



MILLENNIUM DIGGERS ASSOCIATION Keizer, Oregon



Secretary/Editor: Penny Esplin

PRESIDENT: Ken Orndorff

VICE PRESIDENT: Terrie Fox

TREASURER: Yvette Burkett

CLAIMS OFFICER: Claudia Wise

Meeting Minutes from April 25th 2019

Call to Order: Ken called the meeting to order and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: After everyone had signed in, we had a total of 20 present, including 2 guests.

WE HAD A SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER! Jared Richey, Mining Administrator for the Forest Service. He works out of Sweet Home R.D., and covers the Willamette and Siuslaw N. F., made a special trip up here to talk with us miners. He is a 2nd generation hard rock miner. His family has always had a claim, but because of his position with the FS (his 3rd year now), he is no longer is a miner, and had to forfeit his claims (at least until he retires). He said a lot of the people that work for the industry don't know this, but the first sentence in his handbook says **"You will foster and encourage mineral exploration"**, and he stands by that (*applause*). He is very pro-mining, but he still has to do his job and enforce what the officers above him demand. He says he himself has no authority whatsoever; he is simply the middle man between the mining community and the line officers. A lot of the line officers don't have a strong mineral background, so it is his job to research the mining law and present whoever the citing official is with options. But 99.9% of what goes on out there he says we can talk about with him and mitigate between ourselves without anyone having to go through any legal action. He is our advisor, and our mediator. He knows where we stand, and with his knowledge of the mining law and his experience as a miner, **we are so fortunate to have him on our side.** (* see below)

He prefers to be working out in the field, and most of the time that's where he'll be (he's up in the Quartzville area a lot). But he can be reached via his voice mail @ 541-367-5168 and his email is jrichey@fs.fed.us.

He really had a lot to say, the information he provided us with is so helpful. And on top of that, he is a great person and has some really cool stories to tell. **WE NEED TO INVITE HIM TO COME TO MINER'S MEADOW! (Thurs June 20th thru Mon June 24th)**

Thank you Jared!

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**Secretary's Report:** Penny had sent out March's minutes. A motion was made to accept minutes as stated, was seconded and passed by all.

**Treasurer's Report:** Yvette, our new treasurer, read the report, our bank account looks good. A motion was made to accept and was passed by all.

**Ken said we need to get some placards made up for our members showing proof as the claim owners so we can have access to all our claims.**

**Claims Report:** Claudia said she has a meeting with "someone" now to fix our problems! \*She will call Jared on Monday regarding our Jeeter's claim and the "required parking fee" on the LNF Rd. WE ARE EXEMPT! Jared will confront the BLM on our behalf and set things straight.

-It was reported that there are trees down on the trail. Need to schedule a work party to go there and bring a chainsaw!

-A sign-up sheet will be passed around at May's meeting for a CLEAN-UP PARTY for Jeeter's claim.

**Old Business:** About the canopy, Claudia said yes, she is going to buy the 10'x10' canopy from Costco for \$199.00, so we will have it to use at Miner's Meadow (*don't forget, June 20<sup>th</sup> thru 24<sup>th</sup>*).

-AgFest at the fairgrounds in Salem on April 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Tammy and Wes will be at booth for NWMineral Prospectors.

-Metal Detecting outing with WVM at Rickreall/Polk Co fairgrounds May 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00am

-Penny will send out a map and directions to Joe Cota's Rock Castle in Lebanon (Sat May 11 @ 10:00)

***(Please scroll down after the minutes to see photos from our outing to Joe Cota's Rock Castle)***

-Report on Beverly Beach outing: Tammy and Wes said, "The weather was great, the ocean was not; too many sneaker waves". Next outing there will be in Oct. They will let us know.

-June 20<sup>th</sup> thru 24<sup>th</sup> Miners Meadow

-August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Rice Museum

-The Trommel, parked at Penny and Walt's now for about 5 or 6 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.

-Also, the club's metal detector is at Penny & Walt's. It is a **Minelab Explorer II, w/rechargeable batteries and charger**. We will bring it along for anyone to use at some of our outings. Or if any members want to use it, please don't hesitate to call: 503-508-6582 (cell)

**Letters for April "G and H":** Penny brought Halite (sodium chloride, salt crystal), a Herkimer Diamond (quartz crystal in rock looks like a diamond crystal), Hematite (iron oxide), and Heulandite (hydrous calcium aluminum silicate).

**Letters for May "I and J"**

**Breaktime and Raffle**

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Our next meeting is May 23<sup>th</sup> at 7:00**

**OUTING TO JOE COTA'S ROCK CASTLE IN LEBANON:** Well let's see, Wes, Tammy, Chuck and Yvette were already there when Terrie and I showed up an hour later. What a great place! And the weather was so beautiful that day! Joe owns 14 acres there, with a pond, a horse, 2 doggies and ROCKS! The store itself was so mezmerizing, with its gems and minerals and trinkets and charms and jewelry. Then, outside! Such a wonderful place. He even had a BBQ for us down by the pond. Tammy took all the photos, and we all had a really good time. Joe and his wife Lucy were so accomodating, nice people! And we all came away with some real treasures. (Terrie even found a "Boulder Opal" in the El Grande rock pile) ***We will bring our treasures to the meeting to show off!***



**ENTERING THE CASTLE GROUNDS.**



Rose Quartz



Goldstone- \$10.00 a pound



Tammy and Wes checking out one of the rock piles.  
**.50 cents a pound!**



**ROCK PILE "EL GRANDE"!**



Wes getting ready to dive in to El Grande. Tammy already in.



**TRIXIE!**



Wes defends himself, "Well I didn't do it."



Chuck: "Let me at 'em!"  
Wes says, "Aren't these great?"  
And Yvette is in Rock Heaven!

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

**Our meetings are held at:**  
**Clear lake Methodist Church**  
**920 Marks Drive**  
**Keizer, Or**