

# Locating Gold, Gems, and Minerals

The official publication of the

### Trails and Tales of UPI

www.Unitedprospectors.com

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United Prospectors Inc. Publications ©



JUNE 2012 BULL CREEK OUTING

### **HOPE TA SEE YA AT DEM NEXT DAR OUTIN'**

June 29-July 8-Genesse—Board meeting, potluck, and raffle on Saturday 7/7 October 12-14-Twain

**November 9-11-Moccasin Creek/Coulterville Pre-Thanksgiving Feed** 



### UNITED PROSPECTORS INC. MESSAGE FROM YOUR OFFICERS



Don Siegel

Hi all, hope all is well with you. We missed seeing some of you at our Bull Creek outing. Those that were able to attend had a great time. There were a lot of things to keep your interest. On Saturday night we had another great potluck and raffle and also a Board meeting with lots of open discussion. Many thanks to our Outing Coordinators, Debbie and Terry Moore, on another fine job. They held a triathlon (turned biathlon) target contest with a great turn out and a lot of fun!

If you have not realized it yet we are under attack from all directions. With the enviromental concerns to BLM fee hikes, we will as miners continue to see our ability to enjoy our activities a thing of the past if we are unable to stop the current trends. We as an organization need to and will continue to support Public Lands for the People (PLP) and Western Mining Alliance (WMA), but, we also need your help. These organizations need your individual support. With the cost of lawyer fees runniing at \$250 an hour, every individual donation is needed to keep the fight going. You can find out how to donate and also find all the up to date news by accessing their websites at www.PLP2.org and http:// westernminingalliance.org/. Thanks for your support. Don

Despite these dreary economic and political times UPI has managed to keep its membership up. UPI has been around for over 50 years, but only because of the folks that volunteer to keep it running. Many thanks have to go to those volunteers (you know who you are) that have stepped up over the years to keep UPI running. As a UPI member, I would like to personally thank you for keeping this great club going. With that said, we need more volunteers to step up and keep this club going strong! We currently have several Board positions open, and if that's not your thing, then maybe there's another area where you can help (we certainly can use your help).

Ed Ozga

All officers and directors serve 2-year terms. Voting for the new 2013 Board will take Vice President place in November. Board positions available include Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Claims, Ways and Means, and Membership Directors. To be eligible for office a member must be in good standing with UPI for 1-year or more at the time of election

(November) and no nomination can be accepted without prior approval from the nominee. While it's not much, the Board did make a wise vote this year and Board members are no longer required to pay UPI dues while in office. Please give me a holler and let me know if you are available to step up and help.

MAY THERE BE GOLD IN YOUR PAN, Ed.



### **JEST FER FUN!!!**

### **NEW QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

How many words can you make from the words **Country Rock** 

**DEFINITION:** Rock on either side of a lode or ledge, usually barren; the permanent rock inclosing a vein.

**RULES:** 3+ letters, no plurals slang or proper nouns used. Claude and I found 24 words in 15 minutes. Can you beat our amount and time? All words verified with the Oxford dictionary.

### CONTACTING THE UPI BOARD

#### DIRECT ALL MAIL TO

United Prospectors Inc. 2401 E. Orangeburg Avenue, Ste 675-237 Modesto, CA 95355

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WAYS & MEANS  Don Siegel  See above				

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**Technical Advisor:** Currently Open

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### Chapters

Contact the chapter chairperson for meeting information.

<u>Alameda County:</u> Currently open

Auburn Chapter: Currently open

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

Fresno, Kings, Madera and Merced Counties: Currently Open

Marin, Sonoma Counties: Currently open

<u>Sacramento County:</u> Currently open <u>San Joaquin County:</u> Currently open

Santa Clara County: Chairperson; Michael Phillips, (408) 595-9121 or

kitfoxchumash@yahoo.com

Stanislaus County: Currently open

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





**HEATHER & JOHN WILLIS** 

(Sometimes Frank

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### Some Bull Creek Outing Fun

By Debbie and Terry Moore

We had a good turnout for the triathlon on Saturday at Bull Creek. Due to a malfunction with the crossbow it turned out to be a biathlon instead. The weather was quite warm so we braved the ticks and other creepy crawlers and set up the targets in the little "grove" of trees in the middle of the camping area.

We started a little after 1:00 with three people and soon had a total of 25 people participating. Soon the area was full with camp chairs in the shade to watch the action. A good number of the "athletes" had never shot a rifle or held a sling shot. An equal number said it had been a very long time since they had shot anything.

We had a number of good shooters. The three finalists were Don Siegel, Dave Williams and Ken Liddle who each tied in the first round with 14 points each. While we had three who tied for the top spot, we had a number of honorable mentions: Leland Andrews with 13, Mike Phillips and Mike Roderick with 12, and Dick Geren, Dave Norman, Cookie Norman, and Kevin Bell with 10 points.

We ended up having a "shoot out" with the air rifle to determine the first place winner. The final totals were Ken with 35, Dave with 31, and Don with 19. The three finalists had their choice of prizes. Ken chose the Skil 3 piece all in one tool set with a bag of gold dirt. Dave choose a starter set consisting of a large pan, small pan, classifier, black sand magnet, snuffer bottle, finds pouch, vial, and two CD's. Don also chose a starter set. We need to mention that Dave chose the set with the two pink pans...for Brandy.

The sling shot competition proved to be a bit more difficult. Dick Geren won with 2 hits on the target. Honorable mentions in this category were the three other people who had hits: Rod Brown with 1, Mike Brickwedel with 1 and, still representing the women, Cookie Norman with 1. Dick Geren received a "Peek Au" underwater gold viewer.

We had a "Guess how many" with peppermint candies in a plastic container. There were several close guesses but James Baggott hit the number exactly (his wife Jocelan guessed for him) with 182. He won a bag of gold dirt. The Baggott's affectionately became known as the Dirt Bag couple for the number of bags they won throughout the evening raffle.

We would like to thank all who helped with the activities. Their expertise and assistance was

greatly appreciated in making the event a fun one for all of us.



Bull Creek Shooting Contest



Winners Dick Geren, Ken Liddle, Don Siegel & Dave Williams. with Outing Coordinators, Debbie & Terry Moore



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Newspaper headline writers really need to clean up their act. A recent one was "Barbara Boxer's Seat Up For Grabs." EEEyukk! That's disgusting! By Jerry Bowen

(Reprinted from January 1997 UPI Publication)

### **UPI BULL CREEK OUTING - Raffle Winners**



Carolyn Jordan Gold



Cookie Norman Pan and Fanny Pack



Brandy Williams Grand Prize Gold



Cisco Marcal Tarp



Dan Jordan Gold Pan



Dan Jordan UPI T-Shirt



Dan Repke Gold



Dave Norman Dirt Bag



Dave Williams Gold Pan



Debbie Marcal Classifier



Debbie Moore Gold



Denise Matula Gold



Dick Geren Gold Pan



Dick Geren Gold Vial Necklace



Don Cox Fanny Pack & Shovel



Ed Ozga Broll



Fred Lauritzen Bucket Handles



Fred Lauritzen Gold Pan



Gloria Nichols Sluice Box



Jeannie Boley Gold Pan & Shovel

Continued on Page 9

# Contra Costa County Chapter News

Mark your calendar now and sign-up to attend the 7th Annual Contra Costa Chapter Outing. Our last six annual outings have been a roaring success and this years outing has some extra special activities planned. Activities include a metal detector hunt including coins, cash, and prizes; free morning coffee; Friday pancake breakfast; movie night; and surprises! There's also winner take all duck races (yes ducks), raffles, and special activities planned for the kids.

This year we have the entire private group campsite reserved at Bear River in Placer County, CA for **September 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th and out on Monday the 17th)**. Motor homes and trailers are allowed (over 30' not recommended) and there are also great tent sites! This is dry camping, there are outhouse style potties, and no hook-ups are available. Shopping is nearby

The charge for the weekend is \$25.00 or \$10.00 for Saturday use and you must have a reservation to attend. Please contact Laurie at OzMiner@msn.com or 925-706-8193 to reserve a spot. This is a gated campground, with no gate keeper, so you need to make a reservation, because you will need the combination.

Remember, this is a Contra Costa Chapter outing and you do not have to be a UPI member to attend.

There be gold in your pan, Ed Ozga, UPI Contra Costa Chapter Chairman, 925-706-8193/OzMiner@msn.com.

# Santa Clara County Chapter News









Santa Clara Chapter was well represented at the Bull Creek outing and sent along these amazing shots to share. If you didn't make the Bull Creek outing, you sure missed a great time!



What were the odds? We reported last newsletter that Don Cox and Terry Moore, UPI Santa Clara Chapter members both won the trip to Alaska at the Fresno GPAA Gold Show. Well, believe it or not, at the following Reno, GPAA Gold Show, fellow chapter member, Joe Sul, won the Alaska trip. Congratulations Joe, it could not have happened to a nicer 'feller!





# **UPI BOARD MINUTES**

June 2, 2012

**WELCOME:** President, Don Siegel

<u>ROLL CALL</u>: Roll call of Officers/Board Members: President, Don Siegel, Vice-President, Ed Ozga; Treasurer, Aaron Matula; Membership, Dave Williams; Outing Coordinators, Terry & Debbie Moore; and Assistant Claims Manager, Jim Madden. Roll call of members: Dan Repke, Jim Baggott, Jocelan Baggott, Kenny Nichols, Mike Brickwedel, Mike Phillips, Don Cox, Leland Edwards, Pam Madden, Mike Broderick, Dave Norman, Debbie Marcel, Cisco Marcel, Gary West, and Laurie Ozga.

**MINUTES:** Laurie (acted as Secretary (currently vacated)) presented the previous minutes from the January 21, 2012 and minutes were accepted as recorded.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**TREASURER:** Aaron reported that as of 5/31/12, bank balance is \$9,279.58. Aaron requested that the Board get back to him regarding the 2012 budget figures that were forwarded on email.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Dave reported that we are at about 395 family memberships. Dave has a first quarter expense report for \$55.00. This is in addition to his \$300 allocated budget. Dave continues to receive additional requests for electronic distribution of newsletter. *Editor note: Current electronic distribution of newsletter is at 53.* 

**WAGON MASTER:** Don reported for Bob that port-a-potties have been ordered for the Genesse outing. **OUTING COORDINATOR(S):** Terry and Debbie have receipts to be submitted to Aaron. The Moores will not be going to Genessee outing, however, will try to plan some type of activity for the outing. Jim added that he does have darts available.

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:** Laurie reported for Linda that we are on a very tight deadline to get next newsletter out timely and to please submit articles by next Friday.

**WAYS AND MEANS:** Don reported that we probably have enough raffle prizes for the rest of the year. Also, have about 3-4 nuggets for each remaining outing, in addition to the fines carried over from last year. Also, Don has the Vac-Pac that is currently being raffled and also a recirculating sluice donated from Kit's estate, that will be raffled in the future.

**CHAPTERS:** Mike reported for Santa Clara Chapter that members attended an outing at the Menlo Park USGS. Jim made posters and they also set up equipment to demonstrate the prospecting equipment that we use does not impact the fish population. UCSF Science Department was impressed and invited the Chapter to set up a similar education booth at an upcoming Candlestick Park event anticipating 22,000 attendees. The Chapters outing to the Winchester Mystery House was also a success. Ed reported that Contra Costa County Chapter continues to draw a large crowd to their monthly meetings. The June meeting will be a potluck. Ed also announced the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Contra Costa Chapter will be held at Bear River again this year from September 12th to 17th.

**CLAIMS:** Jim reported that UPI is still interested in the 20 acre claim he and Ed have been looking into that is outside of Coulterville. Also, Jim has been looking into a claim that is available off Highway 50. **BILLS TO PAY:** None were presented. Laurie provided Aaron with four receipts for bills previously approved/paid.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mike raised issue regarding tracking new membership applications returned from events that Santa Clara Chapter attends. Dave responded that there is no problem tracking, just let him know how the applications will be annotated they were distributed at a Santa Clara Chapter outing. Don opened discussion regarding the formation of the Silicon Valley Gold Prospectors (SVGP), a group formed of the UPI Santa Clara Country Chapter, as well as their local GPAA Chapter. A lengthy discussion was held regarding opinions that we are two separate clubs, the use of UPI/GPAA on SVGP merchandise, as well as the copyrighted UPI logo, and official UPI colors. Discussions also turned to UPI nonprofit status and insurance issues and the need for further research. It was agreed that the SVGP group would no longer include UPI/GPAA on new merchandise or the SVGP logos and that the group would also review their website to add clarification that UPI and GPAA are two separate organizations. UPI Elections will be held in October. Board positions available are: Vice President, Treasurer, and Claims. Ways and Means, and Membership Directors. Editors note: Volunteers are needed!

Claims, Ways and Means, and Membership Directors. *Editors note: Volunteers are needed!*Discussion was held regarding holding Board meetings twice a year and not at scheduled outings.



YELLOW JACKETS: A pan of waste cooking grease in water, set on the ground in a sunny place, attracts yellow jackets. Hundreds die in the pan.

(Reprinted from October 1977 UPI

# **UPI MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

#### New Members as of 5/31/12

Clayton, CA Dan Folev Edward Despins Concord, CA Jim & Jackie Pickett Stockton, CA Discovery Bay, CA John DeMartini San Jose, CA Joshua Prince Kevin Bell Galt, CA Wayne Thomas San Jose, CA

### Renewing Members as of 5/31/12

Al Simoni Concord, CA Anthony Follett Santa Clarita, CA **Bob Howard** Clovis, CA Bruce Wilson Greenville, CA Carla Herbert Gilroy, CA Chuck Armocido Yuba City, CA Dan & Sarah Lohberger Milpitas, CA Daniel J. McCabe Napa, CA David and Tina Valdez Modesto, CA David Norman Mariposa, CA Glenn Frisbie Millbrae, CA Greg Voisard Oakhurst, CA James Kelly Redding, CA Joe & Gloria Sul Campbell, CA John Dickenson Jr. Waterford, CA John LeJeal Sacramento, CA John Meling Modesto, CA Keith Waisanen Vallejo, CA Ken & Bobbie Sawyer Fremont, CA Kenny Hall Oakhurst, CA Les & Jackie Rossi Rescue, CA Les Baker Apple Valley, CA Michael M. Hashimoto Martinez, CA Concord, CA Paul Venker Pieter Van Hattem Kelseyville, CA Randy & Glenette Huckabay Madera, CA Ricky Branson Meadow Valley, CA Robert McGill Quincy, CA Ron & Sharon Rowe Dayton, NV Ron and Debbie Oliver Anderson, CA Ron Bolev Sonora, CA Rose Kriel Sunnyvale, CA Russell Tait Jr Columbia, CA Stephen McCord Potter Valley, CA Steven Reed Santa Rosa, CA Theodore Klocker Sun Valley, NV Tony Arredondo Columbia, CA Wayne Baker Folsom, CA

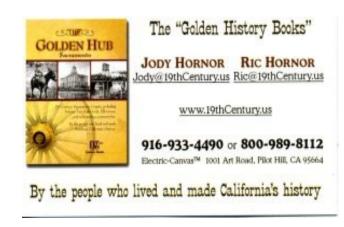
#### Members up for Renewal as of 6/30/12

Anthony Alexander La Grange, CA Art Castiaux Ukiah, CA Beth Farmer Hayward, CA Reedley, CA **Buddy Heise** 

### Members up for Renewal as of 6/30/12 (Continued)

Gary Taylor Fairfield, CA Gerald Hurt Palmdale, CA James Black Toledo, OR James Rorie Pacheco, CA Denair, CA Jim Bohannan Dublin, CA Jim Durden Jim Karsant Grass Valley, CA Joe A. Kellog Fairfield, CA John Alec Gimurtu Petaluma, CA Jorge Luis Flores Lizarraga Hanford, CA Lee Wilkinson Concord, CA Mark Chambers Sparks, NV Mark E. Weber Vacaville, CA Manteca, CA Merv Pate Bay Point, CA Phillip Rountree Mariposa, CA Ray & Karen Briese Rex Miller Patterson, CA Rolando Esparza Macias Pittsburg, CA Ron Peterson Willits, CA Ronald Milliren Jr. Gustine, CA Coulterville, CA Roy & Marti Dunston Sandra Cameron Concord, CA Scott Crosley Livermore, CA Stanley & Gail Webster San Jose, CA Ted Stolting Fernley, NV Terence Pippi Healdsburg, CA Tom & Algene Brandt Clermont, FL

If you have a mailing address, email change, or wish to receive your newsletter electronically, please send your updated information to Dave Williams, Membership Director at: Membersip@unitedprospectors.com or Call Linda at 707-552-2393 and she will forward your changes to Reminder Dave.



# **UPI BULL CREEK OUTING - Raffle Winners (Continued)**



Jim Baggott aka "Dirtbag" Classifier



Jocelan Baggott Dirt Bag



Joycelan Baggott Gold



John Orr Cable Rock Puller



Leland Edwards Gold vials



John Marvin UPI Mug



Kevin Bell Rope



Leland Edwards Coffee Maker



Leland Edwards Crevice Tool



Leland Edwards Gold



Lori Lauritzen Silver Certificate



Paula Roderick Crevice Tool



Paula Roderick Classifier



Paula Roderick Lapis Stone



Paula Roderick UPI Mug



Rod Brown Clay-B-Gone/Magnets



Dan Repke Bull Creek 50/50 Winner



Has your wife or girl friend told you that she adores old spinning wheels? Don't be mislead by that remark. She's only Referring that it's time to trade in the old car on a new one. Better find that glory hole!!!

(Reprinted from December 1962 UPI Publication)



# **Assistant Claims Manager Report**

Jim Madden

### A Guide for Selecting Plastic Buckets

One of the first things to think about is bucket size. Do you go for a 5 gallon or a 2 and a half gallon one? We tend to keep filling the larger one up all the way, which makes it heavier. The smaller one limits this and makes it lighter to carry. Have used both and tend to stick to the 5 gallon ones because they will carry the longer hand tools when you are hiking in.

Buckets are not all alike. I tried buckets from three stores, Orchard, Lowes and Home Depot. Here is what I found. Lowes has a nice silver bucket and I tried several of these and right away the handle pulled the plastic lip out and the handle came off. I ended up using one for concentrates and the other for screening into. The Home Depot buckets are well made and have lasted a long time. I have also had good luck with the Orchard ones. Have not used Ace buckets yet.

In the photos is the Lowe's bucket (silver), the rim where the handle fits is poorly secured. Looking close the rim is thin and there is only some thin tabs that connect the bucket to the rim. These are also inset so the bottom is roughly at the same level as the handle hole. This makes the rim unstable and subject to bowing outward when the bucket is full. Once this happens the handle will not stay in place.

The photos of the Home Depot bucket (orange) shows a simpler rim system, the handle attachment is much smaller, and it is molded vertically to the bucket. The top and bottom are reinforced by a ring that encircles the bucket. This design is one of the strongest and the handle will not pull out when under load.

So when selecting your buckets always look at the way the handle attachment is molded into it. You want to make sure it is not a flimsy design. Having one fail after hiking in several miles to go mining can put a damper on your day. So if you are not sure, carry another one with a different attachment.

The next thing to think about is the handle that you grab onto. Every handle is quite small in diameter and this can tax your hands which will quickly tire out your arms. For a couple of years I saw the handle adapters, but never bothered to buy a set until the Alaska trip where I finally got to use them. I now have about a half dozen or so.

So you went to Armadillo Willys and got a couple of free buckets or picked them up free somewhere else. Keep in mind that what their original contents were may not be what they were used for later. Even the new buckets may have a mold release agent, oil, or grease film on the inside. One of my friends uses old hydraulic oil buckets from his farm equipment. All of this stuff will float your fine gold right back into the river. I take the buckets, new or used, fill them with hot water and degreaser. After letting sit awhile I pour this out and refill again and eventually rinse the bucket well.

As for the ones that contained hydraulic or other oil products, they belong somewhere else besides mining. Hope to see you out on a claim soon, Jim.









# **Members Bulletin Board**

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





#### FOR SALE

#### **GOLDEN CARIBOU MEMBERSHIP**

This year's dues will be paid

\$500 (\$4,899 value) Contact Don Siegel at (209) 567-2370







**SEE YOU AT THE NEXT OUTING!** 







### Dear Editor:

While pursuing your outdoor endeavors you may be challenged by a representative of a governmental agency or public servant regarding the legality of your activity in their area. Know what to do by having your PLP Orange Card with you. Contact Laurie Ozga at Oz-Miner@msn.com if you don't have this card.

Laurie Ozga

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Meet UPI's newest "Gold Hound" Bella Matula, prospecting at Bull Creek.

#### NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR:

I really appreciate your input and letters. I would like more letters concerning anything to do with gold prospecting so we can share your thoughts with others besides me.

Do you have a personal short story you would like to share?

Do you have pictures you would like to share?

All of the above are welcome.



Linda Moore 707-552-2393



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Revised January 2012