



UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.



Locating Gold Gems and Minerals. The official Publication of the *Trails and Tales of UPI*. A family oriented prospecting group promoting gold, gem and mineral hunting of all types.

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November 2001

No. 245, Vol 25-3



Put your troubles in a pocket with a hole in it and go Prospecting



MOCCASIN CREEK, PRE-THANKSGIVING OUTING A RAVE SUCCESS!!



Gold found, great food, great people, new members joining, a guy in red jammies showed up, the potluck and the raffle pulled off before Mother Nature decided to take over. What more could you ask for?

A great way to end the UPI year! A UPI pre-Thanksgiving outing with all of the trimmings!

A belated "Happy Thanksgiving" from UPI, and a very "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year"!

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Da Prez and his new wife! Happy mining !



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Samantha Wait

TECH. ADVISOR



Daniel Short Jr.

UNITED PROSPECTORS INC. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT November 2001

What a wonderful year for United Prospectors. We sold one small mining claim and picked up two new claims. The Moccasin Creek UPI is 20 acres and the Clipper ship Mine UPI is 160 acres. We started this year with nine claims, with a total of 420 acres. We now have ten claims that total up to 600 acres. This should accommodate new memberships for the next year, as our membership is growing at about 10%. We also added this year five new UPI chapters, Alameda County UPI, Contra Costa County UPI, Sacramento County UPI, Santa Clara County UPI, San Joaquin County UPI. We are in the process of adding another chapter in Madera County. If you would like to attend one of these chapter meetings in your area look at the contact list in this newsletter as the names and phone numbers are listed here.

The second annual UPI pre-Thanksgiving feed at Coulterville was a great success with over 59 members attending. We took in over \$600 in the raffle and sellable wares. The members were wearing their tee shirts and ball caps, as well as flying their flags on their campers and cars. If you would like to order any of these items please fill out the new order blank at the back of this newsletter, and send it to me. I'd like to thank our special guest that showed up to hand out the raffle prizes to the winners. (HO! HO! HO!). **I would also like to announce my marriage to Katherine; she is the best nugget I could ever ask for.**

**MAY ALL OF YOU HAVE A VERY MERRY XMAS, AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



There were **three gold prizes** for the final outing of the year, a great way to finish off a great year! Clockwise from lower left: Second prize Daniel Wait; First prize, Gary Anderson; Third prize Florence Morgan. The guy in the red jammies, Bull Poore, and the guy in the leather helmet club Prez, Daniel Short Jr.



CONTACTING UPI

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 Healdsburg CA 95448
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 Phone (707) 433-8674

BOARD MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS


Advertising: Bill Reboin—(916) 362-3441
Advocacy/Political Action: Chet Chastain—(209) 474-0766
Claims: Chet Chastain—(209) 474-0766
Claims Asst. Plumas Co. John Lewis—(530) 283-4787
Editor/Publisher: Bill Reboin—(916) 362-3441
Ethics & Grievance: Samantha Wait (209) 931-4279
Historian: Jerry Bowen—Voice/fax (707) 448-4797

Membership: Don Riley—(530) 367-4119
Secretary: Patty Mobley—(209) 475-0436
Treasurer: Leland Brown—(916) 685-9868
Wagon master: Bob Williams—(530) 872-0192
Vice President: Ray Hughes—(408) 374-8115
Ways and Means: Daniel Short Jr.—(209) 234-1114

VOLUNTEERS

Club Historian: Jerry Bowen — Voice/Fax (707) 448-4797
Asst. Claims: Ray Budowich— PO Box 367, Coulterville, CA, 95331
Asst. Claims Plumas Co. John Lewis—(530) 283-4787

Promotion/Sales: Linda Doyle, (925) 371-0714
Publications Asst: Mark Weber—(707) 449-4808
Shows/events: Marilee Riley — (530) 367-4119



Prospector's Claim
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 Bob Howard (925) 455-9535




Something that Art Apodaca found with his detector. If you know what it is let him know.



The Editor/Publisher at work. Photo courtesy of Art Apodaca.

Tools For Miners



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 Mt. Vernon, IL 62864 Fax (618) 244-9191
 Web Page: www.sluicebox.com



The old miner sez: These be tryin timz fer some peoplez, thins are topsy-turvy, da Guvvment be takin lant an messin wit are rights. Thank gooness fer UPI an da hard werkin folks dat holt it together so we kin git out der an half a grate time. Happy Tanksgiven, n a very Merry Christmas n a Happy New Year!



BOARD NOTES

Board of Directors meeting November 10, 2001

President Daniel Short Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Roll Call:

Officers Present: Daniel Short; President, Leland Brown; Treasurer, Pat Mobley; Secretary.

Directors Absent: Ray Hughes; Vice President.

Directors Present: Bill Reboin, Don Riley, Marilee Riley and Samantha Wait.

Directors Absent: Don Williams, Chet Chastain and Rod Earnest.

Members Present: Kathy Short, Daniel Wait and Nina Brown.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from our last meeting after corrections.

- **Treasurer, Leland Brown:** Treasurers report for the Fiscal Year 11/01/00 to 10/31/01. Check book balance as of 11/01/00 was \$4,784.43 with a total income of \$18,491.36 and total expenses of \$17,778.40. Leaving a check book balance \$5,497.39 as of 10/31/01. Motion was made to approve, seconded and approved to accept the report. Bills were presented; a motion was made, seconded and approved to pay the bills.
- **Membership, Don Riley:** As of the Nov 8th there were 389 regular members, 41 life members, 14 complimentary members, 2 honorary members and 5 advertisers for a total of 451.
- **Wagon Master, Bob Williams:** Absent. No report
- **Claims, Chet Chastain:** Absent. No report.
- **Editor/Publisher, Bill Reboin:** Bill reported that we have a new advertiser. He is working on the 2002 Handbook and a new tri-fold.
- **Ways and Means:** Dan has purchased new items for the raffles and has put together a packet for the UPI Chapters. The gold nuggets for next year have been purchased. Each UPI Chapter was given a UPI flag and tote container. Totals for raffles (which include the chapters). Income \$4,156.06, expense \$2,292.68 leaving a balance of \$1,422.22.
- **Political Advocacy, Chet Chastain:** Absent. No report.
- **Technical Advisor, Dan Short:** No Report.
- **Webmaster:** Absent. Dan reported that the web sit has been updated the new claims.
- **Education/Shows, Marilee Riley.** No repot.
- **Ethics/Grievance, Samantha Wait.** Nothing to report.
- **Librarian: [Samantha Wait.** The tapes have been returned and donations of magazines and books are welcome.
- **Unfinished Business:** Bill Reboin has updated the tri-folds to include the new waiver of liability and included the clubs that has a reciprocal agreement with UPI.
- **New Business:** Sam Wait will follow up with contact for the new badges. Leland Brown would like to see the UPI colors as gold and black, which is what the club started with. Don Riley received a letter from Carolyn Garrett (FMDAC) concerning a splinter group. Don Riley mentioned persons that have been steering new members to our club. He would like to see these persons mentioned in our newsletter and maybe issue a certificate. Bill will mention this in the newsletter. The annual meeting of the board will be at Dan Shorts house on Jan. 12th.

"A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year",

to our constant supporters, our long term advertisers. The following advertisers have been advertising in the newsletter as long as I have been Editor/Publisher, and they are thanked for their support of UPI. Their contributions have been more than advertising support, they have sent us new members, and have made contributions over and above!

Pioneer Mining Supply in Auburn , California
Prospectors Claim in Livermore, California

Sluice Box Inc. in Mt. Vernon, Illinois
Armor Fire Extinguisher Co. in Stockton, CA

UPI wishes you and all of our other advertisers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!



UPI ROLL CALL

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

Moccasin Creek Outing November 9, 10, & 11

MEMBERS & GUESTS

1. Gary Anderson. Gary took home the larger gold nugget and the 1936 half dollar. Silver and gold – good haul!
2. Daniel & Samantha Wait. Daniel picked up the smaller gold nugget and the gold magnet.
3. Bill & Florence Morgan. Florence won the gold flake and the fire extinguisher mug.
4. Ray & Audrey Maddalena. Audrey won the Estwing pick-hammer and Ray won the Garrett gold pan.
5. Bruce Rouse. Bruce picked up a UPI windbreaker (essential equipment for this time of year)!
6. Don Siegel & son Brandon. Brandon won the UPI sweatshirt.
7. Tom and Crista Eastland. Tom is the new caretaker of a UPI tee-shirt and a UPI ball cap to match.
8. Bill Poore. Bill won the Estwing pry-bar.
9. Jim Blake. Jim had a streak of winning numbers. He won the fire extinguisher, the UPI canvas tote bag, the 1907 quarter, and the Frest (?) knife.
10. Al & Jane Bates. Jane got the sparkling wine while Al got the dowsing rods.
11. Calvin & Mary Pilkay. Mary picked up a UPI fanny pack.
12. Ray Hughes. Ray won the large UPI flag.
13. Leland & Nina Brown. Nina won the crevice tool.
14. Frank Schlotter. Frank won the small UPI flag, and the gas lighter.
15. Scott Huber. Scott won a pair of knee pads.
16. Mike Ancona & son Kyle. Mike picked up a small crevice tool.
17. Tom & Jan Ritter. Janet won the Delta pocket knife.
18. Darrell & Marlene Billups. Marlene took the Gater knife.
19. Al Tornquist. Al won the fire extinguisher coffee cup.
20. Dennis & Patty Mobley. Pat won the snuffer bottle.
21. Darrell & Wanda Kidd.
22. Ray & Bernice Budowich.
23. Derald Smith.
24. Steve Letlow & son Bill.
25. Rees Hair.
26. Dan & Kathy Short.
27. Art & Lucy Apodaca.
28. Martin & Isabel Kelly.
29. Clayton Borchers.
30. Terry & Lurea Schoen.
31. Jerry Young.
32. Jake & Joanne Parsons.
33. Bob Christensen.
34. John Orcutt.
35. Robert Dooley.
36. Bill Reboin.
37. Don & Marilee Riley.



If my count is right, it looks there were 58 folks in attendance. It looks like I missed another good outing. Many thanks to the person who took roll, whoever you are.

Your very legible handwriting made my job a lot easier. (Not intended as an insult to the last roll taker, mind you. It was good, too)!

By Mark Weber



The old miner sez: By da time I waz done editin alla dez fotoz wit da guy in da red jammies I was seein ret. Be nice fer him ta make a special trip fer da UPI gang, don'tcha think? No offence der feller. I waz inna hurry last month.



CHAPTERS AND AFFILIATES

UPI CHAPTERS

Alameda County, Chairperson; Larry Bruns
(925) 455-1936 or kathybruns@home.com
Darrell Kidd, (925) 449-1100 or darrellwanda@cs.com
Mike Ancona, (510) 745-9733 or mancona@nindspring.com
Steven Bisset, (925) 455-6431 or steven.l.bisset@intel.com
Meeting held at - - - Prospectors Claim Store
174 S. "K" Street
Livermore, CA
Third Tuesday of the month. 7:00 pm

Contra Costa County, Chairperson; Tom Eastland
(925) 932-4288 or tceasland@home.com
Meeting held at - - - Contra Costa Water District Building
1331 Concord Ave.
Concord, CA
Thursday Nov. 29 at 7:00 pm
The rest not set yet.

Madera County, Acting Chairperson; Bill Poore
(599) 674-9756
Meeting place - - - Bills' Place
16760 Tuolumne Street
Madera, CA

Mariposa County/Merced
Need chairperson and site.

Sacramento County, Acting Chairperson; Wayne Baker
(530) 644-2735 or unbake_1@yahoo.com
Bill Reboin, (916) 362-3441 or warebo@telocity.com
Meeting held at - - - Gold Mine store
2866 Fulton Avenue
Sacramento, CA
Second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm.

San Joaquin County, Chairperson; Gary Anderson
(209) 365-1931
Dennis Mobley, (209) 475-0436, or dnpmobley@earthlink.net
Terry Schoen, (209) 547-1937, Modesto, (209) 599-5705
Meeting held at - - - Seifert Center
Benjamin Holt Dr. & Alturas Ave.
Stockton, CA
First Wednesday of the month. 7:00 pm

Santa Clara County, Chairperson; Bruce Rouse
(408) 224-7411 or brouse@csaguards.com
Meeting held at - - - California Security Agency Inc.
7176 Santa Teresa Blvd. Ste. B-2
San Jose, CA
Second Wednesday of the month. 6:30 pm

Reciprocal agreement clubs

Prospectors Club Of Southern California
Bill Meers, President
224 N. Circle Drive
San Gabriel, CA 91776
(626) 284-4320

High Desert Gold Diggers
Randy Cornish, President
P.O. Box 2718
Apple Valley, CA 92333
(760) 247-6000

Bendigo Prospectors Club Inc.
Mark Hyde, President
Peter Dodd, Editor/Publisher
2 Buller Street
Bendigo, Victoria Australia 3550
(03) 54477077 or doddpc@netcon.net.au

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

S. J. Co. Chapter: Will be exchanging gifts at their next meeting. Be sure to watch for your flyer in the mail.



Sacto. Co. Chapter : Will be exchanging gifts at their next meeting. Be sure to watch for your flyer in the mail.

The last Sacto. Co. meeting had four members, one guest and one advertiser in attendance. A good meeting. A lot learned about detectors. The guest was John Roggero, from Sac Valley Detector Buffs.



Sacramento Chapter accounted for



All I could find for the San Joaquin County Chapter was this old tin-type



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NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS

By Mark Weber

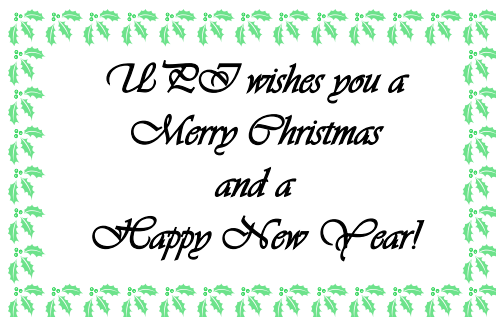
This section is devoted to acknowledging and welcoming all members, new, and those renewing!

Welcome aboard for a year of fun.

As of 11/20/2001 information

New Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Orville Allen	Empire, CA
Greg Gonzales	Tracy, CA
Thomas Parker	Los Altos, CA
Steven A. Elmore	Vernalis, CA



Stephen & Wilma Roberts
Tom & Janet Ritter

Stockton, CA
Fresno, Ca

Renewing Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Bill White	Antioch, CA
Danny & Moe Brown	Ukiah, CA
Al & Jane Bates	Columbia, CA
Gregory E. Davis	Tempe, AZ
Mick & Winnie Cooney	Bullhead City, AZ
Donald Siegel	Modesto, CA
Wayne & Sue Hudson	Atwater, CA
Frank J. Schlotter	
James Hutchings	Forest Hill, CA

Welcome aboard UPI, the family oriented prospecting club, for a year of fun seeking that elusive yellow metal, Au that is. We hope you enjoy yourselves at our claims and scheduled outings, and make many new friends as well. **SEE YOU OUT THERE, Ed/Pub.**



Terry Schoen

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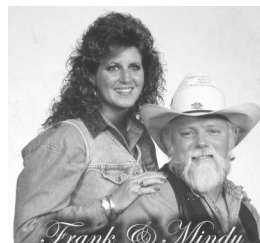


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Subject: Alert
Mother Lode Research Center
10/08/01

For: American Metal Detector
Association

MLRC need not elaborate on the fact that our country is at war. Our concerns are herein directed to the safety of detectorists and recreational mineral hunters as they go about their hobby. All of you need to understand the changes that have occurred will have an effect on each of you and it is to this end that we issue the following tips.

Our sources have told us that all law enforcement agents at all levels including those types employed by public land management agencies have been placed on a very high alert which means they will be especially touchy. This means you are going to have to be on alert yourselves.

We realize that in the past some of you have taken occasion to "sneak" onto certain lands under the control of the military, air terminals, power plants and other areas usually closed to trespass. We urge you to cease this activity for your own protection. The reasoning should be clear.

Always carry with you adequate identification should you be questioned. Now is not the time to be the rugged individualist. Of course MLRC is referring to those instances when such a request for identification is reasonable such as being near a military facility. Because our country is at war does not mean your rights can be violated at a whim nor should you be treated in other than a respectful manner. If this does occur please notify MLRC.

There may be some government zealots who will attempt to use this situation to try to convince detectorists and others public lands have been closed due to "security reasons". In the past we've heard worse. Public lands are remaining open to public use. President Bush has urged the population to go about their normal routine and these activities are a part of some people's routines. If this type of action is pulled on you leave without argument then contact the district office of the agency involved, your club, and MLRC.

Next is a rather delicate issue but it needs to be raised. Americans of Middle Eastern decent do indulge in detecting and gold hunting; as well they should have every right to do. Race & religion should not play a role in events such as what is happening now but unfortunately they often do. We ask all of you to be especially careful.

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**Bruce & Mary Hampton
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**Ace Smithart
Manager**



Marconi



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N

We also ask the club members in those groups where persons of Middle Eastern decent are members to gather round them to make sure their rights are equally protected. We must always remember that being an American means more than just a word.

If you should see something out of place such as a package with no one around or a group of people acting suspiciously around a sensitive area do something about it. Report it.

There are several other preventative actions we all need to take. We ask you all to be alert and be careful. Our world has changed and we must change with it.

Ron Stockman

MLRC

Happy Holidays to ya all now!



“Gold Mine” Holiday Special!
For UPI members only!
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“Must show current UPI Membership Card”
See page 8 for phone and address



The old miner sez: By golly I noz whats be long johns, but I ainta gotta klue what be dez Farmer Johns. Sure woudn be puttin on no wet long johns!



This is UPI!



What goes along with a “Xtra Luscious Sweet Shirt?”

The Vice Prez and Santa at right.



POTPOURRI

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST

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

Some may like it some may not. I hope it starts you thinking, taking responsibility, and enjoying life and livingness.

UPI Mining Season Over!

I can only speak for myself on this issue, and it is a low point for me. During our season I look forward to each and every outing. Since I have accepted this position my mining time at outings is close to zero. In order for me to get any mining done I need to go out with members and friends on special trips. But you know what? Each and every outing I come back home loaded with nuggets. Not gold nuggets but with pictures and memories of the outing and new acquaintances. The members are my nuggets, my memories and my inspiration to "keep on truckin'!"

CHANGING OF THE GUARD!

Not only is the mining season over, but there are changes that will take place in the governance of UPI at the first of the new year. Leland Brown, Don Riley, Bob Williams and Rod Earnest are all stepping down as Directors of the Club, and other members are taking their places. I have worked with these directors since I accepted my post close to three years ago, where does the time go? They have been stable persons for me to discuss club matters with and they will be missed. All of them have contributed toward the expansion of UPI in all areas. Though Rod has given up his directorship, he will continue to be our Web Master. The site gets better each time I check it out.

WE AREN'T OUT OF THE WOODS YET!

Yes Clinton and his cronies are out of office, but with



a few strokes of the pen, before he left office, Slick Willie signed into law some devastating blows to recreational miners and detectorists, and professionals as well. Yes our current Commander and Chief appears to lean more towards our avocations and the idea that we as a Country need to rely on our resources and open the lands to the people. None-the-less there have been news excerpts that indicate the opposite. With all of the media jumping on the current planetary situation one has to dig deep or have informants as to what else is going on. Following is a



Bill Reboin, Ed/Pub and his pooch Samantha.

piece of information I had sent to me by Merv Hemp the editor/publisher of "The Sluice Box", the Southern California Mining Council newsletter. It is geared more toward commercial mining, but none-the-less, this spills over into our end of the spectrum also. The following is an associated press quotation in full.

EDUCATION

Subject: Mining Rules to Be Eased
Tuesday, October 30, 2001
The Associated Press

"RENO, Nev. - Mining industry leaders cheered and environmentalists threatened legal action after the Bush administration announced a plan to repeal Clinton-era mining regulations as a step toward reversing declines in mine expansion and exploration.

The changes, announced last week by the Interior Department, eliminate the interior secretary's short-lived authority to block new mines on federal land where they could harm communities and the environment.

The rules were adopted under President Clinton at the urging of environmentalists, but Interior Secretary Gale Norton put such veto power on hold when she took office in January. The power will be eliminated for good as part of the new rules, scheduled to go into effect today.

The Clinton regulations applied to U.S.

miners of hard-rock minerals, mostly gold, silver and copper, which are common in Western states.

Conservationists said the changes will negate important gains that had been made in protecting the environment. They said they plan to sue.

"Secretary Norton has taken away citizens' rights to challenge the worst mines," said Roger Flynn, director of the Western Mining Action Project, a conservation group based in Boulder, Colo.

"This is further confirmation that the Bush administration places corporate profits ahead of community and environmental health," said Harry Browne, director of the Silver City-based Gila Resources Information Project in New Mexico, which has been fighting for a comprehensive reclamation of the Phelps Dodge Chino copper mine.

"The federal government gives the public's land to mining firms for a pittance, and then lets them skimp on environmental protections," Browne said. "It's public welfare, super sized."

Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., said mining in Nevada - the state's second-leading industry after tourism - has been hurt by over regulation pursued by Clinton and former Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt.



"I'm happy to work with the environmental community on mining reform, but they want all or nothing, so they are getting nothing," Reid said.

The value of mining for metals in the United States fell from \$13 billion in 1996 to \$9.9 billion in 2000, the National Mining Association said.

"Mine development is down 85 percent over the last five years and that's strictly because of the kind of rules" put in place under the Clinton administration, said Dave Hyatt, Glamis Gold Ltd.'s vice president for investor relations in Reno.

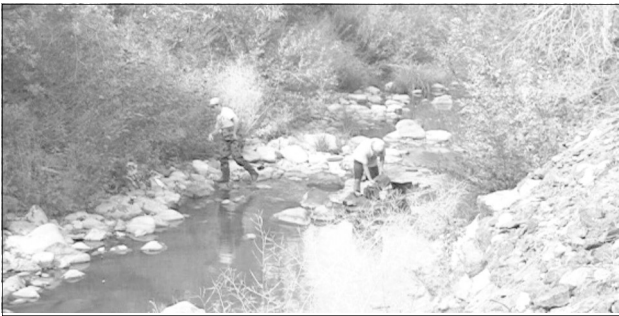
Lexi Shultz, legislative director for the Mineral Policy Center, a conservation group based in Washington, said Norton was turning "her back on the Western communities she claims she wants to engage."

"Instead of listening to the voices of Western citizens who have been calling for reform of an irresponsible mining industry, Secretary Norton seems only to heed the demands of that industry," she said."

FIGHTING THE WARS!

Granted the President and all of the others on Capital Hill are up to their eyeballs in the war on terrorism. Yes this is important to the survival of this Country. This war is directed at those outside as well as those within Our Country that have a problem with our way of life and want to see us reduced to their way of life. However they are forgetting a very important part of what made this Country what it is.

They are forgetting the war perpetrated by the NIMBY's, Yuppies, and all of the other anti-mining, anti-fire arms individuals and Non-Profit Corporations,



that are getting government grants to do this, out there that are trying to take our heritage away from us. Moreover, they appear to be using the current situation to further compromise our Constitutional rights!

This Country became what it is, or should one say what it was by the utilization of its natural and human resources. There are now those individuals and Non-Profit Corporations out there that seem to have lost sight of the fact that "they are where they are by virtue of the Mining Laws and the timber sales by the government and private land holders, and the Constitutional Rights guaranteed us. Observe what they are trying to do to us. "If it isn't mined or it isn't harvested you have nothing." How do we survive?

Think about this seriously. Lets go back to basics, that's where the answers lay. Had not the cave-man, the aboriginal man and your myriad of ancestors mined and



These are our rights, even though these two appear to be fighting. Not really, Here we have Dennis Mobley and Mike Ancona trying to make it go right so that Mike can get his dredge in the water and working! This UPI camaraderie caught by the old camera.

harvested to survive, would you be here now ? NO! Had they not had arms to protect themselves from marauding tribes or individuals or means of taking game before they were taken would you be here now? NO! If you lived in a tree, or along side a stream bed, or in a stream bed for that matter, and something came along and disturbed your existence, without annihilating you, would you not have moved on or fought back? YES! Species die out and new ones come along, yet the planet continues to exist and support a multitude of species. What's the problem? What's the agenda?



The family at work; Mike Ancona and his son Kyle dredging Moccasin Creek after he and Dennis get it working finally.

Christmas In The Mother Lode

By: Edward L. Allum, Author
The Fiddletown Journal: Stories of the Mother Lode

Winter was closing in on the High Sierra's, Chester also known as "Chet" or "Hard Luck" by his fellow miners back in town where he would get his supplies, could hear, see and feel that winter was not far off.

He could hear the Canada Geese as they flew far above on their journey south and see the trees starting to change their colors from deep green to the golden yellow and fire like orange and reds and he could feel the water temperature dropping as it swept over his boots and hands as he worked the concentrates in his pan.

This time of the year the water was so cold that it would cause his feet and calf muscles to cramp and his hands and knuckles scream for warmth but 'Hard Luck' knew he had to continue as long as he could stand the pain and the cold.

"Hard Luck" had been prospecting and working the streams in the Sierra's for three years. He would hear of Gold strikes in Sonora, Jamestown, Columbia, and Murphy's moving to each area and working for weeks on end, only to come up empty handed. Oh, he would find just enough color, placer gold and fine gold to keep him fed, but no pickers or nuggets.

The second year he moved on to Angels Camp, San Andreas, Jackson, and Fiddletown with the same sorry results just enough gold to keep him warm through the winter.

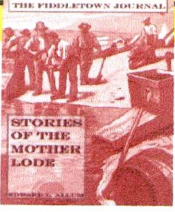
This third season would have to be 'Hard Luck's' last. It had been three long years sense he had left wife and son in New York's "Irish Town", and he longed to be with them. His plan was to take a schooner out of New York around the Cape Horn to San Francisco. From there he would head to the Mother Lode and simply pick up his gold. Striking it rich, He would then buy some land in the San Joaquin Valley and send for his family living happily ever after.

This summer 'Hard Luck' had worked streams in Dry Town, Amador, Placerville, Coloma and finally the Bear River in Colfax this was his last chance. As the nights grew longer and the days shorter 'Hard Luck' new he was at the end of his rope and soon would have to give up.

The next morning he awoke to the sounds of the river. This morning the river seemed to be even louder, the morning light brighter and the air crisper causing his mustache to harden with frost. He walked to the rivers edge and glanced first left then to the right when he saw a Bald Eagle swooping down to snatch up a fish. That is

when he noticed a bolder protruding from the water close to the far side of the river. He had nothing to lose. He gathered his pick, shovel, pans and rocker and moved to the new spot in the stream. He started digging at the base of the bolder and shoveling the pay dirt in to the rocker. Soon he had hit bedrock he grabbed his pick and chipped away at the layer.

After he broke through the bedrock he continued to feed the rocker. As he removed some of the small rocks from the sluice he noticed a small sparkle of light, a glimmer of sunshine amongst the rocks. As he looked closer his eyes widened and he felt his body warming as he removed the first nugget. Then there was a second then a

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third and on and on he went picking out one golden nugget after the other.

'Hard Luck' soon fell to his knees and thanked God for his gifts. He processed Gold for the rest of the day and gathered about nine pounds total. The next morning he went into Colfax to stake his claim. He would now be set for next season. Then he wired his wife with the news and some money and told her they would celebrate Christmas in San Francisco.

The End

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10/25/2001

Have you ever felt like you've been there, done that before? I have. - - Ed's publications are available in most book stores in the Mother Lode including Pioneer Mining supplies in Auburn, CA, also a UPI advertiser. Publications are also available on the internet at: www.bn.com and www.amazon.com - - please support our advertisers!



UPI PRE-THANKSGIVING OUTING



Looking at these pictures, members playing in the water, it's hard to conceive that we are viewing mid-November activities !



A grand finish for a grand year of UPI outings! Let's do it again next year. A little history- - - There was a "UPI pre-Thanksgiving" outing in Cecilville, on the Salmon River about 20 miles upstream from our current claims about 35 years ago.

COULTERVILLE/MOCCASIN CREEK OUTING



Left: Some gold found on a side trip members made to Oxbow a month or so ago.



Well folks unfortunately this issue is of the last scheduled outing for the year. It was a fantastic year for outing attendance. They were all great. I think every outing this year set some kind of a record. Lets do the same next year. Remember you don't need an outing to visit and use the claims. Get on the horn a jingle up some members and get something going.

Reminder: Dues are going up \$5.00/year, to \$35.00, as of January 1, 2002. **Renew before then and enjoy the savings!** It is OK to pay a couple of years in advance!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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SEE YOU AT THE NEXT OUTING!