



Editor: Penny Esplin    Secretary: Marlea Sheridan

**Date: August 25, 2011**

**SHORT AND SWEET FROM THE PREZ:** Delmon says "Beware of Bears" and watch your tailing stream from your dredges!

**Meeting Minutes:** Marlea read the past minutes which are e-mailed to members. Minutes were approved.

**Call to Order:** Delmon called the meeting to order and new visitors and our guests were introduced.

**In Attendance:** There were 19 members present.

**Guests:** Howard Conner, member of The Willamette Valley Miners, was our special guest speaker. He is also involved in Risk Management.

-Our other guests were Steven VanNoy and his son Jason.

**New Members:** We had two new members.

**Old Business:** Ted reported that all claims had been registered and paid for.

-Barb has now transferred all our club information to a new web manager (Tom Ashworth had moved and retired his web site which he had managed for us). Our new website is working and up to date! **Thanks for all your hard work Barb!**

**New Business:** It was reported that **Mike Witt**, a member, is recuperating from a bad accident and is improving with rehabilitation. **We All Pray That You Get Well Soon, Mike!**

-Robyn has donated to the club, a 2" dredge, which belonged to her late husband, Tom. It was agreed that it will be loaned out to any member who wishes to borrow it. **Thanks Robyn!** We know that Tom would have loved to donate it to us, as he loved to go gold mining with us!

-Joe has donated a Keene Hopper to attach to the rebuilt Trommel! **Thanks, Joe!** Larry will try to add it.

-Penny let us know that her friend, Doug (guest last month), has some extra belts and a belt tightener he will donate to the club for our dredging equipment. (Flywheel and/or pulley belts)

-South West Oregon Mining Association is trying to form a new mining district.

-Delmon reported that there was a problem on Cow Creek this summer when **too many dredgers in one spot muddied the water extensively** and the police were called in to investigate. **Dredgers: Be aware of your downstream tailings!**

**Events Committee:** Our last outing scheduled for August 20<sup>th</sup> (Hollywood Ranch petrified wood) was canceled due to the fact that everyone already had other plans in place for that day! Also, after talking with Judy Smith the day before, we agreed it was going to be way too hot. Penny will look to re-schedule on a future date when the weather is cooler!

**Next Club Outing:** To be determined.

**Rocks Shared Beginning With the Letter "R":** Marlea brought a "red" petrified rock. Delmon had his "found" rocks cut and shared the geode inside. -Penny brought a piece of "**Rutilated quartz**" (quartz containing needles of the mineral **rutile**), sometimes called "Venus Hairstone", its chemical composition is **titanium dioxide**. -Also, 2 natural **Ruby crystals**, and several tiny **synthetic ruby** crystals used in electronics. The chem. comp. is **aluminum oxide (corundum/hardness #9)**, -a pink stone called **Rodochrosite**, its chem. comp. is **magnesium carbonate**, -and a **Rhodolite garnet** (a pink variety of **pyrope garnet**) its chem. comp. is **magnesium aluminum silicon oxide**.

**In Sept, Rocks Beginning With the Letter "S".....**Bring in your Sunstones? Silver? Sapphires? Synthetic Silicon (remember Siltec)? Serpentine, soapstone?

**Events/Activities in August:** Our meeting on Aug 25<sup>th</sup>, **Howard Conner** was our guest speaker and gave us a wonderful and informative presentation on "**Family Preparedness for Emergencies and Disasters**". This was "**Part 1**" of his presentation. Some of the topics he covered were about the threats involving radiation and radioactivity, earthquakes, tsunami, volcanic eruptions, poisonous gases, pandemics, economic/political crisis and the reasons we need to get motivated and our plans in place **before** the "threat" becomes a reality! He gave us all handout sheets that we referred to as he outlined the geology and Oregon's place in "the ring of fire" and the threat it poses to us.

His speech was well received and we are looking forward to Part 2 next month. He also donated a VHS National Geographic recording called "**Doomsday Preppers**", about 4 separate families and their methods and reasons for emergency preparedness to our club. We will try to make a DVD of this program. He would like all of us to see this video before our next meeting if possible.

**Upcoming Events/Activities in Sept:** Our next meeting on Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>, our guest speaker **Howard Conner** will present "Part 2" of his **"Family Preparedness for Emergencies and Disasters"** presentation.

**Club News, Articles, etc.:** Marvin just reported that **Buzz Sizemore** is re-cooperating from being stung all over his arm and back by hornets. He went to the doctor and is doing better now! **Please Get Well Soon, Buzz!!!** Larry and Marvin missed you at Briggs!

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

The Millennium Diggers Club is a group based in Keizer, Oregon, which is near Salem, Oregon. The club is for people that share an interest in searching for things of value. The club's charter is to provide members with a club that will help promote the hobbies 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 club meetings to share information about locating gold, silver, coins, jewelry, gemstones, fossils and metal detecting. We plan club outings each month where we can help each other learn all aspects of our hobbies. This is a great family activity, bring the kids! Please feel free to drop in on one of the monthly meetings or outings.

**We meet the 4th Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m, at:**  
**Clear Lake United Methodist Church**  
**920 Marks Drive**  
**Keizer, OR 97303**

The church is located across the street from the Clear Lake Fire Station. There's plenty of parking in the church's parking lot. We meet in the church's fellowship hall.