



Locating Gold, Gems and Minerals

*The official publication of the
Trails and Tales of UPI*

*www. unitedprospectors.com
Nov/Dec 2007 No. 296, Vol. 78-8
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SEASONS GREETINGS FROM UPI!!

**May your Holidays be Merry, Your New Year be Prosperous and
may this past year be filled with many happy memories.**



Pictured above from left to right are: Bill and Carol Eastland, unidentified couple, Sid and Lorrie Parrish, Bob and Gloria Azbill, Tom and Christa Eastland, Aaron and Denise Matula and Dennis and Pat Mobley.

UPI'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

PUT YOUR TROUBLES IN A POCKET WITH A HOLE IN IT AND GO PROSPECTING



UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Don Siegel
November 2007

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Don Siegel

V. PRESIDENT

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Christa Eastland

Denise Matula

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Kit Perry (elected for 2008)

Bob Azbill (elected for 2008)

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POLITICAL ACTION

Gerald Hurt

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Gerald Hurt

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OUTING COORDINATOR

Christa Eastland

TECHNICAL ADVISOR

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WAGON MASTER

Steve Letlow

WAYS AND MEANS

Sid Parrish

WEB MASTER

I have a couple of wishes for this holiday season. You might think that one of the wishes would be to find a nice bedrock crack full of gold, and although that would be great my real wish would be to be able to continue to go out every weekend and search for the elusive yellow metal. We have barely finished our battle to save our rights to dredge and up pops more obstacles from the groups that would prefer that we not move any rocks or or pan any gold. We all know that there must be a happy medium but there continues to be an element out there that would keep us from using our public lands. So we all must remain diligent to the cause, we are not only at risk of not being able to mine or prospect, but in some areas we may lose our rights to have access to the lands. Please continue to write your government representatives and let them know how you feel, just like we did with AB1032. There will be many more fights ahead, and with your support we can win them all. Support PLP, and support UPI with your involvement. Happy Holidays to you all.
Don

THE OUTING

Needing some time off and wanting to have nothing to contend with having to do with work or any other responsibilities I have, I headed out for Coulterville mid-morning Thursday. I hit the claim at about 2:00 P.M. and it was deserted. I was a little concerned, but oh well, on to Coulterville. To my surprise when I got to the Coulterville RV Park there were no UPI members there either. Oh, oh! Did I take the wrong days off? I checked my scheduler to find I was OK on the days off, but I was none-the-less concerned, as there was nobody there either. Oh well, I'm here and ready.

I set up my little trailer and got things sorted out and took trip back to the claim. There was still nobody there. Oh well back to camp. In the back of my mind was; are we going to have a good turn out? I was a little worried not seeing any members. Back to the matters at hand, dinner was due for Sam and I, and I had the opportunity to review the latest Social Security information I had received regarding this that and the next thing, on how to survive on Social Security.

A word of warning is needed here; If you plan on retiring in the next couple of years and you are not independently wealthy and you need to rely on Social Security for your future survival, start investigating now what you need to do, be prepared. Don't be like me and put it off to the last minute, there are a lot of decisions that need to be made.

Friday morning was leisurely, nothing important to do and no place in particular to go. After getting the necessities done I did some cruising of Coulterville on foot. During my cruise I realized that Coulterville is a quaint little town that is full of mining history, not that I didn't already know that. I decided to do a little historical picture taking for the benefit of new members to view in the newsletter, and to update the historical photos of Coulterville that UPI has.

This done, having not been to Mariposa for at least 20 years, I decided lets take a look. I'll tell you what, I was not impressed, I was more like depressed. More on the subject of Mariposa and the rest of Historical Route 49 will appear in Potpourri. Now back to the outing. Having returned to Coulterville it was observed that there

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Outing & Board Meeting Schedule 2008

First Board Meeting of 2008 will be held on January 12, 2008 @ 10:00am at Homecoming At Creekside Community Room in Sacramento. Take I-5 north out of downtown Sacramento to Del Paso Road (next exit north of Arena Blvd) Exit east on Del Paso Rd, get in left lane immediately. Left turn, north, on East Commerce Drive, first signal light. Get in right lane, turn right on New Market, just past shopping center & Safeway. Get in left lane and turn left on

(Continued on page 6)

CONTACTING THE UPI BOARD

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WAGON MASTER Steve Letlow Wagonmaster@unitedprospectors.com Phone: (209) 986-6276	EDITOR *HFA by EIC/Pub Please see EIC/Pub Assistant below.	CHAPTERS See Vice President

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Parliamentarian: Brenda Marsh, (916) 261-3161 or bluerosecompany@sbcglobal.net
EIC/Pub Assistant: Cindy Siegel, (209) 551-9802 or cfs623@aol.com

Chapters

Please see Chapters above for contact information.
For Chapter meeting times please contact the representative indicated for your Chapter area.

Alameda County. Currently open

Auburn Chapter. Currently open

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



Fresno, Kings, Madera and Merced Counties, Chairperson; Bill Poore, (559) 674-9756 or whp@netscape.com

Marin, Sonoma Counties. Currently open

Sacramento County, Contact person: Brenda Marsh, (916) 261-3161 or bluerosecompany@sbcglobal.net

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 kitfoxchumash@yahoo.com
Please call for particulars.



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



In all cases please call the Chapter Chairperson for where and when for meetings.

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

The Family oriented small scale mining organization.
UPI JOURNAL©
NEWSLETTER©

LOCATING GOLD GEMS AND MINERALS©
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Attn: Insert title here

The UPI Newsletter (ISSN 1544-7774) is published 8-10 issues per year, during the normal mining season. An "Members Guidebook" is also published. Membership is \$45.00/year and includes first class mailing of the Newsletter and Members Guidebook in the United States, to all new members. New Lifetime Membership is \$450.00 and provides the same. Current Guidebooks are issued at the first of the year for new Regular and Life Memberships. For renewing and Life Memberships Guidebook update pages are a part of the newsletter printed so pages from the newsletter can be inserted into their Guidebook binder. ***Non-member, subscription only***, is \$35.00/year and includes first class mailing of the Newsletter and the non-member Guidebook, in the United States. It's a picture guide of our claims with no locations indicated. Foreign Membership is \$55.00/year and foreign Lifetime Membership is \$550.00. Foreign non-member subscription is \$45.00/year. Foreign Memberships are in U.S. dollars. Updated Guidebook pages are issued upon renewal of Membership/Subscription via the newsletter. Inserts will be provided as Guidebook information changes. Members or Non-member Subscribers purchasing Membership or Subscriptions understand that information contained in the UPI publications comes from many sources and information used is considered as reliable, however UPI Officers, Directors and Editors do not guarantee its authenticity, nor do we assume liability for its use or correctness.

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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.

UNITED PROSPECTORS INC. PROSPECTOR
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***HFA = Held from above**

BOARD NOTES

President Don Siegel called meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Roll Call;

Officers Present: Don Siegel, Tom Eastland, Aaron Matula

Directors Present: Sid Parrish, Bill Reboin, Christa Eastland, Denise Matula, Bob Azbill

Corrections for the minutes, Sid Parrish had submitted a receipt for \$170, Aaron will report back.

Membership report;

Life members 64

total membership 414

Ron Coleman motion to accept the minutes as corrected was seconded.

Treasurer report;

beginning balance \$14533.11

balance as of 10/31 \$14872

ending balance \$15146.91



Whistling Billy

Aaron reported that he made the correction on the double entry of the last claims report.

Sales and Use taxes: We may owe penalties for taxes being paid late. Based on information given \$24 taxable, penalties \$2 and the interest is \$1. If any of this is found to be incorrect adjustments will be made as necessary. He also filed the statement of information for a Non Profit Organization for the State of California. We will be changing to Quick Books 2008 program and the change will take place during November and December 2007. Issues were brought up regarding the electronic expense reports being submitted could possibly result in non-compatibility between users. the electronic signature would not necessarily be required as it would be backed up by snail mail. The electronic addition would be a time saver. The finished edition of the electronic expense report will be available soon.

Membership report: Denise Matula

64 Life members; 305 regular members; 23 other for 392 total. Denise also reported that October's mail was done and any November mailings would be going out soon. New database would be completed during the November and December down time for Aaron.

Wagonmaster Report:

No report: Bob Azbill will assume the role of Wagonmaster and Steve will aide in the transition.

Outing Coordinator: Christa Eastland

Events for the day: Detector Hunt as scheduled, Mucking contest cancelled; Potluck is at 5:00 and dress-up for the 60 year celebration.

Ways n Means: Sid Parrish

Sid submitted his report on line. He has been updating his advertisers, Family RV may choose not to re-sign. Please mention to advertisers that you are UPI when visiting them. Sid anticipates having contacted all advertisers by 12/15/07. Sid also would like to have his budget by April 2008, before the Prim Nevada mining show. RCM mining would like to sign up this year as an advertiser. 49er Mining has not fulfilled his obligation due to our inability to contact him. Every effort will be made to contact Rob.

Grievance and Political: Gerald Hurt absent

Report made by group: AB1032 was vetoed by the Governor. Everyone should follow up with a thank you letter to the Governor.

Editor Publisher in Chief: Bill Reboin

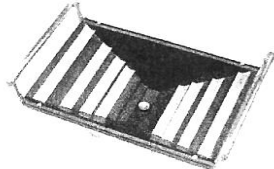
Cindy is doing a great job and will have the format updated soon which will save space and time. Sid is doing a great job getting advertisers and needs our support. Publication last month; the mailer had trouble with the printing list,. The printer could not get the expiration list to print, also the Post Office has had trouble reading due to the expiration date being near the address. Last issues we missed the new and renewing members, date range not correct from last newsletter to current newsletter. Bill will take up any issues with the printer to clear up any problems. Aaron wanted an explanation as to why we don't use Word for the newsletter. Bill explained that Publisher over the years has been successful and there is no need to change systems. All newsletter copy needs to be sent to Bill. It was asked if Kinkos or other printing options could be explored for cost savings as Alegria costs are approximately \$2 per issue. It was noted that quality could be an issue with other printing companies. Mike Phillips noted that copies he had made from Kinkos ranged up to \$3.75 each, as charges for each additional job stapling, folding, etc raised the overall cost.

Chapters: Tom Eastland

(Continued on page 11)

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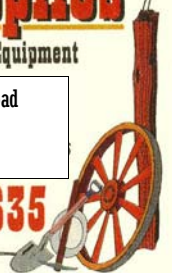
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**Rob & Deborah Goreham
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NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS

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

Welcome aboard for a year of fun.

New Life Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>City and State</u>
Les Murayama	Santa Clara CA

New Members 9-1-07-12-15-07

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Chot Wnagdee	Daly City CA
Lisa Epperley	Delhi CA
Ron Coleman	Prunedale CA
Dennis Byrne	Fresno CA
Richard Palmini	Placerville CA
Randall Brooks	Stockton CA
Bill Vogel	Sacramento CA
Frank Madsen	Novato CA
Raymond Romero	Richard CA
Pat & Kim Dunn	Livermore CA
Michael Valderrama	San Jose CA
Tom Hembree Jr	Atascadero CA
Ken Austn	Los Gatos CA
Theresa Milke	Twain CA
David Wood	San Jose CA
Larry W Richardson	San Carlos CA
David & Sonia Peterson	Gardnerville NV

Renewing Members

9-1-07-12-15-07

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Daniel & Kathy Short	Valley Springs CA
John Ljuba	Vallejo CA
Steven & Kathryn Doyle	Loomis CA
Ron & Susan Bassell	North Highlands CA
Clayton E Borchers	Tracy CA
Tom Lutrel	Concord CA
George Friel	Merced CA
Bill & Carol Bowman	Citrus Heights CA
Al Reynolds	Lakeport CA
James West	Weed CA
Dennis Smith	Livermore CA
Gary V Nunes	Visalia CA
William Westcott	San Leandro CA
Robert Burger	Berkeley CA
Chuck Ucker	Rio Vista CA
Rudolf Reyes	Fremont CA
Aaron & Denise Matula	Castro Valley CA
Duane & Virginia Degner	Castro Valley CA
James Lewis	Somis CA
Ernie & Virginia Sandberg	Red Bluff CA
Phil & Shirley Coney	Livermore CA
Edward Hansen	Reedley CA
Judi Reitz	Fresno CA
Olan & Susie Makemson	Columbia CA
David Kerber	Fresno CA
Jeff Schall	Livermore CA

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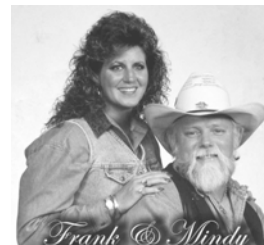
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Outing and Board meeting schedule continued from page 2:

Kokomo Dr. Look for parking spaces on the street immediately, you can't miss this 10,000 sq. ft. clubhouse. IHOP is nearby if anyone is interested in meeting for breakfast. Off I-5 and Del Paso Rd, east of Del Paso, stay in right lane, turn south on East Commerce, the first light, and right into the complex. For some nostalgia there is the Original Mels diner. Take Arena Blvd east and go approx. .8 miles, get in the left lane for a "U" turn at Truxel Blvd back tracking on Arena. Take the first drive into the center and keep to your right. Panera Bread is in the shopping center at the NE corner of Del Paso Rd and East Commerce. Take a right into the center at Safeway. There are quite a few places to choose from if you want to stop and have breakfast before the meeting. **Thank You to Lewis Operating Corp and Homecoming at Creekside for letting us use your community room.**

The outing schedule for 2008:

Jan, Feb, Mar—To be determined

April 18, 19, 20—Oxbow

May 30, 31, June 1—Bull Creek

July 5-13—Genesee Pot luck on the 12th

Aug 24-31—Squirrel Creek

Oct 3,4,5—Gems and Minerals (location TBD)

Nov 7,8 9—Coulterville/Moccasin Creek pre-Thanksgiving

If you want to be heard on where and when Board meetings should be held, be present at the first couple of Board meeting in 2008. A more detailed schedule will be posted in the next newsletter. Try and attend the January 12 meeting. Your input is needed and valued. If you can't be present but want to be heard please email your board members with your input, concerns, suggestions. Thank you for your participation in UPI.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS provided by UPI members:

Gem, Jewelry, Fossil and Mineral Show

"Nature's Wonders"; 46th Annual Show

Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds

800 All America City Blvd. (off Washington Ave.)

Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$5, Seniors \$4, Children 12 and under Free

Over 30 vendors; Crystals, Gemstones, Beads, Hand-Crafted Jewelry, Fossils & Sharks Teeth, World Class Mineral Specimens, Amber, Sunstones & Tourmaline, Opal, Polished Stones, silent Auction, "Kids Junction" an educational interactive Kids area, Unique Exhibits, Demonstrations, Great Food, FREE PARKING, website: WWW.rockrollers.com for more info and discount coupon. Contact Gloria Marie, 916-216-1114, or g16marie@ftcnet.net

World Wide Association of Treasure Seekers

WWATS will be having it's largest Rally ever in June 2008, so plan your vacation NOW! WWATS focus is to successfully keep our public lands open for recreational use for all Americans to enjoy. Plan to be a part of WWATS Rally and our goals this coming year and keep a close eye on dates and times as it develops on www.wwats.org. Keith Wills, President

WESTERN SLOPE NO-FEE COALITION

PO BOX 135 DURANGO CO 81302

www.WesternSlopeNoFee.org

Dear Public Lands Supporter:

An important editorial appeared in the Seattle Times on October 4, 2007 about entrance fee increases in National Parks. We have been sounding the alarm about these ever since we learned that 95% of NPS units that charge entrance fees will increase them, some by doubling or even tripling, between 2006 and 2009. At 19 NPS units, entrance fees will increase more than once during that period. Beginning in 2011 the NPS plans to increase entrance fees every 3 years based on the Consumer Price Index.

This approach to managing National Parks on a for-profit business model is very worrisome to many Americans, and to many members of Congress as well. The NPS has been getting significant resistance in some areas, enough that they have put planned increases on hold in a few parks. These increases are not being announced at the national level, only locally by each individual Park, Monument, or Historic Site. Comment periods are very short and often not very well publicized. Please check with the NPS units near you, or the ones you enjoy visiting, and find out what their plans are. A spreadsheet showing all planned increases through 2009 is available from the WANFC on request. Then comment to the NPS and send copies of your comments to your elected officials in the U.S. House and Senate and ask them to intervene. Opposition from local governments and Chambers of Commerce has also been proving to be effective in stopping (temporarily) some planned increases. Your efforts can help keep OUR National Parks, Monuments, and Historic Sites accessible to all Americans!

Kitty Benzar, President WSNFC

BILL BRINGS BACK FREE ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS

Baucus, Crapo Introduce RAT Repeal

By Bill Schneider, 12-06-07

As promised in an April interview with NewWest.Net, U.S. Senator Max Baucus (D-MT) will introduce a bill on Monday to repeal the Federal Lands Recreational Enhancement Act (FLREA), called the Recreational Access Tax (RAT) by its many detractors. Joining him as co-sponsor will be U.S. Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID), making the repeal a true bipartisan effort.

So, Monday morning could be panic time in the offices of the U.S. Forest Service (FS) and other federal agencies currently involved in aggressive fee policy and widespread closure of recreational sites on public lands. "It's time for the RAT tax to go," Baucus told NewWest.Net in announcing the upcoming legislation. "Americans already pay to use their public lands on April 15. We shouldn't be taxed twice." Baucus also said, "I've crafted a common-sense piece of legislation that will nix this unfair fee system once and for all. Hopefully we can begin to resolve some of the controversies that have dogged communities across the West. Access to public land is a value Westerners hold dear. Families shouldn't have to pay higher and higher fees to go hiking, camping, hunting or fishing."

(continued to page 10)

OUTING COORDINATOR: by Christa Eastland

What a fantastic turnout. Our 60th UPI Anniversary party was a knockout! From the detector hunt, decorating, cooking, lucky butt contest, dinner and raffle. 7 bags of prizes from the lucky butt contest were given out:

1. Xmas box, with chocolate mint cookies
2. Red Hat box, with fruit filled cookies
3. Weekend getaway for a lady (make up bag, etc.)
4. Box of Texas Roadhouse Chili & a jar of pickled pigs feet
5. Pink box of pampering items for a ladies feet
6. A bag called "A romantic evening" which included 1 bottle of Chardonnay, dark chocolate and 1 vanilla candle
7. "Night at the Movies", Curse of the Black Pearl movie, bag of Popcorn and small bottle of wine.

A big Thank you to everyone who helped with the menu and clean up. Together we work wonderful!!! Thank you very much to Richard Owings for donating a 20 cup coffee pot to UPI.

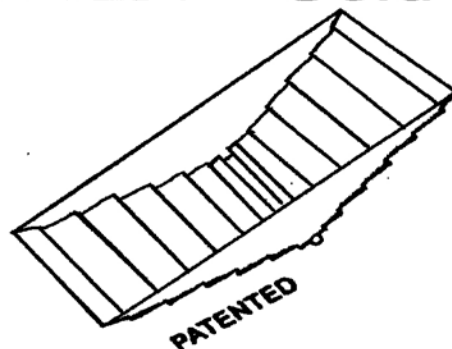
COIN HUNT



<The Coin Hunt is always a favorite of UPI members. It gives everyone a chance to show their skill with metal detectors. Lots of fun is had by all! UPI Members examining their finds > \$100 in coins were hidden.



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UPI President recognizing Brenda Marsh, Beverly Paul and Steve Letlow for their volunteer work and endless hours of dedication to the UPI organization.





UPI ROLL CALL

List of members and guests present at the Moccasin Creek/
Coulterville Outing, Potluck and
Raffle, held on 11/3/07 including Raffle results.

Joel, Laura, Brittany, April, Ashley, Delia Orona and Logan Cornett:
Boots, gloves, head warmer, Loops w/vial, UPI Canvas Bag, Prybar, Vial, Plastic scoop, brush, & tweezers, Gold Country book, Miners Moss

Dennis and Pat Mobley:
Hat & Poncho, UPI Pouch w/crystal

Bill Reboin and Samantha:
Prize less, goodness.

Ken Liddle:
License Plate, Field & Stream Knife, Hat Light, EZ sluice box

Bob and Georgia Azbill:
Sierra Nevada CD, Scarf & Rain Poncho, Hotel Jeffries certificate

Kevin, Geneva and Garrison Nelson:
Back Pack

Terry and Debbie Moore:
Aaron, Denise, Alex and Jennifer Matula: Blue Bowl, Head lamp clamp on, Gold ore, Cigar vial w/concentrate

James Neely:
EZ Sluice, Pocket Pliers

Sonny Sollecito:
UPI Canvas bag

Fred and Winnie Heil:
Sniping Tube

Michael Brick- - - :
Mining Claims Sign

John and Cathy Melling:
Wood display case, Book of Plans, Storage Case, Small Crevice tool, Baseball rack shelf

Joe Sol:
Steve, Conner and Ken Sawyer:
Tony Alexander and Shirley Burk:

Rick Niemi:
Randy Bristow:
Ron and Jim Coleman:
Blue Backpack w/goodies
Flint Knife, Quartz Necklace, Clay B Gone

Joshua Everson:
Roy Dunston:
Sid and Laurie Parrish:
Don and Cindy Siegel:
Tom and Christa Eastland:
Bill and Carol Eastland:
Bill Poore:
Western Gem Book, Quartz Neck lace, Rain gauge, fanny pac

Mike Ancona:
Steve Letlow:
Jim and Pam Madden:
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Bulb Sniping Tool, Pink Trinity pan

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Tom Jones:
Michael Phillips:
Sniffer bottle & stuff, Hat Light, Gold Miners book

John Delarida III:
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Ray Budowich:
Grayson Wolfe:
Jim Matt:
Grizzly Pan, Vial Pouch
Black Mat, Western Gem Book



Gold Nugget Winners: #1 Nugget Pat Mobley,
#2 Nugget John Delariva, #3 Nugget Roy Dunston,
#4 Nugget Lorrie Parrish Roy Dunston



Congratulations to all the Prize winners! Lots and lots of great prizes were won! Good job by Ways n Means, Sid Parrish, and those who graciously donate prizes for this event. Remember to acknowledge your advertisers every chance you get.



The four gold nuggets that were raffled off!

John Meling
Mini Sluice Winner: ↓

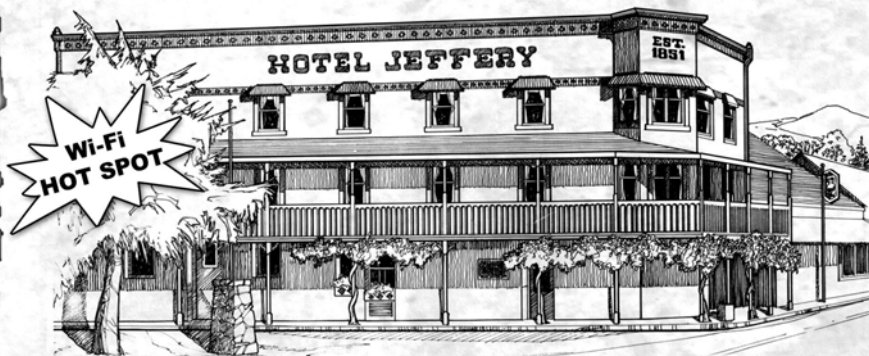


President Don Siegel and the winners of the metal detector hunt.

Congratulations!

To see more raffle prize winners and pictures go to page 14.

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(Outing continued from page 2)

were UPI Members in town. Great! Hot dog we are starting to ramp up. As it turned out there were a number of UPI Members that spent their time in Coulterville at historic Hotel Jeffery, and a number of members spent their time on the claim. I was really happy to see members showing up, I was worried for a while.

Saturday started off with breakfast early, before the Board Meeting, at the Coulter Cafe. This is kind of a tradition. There was a good show of members at the meeting. The Board always appreciates it when there are members at the meeting and there is some input. Then there was the Detector Hunt at the Park. There was \$100.00 in coins hidden for the hunt and most of that was recovered in the hunt. Several members found enough to cover their entry fee, and there were other prizes as well. This is good. Kudos to the UPI President for doing the planting of the park in the wee hours of the morning before most of us are even rustling in bed thinking about getting up. This is three years running for the Prez.

A big thank you for all of your work to all that set up the school-house for the potluck and raffle. They all did a wonderful job and the decorations were great. With 60 plus people at the event things were a slight bit crowded but what's that amongst friends. There is no complaint from here. Thank you Bill Poore for giving all of us a short visit with Santa Claus. It must have been warm in the suit. Thank all of you for the wonderful food and drink that you supplied. Sure beat dinner at the Ritz, and the camaraderie there you would be hard put to find anywhere.

The raffle(s) were great with lots of nifty prizes. Some big some small but they were all nice, not to mention the three nuggets. I have to think that most everybody that entered the raffles ended up winning something, the pictures will say. (Outing continued above)
(Outing continued)

There was also activity on the claim but nothing intense. It was perceived that yes we'll see what we can do/find, but the reason for being here is for the connection. With this - - - - Happy belated Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all.

Bill
EIC/Pub



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MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST©

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H.R.2262,

Hardrock Mining, Royalties

Recently I have been asked a few times about my opinion on H.R.2262, the "Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2007. Nick Rahall, (D) W. VA introduced this oppressive bill in the U.S. House of Representatives. Having not read it when asked if I had an opinion, I couldn't respond. I started reading it, 50 pages long, and trying to follow what it was saying, a lot of see section - - -. After battling with it and making references and notes for an hour I called PLP (Public Lands for the People) of which I personally am a member and talked to Jerry Hobbs, President. We talked for an hour about a number of different mining issues including H.R.2262. In the context of our communication we did some personal ear bending as well. It was great connecting with Jerry as we have several things in common. In any case the outcome on H.R. 2262, the reason for the phone call, came to this, along with a little learning on my part on civics. H.R.2262 is legislation that has been introduced/proposed for action in the House of Representatives only. There has been no companion bill introduced in the Senate covering the same areas of proposed legislation. As I understand it with no companion bill in the Senate, the House bill is a dead horse. As I understand it, the two houses have to have similar legislation in each house. If this be the case then the two houses get together, get in agreement with what they want and then they send their product off to the President for him to dispose. So at this point in time, all requirements having not being accomplished, H.R.2262 is essentially dead. Additionally, anything that the Democrats might put together on H.R.2262 would most likely be vetoed. Do not take the current status of this item for a given. Your, our constant vigilance and appropriate action is needed to protect our rights as dictated by the Mining law of 1872 and its amendments. We could be in deep trouble as miners, small scale no less, if the Democrats and their environmental whacko deep pockets non-profit corps get into control at the 2008 elections, or if they decide they want to push the issue. The flip side of this is, they may not want to hurt their bid for control in 2008 by pushing for 2262.

BAD APPLES IN THE BARREL

Do you realize that we have another year to listen to and get mail we don't want from these politicians? Who needs any more of this nonsense? Look at the money that is being spent on this; follow the trails to find the source of money. It's time to change the status quo of the political scene.

There needs to be more choices than two barrels with rotten apples in each one. All it takes is one bad apple to spoil the entire barrel. If you look closely at both barrels and closely examine the individual fruit in each one you will find that there needs to be some serious cutting from both barrels. One needs to believe if you look closely at the Democrat barrel that there is on really bad apple that stands out amongst them all. Hopefully this one will get culled in the primaries. The same holds true for the Republican barrel. Here again, hopefully this one will get culled in the primaries. There are bad apples in both barrels that strongly support extreme, suppressive gun control rather than same common sense gun control. There are bad apples in both barrels that could spell trouble for the mining communities, large, small and individuals. So folks before you vote do your homework, know about whom you are voting for. This article is being published now so that you will have time to do your homework before the early primaries. The first newsletter of the year may be too late as it will not be out until some time in February. Merry

Christmas and A Happy New Year!! Bill Reboin EIC



Bill Reboin, EIC/Pub and his pooch Samantha.

(BILL continued from page 6)

"It's that simple," he said. "There's a good reason people live out here. And that's why I'm introducing this important legislation."

Right now, the bill has no other co-sponsors, but typically, the main sponsors formally introduce the bill and then look for co-sponsors. It's likely that other senators will join the effort for sane recreational fee policy on public lands. The Baucus-Crapo bill is entitled, Fee Repeal and Expanded Access Act of 2007. It will receive its number when introduced on Monday. A summary of the bill obtained by outlines its for major objectives:

- * Repeal the FLREA
- * Reinstatement of the fee authorities established by the Land and Water Conservation Act
- * Reinstatement of the National Parks Pass System
- * Cap amount to be charged for entrance to national parks

As background, the Land and Water Conservation Act (LWCA) of 1965 limited the use of fees on public lands. The LWCA allowed the National Park Service to charge limited entrance fees, but other federal land management agencies could only charge fees for developed recreation sites such as overnight campgrounds.

The legislation would essentially return us to the situation we enjoyed under the provisos of the LWCA. The public has never supported the current fee system and congress has never voted the congressional session and became the law of the land. Since then, federal agencies, particularly the FS, have been aggressively raising existing fees and instituting new fees for enjoying the amenities of our public lands, even charging to drive through our national forests on state highways in some states.

Kitty Benzar, President of the Western Slope No-Fee Coalition, the main nonprofit group fighting RAT, has been in Washington D.C. this past week working on this legislation. In a phone interview with NewWest. Net, she said she has found "tremendous support" from senators and representatives and their staffers for the Baucus-Crapo legislation, even though they haven't even seen the bill. "They have no idea what the Forest Service is doing and has planned, and they are astonished when they hear it," she claimed. "This bill is the most important thing we've done for our public lands in the last ten years, easily". Benzar and the late Robert Funkhouser, who has recently passed away while deep in his fight against the RAT, were the driving forces behind informing the public about the frequent abuses of the fee authority handed to federal agencies by FLREA. "Now, the whole issue is blowing up in their faces," she said. "The Forest Service has even been using fee money to close recreation sites and campgrounds. It's an ugly picture out on our public lands right now." Benzar also said she supported instituting an interim moratorium on recreation site closures while the legislation is being debated.

Footnote: "NewWest. Net has extensively covered the recreational fee controversy. You can see all articles by going to the Recreational Fee Chronology. Scott Silver Wild Wilderness 248 NW Wilmington Ave Bend OR 97701 [Http://www.wildwilderness.org](http://www.wildwilderness.org)



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Board Notes *continued from page 4*

Tom's email was read to the group. Open discussion ensued regarding chapters and their direction. Mike Phillips of the Santa Clara chapter would

like to have meetings close to the claims to ensure equipment safety during meetings from theft. Tom read the Contra Costa ideas and comments and there was open discussion to determine areas for improvement. Mike Phillips also noted he has encountered non-members on some of our claims. There was open discussion on how to get all chapters to mirror the two successful chapters, Contra Costa and Santa Clara. Soon to be opening the Auburn chapter and other board members would like to attend to help with this endeavor.

Claims Report: Chet Chastain

No report.

Bills to be paid: Bills were presented and Aaron will issue checks after the meeting.

New business:

It was suggested that a trip to the desert in March be added to the outing schedule. More information was needed on Bear river. Suggestion was made to make the election information more readily available to members. Aaron suggested that we possibly make the ballot available on line. The question was asked, where does Aaron's responsibility begin and end.

January Board meeting will be the 2nd week in January. (January 12, 2008) Location to be determined.

Meeting adjourned! 11:30AM




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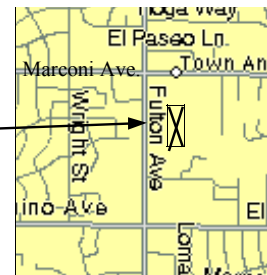




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←Brenda & Beverly relaxing and watching the hunt.



Locals Tony & Shirley →
← President & member counting the finds from the coin hunt.



← Members waiting for the final count on the coin hunt.

A great time was had by all and the weather was beautiful!

Everyone had a good time dressing in costume for the 60th Anniversary of UPI. Start making your plans now for the 61st Anniversary and let's make it a yearly event.
(more pictures on page 15)



← Tom & Christa

The old miner sez: Lets socit tooem!!!



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Dennis & Pat ↑



Sid & Lorrie ↓



PLP SMALL MINERS ALERT!!!

While at the NWMA convention we were told by Mike Doran, Minerals & Geology team leader for US Forest Service that the FS will be publishing a Notice in the Federal Register sometime this month (Dec), giving notice that the FS is proposing to make major amendments to the FS Mining Regulations at 36CFR228. There will be a 60 day comment period, beginning on the day of Fed.Reg.Publication. I asked if there will be any public meetings, and was told none are scheduled as of yet, and that it would depend on the comments they receive. I take this to mean that if we (the mining community) want public meetings, we will have to request them. We were told that the FS plans to amend the 228's to be similar to the new BLM mining regs. at 43 CFR 3809. One item mentioned was the creation of a new category of authorization, called "BONDEDNOTICE", which would be used for activities not requiring a POO, but still needing a reclamation bond (possibly for prolonged camping? They mentioned that some small-scale earthmoving operations, such as a 1 man backhoe/trommel operation may fit in this category.) The idea here is to keep operations at the Notice level, as they do not require (according to the FS) any NEPA analysis. I would assume they will also add a provision allowing for criminal citations under 261. Something more to look forward to..... Tom Kitchar

This change in the Forest Service mining regulations will make mining activities on your mining claims in the Forests unaffordable to most small miners. The FS 36 CFR 228 regulations will be requiring Bonds for a Notice of Intent as well as a Plan of Operations for many things including occupancy and probably anything motorized such as suction dredging. The problem lies in the fact that there are no bonding companies that will Bond a small scale mining operation and the bond will have to be a cash bond that most will not be able to afford. We had better get serious about this one and start raising funds now.

Thank you Jerry Hobbs and PLP
(Public Lands for the People)

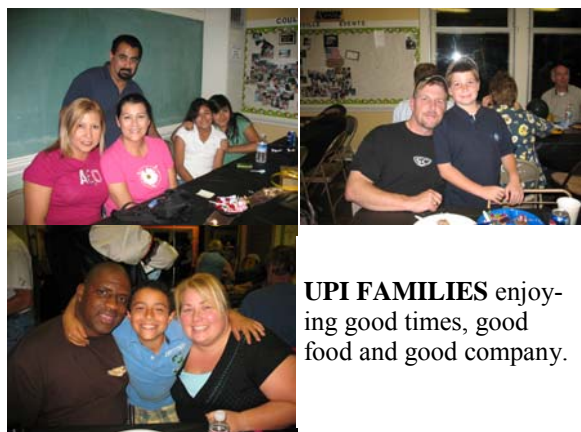
Renewing Members cont'd:

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Caroline Pegueros	Milipitas CA
Jim Buckley	Ridgecrest CA
Robert Murray	Fernley CA
Dennis Mathews	Fresno CA
John DeLaRiva III	San Jose CA
Duane Lincker	San Ramon CA
Kenneth Nordheim	San Jose CA
Les Murayama	Santa Clara CA
Len Weise	San Jose CA
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George Lancaster	Sunnyvale CA
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Welcome aboard for another year of enjoyment with UPI, the small-scale miners advocate. We need to see you at the outings and the Board meetings to help us guide the organization the way you would like to see it go.



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Letter From Carl "The Perpetrator" Petersen

The following letter was received a couple of weeks ago from an long time member of UPI (37 years)

Hi,

Just letting you know we have moved back to California, from North Dakota and will be making our home permanently in California. Hope I'm able to attend the spring and summer outings. This old Boy (Carl) turned 80 in April this year (2007) and he's not as agile as back in 1970 when joining The United Prospectors Inc. My partner Bernadine, she's not telling her age, however we've been married darn near 60ty years, May of 2008 will be the sixty-year date. Yes we both enjoy setting a whole bunch.

Wendell Harrow was President, John Kennedy was the V.P., Walt Price editor, William (Bill) Sanger was wagon master and Harry Wilson Sec. Treas. when Bernadine and I joined in 1970. We have enjoyed every minute of our time with the Greatest Bunch of People on the Earth "The United Prospectors Inc." Looking forward to this seasons outings.

Sincerely,

Carl W. Petersen

Where did the "The Perpetrator" come from? From Carl's letter to UPI dated February 9, 2000, 26 degrees in Arthur N. Dakota. "Thirty-Year Member – Former Board Member – Vive President – California Rep. and Perpetrator of "THE POTLUCKS". The story on how the potluck began was published in the March/April issue of 2000.

Thank you for the letter Carl and welcome back to California. I know I want to meet up with you personally. I'm sure that there will be more as well. Hope to see you soon.

Bill

EIC/Pub

Pictures continued from page 12



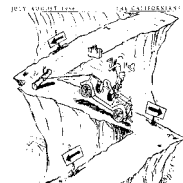
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