



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.

www.unitedprospectors.com

September, 2005

No. 278, Vol. 60-6

A Castle In the Mist !

*UPI members help out at a
museum show on mining*



*Detecting some old tailings north of
the Squirrel Creek Claim*



*Au found at
Greenhorn
and Squirrel!*

**BULL CREEK OUTING
OCTOBER 8 & 9 ! !!!
SEE YOU THERE!
BE THERE FOR THE BOARD
MEETING AND THE ELECTION!**

POTLUCK AND RAFFLE AS WELL. MORE ON PAGE 11



UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Don Siegel

September 2005

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First off I want to thank Chet and Bill for spending the needed time at our NEW claim, Squirrel Creek, making sure that those attending the outing knew exactly where we can and cannot mine.

Those of you that could not make it missed a very nice outing; a small close group that I believe had a wonderful time. I know for myself that the adventure of opening a new claim made the 5-hour drive worth it. The potluck although a little rain had fallen earlier, still had the feel of a grand event. We had a raffle as we always do and all had a great time.

Time is running out for you to have your voice heard, elections are to be held at the Bull Creek outing next month. So please contact Steve Letlow with your nominations. And if you are happy with your board of directors let them know, they work very hard to make UPI a fun respectable group of miners with family values at the top of our priority list.

I look forward to seeing every one of you at the next outing; Bull Creek has the space to handle a large turnout so don't be shy.

On the mining side of things: Steve Letlow and myself power sluiced a while on Greenhorn, and only found a little color. Sunday the first full day of mining on OUR NEW CLAIM on Squirrel Creek found the Greenhorn bunch migrating to Squirrel.

Rob, Olin, and myself set a couple of 3 inch dredges side by side right below the middle camping area (there are 3 possible camping sites along the claim except in Ron Rowe's case who was able to get his large motor home into a little driveway). We

each punched a hole not finding bedrock (no air) and found little color. We then moved one of the 3s down to some exposed bedrock, which after a 1/2 tank of gas proved to have been mined before.

With Ron Rowe's help I moved the remaining 3-inch to the lower end of the claim and started finding some color, not in the quantities I would have liked but a few small match head pickers. While I was testing the lower end, Ron Rowe was breaking open the bedrock and panning and found as much as I had found with the dredge.

As we all know small creeks can sometimes be streaky and Squirrel is no exception. The gold will be in short stretches and it is our job to find it. The claim is as pretty as any claim we currently have and deserves a visit even if you don't put a pan in the water. If you see Dan Short in your travels thank him for putting us on to this beautiful spot, and giving us the opportunity to camp and mine there. You did good Dan!



Mining on Squirrel

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Schedule for 2005

Oct. 8 & 9- - Bull Creek and the election.
Nov. 5 & 6- - Coulterville- - The 6th annual UPI pre-Thanksgiving outing/feed. The organization supplies the bird, hog, gravy, stuffing, you fill in the rest. Salads, desserts, appetizers, sweet taters etc. All done in the old school house on the hill with full kitchen, lights, heat and bathrooms. *A great end of the year event!*

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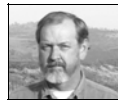
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Asst. Claims: Ray Budowich, PO Box 367, Coulterville, CA
Asst. Claims Plumas Co.: Johnny Lewis Jr., (530) 283-4787

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 kitfox1@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: Taday be da firs day of fall or whatcha call it. Bet it be rite purty at Bull, the colored leaf n all. Dat aint da onlys place they can be color there.

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

The Family oriented small scale mining organization
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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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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 08/23/05 through 09/21/05

<u>New Members</u>	
<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Carl de la	Antioch, CA
Billy Douglass	Little Rock, AR
Mike Douglas	Little Rock, AR
Kevin S. Jackson	Sacramento, CA
Raymond Jordan Jr.	Quincy, CA
Wellington Louis	Fresno, CA
Plan and Susie Makemson	Columbia, CA
Gerald H. Paul	San Jacinto, CA
Judi Reitz	Fresno, CA
Jerry Zachery	Antioch, CA



The old miner sez; Howdy folks. Come on up ter Bull n join ina da fun!

Renewing Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Vic Belloli	Truckee, CA
Breck Fry	Old Station, CA
Debbie Peck	Sunnyvale, CA
Rudolf Reyes	Fremont, CA

Up for Renewal on 10/05

Sandy Anderson	Shaun Beattie	Daniel Coffman
Phil & Shirley Coney	Duane & Virginia Degner	
Rees Hair	Pete & Casey Harvey	Don & Martha Jacobs
Steve Letlow	John & Lisa Ljuba	Don Lobach
Tom Lutrel	Bret Mapson	Aaron & Denise Matula
Dillard McKeever	Greg Pilkington	Michael Simoskevitz
Dennis Smith	William Sobo	Joseph Steiner
James West		

OK folks its off for a year of great camaraderie and mining with UPI. You folks up re-up now so you don't forget and please be at the Bull Creek outing and participate in the Board Meeting and the election.

As I recall three of the new members listed above joined UPI at the Greenhorn outing site. Good show.



Left: The V.P. , Tom Eastland and his dog Howard cooling off at Spanish Creek. It was warm.

Right: Getting set up for the potluck and raffle at Greenhorn. As you can see if you have never been here it is a long narrow camping area.



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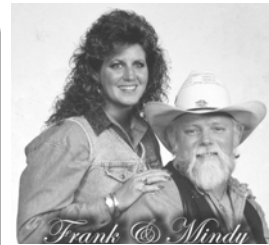
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The Outing!

According to my files the last outing to Greenhorn was in 2002. It's been a few years and it was refreshing to see the site and the area again. The site hasn't changed much except for the trees and bushes are a little bigger and the road that parallels the creek is a little worse. Still it is an interesting and a pretty site.

Coming in from Truckee afforded a lot of viewing the different geology of the area. It is a good mix and interesting to view and try and figure out what all went on in the formation of the area. It also makes some interesting physical formations.

When arriving on Thursday finding a space to set up on was a piece of cake. Chet, Claims Manager was set up in one of the few places down next to the creek, Ron and Sharon Rowe and Norman Trainer were set up on the road with their rigs and that was it. I set up on the road with my trailer door facing the creek. It's a nice view to see when venturing out first thing in the morning.

The first thing that had to be done after hellos and jabber was to rearrange the placement of the porta-potty. The vendor set it up several hundred feet up the road from where most all would be camping. It was almost to the turnaround area at the southern reach of the road. Ron, Chet and I hooked it up to my truck with a tow strap that I always carry and drug it down the road to a more convenient spot for all. The rest of Thursday was just lay back and enjoy life in the woods. It rained pretty good Thursday evening and early Friday morning, sleep times. There were also some pretty good thunder booms, long ones.

Friday Chet and I went over to Squirrel Creek. I needed to get pictures and a feel for the site that I was unable to get from the pictures Chet sent me for the Guidebook. There was no spatial concept in the two dimensional graphics. In the process we circumnavigated the entire claim by road and ended up in Massack. In the process we discovered tailings areas to the north and to the west of the claim boundaries that we could check out before Sunday. Also in this process spotted what looks to be an adit to a drift mine on the claim. This can be seen on the topographic of the claim, (in the Guidebook) the sideways "Y" along the western boundary. This may be worth investigating. We also spotted an area off the claim that was a huge trap, in a dry at the time, ravine that would certainly be worthwhile to investigate if it is in open public land. This would be the first thing to check out. If it is open then check the trap out,

and the rest of the ravine. This site may be dry mining most of the year.

Saturday morning the members started rolling in and getting their camps set up and the outing started to form up and before long there was some mining taking place, though only a few members. Yes there was some Au found, a picker and fines at a power sluice setup on the southerly end of the claim. Chet and I hiked over the tracks and on upstream a way to eyeball the rest of the southeasterly portion of the claim, this would be upstream from where the creek flows through the tunnel under the railroad line a few hundred feet. It looks like it may be a good spot to check out. Moreover it can be driven to off the main highway.

Saturday afternoon several of us went over to Squirrel Creek and did some detecting in the hillside tailings to the northwest of our claim. I don't know what all was found however I found an old 22 LR slug. It started misting/raining while we were there, but it was getting near to the time to head back to Greenhorn and start getting ready for the potluck in any case.

The potluck didn't have the usual great variety of food; there was a lot of fried chicken. I think the next in line for quantity was a batch of tacos and burritos that Chet and I got at the local "authentic franchise Mexican joint." And as usual we had a good raffle. Indicators were that everybody was full of belly and happy of raffle and the outing as a whole.

Guess what folks? Sunday morning Greenhorn was abandoned for new ground, Squirrel Creek. After I got it all together and ready to roll I went over to Squirrel to see how all fit in. There was room to spare. I guess that Squirrel might support an outing of 25 people camping on site. Any spillover could camp at Greenhorn, about 10 minutes away.

See you at Bull Creek and the election. ED.

Right: The smallest miner at the outing. One of the Doyle gang.



Camping Rules Revisited

Wes Smith Wagonmaster

There is many times in our lives that protocol visits proper conduct upon us. In the world of UPI, it is required of us more often than one can recite without stopping for a minute to take inventory. The following are just a few things we need to know and remember.

When visiting any UPI claim we must remember that we only have title to the mineral rights to the lands within the boundaries of any and all UPI claims. Others have the right to hunt, fish, camp and day use these lands also. Also, please be aware that UPI has camping limitations as dictated in our Guidebook under "camping rules". These time limitations are those of UPI, and do not reflect camping rules set forth by the mining laws. They are based the USFS rules of the given Forest, and our use as a group.

The consumption of alcohol falls under the jurisdiction of the local law enforcement agencies i.e. the sheriff's office, the USFS and the CDF etc.etc. Please remember to drink in a responsible manner and have an enjoyable time.

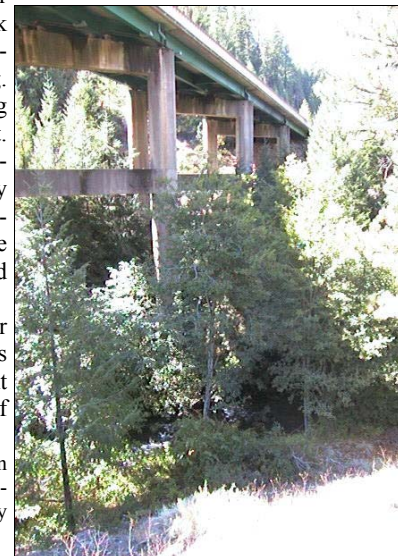
In my mind it makes good sense to comply with the requirements of the USFS in regard to fire pits and general camp clearing. The 5' minimum radius applies to cooking tables, lantern locations and smoking. As a boy, I remember the fascination with fire that entranced me so easily. If you are a parent and have your young ones with you, let them enjoy the fire but take a prime opportunity by the reigns and bestow upon them the essential respect fire demands. The safety of all involved is at stake

and more.

When the authorities do come around, treat them with respect. A misstep in this realm could give the entire organization a black eye. If we encounter a procedural disagreement we should remember to keep our cool. UPI, the organization, is a member of PLP as well. Make sure to inform the ranger, deputy or whomever to that effect and ask that person to show you, if possible, where you are wrong. Most often, we are not wrong and sometimes they know it. Remember, it is in our best interest to know our rights. Any changes that do occur in regards to mining rules will be conveyed to us via e-mail and the monthly newsletter.

It is all about knowing our rights and respecting the rights of others. More to come next month: may your pan be full of gold!

Right: A continuation of Greenhorn on the upstream side from the railroad tracks. This is the highway bridge over the creek.





UPI ROLL CALL

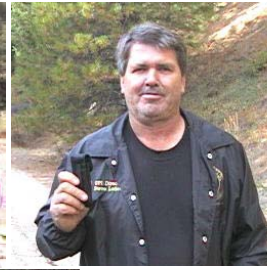
List of members and guests present at the Greenhorn outing, Potluck and Raffle including the raffle results.

Sept. 9 - 11, 2005

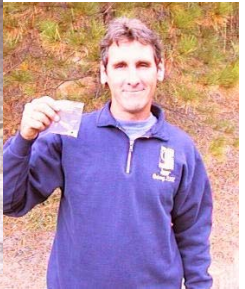
1. Mike, Linda, Michelle and Laura Doyle: Mike won an amethyst necklace and chain and Linda won the grab-bag with a bunch of goodies in it.
2. Chet Chastain: Chet hit good, he won a folding shovel donated by 49er Mining Supply, a set of UPI coasters made by Linda Doyle, a Keene Super pan and the 50/50 raffle prize.
3. Rob Goreham: Won the nifty Grizzly Pan and Sluice outfit. This pan is fast for getting concentrates.
4. Don Siegel: Oh, oh! Drew a blank, this happens.
5. Joel, Brittany, Ashley and Laura Orona: This young lady has been doing good in the raffles. Ashley won the number two UPI nugget and a small folding knife.
6. Olan Makemson: Not Olans lucky day.
7. Ron and Sharon Rowe: Sharon won the number two UPI nugget.
8. Steve Letlow: Lady luck smiles again. Steve won a small knife, snifter bottle with leather holster (he has been practicing his quick draw), a Susan B. Anthony dollar and the 49er Mining Supply nugget.
9. George Creveling: George won the number three UPI nugget and a fancy digging tool.
10. Norman Trainer:
11. Bill Reboin: Bill won one of the UPI nuggets, but donated it back for someone else to win. He also won a 1972 Eisenhower dollar and an 1891 Silver dollar.

It was a good potluck and a good raffle. In case you didn't catch it there were three UPI nuggets at this raffle, hot dog. There were 18 members and guests present for the outing and potluck. I say a good count considering weather and the price of gas. It was a little on the cool side perhaps but we didn't get rained on during the awake hours aside for a very small short sprinkle.

Raffle Pics



The UPI Au winners- - Above: Sharon Rowe Right: Ashley Orona Upper right: George Creveling Below: Steve Letlow on the left, winner of the 49er nugget.



The old miner sez: Be to much like work ta fit alla dez pic together wit no holz inna tween.



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Outing at Greenhorn

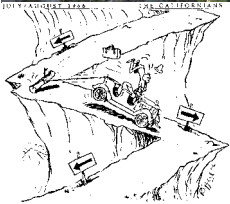


Some of the raffle prizes pictured in the pan. The pan was also one of the prizes.

Left: The members getting a look at some gold ore Rob had in the back of his truck.



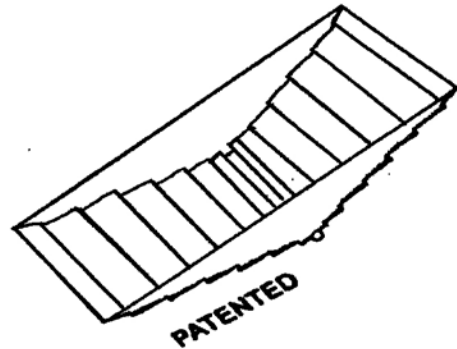
Potty moving



Left: A graphic depiction of the hill from Moccasin Creek to Coulterville.



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The old miner sez: It make no sents ta me ifin the Pres keep sistin on tax cut good fer da conomey why da seniors an peoples on SS keep getting dinged fer more bucks fer der surance. Sound rong headed.

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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.

COMMENTARY

I have been Editor-in-Chief/Publisher of this newsletter for over six years. I have done my best to give you a newsletter that keeps you informed of our organizations activities, positive and negative, and activities of governmental agencies and environmental extremists that are detrimental to our survival as small-scale miners.

Over the years the positive comments directed toward myself and the newsletter have outweighed the negative comments. So I have to assume that I am doing an adequate job for the membership. I would like to do a better job by having in the newsletter what you would like to see.

It certainly would be nice if more comments, suggestions would come in on what you like and dislike about the newsletter to help me do this. Moreover, you are invited to submit articles for publication if this is your desire.

E-mail

As I get a lot of e-mail from many different sources along with SPAM from who knows where or whom, so I use a SPAM filter. I don't fully understand how it works, but I know that it's effective. It is really nice to open my mail and see that all suspected SPAM is in one folder and recognized and authorized mail is in another folder. Please any one of you that I may not know or have not communicated with in the past put UPI Biz in the subject box. If you don't and I don't know you, your message will be deleted.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Board of Directors of UPI has proposed the following By-law change(s) in the Nomination/Election process so that all members of the organization can have their say/vote in who runs the Corporation, not just members of the Corporation that attend the Board Meetings/outings.

Proposed changes are italicized.

ARTICLE IX ELECTION OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. Elections shall be held at the scheduled meeting in October.

SECTION 2. Nominations:

- A. At the April or May meeting a nominating committee of three (3) members one (1) Election committee person, who will chair the committee and two (2) members shall be selected in the following manner: Election committee person appointed by the President and two (2) members selected by the general membership.
- B. The duties of the Election/Nominating Committee shall be to solicit and nominate one (1) or more candidates for each elective officer and/or Director vacancy and report to the members at the July meeting.
- C. The Election/ Nominating Committee shall present a proposed slate of nominees at the July general membership meeting. Members present in good standing at such meeting may make additional nominations. The Committee shall then forward its report together with any additional nominations from the floor to the Editor-in-Chief for publication in the next newsletter.
- D. No nomination will be accepted without approval from the member.

SECTION 3. To be eligible for office a person shall be a member in good standing for one year or more at the time of the election.

SECTION 4. Terms of Office

- A. The terms of office shall be two (2) years.
- B. The President, Secretary, and five (5) Directors shall be elected in odd-number years (2003, 2005, etc.)
- C. The Vice President, Treasurer and five (5) Directors shall be elected in even-numbered years (2004, 2006, etc.).

SECTION 5. Election Procedures

The election of Officers shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures outlined in Roberts Rules of Order.

Article IX, Section 1, shall be amended as follows:

SECTION 1. ELECTIONS

- A. Elections shall be held at the scheduled meeting/outing in October.
- B. Absentee ballots shall be accepted for the scheduled meeting/elections in October.
- C. Absentee ballots must be received at the mailbox of the Chair of the Nominating Committee no later than 14 days prior to the scheduled election date to allow time for verification of member status or they will be discarded.
- D. Ballots from expired or other unqualified members will be rejected.
- E. Absentee ballots must have the absentee voters UPI member number on it and must be signed by the member too be valid. Spaces will be provided.
- F. The absentee ballot will be first class mailed, or e-mailed to you, upon your timely request for such, by phone, by land mail, or e-mail, approximately one month before the scheduled Election. To use the absentee ballot, refer to the above. Place your postage stamp where indicated on the ballot and mail.
- G. Write-ins will be accepted on Election Day with the member's authorization and check of membership status.

Article IX, Section 2, shall be amended as follows:

SECTION 2. NOMINATIONS.

- D. The cut-off date for Nominations from the floor will be at the last Board Meeting prior to the election date.

If these proposed changes are voted in at the October outing/meeting they will go into effect beginning in 2006.

Your sample ballot follows on the next page, page 9. Please be sure to bring it with you to the outing so you know what you are voting on.

SAMPLE BALLOT FOR 2006 POSITIONS

Subject to change as the nominations proceed

Vote for one for each office through 2007

President

Don Siegel: Incumbent _____

Secretary

Rita Perry: Incumbent _____

Write ins _____

Vote for five positions through 2007

Directorships

Chet Chastain: Incumbent, Claims _____

Linda Doyle: Incumbent, Membership _____

Bill Reboin: Incumbent, Ed/Pub _____

Christa Eastland _____

Carol Eastland _____

Denise Matula _____

Gerald Hurt (Nominated at Greenhorn) _____

Write In _____

Appointed positions to be confirmed for Office through 2006

By the general membership.

Directorships

Yes **No**

Aaron Matula: Ways & Means _____ _____

Wes Smith: Wagon Master _____ _____

Write In _____

Officer Vice-President

Yes **No**

Tom Eastland: Incumbent _____ _____

Write In _____

Proposed Bylaw Changes

Shall the proposed bylaw changes as proposed in the "Legal Notice" appearing in publications numbers 276, 277 and this issue be implemented?

Yes **No**

_____ _____

INFORMATIONAL VOTE

The Board of Directors needs information from you to help us make some decisions in the area of claims holdings, and reducing claims expenses. We currently have 26 claims. We currently pay rental fees and taxes on 18 of them. Rental fees alone amount to \$2250.00/year. Next year we will have rental fees and taxes on the remaining 8, again rental fees alone on these will be \$1000.00, or a total in rental fees alone of \$3250.00/year.

We are considering selling several claims for reason of non-use or non-usability for various reasons. Current members would get first grabs on any claim being put up for sale if there were no other previous agreements attached to that specific claim. Claims under current consideration are: Moccasin Creek, Upper Bull Creek, Clippership UPI, Cedar Grove/Clippership, Salmon River UPI, and possibly others.

Please give us your choices of claims that should be considered for reduction from our claims inventory below:

	<u>Keep</u>	<u>Remove</u>
Salmon River UPI	_____	_____
Twain**		
Original Genesee	_____	_____
Genesee 1	_____	_____
Genesee 2	_____	_____
Genesee 3	_____	_____
Genesee 4	_____	_____
Genesee 5	_____	_____
Spanish Creek UPI	_____	_____
Upper Greenhorn	_____	_____
Lower Greenhorn	_____	_____
Clippership UPI		
Cedar Grove, two claims	_____	_____
Moccasin Creek UPI	_____	_____
Upper Bull UPI	_____	_____
Middle Bull	_____	_____
Lower Bull	_____	_____
CLM Gold UPI	_____	_____

Our membership can respond to the Claims Manager at any time on this subject, via e-mail. Please see address on page 3 of the newsletter.

**** Listed for count only. This claim has significant UPI history attached to it.**

Outing at Squirrel!



Left to right beginning with the top line: 1) Second camping area at about the middle of the claim. The rigs are in there helter skelter, room for several more. 2) First pull out at lower end of the claim. The arrow on the picture shows a road that goes back to a secluded area for several small camps. 3 & 4) Large tailings piles along the claim. One would think that they were finding something to move that much material. 5) Don & Rob setting up for testing at the second pull out area. 6) 3/4's of the Doyle gang at the north end of the claim. 7) The last pull out at the end of the claim. There is room for about 5 mid size rigs.

There are wide spots on the main road at each of the pull-outs where the larger rigs can set up and still be off the main traffic path. There is also a couple of places where can pull out and set up on the east side of the main road.

At the south end of the claim if you venture off to the east side of the main road to follow the creek, there is like a path going in, the claim boundary ends where you will see a "No Trespassing" sign. South of that sign is private property. Please add this page to your Guidebook.



UPI BULLETIN BOARD



Member ads not renewed bi-monthly will be automatically dropped. Ed/Pub

UPI Classified ad Space is available to members FREE

TWO ITEMS FOR SALE

KEENE 2 INCH DREDGE \$300.00

**1.5 INCH BACKPACK DREDGE
\$200.00**

Both in excellent condition

**Contact Bill at:
(916) 478-2733**



Who are these lovely ladies?

The October Outing!

The October outing is perhaps the most important outing of the year for UPI. It is the outing at which you choose a portion of the Board whom you would like to represent you for the following couple of years. These are important decisions that you the membership need to make. In addition to the election of new Board Members at this outing there are several important items that the Board requests your input on to help the Board make decisions for the following year.

Issues that the Board needs to discuss and desires your input on in addition to claims are:

- 1) At what time of the month would you most likely attend scheduled outings? First, middle, end.
- 2) Do you want to have the outings scheduled over three day holidays so you get more bank for the buck?
- 3) How many scheduled outings a year would you like to have and participate in?
- 4) What can be done to enhance the outings so that you would be more likely to participate in them?
- 5) At what time would you like to see the Board Meetings scheduled for? Saturday morning of the outing? After the potluck and raffle of the outing date? At some other time and date? Would you be willing to travel to attend a Board Meeting if it were scheduled for a time other than an outing? (Most likely a week-end day, in Sacramento where we have readily available facilities.)

Your answers to these questions may be mailed to me via USPS or by e-mail. If you select e-mail be sure to include UPI Biz in the subject line so your effort is not deleted! Better yet lets see you at Bull Creek!

"Take the Metal Detector Out of the Closet"

When the water levels drop just before the winter rains, it is a good time to get out the metal detector. Blow off the dust, replace the batteries, and get ready for a hunt.

One of the most important things is to tune your ear! Yes, carry with you a sample nugget. Run your coil over the nugget and listen to the sound. You may need to do this several times while you are on the hunt. That sound of a nugget is different that a nail, or a piece of sheet metal, or aluminum foil.

Be patient, get your headgear on, take your time, work slowly, and listen for that nugget sound. Work the sides of creek beds, the run off creeks along side of the roads, erosion cracks on roads caused by rain. Some detectors will detect black sand and it's a good idea to bring a pan and some water. When the water drops, and the bedrock is exposed, you can have a lot of fun. Bring crevassing tools with you along with a bucket; I also like to use a sniping scope to look down into those cracks.

Get out there, enjoy life, and have fun, looking for that "potato nugget".

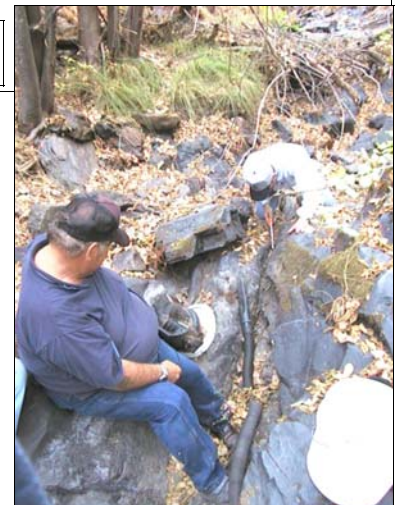
Tom Eastland

Below: A quarter for reference.
Right: Where it was found.

BULL CREEK

Who knows what the status of water flow will be in Bull Creek at the time of the outing?

I don't. However I do know this: For those of you that are more into panning than dredging and power-sluicing, if the creek is low it is to your advantage. The biggest piece of gold I have seen found at Bull, was last year at the October outing and the creek barely supported panning, water wise. Several of my haunts are targeted for this condition, as that is when they have produced the best.



SEE YOU AT THE NEXT OUTING. BULL CREEK!

*Found at Squirrel, a remnant of
the past, riveted pipe*



ISSUE # 278

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Membership is open to anyone interested, 18 years or older. One membership includes a spouse & children under the age of 18. All memberships are good for a period of one year and will expire on your anniversary date.

Membership Dues: (check your preference below) Number of qualifying family members _____

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Name: (Please Print) _____ Phone (____) _____ Age _____

Address: _____ E-mail Address: _____

City: _____ County _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

I hereby apply for membership/renewal with United Prospectors, Inc. ("United Prospectors"). I understand that United Prospectors and its agents do not provide goods or services for my activities including, for example, mining equipment or supplies, lodging, transportation, food services etc. United prospectors is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act by providers of such goods or services during my activities. I acknowledge that there may be certain risks involved with activities as a member including, but not limited to, rugged or uneven terrain, uncertain or unpredictable river currents, physical exertion for which I am not prepared, other un-known forces of nature, high altitude, accident or illness without access to means of rapid evacuation or availability of medical supplies, the adequacy of medical attention once provided, or negligence on the part of United Prospectors. I HEREBY AGREE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MY OWN WELFARE AND ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS OF UNANTICIPATED EVENTS, ILLNESS, INJURY, EMOTIONAL TRAUMA OR DEATH. I acknowledge that the cost of United Prospectors memberships is based upon participants executing this Release of Liability. Therefore, as lawful consideration for being permitted to participate as a member, I hereby RELEASE AND DISCHARGE FOREVER UNITED PROSPECTORS FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL LIABILITY ARISING FROM MY MEMBERSHIP OR MY ACTIVITIES AS A MEMBER. I agree that this release shall be legally binding upon me personally, all members of my family and all minors traveling with me, my heirs, successors, assigns and legal representatives, it being my intention to fully assume all the risk associated with my activities as a member and to release United Prospectors from any and all liabilities to the maximum extent permitted by law.

I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS RELEASE AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Please mail this completed (signed and dated) application along with your check/money order to:

UPI Membership, C/O Linda Doyle
P. O. Box 1480
El Dorado, CA 95623