



# Locating Gold, Gems, and Minerals

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

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**April Bull Creek Outing!**

# CONTACTING THE UPI BOARD

**DIRECT ALL MAIL TO:**  
 United Prospectors Inc.  
 PO Box 693284  
 Stockton, CA 95269-3284

<p><b>PRESIDENT</b>  <b>Dan DiCarlo</b>                  President@unitedprospectors.com                  (925)334-0475</p>	<p><b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>  <b>John Lopez</b>                  VicePresident@unitedprospectors.com                  (209) 373-6997</p>	<p><b>TREASURER</b>  <b>Joyce Smith</b>                  Treasurer@unitedprospectors.com</p>
<p><b>SECRETARY</b>  <b>Lydia Hough</b>                  Secretary@unitedprospectors.com</p>	<p><b>MEMBERSHIP</b>  <b>James McGann</b>                  Membership@unitedprospectors.com</p>	<p><b>PUB./ED-IN-CHIEF</b>  <b>Kim Dessaussois</b>                  Publishinchief@unitedprospectors.com</p>
<p><b>CLAIMS MANAGER</b>  <b>Louie Etlin</b>                  Claimsmanager@unitedprospectors.com</p>	<p><b>OUTING COORDINATOR</b>  <b>Colleen Campbell</b>                  Outingcoordinator@unitedprospectors.com</p>	<p><b>WAYS &amp; MEANS</b>                  Vacant</p>

## VOLUNTEERS

**Historian:** Vacant

**Wagon master:** Vacant

**Webmaster:** Mark Weber (707) 449-4808 / mark.weber@sbcglobal.net

## CHAPTERS

**Contact the chapter chairperson(s) for meeting information.**

**Central Valley Chairperson:** Mike Steele 209-351-2647

and Anthony Davenport 209-585-5734 Centralvalleyupi@gmail.com

**Contra Costa Chairperson:** Dan DiCarlo, (925)334-0475 Contracostaupi@gmail.com

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

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**THE TRAILS AND TALES OF UPI©**  
 The Family oriented small scale mining organization.  
**UPI JOURNAL©/ NEWSLETTER©**  
 LOCATING GOLD GEMS AND MINERALS©

Publisher/Editor-in-Chief - *Kim Dessaussois*  
 Production of Guidebook - *Jim McGann*  
 Subscriptions/Membership/Circulation - *Jim McGann*

UPI Business - *Dan DiCarlo*

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# UNITED PROSPECTORS INC. FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Hello!

First of all, I would like to thank our outgoing President, Cal Courtnier, for his many years of service and dedication to United Prospectors, Inc. Cal started as President back in 2018 when he replaced Ed Ozga, and has kept UPI moving forward as one of the best gold clubs in the area. We wish him all the best.

I would also like to thank our current board members: John Lopez, Vice President, Joyce Smith, Treasurer, Lydia Hough, Secretary, Louie Etlin, Claims Manager; Kim Dessaussois, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief; and Jim McGann, Membership Director.

Lastly, I would like to thank our volunteers: Colleen Campbell, Outing Coordinator, Mark Weber, Webmaster, and Mike Steele and Anthony Davenport, co-Chairpersons of the Central Valley chapter.

Thank you, Gil Mink, for leading the South Bay chapter for so many years. Although that chapter is now closed, I wish you all the best in the future!

I'm excited to have been elected President, and I look forward to having many events and outings during my term. I am also looking forward to bringing some changes to the club; hopefully you will find them interesting and welcomed improvements. If you have any suggestions, complaints, or thoughts about the club that you would like to share with me, please feel free to call or text me at (925) 334-0475.

We are currently looking into redesigning our existing website, and should have some changes to it over the next few months. We are also reviewing our current Guidebook, and are exploring ways to split it into two separate documents, one for our bylaws, and one for our claims. We are in contact with other apparel vendors to improve the quality of our T-shirts, and to explore the possibility of creating club polo shirts, windbreakers, sweatshirts, and hoodies.

We are also looking into promoting our club more at local rock shows, bottle shows and fairs. We created a club banner, printed trifolds, and will have new business cards to let the public know about what we do, and hopefully we will see our membership grow.

So stay tuned; you'll be seeing some changes over the next few months. It should be exciting!

Thank You,  
Dan DiCarlo  
UPI President



# Meeting Minutes

UPI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MARCH 12, 2022

President called meeting to order at 10:05 am

## **Roll Call -**

Officers present: Dan DiCarlo, President; John Lopez, Vice President; Joyce Smith, Treasurer; Lydia Hough, Secretary

Directors present: Louie Etlin, Claims Manager; Kim Dessausios, Publisher/Ed-in-Chief; Colleen Campbell, Outings Coordinator; Ways and Means, Cal Courtner; Jim McGann, Membership

Volunteers present: Dan DiCarlo, Contra Costa Chapter; Gil Mink, outgoing South Bay Chapter

Volunteers absent: Michael Steele/Anthony Davenport, Central Valley Chapter; Mark Weber, Webmaster; Wagon Master - vacant

Members Present: None

Minutes were read and accepted.

Treasurer: Joyce Smith reported the 3/12/2022 balance is \$7,413.64. A motion was made and passed to accept the Treasurer's report presented.

## **REPORTS:**

*President* - The IOOF hall in Coulterville has been reserved for October 15, 2022. We will not be renting tables this year due to existing tables in the hall and members providing tables as needed.

*Vice President* – nothing to report.

*Treasurer* - reported as above. Joyce will be stepping down as treasurer when her term is over December 31, 2022.

*Secretary* – will be relinquishing the T-shirt sales, she will be out of state from May 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022.

*Pub/Ed-in-Chief* – would like articles from members for the newsletter.

*Claims Manager* – claims have been filed on, needs someone with a GPS to help replace claim markers destroyed by fires.

*Membership* – membership numbers are not available at this time.

*Outings Coordinator* – has gold left over from canceled outings to be used for 2022 outings.

*Ways and Means* – has approximately 36 grams on hand for future needs.

*Web Master* – to be addressed under new business.

## **Chapters:**

*Central Valley* - nothing to report, chapter chairs absent.

*Contra Costa* – meetings will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm, waiting to secure meeting place.

*South Bay* – closing, to be discussed under new business.

**Education/shows:** Dan DiCarlo, President set up a table at the Antioch Rock Show. It was received well, he discussed prospecting, metal detecting and magnet fishing.

## MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED....

### Old Business:

#### *Chapters:*

South Bay Chapter is officially closed. Gil Mink, Chapter Chair turned over all supplies and funds to John Lopez, Vice President. Cash in the amount of \$928.77 will be divided between Central Valley and Contra Costa chapters. All paper goods, drawing tickets, hunt tokens, drawing prizes to be turned over to the Contra Costa chapter when meetings officially start.

#### *Treasurers Tools:*

Square account has not been set up due to having the president added to the bank account. Quick books has not been ordered, it will be ordered as soon as Treasurer confers with President about which program to use.

#### *Merchandise:*

a) T-shirts/hats; Due to Lydia stepping down as sales person, current inventory will be split between Central Valley and Contra Costa chapters. Each chapter will be responsible for turning in funds to treasurer as shirts are sold. Kathy McGann will take over sales for Central Valley and Dan DiCarlo for Contra Costa chapters. Both Chapters to bring inventory to outings for members wanting to purchase shirts. Shirts and hats will be reordered as needed.

b) name plates/pins; it was discussed to have for board members.

c) discussed merchandise mail order form in newsletter. On hold till more shirts are purchased and a procedure for ordering/shipping etc. has been set. Dan DiCarlo presented samples of shirts with embroidery.

### New Business:

Promoting the club; Board is looking into starting a Facebook page.

Close Modesto P.O. Box.

Split By-laws and Claims Guide into 2 booklets. Kim Dessausios to lead with Buy-laws portion and Louie Etlin to lead with claims portion.

Web site; current website is approximately 20 years old. President is looking into creating a new website.

### UPI OUTING/MEETING AGENDA

April 29, 30, May 1	Bull Creek
May 14	Board Meeting, Stockton
June 24, 25, 26	Twain
July 23	Metal Detecting Hunt and Potluck to be at Almondridge Park just off Highway 4 in Antioch CA
August 19, 20, 21	Bull Creek (possibly)
September 10	Roaring Camp day trip
September (tbd)	Rye Patch Nugget Shoot, Rye Patch Recreation Area near Lovelock NV
October 14, 15, 16	Coulterville Feed
October 15	Board Meeting and Potluck

Meeting adjourned at 1:54 pm

# **BULL CREEK OUTING—April 29, 30, 31**

While I have been a member of UPI since around 2013, I had never been to a UPI outing, other than trips to Moccasin Creek, or the Coulterville Feed events. After the Bull Creek outing a few weeks ago, I realized that I had missed a lot of fun and good times!

I arrived on Thursday (Thank you, Jerry Campbell, for the help with my tent!) and immediately felt at home. Others were already at working in the creek, and others were setting up their campsites.

Friday was highlighted with our famous Bingo for Gold! event hosted by our Outing Coordinator Colleen Campbell. At its conclusion, six lucky club members walked away with gold nuggets. Thank you, Colleen, for hosting this event!

Saturday morning saw 18 detectorists vying for painted targets in knee-high grass in our metal detecting hunt. The terrain was difficult because of the grass, so understandably not all targets were found by hunters. Targets were turned and playing cards were drawn so that all prizes were given away. The prize included vials of gold flakes, silver dimes and certificates, Walking Liberty half dollars, a Morgan dollar, and the grand prizes of a 1 ounce silver bar, and a one gram gold bar.

A few hours later, Colleen took over again with always exciting Poker Walk. Challenging events (especially that dart board!) were set up around the camp where club members tried their skill and dexterity to try and win a more favorable poker hand for gold nugget prizes. Colleen also gave away a gold nugget in a drawing; members were awarded a ticket to this drawing if they were spotted wearing club merchandise which was available for purchase at the outing.

I can't thank Colleen enough for hosting the Bingo for Gold, Poker Walk and merchandise wearing drawing. Thank you, Colleen!

Saturday night saw our potluck, which was filled with delicious food brought by our club members. Congratulations goes to Cindi Harrington for winning the Best Potato Salad contest with her Hungarian recipe!

The usual drawing concluded Saturday night, where club members won 48 gold nuggets, some useful mining and camping items, and some not-so-useful stuff I wanted to get rid of.

Hopefully those who attended this outing had a good time, and if you didn't get to this one, hopefully you will join us in the future!

Dan DiCarlo

# BULL CREEK OUTING—April 29, 30, 31



# OUTREACH

I have three main objectives this year:

1. Continue to make the club fun for its current members.
2. Attract new members to the club.
3. Based on feedback from our members, try to improve the club.

These past few months, I have concentrated on objective #2 by having a booth at the Antioch Lapidary Club's show in February, and the Golden Gate Historical Bottle Society's show in Antioch in April.

At both events, I had a display table promoting our club, and passed out literature and membership applications to those in attendance who were interested in learning more about our club.

At our March board meeting, I suggested having Facebook pages for our club and chapters to get information about club out to the general public. This idea was voted on and approved by the board.

The pages are now active on Facebook at the below addresses. If you have a Facebook account, you are more than welcome to follow the pages. There is no need to create a new Facebook account to follow us there, since most of the information in Facebook is contained in our emails and in our newsletters. There may be newsfeed items from organizations such as PLP and AMRA,, as well as other gold prospecting pages that may be of interest to our club members.

I view Facebook as just another means to let people know about the club and some of the events we have in order to attract new members.

UPI Facebook page:

"<https://www.facebook.com/UnitedProspectors>"

UPI Contra Costa Chapter Facebook Page:

"<https://www.facebook.com/ContraCostaUPI>"

UPI Central Valley Chapter Facebook Page:

"<https://www.facebook.com/Central-Valley-Chapter-United-Prospectors-Inc-110771341666606> "

Sincerely,

Dan DiCarlo

UPI President



# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Congratulations to our newest members:

Deborah Sanchez - Sacramento, CA  
Cirra Peters - Alameda, CA

You have joined an outstanding, fun bunch of gold and gem seekers. We look forward to meeting you in person at an outing or on the claims.

## Renewing and returning members:

Your continued support of the UPI is what keeps our organization alive. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the outings. Many thanks and remember, without you there'd be no club.

## Reminders:

- 🌀 When renewing your membership, you must fill out and sign a new application each year.
- 🌀 If you check the box for electronic newsletters and notifications, you will get two e-mail reminders when your membership is due. One, 30 days prior to and another, the day of expiration, if it lapses.
- 🌀 You will also receive an e-mail notification when the newsletter is available online.
- 🌀 Have a change of address, e-mail, or contact information? Please send me your new information. Without a current mailing or e-mail address, you might not get your newsletters or other notifications. Drop me an e-mail, call me, find me at an outing, or send me a note via snail mail.
- 🌀 Please note it may take up to 4 weeks to process your membership application.
- 🌀 **IMPORTANT** Be sure to mail your applications to the Stockton PO Box.

**DO NOT SEND THEM TO THE MODESTO ADDRESS.**

Happy Hunting.

Sincerely,

Jim McGann  
Membership Director  
PO Box 693284  
Stockton, CA 95269-3284  
Jim.upimembership@gmail.com

# Upcoming Events

## 2022 OUTING SCHEDULE

April 29, 30, May 1	Bull Creek
June 24, 25, 26	Twain ( <b>depends on fire status</b> )
Aug 19, 20, 21	Bull Creek ( <b>tentative</b> )
Sept 10	Roaring Camp Day Trip
Oct 14, 15, 16	Coulterville Pre-Thanksgiving Potluck



\*\*\* Don't forget to wear your UPI shirt to the outings\*\*\*.



### Upcoming Events:

Central Valley Chapter No upcoming events scheduled at this time.

South Bay Chapter Dissolved

Contra Costa Chapter Metal Detecting at Almondridge Park in Antioch, CA



## HELP WANTED:

Person to Fill  
Web Master position

UPI is currently looking to fill the position of Web Master. Looking for someone with skills in/knowledge of the following:

HTML  
PHP  
MYSQL  
WEBSITE PROGRAMMING AND  
DESKTOP DATABASES/SPREADSHEETS

If you possess these skills and would like to join UPI as Web Master, please contact President or Vice President. Contact information is listed in the front of this newsletter.

# Hidden Treasure That Might Still Be Out There!

Buried treasure. Lost gold. Hidden cash. Loot. Few things fire the imagination like the idea of a vast hoard of gems, precious metals, art or cold hard cash being just a few shovelfuls of dirt away from being found. Maybe you dream of going on a treasure hunt or finding that treasure chest you've heard about. These real-life stories of lost treasure seem to offer lots of options for your inner gold fiend. The following are stories of hidden stores of treasure/loot, and lost mines that might still be out there.

## **The Lufthansa Heist**

Immortalized in the gangster classic Goodfellas, the Lufthansa Heist was the largest robbery ever committed in the United States, the crew making off with \$6 million in cash and close to a million in jewels from John F. Kennedy Airport. Just like the movie, Burke began offing everyone involved with the heist to keep from being caught, and to keep the money.

Burke was apprehended in the early 1990's and went to his grave without ever divulging the location of the money or jewels. The first arrests in the robbery weren't made until 2014, and only a little cash was eventually recovered, the jewels are still out there.

## **The Cahuenga Pass Treasure**



In Hollywood, Cahuenga Boulevard and Highland Avenue is one of the busiest intersections. It might also be the location of a huge stash of gold. Three Mexican agents came North with \$200,000 in gold, silver, and jewelry to buy guns to arm the Juarez government in 1864. Valuables were buried in the hills of San Mateo, where shepherd Diego Moreno saw them. Moreno dug up the loot and fled to pueblo of Los Angeles. After stopping at a tavern near Cahuenga Pass, he buried the stolen treasure in six different holes under an ash tree. Moreno told his friend, Jesus Martinez about the fortune as repayment for helping him recover from an illness. After Moreno passed, Martinez went in search of the treasure and promptly perished when he found the first can. Supposedly Martinez was the first in a number of deaths and misfortunes attributed to the "cursed" Cahuenga Pass treasure.

## The Salton Sea Pearls



[Legends](#) have abounded for centuries about ships from various empires winding up in the American desert. One, presumably a Spanish galleon, is thought to have drifted all the way from the Gulf of California to the now-landlocked Salton Sea. And that ship, again, as the legend goes, was filled to the brim with priceless pearls. The crew abandoned the ship when it became impossible to escape, and a treasure legend was born.

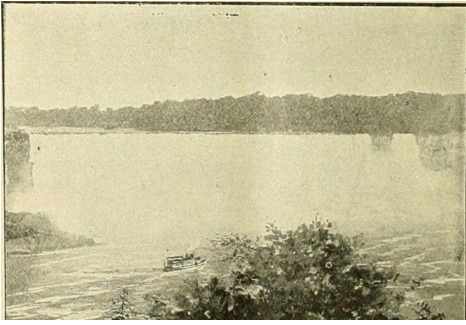
Various newspapers of the late 1800s told stories of vast treasure hoards found in the desert, including the galleon full of pearls, but none of these hunters were able to provide proof of their finds. If the treasure exists, it's almost certainly still out there.

## The Elysian Park Gold



[Legend](#) has it that Los Angeles's [Elysian Park](#), nominally a hilly neighborhood near Dodger Stadium, is nothing more than a giant tract of buried valuables, left there in the 1850s by residents terrified of American soldiers. Tales abound of locals stashing gold coins and jewels in the hills, hoping to keep invading American troops from seizing them as Mexicans and Americans fought over Southern California. Chief among these was wealthy rancher Francisco Avila, the mayor of the pueblo. As there were no banks in the settlement yet, Avila is said to have placed his gold in tin cans, sealed them, and buried them under a pepper tree - with the exact location dying with him. Local officials have balked at their neighborhood being torn up by digging, so the treasure, if it's there, remains.

## The Treasure of Camp 19



In 1853, near what would become Claremont, California, four outlaws robbed a Wells Fargo stagecoach, making off with \$30,000. They fled up San Antonio Canyon, with a posse hot on their trail, and split up to avoid capture. The leader headed down the east fork of the San Gabriel River, and before the posse took him out, he supposedly buried his money-laden saddlebags in a grove of oak trees, now believed to be part of California State [Prison Camp 19](#). The money was never recovered and is thought lost.

## Gold on Repetto's Ranch



On April 14, 1874, legendary Mexican bandito Tiburcio [Vasquez](#) tortured and beat [Alessandro Repetto](#), a prosperous Italian immigrant who owned the 5,000-acre Rancho La Merced in what's now Monterey Park, California. Vasquez pummeled Repetto until he supposedly revealed his ownership of two bags containing \$40,000 in gold and silver. Meanwhile, sheriff's deputies had been alerted to the hostage situation by Repetto's nephew, and they moved in on Vasquez and his crew.

The men supposedly buried the loot before they ran, and Repetto was never able to find it. He sold the land in 1886, and it was eventually paved over. Vasquez was hanged a year later, having left a number of tall tales about buried treasures behind him.  
To be continued.....

*Rothschild, Mike. "Hidden Treasure That Might Still Be Out There." Ranker vote on everything, 2022. Retrieved from [www.ranker.com](http://www.ranker.com)*

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# CHANCE TO WIN A GOLD NUGGET

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## ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:

All members and even non-members are encouraged to submit articles, recipes, lessons learned, stories about recent adventures, news from other relevant clubs and pictures to the Publisher for inclusion in the next UPI newsletter. Readers enjoy reading about what other prospectors are up to. Let's keep the newsletter informative and interesting by sending in your stories and pictures.

If your story makes it into one of our newsletters, you will be entered into a drawing to win a gold nugget. Drawing will be held in Coulterville UPI outing held in October 2022. Must be present to win.

So send in your stories,, pictures, and any news worthy information.

And Good Luck!!

*Kim Dessaussois*  
*Editor / Publisher*

Send your submissions to [Publisher.UPI@Gmail.com](mailto:Publisher.UPI@Gmail.com)



Membership is open to anyone interested, 18 years or older. One membership includes a spouse & children under the age of 18.  
**All memberships are good for a period of 1 year and will expire on your anniversary date.**

**Membership Dues: (check your preference below) Number of qualifying family members \_\_\_\_\_**

**Annual Membership \$45.00/year: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Membership \$450.00: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Foreign Countries \$55.00/year: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_**

**City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Country: \_\_\_\_\_**

**How did you hear about us?**

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\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**, I want to receive the newsletter and renewal reminders electronically. If you checked yes, please make sure you have included an email address above.

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 service, 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 unknown 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 AM 18 YEARS OR OLDER AND HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS RELEASE AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ UPI Member # \_\_\_\_\_**

**(Renewal only)**

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

**United Prospectors Inc.  
PO Box 693284  
Stockton, CA 95269-3284**



**UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.**  
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