

Dear Members,

February 8, 2010

Happy Valentines Day to all of you. Over the 30 years we have been here in the mountains I cannot remember having this much cold snow and ice that lasted so long! We certainly needed the rain here but not 4" at a time. Our spring is running over but it is all going down Shirttail Creek. For those of you who have been here before we can walk out to the Orchard and hear the Creek below roaring. We hope that it's moving that Gold around so we don't have to hunt so hard for it this year!

Don told me that some one named Phil (the Groundhog!) peeked out his door, saw his shadow and predicted another 6 weeks of winter weather! Wow, I wonder if he and Phil were drinking? Well in 4 weeks I should have my projects done in the house and ready to go to town. Don is getting tired of doing all the grocery shopping. When we have the miner's here I always fix lunch for them. If he goofs up on the grocery list and does not get everything like cheese or tomatoes, I leave a note for the miner's blaming it all on Don!

GOLDHOUND NUGGETS - On 2/15, Presidents Day, the Nuggets will be teaching gold panning at the Mt. Vernon's Memorial Cemetery. If you can help, contact leader, Carol Ebbitt, ebbittce@sbcglobal.net or (916) 645-9439. I plan on being there if I can get out. This is one of our fun annual events for the Nuggets.

PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE- WWW.PLP2.ORG - The Dredging is still a big issue with us and all of California. We have already starting a letter writing campaign again. Don't give up on this and keep the letters, phone calls and emails going to your representatives. Public Lands for the People are at the front of this protest with great leadership and members. P.L.P. also holds two raffles a year for their legal defense fund and in the latest ICMJ issue (page 28) you will find the prizes and dates. It is one of the best raffles around so buy a ticket (tax-deductible) and help support them.

ICMJ'S PROSPECTING & MINING JOURNAL - WWW.ICMJ.COM - Scott Harn, Editor of the Mining Journal, keeps everyone updated on all issues regarding dredging and mining. Please pick up a copy at Pioneer Mining in Auburn. If you are not a subscriber, do so, this is a must for our members to have this knowledge so you can interact with your representatives. In the February 2010 issue Scott writes about the "Oregon Suction Gold Dredgers" and all they have been going through on the dredging in their state. In July 2005 when the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) began issuing their new 700-PM Suction Dredge Mining General Permits it was immediately challenged in court by the Northwest Environmental Defense Center, the Siskiyou Project and Hells Canyon Preservation Council who claimed the permit violated parts of the Clean Water Act. The decision to stop all dredging was challenged by the Eastern Oregon Mining Association. In late December 2009, the Oregon Court of Appeals ruled that the permit exceeds EQC statutory authority to implement the Clean Water Act. Now the Oregon Department of State Lands is issuing permits for suction dredge mining at no cost if the dredge is equipped with a four-inch or smaller nozzle size and the motor is 16hp or under. All the contact information is outlined in the ICMJ. This is at least going in a positive direction. Let's not wait for the 4-5 years to put pressure on representatives. Some of us may never dredge again but we still need to keep it open for everyone! I believe that the California water problems are at the bottom of this whole anti-dredge push.

ROCK & GEM MINERALS & JEWELRY MAGAZINE - JANUARY ISSUE - Carol Ebbitt and the "Nuggets" are becoming a popular group to have at a event. Carol said that she and the Nuggets could be gold panning each weekend, but not as volunteers! The article is by member Marc Davis and shows the different gold pans that have been and being used on the rivers. Carol has a collection of old ones up to the newest and she knows how to work each one. Carol Ebbitt, Ray Dodds and all our "Nugget" volunteers have had an exciting year with a film and write-ups in Journals and newsletters. Thank you Marc for a job well done! And to all our "Nuggets" a big "Thank You" for all you do to teach children how to gold pan. And Sam and Henrietta Markley for "salting" the children's gold pans all these years!
Annie

"Freedom is not something to be secured in any one moment of time. We must struggle to preserve it everyday. And freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction." by Ronald Reagan

In an article by Del Albright from Blue Ribbon Coalition he talked about “Positive Spin” and right now I feel like I need that. He wrote “The bottom line is that if we spin positive the little wins and rays of hope so our members don’t get too discouraged, give up and get gone. We need an army to win this war, and WE are the army.” Let’s start the year out right by going after what we feel is right! Don’t just sit and grumble!. Let’s do it! Annie

PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE - We received an email from Walt Wegner, Vice President of P.L.P., with the Title “PLP GET’S THE FEE!” Walt writes about all the steps he went through starting with a letter in August 2009 to Donald Koch, Director of California Department of Fish and Game requesting that they refund his \$47 dredge fee since SB670 now prohibits suction dredge mining in the State. And if it was not refunded within 14 days that he would take legal action in small claims court. Walt did not receive an answer. On 10/8/09 he filed a Plaintiff’s Claim and Order to go to Small Claims Court. Walt knew what he was doing since he is with P.L.P. DFG tried to ignore him and the Small Claims Court action. Walt stuck by his guns and insisted that they honor his Small Claims Court action. He got a court date in December 2009.

Since Donald Koch, Director of Fish & Game, could not be at Small Claims court the DFG sent someone else. Walt stated to the Judge that since Koch was not there that the judge should rule in his favor due to the defendant not showing up. After going over his complaint with DFG the Judge agreed and stated that he finds for the plaintiff in the amount of \$47, case dismissed!

After leaving the court room Walt realized that he should have asked for court costs and any fees related from the judge, but in the heat of the moment, he forgot. And all the way home Walt thought, WOW, I wonder what would happen if 50, 100, 300, or maybe 3,000 miners who purchased dredge permits asserted their rights and followed the same path I followed would the DFG then do what is right and refund permit fees?

Walt finished his email with this: “Let me just say, that what one person can do, another person can do!”

SENATE BILL 233 FROM CALIF. STATE SENATOR SAM AANESTAD - The bill would require the state, upon request, “to refund the amount of the permit fee paid in 2009 by a person issued a vacuum or suction dredge equipment .” The bill is currently in the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee. Please contact your legislators to vote “yes” on this bill. (Thanks ICMJ for this information)

EPA and GREENHOUSE GASES -This Administration’s rules concerning the “EPA’s Clean Air Act” will affect all of us especially Small Business. We have a Small Business Advocacy in Sacramento and you can hear it each Sat., 9-10 AM radio, 1380 KCTC, Mark Montgomery is the host and owns a small business. Their goal is to help reduce the burden of federal policies on all small business. Info: email: mark2smallbiztalkradio.com.

CONGRESSMAN TOM MCCLINTOCK -We have written our concerns of this SB670 to Congressman McClintock and ask to hold a meeting with him on the status of this bill and what more can we do? We are waiting to hear of a date now and will keep you informed.

OTHER MINING NEWS: Two weeks ago we received a call from El Dorado County dredger Steve Tyler of Placerville. Steve and friends were instrumental in getting a resolution before the Board of Supervisors in El Dorado County to send the Governor a proclamation requesting him to re-consider SB670 and permit dredging to continue last October. Steve alerted us that Amador County Supervisors were going to vote on a similar resolution the next morning on 1/26/2010. When we got the message we contacted Jim Eakin and Ron Earl from that area. Jim knew one of the Supervisors and was able to attend the Amador County Board of Supervisors meeting. The next day we heard from Carol Bowman that they voted on the dredging resolution by 5-0. We have now written to Senator Dave Cox to help with a resolution for the Placer County Board of Supervisors. .

We will keep our members informed. What does this mean? I really don’t know but I just know that we have to try everything we can to keep our mining businesses and dredgers alive in California!

Pick up a copy of the ICMJ to keep updated on the latest mining news. Also read “Melman on Gold & Silver” that is always in the back of the ICMJ. This gives you information on the economic issues that are currently affecting our country and the World markets.

Annie

Black Powder and Dynamite

“d..o.n..t..... and my heart stopped for ten beats

...Like a chicken with its head cut off

We were now down to 160 seconds

By Don Robinson

Mining on the Divide, other than simple panning and sluicing, required some additional persuasive power other than man's sheer will and force. In the early years of the 1850's black powder was the main explosive used to undercut large hydraulic benches in open pit operations. This weakened the gravel structures, so that when the high-pressure nozzles from hydraulic mining blasted against the face walls, the gravels released easily. Underground, the black powder was used in the single and double-jack drill holes to break apart the cemented gravels. Without this powder, mining would have ceased very quickly once the river placers were worked out.



Black powder wasn't a new innovation designed for the California gold rush. Common credit for its use goes all the way back to the mid 13th century, when Roger Bacon of England left written records of his experiments with this black compound. It was introduced to America around 1675, where black powder was manufactured at the Milton Mill near Boston Massachusetts. The black powder at that time was of lower quality, because England controlled and restricted the manufacturing and accumulation of black powder to its colonies. The ingredients were no secret. Roger Bacon gave the basic formula as a combination of sulfur, carbon, and potassium nitrate.

The American Revolution changed the black powder quality problem, since England lost its hold on controlling the production grades and quantities of the explosive. After the revolution, E. I. DuPont decided that the powder industry in the new America needed some significant upgrades, and on July 19, 1802, his company purchased property in Delaware, and by 1804 was manufacturing gunpowder. By 1811 the company was producing over 200,000 pounds of powder per year!

The California Gold Rush of 1849 brought about additional demands for this explosive, and ships loaded with men coming to California also carried another occupant less publicized, kegs and kegs of black powder for mining. It wasn't long before California started its own production plant, and the first one to get started was California Powder Works in 1861. This was down near Santa Cruz and the business flourished.

While the demand for black powder soared, so did innovative thinking about a better explosive. In Sweden, a chemist and very skilled business man by the name of Alfred Nobel was busily working onto something new - dynamite! The year was 1859 and Alfred and one of his younger brothers, Emil, were experimenting with liquid nitroglycerin, a very unstable but highly explosive compound. This was a complex technical problem mostly because of the instability of the nitroglycerin. It was so unstable that his younger brother Emil was killed in 1864 along with several other people in the laboratory. By 1865 Nobel had worked out a new chemical compound, stabilizing the nitroglycerin enough to transport it and to control its detonation. By the following year he successfully mixed the “nitro” with silica, creating a paste, making it very safe for transporting. Nobel also invented the blasting cap, the ignition device for setting off the dynamite.

Let’s not forget the California Powder Works in Santa Cruz. Not to be outdone, and to stay competitive, they began producing dynamite in 1869, just in time to meet the increasing demands from the underground placer and hardrock mines of the Divide. Their business flourished and in 1879 move their plant to San Pablo Bay, creating a new industrial town called - Hercules! The name came from their black powder product which they had named ‘Hercules’ after the Greek mythological hero known for his strength.

With dynamite available, underground mining moved along faster. Dynamite was then stable enough to require a primary explosion to ignite the dynamite itself. That’s where Nobel’s blasting cap came into play. The cap, placed in the dynamite, exploded first, and this explosion was powerful enough to ignite the dynamite. So how did the miners get the cap to go off? Very simply. They created a “fuse” of black powder (like a firecracker fuse) which burned at a specific rate, and when the black powder burn reached the blasting cap, it ignited the explosive in the cap, and the dynamite then went off.

This same process exists today as well, even though other more advanced methods of ignition have been devised. For simplicity, and cost, cap and fuse are still the preferred method of ignition by the small miner. As time advanced from 1879, dynamite has changed composition, no longer requiring nitroglycerin, and the cap and fuse have advanced in its composition and control. Still, the process is the same. Today the fuse burns at a rate of roughly 40 seconds per foot, so the miner determines how much time is needed to light the charge, and to retreat to safety before the explosion goes off. This time factor includes the length of the tunnel and the time required lighting other fuses as well. Let’s say that the face wall has 15 drill holes in it, maybe 4 feet deep each. The dynamite has to be loaded into the hole, with a fuse coming from each of the fifteen holes. The choice is to light each of the fifteen separately, or to link them together and light only one fuse.

The small miner always needs to minimize cost, so the simplest and least costly method is to light each fuse separately, about five seconds apart. The reason for the five second delay is so that when the miner is outside he/she can listen to each of the charges going off, making sure there are not misfires (meaning a charge in a specific hole did not ignite). There are lots of factors involved here, but let’s go on the basis



that everything goes fine. The miner lights each of the fifteen holes, goes outside, hears fifteen explosions about five seconds apart each, and the work now switches to mucking out the tunnel when it's safe to return inside (that's another story).

OK. So why all this technical stuff? Because I have a story to tell about my wife, Annie, and her first use of explosives underground. **Thirty** years ago we were driving such an underground tunnel as we've described here, and Annie was always after me to let her do the blasting. I put it off as long as I could, but finally relented. It wasn't that I thought she couldn't handle the job, it was just that safety is always a concern, and following a specific pattern with your blasting format is essential. Variance is always dangerous when dealing with blasting procedures.

We had 16 holes drilled, five feet deep each, and we had prepared each of 16 sticks of dynamite with the blasting caps and fuse. The underground face we were blasting was about 8 feet wide and seven feet high. The procedure was that the stick of dynamite (8 inches long in this case) went into the hole first, followed by other sticks of dynamite, and the fuse (eight feet long for this blast) was then stretched out onto the mine floor, making sure the fuses didn't overlap each other. Herein lies a real danger. If a fuse is burning, and it touches another fuse, perhaps three or four feet further up, it can start the other fuse burning at that point. Not always, but sometimes. With explosives, "sometimes" only needs to happen once and your days of being a "powder monkey" are over. They'll be picking up the pieces, if they can find them...By starting another fuse burning out of sequence, and starting the burn half way up the fuse, could cut your time in half before the explosion goes off. Got the picture?

Well, all went well initially - sort of. Being her first time, she wasn't as gentle with dynamite as I thought she might be - and as I told her to be. The first dynamite stick with the cap and fuse attached was slipped into the first hole ok, using a wooden broomstick type handle. This has to be done gently, because a hard, sudden pressure on the blasting cap can ignite it. Of course, the dynamite has to go back against the back of the hole, and that takes some pressure. She did that well, but then decided it wasn't back far enough and gave that wooden handle a very hard, quick shove..... I remember yelling "d... .o.o.o.o.n.'t....." and I'm sure my heart stopped for at least 10 beats. Annie simply turns in my direction "Yes, sweetheart"? Like she really didn't know why my skin color had turned white and my hair more gray...

I settled down though (At least I thought so, but she insists I was flopping around like a chicken with its head cut off). She very successfully loaded the remaining 15 holes. I was now feeling more relaxed as she prepared to light each of the 16 fuses. Each fuse was carefully stretched out so that it was clear of the other fuses, avoiding any potential cross pre-mature burning. She started the first three fuses fine, but had trouble getting the fourth fuse started... and from then on my hair got grayer and grayer.....

Trying to get the fourth fuse going, she slipped on the wet ground, and her foot accidentally kicked one of the three burning fuses sideways, almost touching the number seven fuse. Now I had a high risk of starting the number seven fuse out of sequence and much closer to where the fuse went into the facewall, reducing the ignition time of the charge. Keep in mind I'm still calm on



Getting dynamite ready 2010

the outside, keeping my eye on the stopwatch I always start when the first fuse gets lit. We were now down to about 240 seconds (4 minutes) before ignition, and I was getting a little concerned. The next three fuses went fine, and then it happened. She couldn't get the next fuse started, and in her frustration, another fuse was knocked sideways, and then the number seven fuse, my initial concern, was crossed and off it went, igniting itself right up near the face, leaving maybe 160 seconds before it ignited. I don't remember exactly what I said, but Annie accuses me of some really nasty things, and I'm sure I didn't say them. Anyway, we changed places, she left the mine in a hurry, and I figured I still had time to light the remaining fuses, and then to go the 800-foot tunnel length before the first charge ignited.

That was the way it happened. I made it to the tunnel entrance as the first round went off, followed by 15 other spaced explosions. Annie wouldn't speak to me for several days after that, but we each finally calmed down, reconciled our differences, and she went on in the years ahead to become a very competent blaster. Still.....

Bibliography: The History of Black Powder, by Moira Kindig, A Firelands Net Publication, Homerville, Ohio; History of Hercules, A History of California City Facts, an internet web site 'www.ci.hercules.ca.us'; DuPont Overview, 'www.dupont.com'; Alfred Nobel Invents Dynamite, May 2, 1997, 'www.campus.northpark.edu'.



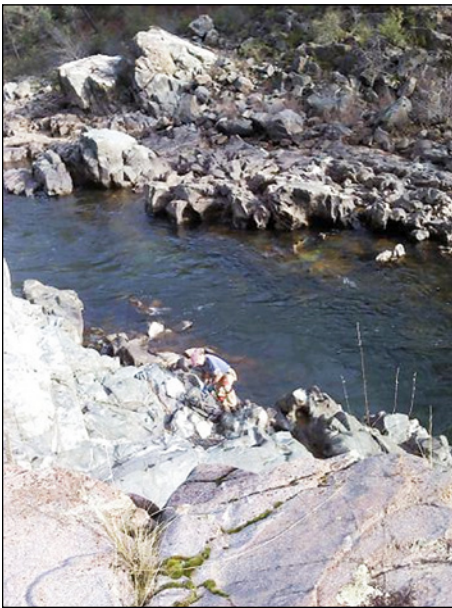
A facewall in 2010, getting prepared to shoot a round.

Hiking with Wilson

By Jim Ruppel

Dale and I have been waiting months to try out the new but incomplete trail from Salmon Falls Bridge to hiway 49 above the South fork of the American River. Our idea was to be able to get further up river without hiking all of the rocks up and back. I've made several BLM calls to get an idea of the trail and its route and we were ready to go New Years weekend. Even though I was at the end of a 2-week cold I was ready to tackle the hike and Dale was also very eager.

We set out at 9 and found the trail in the manzanita, the trail not being ready at the beginning for an easy hike but doable. We really enjoyed the oak woodlands in the beginning and after about 40 minutes we both were looking around a meadow and all of a sudden a very strange sight appeared next to a oak about 40 feet from us. To me the figure appeared to be a fully camoed sniper ready to attack us ! We called out to him and it turned out to be one of my neighbors who is a avid hunter and he was just seeing what may appear in the forest while he was hiding. He knew the area very well and told us how to get to the river from the trail. After about 2.5 hours of hiking we finally made it to the river about 1 mile above Webber creek. Now the real hiking started as this area of the river and all of the way down river is very rugged with billions of very large rocks and ledges to climb to get anywhere. We prospected for about an hour while making our way down river and found very little gold. We began to realize that we had made some distance down river and it seemed best to continue all the way to the bridge rather than backtrack back on the path.



We then decided that we had better get hiking and forget the prospecting, as it seemed that we had a very long ways to go. Dale found a basketball on the shore and threw it in the river. We named it Wilson and it became a game to try to beat it down river and this also took our mind off of the difficulty we were having making any headway back to the jeep. Wilson got stuck several times in the rapids and Dale hit Wilson with a rock to get him unstuck. We had to scale some very hard areas passing our packs to each other at times. We lost track of Wilson for a while and along came a canoer who said he got Wilson out of a tough area and he was on his way. This gave us some well-needed inspiration and we knew we could make it if Wilson could. Unfortunately after a spell a large group of kayackers came by and one of the girls was holding Wilson in her lap, Wilson seemed very pleased at this point. Suddenly Wilson was hopelessly being tossed back and forth between the boaters. It seems as thou Wilson had made a decision to hitch hike to the bridge and cheating at the game and he left us behind. Our destination became a mirage in the distance, as I would tell Dale

frequently that the very far corner ahead of us on the river seemed to be familiar and very close to our destination. This would constantly not become true and we just trudged on knowing that we had better get back before dark. Finally we could see the bridge and it was dark when we got back to the jeep after about 4 hours of constant hiking downriver.

We never saw our beloved friend Wilson again but he will be missed.

Goldhound Meeting January 8, 2010
(Pictures by Bill Percy. Thanks Bill!)



Gene Marston of Garman International provided us a seminar on GPS systems. He brought along a video and many different types of GPS systems for us to review. Gene is the Regional Product Trainer for Garman and we really appreciate his taking the time to cover GPS systems with us.

Thanks Gene!



January 2010



Snow, more snow, then rain, then snow!! There was over two feet on the ground.



The picture above is the road from the house!

On the right, panning tubs waiting for action!



My mining office.



ABANDONED GOLD

“DEFUNCT HYDRAULIC MINES OFFER EXCELLENT PROSPECTING” By Marc Davis

In North Bloomfield, Calif., in 1884, old Charlie the nozzleman was worried. Working in an immense open-pit hydraulic mine. Charlie was responsible for running "The Giant," a huge water cannon that was used for washing the ancient river gravel that now lay on a hillside, down into the mine pit below. Charlie carefully aimed the nozzle toward the hillside. Roaring like a hundred fire hoses, The Giant thundered a mighty stream of water against the earth, gnawing away at the ground. The water and dirt streamed down the resulting cliff and into the open mine pit. From there it flowed into a tunnel that had been carved through solid rock. A massive sluice system that had been constructed inside the tunnel collected the gold. The water and dirt, now stripped of its precious metal, spewed out the end of the tunnel and into the river far below, muddying the river water for miles.

Biting off chunks of hillside a bit at a time with the powerful stream of water, Charlie concentrated on his work. With one mistake he could inadvertently wash down a landslide full of boulders and dirt, burying the workers who scurried about in the 500-foot-deep pit. Old Charlie was good at his job. The danger presented by the Giant wasn't the reason he was worried. Instead, it was the words of the mine superintendent that caused his concern.

"The Farmers in Marysville won the lawsuit," the superintendent had said. "Judge Sawyer says we can't dump tailings into the river anymore. I don't know where else he expects us to put them." Old Charlie knew that if the mine couldn't dump tailings into the river, then surely the mine would have to close, and old Charlie would be out of a job.

So it was that, in 1884, the farmers of Marysville won one of the first environmental lawsuits in California, preventing the miners in the Sierra foothills from dumping tons and tons of dirt and rock into the rivers that flowed into the Central Valley. This ended the hydraulic mining boom. The debris that filled the river bottoms and caused flooding and great destruction to the farmers' fields and homes in the valley would finally cease.

Some mines managed to stay open for several years after the Sawyer's decision by scaling back operations and constructing dams to capture the tailings, but mine owners found that this was not profitable and eventually these mines closed. Other mines attempted to operate illegally for a while, knowing that great quantities of gold were still in the ground. The townsfolk whose livelihood depended on the mines would watch for the anti-debris inspectors, signal the operators of the mine, and the water cannons would be silenced until the inspectors were gone. For a while the charade continued, like a costly game of hide and seek. But eventually these mines also were forced to close, leaving behind great scars upon the land and still untouched mountains full of gold!

Now, nearly 100 years have passed since most of the mines closed down. The open pits left by the mining operations have been softened by time and the growth of trees and other plants. Still, when driving through extensively mined areas such as the San Juan Ridge in Northern California, a knowing eye can easily pick out the old workings.

Finding these old mines can be quite an adventure. It can also lead to the source of quite a bit of gold! Because these mines were closed down for environmental reasons, they were not worked out. In fact, many of the mines were producing gold in peak quantities, when they were forced to close. Therefore, large amounts of gold still exist in the open pits that were abandoned when the mines were shut down. Because much of the remaining gold is in the form of nuggets and coarse pieces, it can easily be recovered by modern-day prospectors.

There are several ways to mine gold left in hydraulic pits. Most conventional recreational mining equipment can be used, but due to the lack of running water they can't work. (Find out how in the next issue for Part 2)

TO ENSURE THAT YOU RECEIVE EMAILS, BE SURE YOUR DUES ARE CURRENT. INFO:CONTACT DON- EMAIL.

GOLDHOUND T-SHIRTS NOW FOR SALE

DON NICHOLS, MEMBER, WILL BE TAKING CARE OF THIS FOR THE CLUB. DON HAS DIFFERENT COLORS AND JUST NEEDS TO KNOW WHAT SIZE YOU WANT. HE HAS MADE UP SOME BEAUTIFUL T-SHIRTS FOR US ALREADY! BUT IF YOU REQUIRE A XXL OR XXXL, HE NEEDS TO KNOW. IF THEY ARE PRINTED ON ONE SIDE ONLY THE COST WILL BE 12\$ AND BOTH SIDES WILL BE \$15. THANKS DON, HIS EMAIL; DONSIMAGES@SUDDENLINK.NET OR CALL 916-384-7767.

ICMJ'S PROSPECTING & MINING JOURNAL

ONLINE: WWW.ICMJ.COM -- PHONE: (831) 479-1500 -- FAX: (831) 479-4385 --ICMJ, BOX 2260, APTOS, 95001-2260 Pick up the latest California Mining and Prospecting Journal at Pioneer Mining in Auburn. They have current articles and monthly updates of on-going issues regarding our mining industry. We cannot stress enough the importance of sending letters and support to the groups that are helping to fight against closures of lands and mining rights.

YOUR DUE DATE OF RENEWAL IS THE DATE YOU JOIN GOLDHOUNDS. AT EACH MEETING WE HAVE A MEMBERSHIP LIST THAT GIVES YOUR DATE DUE IN NAME ORDER. WE SEND OUT RAFFLE TICKETS IN MAY OR JUNE AND YOUR ADDRESS LABEL, UPPER RIGHT WILL GIVE YOU YOUR DATE DUE, OR YOU MAY EMAIL AND FIND OUT IF YOU ARE DUE OR NOT. THANKS TO ALL OUR GREAT MEMBERSHIP FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR CLUB AND ACTIVITIES.

MEMBERSHIP APP.-MOTHER LODE GOLDHOUNDS, BOX 149, FORESTHILL, CA 95631

wwwgoldhounds.com - email: goldworld@wildblue.net - 530-367-2891 VM leave message.

\$40.00 Individual or \$45.00 Family (one year) please send check to above addresss.

() New membership or () Renewal---Are you interested in the Exploration Team? () yes or () no

NAME _____ EMAIL _____
ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

I APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE MOTHER LODE GOLDHOUNDS. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT WHATEVER RECREATIONAL EVENT I, OR MY FAMILY, ATTEND THAT I AM RESPONSIBILE AND AT NO TIME WILL HAVE LEGAL OR FINANCIAL CLAIM AGAINST, NOR WILL HOLD RESPONSIBLE, ANY MEMBER OR CLUB OFFICIAL OF THE MOTHER LODE GOLDHOUNDS FOR ANY DAMAGES OR INJURIES BY MY PARTICIPATION.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

DON'S EXPLORATION TEAM - EMAIL: GOLDWORLD@WILDBLUE.NET OR CALL 530-367-2891 VM

You will receive an email and it becomes your option to go or not. A rating of 1-10 will be added, 10 being very difficult. The team may not always find gold but they are always looking for new areas to prospect. Finding such places is not easy. You should be in fairly good shape as you never know where Don may take you. If you are interested in the team be sure to email Don to have him add you to the EXPO TEAM. The email states where to meet and what time you will leave. Be on time or you will be left behind.

NAME BADGES: CLUB NAME BADGES - MEMBER JIM KURY TAKES CARE OF OUR BADGES. PIN CLASPS FOR \$4, OR MAGNETIC FOR \$4.50. EMAIL: JMKURY@HUGHES.NET OR 530-367-4318.

MEETINGS ARE HELD THE 2ND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE AUBURN VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL, 7:00PM-9:00PM, 100 EAST ST. TAKE HWY 80 TO AUBURN, THEN HWY 49 EAST, AT THE FIRST STOP LIGHT, TURN RIGHT, GO ONE BLOCK, TURN RIGHT AGAIN. VETERANS HALL SITS ON THE LEFT, PARKING IN THE BACK. PUBLIC INVITED.

2010 GOLDBOUNDS MEETING SCHEDULE & OUTINGS

CHECK EMAILS FOR UPDATES IN OUR SCHEDULE AS WEATHER COULD BE A FACTOR AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR. FRANK AND DENNIS AT PIONEER MINING IN AUBURN RECEIVE OUR INFORMATION. THANKS FRANK AND DENNIS!

AS SNOW AND WEATHER GETS BETTER IN THE HIGH COUNTRY DON WILL BE ANXIOUS TO GET OUT AND EXPLORE. CHECK YOUR EMAILS. TO ENSURE YOU GET YOUR EMAIL DUES MUST BE CURRENT, ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT DON.

- Feb. 15 Goldhound Nuggets teaching at Mt. Vernon's Memorial Cemetery for Presidents' Day, for info. Contact Carol Ebbitt leader of Goldhound Nuggets, ebbittce@sbcglobal.net or (916) 645-9439
- March 12, Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm
- April 9, Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm
- April 24, Metal Detecting at Gleeson Pit, if rain, we will postpone. Check emails. Meet at head of Sugar Pine Dam, 8:00 AM - If Mike Bowers can do a detecting seminar we will have it in next newsletter.
- May 14, Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm
- May 24, Outing-this will depend on the rivers. Don will check and send an email as we get closer to the date.
- June 11, Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9pm
- June 26, Grant's Highlands, High Country. If weather good, this may be a weekend outing, Check emails.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND, 9/4 & 9/5, FORESTHILL HERITAGE CELEBRATION, WILL BE THE U.S.A. & CALIFORNIA STATE GOLD PANNING CHAMPIONSHIPS, MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

AND

BEAR RIVER WILL BE COLUMBUS DAY WEEKEND AGAIN, IT SEEMS TO WORK OUT THE BEST!

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR OTHER CLUBS

Feb. 20-21, G.P.A.A., Fresno Fairgrounds, Commerce Building, Fresno, CA. Call toll free number below.

ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS GEM & MINERAL GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY SHOW,
MARCH 27 & 28, 10 AM - 5 PM, FREE PARKING, ADM.\$5, SENIOR'S \$4, 12 & UNDER FREE, ROSEVILLE FAIRGROUNDS, ROSEVILLE, CA., CALL FLORENCE, (916) 961-6868, OR (530) 367-5108.
WWW.ROCKROLLERS.COM OR EMAIL ROCKROLLERS@HOTMAIL.COM.

OTHER CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Roseville Rock Rollers Gem & Mineral Society meets 2nd Tues. monthly, Roseville Fairgrounds, Garden Room, 800 All America City Blvd., www.rockrollers.com or Box 212, Roseville, 95678 or call Florence, (916) 961-6868. email rockrollers@hotmail.com. or WWW.ROCKROLLERS.COM

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society - email info@eldoradomineralandgem.org - 530-676-2472 or www.eldoradomineralandgem.org - Mail: Box 950, Placerville, CA 95677- meets mthly. on 3rd Tues.at Senior Center, 937 Spring Street, Placerville, at 7:00. This club is active and has a monthly newsletter.

Gold Prospector Association of America, meets quarterly, for info, Jim Hutchings, 530-367-5108. (For INFO: WWW.GOLDPROSPECTORS.ORG OR 1-800- 551-9797. Also call toll free for all treasure shows.

Sac.Valley Detecting Buffs meet 1st Thurs. monthly, Sac.County Old SMUD Bldg. corner Elkhorn & Don Julio in No. Highlands, or call 916-987-9336 - www.sacramentovalleydetectingbuffs.com.

United Prospectors meets every other month at outings, www.unitedprospectors.com. Info 510-733-3253. Club has claims and newsletters every 2 months, meets at outings.

Shasta Miners, meets 3rd Friday, Happy Valley Center, Anderson, info 530-623-4209, claims, mthlynewsletr.

Public Lands for the People, 7194 Conejo Dr., San Bernardino, CA 92404, (909) 889-3039, WWW.PLP2.ORG- PLP continues to work on your behalf to keep public lands open. Donations are tax deductible.

New 49'ers Prosp.Club. Box 47, Happy Camp, CA 96039, new49ers@goldgold.com, WWWGOLDGOLD.COM For info call 530 493-2012. Club has Claims.

ICMJ'S Prospecting & Mining Journal, Box 2260 Aptos, CA 95001 or wwwicmj.com.831-479-1500

Comstock Gold Prospectors, Box 20781. Reno, NV 89515 , Club has Claims contact Reno Mining Supply.

Gold Pan California, Gold Adventures, 1021 Detroit Avenue #D, Concord, CA 94518, (925) 825-GOLD



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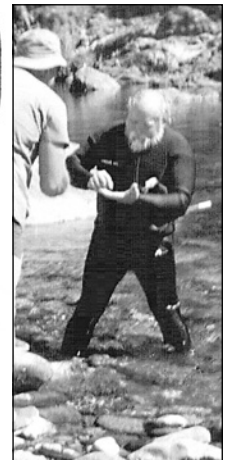
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Frank, finding nuggets on the North Fork.

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