



MILLENNIUM DIGGERS ASSOCIATION Keizer, Oregon



Secretary/Editor: Penny Esplin

PRESIDENT: Ken Orndorff

VICE PRESIDENT: Terrie Fox

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: Joe Greene

Claims Officer: Claudia Wise

Meeting Minutes from September 27th, 2018

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

Attendance: 18 including 2 guests.

Secretary's Report: Penny reported that August's minutes/newsletter was emailed to all members. Penny brought copies for anyone who wants to read it. A motion was made by Claudia to accept the minutes as stated, Delmon seconded and the motion was approved by all.

Treasurer's Report: Joe reported that the treasury looks good. Money was spent for recording fees to Josephine, Linn and Marion Counties, and filing fees to BLM for Annual Assessment Work on our 3 claims. Delmon made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Penny seconded and all were in favor.

Claims Report: Claudia: All paperwork has been sent in and received.

Elections are in October- We need a new Treasurer. Ken says he'll remain President, Terrie will stay on as Vice-President and Penny will remain Secretary/Editor until someone else steps up to the task. The elected officers will not be official until January of 2019.

-Books on table brought in by Joe are free to take home.

Potluck at Claudia's Sunday October 7th at 1:00.

(Penny sent out a reminder)–The potluck went really well and there was a nice turnout of members. The food was outstanding. (There were a few photos taken, but I will put them in the next newsletter).

-Also, a reminder was sent out for Tammy and Wes about going to Beverly Beach Sat Sept 29th at 10:00am.

-The Trommel, parked at Penny and Walt's now for about 5 years has always been available to use. It would be nice to have it parked at someone else's place and USED! Last time it was used was on the South Umpqua River in 2012.

-Where is our club's metal detector? We think Karen may still have it. Penny will follow up on this.

-Delmon asked if anyone had been to any of our claims down south. Tammy says "not since the fires and it is still smoky at this time". -Claudia and Joe have been to our Golden Diggers claim down on Dry Gulch. Claudia encouraged members to get down there and take advantage of it; it is our claim! And, if anyone has been doing any work on the claims, please fill out the maintenance forms on table (Penny has several).

Guest Speaker for September: Kent Gibson "Gibby" to talk about "Marine Fossils"- Joe introduced "Gibby". He gave us a wonderful presentation along with several hundred pounds from his famous collection of fascinating & unusual fossils. We were all so enthralled with his knowledge and information and his specimens!

Here is a short Biography: Kent was born, raised and still lives in Newport, Oregon. He attended Clackamas Community College after high school and then worked on an Alaskan King Crab boat from 1980-1985. For the past 30 years he has worked for the Port of Portland and is currently the Commercial Harbormaster.

-In 1987 he bought a recreational gold dredge and has dredged all over Oregon and Northern California.

-He has metal detected and hunted minerals in Nevada.

-In 1997 he found his first fossil!

-He has donated 7 skulls to the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C.

-He has donated a shark tooth to Mace Brown Museum at the College of Charleston South Carolina.

-He has donated several Gastropods to the University of Oregon's Condon Collection.

-Kent's fossil collecting have been highlighted in 2 recently published books:

"Spying on Whales" by Nye Pyenson, (Curator of fossil marine mammals for the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History)

"Cruisin' the Fossil Coastline" by Kirk Johnson (Paleobotanist; and Director of the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and renowned artist, Ray Troll)

-He is a Lifetime Member of Lost Dutchman's Gold Mining Assn. since 1986

-Member of the New 49er's from Happy Camp since 2003

-Former member of the Millennium Diggers

Kent showed us the first fossil he ever found; it was a little porpoise skull which is now in the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History!

Thank you so much for giving us your time Gibby! We totally enjoyed your visit!

Guest Speaker for October:

-Penny has invited **Dick Pugh** to come to our meeting on **October 25th** to give us a presentation on "**Meteorites**"!

He has a **PHD in Geology, Physical Science and Astronomy.**

He is hoping for a large turnout to reach as many ears as possible!

He also asked if we can provide a laptop, a projector and a screen for his presentation. I told him "yes". And we agreed to give him a check for \$60.00 for his time and travel.

So, please plan to attend our meeting in October, and invite your friends too!

Break Time/Raffle Ticket Sales

Rocks/Treasures brought in for September: Ken brought a scallop fossil from the San Diego Formation found in Baja California; fossil clams, snail shells and razor clams in one rock from North of Santa Cruz and some marine fossils from Kentucky. Penny brought in a "Bruclarkia" gastropod fossil from So. River Rd where the railroad tracks cut through ancient marine fossils. Also, she brought several specimens with tiny shell fossils she found in the field behind her house prior to when all the houses were built. They pieces looked like "Bondo" with tiny "breathe holes". Don brought some beautiful pieces of Mexican Crazy Lace agate, Luna Mexican Lace and African Blue Lace agate. Also, an extremely rare and gorgeous piece of Larimar, from the Dominican Republic. It is a kind of light sea-blue color, real soft (hardness 2.7-2.9) and is composed of calcium and sodium. It was extra special!

Commencing with Raffle Drawings

Meeting Adjourned.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday October 25th @ 7:00

ALLEN'S LAWS OF FIELD GEOLOGY

During my 20 years as a field geologist, I gradually came to understand and appreciate some of the immutable laws of nature which affect field geologists. As these laws occurred to me over the years, I wrote them down, and I now share this collection with you. Your appreciation of their deep philosophical significance will be in direct proportion to the amount of time you have spent in constructing geologic maps in the field.

1. The basic law of science (Murphy's Law): If anything can go wrong, it will.

2. Laws of recognition:

- a. The more you know, the more you see.
- b. You see only what you are looking for.
- c. You can't see something you are not looking for.
- d. When investigating the unknown, you do not know what you will find.
- e. Because of their different backgrounds, two geologists looking at the same outcrop will seldom agree upon the same interpretation.

3. Laws of complexity:

- a. The geology of any area is always more complex than you think it is going to be.
- b. The complexity of the geology is proportional to the area of outcrop in the area.
- c. In mapping complicated structures, the interpretation may be considered valid if not more than 50 percent of the mapped dips and strikes need to be discarded to obtain a correspondence with hypothesis.

4. Law of accuracy:

- a. The care and accuracy taken in mapping should be inversely proportional to the distance from the main roads and the edge of the map. Your superior will check your work along the main roads, and your map must agree with work done by other geologists in adjacent quadrangles.

5. Law of efficiency:

- a. The curve of field efficiency is bimodal, peaking at 9:00 a.m., with a smaller peak after lunch. It drops to near zero after 4:00 p.m.

6. Laws of frustration:

- a. The key outcrops and fossil localities are usually found at dusk in the most inaccessible part of the area on the last day of the field season.
- b. Whenever specimens must be collected and photographs taken, they usually are those in the most inaccessible part of the area, and the photographs don't turn out when they are developed.

7. Laws of specimens:

- a. The weight of a hand specimen is inversely proportional to the square of the distance from the car.

b. The number of specimens collected is inversely proportional to the abundance of the rock types represented in the area. The result of this is that the season may end without the collection of a specimen of the dominant rock type. The psychology behind this ancient law has for many years been represented in the mining industry by the "Mexican sample."

8. Laws of note-taking:

- a. When writing your report at the end of the field season, the information you need the most is not to be found in your notebook.
- b. The most important notes and sketches are the most illegible or unintelligible.

9. Other miscellaneous laws of value:

- a. Allen's Axiom: When all else fails, read the instructions.
- b. Woodward's Law: A theory is better than its explanation.
- c. Finangle's Law: Once a job is fouled up, anything done to improve it makes it worse.
- d. Gumperson's Law: The outcome of any desired probability will be inverse to the degree of its probability.

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OREGON GEOLOGY, VOLUME 47, NUMBER 8, AUGUST 1985