



MILLENNIUM DIGGERS ASSOCIATION Keizer, Oregon



Secretary/Editor: Penny Esplin

PRESIDENT: Ken Orndorff

VICE PRESIDENT: George Crutcher

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: Joe Greene

CLAIMS OFFICER: Claudia Wise

Meeting Minutes from May 25th, 2017

Call to Order: We all stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Ken called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and guests.

Attendance: After everyone had signed in, we had a total of **13**.

Welcome back! Marlea Sheradan and George Crutcher showed up after many months rehabilitating from serious illnesses. Welcome back! You sure have been missed!

Secretary's Report: -Penny (secretary) was not present; Terrie used her phone to make a voice recording of the meeting. (The first 10 minutes were not recorded, and only 23 minutes were recorded.)

-Claudia had wrote up the minutes from April, and emailed them to all members. A motion was made to approve the minutes, then seconded and passed by all.

Treasurer's Report: Joe gave the report. A motion was made to approve, seconded and passed by all.

Claims Report: - Claudia (claims officer) said that she and Joe Greene went up to Golden Crown claim in the North Santiam Mining District (NSMD) and put up two of the yellow Federal Mining Claim signs. We still need volunteers to mark the borders of this claim and the new claim in Quartzville Mining District. Claudia has GPS readings for the corners and could use someone with younger legs to climb up and mark them. Only Tim Kelly volunteered, but he can only go out on a weekend if someone with a GPS could join him. Claudia is willing to go along and direct this effort. Since we will be at the QMD claim June 12 – 15 for the Old Miners Meadow campout we will get a start on marking the corners there. At some point this summer we need to install corner posts at Golden Diggers claim (QMD), this is required when a claim is located by metes and bounds.

MMAC/Washington DC update: Joe said the US government got involved; the military stepped in with our bills and fast-tracked them; “**The National Defense Authorization Act**” dropped out of that bill. Joe talked with a consult and he said that “sometimes it takes up to three times” pushing a bill. And “don’t give up the spirit; just keep plugging away at it”. Joe Martori, who co-wrote the bill, “is not concerned” and does not consider this to be a dead end at this point.

Delmon asked: So does that mean if I go mining at Quartzville or Briggs I will have problems?

Joe answered: At this point, miners will still be operating under the same state laws that are currently in force. Even if that federal bill does pass, miners will still be operating under those state laws until the mining districts are organized and the Memo of Understanding (MOU) with the BLM is officially in place.

It is the legislature that stated they "want consistency between the mining districts" and MMAC has to certify that each district is organized and consistent and maintained as such in a continuous manner in order to stand up against the environmentalists. MMAC oversees the mining districts for legitimacy. You must join MMAC to qualify for protection under this federal law.

So far, the NSMD (North Santiam Mining District) is the only the only mining district properly organized and in place in West Oregon.

JOIN MMAC to Support All Mining Districts and get Pro-mining Bills through the Federal Legislature

www.mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org/USDMM-store.html

Millennium Digger Members can support MMAC with a Silver Membership of \$30.

Senate Bill 3A: Don reported that it did pass the senate and is now sitting in the house waiting for a vote. (It has been held off 2-3 times). SB3A is more restrictive than the original moratorium. It now includes **all streams** in the state that flow into any waters considered ESH (Essential Salmon Habitat). If the bill goes into effect, there will be a cost of \$250.00 just for the permit plus a yearly maintenance fee of \$250.00. Don said he knows there was a letter sent to all the representatives saying "You are setting yourselves up for a lawsuit". Maybe that's what the holdup is all about. But the house has so many bills to consider passing, this one is not top priority. **Since this report: both the senate and house have passed this bill at this point. We last heard bill was waiting to be signed into law by the governor.**

No permits are being issued from DEQ at this point.

Break time and Raffle Ticket Sales: Terrie has been appointed the VP's task of handling the raffle ticket sales and everything that goes with it. Yay Terrie!

-Don to the rescue! He brought goodies for our break time! Yay!

Scheduled Outings:

Memorial weekend- May 27th and beyond: SUNSTONES – Penny was the contact person for this outing. Her cell number is 503-508-6582, and home phone is 503-588-9251. Penny, Walt and Terrie went and will give a report at the June meeting.

Hampton Butte June 6th , 7th - to look for jasperized/petrified wood. –Ken, Claudia and Joe attended this outing. Ken will give a trip report at the June meeting.

June 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th: Old Miners Meadow Camp Out on Quartzville Creek for all Millennium Diggers members and families– We'll get together for a camp out and potluck and walk our new claim, **Golden Digger**. *If you have a metal detector, bring it! There was also plenty of water to pan when we were there a few weeks ago.*

-Check in is 2 pm Monday June 12th;

-The Potluck will be on Wednesday June 14th at 2:00 pm. Please let Claudia know what you can bring.
(Penny is planning to bring Oktoberfest sausages and some Bush's Baked Beans)

-Check out is 11 am Thursday June 15th.
-The campground has more than enough room (for 20 cars/50 people).
-It is a dry camp, so bring water. There are 2 pit toilets on site.
-If you are planning to join us on this trip please contact Claudia by Text 541-990-7009 or email notsowise_55@yahoo.com. If you can't spend the night come up for the day and join us at the potluck.

Directions: From Sweet Home, Oregon go east on U.S. Highway 20. Approximately one mile out of town turn left on the Quartzville Access Road (Forest Service Rd 11) heading towards Green Peter Reservoir and Quartzville Creek. Old Miner's Meadow is located approximately 25 miles up the road on the right, about 1 mile past Yellow bottom Recreational Site.

-Penny wants to remind everyone that the trommel is parked at her place, with a working motor (in garage).

April's Letters were "E and F": Joe gave us an "enlightening" presentation starring his Florescent Minerals he has collected in the deserts of Arizona. Black Calcite glowed like brilliant red living lava! Unreal! All his rocks showed radical colors under his shortwave ultraviolet light. -Penny brought a polished sphere of green Fuchsite with Ruby. The ruby fluoresced bright scarlet red. (Synthetic ruby does not)

May's Letters "G and H"-Don gave a detailed explanation of how geodes and thunder eggs are formed, and what the difference is between the two. (Thunder eggs are usually solid filled with colorful bands of agate or jasper or opal. Geodes are hollow and lined with crystals of various minerals.)

-Note from Penny: I wasn't there to hear his presentation, so no recorded notes here on this. Sorry.

June's Letters are "I and J"

Our Meeting on June 22nd: **Guest Speaker: Bill Krause** will give us a presentation on **flint knapping!** Chuck and Wes and Tammy know him from Northwest Mineral Prospectors in Portland.

Meeting Adjourned

OUR NEXT MEETING IS Thursday June 22nd @ 7:00pm Be There!

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