



Locating Gold, Gems, and Minerals

The official publication of the

Trails and Tales of UPI

www.Unitedprospectors.com

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Metal Detecting at Bull Creek Outing

**Mark your calendar now for the
Coulterville Pre-Thanksgiving Outing
October**



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CHAPTERS

Contact the chapter chairperson for meeting information.

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

Central Valley County Chairperson: Joyce Smith, (209) 815-1940 or CentralValleyUPI@gmail.com

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

UNITED PROSPECTORS INC. (UPI)©
THE TRAILS AND TALES OF UPI©
 The Family oriented small scale mining organization.

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LOCATING GOLD GEMS AND MINERALS©

Publisher/Editor-in-Chief - *Laurie Ozga*
 Production of Guidebook - *Cindy Siegel*
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 UPI Business *Don Siegel*


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IMPORTANT CHAPTER NEWS

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CHAPTER

Mark your calendar now and sign-up to attend the **1th Annual UPI Contra Costa Chapter Outing** at **Bear River** private campground area. Our last 10 annual outings have been a roaring success and this year's outing will be no exception! Outing is **Thursday, September 15th to Thursday the 22nd (7 nights)** and cost is **\$35.00** and must be paid in advance.

The Contra Costa Chapter is providing:

- **FREE fun!**
- Prospecting for **FREE** gold
- **FREE** morning coffee
- **FREE** daily attendance drawings (all day-everyday!) including gold nuggets!
- Friday morning **FREE** breakfast
- Duck races (\$1.00 a duck, winner takes all)
- **FREE** BINGO for gold, Friday at 7:00 p.m. with **FREE** popcorn
- Saturday metal detecting hunt (10 a.m.) (\$10.00 entry fee - you must be pre-registered - contact Laurie)
- **FREE** activities for the kids
- Poker tournament
- Saturday **FREE** Lucky Duck drawing
- Drawing available for Hand Crank Trommel - Classifier (see <http://www.wbprospectingllc.com/>)
- Other **FREE** games and prizes
- Saturday night potluck (5:00 p.m.), followed by big drawing - **Donations for the Saturday night drawing are greatly appreciated.**

Private campground area, however, normal campground rules still apply (e.g., quiet hours, **dogs remain leashed**). **No ATV's or motorized mining equipment is allowed.** Also, absolutely **no drones and/or hoverboards will be allowed into the campground!**

Spots will go quick. **Please RSVP ASAP to OzMiner@msn.com.**

Looking forward to seeing you there. **Please call or email with questions.** May there be gold in your pan, Ed and Laurie Ozga, UPI Contra Costa Chapter, 925-706-8193.

Bear River Campground: <http://www.placer.ca.gov/departments/facility/parks/parks-content/parks/bear-river-park-campground>

=====

CENTRAL VALLEY CHAPTER

Yes, that's correct, you read it right. The planning is done, the room is reserved, the drawings are ready, the sweets and coffee will be ready, so all we need is you to join us for the:

UPI Central Valley Chapter Meeting
2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon St., Stockton, CA 95204

Drawing includes Gold Nuggets and more! Please bring a snack to share or something to donate to the drawing. It's not necessary, but, it will make our meeting that much more fun.

You do not need to be a UPI member to attend, so bring a friend!

Questions? Contact: Joyce Smith, UPI Central Valley Chapter Chairman
209-815-1940 or CentralValleyUPI@gmail.com.



UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.

IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Back Row: Ed Ozga, Vice President; Middle Row: Dave Williams, Membership Director; Mike Hammond, Claims Director (Resigned April 2016); Dolly Sauls, Secretary; Aaron Matula, Treasurer; and Bob Azbill, Wagonmaster; Front Row: Laurie Ozga, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief; and Don Siegel, President

Time to mark your calendar for the **pre-Thanksgiving outing** on October 14th, 15th, and 16th. Saturday the 15th is the big day, with a detector hunt, potluck dinner, drawing, and elections. This is a great time to support a small community that has always welcomed us over the years.

Pancake Breakfast - Rebecca's Fundraiser - Coulterville Odd Fellows Hall

Detector Hunt - 10:30am

UPI Meeting - 1:00pm

Set up the hall - 3:30pm

Potluck - 5:00pm

Elections and Drawings to follow potluck

Detector hunt will be held across from the tennis court/park, and the meeting, potluck dinner, elections, and drawing are at the ODD FELLOWS HALL, in the center of town on main street. There will be many folks camped on the Moccasin Creek claim and Port-A-Potties will be brought in. At the time of this writing the Historical Jefferies Hotel repairs are not completed. There is a trailer park in town with limited spaces, and a motel on the south side of Hwy 49.

Remember we will also draw for the attendance drawing for all of those folks that have made outings throughout the year. This year's drawing is for a self-contained 12-volt recirculating Mini Power Sluice. There will also be many great prizes in our year end drawing.

Also, as we have done in the past, we will be collecting canned goods for the local food bank. One can = 1 ticket per person (extra cans will be welcomed). Look for more information about the outing in the newsletter.

Thanksgiving outing at Coulterville also means **elections** are here. Voting will take place at the Coulterville pre-Thanksgiving outing. The positions open for election this year include Vice-President, Treasurer, Membership Director, Outing Coordinator, and Publisher/Editor in Chief. If you or anyone you know is interested in stepping up and volunteering for any of these positions, please give Don a holler to discuss the different duties involved.

MESSAGES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS - CONT'D

UPI has a new **Claims Director**. Mike Hammond resigned his position effective April 30, 2016 and many thanks to Sid Calija for stepping up to keep our claims active.

Many of you are aware of the long standing issue of Terry and Suzy Barnes' claim to our **Genesee III** claim. Issue was in the court system, however, the Board is unsure if an actual ruling has been issued. Our Genesee III claim is 20 acres and located at the first pull-out BLM campground area and is located in the campground itself. The claim is currently marked by Terry and Suzy Barnes claim markers. We ask that UPI members do not prospect on this claim until further notice.

The **Sonora Gold Show**, hosted by Delta Gold Diggers was held on the weekend of August 20th. Once again, UPI set up a recruiting booth at this great event. We ran a show special for new and renewing members. Those who signed up or renewed at the show, got 3 extra months of membership free. That's right, 15 months of access to our claims, member's area of website, and newsletters for only \$45.00! Welcome to our new members and thanks to the renewing members who were able to take advantage of this great special. We had a great time at the show. Many thanks to the UPI volunteers who made our booth successful. Congratulations to Greg from Coarse Gold Prospectors who won the UPI gold nugget! And again, GREAT job Delta Gold Diggers, the outstanding work by your volunteers made this a rock star event!! Hope to see you again next year!!

Long time UPI supporters, **Black Sheep Mining**, has moved. You can visit Black Sheep Mining at their new address located in this newsletter. Be sure to drop by and say hi, and tell them UPI sent you.

As has been said for many months most of us Board members have served in our Board positions for well over the normal 2 year reign which we originally signed up for. With that said, many of us were seriously considering not renewing our hold on those positions. In our defense, some of us have served long over our time and while we did a great job and kept this Organization going, when we signed up, it was not for life...

Our By-Laws dictate that we maintain a board of directors (not that we could operate without one), so filling the Board positions was extremely important. **Great news!!** Folks have stepped up to fill some of these positions in the future. Exciting new changes will be announced at the Coulterville Pre-Thanksgiving outing, so you don't want to miss it!! If you can't make the Pre-Thanksgiving outing in Coulterville, please be sure to complete and return your absentee ballot and support those folks running for new Board positions.

A good time was had by all that were able to brave the heat at the **Spanish Creek** outing held the week of June 23rd to 30th. See pictures next page. Many thanks to Cheryl and Dennis Bruce for another outstanding UPI breakfast and for keeping that breakfast coffee flowing.

Gill Mink is very interested in starting up a **UPI South Bay Chapter**. Gill has a meeting spot lined up in Fremont, CA, but, what it's going to take to have a successful Chapter is folks interested in participating. If you are interested in getting in on the ground floor and either volunteering to assist Gil in this endeavor or attending South Bay Chapter meetings, please contact Gil directly at gibbo714@ix.netcom.com. No access to email? No worries, just contact Ed Ozga, UPI Vice-President at 925-706-8193 and he'll get you in touch with Gil.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

June 28, 2016 - President called meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

Roll Call –

Officers present: Don Siegel, President; Ed Ozga, Vice President; Aaron Matula, Treasurer; and Dolores Sauls, Secretary

Directors present: Dave Williams, Membership; and Laurie Ozga, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

Volunteer present: Joyce Smith, Central Valley Chapter Chair

Member present: Denise Matula

Motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting.

Treasurer – Aaron reported there is \$2,533.61 in the bank. A motion was made and passed to pay the outstanding bills.

Vice President – Ed suggested a check list should be created outlining the process for maintaining Claims for new Claims Director.

Chapter – Ed reported the new chapter “UPI Central Valley” in Stockton, CA is going well. President, Don Sigel and Vice President, Ed Ozga, will be arranging a meeting to speak with Gil about his interest to start up a South Bay Chapter in Fremont.

Membership – Dave reported we have 247 total active members which include 65 life, 178 regular, and 4 advertisers. We will be doing a Membership Drive at the Sonora Gold Show again this year. New Members that sign up will receive an extra 3 months of membership for a total of 15 months. This also applies to any current member that renews their membership at the Sonora Gold Show. Dave still has some tri-folds left from last year’s Sonora Gold Show that we will be able to use at this year’s show. Dave reported that his grand total expenses for this year were \$137. He is running low of Guide Books and needs to print more. He will print as few as necessary, pending proposed changes to the Guide Book.

Ways and Means – Don reported we have one Gold Cube remaining in inventory as well as the recirculating sluice that will be used for the annual attendance raffle.

Publisher/Editor-in-Chief – Laurie working on Newsletter for July.

Wagon Master – Bob was not present, no report.

Secretary – Dolores was present, no report. She and Laurie took notes.

Claims – Mike resigned as Claims Director effective April 30, 2016, no report. Don suggested that Squirrel Creek and Willie’s Dream to be removed from Guide Book and to sell Squirrel Creek. Willie’s Dream needs to go because you can’t get into it. It’s 160 acres located at the bottom behind tailing piles and gate is always locked. Ed noted the club needs paperwork and signatures from Mike.

Old Business – Discussion was held regarding the long standing issue of Terry and Suzy Barnes' claim to our Genesee III claim. Issue was in the court system, however, the Board was unsure if an actual ruling had been issued. It was decided that the Board would notify UPI members to not prospect on this claim until further notice.

Continued on page 12

2016 Pre-Thanksgiving Potluck, Coulterville, CA

On Saturday, October 15th the Potluck Dinner and Drawing will be held at the Odd Fellows Hall, on Main Street, in the middle of town.

UPI will provide turkey, ham, bottled water, coffee, plates, plastic ware, cups, and napkins (no need to bring your own plates/trays). Bring your choice of refreshments.

We need your contributions and help before (food & table set up) AND after the potluck (kitchen & table clean up).

Below is a list of side dishes needed. We have an average of 100 members attend the Coulterville potluck, so your help will be very much appreciated.

Please RSVP to Don the Prez (phone and email below) and let him know how many in your party and what you are bringing.

Here are examples of what's needed:

Stuffing - (Need 4-5 dishes)

Mashed potatoes - The Ozgas will bring enough for all
Gravy

Sweet potatoes/Yams - (Need 3-4 dishes)

Vegetable side dishes - (Need 4-5 dishes)

Salads - (green, bean, fruit, potato, etc.)

Cranberry sauce - (5 cans)

Olives and Pickles - (6 cans of olives or 3 jars of pickles, etc.)

Rolls and Butter - The Ozgas will bring enough for all.

Desserts: - Cakes, pies, cheesecake, fruit, chocolate covered strawberries, whipped cream, and so on.

Your Choice - Surprise us!



Please make sure to supply your own serving dishes and utensils. Also, when leaving, please make sure to pick up your dishes and utensils. If you do not want your leftovers, it is your responsibility to give them away.

Food should already be prepared and, if necessary, only need heating. Please be prepared to heat your own dishes. There is a fridge with room for a few chilled dishes.

Please **contact Don the Prez at 209-401-7040** or email **President@unitedprospectors.com** to sign up and also to volunteer for set up or clean up.

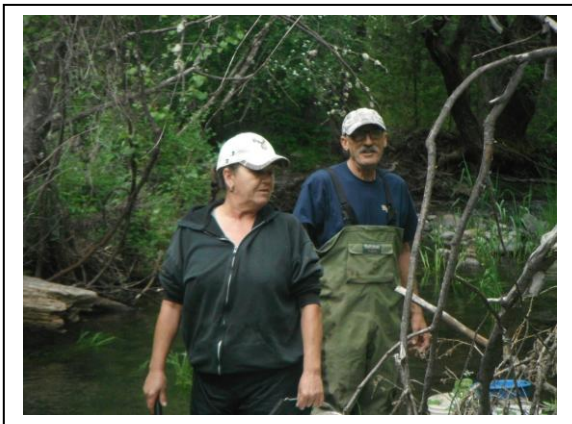
Please check Talk and Trade for any updates.

Please don't forget to bring non-perishable food items to donate to the Coulterville Area Food Drive and receive your free drawing ticket.



Bull Creek Outing

The Bull Creek outing, held the weekend of May 6th to 8th, was a little wet but still fun. Not a big turnout, but, I was happy to get a day off work and make it up for one night. Camp fires, S'mores, and friends! Thanks for sharing that puffed sugar goodness Gill. Unfortunately, I had to leave before the pot luck and raffle, but was able to participate in the metal detector hunt. Looked like everyone found something and a few found a little gold on the field too. Big thanks to our President, Don, for planting the field and making it fun for everyone. Hope to see you next time, Dave Williams, Membership Director.





Membership News

Say hello to our newest members. On behalf of the Officers, Directors, and current Membership I'd like to welcome and acknowledge our newest UPI Members:

Gill Gurman, Modesto, CA
Mark White, Manteca, CA
Ray Velasquez, Quincy, CA
Lo Lynn Ruedas, Vacaville, CA
Craig Anderson, Modesto, CA
Gretchen Tong, Antioch, CA
Michael Ringleb Jr., Sonora, CA
Peter Kontos, Ripon, CA
Greg Montes, Brentwood, CA
Danny Shields, Reno, NV
Mike Anderson, Stockton, CA
Robert Trotter III, Tuolumne, CA
Phil Bartles, Yosemite, CA
David Michael, San Leandro, CA
Kern Cotner, Coulterville, CA

Brian Gordon, Watsonville, CA
Andrew May, Manteca, CA
Joe Lema, Denair, CA
Calvin Courtmier, Lodi, CA
James A. McGann Sr., Stockton, CA
John Blackburn, Magalia, CA
Jeremiah Osgood, Los Gatos, CA
Brian Moos, Lodi, CA
Gary Foster, Ripon, CA
Jimmy Mendoza, Modesto, CA
Joseph R. Davis, Jr., Ceres, CA
Mike Woloszyn, Chowchilla, CA
Jon & Robin Wentzell, Stockton, CA
Wayne T. Wojcik, Concord, CA

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

For all our renewing members. Thank you for your continued support of UPI. It's always great to see so many friends stay active and continue to support our organization.

Other membership news:

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 receive your newsletter electronically and also two e-mail reminders when your membership is due. One, 30 days prior to and another the day of your expiration, if it lapses.

Also, if you have a Change of Address, E-mail, or Contact Info, please send me your new information. Without a current mailing or e-mail address you might not get your newsletters or have access to the UPI website. So, drop me an E-mail, find me at an outing or Chapter meeting, or send me a note via regular mail.



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Thanks for your support,

Dave Williams
UPI Membership Director
Fools-gold49@att.net

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Mark Your Calendars!

2016 UPI Outing Schedule:

October 14th - 16th - Coulterville Area/Pre-Thanksgiving Feed

June 28th Board Meeting Minutes - Continued:

New Business – Aaron will apply for a Non-Profit Raffle Permit for the Sonora Gold Show. A motion was made and passed to purchase a 5 gram nugget to raffle off on the second day of the show. Nugget will be purchased at the Sonora Gold Show. Winners name will be published on our website. Currently we have five volunteers for Sonora Gold Show. More volunteers may be needed to help in the UPI Booth and also help with set-up and tear- down. Ed will ask for volunteers at next Chapter meeting. There was some discussion to sell the “Watch” at the Sonora Gold Show. A motion was passed to advertise watch for sale at \$2,500 firm at Sonora Gold Show!

Aaron will revise the membership budget for July. Need new Editor for Newsletter. Suggestion was made to announce in Newsletter that as of 1/1/17 if no new Editor, the Newsletter will no longer exist. *(Editor's note: Many thanks to Gil for stepping up and volunteering to continue publishing the UPI newsletter).*

There was a discussion about obtaining a new smaller storage unit due to cost.

Meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

FOR SALE

I have a White Prizm 5G metal detector for sale \$500 OBO. I will also throw in a Zip Zip Metal Detecting book also like new condition, (lists for \$250 on Amazon used). I have the original box and all the paperwork. It is a easy machine to use and has a 4star rating. I didn't list all the stats but if you would like them just google the 5g. It doesn't have headphones... sorry. I have pictures if you want to see it or can bring it to a Chapter meeting. If you need more info email me at yotheo5959@gmail.com. Thanks, Theo Marcelja

The 'ol Miner sas, try to be the person yer 'ol dog thinks you is.



Members Bulletin



FOR SALE - SHAKER TABLE
For more information, contact Don Siegel at
209-401-7040

FOR SALE: LDMA Lifetime Membership only \$2,000.00.
Regular price is over \$4,000.00. I have had this membership since
the 80's and can't use it anymore. Contact Art at:
Gldfind1@gmail.com or 209-761- 3533.

For Sale: 2" Proline Combo Highbanker and Dredge and extra new carb and stuff

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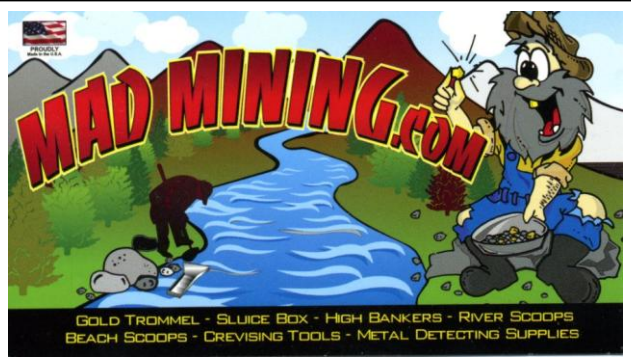
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Any misspellings, grammatical errors, and/or
misinformation are intentionally placed in this
Newsletter for the amusement of those who enjoy
pointing them out. Thank



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OFFICIAL UPI ABSENTEE BALLOT

It is that time of year again when we vote for the following positions:

*******Absentee ballot must be received on or before October 12, 2016*******

OFFICER POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION:

Vice-President: ____ John Lopez

Write In: _____

Treasurer: ____ Aaron Matula (Incumbent)

Write In: _____

DIRECTOR POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION:

Publisher/Editor-in-Chief: ____ Gil Mink

Write In: _____

Membership Director ____ Dave Williams (Incumbent)

Write In: _____

Outing Coordinator:

Write In: _____

Vote for the parties listed or you can write in a candidate if you know that person is interested in serving on the UPI Board. A write in candidate must have been a member in good standing for the past year and has to accept the nomination. We need volunteers to step up and participate on the board to help make UPI the best mining club around. After you have cast your vote, please mail to:

UPI
2401 E Orangeburg Avenue, Ste 675-237
Modesto, CA 95355

(Must be received by Wednesday, October 12th)

Ballots will also be available at the Coulterville outing

Members Bulletin Continued

If anyone has anything they would like to list for sale in the newsletter please contact Laurie Ozga at OzMiner@msn.com or at 925-706-8193.



Dear Members:

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 the area. Know what to do by having your PLP Orange Card with you. Contact Laurie Ozga at OzMiner@msn.com or (925) 706-8193 if you don't have this card.

Laurie Ozga

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In Memory of our Friend
Santo S. Sollecito -1931 - 2016

Resident of San Jose Santo (Sonny) Sollecito, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and great grandfather entered into rest on May 17, 2016, after a short illness. He is survived by his loving wife, Lee, of 44 years; his children Sandy (Mike), Dorene, Christine (Sam), Debby (David), Tammy and Michael; grandchildren Richard, Cindy (Steve), Kevin (Joselhyt), Levi (Erika), Brian (Catherine) and Nicholas and eight great grandchildren. He is also survived by his brothers, Anthony (Linda), Frankie, and many cousins, nieces and nephews. Sonny was a long time resident of San Jose and a former resident of Placerville and Corning, CA. He was a farmer by heart, and spent his early years tending his prune and walnut orchards. After moving to San Jose, he spent 22 years working for the Campbell Union School District in the grounds maintenance department. Sonny loved being outdoors, enjoyed fishing, and gold dredging with the UPI Club. He was known for growing beautiful roses and tomatoes by the bushel. He and Lee spent many Friday and Saturday nights line dancing with the Sagebrush Dancers, Quicksteppers and Boots 'n Buckles line dancing clubs. You could find Sonny outside chatting with the neighbors, asking if anyone needed homegrown basil, lemons, or tomatoes. His generous spirit will be missed by all who knew him.

Donations can be made to Pathways Hospice, 585 North Mary Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94085.



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OUTING!**





UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.
2401 E. Orangeburg Avenue,
Ste 675-237
Modesto, CA 95355
Web site: www. unitedprospectors.com

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 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: _____

____ 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.
2401 E Orangeburg Avenue Ste 675-237
Modesto CA 95355

Please allow 4 weeks for your application to be processed

Revised March 2015