



MILLENNIUM DIGGERS ASSOCIATION Keizer, Oregon



Secretary/Editor: Penny Esplin

PRESIDENT: Ken Orndorff

VICE PRESIDENT: Terrie Fox

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: Joe Greene

Message from the President:

Just a note to say thank you to Claudia and Joe and the others who helped with the North Fork claim problems. I have read a lot of the legal papers and this was very well done. We should all be very proud of what is being done.

Ken

Meeting Minutes from January 25th 2018

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

Attendance: After everyone had signed in, we had a total of 12 in attendance.

Secretary's Report: Because of the holidays, there were no official meetings for November or December. With the exception of our Christmas Party, held on December 9th. And it was all we expected it to be and more! A short summary/report was sent out on Jan 7th. A motion was made to accept the report by Claudia and seconded by George. Approved by all.

Treasurer's Report: Joe gave us the most recent treasure's report. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Claudia and seconded by Tammy and approved by all.

Joe told everyone that he will take payments for membership renewals, but he forgot to bring the membership renewal applications for us to fill out. For those that did pay, Joe made out Millennium Diggers 2018 membership cards and laminated them. If you haven't yet paid, please do so at the next meeting. Dues are \$30.00. We will have the applications available.

Elections: Tammy made a motion that we keep all officers in place. We then discussed it, and officers remain as before: **President:** Ken Orndorff; **Vice President:** Terrie Fox; **Treasurer/Membership:** Joe Greene; and **Secretary/Editor:** Penny Esplin. Claudia seconded the motion and it was accepted by all. Also, Claudia Wise remains in place as our **Claims Officer.**

We were expecting Jared Richey, Mining Administrator for the Will.Nat Forest (out of Sweet Home RD)

to come and speak tonight, but he wasn't able to show. We are hoping to see him at one of our meetings sometime this spring.

Request for Speaker: Penny agreed to get a hold of Tom Bohmker to see if he can come and give us a presentation on "Field Testing for Gold" during one of our up-coming meetings.

M.Diggers Board Meeting: Ken Orndorff, President called an emergency board meeting on January 16th, all MD officers were there except for one. Also included was George Crutcher, President of the North Santiam Mining District. The primary reason for the meeting was to discuss the issues related to the Appeal of the BLM Golden Crown claim decision of Null and Void Ab Initio and to assure we met the required 30 day filing deadline. Claudia Wise, claims officer is handling the appeal for the Millennium Diggers with help from Joe Greene and assistance as needed from the Minerals and Mining Advisory Council (MMAC). The issues we went over (***see below**) were discussed (*as follows*) with members present during tonight's Digger's meeting.

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***Mining District Signs/BLM:** Joe, Claudia and George met with Salem BLM field manager John Huston who expressed concerns about placement of our mining district signs. BLM thinks we should have permission from them for placement of the signs and consult with them on wording on the signs. John said that the NSMD sign *is in the county right-of-way* and suggested we speak with Marion County Parks, to resolve this issue. Claudia says she thinks they are missing the point that the miners have a preexisting right of way across our claims. BLM's other suggestion was that we say on the sign that it is a Historic Mining District. Claudia told John that we would not consider historic since it is an active mining district but we would take under advisement adding Traditional Mining District instead.

Claudia and George gave him (John Huston) the current mining district minutes from both the NSMD and the Santiam Mining District (SMD). The documents were time stamped and recorded with BLM notifying them of both active mining districts.

Fee Use Area Parking: Claudia and George worked on contacting Marion County Parks rep. (Russ Dilly) to see about creating our own Millennium Diggers sign card to display for parking when mining on our Jeeter Creek claim located within the County Parking fee area. We would display the card in the windshield of our vehicles whenever we are on the Jeeter Creek claim only, to identify us as the claim owners. John Huston agreed to notify the county that we have the right to park on our mining claims without paying a fee. George will call and talk to the county and work out the agreement.

Golden Crown: Regarding the de-commissioning of access road. The U.S. forest service bulldozed the road most likely "on the basis of vagrants squatting there" but with disregard for the legal rights of the claim holders, Millennium Diggers, to access our claim. The USFS road decommissioning was addressed in the appeal along with the BLM issues.

The entire area was WITHDRAWN FROM MINERAL ENTRY in 1996 because it is supposedly within the Opal Creek Wilderness and Recreation Zone. BLM sent us a certified letter calling our claim "Null and Void Ab Initio", and apologized for not recognizing this when we submitted the NOTICE OF LOCATION **over a year ago**. Ken has authorized Claudia to write the Appeal of the BLM decision.

M.Diggers board members are seeking advice from MMAC to clarify this issue and the mining law.

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

www.mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org/USDMM-store.html

or

<http://www.mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org/membership-one-district.html>

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

Schedule for Outings/Events for 2018:

Because so few members were present, we decided to hold off confirming a schedule of events until our next meeting, where other members have a chance to give their input on outings and programs they would like our group to do.

Here are a couple suggestions:

-Sunstones- end of May. Penny, Walt and Terrie are for sure going

-Ken is going to McDermitt in May, where he can find: apple green jasper, purple agate with red-spot jasper.

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REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR! The Digger's camp trip to Miner's Meadow Thursday June 7th thru Monday June 11, 2018 Located on Quartzville Creek in Linn County. **Note: This is a for sure outing; Claudia has reserved this spot for us way ahead of time.**

Break/Raffle sales

Letters for January "S and T"- Penny brought Tourmaline, Topaz, Sphalerite and a Silicon Seed Crystal from Siltec (*Tapping the top of the stem sends out a high pitch reverberation that just rings and rings as the sound bounces off the walls around the room.*)-Terrie brought a couple of the quartz-crystal-lined rocks she found in Arizona.

Letters for our next meeting are "U and V"

Meeting adjourned

AND, Here's a couple links to a bit of history about the NSMD and the North Santiam Canyon:

Look up: **Little North Santiam Mining District Cultural Resource Inventory Report** (pdf -prepared by James B. Cox Jr.- Archaeologist-Detroit R.D.- 1985) (O.S.U. Libraries 12 0143685325) 37 pages

And this: "**Timeline-North Santiam Canyon**" (www.henrystobel.com/saintboniface/canyon-timeline.pdf) 20 pages

Both are excellent and interesting reading!

Our next meeting will be on Thursday March 1st @ 7:00

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