



# **MILLENNIUM DIGGERS ASSOCIATION Keizer, Oregon**



Secretary/Editor: Penny Esplin

**\*PRESIDENT: Karen Darnell\***

**\*VICE PRESIDENT: Ted Staley\***

**\*TREASURER: Claudia Wise\***

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

Greetings to my fellows in rock hounding and mining!

The People v. Rinehart case in California was heard on June 1 and we are awaiting a decision. If you would like to get the latest on the case: Find link below, *If the link doesn't work, just Google the title*

### **Dredgers defend mining rights in California Supreme Court**

<http://www.goldprospectors.org/News/News-Details/ArtMID/3269/ArticleID/162/Dredgers-defend-mining-rights-in-California-Supreme-Court->

I spoke with James Buchal a few days after the hearing and he would like to collect some notable quotes regarding gold mining and prospecting from America's great authors. Send them to [milleniumdiggers@yahoo.com](mailto:milleniumdiggers@yahoo.com) (just one "n" in millennium)

Update on DEQ permitting maps that Don brought us after the movie: The Green areas that are expanding are areas designated by BLM/USFS, not state bureaus. Several contacts were made regarding the maps to verify that nothing has changed within the moratorium area. A call to USFS turned out to be a buck-passing to BLM, as they knew nothing. By the next meeting I will have the information regarding the green areas from the BLM, so stay tuned.

Don't let it stop you from getting the locatable metals on your claims and public prospecting areas!

Lastly, we have raffles in action now through the Waldo/Galice mining districts! Be sure to purchase tickets when possible, as it will pay for the next round of litigation. The Grand Prize is a HALF-POUND OF GOLD!!! I know it seems that we pay and pay, but litigation is our best chance for change in Oregon's one-party rule political environment. We can't not do it.

See you soon!

Karen

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**Meeting Minutes from**

**May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Call to Order:** All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance:** Total 23 -We had 21 members present and Karen welcomed 2 guests.

**The Raffle** items on the table were described

**Meeting Program:** 1 hour movie, "Blue," hosted by member Bill Moore:

***"Filmmaker JD King takes you into some of the most spectacular forest lands in North America, and introduces you to many of the real people who have made their lives there for generations. They are now in a desperate battle to save everything they value, their land, their jobs, their families, their way of life. You may be shocked to discover that their worst enemy has become the 'environmental' movement.***

***Do our new environmental governors really know what is best for these rich precious lands? To the contrary, JD King explores the reality underneath the rhetoric, and shows that this movement is no longer about humans' proper conservancy of nature, but is all about seizing the new 'green'—of money, power and dictatorial control. Can rational rules for these lands—based on the human values of rights and freedom—prevail?***

***Some of the true stories you will see in this movie may outrage you, some of them will move and inspire you, but you will never take the claims and demands of 'environmental leaders' at face value again after experiencing BLUE." - exohuman.com***

-This movie did indeed inspire hope! There are many wonderful individuals out there with the right tools to steer us in the right direction. Not by using propaganda, or "doom and gloom" threats, but with the clear truth of what "they" don't want us to know!

**Monuments here in Oregon:** a coalition of environmental groups would like to designate nearly 500,000 acres in Linn and Marion counties as a potential "Douglas Fir National Monument". Local officials say they are strongly opposed to this. *Associated Press and Albany Democrat Herald*. -In eastern Oregon, Malheur Co. voters voiced a resounding 'no' to the proposed "Owyhee Canyonlands National Monument", encompassing 2.5 million acres. Where to get more information? Because most of this "land grabbing" infringes upon rancher's and farmer's private property rights, Karen said to check with the Oregon Farm Bureau here in Salem. They have a wealth of information in regards to this and other issues we are concerned with.

**Klamath River Dam Removal:** 4 dams on the Klamath River have been approved for removal. - “...to restore this great river to its historical state....” (quote from Yurok Tribal Chairman). The Native Americans aptly referred to the Klamath River as the stinky river and that's what they will have again if they breach the dams present there today.

**Map of ESH:** DEQ's 700pm application map has been expanding ESA green areas. These are federal expansions.

-Just within this last week, Don told us, Siskiyou NF added more ESA “study areas”, looking for endangered wildlife and now includes our claims on Soldier and Briggs Creek within the realms of their “study”.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:**  
**WE ARE NOT “RECREATIONAL” MINERS!!**

**Break Time and raffle Ticket Sales**

-Snacks were provided by Wes and Tammy. We all thank you!

**Committees:**

**Treasury-** sent \$500.00 check to Waldo Mining

**Membership Packets-** Several members were not able to open the attachment that held the membership packet, saying “**file not found**” when trying to open. Claudia said packets were sent out on 5/16 in a “**zip file**” she said to “**right click to extract file**”. Found out it **will not work on an Android or iPad**. Karen will send this before our next meeting.

**Coming Up Events:**

**OFFICIAL OUTINGS:** June 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> or longer –**Fossil Flats, on Briggs Creek**. It's a good 4 ½ to 5 hour drive getting there (from Salem anyway). Located in Josephine County, it's about 45-50 miles southwest of Grants Pass. Briggs Creek flows into the Illinois River west of Selma. Exact directions are in your new membership packet. On our claim, the creek is “Non ESH”. Also, the site is a great place to go metal detecting! There was a mining community in place there many decades ago, history abounds down there. Karen is the contact person.

-**Rally Around The Flag-**(Oregon Lib. Coalition) **July 30<sup>th</sup>**, Cottage Gove fairgrounds. Karen will have a booth. It's an opportunity to raise funds for the lawsuits/court costs. Karen mentioned possibly raffling off Marion berry pies and homemade ice cream as part of the fundraiser. Karen is the contact person.

-**Rice Museum Aug 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>** (Grandkid's Days) There will be an hourly raffle - NW Mineral Prospector's will have a table with raffle items, Diggers will put raffle items on their table to gain money for court costs. Wes is the contact person.

-**Potluck at Don's: Saturday August 27<sup>th</sup>. Set up 10:00 am**

-**Jeeter Creek/September** (after Labor Day, date and time TBA)

**Old Business:** David Schmitt reported he will check on prices of club T-Shirts whenever we decide to proceed with having some printed for us. Minimum of 24 T-Shirts would cost \$10.95 ea, large sizes @\$13.95 ea. Thank you David!

-Ted reported the copyright for the logo is ours.

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Rinehart case will be heard

**Tom Bohmker** showed up with his array of books and gold nugget treasures; all for sale! There just wasn't enough time to decide which book(s) to look through, let alone pick one out to purchase! They are all real treasures and each one is an investment in knowledge!

**Our Guest Speaker for June: Tom Bohmker!** YAY! He will give us a power point presentation on "**Pocket Gold**"! *So don't miss this meeting!*

**ALSO: June** is **David Schmitt's** turn to bring snacks, and guess what he's bringing? **Strawberry Shortcake!!** YAY! So **BE THERE!**

**June's letters are "K" and "L"**- Kryptonite? Kyanite, Kaolin, Kunzite, or.. Lost (and found), Leave-a-right, Labradorite, Lodestone, Lepidolite, Laterite soil?.....

**Snacks Calendar:** **June-** David **July-** ?? **Aug-** Don's place/potluck **Sept-** ?? **Oct-** Tim Kelly and Ken (?)

**Meeting Adjourned**

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 7:00**  
**BE THERE!**

Visit our website at <http://www.millenniumdiggers.com/>

The Millennium Diggers Association is a group based in Keizer, Oregon, which is near Salem, Oregon. The Association is for people that share an interest in searching for things of value. The club's charter is to provide members with an Association that will help promote the activities of metal detecting, prospecting, rock hounding, and treasure hunting. Part of our yearly dues pay for mining claims that are available for all club members to use. We use Association meetings to share information about locating gold, silver, coins, jewelry, gemstones, fossils and metal detecting. We plan Association outings each month where we can help each other learn all aspects of our outdoor activities. This is a great family activity, bring the kids! Please feel free to drop in on one of the monthly meetings.

We meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m, at:

[Clear Lake United Methodist Church](#)

**920 Marks Drive**

**Keizer, OR 97303**

We meet in the church's Fellowship Hall; a real a nice meeting place complete with tables, chairs and a kitchen. The church is located across the street from the Clear Lake Fire Station. There's plenty of parking in the church's parking lot which is located behind the church.

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