

May, 2008

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWING MEMBERS,

Finally some nice weather. The vegetable growing season for our area is short so I better get my tomatoes set out soon. It has been very busy for Don and I as it seems we have hit 2008 running. The newsletter has really helped me on time but I still need a due date system to send a notice of renewal out to our members. Right now you will receive a post-card with a date due showing. We will send out your membership card when we send the raffle tickets next month. We are trying to work out the bugs in it right now. If you have any questions about the date due please send Don an email. If you have changed your email please send that info. right away.

Thank you Jim Hutchings for the presentation on 4/11. We appreciate all you do for our hobby and our club. Jim is the President of the Roseville Rock Rollers out of Roseville. They have a great group of people and they have their own lapidary shop and monthly newsletter. Check them out: www.rockrollers.com.

There have been several outings and we have met some of our new members. They are eager to get out and look for gold. Many of them just starting out so they will need help from our "seasoned" miners. We have all been at the beginners stage so give them a hand and help where you can.

I remember years ago when I first met Don we lived in the Bay Area. Don wore a business suit and shiny shoes and I don't think he owned a pair of Levi's! We met at a Pot-luck in the Apartment building we both lived in, this was 33 years ago! And that was on April Fool's day, 4/1/75. Wow, time does fly! He had just started gold panning at the Iowa Hill bridge on weekends. He ask if I wanted to go gold panning, I said what is that? That question was the beginning of a love affair that changed our lives forever. What fun we have had and meeting such great people over the years has been wonderful. We cannot thank our Goldhounds enough for your friendship and support of our events and club.

In our newsletter each month we try to cover a little bit of everything and what we are doing as a club. We subscribe to the International California Mining Journal, a prospecting and mining magazine. They are the best on the market for keeping prospecting and mining issues up-dated and for the yearly price of \$27.95 it is well worth it. If you would like to see other subjects covered let us know. We will have new hand-outs at the meeting and you can advertise by showing up and putting the flyers on the table for information.

For our new members be sure to check the outing schedule with the current newsletter each month as we will add to this or make changes. Our main form of communication will be the email as Don keeps this updated week to week.

On April 10th we were contacted by Channel 2 TV out of Oakland that wanted to film gold panning on the river. I told them we were having a meeting on 4/11 and we could ask at that time if our members could put this together and I would call them back. Jim Hutchings and Don discussed it,(hoping Jim would do it), and then it ended up with me again!! I talked to Carol Ebbitt and Ray Dodds, and from that point on Carol and Ray took control. They called Channel 2 and met them at the Bear River with a couple of other 'Nuggets.' The event aired on 4/13 TV. Great Job Carol and Ray! Many of you know this already but I want everyone to know that this team of "Nuggets" do a lot of special events teaching gold panning to youngsters with "color" donated by Sam Markley. Thank you all for representing Goldhounds so professionally. You are the BEST!

Thank you to Brian & Karen Bartholomew for taking over the raffle table at our meetings. The "Red Hat Ladies" will help when and where it is needed. If you have anything (mining related) you want to donate, bring it in and give to Karen or Brian. The tickets for our Annual Raffle, that is held on Labor Day weekend, will be out in June.

Last month we sent out an email for everyone to try and bring cookies, etc. for our refreshment table. If you do bring in a plate or platter, be sure to pick it up at the end of the meeting. I think we are still looking for a big silver platter from our last meeting. Thanks everyone! See you Friday, May 9th.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Slug Gulch Exploration



Left to right: Harley Lukenbill, Ron Earl, Greg Pickens, Ray Dodds, Ken Hillard, and Dawn Forcier.

Slug Gulch Exploration April 28, 2008

I had put out an e-mail for an exploration trip but warned everyone this could be a tough hike. Seven of us decided to go for it! The crew was me, Harley Lukenbill, Dawn Forcier, Ray Dodds, Ron Earl, Greg Pickens, and Ken Hillard.

The day was perfect for the trip. The area we were going after was between Auburn and Foresthill, and the Gulch emptied into the Middle Fork of the American River. The territory was basically between Drivers Flat road when it reaches the Middle Fork and five miles upstream at Fords Bar.

We drove down the rough, bumpy, potholed, dirt





Team on the trail to Slug Gulch

Drivers Flat road until we reached a gate that the State Parks had put up to stop road traffic. We had to park there and then start our hike along the road and then up onto the Western States trail. We reached the bottom of Slug Gulch in just about an hour of hiking, which was an easy trek. Going up the Gulch was a different story.

This was a narrow, rough ravine with large boulders, vines, poison oak, and you name it. Water was flowing in the ravine though, and was more than enough to pan, but likely not enough for a sluice box. The areas for panning were basically pools from small water falls as we advanced upward. Our initial panning was very spotty, with very small colors. Then Ron Earl panned out a nice picker and that started us working hard again.

We had hiked quite a ways up the Gulch and slowly worked our way back down. We generally found color



but nothing to brag about. We were almost back to where we started at the bottom when Dawn Forcier went over the small hill to the next ravine checking it out (not more than 40 yards away) and found what was likely the main part of Slug Gulch! The area had been worked really hard, with huge tailings piles of rough slate. This extended way up the adjacent ravine (no water at all) and covered a lot of territory. There was nothing obvious to work there and time was about out for us so we basically looked and then headed back to end the day.



So what was there that the miners were looking for? It appears to be seam diggings. We left but now that old area that we really didn't explore is calling.....

On our way back we dropped off the trail and went down to the Middle Fork to an area that Ray Dodds and Ron Earl knew about. We stayed for maybe an hour, finding some color, and then called it a day. This was a super exploration effort, and for me, I'll have to go back and check out those old diggings that Dawn found. I can't drop that exploration effort until that additional exploration has been done.



Thanks crew for a super exploration trip. Don





Slug Gulch on the side we didn't explore because of time. Notice on the picture on the bottom. See the person standing in the middle of the picture? This is some big workings.

The picture below is the Middle Fork of the American where we stopped to pan on our way back from Slug Gulch. This is just below the rapids and to get to it requires dropping off the road and taking a small trail down the hillside. The area here is mostly bedrock and not much gravel but the crevices pay if you can find the right one. The best pay seams to be higher but is very spotty.



Outing at Gleeson Diggings, Iowa Hill.
Saturday April 26, 2008



Gleeson Diggings Outing
Saturday April 26, 2008

I counted 38 Goldhounds on this trip and likely missed one or two. This was a big outing on land that is under mining claim by two mining claimants. We were given special permission for this outing and I want to emphasize that this is not an area for individuals to come back to on their own. The deal with the mining claimants is that this is for the club only and that individuals are not to go back and ask permission to enter and prospect.

This is a big area and an old historic mine in the Iowa Hill Mining District. The gold can be hit and miss, but really good hits can happen and they have in the past. Eighteen pennyweight pieces have been detected and so have a good number of rattlesnakes! Doc Livingston, who used to have all this area under claim 30 years ago, called this the “banana belt” because it can really be hot in the summer.



Just about every Goldhound came away with some gold, with some more than others. Jim Eakin hit a really hot spot detecting. At first it was multiple small flakes and then a 3.1 pennyweight piece. The area was so hot that Jim was filling up pans for panners and every pan had nice color. The day ended with this hot prospect and lots of panners went home happy.

I emphasized to everyone there that this was a one time visit and coming back is not permitted. We do not want to lose our privilege to come back again. Both claimants are friends of mine who I have helped with mining issues in the past, and this is why we have the privilege to come to the area.

Thanks Goldhounds for this really great trip. We will likely visit this area again this fall so be prepared to return and have a great time. Thanks. Don





Jim Eakin's gold for the day



Gleeson outing



T-SHIRTS, WE ARE FINALLY READY TO ORDER FOR 2008

We will have a sign up list for ordering T-shirts at the next meeting. Some of you ordered at the end of the year and I have that information. We will be looking at changing colors? Do we want the California State Seal on the reverse of the T-shirt? We do sponsor the State Championships so I must vote yes! Some of the ladies want blue? The men want yellow? Give us some of your thoughts so we can put it together and get this started right away. Each year at the Fall Heritage State Championships we give away a T-Shirt to winners of the State Panning Championships, a total of 34. We are looking at different colors, or a different panner? And we hope we will be selling them at our booth Labor Day weekend. We do get a lot of interest on this so we will see what this will involve. One of our new members is in the business and if all goes well, he will be in charge!

DON ROBINSON PENDING SHOULDER SURGERY FOR TORN ROTATOR CUFF! HELP!!

It's true. A lot of you know this already since the accident occurred about 2 months ago and probably even longer. But we made a trip to the Veterans Hospital in Reno for the MRI and met with the surgeon. Now we are waiting for a call from them as to the date of surgery. The mining team has continued to work letting Don supervise only and it is a struggle because they have to keep hollering at him. Merle, Bill and Russ keep running out of the mine because he would not follow their rules. It has been tough on everyone and especially Don since he has never had an injury before. But we will get through this also.

MEMBER NEWS - Steve Lintner had surgery for a new pace maker for his heart. If you would like to send a note his email: lintgonemining@comcast. Take it easy Steve, dredging is just around the corner. Jim Ruppell has recovered but still in therapy for his major shoulder surgery. Great to see you Jim! Ed Ebbitt Jr. ended up with a 4-way By-Pass and is recovering at home. I don't think Carol Ebbitt slept at all during his heart attack and surgery. Carol will keep us updated. Bless you Ed and Penny.

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

www.goldhounds.com - email: goldworld@hughes.net - 530-367-2891 VM leave message.

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

() 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 RESPONSIBLE 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. I WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MY ACTIONS. I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS RELEASE.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

DON'S EXPLORATION TEAM - EMAIL GOLDWORLD@HUGHES.NET OR CALL 530-367-2891(VM).

You will receive an email and it is 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 looking for new areas to prospect, send your email to be added to the team.

"LOOKING FOR PROSPECTORS" - We have a group that work with each other for day-trip outings when they get "cabin fever." Contact leader, Jim Kury, email: jmkury@hughes.net or call 530-367-4318.

"CLUB NAME BADGES"- Jim kury also handles club badges, pin clasps for \$4 or magnetic for \$4.50

Webmaster: Bill Percy, www.goldhounds.com.- memberships, Annie Robinson., Red Hat Ladies & Roving Reporter, Carol Ebbitt, Retired Club Paparazzi, Joe Cardoza. Retired Club Nurse - Barbara Cardoza, Avon Lady, Lee Buhler also Refreshments, Ken Woolly,. Director and Sergeant-at-Arms, Bill Bowman and Merle Litzinger. President, Don Robinson.

GOLDHOUNDS MEETING SCHEDULE & OUTINGS FOR 2008 - PUBLIC INVITED

- May 9 Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm.
May 17 Outing, time and directions will be in newsletter and email.
June 13 Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm.
June 19-22 Goldhound Annual Outing - info will follow in newsletter and email.- Grants Highland possible...
July 11 Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm.
July 19 Outing, time and directions will follow in News. & email., if Toro mine road looks good, we can go.
Aug. 8 Goldhound meeting, 100 East St, Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm.
Aug. 22-24 Annual Slate Creek dredging & prospecting outing. Info. will follow in newsletter and email.
Aug. 29-31 Labor Day weekend, Calif. State Gold Panning Championships & Foresthill Heritage Celebration.
Also Calif. State Lumberjack Championships. Info will follow regarding times and events.
Sept. 12 Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm.
Sept. 20 Goldhound outing, time and directions will follow in newsletter and email.
Oct. 2-5 Annual Bear River Outing, info will follow.
Oct. 10 Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm
Oct.30/11-2 Annual Outing, Ancadon mine, info will follow.
Nov. 14 Goldhound meeting, 100 East St., Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall, 7-9 pm.
Dec. 12 Goldhound meeting, 100 East St. Auburn Veterans, Project Love, Iowa Hill School, PotLuck and Party.
Dec. 19 Project Love, Iowa Hill School Party, info will follow, meet at School.

NON-GOLDHOUND SPECIAL EVENTS

- May 18, June 22, to be held the 3rd Sunday of each month. Crafters Rendezvous at Eureka Gems & Minerals, 6200 Enterprise Dr., Diamond Springs, more info go to website gems-minerals.com (530)-344-0500
May 10 & 11 Jackpot of Gems 2008, Gold, Jewelry & Mineral Show by the Reno Gem & Mineral Society 10:00am to 5:00pm, Reno Livestock Events Center, Exhibits Hall, 1350 N. Wells Ave., Reno, free parking, for more info call (775) 356-8820 or website at renorockclub.com.
July 12, 2008 Iowa Hill "Gold Rush Days." Iowa Hill Volunteer Fire Station. Pancake breakfast, Bar-B-Q, raffle, for info call 916-216-2402, or 530-367-2891. Proceeds to help fire department & community club.

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. ANNUAL EVENT 3/27-3/29/09
Gold Prospector Association of America, meets quarterly, for info, Jim Hutchings, 530-367-5108. (CI aims) next meeting, July 19.
Sacra. 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, for info 530-623-4209, claims & newsletr. monthly

ITEMS FOR SALE - FREE TO MEMBERS

- White's GMT metal detector, all accessories, including earphones and pen-pointer, \$650 - call Phil 209-463-7989.
Plastic coin holders in 3 sizes. I have samples to show at the meeting, perfect for coin collectors. .25 cents each, lots of them, call Don Evans, 916-781-2474 or see Annie.
1958 Fiedler Gold Dredge, Keene 5HP - \$350 call Bill 916-478-2733.
Keene 6" underwater dredge on floats, needs 8HP pump, \$350, call 916-478-2733.
5" dredge suction nozzle and hose, \$75, call 916-478-2733.

MEETINGS ARE HELD the 2nd Friday of each month at the Veterans Hall in Auburn, 7:00am-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!

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY THE AUBURN VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL IS 530-888-9861

TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

MOTHER LODE GOLDHOUNDS NEWSLETTER

May 1 2008



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Mailing address: MOTHER LODE GOLDHOUNDS

P.O. Box 149, Foresthill, Ca. 95631

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