,

Here it is, June already. Just a few weeks before dredging season. You still have time to dust your stuff off and get it ready. Remember your 700 permit, if you haven't got it yet. Fill out the paperwork, be sure to send them \$25.00 for the year, make copies for yourself and send the others in and you're good to go.

This deal with the state police giving tickets for high banking for pumping out of the river before dredging season, really chafes my hide. I wouldn't be surprised if I don't end up in court over this one. Someone needs to press the issue, to get some uniformity between the different agencies. So that when one group says you are good to go, that you don't have some other branch of the government coming down on you. Boy, if we can't pump water except during July and August, then maybe boat operators shouldn't be able to use jet motors or engines that use river water for cooling. Heck, maybe farmers couldn't irrigate except for in water times. I hope you know I am not wanting a fuss between us and boat owners or farmers. It's just the unfairness of who can do what, that needs to change. Hopefully, we can get some fairness from the system if we choose our shots. And not decide to let them B.S. us around. We must stay informed, active, and persistent or they will legislate us right out of the woods, because we can't comply with all the crap.

So, let's discuss something that doesn't make my blood pressure go up, like finding gold. Graves creek was a good time. About 20 of us went down and washed rocks. I believe most everyone found gold. Renee's nugget was bigger than both of my pickers. It was the size of a small cornflake. You could hear her holler fifty yards. She'll show it to you at the meeting.

Squawfish outing is June 20th, a two day, Saturday and Sunday, trip. Join us and let's learn more about our new claims. Let's barbecue Saturday evening, that way everyone can prospect where they will. We'll gather for supper and compare notes. Gotta go. Remember, what an old friend told me, "If you work with your mouth open, you don't get so much STUFF on your face"!!

As Always,  
Bullet Bob

P.S. We finally received the refund from BLM!! Yea!!!!

**Keeper of Records**

**Cecila Lattin– Secretary**

North Bend Prospectors, Inc.

Minutes- May 8, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 7:25 by President Bob Baldwin.

Minutes for April were approved as printed in the "Nugget". There were 74 people in attendance.

Treasurer's report was read by Renee' Baldwin.

Theo Stanley made membership buttons for 2009 for members that were present at the meeting.

The 12 Black Sand separators have been sold. The last one will be raffled among our members. Bob will be making more. The retail price will be \$350.00. Club members can buy one for \$245.00

The Oregon Department of Geology and Minerals, in Portland, have all of the old records of hard rock mines. They are going to be throwing away all of these records. President Bob, Theo and Gayland

Black went to Portland and spent the day sorting and making copies of Coos and Curry records. This information will help in locating another claim for the club. Anyone wanting to help with this work please call Bob. We would like to get as much of this information before it is thrown away. A motion was made to fund the expense of buying a computer drive to get the copies of this valuable information. Motion 2nd and passed.

Dick Collins has a 500 gig hard drive- new- that he will donate to the cause.

The club received a thank you note from South Coast Hospice for our donation in Carol Leaton's name. Also received a thank you note for EOMA (Eastern Oregon Mining Association) for the donation we made.

The North Bend Senior Center will be raising the rent for the use of the building. We now have a contract - will be \$100.00 a night, plus clean up deposit of \$50.00. We are paid up thru June. Our Christmas Party date is set on the Center's calendar. It cost \$20.00 to join the NB Senior Center, and \$5.00 for lunch.

Saturday June 6th is the Kid's fishing derby at the Power's County Park. We will be doing panning demos for the kids during the derby. The kids really enjoyed it last year. The Coos County Fair is coming up, we are trying to get our same booth. Please plan on helping.

The crystal digging in Rye Patch area Nv. was very successful. The detecting for gold was a bust. 25 people from the club made the trip. Strong wind and even snow made the trip less enjoyable. Lots of flat tires. As a spin off of the trip, we met "Copper John" so Desi Rains, Joe Holdman, and Rick Lattin are in Michigan trying to find copper nuggets with metal detectors.

Graves Creek outing: not a lot of parking. Only panning and metal detecting. No high -banking. If the new senate bill is passed you will pay \$150.00 for a high banking permit and you will need a new permit for each site you use your high-banker at.

The club bought some polished rocks off the internet to be used with our spinning wheel. We should make a huge profit on them. We'll start running the spinning wheel at our meetings.

Memorial Weekend, some are going to Madras, Oregon and dig for Thunder Eggs.

Steve Pickering is looking for guest speakers for his TV show - on the benefits of prospecting, and would like a blue bowl demo, and mining info. He also has been talking to Oregon Resource Mining Co., who say they will not be recovering the gold from there operation at Whiskey Run , but will give the sludge to a group- not an individual- If we can come up with a way to recover it.

Bill Daffron spoke of a metal detection class- Memorial Day weekend in Portland- cost is \$35.00 for a family and will include lunch. Starts at 8:30 am, and will be at a park. Call Bill for more info 541-290-4909

Renee' requested to transfer money from the checking account to the money market account. A motion was made, 2nd and passed.

Randy Waters suggested that when you are metal detecting to take a 5 gallon bucket with you. Put all of the trash that you find in the bucket, and if you are challenged by an official - you can say you are providing a public safety service.

Theo asked for volunteers for the metal detecting outing in October. Now is the time to start planning for it.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30

Drawing winners:

Door prize- large nugget.....Laura Kramer

Door prize- small nugget.....Lois McPherson

50-50... (\$57.00).....Joe Bradley

\$15.00 Nome panning Bag.....Carolyn Trent

\$25.00 Nome panning Bag.....Jim Dahl

Respectfully Submitted by Cecilia Lattin, Sec.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **For Sale**

(1) one each 2-1/2 inch Keene Dredge. With 5 horse motor, large pump like the ones used on 4 inch dredge, brand new 2 1/2 inch swivel nozzle, T80 compressor with complete hookah set, also with the dredge are two (2) complete wet suits, (1mans) and (1 woman's) plus weight belt with weights, asking \$1600.00

(2) one each Whites GM-4 metal detector with head phones, asking \$600.00

(3) one each Micro-Concentrator (it's like a small self contained High Banker) great for recovering fine gold or doing clean up of beach sand at home, asking \$450.00

Will to make someone a special deal! All of the above items for the low full price of \$1500.00.

Plus I would like to sell my GPAA / LDMA membership for \$3500 as I am not able to use it any more due to my health.

Contact George Brown at 756-5328 or at [barbag@coosnet.com](mailto:barbag@coosnet.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

**I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.**

**WHY DO THEY LOCK GAS STATION BATHROOMS? ARE THEY AFRAID SOMEONE WILL CLEAN THEM?**

### **New Wilderness Designed to Destroy Mining**

One day, the wild land between Ashland and Cave Junction — extending north to Applegate and south to Happy Camp, Calif. — could be preserved as the Siskiyou Crest National Monument.

That's the goal of the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, which is launching its monument campaign this month.

"The Siskiyou Crest is an incredibly unique natural feature that we have right here in our own backyard," said Laurel Sutherlin, KS Wild's outreach director.

The recently passed federal wilderness bill — which protects more than 2 million acres in nine states, including the Soda Mountain Wilderness southeast of Ashland — shows the new administration's willingness to protect land, Sutherlin said. But Oregon still lags behind other states, he said, with just 4 percent of its land designated as wilderness, the highest level of land preservation.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Update—600 Permit Plus Limited License**

I have been receiving calls from NBP members receiving their 600 permits along with paper work for the Limited License to divert water for mining. Below is the latest that I know. I will try to keep on top of this. Theo

Just received a call from Bill Ferber Oregon Regional Water Master for OWRD regarding the required Limited License to divert water to mine. Such as running a high banker. He informed me we are still required to have this license until the Attorney General makes a final decision. This is a top priority with the AG office and Bill believes we will have the answer by this Friday. We have yet to find out who confronted the miner on Cow Cr. some weeks back for him to remove his equipment or it would be confiscated without the Limited License. Bill Ferber said they do not contract with OSP or Sherriff Department and are not out beating the bushes to confront miners looking for the Limited License requirement.

Art Sappington has done an excellent job to confront the Oregon Water Resource Department by bring up past Oregon laws showing the water rights should have granted existing rights and a permit or license should not be required. Enough so that the OWRD had to escalate this issue to the Oregon Attorney General's office for an opinion. If the AG office does like they did on the ODEQ dredge 700pm permit, I will bet they will favor the OWRD agency.

Thanks again Art S. for your good work on this and I hope miners will prevail. It would save thousands of dollars for out of stream mining operations since the Limited License fee alone is \$150.00 site specific for each stream and another \$15.00 each time you move your pump up or down the stream a few feet. Just checked SB 740 and it appears to be going nowhere since the May 14th hearing. This bill wanted to add another \$100.00 on top of existing permits and Limited Licenses.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Update on Oregon Legislation**

(Subject matter of each bill was published in the May issue of the "Nugget". Theo Stanley)

It would appear HB 2071, HB 2092 and HB

2844 recording fee bills may just be dead in the water. We are past the April 28th date most bills need to go to the other side of the legislature for hearings unless they make it to the full Ways and Means Committee and then they seem to fast track through the legislature on another path. Combined the three bills would have added another \$16.00 to every document required by Oregon statutes.

Thank you Oregon miners who took the time and effort to send email comments to committee members hearing the bills, as I believe it made some difference. As most of you know by now this TAX and SPEND legislature has raised fees/TAXES more this session than most all sessions in the past years. I was more than happy to testify against the three bills that did not go any further than their measure history shows. I would bet the same bills will be introduced in the next session.

HB 2092 archive bill has been introduced in two sessions now and will bet they are not going to quit on this one.

Have not heard about any legal challenges to our amendment in HB 2436 and since it is signed into law we will not pay the \$15.00 for our annual proof of labor affidavit fee.. All new claims notices of locations, quit claim deeds including other mining documents will still require the extra \$15.00 fee to record.

Our next big challenge is with Oregon Water Resource Department now enforcing the Limited License requirement to divert water from a stream. Miners who run high bankers are now being monitored by state troopers and have the authority to confiscate your equipment if they tell you to pull your pump or stop diverting water from a stream by whatever ever means you are using to high bank. Water master can only tell you to cease and desist your water diversion without the Limited License. This license cost \$150.00 for up to 5 years if you request that time limit when applying. The license request takes two to three weeks to obtain as different state agencies need to approve your application. The permit is site specific to one stream only and every time you move your pump to another location on that stream they require \$15.00 for each point of diversion. This is getting crazy and most miners will choose not to purchase this Limited License, especially if you like to mine various stream locations in Oregon.

Art Sappington and Guy Michael's of Eastern Oregon Mining Association, Hal Anthony and me are looking at Federal and State laws to show OWRD their water diversion license does not apply to mining. Art Sappington had conversation with Brenda Bateman OWRD lobbyist regarding the Limited License requirement not applying to Oregon miners and is waiting for her response. Believe it or not OWRD **SB 740** wants to add another \$100.00 fee to the Limited License making it a \$250.00 permit and are requesting the same \$100.00 fee on all water certificates and water right permits in

Oregon. **We need to keep the pressure on OWRD and you local state legislators,** or Oregon miners will be screaming about the high cost to obtain this permit or in some cases losing their equipment if they do not shut down when asked by a state trooper or possible sheriff deputy. I do hope all miners on my Government Affairs list sent emails to the Ways and Means Committee telling them not to support this EXTREME HIGH TAX BILL. If you did not then get ready to give more money to the OWRD bureaucracy and next session fees will just continue to go up again until miner will not be able to afford their permit. There could be allot good deals on used confiscated mining equipment going up for bid at state auctions coming from OSP evidence storage rooms.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **DISCLAIMER**

All opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author/s, and not necessarily those of the NBP, it's officers, board or members. NBP takes no responsibility for the information contained herein. **PLEASE use all information at your own risk.** The NBP reserves no rights to the contents, which may be copied at will, with due credit. Editor of the "NUGGET" is Theo Stanley and may be contacted at P.O. Box 307, Bandon, OR 97411 or at [theojaybird@aol.com](mailto:theojaybird@aol.com). Comments and articles are welcomed. Thank you!

\*\*\*\*\*

**The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not.**

### **Landmark U.S. Geological Survey Study Demonstrates How Methylmercury, Known to Contaminate Seafood, Originates in the Ocean**

Washington , D.C. – May 1, 2009) A new landmark study published today documents for the first time the process in which increased mercury emissions from human sources across the globe, and in particular from Asia, make their way into the North Pacific Ocean and as a result contaminate tuna and other seafood. Because much of the mercury that enters the North Pacific comes from the atmosphere, scientists have predicted an additional 50 percent increase in mercury in the Pacific by 2050 if mercury emission rates continue as projected.

"This unprecedented USGS study is critically important to the health and safety of the American people and our wildlife because it helps us understand the relationship between atmospheric emissions of mercury and concentrations of mercury in marine fish," said Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar.

One unexpected finding from this study is the significance of long-range transport of mercury within the ocean that originates in the western Pacific Ocean, off the coast of Asia.

\*\*\*\*\*