



Locating Gold, Gems and Minerals

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

www.unitedprospectors.com

April-May 2008

No. 298, Vol. 2-8

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MOCCASIN CREEK OUTING APRIL 2008



Moccasin Creek Outing in April was a huge success!! The camping area was overflowing with members, what a great turnout. A good time was shared by all, good friends, good food, and Good Gold!!! Hope to see everyone at the **Bull Creek Outing coming up on May 30, 31, and June 1.**

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



UNITED PROSPECTORS INC. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Don Siegel
2008**

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With the first outing being such a great success, I expect we will have a great year. Although we did not find a lot of gold, everyone that looked for it found it. That's what it's all about, the hunt. We know that our claims have gold and have been proven producers since the original miners visited them in the 1850s. The challenge is finding new claims that will fit our organizations needs. We are currently working to eliminate the claims in our portfolio that we don't use or can't use due to the restrictions or access. Here's where we need your help. We need to hear from you when you hear of claims for sale. We would all love to have claims on the Yuba, American, or the Merced, but these big river claims are going to be very expensive, as the sellers will now include the price of the estimated gold in the selling price. There is also the forest service and BLM that could impose restrictions on a group the size of ours. So with all of that said I want you know that your board of directors would love to buy more claims if only we could. So drop us an e-mail if you hear of any claims out there. Bull Creeks up next, and the water is already very low. I visited the area this past weekend and found that there is enough water to run a 4 inch dredge, with the weather due to warm up considerably this week we could get a little increase in water flow, then the water will recede rapidly after that. So plan your season now, take advantage of the water in Bull now, then move your activities up to Genesee or Twain where the water flow will hold all season long. I also want everyone to know that we will be returning our Salmon River claim to Dan Short. We acquired this claim at no expense to the organization, with the understanding that if the organization decides to get rid of the claim that it goes back to Dan first. I look forward to seeing all of you at the next outing, we will not be holding a meeting at this outing as it cuts into everyone's mining time, but we do hope to hold an open discussion time after the pot luck and raffle. Don't forget to bring those mining tools you no longer need as we typically have a swap and trade at the Bull creek outing. Look for the potluck to start about 5 pm on Saturday. See ya soon.

THE OUTING

We could not have picked a nicer weekend to hold our 1st outing of the year, 80 degrees during the day and cool enough at night to make the campfires very enjoyable. I arrived on Friday afternoon to find the claim area to be almost full with campers and miners. I set up my tent and checked out all the activity on the claim. There were at least 6 power sluices set up (this is only Friday afternoon) with a couple of hand sluices going as well. Big John Meling started the gold off with a very nice fingernail size, flake, very nice. Everyone I talked with had found a little color the first day. Saturday Steve Letlow and I went to town and had a nice breakfast, and upon our return you could hear all of those motors running, what a beautiful sound. There was lots of activity and visiting going on. Jim Madden found an old outhouse site, the gold was not great but he found some cool sh....oops. Great potluck with a couple of tri-tips cooked to perfection, as well as some great mac and cheese cooked in a dutch oven. John Meling won the nugget (nothing new here) and Ashley Arona won the 50/50 (again). The campfire was perfect and many folks stayed up to well after 11:00 quietly talking about all the great places they have been to and will be visiting soon. Sunday found a few late sleepers, and many folks slowly packed up their stuff for the drive home. John Meling and I worked up til 3:00 and found a little more color and one nice piece about as big as a flattened pea. Rich Andrews is back and I found him way up the little tiny creek on the southern end of the claim. At that time he had not found anything major yet but was working his way to the bottom of a nice deep gold trap. All in all it was a great way to spend a weekend with great people, great weather and Gold!! Who could ask for anything more. Looking forward to the next outing at Bull Creek where the gold should be better, and although we may not be able to have a campfire we can sit around the lantern and enjoy each others company. Don Siegel (President) **Read Jim Madden's Outing on page 12.**

In This Issue

Presidents Message - - - - 2	Legal Notice - - - - - 10
Advocacy - - - - -	Membership - - - - - 5&6
Board Notes - - - - - 4	Mining Issues - throughout
Bulletin Board - - - - - 15	Next outings - - - - - 2
Chapters/Associates - - - 3	Passings - - - - - None
Claims - - - - -	Pictures - - - - - throughout
Contacting UPI - - - - - 3	Potpourri - - - - -
Education - ——— Throughout	Roll Call - - - - - 8
Events - - - - - All over	Story - - - - - -None
Guidebook changes - - -	Tech Report
History - - - - - None	The Outing - - - - - 2

Outing & Board Meeting Schedule 2008

Please attend the board meetings as often as you can. They are an important part of the UPI organization and your input is appreciated and needed.

***May 30, 31, & June 1 Bull Creek UPI**
Board meeting after potluck & raffle, 5/31/08
(NOI needed for mining activities)

Continued to page 10

CONTACTING THE UPI BOARD

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WAGON MASTER Steve Letlow Wagonmaster@unitedprospectors.com Phone: (209) 986-6276	EDITOR CHAPTERS See Vice President	

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Asst. Claims, south:
Asst. Claims Plumas Co.: Johnny Lewis Jr., (530) 283-4787
Trifold: Cindy Siegel, (209) 551-9802 or cfs623@aol.com
Parliamentarian:
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: Currently 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 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.

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The Family oriented small scale mining organization.
UPI JOURNAL©
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Production of Guidebook

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Subscriptions/Membership/Circulation

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Sacramento, CA 95827-9998

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.

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***HFA = Held from above**

BOARD NOTES

UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.

A Family Oriented Small Scale Mining and Prospecting Organization since 1947

President: Don Siegel, 2605 Dardanelle Dr., Modesto, CA 95355

Vice President: Tom Eastland, 172 Belle Ave., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Secretary: Rita Perry, P.O. Box 891, Yountville, CA 94599

Treasurer: Aaron Matula, 19131 Vaughn Ave., Castro Valley, CA 94546

Directors: Chet Chastain, Christa Eastland, Denise Matula, Sid Parrish, Bob Azbill, Chris Perry, and Gerald Hurt, temporary

No minutes for this newsletter as there was no board meeting at the outing.

Stay tuned for Board Notes from the next meeting!

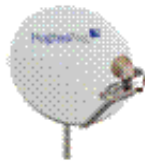
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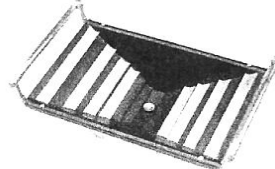
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NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS

*This section is devoted to acknowledging and welcoming all new members and those renewing!
Welcome aboard for a year of fun.*

New Life Members

First Name	Last Name	City/State
James	Hansen	Antioch CA

New Members 2/16/2008 - 4/30/08

Name	City/State
Travis Wolfe	Reno NV
Herbert Abell	San Mateo CA
James Pruden	Salt Lake City UT
Steven & Nancy Foster	Morgan Hill CA
Harry A Phillips	San Mateo CA
Karen & Mike Yakopatz	Sacramento CA
Larry Kochie	Rancho Cordova CA
Kelly & Kristi Munoz	Sacramento CA
Kevin Davis	Concord CA
Jim Lahoe	Gig Harbor WA
William L Vaughn	Columbia CA
Daniel Bell	Moss Landing CA
Tom Manser	Standish CA
Steve Bava	Antioch CA
Gene Hansel	Sparks NV

New Members cont'd:

Name
Clive Cox
Paul Hoyle
Robert & Cathy Wilson
Ed Hobbs
Scott Lansberry
Elmer Smith
Keith Waisanen
David Avina
James Forbes
Rand Dill
Bob Majors
Michael Roderick
Dale Winkle
Clint & Susan Greer
Paul Venker
Jack Fong
John Creighton
Louie
Paul Papageorgiou
Richard Speidel
Robert Arndell
Douglas Williamson
Leslie Guinn
Michael Dunn
Eric Kicki
Claude Moore

City/State

Vallejo CA
Sacramento CA
Pittsburg CA
Turlock CA
Wadsworth NV
North Highlands CA
Vallejo CA
Gilroy CA
Fresno CA
Corte Madera CA
Atwater CA
San Jose CA
San Jose CA
Sacramento CA
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Continued on Page 6

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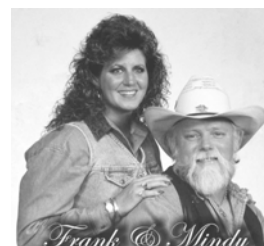
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<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Terry Ferrari	El Sobrante CA
Tom Maris	El Sobrante CA
Mike Larsen	Martinez CA
Rodney Knudston	Concord CA
Howard Swift	San Lorenzo CA
Dan Merrill	Martinez CA
Gary Hunt	Lodi CA
David Norman	Mariposa CA
Danny Sommers	San Jose CA

Renewing Members

2/16/08-4/30/08

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Denise Downey	Twain CA
David Dhont	Pleasant Hill CA
Robert J Anderson	Clovis CA
James Kelly	Redding CA
Gregory E Davis	Tempe AZ
Andy & Cathy Patterson	Santa Clara CA
Emilie Andresen	Stockton CA
Douglas Parker	Castle Rock WA
Wayne Baker	Placerville CA
Gary Anderson	Lodi CA
Lance Schmidt	Oakley CA
Tom & Christa Eastland	Pleasant Hill CA
Thomas Lee	Vallejo CA
Alvin W Frink	Fairfield CA
Donald Siegel	Modesto CA
Mark & Debbie Buhl	Turlock CA
Nancy Hiteshew	Vallejo CA
Bob Divine, Jr.	Ridgecrest CA
Gerald Boyle	Folsom CA
Carl & Bernandine Petersen	Rio Linda CA
Patrick Avilla	Placerville CA
John Wills	Los Molinos CA
Les Baker	Apple Valley CA
Steve & Jean Dorman	Auburn CA
Stan Smart	Stockton CA
Ross Smith	Danville CA
Randol Thrasher	Atwater CA
Gene & Diana Clayton	Redding CA
Randy & Glenette Huckabay	Madera CA
Ron & Sharon Rowe	Dayton NV
Sam & Tenia Santangelo	Rescue CA
Kenny Hall	Oakhurst CA
Greg Voisard	Coarsegold CA
John Meling	Modesto CA
Andy & Adele Rico	Nice CA
James Silva	Ukiah CA
Les & Jackie Rossi	Rescue CA
Wes & Bonnie Hawkins	Grass Valley CA
Warren Van Sant	San Jose CA
Dan & Sarah Lohberger	Milpitas CA
Herman Beard, Jr.	Lemoore CA
Ken Sawyer	Fremont CA
Gene Bianchi	San Jose CA
Clarence "Joe" Stewart	Saugus CA
Chuck & Rose Kriel	Sunnyvale CA
Jim Jordan	Visalia CA



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Cont'd from below left column:

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Jay Ramoz	Quincy CA
Ed & Cynthia Burchard	Colfax CA
Ric Mora	San Jose CA
Thomas & Carol Elliott	San Jose CA
Allen Smith	Atwater CA
Bill Fisher	Sunnyvale CA
Joel Hochstetler	San Carlos CA
John Fischer	Walnut Creek CA
Bob & Kathleen Liening	Fairfield CA
Randy Deblauw	Santa Maria CA
Steve Sawyer	Modesto CA
Joseph Brennan	Elk Grove CA
Al Simoni	Concord CA
Edward Peck	Tonopah NV
Patrick Dunno	Los Gatos CA
Clifford Falk	Turlock CA
Vickie Krois	Quincy CA
Clifford Spafford	Riverbank CA
John Dickenson Jr.	Waterford CA
Bennett Lacher	Camino CA
Al Crane	Coarsegold CA
Steve Alban	Palo Alto CA
Laverne Wendell	Reno NV

Members Up For Renewal:
3/31/08-5/31/08

Dottie Leet, Neil Greiner, Johnny R. Lewis, Rod Zook, Darrell Billups, Walter & Beverly Hills, Clyde Pearson, Mike Pivacek, Pat Milligan, Stephen & Karen De, Glen Conley, Edgar Pate, Charles Vanleer, Rick Niemi, Scott & Sharon Clark, Jim Petersen, Don & Linda Reed, Gordon Thomas, Don & Margo Kazsuk, Harry Whitehead, Mark Palmer, Dan Stevens, Rick Palomino, Terry K Stewart, Michael Pedneault, David & Becky Ferrin, Robert Divine, Leroy Childs Jr, Terry Robinson, Ernest Robinson, John Case, William Scott, Rodger Shannon, Fred Forbes, David Nelson, Clarence "Eddy" Buttram, Robert McLean, Joe Cox, Frank Thomas.

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.

BULL CREEK OUTING:

I am glad to hear that the Moccasin Creek outing was a success. I hear there were about seven Hi Bankers going and some pretty good gold was found! John Melling did it again with the largest nugget. Bull Creek is our next outing May 30th, 31st and June 1st. This is a great claim for a panning contest. I have some nice prizes for the top three panners. We will have separate categories: women, men and kids under 16 years. The last Sunday breakfast at Bull Creek was a big hit with everyone. People came out of the woods and filled their tummies for the long ride home.

Breakfast will be Sunday morning, June 1st at 9:00am.

The menu will include:

Blueberry Pancakes
Biscuits and Gravy
Coffee, Orange Juice
Other goodies

Don't forget to bring your NOI, dredge, campfire permits and a deck of cards.

Can you Dig It!

Christa
UPI Outing Coordinator



WAYS N MEANS

Hi ALL UNITED PROSPECTORS,

Sorry I missed you at Moccasin Creek! I understand everyone had a great time and some good gold was found; There was a large crowd and you had a good time at the raffle.

I want to update you on our trip to the GPAA show in Primm, Nv. and enlighten you on upcoming prizes for the raffles. While at Primm, UPI Members Don Cox won PLP's nugget, Debbie and Teri Won Back to Back Major Prizes, A Mine lab Metal detector and the GRAND Prize 2 weeks in Alaska! It was Great fun and many people commented on how supportive and fun a group we were, as we celebrated when someone around us won a prize! So If you win at our outings I want to see you celebrate and keep the UPI Sprit going. When you see our advertiser's and sponsors take the time to thank them for making UPI raffles fun! Remember to identify yourself as a UPI member and some of our Advertiser's will give you a discounted rate (Hotel Jeffrey's special UPI only rate anytime, The gold mine an additional 5% off your purchase).

I would like to give a special thank you to Dave McCracken for his generous donations to our club and hope we can help him, by providing our members with an opportunity to join him for a weekend at his Klamath river claims. Stay tuned for info. on how to contact him! These people do not advertise with us but I wanted to highlight some of the support they provide, Miners Keepers has donated a nice gold flake filled necklace along with lockets you can put in your own gold or gem stones, A local Las Vegas GPAA club and Desert outfitters store donated some nice prizes as well, along with Keene engineering (Which Mike Phillips and The Santa Clara Chapter benefited from... Thanks Pat).

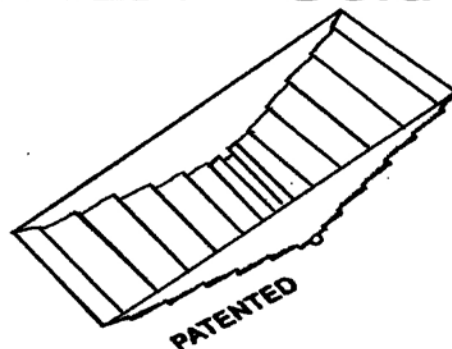
See you at the BULL Raffle 5-31-08.

Cont'd next column



The old miner sez: Lookie thet elusive yelloh metal.
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Ways n Means cont'd:

Thank you all in advance for making these raffles golden!

We have a reliable source for our club gear, which gives us a 10% discount. The artwork has been enhanced to provide a clearer image of our mascots and members have commented on the quality. Thanks Century Graphics!

****Be aware!** Some prices have increased, but most have stayed the same. New items and prices can be seen on page 15.

Sid Parrish -UPI WaysnMeans-

Moccasin POT LUCK





ROLL CALL/MOCCASIN CREEK OUTING RAFFLE PRIZES WON

MOCCASIN OUTING POTLUCK—WHO WON WHAT!

1. Jim Madden—Black Round Gold Pan, 30" Black Jimmy Bar, Sniffer Bottle and Small Vial
2. Dave Norman—"Lost Boy"
3. Darlene Norman
4. Rand Dill
5. Cathy Meling
6. John Meling—U Dig It Shovel, Black Canvas Tote Bag, GOLD Nugget and Vial with Gold Pickens
7. Joe Letlow "Steve's Son" - California Gem Map Refinery Kit and Mining Lost Treasure Book, Poncho and Cooler
8. Daphnie Letlow—Seven Function Pocket Knife
9. Chuck Ucker
10. Steve Letlow
11. Al Simoni—Canvas Tote UPI Patch, 2 Magnifying Glass and Wire Brushes
12. Richard Palmini—Gold Digger License Plate, How to Find Gold, Pouch and Vial
13. Rich Andrews
14. Joe Sul—Siphon Pump, Weekend Gold Mine Book, Gold Panner Hat Pin, Necklace with Silver Canister
15. Sonny Sollecito
16. Pat Mobley—Hat LED Light Clip
17. Dennis Mobles—Plastic Storage Container with Compartment
18. Shirley Moore
19. Henry Moore
20. Daniel Short—Rattlesnake Magnets and Disposable Port-A-Potty
21. Kathy Short
22. Ron Basell—New 49er's DVD, Refinery Packet and Black Gold Magnet, Nugget Hunting Book, Clay be Gone, Blue Trinity Pan
23. Les Murayma—Pink Water Proof Vial and Silver Round
24. Matthew Anderson
25. Chris Perry
26. Rita Perry
27. Brandon Rettman
28. Rebecca Koop
29. Ray Budowich "Polish Prince"—Three Black Pry Bar Set
30. Ashley Arona—Mine Lab Hat and Pin and Green magnifying Set and Brush Kit
31. Joel Arona, wife and daughter
32. Steve Sawyer and Son—Green Bucket Classifier, Small Red Pry Bar, Crystal Rock and Fanny Pack
33. Ken Sawyer—Seven Function Pocket Knife
34. Jim Peterson—Sucker Bottle with Vial

****Fifty—Fifty Winner:** Ashley Arona

****Largest Nugget Winner—**John Meling

****Bottle of Gold Pickens Winner—**John Meling

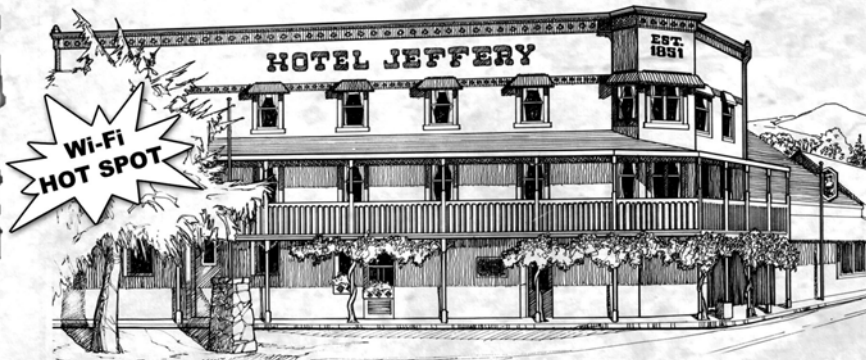
****Silver Round one ounce coin—**Les Murayma



Check out the belt buckles found by UPI Members! WOW!!!! Not only are you enjoying nature but you can find great things while you are out in the wilderness. I don't have the full story behind these finds. Maybe the members can fill us in for the next newsletter.



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The Humorous Side of Life submitted by Steve B:

A Penny saved is a government oversight!

The Sole Purpose of a child's middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.

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We have silver in our hair
We have gold in our teeth
We have stones in our kidneys
We have lead in our feet,
and
We are loaded with natural gas.

cont'd next column:

Humor Continued:

SIGNS

At a Chicago Radiator Shop: 'Best place in town to take a leak'

In the front yard of a funeral home: 'Drive carefully. We'll wait'

Outside a Muffler Shop: 'No appointment necessary. We hear you coming'

At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee: 'Invite us to your next blowout'

On the Maternity room door: 'PUSH. PUSH. PUSH.

Thanks Steve for the smiles!

The following submitted by New Member **Al Simoni** from Contra Costa:

Don wanted to say I had a great time at Moccasin Creek. It was nice meeting you and all the nice people I did meet. The raffle was really nice. Thanks for your effort, a big thumbs up to everyone. My take on the gold for the weekend was 2.7 grams. Thanks

If any members would like to submit articles, tidbits, pictures, etc for the newsletter please feel free to send them to cfs623@aol.com with UPI in the subject. Your comments/submissions are welcome. Remember this is your Newsletter!!



The old miner sez: Lets socit tooem!!!



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Cont'd from page 2:

Outing & Board Meeting Schedule 2008

***July 5-13 Genesee UPI**

Board meeting after potluck & raffle, 7/12/08

***August 24-31 Squirrel Creek UPI**

Board Meeting after potluck & raffle, 8/30/08

***October 3-5 Gems & Minerals, location TBD**

Board meeting after potluck & raffle, 10/4/08

*****ELECTIONS*****

***November 7-9 Coulterville 9th Annual Pre-**

Thanksgiving Board meeting 9am 11/8/08 Detector Hunt, Panning Contest, and more.....)

If you want to arrive a week or several days before the outing, please go for it. If there are any exceptions, we'll let you know via the newsletter, or by email! Always check online at the UPI website for notices/changes as well.

* **Indicates** that there is currently a Board meeting scheduled for the outing, however it may be subject to change after discussions at the first couple of Board Meetings in 2008. If you want your input heard on where and when Board Meetings should be held, be present at the Board Meetings.



Terry Schoen
Area Supervisor

Armor Fire Extinguisher Co.
Safety Products • Sales & Service

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Stockton, CA 95203

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Stockton (209) 547-1937
Ripon (209) 599-5705
Fax: (209) 547-0554



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

CHANGES TO UPI BY-LAWS

The following change * to the UPI by-laws has been approved by the board of directors and will be voted on at the Genesee outing by the membership:

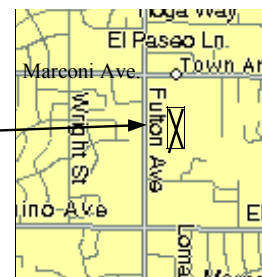
***Elections will be held in November at the annual Thanksgiving outing or the last outing of the year.**

Gold Mine

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tecting, history. Where to go, how to do it- - gold , coins,
beach or river

Our goal is to serve you, the customer. We welcome your
comments. We will be adding new products and services to
better serve you.



UPI CHAPTER NEWS

Contra Costa County Chapter is the only Chapter I heard from. Remember, if you want your chapter news published in the UPI newsletter, email me at cfs623@aol.com and put UPI in the subject line.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CHAPTER:

Dave McCracken Rocks Contra Costa County!

Dave McCracken recently rocked Contra Costa County on April 3rd. He drew a crowd of over 400 folks to the Brenden Theater in Concord, CA. Dave is one of the most experienced and world recognized experts on locating and recovering gold and a modern day Indiana Jones at that! Dave's presentation on "How to Find Your Own High-Grade Gold" was just outstanding! Many thanks to Contra Costa Chapter members Mike and Rachel Dunn for making this event available to all UPI members. If you're in the area make sure to stop by their new prospecting supply store, Gold Pan California and say hello and thank you. They'll be happy to see you.



Above: Mike Dunn and Dave McCracken

Contra Costa Chapter April Meeting Breaks an All Time Record!

Contra Costa Chapter is unstoppable. We've had to move to a larger meeting room. Many thanks to the regulars for their continuing support and a special shout out to our new members! Also, a big thanks to Laurie Ozga for all her hard work in recruiting new members for UPI as well as Contra Costa Chapter. Laurie has actively recruited for UPI for many years, but you should have seen her go when she personally handed out 400 flyers at the Dave McCracken event in Concord last month. The phone has not stopped ringing and lots of new memberships have already been received. Remember, the Contra Costa Chapter meets the third Thursday of the month in Concord. Come on by anytime and join in the fun!

3rd Annual Contra Costa Chapter Outing!

You're invited, mark your calendars and make your reservations now for the 3rd Annual Contra Costa Chapter Outing! Saturday, August 16th. Contra Costa UPI Chapter is hosting a day or weekend outing at PiPi Valley.

Contra Costa Chapter Member Digs it Big!

Contra Costa Chapter member Jim Madden found a real beauty. While digging away at something unrelated he recently uncovered what appears to be a military sash buckle. It is solid brass. It has an eagle facing left, 11 stars across the top and a banner on the bottom and an eagle clutching something in each claw. The background has fine dimpling and an ornate rectangular belt opening. Jim's still doing research on it's background and will be sure to share at an upcoming meeting.



Mark Your Calendars!

The meeting you don't want to miss! Here is a chance to show off your culinary skills. Not into cooking? That's okay, pick up something at the store, local drive-thru, anything, we're not picky and come and join the fun with good folks, good talk, yummy food and oh, did I mention the gold? The Contra Costa Chapter will hold it's 3rd Annual BBQ pot-luck meeting on Thursday, June 19th. This year's event will include a panning contest.



THE OUTING submitted by Jim Madden:

The weather was warm and sunny at Moccasin creek, the nights were very cool. The creek water was low in some spots making the creek crossable without getting wet. We had a very good turn out for the outing. Some new members came, and there were several others who either signed up or renewed at the outing. There was quite a bit of activity on the downstream side across the creek with about 10 to 15 people working there. We counted between 25 and 30 vehicles on Saturday. There were some nice finds over the weekend, with one person uncovering a nugget the size of a corn kernel; almost everyone came away with some gold. There was old trash, clothes and bedding that was left nearby from previous campers at the site where we were working which we cleaned up and took away. We were unable to use the school in Coulterville this time, so we had the potluck and raffle at Moccasin Creek. The potluck had quite a variety of dishes, including a barrel smoked roast, hats off to the chefs. There was not very much in the way of leftovers. The raffle featured quite a few items including a nice pry bar, gold in a vial and several nuggets. Work was still going on across the creek on Sunday when some of us left around 10:00. Jim and Rand winched away the infamous boulder that was blocking the road and the shrubs were trimmed back, which has now made the lower road passable. Both nights we had a much welcomed warming fire, passed around treats and shared stories until almost midnight.

Those of you who may be in the area this may be an event you will want to check out! Sounds like fun!!

The World's Largest "FREE" Metal Detecting Hunt. ~ Saturday June 7th between 9 AM to 12 Noon with the Rally from June 6 to the 8th of June, 2008.

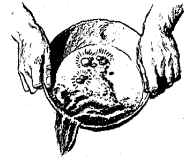
You and your family are invited to a fun-filled long weekend in Southern Colorado at the Pine River RV Park in Bayfield, Colorado. Enjoy and learn Metal Detecting, Dredging, Panning, Coin Hunting, Nugget Shooting, Water Hunting, & Gold Prospecting and more. Over 25 new metal detectors, several 25oz silver bars, and \$20,000.00 in prizes will be awarded at this hunt ~ Rally. This is the largest free hunt in the World. A large number of Manufacturers' and distributors will have booths at the Rally and you can purchase anything related to this wonderful hobby. What makes and has made the WWATS Rally's a success is your generous donations of prizes and/or coins. We need your help with prizes and it does not have to be related to the hobby. Coins that will be buried are foreign, wheat, silver, clad, buffalos, & others. By donating to this event, your name will be listed along with your donation on a chart for all to see. The registration fees will cover expenses like insurance and sanitation and the rest will come back to you in silver and large value prizes for the hunt. Pre-register for this event by getting a form from <http://www.wwats.org> A donation of \$15.00 for the pre-registration is requested. After June 1, 2008 the event registration is \$25.00. Pre-register for the paid silver hunt and save. The Paid Hunt registration will go up in price after June 1, 2008. Pre-registration helps us purchase silver coins for the hunt. Not a member, Join WWATS Now at our website. Colorado contact and main wwats contact information is at our website. Jim Fariello VP WWATS



Children's Treasure Hunt at the Texan Lion's Camp
in Kerrville, Texas
June 18 & 19, 2008.
9:00 to 5:00 daily

Everyone is invited to come out and help us with the kids and enjoy teaching children with disabilities that there is an outdoor recreational sport that they can enjoy even with their disability. You do not have to be a member to help out these kids.

For Info - contact Kieth Wills at kwills@etex.net.
If you are in this area or happen to be going through there stop and help out if you wish.



RAFFLE PRIZES/GOLD NUGGET/50/50

I want to thank Les Murayama for giving of his time to take these pictures of all the raffle winners at the outing. He did a great job and I am very thankful to him for volunteering to take the pictures for the newsletter. Thank you very much!!

More pictures displayed on page 14. (Page 8 - List of prize winners names)



RAFFLE PRIZES *CONTINUED* GOLD NUGGET and 50/50 PRIZE WINNERS



John Meling winner
of Vial/Gold Pickens!



Les Murayama—1oz silver coin



Ashley Arona 50/50 Winner



John Meling - Largest Nugget



Above: Everyone anxiously waiting to see if their ticket is the winner! Right: Board member Kit Perry picking a winning ticket.



Top: Don getting help from the audience.
Left: Board Member Rita Perry picking a winning ticket.



UPI BULLETIN BOARD

UPI Classified ad Space is available to members FREE



This section is free to any member who would like to advertise items they have for sale. Please email me with your information and we will list the items until you tell us to delete them. Feel free to email me at cfs623@aol.com and I will be happy to list them. Also don't forget to check out the UPI items below for purchase. These items are available through your Ways n Means officer or you can purchase them at the outings. Thanks!

FOR SALE:

New 5.5 Honda Motor with 2 1/2" X 3" pump

\$200.00

Contact Don Siegel

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REMINDER: Bull Creek is our Annual Swap and Trade Event
(Old unused mining equipment)

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	BALL CAP						\$9.00	
	SMALL FLAG						\$5.00	
	LARGE FLAG						\$9.00	
	TEE SHIRT (S M L)						\$12.00	
	TEE SHIRT (XL)						\$15.00	
	TEE SHIRT (XXL 2XL 3XL 4XL)						\$25.00	
	SWEAT SHIRT (ADD \$1.00 FOR XXL)						\$17.00	
	HOODED SWEATSHIRT (XL)						\$25.00	
	WINDBREAKER (ADD \$1.00 FOR XXL)						\$21.00	
	UPI FANNY-PACK						\$8.00	
	UPI CANVAS BAG						\$7.00	
	SHIPPING/HANDLING							\$5.00
							TOTAL	

SEE YOU AT THE NEXT OUTING!

ISSUE # 298

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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

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