



**MILLENNIUM DIGGERS
ASSOCIATION
Keizer, Oregon**



Secretary/Editor Penny Esplin
PRESIDENT- Wes Jeffers
VICE PRESIDENT- David Schmidt
TREASURER- Terrie Fox

Meeting Minutes from January 24th, 2024

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

Attendance: There were 10 of us present.

Secretary’s Report: Penny read through December’s meeting minutes. A motion was made, seconded and approved by all.

Treasurer’s Report: The updated checking account balance is on track. Penny made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report as read, Tammy seconded and it was approved by all.

Membership: It is time to renew your membership for 2024. Please bring a check or cash for \$30.00 and give to Terrie (treasurer).

Claims: Don Esch is now in charge of taking care of our claims paperwork.

-We discussed combining some of our outings with WVM; like the **Miner’s Meadow** camp trip, which is a **NO GO**, because other parties have already reserved it for this year *and* next year.
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-Penny was asked to look through our earlier files and try to find anything written up for our club regarding **By-Laws**; she will scan WVM’s membership packets and see how their “*Constitution*” (By-Laws/Club Charter) is written up. -This is so we can include it in our **Membership Packets**, which is in dire need of **updating** and **finalizing**. So we can print them up to issue to our members.

Part of the revision to include for new members: **As a New Member, you need to attend 3 meetings before receiving the membership packet.** We don’t just hand out the names and locations of our claims out to new members without them showing interest and participating

with our club's meetings and activities. (I don't know if this would be on the application? Part of our Constitution? By-Laws? Club Charter??) Need to discuss this.

Also, need to print up some more Millennium Diggers Association **application forms**.

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-We discussed finding ways to generate "**Publicity**" and invite people to attend our meetings and hopefully become members. Such as:

-We talked to the owner of **Capital Mining** in Salem who said he would be happy to hand out our membership applications to generate new members. He said he would also donate mining equipment/supplies to our raffles!

-**Prospector's Treasure Trove** is another place we could deliver some of our applications for them to have on hand for any interested customers.

-Check with **Monty's Coin Shop** in Stayton and see if they would have our applications on hand.

-**Keizer Times newspaper**: David will check there and find out the cost of putting in an ad for us.

-**The Internet?**

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**Question:** What is a good metal detector to buy?

-Gold Bug 1 and Gold Bug 2 (better)

-Mine Lab - White's \$400 used

-Falcon Gold Pointer \$200 to \$400

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Raffle:

We will be holding a Raffle Drawing at each of our meetings, so please search your garage, basement or storage for **prizes to donate to our Raffle Table!** Please use some discretion when choosing what to bring. At least, bring it something that you, yourself would (at one time) be happy to win! No old mildewed rubber bath mats or ragged teddy bears! We ARE miners, after all. Think **rocks**, treasures, useful things; tools, gold pans, camping supplies, gold bearing dirt!!!! (Delmon always has an array of neat things).

-Limit the raffle drawing to 8 prizes.

-The **membership dues and our raffle are our only source of income for our club**. We use that money to keep our claims legal! And, should the chance come up, maybe even purchase a claim!

-**Big Raffle Prize: Christoph won the "Digger David" Statue**. He looks like David (Christoph's dad)! With a beard, a hat, old miner's clothes, and a pick and shovel. Pretty custom!

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**SLIDE SHOW: David Schmidt** will be showing some old slides he found of miners working at a mine during February's meeting. That should be fun and interesting!

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OUTINGS:

-**Joe Coda's Rock Palace in Lebanon.** Penny will call him and set a date for us to go and look through his rock piles. He's got lots of *really* neat rocks for sale by the pound: in piles, buckets, tables. And inside his store he's got jewelry, polished cabochons, specialty rocks and minerals, fossils and gemstones. (He takes debit cards) If enough of us plan to go, he usually lights up his bar-b-que. We could do a pot-luck!

-**Beverly Beach** is scheduled for sometime in **June**, Wes and Tammy are hosting this outing.

-Please feel free to bring **snacks** or something to drink to any meetings. We will provide the coffee.

Proposed Outings:

-**Joe Coda's Rock Palace** in Lebanon. Many HUGE piles of all kinds of great rocks! You really must go and experience his place. And if we let him know when we're coming, he likes to start up his BBQ under the covered patio by the pond. It is a fun time, rain or shine!

-**Clackamas River:** Many sites along this river to look for pockets of Siderite (rock mineral) and other neat stones in some of the road cuts by Fish Creek Road and Memaloose Road.

-**Ripplebrook (Oak Grove Fork of the Clackamas River):** Many sites along this route; old mining activity, old dump sites (from the building of the aqueduct system and the mining, both coinciding from early 1930's), petrified wood (many sites), fishing at Harriet Lake, there's more....

-**Tillamook State Forest** (Wilson River) to look for **Augite Crystals** (rock mineral)

Metal Detecting:

-Stayton Pioneer Park? Sublimity Parks?

-Bryant Park in Albany

-Freeway Lakes (3 Lakes) south of Albany by I-5. There's an older spot by one of the lakes that is more secluded with 2 ancient picnic tables (now broken and overgrown with moss). Must have been a favored place back in the day? Worth a check.

Fossils:

-Cottage Grove -Row River Road. -Beautiful fern fossil imprints.

-South River Road by railroad tracks. Ancient marine fossil beds, the railroad cuts right through them.

River Rockhounding:

-Willamette River Greenway on the east side of the river, 1 mile south (upriver) from Wheatland Ferry.

-Rice Museum in Hillsboro- Excellent rock collection, worth the trip!

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**And that is that!**

**Our Next Meeting Is Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup> At 7:00**

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm, at:  
Clear Lake United Methodist Church  
920 Marks Drive  
Keizer, OR 97303