



**MILLENNIUM DIGGERS
ASSOCIATION
Keizer, Oregon**



Secretary/Editor Penny Esplin

PRESIDENT- Wes Jeffers

VICE PRESIDENT- David Schmidt

TREASURER- Terrie Fox

Meeting Minutes from February 28th, 2024

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

Attendance: There were 15 of us present (including 4 guests)

Guests: Lyndon Zaitz (Editor of Keizer Times), and 3 guests who became members: Gloria Nichols, and Heather and Jerry Carlos. Welcome!

Treasurer's Report: Terrie couldn't come. Penny read off the checking account balance. There was a motion made to accept the treasurer's report as read, it was seconded and passed by all.

Secretary's Report: Penny read the minutes from January. A motion was made to accept the secretary's report as read, it was seconded and approved by all.

Announcements: Beverly Beach is on Saturday, April 13th. And Willamette Agate and Mineral Show (WAMS) is the very next weekend, April 19th, 20th and 21st. It will be held at the Polk County Fairgrounds in Rickreal.

Wes said he would like to see our club get back to the way it used to be, without the technicalities or the political upsets. The other clubs, of which some of us are members as well, are larger and are better suited to dealing with those complexities. But, there *are* some politics we do have to confront, because they affect us so.

Delmon has been a member of M. Diggers for 24 years! He knows what changes this club has undergone, all the highs and lows.

Penny mentioned we need to have a **Board Meeting**, so we agreed to hold one on **Saturday March 23rd, at 1:00 at Don Esch's place**. And from now on, we will have our Board Meetings on the Saturday before our meetings (when we have one).

Claims: Don said all our claims paperwork is up to date. The next time we file is just before September 1st, when we send in the Maintenance Waiver Certificate to BLM. We send the **original**, making a copy for ourselves.

Most of us have extra mining equipment we can loan while at our outings. Wes has lots of mining equipment and he will sell some to anyone wanting to buy.

When at one of our claims or when at the beach, we must **COVER OUR HOLES!** And don't leave any garbage! It is only proper and will keep us from getting a bad name or worse, fined by the cops!

Membership packet: Before new members can receive any of our maps to our claims, they must first attend 3 meetings, then they can get the full membership packet. We don't want to give out those maps unless the new members are actively involved and interested in what our club is doing and attending 3 meetings.

In the past, there have been people who have joined our club but attend only that one meeting, just to get their hands on our claims maps and go mining on those claims. They are not worthy of membership!

David Schmidt showed us a **slide show** with old slides from possibly the 50's or 60's of miners actively mining. The slides were great and interesting! So, we had "Dinner and a Movie" (Christoph brought 2 pizzas)!

Raffle: We had a successful raffle, there were some interesting prizes on the table, all worth purchasing a raffle ticket or two. Please bring prizes for the raffle table! (Raffle made \$45.00!)

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

-Also, bring rocks and/or treasures to share and talk about. It makes the meeting even more fun!

Our next meeting is Wednesday March 27th at 7:00

Meeting adjourned

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!

(Penny will contact him and schedule a date)

-**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!

~~~~~

**And that is that!**

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