

Nampa ID Chapter GPAA Newsletter

17 January 2009

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www.idahogpaa.com

Robert Forbes, President, 465-7863

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PRESIDENTIAL NUGGETS

Hello Fellow Prospectors,

Here we sit in the grips of another inversion in the Treasure Valley. All of us hoping that winter will soon be over so we can return to our favorite gold fields and streams. I was very happy with the turn-out at the last meeting. We had several new people visit us and some new members joined. We are going to have a great time this summer looking for gold. So everyone get ready to go do some prospecting. We can only prepare our equipment and wait. Well we didn't have to wait long after the meeting last month. We were invited up to a club member's load claim on the Saturday after the meeting. We all went expecting a fantastic time exploring some unknown land. With flashlight in hand we ran right into old man winter. Without realizing it or ever expecting it we found out that the snowplows had done there job well. They piled up all of the snow from the road right into the parking lot of the claim. So we had to switch to plan "B". More on that at the February meeting. So now you have to come to hear the rest of the story. I hope we all have a great time this summer. Hope to see you at the next meeting and at the outing the weekend after.

Regards,

Rob Forbes

President, Nampa GPAA

2009 Calendar Year Memberships are due!

This entitles you to the Newsletter and a Membership card.

See Karin (Treasurer) at the meeting!

MINUTES - JANUARY MEETING

Nampa Chapter GPAA
Tuesday 6 January 2009
Snake River Elementary

President Rob Forbes welcomed everyone and asked guests to introduce themselves. This evening we met Richard Acuna, Richard Hartley, and Kull family members Jordan, Glenn, and Mark.

Treasurer Karin Hunter gave the treasury report.

January is the time for dues which are \$12.00 per calendar year.

Vice President Cary Singleton expressed thanks to all who attended the Christmas get-together that was held at the Peregrine Grill in Kuna. A good time was had by all. He asked if the Club would like to have it there again next year. The 50 - 60 pounds of canned goods collected were given to Club member Randy Evans who was most appreciative of the donation. Cary said we were welcome to go and visit with him.

Randy has 5 gallon buckets for sale.

Club Claims Director Brett Williams needs help. Tom Ashworth offered his assistance. Club members offered the help of Tony Olson. Larry Steele has found several acquired lands that we can work.

Outings Director Larry Steele has set up an outing for us this coming weekend at an old underground claim.

*Meet Saturday at milepost 23 on Highway 21 at 11am. This is just before the Island Claim located at milepost 24. Bring headlamps, or a lantern, chairs, coffee, and your assorted prospecting supplies. This is private property that the Club has been allowed to use.

*February 7 outing will be at Walters Ferry boatramp on the Snake River. Meet at 10am.

*March outing will be to Black's Creek. Fine gold mixed in with pretty garnets.

*April outing at Grimes Creek - 1 mile past Clear Creek turnoff.

Old Business: The Club is looking for another place to have meetings...hopefully somewhere where we can have refreshments after the meeting. Karin will look into College of Idaho facilities. Rob will check with Brett on an outstanding check for the BLM. Karin has a lead on a geologist to speak at one of our meetings. Some Club members would like to attend the Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society meeting held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7pm at College of Idaho's Boone Hall. OGMS has an annual rock show at O'Connor Fieldhouse in Caldwell which will be held Saturday / Sunday 7-8 March this year.

New Business: Volunteers for outings and events are needed. Parma Club meets on 1st Thursday of the month at the Senior Center. Potluck at 6pm and meeting at 7pm.

Bring in pictures or video related to mining to share at meetings. There is a picture album on the website. www.idahogpaa.com Karin has '09 membership cards ready. Next meeting will be at Snake River Elementary. If anyone spots another place to meet, please let Rob know.

Meeting adjourned.

#22 on the attendance roster, Jordan Kull won the nugget this evening.

\$16 in the 50/50 raffle went to Perry Leffler.

Respectfully submitted, eo / for jl

TREASURER'S REPORT

Deposit: \$309.50
(14 Memberships @ \$12; \$111 Raffle Proceeds;
Unneeded cash in cashbox - \$30.50)
Disbursements: \$40.00
(Nampa School District - Room Rental)
\$43.25
(Karin Hunter - Nov. & Dec. Newsletter Expense)
\$43.06
(Cary Singleton - Raffle Items)

Next Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 3rd

Snake River Elementary School

BRING YOUR ROCKS!!!

We will have a guest speaker
who probably can identify them
as well as answer our geology questions!

Next Outing

Saturday, Feb. 7th

Meet at Walter's Ferry Boatramp at 10 AM

Welcome

New Members:

Richard Hartley and Mark Kull

We're glad that you are onboard!!!

The following is a draft proposal for regulations concerning the collection of petrified wood on BLM land in Oregon and Washington.

Rockhounding On Bureau of Land Management Lands In Oregon and Washington

The following information has been prepared by the US Bureau of Land Management in cooperation with the Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs.

General Information: Rockhounding is one of the many recreational pursuits on 16 million acres of lands managed by the BLM in Oregon and Washington. Collecting small, non-commercial quantities of rock by rockhounders is allowed free of charge on lands managed by the BLM. Commercial collecting for the purpose of sale or barter is not allowed without special authorization. Rockhounders may use hand tools such as shovels and picks, but must not use explosives or power equipment for excavation.

Rockhounders are welcome to collect rocks and gemstones from most federal lands, but there are some exceptions. Some lands are withdrawn or reserved for certain purposes such as outstanding natural areas, research natural areas, recreation sites, national historic sites, etc. The local BLM offices can provide you with information about which areas are closed to rockhounding.

Petrified Wood: Petrified wood is available for collection on a free use basis in limited quantities as long as the collection is for personal, non-commercial purposes. According to regulations at (43 CFR 3622), free use collection weights are limited to 25 pounds plus one piece per day, not to exceed 250 pounds in one calendar year, and no specimen greater than 250 pounds may be collected without a special permit. The free use petrified wood must be for personal use only, and shall not be sold or bartered to commercial dealers. A material sale contract must be obtained from a BLM district office for collection of more than 250 pounds a year, or for commercial use.

Historic Artifacts and Fossils: The Antiquities Act of 1906 and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 prohibits the excavation, collection, or destruction of any archaeological materials located on lands under federal jurisdiction. Vertebrate and other fossils of "recognized scientific interest" also are protected under the Antiquities Act. The indiscriminate removal of certain fossils could affect scientific and educational uses of public

lands creating unfortunate gaps in scientific inquiry. Petroglyphs, human remains, dwellings, and artifacts of Native American cultures are protected by law because they are integral to the preservation of the cultural heritage of these ongoing traditions and also may provide important information concerning populations who lived here long ago. Uncontrolled removal could impact the cultural, scientific, and educational uses of these resources.

Mining Claims: Rockhounding on mining claims is not advised without the mining claimant's consent because the claimant has a legal right to the minerals on the claim, including gemstones. Also a mining claimant may not legally charge the public fees for recreational use of a mining claim such as rock collecting. Mining claims can usually be identified in the field by claim posts or markers, or otherwise, the local BLM offices can explain what areas are likely to have mining claims.

Commonly collected rocks and minerals, referred to as "common variety" are not subject to mining claim location. Stones such as agate, chert, jasper, geodes, and obsidian, as well as cinders and other volcanic products, when used for common purposes are not locatable. The mere fact that some stones may be cut and polished does not give them a distinct or special value to make them locatable.

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