



Locating Gold, Gems and Minerals

The official publication of the *Trails and Tales of UPI*. The family oriented, small-scale miners, metal detecting and prospecting group, educating in, and promoting gold, gem, mineral and metals hunting of all types.

www.unitedprospectors.com

August 2005

No. 277, Vol. 59-6

BEAUTIFUL SPANISH CREEK



**NEW 36 CFR 228.4
INSIDE!**

**A GOOD TURNOUT AND GREAT
FUN. NEW FRIENDS MADE!**

**SUCTION DREDGING:
A SUB-SURFACE DISTURBANCE! (NOT A
SURFACE DISTURBANCE, WHERE'S THE NOZZLE?)**



**STAYING COOL!
IT WAS NEEDED**

**NEW CLAIM RELEASE
INSIDE! SEE PAGE 8**



UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Don Siegel

PRESIDENT
Don Siegel

V. PRESIDENT
Tom Eastland

TREASURER
Samantha Wait

SECRETARY
Rita Perry

DIRECTORS
*Chet Chastain
Linda Doyle
Gerald Hurt
Steve Letlow
Bill Reboin
Brenda Marsh
Aaron Matula
Wes Smith*

EDITOR/PUBLISHER
CLUB HISTORIAN
Bill Reboin

EDITORS
Mark Weber

**ADVOCACY/
POLITICAL ACTION**
Gerald Hurt

CHAPTERS
Tom Eastland

CLAIMS
Chet Chastain

ETHICS/GRIEVANCE
Gerald Hurt

MEMBERSHIP
Linda Doyle

OUTING COORDINATOR
Brenda Marsh

TECHNICAL ADVISOR
Steve Letlow

WAGON MASTER
Wes Smith

WAYS AND MEANS
Aaron Matula

WEB MASTER
Mark Weber

We missed some of you at the Spanish Creek outing, and you missed a good outing. The weather was perfect and there was plenty of water for mining (not too cold). Not much gold found though. Which brings up the subject of what claims do we keep and which ones do we drop or sell.

Your board is looking for your input to help us determine which if any claims we eliminate and which ones we keep. Every claim we have has some strong points, (Spanish Creek is one of the better camping claims) but at what expense do we keep adding to our inventory and try to cut costs to keep membership costs minimal. The \$45.00 we currently get is not too high in this day and age. However when you factor in gas prices- - -, we want to be sure that we continue to be the family organization that has made UPI the organization of choice. So speak up and make yourself heard.

Don't forget that nominations are now being taken and elections are going to take place at the Bull Creek outing in October.

The next outing looks like an exciting one with the opening of our Squirrel Creek claims. There are a lot of questions about the opening of the claim on Sunday 9/10/05, why this day and not Saturday. In the past the opening of a claim left a lot of questions about fairness to all of the organization members, but by picking a random date no one person has an advantage. The location of this new claim will be in this edition of your newsletter and all members will have the same opportunity to check it out. I believe that is going to be a good one. As always I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at the outings.

Call or e-mail w/questions or comments
Don

THE OUTING!

Old friends, old faces, new faces, and new friends: That's what the outings bring into my life and the others of UPI. A few members that are normally at the outings didn't show, and this was a loss, though I'm sure they had good cause. A member that I haven't seen since the last Spanish Creek outing, Jesse Yberra, a couple of years ago, showed up. It was great seeing him. Sam didn't bark at him this time around. It was really interesting that he showed up as somehow he had come up in a discussion about not having seen various members for a while and here he comes, new truck and trailer in tow.

This old polecat rolled in about 2:00 PM on Thursday. When I got there, there was only two other camps set up: Wes and Marsha Smith and Dan and Audrey Coffman. I did a little driving around the claim to see where I wanted to set up camp and ended up setting up next to Wes and Marsha after a little arm-twisting by them. They were wonderful neighbors to share with. The five of us had the entire 100 acres to ourselves for the remainder of the day.

Friday was slow for members rolling in, but they did. We eventually through Friday and Saturday had a



The old miner sez: Asiden fer da heat it be a great time. Da camaraderie be in bundance an shore be nice in da woods.

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Schedule for 2005

Sept. 9-11 - - - Greenhorn Creek plus more. New claim release!
Oct. 8 & 9 - - Bull Creek, and the elections.
Nov. 5 & 6 - - Coulterville - - 6th annual pre-Thanksgiving outing/feed. Always a great end of the year outing. UPI furnishes the bird, hog, dressing and such. You bring veggies, dessert and other goodies. Held in the old school house, out of the elements.

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

Chapters

For Chapter meeting times please contact the representative indicated for your Chapter area. For information or volunteer work on area Chapters listed as open, please contact:

Tom Eastland, Chapters Chairperson. (925) 932-4288 or chapters@unitedprospectors.com



Alameda County, Chairperson; Steve Kleszyk, (925) 443-4993 or ratled88@aol.com
Meeting held at - - - Prospectors Claim Store
174 S. "K" Street
Livermore, CA

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

Madera County, Chairperson; Open

Sacramento County, Chairperson; Open

San Joaquin County, Chairperson; Steve Letlow, (209) 986-6276 or sbletlow@comcast.net
Call Steve for when and where. It is understood that meetings will be held at Terry Schoens shop.

Santa Clara County, Chairperson; Michael Phillips, (408) 595-9121 or kitfox1@pacbell.net
Please call for particulars.

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



The old miner sez: Ya never no what W da magician gonna do nex. Not predicable. Now he be'n wanna cut more tax ta big busines and cut bennies to SS an other program.

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

The Family oriented small scale mining organization
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NEWSLETTER©

LOCATING GOLD GEMS AND MINERALS©
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BOARD NOTES

August 13, 2005

President Don Siegel called meeting to order at 9:32a.m.

Roll Call:

Officers Present: Don Siegel, President; Tom Eastland, Vice President; Rita Perry, Secretary and Samantha Wait, Treasurer.

Directors Present: Bill Reboin, Chet Chastain, Tom Eastland (dual role), and Wesley Smith.

Directors Absent: Brenda Marsh, Linda Doyle, Steve Letlow, Gerald Hurt, and Aaron Matula.

Members Present: Christa Eastland, Bill Greymont, Marsha Smith, Dan Coffman, Audrey Coffman, Rob Goreham, Jesse Barra, Daniel Wait, Bobby Whitworth, Joel Orona, and Jerry Randall.

Minutes were read and accepted.

Motion was made by Chet Chastain and seconded by Samantha Wait to accept the minutes from our last meeting. Motion carried.

- **Treasurer, Samantha Wait:** The checkbook balance as of June 30, 2005, was \$10,794.58; total income \$2,681.00 which leaves a total of \$13,475.58. Administration Expenses: \$234.41; Claims Expense: \$3,322.47; Legal Fees & Taxes: \$538.00; Publication Expense: \$653.28; Total Expenses \$4,748.16. August 12, 2005, Balanced Checkbook is \$8,727.42. Motion was made by Chet Chastain and seconded by Wes Smith to accept the treasurer report and motion carried
- **Membership, Linda Doyle:** Absent.
- **Wagon Master, Wesley "Wes" Smith:** Nothing to report. President Don Siegel told him that he did a great job on the UPI signs.
- **Outing Coordinator, Brenda Marsh:** Absent.
- **Ways and Means, Aaron Matula:** Absent. Don said he had a tote with sweatshirts, t-shirts, and pins to sell.
- **Political-Grievance, Gerald Hurt:** Absent, nothing to report. President Don Siegel discussed the incident at Babcock Crossing. A member and a friend were detained for public intoxication. Don and Gerald will get together and send a letter to the member and a copy of our camping rules. Since this was not an outing we have no say in how a person acts. We want members to know that we only have control over the mineral rights at our claims but not camping. Anyone can camp on our claims. If there is a grievance filed then it will have to be handled.
- **Editor/Publisher, Bill Reboin:** Nothing to report. Sam and Don said Bill is doing a great job. Chet brought up that he wanted the ballot to include an informational on what claims the members wanted to retain and or let go of. It was agreed that the question of selection of claims would be on a separate piece of paper for an informational vote only.
- **Chapters, Tom Eastland:** Nothing to report.
- **Claims, Chet Chastain:** All of the paperwork, fees, and recorded assessments are complete. Also, he will be helping people with the spark arresters. We discussed whether to file a Notice of Intent or not. He is going to mark the Squirrel Creek Claim the Friday before the outing. He doesn't want to give that much of a heads up to folks that have a general idea where it is at, but they haven't put a dredge in there just because they don't know exactly where it's at. We will release it Saturday, Sept. 10th at the potluck. We have to give every member a chance to get on that claim the day it is released. So no one has an edge over anyone else. We will release it at the potluck for Sunday morning.

Don said we did receive back from the Department of the Interior, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of Land Appeals, Arlington, Virginia. The first thing they do is talk about the background and what we did. We filed a claim at Oxbow on land that has been withdrawn. So we are not allowed to file a claim on land that is in a withdrawn area. Because our original statement stated that we believe the withdrawn area is withdrawn illegally or since then, been null and void. They can't question that through the Board of Appeals. So our claim has been ruled null and void in that we have to go through and get the withdrawal removed first. The legality of the withdrawn area is what's truly in question not the fact whether we are allowed to file a claim because we are not allowed to file a claim on a withdrawn area. All of this information has been passed on to Jerry Hobbs through Gerald Hurt. Jerry seems to think that he will come up with a process for the next step. Jerry is working for us. We have given him some cash. We will continue to send him money that the board agreed to give him back in January.

• **Technical Advisor, Steve Letlow:** Absent, nothing to report.

• **Treasurer, Samantha Wait:** BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT.

Chet Chastain, Claims; additional fees for claims \$ 836.52

TOTAL BILL \$ 836.52

New Checkbook Balance \$7,890.90

Motion was made by Bill Reboin and seconded by Wes Smith to accept payment of the bills. Motion carried.

- **Unfinished Business:** Samples were brought for the purchasing of lapel pins. It was discussed as to what type of pin we were wanting and the amount. Gary quoted 200 pins minimum order at the price of \$1.00 each.
- **New Business:** Chet said that when he refills his truck now it costs him quite a bit. I always keep a receipt from when I refuel my truck. So I propose that when I pay more than \$2.00 per gallon that I reclaim \$.35 per mile. When I refuel my truck for less than \$2.00 a gallon I will do \$.25 per mile. Or would want to make it \$.35 per mile or whatever. Sam made a motion to increase the mileage rate from \$.25 to \$.35 to cover the increase in fuel expense for not only our claims manager but any other director or board member. Chet seconded the motion. Motion Carried. We have a new member who wants to come to the outings and help out by bringing equipment for sale or seminars on finding gold. Jerry Randall spoke to us regarding the claims and maybe a way to lessen our burden of expense would be to quick claim the mining claims to members. Rita brought up the fact that we have not had an event at any of our outings and needed to be addressed. Don said we would contact our Outing Coordinator and see if we can help her in any way. A suggestion was made to have the events in the newsletter and we could make sure the events were held.

Meeting adjourned at 11:21a.m.



NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS

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

Welcome aboard for a year of fun.

Information is from 07/14/05 through 08/23/05/05

<u>New Members</u>	
<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Tim Abbott	Clovis, CA
Gerald Andrus	Seaside, OR
William Beifuss	Martinez, CA
Chris Bell	Mt. Shasta, CA
Kevin Blodgett	Belmont, CA
Craig Bly	Modesto, CA
Londo Chambress	Orangevale, CA
Ron Chambress	Vista, CA
Glenn & Kathy Corbett	Hanford, CA
George Creveling	Twain, CA
Christopher Gee	Fairfield, CA
Rob & Debbie Goreham	Columbia, CA
Al Harris	Chico, CA
Harold Lancaster	Fresno, CA
George Lyman	Rio Linda, CA
Brian Newhouse	Novato, CA
Hirotaaka Takaseki	Los Angeles, CA
Charles Vanleer	Newalla, OK

<u>Renewing Members</u>	
<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Larry and Iris Biggs	Dayton, NV
Darrell Billups	Redwood, CA
James D. Blake	Vallejo, CA

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Kim Ellison	Hayward, CA
Gary & Lora Grutkowski	Sebastopol, CA
Keith Kemp	Kanab, UT
Steven & Marie Kleszyk	Livermore, CA
Ken Liddle	Stockton, CA
William Medlock	Twain, CA
Ivan & Diane Perkins	Brentwood, CA
Bill Poore	Madera, CA
Al Reynolds	Lakeport, CA
Paul Rupf	Pleasanton, CA
Ernie & Virginia Sandberg	Red Bluff, CA
Henry Sisler	Los Gatos, CA
Derald H. Smith	El Paso, TX
Allen Sorenson	Santa Maria, CA
Trevor Stanley	Tehachapi, CA
Chuck Ucker	Rio Vista, CA
Robert Wynhamer	Santa Rosa, CA

Up for Renewal on 09/05

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Brian De Moss	La Grange, CA
Robert Fainelli	Vallejo, CA
Willie Hammond Jr.	Dos Palos, CA
Howard Hughes	Modesto, CA
Carol Ann Lacy	Taylorville, CA
William McCardle	American, CA
Danny Page	Turlock, CA
Rudolf Reyes	Fremont, CA
Sharen Schlemmer	Placerville, CA
Earl Sessions	Lemoore, CA
Bob Williams	Concord, CA

(Continued on page 6)



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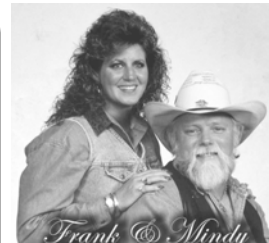
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(Continued from page 5) **Membership cont.**

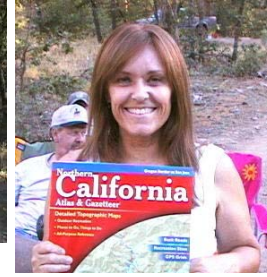
Membership Stats:

Honorary 1, Life 61, Regular, 356, and subscribers 13 for a total of total members of 431. Total active family members 805.

Welcome aboard for another year of enjoyment with UPI the small-scale miners advocate. Lets see you at the scheduled outings and the potluck and raffles. It's always a great time for all on top of finding that elusive yellow metal, Au.

It's really nice to see the renewals year after year. There are a number of you that I have never had the pleasure of meeting, only know you by name. Come on by one of the outings and lets get acquainted. Bill Ed/Pub

Lets start the outing with some raffle winners pictures!



Above: This young fellow had a lucky streak that wouldn't quit. **Chris Bell** was ringing the raffle bells all night. See page 7 for his pay streak. It goes that way sometimes.

So that all could share Chris donated items back giving others a chance for their dollar spent. Good show Chris.



Above: The only thing evident about the above picture is that Marsha Smith was intent on getting that Garrett Super Pan .



Left: Wes Smith purchased the lucky ticket for the 50/50 raffle.

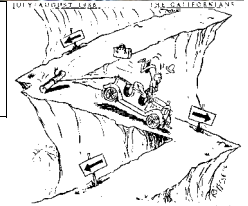


Oh oh, ran out of raffle pictures!

Above: Jerry Randall, always a spark plug at the outings. If you want to learn about some of the history of the organization, talk to Jerry. He has held many positions on the Board.



The old miner sez: Golly dang. Lookit wat the good UPI air do fer ya! Nary a frown. All be a havin bright in da eyes. Da air be good you bet!





UPI ROLL CALL

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

August 12 - 14

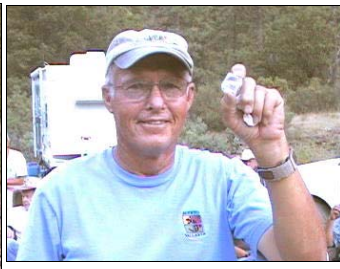
1. **George Lyman:** won a scoop with brush.
2. **Chet Chastain:** won a 3-inch knife donated by Don Siegel a painted saw blade.
3. **Bill Reboin**
4. **Don Siegel:** donated a 3- inch knife and folding knife with cover..
5. **Tom and Christa Eastland:** Christa won Carved Eagle Dollar, Susan B. Anthony Dollar donated by Chris Bell; a bank donated by Bobbie, and a Gazetteer. Tom won a Double Quartz Crystal. Tom and Christa donated four plates.
6. **Chris and Rita Perry:** Chris won a small nugget that was raffled off by Rob Goreham. Chris donated a single quartz crystal.
7. **Wesley and Marsha Smith:** Marsha won the Eisenhower Dollar, which was donated by Chris Bell and a super pan. Wesley and Marsha Smith won the 50/50 raffle.
8. **Judy Gibson and Delores Simpson**
9. **Terry and Mike Schoen:** donated two fire extinguishers to be raffled off.
10. **Bill Greymont:** won two plates donated by Tom and Christa Eastland; a single quartz crystal donated by Chris Perry; and a claw
11. **Dan and Audrey Coffman:** Audrey won a large nugget donated by Rob Goreham, arrowheads, the large nugget raffle prize held by Rob Goreham, and Dan won a fire extinguisher donated by Terri and Mike Schoen; and UPI Coasters donated by Linda Doyle.
12. **Rob Goreham:** donated a bag of dirt with gold to be auctioned off and three nuggets to be raffled off, and five tickets for a chance to win the 50/50 prize, a sluice pan, a large gold nugget, and claw. He also held a personal raffle with two gold nugget prizes.
13. **Joel, Laura, Brittany, and Ashley Orona:** Ashley won a Pink Amethyst with a silver chain. Joel won a classifier.
14. **Jesse Ybera**
15. **John Ackerman:** won a belt buckle donated by Bobby Whitworth and a pair of gloves.
16. **Bob and Jeanne Williams and Chloe**
17. **Larry Biggs**
18. **Pat Avilla:** won clippers and an auction on a bag of dirt donated by Rob Goreham. Pat also donated a Grizzly Gold Pan.
19. **Jerry Randall** won the Vanderite Crystals.
20. **Chris Bell** won all night long. He won a four-pound sledgehammer; folding knife with cover donated by Don Siegel; Goody Bag; a fire extinguisher donated by Terri and Mike Schoen; 5 tickets to win the 50/50 prize, which was donated by Rob Goreham; and a Grizzly Gold Pan donated by Pat Avila. Chris also donated an Eisenhower Dollar and a Susan B. Anthony Dollar.
21. **Hank and Linda Sisler**
22. **Ron and Sharon Rowe:** Ron won a gold nugget and two plates donated by Tom and Christa Eastland.
23. **Bobby Whitworth:** donated a bank and a belt buckle.

The count I come up with is 36 members and guests for the outing. This is a good show. There were some great prizes won including several nuggets. Hope we have everything and everyone covered and have no misspelled names. See you at Genesee.

There was gold nuggets coming from everywhere. There were two in the UPI raffle, winners in the two left pictures below, and two in Rob Gorehams raffle, the two right pictures below, to help cover his expenses for pulling a trailer full of mining equipment to the outing. He has spare parts and complete assemblies in the trailer. He also brought a number of bags of Au bearing soil to the outing. One was auctioned off, and a few were passed out to various members. Rob also joined our organization while at the outing.



Audrey Coffman, right, won the big UPI nugget, pictured here with President Don Siegel.



Ron Rowe won the small UPI nugget.



As luck would have it Audrey also won the large nugget in Robs' raffle as well.



Chris "Kit" Perry won Robs' small nugget. **Rob Goreham** on the right.

(Continued from page 2) **The Outing continued**

total of 35 members and guests present for the outing and or the potluck and raffle, though the claim will easily support twice as many participants. Perhaps it was the weather, perhaps the fuel prices, .20 + cents/gallon over the last couple of weeks, or perhaps a combination thereof. Or perhaps this is not a desirable claim to the membership for whatever reasons. These are the things that we need to know while we, the Board of Directors, are in the process of evaluating for the future of the organization. We need your input, positive or negative, and your reasons why.

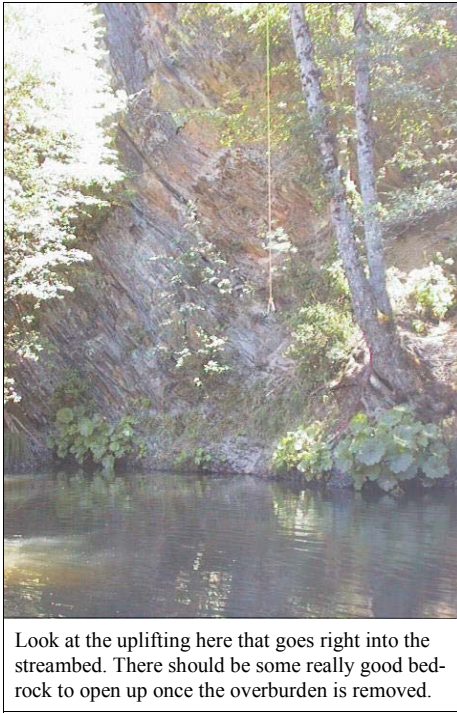
There was good membership participation at the Saturday morning Board Meeting and the Board really appreciates that. The Board Meetings are at 9:00 AM on Saturday, of the outing, unless indicated otherwise. The member participation and input at these meetings is needed so that the Board can consider your needs and wants for the planning of the future for the organization.

As for finding the elusive yellow metal, Au, there are more ways than one to skin a cat at a UPI outing. You can find it on the claim by the use of any number of recovery methods. Some methods better on some claims and some methods better on other claims. Regardless of what claim you are on, you need to read the stream, and from this reading you need to choose the most likely spot. You also have to consider the ease of access and set-up in the choice of where you are going to pursue the elusive yellow metal. Remember if you just back in and plop your equipment right there and start mining, how many before you, UPI and or others prior to UPI included, have done the very same thing. What are your chances?

You can increase your chances of finding the elusive yellow metal by avoiding the easy drop-ins and set-ups. There are a number of places along the length of the Spanish Creek claim that looked really inviting to me by reading the local signs of the inside bends and bars, hill-sides and eddy/reverse flow areas and bedrock cracks and crevices, and dikes, running perpendicular to the stream flow. There was no mining or sampling done at these locations that I observed, but I didn't walk the length of the claim either. You can also find it at the raffle with a minimum investment of a dollar. A few of the members went home with some really nice Au from the raffle.

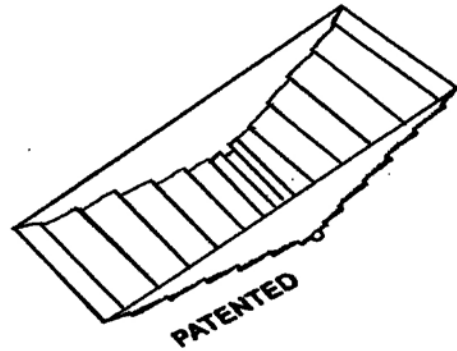
Unbelievable as it might be, the weather at the claim was hotter than it was in Sacramento over the same period of days. There wasn't a whole lot of activity mining wise that was observed. I spent several hours working over some exposed bedrock with a pan and found flour and sparklers in almost every pan. I threw it all back so it could grow bigger. Around noon it became too warm for me considering the finds, so I said to heck with it. I think that those not dredging probably said the same thing, as there was plenty of activity chasing and sitting in the shade and participating in verbal intercourse.

Was the outing a success? Of course it was. There was a bunch of us up there having fun and enjoying life. Finding Au is a plus to that. Isn't that what it's all about?



Look at the uplifting here that goes right into the streambed. There should be some really good bedrock to open up once the overburden is removed.

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Bring home **MORE GOLD**
Each time you go panning

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CLAIM RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

UPI will be releasing our new claim in the Plumas National Forest on September 10, 2005 at 7:00 PM at the Greenhorn outing. (During the potluck/raffle activities.) Be there so you get the scoop!

As with all releases, so that all members have equal opportunity to exploring/prospecting, the new acreage to our inventory there is absolutely no mining or prospecting allowed on the claim until the official announcement date and time. This means no equipment in the water or on the banks. No mining/prospecting activity at all. This means not even panning, the traditional mode of prospecting. Camping is allowed.

Please see page 13 for directions.



Right: The Board Meeting



ELECTION CENTRAL

Things have changed since the last issue of the newsletter: There was an Election Committee formed, late, none-the-less formed, with Steve Letlow our Technical Advisor being the Committee Chair. John Meling, Gerald Hurt and Bill Eastland volunteering to be committee members. They may be approaching you for the nomination of members you would like to see belonging to the Board of Directors of UPI. They will also officiate over the election in October.

Changes in the sample ballot occurred as well. President Don Siegel

was nominated for President and accepted. Christa Eastland, Carol Eastland and Denise Matula also accepted nominations for Director positions.

In addition to these changes taking place, the Board recommended that some changes take place in the Organizations nominations/elections/voting processes. The proposed changes in the processes are below, and will appear on the ballot for your vote.

This is a no "chad" pen, pencil voting process only. Please mark your ballots clearly. We do not have the time or money to take gripes to the Supreme Court.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Proposed changes are italicized.

ARTICLE IX ELECTION OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

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

SECTION 2. Nominations:

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

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

SECTION 4. Terms of Office

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

SECTION 5. Election Procedures

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

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

SECTION 1. ELECTIONS

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

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

SECTION 2. NOMINATIONS.

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

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

Your sample ballot follows on the next page, page 10



Terry Schoen
Area Supervisor

Armor Fire Extinguisher Co.
Safety Products • Sales & Service

web site: www.armorfireext.com
1321 W. Oak Street
Stockton, CA 95203



Patterson (209) 892-9199
Turlock (209) 632-0181
Stockton (209) 547-1937
Ripon (209) 599-5705
Fax: (209) 547-0554

Motor homes and trailers require fire extinguishers. They should be tested and recharged or replaced annually for your safety and protection. Contact Armor for your needs. **Right:** The Prez checking out Au found by a member at Genesee.



SAMPLE BALLOT FOR 2006 POSITIONS

Subject to change as the nominations proceed

Vote for one for each office through 2007

President

Don Siegel: Incumbent _____

Secretary

Rita Perry: Incumbent _____

Write ins _____

Vote for five positions through 2007

Directorships

Chet Chastain: Incumbent, Claims _____

Linda Doyle: Incumbent, Membership _____

Bill Reboin: Incumbent, Ed/Pub _____

Christa Eastland _____

Carol Eastland _____

Denise Matula _____

Write In _____

Appointed positions to be confirmed for Office through 2006

By the general membership.

Directorships

Yes **No**

Aaron Matula: Ways & Means _____ _____

Wes Smith: Wagon Master _____ _____

Write In _____

Officer Vice-President

Yes **No**

Tom Eastland: Incumbent _____ _____

Write In _____

Proposed Bylaw Changes

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

Yes **No**

_____ _____



The old miner sez: The quickie way ta double yer money be to folt it in haf an put it back in yer poket!

INFORMATIONAL VOTE

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

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

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

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

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

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

POTPOURRI

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST[©]

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

Your responses to this column and the newsletter in general may play a part in the content of the newsletter and the way I vote as a Director. Please feel free to contact me.

This is my playground! Some may like it, some may not. I hope it starts you thinking, taking responsibility for the group, and enjoying life and livingness and finding Au.



Bill Reboin, Ed/Pub and his pooch Samantha.

Before getting into the new FS Rules there may be a bit of current history needed so that there is continuity in the column. This brief history will also supply those new to mining, mineral claims and UPI some idea of what is and has been going on with the Forest Service attitude toward small-scale mining.

Briefly, last year the Forest Service got its hands slapped a couple of times in the court system in areas where they overstepped their boundaries. They chased a couple off their legal claim and threatened them with confiscation of their equipment if they didn't cease and desist. They also cited a couple of miners for camping on their legal claim for more than 14 days. In each case the claimant refused to give in to the FS claim that they were breaking the law. Each case was overruled in court, when the claimants with the help of PLP, Public Lands for the People, and other pro mining organizations that came to their assistance.

Basically what is at issue here is the continued existence of the small-scale miner/pro prospector and their rights to mineral entry without undue interference by the FS in exercising their mining rights as granted by the Mining Law of 1872. The Forest Service activities in this area have been under question for several decades. It appears hopefully that they are finally being called on the carpet for their questionable activities in the area.

Are the new rules questionable activities? You bet! After being defeated in court twice, at great time and expense to the tax-payer, and the small-scale miner, they devised this new set of rules. Why? This writer has to say so they can have their way after being defeated. Is this law or is it tyranny. Common sense says the latter needs to be chosen.

228.4 (New Rules)

Title 36: Parks, Forests, and Public Property

PART 228—MINERALS

Subpart A—Locatable Minerals

§ 228.4 Plan of operations—notice of intent—requirements.(a) Except as provided in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, a notice of intent to operate is required from any person proposing to conduct operations which might cause significant disturbance of surface resources. Such notice of intent to operate shall be submitted to the District Ranger having jurisdiction over the area in which the operations will be conducted. Each notice of intent to operate shall provide information sufficient to identify the area involved, the nature of the proposed operations, the route of access to the area of operations, and the method of transport.

(1) A notice of intent to operate is not required for:

- (i) Operations which will be limited to the use of vehicles on existing public roads or roads used and maintained for National Forest System purposes;
- (ii) Prospecting and sampling which will not cause significant surface resource disturbance and will not involve removal of more than a reasonable amount of mineral deposit for analysis and study which gener-

ally might include searching for and occasionally removing small mineral samples or specimens, gold panning, metal detecting, non-motorized hand sluicing, using battery operated dry washers, and collecting of mineral specimens using hand tools;

(iii) Marking and monumenting a mining claim;

(iv) Underground operations which will not cause significant surface resource disturbance;

(v) Operations, which in their totality, will not cause surface resource disturbance which is substantially different than that caused by other users of the National Forest System who are not required to obtain a Forest Service special use authorization, contract, or other written authorization;

(vi) Operations which will not involve the use of mechanized earthmoving equipment, such as bulldozers or backhoes, or the cutting of trees, unless those operations otherwise might cause a significant disturbance of surface resources; or

(vii) Operations for which a proposed plan of operations is submitted for approval;

(2) The District Ranger will, within 15 days of receipt of a notice of intent to operate, notify the operator if approval of a plan of operations is required before the operations may begin.

(3) An operator shall submit a proposed plan of operations to the District Ranger having jurisdiction over the area in which operations will be conducted in lieu of a notice of intent to operate if the proposed operations will likely cause a significant disturbance of surface resources. An operator also shall submit

a proposed plan of operations, or a proposed supplemental plan of operations consistent with §228.4(d), to the District Ranger having jurisdiction over the area in which operations are being conducted if those operations are causing a significant disturbance of surface resources but are not covered by a current approved plan of operations. The requirement to submit a plan of operations shall not apply to the operations listed in paragraphs (a)(1)(i) through (v). The requirement to submit a plan of operations also shall not apply to operations which will not involve the use of mechanized earthmoving equipment, such as bulldozers or backhoes, or the cutting of trees, unless those operations otherwise will likely cause a significant disturbance of surface resources.

(4) If the District Ranger determines that any operation is causing or will likely cause significant disturbance of surface resources, the District Ranger shall notify the operator that the operator must submit a proposed plan of operations for approval and that the operations can not be conducted until a plan of operations is approved.

(b) Any person conducting operations on the effective date of these regulations, who would have been required to submit a plan of operations under §228.4(a), may continue operations but shall within 120 days thereafter submit a plan of operations to the District Ranger having jurisdiction over the area within which operations are being conducted: *Provided, however,* That upon a showing of good cause the authorized officer will grant an extension of time for submission of a plan of operations, not to exceed an additional 6 months. Operations may continue according to the submitted plan during its review, unless the authorized officer determines that the operations are unnecessarily or unreasonably causing irreparable damage to surface resources and advises the operator of those measures needed to avoid such damage. Upon approval of a plan of operations, operations shall be conducted in accordance with the approved plan. The requirement to submit a plan of operations shall not apply: (1) To operations excepted in §228.4(a) or (2) to operations concluded prior to the effective date of the regulations in this part.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

(c) The plan of operations shall include:

(1) The name and legal mailing address of the operators (and claimants if they are not the operators) and their lessees, assigns, or designees.

(2) A map or sketch showing information sufficient to locate the proposed area of operations on the ground, existing and/or proposed roads or access routes to be used in connection with the operations as set forth in §228.12 and the approximate location and size of areas where surface resources will be disturbed.

(3) Information sufficient to describe or identify the type of operations proposed and how they would be conducted, the type and standard of existing and proposed roads or access routes, the means of transportation used or to be used as set forth in §228.12, the period during which the proposed activity will take place, and measures to be taken to meet the requirements for environmental protection in §228.8.

(d) The plan of operations shall cover the requirements set forth in paragraph (c) of this section, as foreseen for the entire operation for the full estimated period of activity: *Provided, however,* That if the development of a plan for an entire operation is not possible at the time of preparation of a plan, the operator shall file an initial plan setting forth his proposed operation to the degree reasonably foreseeable at that time, and shall thereafter file a supplemental plan or plans whenever it is proposed to undertake any significant surface disturbance not covered by the initial plan.

(e) At any time during operations under an approved plan of operations, the authorized officer may ask the operator to furnish a proposed modification of the plan detailing the means of minimizing unforeseen significant disturbance of surface resources. If the operator does not furnish a proposed modification within a time deemed reasonable by the authorized officer, the authorized officer may recommend to his immediate superior that the operator be required to submit a proposed modification of the plan. The recommendation of the authorized officer shall be accompanied by a statement setting forth in detail the supporting facts and reasons for his recommendations. In acting upon such recommendation, the immediate superior of the authorized officer shall determine:

(1) Whether all reasonable measures were taken by the authorized officer to predict the environmental impacts of the proposed operations prior to approving the operating plan,

(2) Whether the disturbance is or probably will become of such significance as to require modification of the operating plan in order to meet the requirements for environmental protection specified in §228.8 and

(3) Whether the disturbance can be minimized using reasonable means. Lacking such determination that unforeseen significant disturbance of surface resources is occurring or probable and that the disturbance can be minimized using reasonable means, no operator shall be required to submit a proposed modification of an approved plan of operations. Operations may continue in accordance with the approved plan until a modified plan is approved, unless the immediate superior of the authorized officer determines that the operations are unnecessarily or unreasonably causing irreparable injury, loss or damage to surface resources and advises the operator of those measures needed to avoid such damage.

(f) Upon completion of an environmental analysis in connection with each proposed operating plan, the authorized officer will determine whether an environmental statement is required. Not every plan of operations, supplemental plan or modification will involve the preparation of an environmental statement. Environmental impacts will vary substantially depending on whether the nature of operations is prospecting, exploration, development, or processing, and on the scope of operations (such as size of operations, construction required, length of operations and equipment required), resulting in varying degrees of disturbance to vegetative resources, soil, water, air, or wildlife. The Forest Service will prepare any environmental statements that may be required.

(g) The information required to be included in a notice of intent or a plan of operations, or supplement or modification thereto, has been assigned Office of Management and Budget Control #0596-0022. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to vary from a few minutes for an activity involving little or no surface distur-

bance to several months for activities involving heavy capital investments and significant surface disturbance, with an average of 2 hours per individual response. This includes time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Chief (2800), Forest Service, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090 and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

[39 FR 31317, Aug. 28, 1974. Redesignated at 46 FR 36142, July 14, 1981, and amended at 54 FR 6893, Feb. 15, 1989; 69 FR 41430, July 9, 2004; 70 FR 32731, June 6, 2005]

Last updated: July 21, 2005

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THESE RULES?

These comments are made with the individual, or a small partnership of claimants operating on the 20 acre/claimant principle, this what the law allows. United Prospectors Inc. as a large group must look at these things somewhat differently because of group size.

A lot of things that I can see: First and foremost they dictate that you must minimally file a Notice of Intent (NOI) if:

1. You use a motorized dry washer. A battery operated unit is allowed. OK, use a battery operated unit with a motorized charging system, simple to do.
2. Though it does not specify one way or another as the rule is written, by implication, you must minimally file a NOI if you intend to suction dredge or power sluice on your claim. Suction dredging and power sluicing is permitted (A permit is required to be purchased.) in California waterways, under the jurisdiction of the State of California Department of Fish and Game, with many specifics that must be adhered to. Is the FS usurping state authority here? It appears to be the case. Though power slicing can be a major surface disturbance, the pretense of this rule, it generally is not. We are not doing hydraulic mining. Suction dredging? Suction dredging by no stretch of the imagination is a surface disturbance let alone a major surface resource disturbance. It only works under water.
3. It leaves too much authority to determine major surface disturbance, and whether a NOI is sufficient, and or is a Plan of Operation (POO) and bonding required up to the local area chief. There are no specific definitions regarding major surface disturbance. Suppose he/she is anti-mining. (Salmon River?)
4. Here's the kicker: I am referring you to the document as I don't have the time and patience to retype it, please refer to (1) (v) on page 11. Let your imagination wander. This has all sorts of implications. Is this designed to circumvent the court ruling that claimants can camp on their claim all year long? Obviously a claimant camped on and working his claim all year long is going to create a little more disturbance than a week-end or week camper that is enjoying the woods, in terms of permanence. This is however allowed by Mining Law, and the FS already got shot down on it. I have to venture to say here that the miner most usually is more cognizant of his doings than some of these trash throwing, quad riding forest thrashers you find in the woods. Just observe the major surface disturbance the previously mentioned have done to the Bull Creek site.

My personal viewpoint on this is, is that the FS doesn't want us out there as they believe that we rape the land and shouldn't be allowed to be there and do that. I say this to that: We don't. They, the FS does not have, a clue, or the ability to observe the obvious. It appears all they want is absolute control, as directed by the enviros. Sorry, this will not happen provided you that desire to do what do, mine, and do it just like the environmentalists do, form a strong coalition with funding to fight them. Join and support Public Lands for the People.



The old miner sez: Yuck! Da FS be jus like a spoilt brat, snivvilyn alla time!

Squirrel Creek

Approx. 100 acres

GPS, N 39 55 341' W 120 47 328'

Elevation 4122,

Directions to Squirrel Creek claims:

From central Quincy at the Safeway stoplight, go East on Hwy 70. You will pass the Massack rest area at about 6 miles. Spring Garden Overhead Bridge is about 0.7 miles beyond that. Turn left at about 7.7 miles from central Quincy stoplight and about 1 mile beyond the railroad overhead. This road has a "Brady's Camp 8 miles" sign.

Mileages from this point are reset to zero. You will go over Squirrel Creek at mile 1.2 and here you are at the first of three campsites. The claim begins due south of this point at a tree with three forks marked by a sign. At mile 1.4 there is another campsite. The road forks at mile 1.5 - bear to the left here. The "main" campsite is at mile 2.2. The claim ends where you cross over a culvert at a "T" in the road at mile 2.25. This claim is essentially one mile long and 1/8 mile wide.

The land south of our claim is private property. Please respect the boundaries of our claim. It is surrounded by railroad and private properties. Keep to the creek and immediate surrounding areas.

These GPS readings are subject to change - low batteries you know:

(As of 07/11/05)

GPS at mile 1.2:

Elevation: 4111 feet

North 39 55.350'

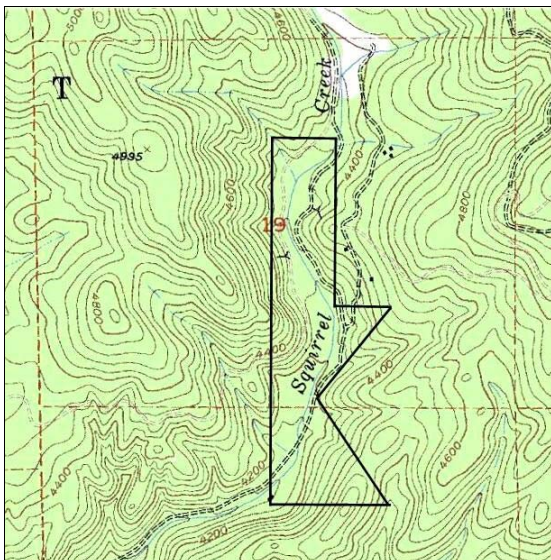
West 120 47.333'

GPS at mile 2.25

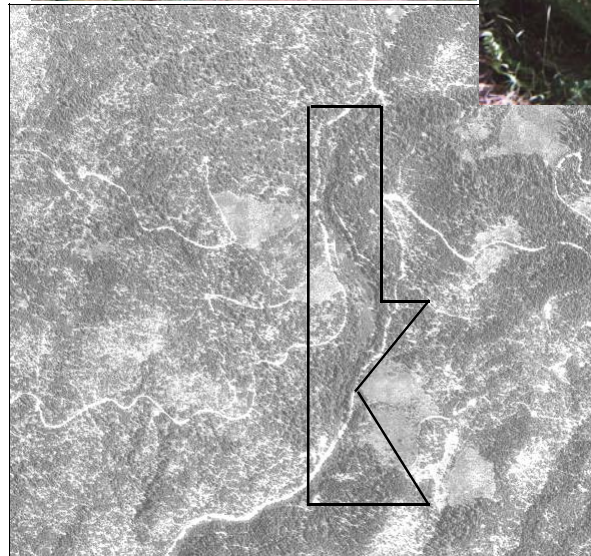
Elevation: 4122 feet

North 39 55.341'

West 120 47.328'



Above: Claim reproduced at approximately 1:24,000 scale.



Above: Claim boundaries superimposed on aerial photograph at approximately 1:24,000 scale.

NOTE: These directions should get you there no problem. Additional information pertinent to the claim, camping availability, size restrictions etc., will be gathered at the Greenhorn outing and will be added to this information.



Left: Corner post at mile 1.2. *Below:* Campsite at mile 1.4. *Far left:* Culvert at mile 2.25. *Bottom left:* Main campsite at mile 2.2. *Bottom right:* Tree with three trunks.



It is not known which of the two images above are the newer of the two. If you notice there are more roads seen in the photograph than are seen on the small section of the USGS quadrangle.

There are no reports at this time as to the productivity of this claim. It is said that it has been known to produce some nice product.

Add this page to your Guidebook.

THE OUTING!



Is there plenty of room here , or what?





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Castro Valley, CA 94546

QTY	ITEM DESCRIPTION	S	M	L	XL	XXL	PRICE	TOTAL
	DECAL						\$1.00	
	PIN						\$2.00	
	BALL CAP						\$5.00	
	SMALL FLAG						\$5.00	
	LARGE FLAG						\$7.00	
	TEE SHIRT (ADD \$1.00 FOR XXL)						\$10.00	
	SWEAT SHIRT (ADD \$1.00 FOR XXL)						\$16.00	
	WINDBREAKER (ADD \$1.00 FOR XXL)						\$20.00	
	SHIPING / HANDLING							\$5.00
							TOTAL	

SEE YOU AT THE NEXT OUTING!

ISSUE # 277

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UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.



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Annual Membership - \$35.00/year: New Renewal Lifetime Membership - \$350.00 Foreign Countries - \$45.00/year

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

Address: _____ E-mail Address: _____

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

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

I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS RELEASE AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

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

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