



MILLENNIUM DIGGERS ASSOCIATION Keizer, Oregon



Secretary/Editor: Penny Esplin

PRESIDENT: Ken Orndorff

VICE PRESIDENT: Terrie Fox

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: Joe Greene

Claims Officer: Claudia Wise

REMINDER: STRAWBERRYSHORTCAKE AT JUNE'S MEETING! PROVIDED BY DAVID SCHMIDT!

Meeting Minutes from May 24th 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 **17** in attendance.

Secretary's Report: Penny reported that April's minutes/newsletter was emailed to all members. Penny brought 2 copies for anyone who wants to read it. Joe made a motion to accept the minutes as stated, it was seconded and the motion was approved by all.

Treasurer's Report: Joe reported our savings account looks good. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as stated, it was seconded, and the motion was approved by all.

Membership: Joe: Anyone that wants to join our association can go online and join. Membership packets can be mailed or emailed after joining. Tim knows a couple interested in joining.

Claims Report: Claudia: The quit claim paperwork for DT#1 with Delmon's name has been recorded at Josephine Co clerk and now Delmon needs to take it to BLM to get it recorded there. He agreed to do this.

New Business:

-Maintenance Work: For any maintenance work done on any of our claims, **a form has been provided fill to out and is posted at the end of this newsletter.** The form has been revised and

updated to show changes made to the original. Extra copies will be available at our meeting.

Maintenance work would include: clearing and re-establishing trails for access, removing hazardous obstacles, cutting brush, shoring up embankments and prospecting. (*Cleaning up trash and mining and/or working the claim is **not** considered "maintenance work"*).

MMAC Update: Joe and Claudia have retired as volunteers due to the fact the process has been moving very slow and they don't feel they got enough communication to get things moving along. There hasn't been enough "sensitivity" to the membership entity as a whole. Claudia said they will still be available to help with the mining groups and their mining districts in setting up a level of defense to continue to stand strong and united in the face of those who want to shut down mining.

-Calif. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife may allow some suction dredging soon following a 2014 environmental study report that determined that using a 4" suction dredge caused little or no damage and was reported as "**insignificant**". The Calif. Water Board is looking into this.

-As of next year (2019), use of gas engines will not be allowed in the state of Washington.

-**Supreme Court: Waldo and E. Oregon Mining Districts vs DEQ** (regarding NPDES)-24 miners showed at the capitol. A representative from DEQ kept pushing "turbidity and sediment" as an "issue" stating that miners using suction dredges and removing the gold "adds pollution to the streams and changes the components and the course of the creek". -Don said he feels optimistic about what the results of this hearing will be.

Old Business:

Fee Parking on the Little North Fork: Ken asked if anything has been resolved on this. BLM said we (miners) have the right to park for access to our claims without having to pay a parking fee. Joe said he would like to see the mining districts' ask BLM if they would send out to the county, in writing, paperwork showing what we and the BLM have agreed upon (and what is written in the mining law), that we have the right as miners to waive the parking fee. Then make copies for us to have on hand. Or if BLM can give us a letter that we could take in person to the county in order to get this resolved and on record.

LNF Mining District sign posted at Jeeter Creek. Christoph said the sign is still up about a month ago. He will be going there within the next day and will check again and give us an update.

Quartzville Mining District sign has been knocked down. We need to relocate it and change it to **Santiam Mining District**. We need to record changes and updates to the District's rules and take a copy to the museum in Sweethome.

Scheduled Outings: *(Member's reports on these outings will be heard at June's meeting)*

Hampton Butte and Glass Buttes- Don is leading this outing. Due to head out Sat. May 26th, early morning (or Fri). Weather Forecast: Possible heavy rains on Friday for central Oregon. (-Ken said he would be willing to lead a day trip to Hampton Butte the following week, on Friday June 1st, if anyone is interested.)

Sunstones: Due to head out on Sat morning May 26th. Walt, Penny and Terrie are going. Plan to meet up with Chuck and Yvette at the BLM public camping area.

Miners Meadow: Scheduled for Thursday June 7th thru Sunday June 10th. Potluck on Saturday June 9th.

Letters for May "C and D": (from Penny: I have to apologize that I can't remember who brought what, it didn't get recorded.) I only remember that Joe brought some nice pieces of Calcite from Arizona that was fluorescent deep red under his UV light. It looked like hot molten lava inside the rocks! Also some nice agate pieces from AZ desert that glowed a bright green under UV radiation. Some of them were phosphorescent; meaning they continued to glow after turning off the UV light! -Penny brought several different colored specimens of Calcite, a crystal of Danburite (*calcium borosilicate*), crystals of Chalcantite (*copper sulfate*) which is water soluble and can be dissolved and regrown, Celestite (*strontium sulfate*), and a dendritic crystal form of native Copper.

Letters for June "E and F"

***Our next meeting will be on Thursday June 28th @ 7:00
And don't forget, it's Strawberry Shortcake Night!***

Please see form on last page

FORM FOR REPORTING MAINTENANCE WORK DONE WHILE ON MILLENNIUM DIGGER CLAIMS.

Your Name:

Name of Claim:

Date(s) Worked:

Description of Maintenance Work (Labor) Performed:

(example: clearing trail, removing hazardous obstacles, shoring up embankments, prospecting, etc. Cleaning up garbage will not count as "maintenance". Actual mining and/or working the claim itself does not count either)

How Many People Involved:

Hours of Labor Involved:

Your Signature:

Please fill out this form, sign it and give to Claudia *by August 1st*, so she can submit the MAINTENANCE FEE WAIVER to BLM.

If you have a claim, remember to file your paper work in time. The Maintenance Fee Waiver Certificate is due to BLM before Sept 1st, (no filing fee). And the Affidavit of Annual Assessment Work is due before Dec 30th: It needs to be notarized and recorded by the county clerk for a fee (in the county where claim is located), then sent by certified mail/return receipt requested to BLM to get recorded and time stamped and returned to you. Be sure to include a \$10.00 check to BLM for the filing fee.