



Locating Gold, Gems and Minerals

The official publication of the

Trails and Tales of UPI

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Matula Residence, Moccasin Creek at Coulterville, Novemer 2010

**HOPE TA SEE YA AT DA NEXT
DEM DAR OUTING!**

November 11-13 at Coulterville



UNITED PROSPECTORS INC. MESSAGE FROM YOUR OFFICERS



President

Hi all, I am not big on politics, but by now you all must be aware of the efforts that are being made to take away your rights. As you probably know there was another bill on the Governors desk to place a 5 year moritorium against dredging. As you know the Governor had just line item vetoed the same 5 year moritorium from the budget, only to have it reintroduced as SB 120. The Governor needed to veto the bill again and did not. You and I must continue to let our Congressmen know what we see and how we feel. Many of us believe that this is just one more opportunity to take away the freedoms that we have enjoyed and our founding fathers have fought for.

The Genesee outing was a lot a fun, with perfect weather. Those that looked for it found gold, some more than others. As you can see from the pictures there were some great prizes. The next great outing is coming up in September and for those of you that have not visited Bear River this is a perfect opportunity. The Contra Costa Chapter puts on a great show and raffle. There are events planned for everyday, and when you find some free time there is a lot of opportunity to find gold. Contact Ed Ozga of the Contra Costa Chapter regarding space.

I am very disturbed to hear of the destruction that was done to the Twain claim the weekend of July 23rd. When prospecting, leave the land AND vegetation as you found it, observe all laws whether National, State, or Local; DON'T damage, destroy, or deface public or private land. Fill your holes. Remember all prospectors are being judged right now.

Don



Vice President

As I sit to write this today, I am sadden to hear of the death of mining legend, Dennis Ronett. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. Many of you knew Dennis as not only a long time member of UPI, but, also as the guy behind the counter at Pioneer Mining Supplies in Auburn, CA who always had a strong opinion as well as a story to share. Pioneer Mining Supplies and Dennis are a historical piece of California mining history and Dennis will truly be missed. In addition, our thoughts and prayers go out to Pioneer Mining Supplies owner Frank Sullivan for a speedy recover from your recent hospital stay.

As you know by now, AB 120 was approved by Jerry Brown and marks a tremendous loss for California miners and the economy. A secret backroom legislative deal in Sacramento helped pass this bill that will destroy recreation and commercial suction dredge mining throughout California and in the process destroy thousands of jobs while devastating the already struggling economy. It's been an extremely tough couple of years for us miners and be mindful of these outrageous backroom deals next time you step out to vote. To quote Jim Madden, *"What will 4.3 million buy you? A lot of good votes in Sacramento"*.

Again, I need to remind you that UPI Officer and Director elections are right around the corner. Please step up and volunteer to do your part to keep this Organization going! Positions available include President, Secretary, Outing Coordinator, and Publisher/Editor-in-Chief. Also, don't forgot to sign-up now for the 6th Annual Contra Costa Chapter outing to be held in September at Bear River.

May There Be Gold In Your Pan, Ed Ozga, UPI Vice President



JEST FER FUN!!!

NEW QUESTION OF THE MONTH

How many words can you make from the words Cornish Pump

DEFINITION: A type of pump developed in Cornwall, England, and commonly used in deep mines of the nineteenth century to raise underground water.

RULES: 3+ letters, no plurals slang or proper nouns used. We found 33 words in 15 minutes. All words verified with the Oxford dictionary. (See Pg 11 for our answers)

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Chapters

Contact the chapter chairperson for meeting information.

Alameda County: *Currently open*

Auburn Chapter: *Currently open*

Contra Costa County: **Chairperson; Ed Ozga**, (925) 706-8193 or OzMiner@msn.com

Fresno, Kings, Madera and Merced Counties: *Currently Open*

Marin, Sonoma Counties: *Currently open*

Sacramento County: *Currently open*

San Joaquin County: *Currently open*

Santa Clara County: **Chairperson; Michael Phillips**, (408) 595-9121 or kitfoxchumash@yahoo.com

Stanislaus County: *Currently open*

Please contact the UPI Vice President if you are interested in starting a chapter in your area.



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NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

If you see a picture you would like to have, email me with a description of the picture and your name and address. I will be happy to email or snail mail it to you.

-YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED-


I am looking for your camp side recipes, stories of your outings, club information, items for sale, etc. Please contact me with your information and input.

Linda Moore, Editor Bellmusic4u@sbcglobal.net (707) 552-2393



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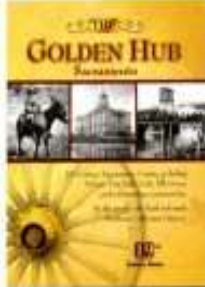

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Contra Costa County Chapter News


There is still space available! Sign-up now to attend the **6th Annual Contra Costa Chapter Outing**. Our last five annual outings have been a roaring success and this years outing has some extra special activities planned. Activities include a metal detector hunt including Indian head and steel pennies, Liberty and Buffalo nickels, silver dimes, and who knows what else! There's winner take all duck races (yes ducks), raffles, and special activities planned for the kids.

This year we have the entire private group campsite reserved at Bear River in Placer County, CA for the weekend of **September 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th (out by Monday 19th)**. Motor homes and trailers are allowed (over 30' not recommended) and there are also great tent sites! This is dry camping, there are outhouse style potties, and no hook-ups are available. The charge for the weekend is \$20.00 or \$5.00 for Saturday use and you must have a reservation to attend. Nearby shopping!

Activities include: Mining for FREE gold, 6:00 FREE daily attendance raffles; 8:00 Friday FREE pancake breakfast, Friday movie night with FREE popcorn, 10:00 Saturday metal detecting hunt; 12:00 and 3:00 Saturday duck races; 2:00 Saturday kids coloring contest and 4:00 scavenger hunt with prizes; and 5:00 Saturday night potluck, raffle, and prizes for the kids. There will also be other activities with prizes.

Please contact me at OzMiner@msn.com or 925-706-8193 to reserve a spot. This is a gated campground, with no gate keeper, so you need to make a reservation, because you will need the combination. Remember, this is a Contra Costa Chapter Outing and you do not have to be a UPI member to attend.

May there be gold in your pan, Ed Ozga, UPI Contra Costa Chapter Chairman, 925-706-8193



IN MEMORY

It is with deep sadness and a real sense of loss, that on Sunday, July 24, we lost one of the "good guys" Dennis Robnett. Dennis was not only a life time member of UPI, but many of you knew Dennis as the manager of Pioneer Mining Supplies in Auburn, CA. Dennis was always there to lend a hand, or bend your ear with a good story, and always make you smile. Dennis helped fundraising for the Auburn Boys and Girls club, one of his passions - besides gold. Dennis was helpful to everyone he met. He was very protective of his neighbors and family at work and at home. Dennis was also instrumental in the ongoing battle for miners to keep their rights to mine. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and Frank, Heather and everyone at Pioneer Mining Supplies.

UPI GENESEE OUTING RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS



Joe Sul
Fire Extinguisher



Theo Maarcelja
Bucket handles



Laurie Ozga
Fire Extinguisher



Aaron Matula
Straight Razor



Glenn Frisbee
Finishing Pan
& Clay B Gone



Aaron Matula
Mining Journal Shirt



Juliet Coates
5X Loop



Aaron Matula
Duct Tape



Gloria Sul
1.0 grams Gold



Theo Marcelja
Jewelry Bezel



Ron Roe
Bag of Rocks



Aaron Matula
Tool Bag with
Brush and Bar



Aaron Matula
#8 Classifier



Don Siegel
Silver Certificate



Ken Liddle
Garret Book &



Ron Roe
Keene Pan



Jerry Randall
Locking Display Box



Brandi Williams
1.6 grams Gold



Paul Diehn



Leslie Williams
California Camp Chair

UPI GENESEE OUTING RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS (Continued)



Paul Diehn
Bag of Rocks



Laurie Ozga
Duct Tape



Laurie Ozga
Pry Bar



Pete Soltman
Display Case



Gimutra Alec
Keene Pan



Paul Barber
Pack Shovel



Brandi Williams
Bucket Digger



Maryanne Faulkner
Finishing Pan &
Sample Bottle



Gloria Sul
1.9 grams Gold



Gloria Sul
1.4 grams Gold



Glenn Frisbee
.9 grams Gold



Laurie Ozga
Sluice Box



Jake Marcelja
50/50 Raffle



The old miner sez: Woo weee! Were da outin a bigun or what? Seed like thar was peopolz comin outa da woodwerk. A real gold rush o sorts.



Can you name this UPI claim?
If not, it's been too long since
you've been there!

UPI GENESEE OUTING



The old miner sez: Keep our forest an claims
kleen an pleez foller da rules.



Hi folks, a few words about your UPI organization. Each year we hold elections, with the need for folks to get involved and keep this great organization running. This club has been in existence for more than 50 years, but we need some new blood if we are to continue into the next 50 years. I have been in my role as President for many years now, and while I don't plan on leaving the organization in a tough spot by quitting, I have grown a little stale and it's time for others to step up and lead us. Please let your voice be heard, by taking on a role or helping us find the right folks to fill our current openings. If you can volunteer or nominate an individual (with their permission) for an open board position, please contact Laurie Ozga, UPI Elections Committee, at OzMiner@msn.com or (925) 706-8193. Thank you, Don Siegel, President

UPI MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New Members as of 6/27/11:

Buddy Heise	Reedley, CA
Gary Bearden	Castroville, CA
Jim Durden	Dublin, CA
Phillip Rountree	Bay Point, CA
Ray & Karen Briese	Mariposa, CA
Rolando Esparza Macias	Pittsburg, CA
Sandra Cameron	Concord, CA

New Members as of 7/21/11:

Mike Gregonis	Tracy, CA
Patrick Bingley	Pomona, CA
Peter Stoltman	Martinez, CA
Rodney Enns	Kingsburg, CA
Scott Michael Nelson	Modesto, CA

Renewing Members as of 6/27/11:

Al Harris	Chico, CA
Anthony Alexander	La Grange, CA
Art Castiaux	Ukiah, CA
Beth Farmer	Hayward, CA
Billy L Stanford	Waterford, CA
Cody Miller	Patterson, CA
Don & Bev Kalmbach	Concord, CA
Donald Cox	San Jose, CA
Jim Ambrose	Concord, CA
Jim Bohannon	Denair, CA
Jim Karsant	Grass Valley, CA
Mark Weiss	Redwood City, CA
Merv Pate	Manteca, CA
Rex Miller	Patterson, CA
Ron Peterson	Willits, CA
Roy & Marti Dunston	Coulterville, CA
Ted Stolting	Fernley, NV
Terence Pippi	Healdsburg, CA
Vern & Holli Travers/Daniels	San Jose, CA



If you have a mailing address or email change please send your updated information to Dave Williams, Membership Director. This will ensure you continue to receive your newsletters and have access to the UPI website.

David "Dave" Williams

Membership@unitedprospectors.com

No email? Call Linda at 707-552-2393 and she will forward your changes to Dave.

Those of you that go back in UPI club history to the early 2000's may remember that we had a reciprocal agreement with the Bendigo Prospectors in Australia. Peter Dodd was the editor/publisher of their newsletter. Over the years Peter and I have kept in touch with each other by email. Here are a couple of pictures of Peters' finds in late June.

Bill Reboin, UPI Historian





Jim Madden

Assistant Claims Manager Report

July 26, 2011, a Sad Day for California.....

Mark Stopher, CA DFG Update

Today, July 26, 2011, Assembly Bill 120 was approved by Governor Brown. This legislation amends seven different codes within California State law including the Fish and Game Code. Two paragraphs in this bill refer to suction dredge mining and have substantial impacts on the process to conduct environmental review and adopt amended regulations guiding suction dredge mining in California.

The Department of Fish and Game released draft regulations and a related Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for public review on February 28, 2011. We held six public meetings and accepted public comments through May 10, 2011. At that time we projected that we would be adopting new regulations and certifying the Final SEIR by the end of 2011. This would then have permitted the sale of suction dredge permits under newly adopted regulations.

Assembly Bill 120 affects this effort in four important ways.

First, it establishes an end date for the current moratorium of June 30, 2016. The current moratorium was established by SB 670, and took effect on August 9, 2009, without any specific end date. The new law specifies that the moratorium will end on June 30, 2016, regardless of whether DFG completes court-ordered environmental review of its existing permitting program or adopts new regulations. Of course, further legislation or action by the courts could modify that circumstance.

Second, AB 120 requires that any “new regulations fully mitigate all identified significant environmental impacts.” As directed by the Alameda County Superior Court and SB 670, DFG prepared the Draft SEIR to meet requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In addition to CEQA, AB 120 now requires DFG to meet a “fully mitigate” standard for any adopted suction dredge mining regulations in order for the new moratorium to end any earlier than June 30, 2016. “Fully mitigate” is not defined in statute or regulation, however, and previously the term has only been used in the Fish and Game Code in section 2081, subdivision (b), of the California Endangered Species Act.

Third, a new condition, required by AB 120 is “a fee structure is in place that will fully recover all costs to the department related to the administration of the program.” DFG takes the view that the current fee structure is not sufficient to support the level of effort which should be devoted to implementing our authority to regulate suction dredge gold mining. In addition to the administrative costs of selling permits, DFG believes we should have environmental scientists funded through suction dredge permit fees to conduct on-site inspections as needed prior to issuing permits and also to monitor suction dredge mining to collect data on effects on aquatic and terrestrial organisms and habitat. Further, suction dredge permit fees should provide funding for game wardens to inspect, monitor and enforce compliance with any new regulations. Under current law, however, the fee structure for DFG’s permitting program is prescribed by statute. Any change to that structure is beyond the authority of DFG and any such change will require action by the California Legislature and related approval by the Governor. Because of the legislative calendar for submittal of new legislation and the legislative process itself, it is very unlikely that any change to the existing fee structure will occur within the 2011 calendar year.

Finally, the previous moratorium established by SB 670 was clear that DFG needed to take several actions (i.e. comply with CEQA and adopt amended regulations) which would then allow suction dredge mining to resume, under the new regulations. Said another way, DFG had the final State approval to complete the process, subject only to the Alameda County Superior Court’s concurrence. AB 120 adds a legislative step, described in the previous paragraph. Simply put, the legislature will need to affirmatively approve a new fee structure, before suction dredge mining can resume under new regulations. The perspectives of legislators about sufficiency of a fee structure and suction dredge mining generally will affect the probability of such legislation being approved.

With this set of new facts in front of DFG, we are evaluating the extent to which the work we have already done can be used under the requirements of AB 120, and how we might proceed. We do not yet have a revised work plan or schedule. However, our previous projection that this process would be complete by the end of 2011 is no longer viable. It will likely be several weeks from now before we have determined what we will need to proceed and how we can do so. I will provide additional information to the recipients of this message when there is something new to report.

Members Bulletin Board

FOR SALE 4 inch Proline dredge, complete with 5.5 Honda, t-80 air, hoses including air hose and full face mask. Clean, \$2000 or best offer. UPI will get a portion of the proceeds. Contact Don Siegel at 209/ 567-2370



The old miner sez: Ifn you ain't hugged a miner today ya need ta fine one n hug em.

For those newer members, meet Jerry Randall. Jerry has been a long time member of UPI for the past 45 years. Have you been a member of UPI for longer than that? Call or write Linda Moore, Newsletter Editor, at (707) 552-2392 or bellmusic4u@sbcglobal.net and tell us your story.



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SEE YOU AT THE NEXT OUTING!

Letters To The Editor



Dear Editor:

Charlie and I who are Lifetime Members saw this article in the Sacramento Bee.

We both wrote thank you letters to Senator Ted Gaines for supporting miners & their rights.

We need all the support we can get and want them to keep supporting us.

Senator Ted Gaines
State Capitol Room 3056
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 651-4001

Barbara Brown, Loomis, CA

Dear Editor: Here are a few pictures of deer that came to our campsite in Genesse. We camped at Hancock Crossing. Hope to see you at Bear River.
Gloria Sul





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I AM 18 YEARS OR OLDER AND HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS RELEASE AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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