



Locating Gold, Gems and Minerals

The official publication of the *Trails and Tales of UPI*. The family oriented, small-scale miners, metal detecting and prospecting group, educating in, and promoting gold, gem, mineral and metals hunting of all types.

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June 2005

No. 275, Vol. 57-6



**MEMBER FIND AT
BULL!**

**NICE FINDS
MADE AT BULL
CREEK OUTING!**



*The next outing
is Genesee. July
1 through 4.
More inside.*

**SETTING UP FOR A RELAXING
EVENING AFTER A HARD
DAY OF MINING!**



UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Don Siegel
June 2005

PRESIDENT
Don Siegel

V. PRESIDENT
Tom Eastland

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Samantha Wait

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CLUB HISTORIAN
Bill Reboin

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POLITICAL ACTION**
Gerald Hurt

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Tom Eastland

CLAIMS
Chet Chastain

ETHICS/GRIEVANCE
Gerald Hurt

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OUTING COORDINATOR
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TECHNICAL ADVISOR
Steve Letlow

WAGON MASTER
Wes Smith

WAYS AND MEANS
Aaron Matula

WEB MASTER
Mark Weber

What a wonderful time I had at the Bull Creek outing: Pretty good gold, great weather and excellent company. For the first time in a few years we were able to have a campfire at the Bull Creek outing, which added to the great experience. The potluck provided such a wide variety of excellent food I had a very hard time putting my wet suit on the next day. The very best part was the excellent general member participation in the board meeting Saturday morning. We need more of this kind of participation at every meeting.

Remember without hearing from you, the members, how are we as your Board of Directors going to know how you feel about how and where we are going as an organization? We need your participation in the operations of this organization if we are going to be able to continue to have outings of the quality of the last outing held at Bull Creek.

WE are at that time of year that officers and directors are nominated for the new terms upcoming, and we will start accepting nominations for the next terms at the next outing, Genesee. Please make yourself heard with your participation and your nominations so UPI continues to be the best mining organization out there.

You all know of the efforts we are making to obtain the rights to mine Oxbow, as we have known it for more than a decade. I want to give a special thanks to Gerald and Sherri Hurt for all the time and effort they have put into this project. Gerald might tell you of my efforts but let it be known that he and Sherri have put a lot of research into the proper steps and procedures required to keep this on the front burner. It would be very easy to sit back and let this action by the Forest Service and the BLM run its course, but taking action now and forcing the issue we stand a much greater chance of an early positive outcome. Be sure to thank the Hurts for all their efforts at the Genesee outing.

Hope to see all of you at Babcock crossing, at the Genesee outing next month, July 1 through 4.
Don

THE OUTING

This was a great outing in more ways than one. The best part for me was three complete days with no land-line or wireless, no pager and no e-mail. I was able to devote three days to myself and do the things that I like to do. It was great being with the group, talking and mining. Yes! I actually got some mining in, the first time in a while. The old body let me get around with a pack on my back and the camera on my shoulder with a minimum of effort. It was great being in the Chapel of the Creator, the backcountry.

OK, enough on me and on with the outing. The drive in was not as dusty as usual due to fairly recent precipitation. Moreover the weather was just perfect. Not too cool and definitely not too warm through out the outing. I need to believe that all thought the weather was near perfect. On pulling in Friday morning the site was about 1/3 occupied. Most everybody was set up on the westerly end of the campsite. Choices for setting up camp were in abundance. My usual spot was open but I deferred to a more level spot that enhanced the set up.

After getting set up Chet Chastain, Claims Manager and I hiked down stream to Lower Bull. While walking

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Schedule for 2005

July 1 thru 4 - Genesee@ Babcock Crossing
Aug. 12 - 14 - Spanish Creek/Clm Gold
Sept. 9-11 - Greenhorn Creek plus more
Oct. 8 & 9 - Bull Creek
Nov. 5 & 6 - Coulterville - 6th annual pre-Thanksgiving outing/feed

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Wagon Master: Wes Smith, (925) 682-9059 or pachecosmith@aol.com

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Asst. Claims: Ray Budowich, PO Box 367, Coulterville, CA
Asst. Claims Plumas Co.: Johnny Lewis Jr., (530) 283-4787

Chapters

For Chapter meeting times please contact the representative indicated for your Chapter area. For information or volunteer work on area Chapters listed as open, please contact:

Tom Eastland, Chapters Chairperson. (925) 932-4288 or chapters@unitedprospectors.com



Alameda County, Chairperson; Steve Kleszyk, (925) 443-4993 or ratled88@aol.com
Meeting held at - - - Prospectors Claim Store
174 S. "K" Street
Livermore, CA

Contra Costa County, Chairperson; Ed Ozga, (925) 706-8193 or QzMiner@msn.com
Meeting held at - - - First Baptist Church Mansion
3033 Bonifacio St.
Concord, CA

Madera County, Chairperson; Open

Sacramento County, Chairperson; Open

San Joaquin County, Chairperson; Steve Letlow, (209) 986-6276 or sbletlow@comcast.net
Call Steve for when and where. It is understood that meetings will be held at Terry Schoens shop.

Santa Clara County, Chairperson; Michael Phillips, (408) 595-9121 or kitfox@pacbell.net
Please call for particulars.

Stanislaus County, Chairperson: Don Siegel, (209) 551-9802 or dps0736@aol.com
Call for particulars



The old miner sez: Regarten da curent debacle wit da FS an otherz it look like they gotta be a line drawn inna sand an sez nuf is nuf. It gonna take all partizapaten!

UNITED PROSPECTORS INC. (UPI)© THE TRAILS AND TALES OF UPI©

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UPI JOURNAL/©
NEWSLETTER©

LOCATING GOLD GEMS AND MINERALS©
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UPI encourages submission of articles of all kinds related to the trials and tribulations and experiences of small scale miners, opinion pieces, cartoons and poems. Unsolicited e-mail submissions become the property of UPI to use as they wish. Submissions in writing, accompanied by a self addressed stamped envelope will be returned to the sender if not used.

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BOARD NOTES

June 4, 2005

President Don Siegel called meeting to order at 9:04a.m.

Roll Call:

Officers Present: Don Siegel, President; Tom Eastland, Vice President; Rita Perry, Secretary.

Directors Present: Bill Reboin, Chet Chastain, Brenda Marsh, Steve Letlow, Tom Eastland (dual role), Linda Doyle, Gerald Hurt, Wesley Smith and Aaron Matula.

Directors Absent: Treasurer, Samantha Wait and Director Editor, vacant.

Members Present: Christa Eastland, Charles Crippen, Dillard McKeever, William Letlow, Dennis and Pat Mobley, Ed Pate, Merv Pate, Paul Sprinkle, Sid and Lorrie Parrish, Bill Greymont, Wesley Smith, John and Kathy Melling, Ron and Marty Dunston, Art and Lucy Apodaca, Jack Hollinger, and there were others who came later.

Minutes were read and accepted.

Motion was made by Chet Chastain and seconded by Brenda Marsh to accept the minutes from our last meeting. Motion carried.

- **Treasurer, Samantha Wait:** The checkbook balance as of March 11, 2005, was \$7,478.07; total revenue \$4,377.00 which leaves a total of \$11,855.07. Administration Expenses: \$161.78; Claims Expense: \$959.16; Publication Expense: \$819.25; Website: \$161.46; Total Expenses \$2,101.65. May 21, 2005, Balanced Checkbook is \$9,753.42. Motion was made by Chet Chastain and seconded by Bill Reboin to accept the treasurer report and motion carried.
- **Membership, Linda Doyle:** This is as of May 31, 2005, 1 Honorary, 60 Lifetime, 347 Regular, 11 Subscribers, Total of 419: 797 Family Members. We did send out mailings to all of the past members who had not renewed. So far we have had 11 or 12 responses and one signed up to become a life member.
- **Wagon Master, Wesley "Wes" Smith:** Nothing to report. Wesley has made it to the outings, a couple of meetings, and has made himself familiar with the role of Wagon Master. Steve has been in transition of taking over the Technical Advisor position and has been helping Wes get started taking over the position as Wagon Master. We need a vote to install Wes as the Director Wagon Master. Gerald Hurt made a motion to install Wes. Chet Chastain seconded the motion. The motion carried. Oath will be deferred until next meeting.
- **Outing Coordinator, Brenda Marsh:** My plan is to do some first aid training at least at the July Outing. Other than the potluck I have nothing planned for this particular outing. Somebody brought horseshoes, maybe we will have a horseshoe contest.
- **Ways and Means, Aaron Matula:** I carry T-shirts, pens, hats, and if there is anything special you would like me to have let me know. Also, I am looking for suggestions for various prizes.
- **Political-Grievance, Gerald Hurt:** Oxbow conflict Appeal has been received. We are appealing to keep two claims close to the Dam and the Powerhouse. Also, he spoke on our Mining Rights as a non-commercial mining operation. If cited by an enforcement officer, please get name and badge number, written and verbal violation.
- **Editor/Publisher, Bill Reboin:** For the last couple of months, Linda Doyle, Mark Weber, and I have been going through all of the official publications including stuff on the website removing reference to club. We are working on the Bowen History with permission from Jerry Bowen to clean that up and also state in the history why club is being eliminated.
- **Chapters, Tom Eastland:** I would like to give recognition to the four Chapters who recently had an outing at Moccasin Creek, Alameda County, Contra Costa County, Stanislaus County, and San Joaquin County. Twenty-five people attended the outing. He would like to see more of this happening. A gentleman would like to start a chapter in Groveland.
- **Claims, Chet Chastain:** Chet paid the taxes and affidavits filed and recorded on claims. Stipulated that refueling mats must be used and spark arresters in order not to loose our claims. Chet spoke to Jerry Randall and Charlie Brown prior Presidents of UPI, regarding the 26 to 30 claims we now have with the expense of rental fees \$3,250 to BLM. I recommend that volume is not as important as quality. We should decide which claims to keep and which claims to relinquish. Moccasin is closed until September. Also, as of June 1st dues are now \$45.00 and Lifetime Members are \$450.00.
- **Technical Advisor, Steve Letlow:** Steve is learning his position. He will be checking on spark arresters and refueling mats to make sure everyone is complying with the rules and regulations.

• **Treasurer, Samantha Wait:** BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT.

Linda Doyle, Membership; Postage and Mailing	\$ 302.11
Chet Chastian, Claims; Mileage, Supplies	\$ 347.37
Filing and Recording Fees	
TOTAL BILL	\$ 649.48

New Checkbook Balance \$9,103.94



The old miner sez: Wouldn't it be nice if whenever we messed up our life we could simply press 'Ctrl Alt Delete' and start all over?

Motion was made by Gerald Hurt and seconded by Chet Chastain to accept payment of the bills. Motion carried.

- **Unfinished Business:** Nothing.
- **New Business:** Wes wanted to notify everyone that Bill and he had PLP Raffle Tickets on hand Saturday and Sunday if anyone wants to purchase them at a cost of \$1.00 each or \$10.00 a packet. The drawing will be held June 16th. Also, Gerald requested a release of another \$500.00 to be given to PLP from the amount that was already authorized by the board. Motion was made by Chet Chastain and seconded by Aaron Matula. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:48a.m.



Left: A couple of miners working the bed rock. The water was higher than normal for this time of the year. Normally the area pictured is all dry bedrock.



The westerly end of the camping area.



NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS

This section is devoted to acknowledging and welcoming all new members and those renewing!

Welcome aboard for a year of fun.

Information is from 05/12/05 through 06/16/05

New Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Robert Alexander	San, CA
Billy Crow	Marysville, WA
Raymond Elmore	Antelope, CA
Thomas Florence	Healdsburg, CA
Rick & Kathy Jeffries	Twain, CA
Blair Johnson	Grand, CA
Bill & Carolyn Monaghan	Livermore, CA
Susan Osterberg	Rancho, CA
Phil Van Beak	Yuba City, CA

Renewing Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Gary Anderson	Lodi, CA
Edward & Deanna Bailey	Auberry, CA
James Black	Fremont, CA
Gary & Regina Black	Fairfield, CA
Jim Bohannon	Patterson, CA
Bill & Carol Bowman	Citrus, CA
A.B. and Grace Carter	National City, CA
Mark Chambers	Sparks, NV
Ton Cochran	Discovery, CA
Brian Cox	Visalia, CA
Martin Davis	Stockton, CA
Steve & Jean Dorman	Auburn, CA
Mike & Linda Doyle	Placerville, CA
Roy & Marti Dunston	Coulterville, CA
Kenneth Evans	Windsor, CA
Vic & Esther Griffith	Greenville, CA

Renewing (Cont.)

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Mike Hickman	Louisville, KY
Walter & Beverly Hills	Groveland, CA
Regis Lehman	Livermore, CA
Alex Marinello	Redlands, CA
Brenda Marsh	Sacramento, CA
Jim McCaul	Stockton, CA
Rex Miller	Patterson, CA
Pat Milligan	Arroyo, CA
Richard Nystrom	Paradise, CA
Lorna & Don Paquette	Yuba City, CA
Sid Parrish	Morgan Hill, CA
Terence Pippi	Healdsburg, CA
Mario Robles	Canoga Park, CA
Bruce A. Rouse	San Jose, CA
Donald Siegel	Modesto, CA
Dolores G. Simpson	Oroville, CA
Ace Smithart	Carmichael, CA
Paul Sprenkle	Clovis, CA
Alexander Valentine	Castro Valley, CA
John Williams	Crescent, CA
Gerald & Kim Williamson	Magalia, CA
Richard & Carol Worthington	Placerville, CA
Rod Zook	Stockton, CA

Up for Renewal on 07/31/05

Bob Azbill	Larry & Iris Biggs	Edward Black
Donald Brown	Bruce Chapman	Kim Ellison
John Ellison	Breck Fry	Bob Huddleston
Keith Kemp	Charles A. Kerner	Keith Kimnse
Ken Liddle	William Medlock	Debbie Peck
Frnk Potter	Jim Prink	Joe W. Rowell
Ernie & Virginia Sandberg		Henry Sisler
Chuck Ucker	Robert Wynhamer	

Welcome aboard for another great year of fun with UPI. Hope to see all of you at one time or another at the outings. Come on out and join in in the great potlucks and raffles and campfire talks!



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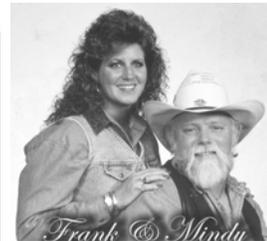
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(Continued from page 2) The Outing Continued

down stream it was noticed that a lot of water had flowed through the stream since October of last year, our last outing there. There were indications of the water having gotten three to four, and perhaps five feet higher than it was currently running. It was currently running between a foot and two feet higher than it normally runs in June. Obviously it was a wet year. Elsewhere in this publication there is a picture of Chet on a log that was moved wherein you can get an idea of the stream flow.



Center picture is part of the Doyle Gang dredging downstream from where a few of us were panning.

This log is at the upstream end of Lower Bull.

There were a few members further downstream that were mining that could only be reached by getting wet, wading. Not prepared for this I opted to do a little visualizing of crevicing possibilities and they looked good. Old pre-worked spots had been replenished with gravels and looked promising. Others and myself worked these areas over the outing, and speaking for myself only, all I found was sparklers. I threw them back with the hopes they would grow.

A couple of members were set up at the extreme lower end of Lower Bull. They used a winching system devised by Kit Perry, as I recall, for lowering and raising their equipment up and down the steep drop off to the creek. There was Au found there. A couple of other members were set up several hundred yards downstream from the upper end of Lower Bull, they packed in, and Au was found. There were some nice finds amongst the members that were seen and can be verified. Who knows what else was found? Miners tend to be secretive at times; they don't want any claim/space jumping.

I have no specific reports or information on how the Upper and Middle Bull claims produced, though one needs to think that there were finds there as well. As I chose to do some mining on Lower Bull I didn't get to the upper claims to see who was up there or what was found. Sorry, I like to wet my pan too.

The Board meeting on Saturday morning was well attended by both Board Members and general members. There were some good discussions about a number of things that are currently in the regulatory scene. The Board was very happy to see the member turnout and participation in the Board Meeting. We need to keep this up. Remember, we have nominations coming up really soon for about half of the Board positions. Be there, participate, observe, make comments and think about our/your future.

As usual an employee of Stanislaus National Forest, Nancy Longmore, visited us. Nancy is a Fire Prevention Officer, and past dredger. She and her husband have equipment up for sale. What prompted her to give up dredging? Tired of filling out unnecessary NOI's as requested by the FS? Nancy was doing her job and enlightening all of us on forest fire prevention and issuing fire permits to those that didn't have them.



Both Friday and Saturday evenings culminated with an end to the day around a campfire with jokes, tales and bonding. Isn't it wonderful? You bet it is.

Tom and Christa on the Outing!

Christa and I, and Howard, had a great time at the outing. We arrived Thursday afternoon, in time to set up our camp. The next morning we took Christa's dredge to our planned location, spent most of the day moving gravel and tossing cobbles.

The Gold seemed to be in the flow gravel, the deeper we dredged, the less sparkles. The water was cold, and a full wet suit was needed. We did OK! Some dredgers near our location did quite well, the best gold that we have seen at Bull Creek!

We noticed something different from past outings and not quite sure what it was. New faces, more people in the creek looking for gold, sitting around the campfire at night was great, watching the kids cooking marshmallows, talking with friends.

Great Raffle! Excellent Pot Luck Dinner! We had a guest for dinner; our local USFS agent joined us for potluck! She enjoyed our group.

Our Bull Creek claim is a beautiful place. Not too far to travel and it has GOLD! Chunky pieces of Gold stuff will peak out of the black sand at the bottom of your clean out pan. Yes, Bull Creek has Gold!

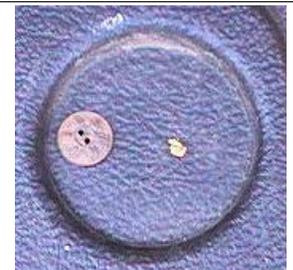
Tom & Christa & Howard



Left upper and lower: SIGNIFICANT SURFACE DISTURBANCE created by Quad runners.

These pics were taken on 06/04/05, and serve as documentation of forest damage to claims not done by claimants.

Did these trashers of the forest file a NOI? NO!! None-the-less we as miners to mine our claims are required by the FS to file an NOI if we use more than a hand trowel and a pan.. Where is justice and equity?



Upper left and clockwise: The Ed/Pub and his faithful pooch Sam. A couple of finds, by a new member, detecting. (Didn't catch his name) New Wagon Master Wes Smith. Member find at Bull. Member campsites.



UPI ROLL CALL

List of members and guests present at the Bull Creek outing, Potluck and Raffle including the raffle results.

June 4 & 5, 2005

1. Paul Sprenkle
2. Joe, Talisa, Stessen Ortiz and Kathy Sprenkle: Stessen won the large quartz crystal.
3. Don, Cindy and Brandon Siegel: Brandon won the painted saw blade.
4. Art and Lucy Apodaca
5. Chet Chastain: Chet won the really pretty pyrite sand dollar.
6. Roy and Marty Dunston: Roy won the 50/50 raffle, \$77.50.
7. Brenda Marsh: Brenda was really patient and in the end she ended up with the "big nugget."
8. Steve and Bill Letlow: Bill went home with an "Alberto" water bottle.
9. Bill Greymont: Bill is all set for sniping and for hand sluicing now. Bill went home with an "EZ Sluice" donated by Tom & Christa Eastland and a sniping glass donated by Gerald Hurt.
10. Mike, Linda, Michelle, Laura & Rachel Doyle, "The Doyle Gang": Laura won some nice coasters that were donated by Linda. Mike won a fire extinguisher donated by Terry Schoen and Linda won a classifier.
11. Aaron, Denise and Alexander Matula: Denise won an 1878 silver dollar an amethyst necklace and a fire extinguisher. (Extinguisher donated by Terry Schoen) Alex won a knife with a belt clip.
12. Gerald Hurt
13. Joel Orona
14. Ton & Christa Eastland: Christa won a backpack frame. The frame was originally donated by Merv Hemp and won by Bill Reboin, Ed/Pub, at Genesee last year. Bill donated it back and Christa how can pack her 2 incher in.
15. Kit and Rita Perry: Kit (Carson) won the "small nugget", and a small quartz crystal.
16. Mike Ancona: Mike went home with a "Grizzly Pan/Sluice Kit" including the video. A great prize.
17. Dennis and Pat Mobley: Dennis won a "Garrett Classifier" donated by Bill Reboin, and Pat won a small gold pan.
18. Terry and Mike Schoen
19. Beverly and Walter Hills
20. Sid and Laurie Parrish
21. Jim Bonetti
22. Wes Smith
23. John and Cathy Melling: John won the half dollar necklace and a 12' Keene pan.
24. Lewis and Randall Venable: Randall won a couple of pry bars, good for opening up the cracks and extracting the Au.
25. Bill Reboin
26. Jack Hollinger
27. Paul Meola
28. Nancy Longmore
29. Charles Krippen: Charlie won the large quartz crystal. A nice specimen.

All right! I count 52 that were present for the outing and the potluck/raffle. If the four legged friends were included we'd be over 55. A great turn out and a bunch of great prizes. I think that everyone is covered, hope nobody was missed, or names misspelled. Ed.



NUGGET WINNERS

Left: Brenda Marsh, winner of the big nugget pictured with President Don Siegel. **Right:** Kit (Carson) Perry, winner of the small nugget.



Right: A table covered with raffle prizes. Some very nice and useful ones included.

Bottom Row: Some of the raffle winners.



MORE OF THE RAFFLE!

WINNERS BELOW



Got a shy one here to the left!

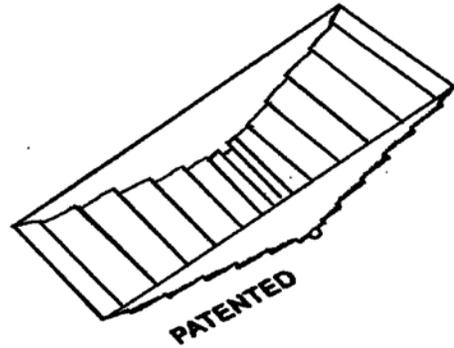


Guest: Below center, seated, Ranger Nancy, Stanislaus NF enjoying the potluck!

The old miner sez: They ain't nuthin bedder den a buncha folks gettingter findin Au an havin fun ta boot. Kin ya dig it?



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OTHER ASPECTS OF THE OUTING!



Here's where they are. Middle picture: Where they started from the vehicle. Far left: What they had to go down to get to the creek.



I believe that it was Kit Perry that devised a winch that hooks into the receiver on the vehicle for getting the mining equipment in and out of places like this. This would be good at places-



along the road at Genesee. Maybe we'll see them in action there in July. These are places rarely worked because of access.

NOMINATIONS TO START AT GENESEE

With all of the newness of officers and directors on the Board things got a little behind. There should have been a nominating committee put together at the Oxbow outing. Again with the newness and the goings on with the FS and Oxbow that was rather far from all of the Boards mind.

There will be a Board Meeting on at 9:00 AM, Saturday July 2 at the Genesee outing. Please be there. We really appreciated the member turn out at the Board Meeting at Bull Creek outing and want to see more of the same. With a good turn out perhaps we can put together a Nominating Committee. (Please refer to Article IX, Section 2 for procedure.) Regardless nominations will be open.

Officers needing to be nominated for two year terms beginning in January 2006 are: President and Secretary. There are Five Directorships needing to be nominated for two year terms beginning January of 2006. Current directors whose terms are up this year unless re-nominated and voted into office are: Chet Chastain, Linda Doyle, Bill Reboin and Gerald Hurt. Additionally there is one open position, and two positions that need to be voted on by the membership. Those are the directorships held by Aaron Matula and Wes Smith: Aaron and Wes were appointed by the President with more than 6 months remaining in the term and thus their tenure must be voted on by the general membership.

For your clarification, our current President Don Siegel, as Vice President, assumed the Presidency upon the resignation of the past president in January of this year. This is why the position is open for 2006.

Our current Vice President was appointed and approved by the Board to fill the vacancy left by Don assuming the Presidency. Toms term will run through 2006 and will be open in 2007.

Volunteers thus far for two year Board positions beginning January 2006 are: Chet Chastain, Rita Perry, Bill Reboin and Linda Doyle.

Genesee Itinerary!

Genesee is scheduled for four days, July 1 through 4. Understand that you can get there and leave when you want, but here is the official itinerary:

1. Get there when you want and get set up and find Au and make friends.
2. Board Meeting at 9:00 AM, 7/2/05, be there we dig it. (Saturday morning)
3. Look for candidates for the Nomination/Election Committee and nominees for the opening positions. Nominations can be made at the Board meeting or at potluck time.
4. Find Au or whatever you desire.
5. Saturday evening, 6:00 PM, 7/2/05, Potluck to begin and raffle to follow.
6. Following the raffle, conditions permitting and they should, an evening around the campfire. A great time to get together and discuss Tales and Trails and what have you.
7. Do what you want to do and enjoy, keeping in mind UPI camping and mining rules.

See you there to share experiences.
Ed/Pub

SAMPLE BALLOT 2006 POSITIONS

Vote for one for each office through 2007

President

Open _____

Secretary

Rita Perry _____

Write ins

Vote for five positions through 2007

Directorships

Chet Chastain _____

Linda Doyle _____

Bill Reboin _____

Open _____

Open _____

Open _____

Appointed positions to be confirmed for positions through 2006

By the general membership.

Directorships

Aaron Matula _____

Wes Smith _____

Officer Vice-President

Tom Eastland _____

Left is the sample ballot thus far. We hope to see the names expand as the nominating process carries forward. If you have questions to the process please refer to the organization bylaws in your Guidebook. We are looking for the ballot to grow.

Lets Help Jerry!

Information supplied by Ed Ozga

Jerry Hobbs of PLP made a post earlier this evening stating his house burned down Saturday morning. I called Dee Stapp of Stapp Mining and she said he just about lost everything! This is a man that has dedicated a large portion of his life and livelihood to the preservation of the small-scale miner. I know we have all been tapped pretty hard for donations lately, but if there is anything you can do to help Jerry, I know he would really appreciate it.

Dee volunteered to accept the donations and get them to Jerry as she sees him quite often and they are good friends. Please send what you can to:

Jerry Hobbs
c/o Stapp Mining
1295 N E St.
San Bernardino, CA 92405



Left: A sketching of a Taylorsville building. You go through Taylorsville on your way to the claim. There is a 4th of July rodeo and a great pancake feed you may want to check out.

POTPOURRI

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST©

Views and opinions expressed in this column are the personal viewpoint of the Editor/Publisher, and have no bearing on, nor do they have any relationship toward, the goals, purposes, policies, programs of United Prospectors Inc.

Your responses to this column and the newsletter in general may play a part in the content of the newsletter and the way I vote as a Director. Please feel free to contact me.

This is my playground! Some may like it, some may not. I hope it starts you thinking, taking responsibility for the group, and enjoying life and livingness and finding Au.



Bill Reboin, Ed/Pub and his pooch Samantha.

THE WEST, OUR HERITAGE

The west is what it is today, or was, because of its natural resources, timber, minerals, range land, metals etc., available for claim, sale or rental from the government. Moreover these opportunities still exist. However there are those such as Feinstein, Boxer and a whole bunch of half baked experts in the roll call that think they know best and need to close the land off in wilderness areas and the such. The west was opened up in part by the passage of the Mining Law of 1872, and in part by the Trans Continental Railroad. This equates to need, availability and accessibility.

Have you ever looked at a National Forest map? Have you noticed the checker board pattern of public/private land. A lot of this private land was turned over to the Railroad Barons to entice the building of the Trans Con. They could reap the profit later in land sales, timber or mineral production.

The good old boys in DC and east of the Mississippi devised all of this to fuel their own and the geo-political areas needs and wants. We now have politicians that have probably never been west of the Mississippi trying and in some cases telling us what is good for us. The RAT Tax. Having to pay to park your vehicle in your forest and walk in the forest. The latest USFS garbage as communicated in issue 274 for example.

Our entire country relies on, as well as other countries, our natural resources of all kinds for day-to-day existence. Similarly we rely on other countries natural resources for various facets of our day-to-day existence. All living entities on the entire planet rely on what is grown naturally or by man, plant and animal, and harvested/mined on private

and public land. Is the picture forming yet?

Who are those people and organizations that want to see mining, logging, grazing and other such activities shut down? And why? An interesting article by a politician fits the bill quite well. The following is a quote, in part, from the article: "The first sin was the desire to be like God. The problem with most of the environmentalists is that they suffer from that sin. They think that mankind is God, and can actually affect the rising of the sun, the coming of the rain, and the direction of the wind. The fact is that nature existed before us, and will exist after us, and the balance of nature is not under our control. It will survive, in balance, no matter what we do."

What ever happened to common sense? Don't they understand that without mining and logging and other harvesting activities they wouldn't have a roof over their head and food in their bellies? Do they assume that all they need to do is go to the local vendor of whatever they desire and that there is an endless supply, of what they desire, in some sort of omnibus warehousing facility? There are kids that think milk comes from the store. There must be adults and organizations that think the same way.

All of the preceding is not to convey the thought that it is OK to rape, loot, plunder and pillage the planet. There obviously needs to be constraints otherwise we would have just that because of greed. We do however need to get back to the 2 + 2 = 4 school of reality and common sense and get away from the weird calculus taught in the liberal arts schools and the results of it. If we don't we may well find ourselves being busted in the forest by a ranger for trespassing on our land, our heritage. When are all of the forest users going to band together and tell the USFS enough is enough?

FOREST RECREATION FEES END

This is a start, but we can't let up. An article in the Sacramento Bee 06/17/05, Associated Press. The FS is eliminating fees at about 500 picnic areas and trail heads. This is after public land users and Western lawmakers complained.

"In California the fees are being dropped at 88 of 591 sites". Fees will remain at sites with parking lots, restrooms and other amenities. (And where else?) This example is not out of order, but we need to be ever vigilant to protect our land, and insure that they do not try to extend fees to forest use in general and claims. More on this on page 11.

CHAPTERS NEWS!

I am very happy to announce we may have a new Santa Clara Co. Chapter. I spoke with Mike Phillips who recently e-mailed Linda asking if we had a chapter in his area. Linda sent me his mail, and I responded, and made contact with Mike.

Mike is a member of "Santa Clara Gold Mine Association". This club has only 1 claim and very little activity. Along with his mining experience, Mike is also a member of GPAA, and metal detector clubs.

When Linda sends me an updated list, I will make an E-mail contact list, also a telephone list and start contacting Members for our first UPI Chapter meeting for Santa Clara County

Mike has a Church that we can meet at once a month, with ample parking, convent for Santa Clara County members.

Tom
It's all in how you dig it!

THEM PESKY CRITTERS!

Supplied by Ed Ozga

Don't know if this will work or not but I found this info and thought I might pass it on, as the mosquitoes and bee's should be out real good this year, and if it keeps them away I'll be a happy camper. If it don't work at least your tent or camper should smell real nice.

1. I haven't confirmed this (I was going to ask my mailman but I missed him yesterday) but the US Postal Service asked their letter carriers to keep a sheet of Bounce in their uniform pockets to keep yellow jackets away. Also, golfers keep a sheet of Bounce to keep bees away.
2. It also repels mice. Keep Bounce around your foundation or in trailers and it keeps the mice out. It supposedly works for mosquitoes too!
3. Keep a sheet of Bounce in your vacuum cleaner (when you change the bag...slip one in the bag) and your house will smell nice.
4. Eliminate static electricity from Venetian blinds, TV screens, and computers, it keeps the dust from resettling.

Ed/Pub Note: I have seen something very similar in the past. I may have even published it. I recall that it was to combat "no see'ems" some sort of pesky tiny critter that is run into out in the woods that is so small they are hard to see. Certainly sounds like it is worth trying, and it's cheaper than most good repellents.



Getting it right on the RAT

The transition from the widely unpopular recreation fee-demo program to the newly enacted Recreation Access Tax is underway and the Forest Service has chosen to make up, and play by, its own rules. (see appended article) Blinded by dollar signs, USFS managers are not simply ignoring the letter of law and the Congressional intent that went into the law's creation, they are actively defying the law and the legislature.

Whether anyone holds the USFS accountable will, I suspect, depend upon public reaction. Please do all you can to hold them accountable.

Thanks for your help.

Scott

Crime is contagious. If the government becomes a lawbreaker, it breeds contempt for the law.

-Justice Louis D. Brandeis

----- begin quoted -----

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Sunday, June 19, 2005

Forest Service nixes most rec fees but not in AF canyon

N.S. Nokkentved DAILY HERALD

While the Forest Service is dropping widely unpopular recreation fees from hundreds of recreation sites on federal public lands across the country, local officials have decided to keep the entrance fee at the mouth of American Fork Canyon.

Critics say the entrance fee is illegal, but District Ranger Pam Gardner says the entrance fee fits within the new law as a recreation fee for what the Forest Service calls a "high-impact recreation area." The term "high-impact recreation area," however, does not appear anywhere in the law passed by Congress and signed into law by President Bush in December.

The Recreation Enhancement Act says: "The secretary shall not charge an entrance fee for federal recreational lands and waters managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, or the Forest Service." The "high-impact recreation area" designation is something the Forest Service has pulled out of thin air, said Scott Silver, of Bend, Ore., a longtime critic of the fee program. The agency added the designation to its guidelines for putting the new law in practice. "The guidelines not only ignore the law, they flout the law," Silver said. Silver said the entrance fee is illegal because the new law repealed whatever authority under which the admission fee was established and the authority to collect entrance fees no longer exists.

The law allows the Forest Service to charge a recreation fee at developed sites, though not for roadside parking or picnicking, nor for scenic overlooks and pullouts, dispersed areas or camping in undeveloped areas. Nor may the Forest Service charge an entry fee for anyone driving through the area on a public road. But the law also allows the agency to charge a recreation fee for "an area" that "provides significant opportunities for outdoor recreation" and where fees can be efficiently collected.

The area must also provide: developed parking; permanent toilet; permanent trash bin; interpretive sign, exhibit or kiosk; picnic tables; and security services. And it's under that designation that the Uinta National Forest justifies the entrance fee to the American Fork Canyon and the Alpine Loop Recreation Area. The area provide all of those amenities and fits the definition, Gardner said. The Forest Service simply expanded the vague term "area" to "high-impact recreation area," which also describes the 46,000-acre area that gets about 1 million visitors annually, she said.

Access is controlled at both ends of the road that loops from the mouth of the canyon to Sundance. The entrance fee is \$3 per carload for three days, \$10 for two weeks or \$25 for a year. Camping in the area costs \$11 a night for a single campsite, but that's in addition to the entrance fee. Reservations can be made by contacting Ticketmaster's ReserveUSA or Reserve America. But the entrance stations also control access to large tracts of undeveloped lands with no toilets, parking or picnic tables but plenty of opportunities for solitude and camping and hiking in remote areas.

Some critics of the fee program for recreation on public lands refer to the Recreation Enhancement Act as the Recreation Access Tax, or RAT. Gardner notes that the entrance fees to the canyon have helped cut down on crime and made the area safer for families. "It's become a safer place for people to recreate," she said.

The new legislation also calls for the formation of Regional Recreation Advisory Councils, which will help set fees and define how those fees should be applied. Until the councils are formed, the new fee program is considered in transition, Gardner said.

The fees are vastly unpopular in areas other than Utah, as well. Earlier this month, Oregon passed a resolution calling for the repeal of the controversial federal recreation fee program. Montana and Colorado also have passed similar resolutions. The Oregon resolution states, "these public lands access fees have been highly controversial and are opposed by hundreds of organizations and county governments."

The original recreation fee demonstration program approved for two years in 1996 and since then extended two years at a time, expired in December. The replacement recreation access tax passed only because it was sneaked through Congress tacked onto a spending bill in November, Silver said.

Scott Silver

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Laws are like spider webs. If some poor weak creature comes up against them it is caught. But the bigger one can break through and get away.

Solon, sixth century B.C.



Ed Note: There were a few more pictures that were not published because I didn't want to push the newsletter to 16 pages. There just wasn't enough filler, pictures or stories to do it and I would have had to increase the size of everything to get a good fit. Too much work and cost. If something you wanted to see was missed I'm sorry.

Bill





Backdoor shot of Babcock Crossing, see you there!

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