



Desert Gold Diggers Gazette 2021



The official publication of Desert Gold Diggers Inc. A report of the happenings and business for February, March 2021

May you always find yellow on the bottom of your pan



Monthly Meetings

Monthly Events

Regrettably the municipal facilities are closed until at least the further notice and then only open to groups of 10 or less. This will continue until at least until the start of the new year. If anyone knows of a place large enough to accommodate a group our size preferably with a sound system let me know, you can reach me by email at Goldgazette45@gmail.com or by phone at 520-490-4154

If anyone doesn't have internet access feel free to call me for arrangements.

Membership Meeting

1st TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH @ 6:00PM

At this time the membership and business meetings are being held through the Zoom telecommuting software Due to the active concern of Covid-19. Those with online computer access are asked to invite members to their homes if both parties feel safe so they can also join in the meetings. Keep your eyes open for an email message with the link to the respective meetings. The connection is easily made by following the screen prompts. If you have any problem please feel free to contact David Salars or Kim Ransom whose numbers are listed in this Gazette.

A special word of thanks goes out to Kim Ransom who is the holder of the zoom account and Vice President Kay Jenkins who arranges the months speaker.

Business Meeting

3rd Tuesday of Every Month @ 6:30 pm

TBA

April

April 6th 6:00 PM Membership meeting TBA

April 11th (sun) Outing to Placer Pond 8:00 AM at the Greaterville turnout on State Hwy. 83

April 19th 6:30 Business Meeting by Zoom Application

April 24th 7:00 Claims Committee outing Snoozer Claim leaving from MP7 Arivaca Road

May

May 4th Membership meeting 6:00 TBA

May 8th (Sat) Snoozer 8:00 AM Mile post 7 Arivaca Hwy.

May 17th 6:30 Business Meeting by Zoom Application

June

June 1st 6:00 PM Membership Meeting TBA

June 6th (Sun) Hope Claims 7:00 AM Gardner canyon Turnoff on State Hwy. 83 (Sonoita Hwy.)

June 15th 6:30 Business Meeting by Zoom Application

July

July 5th Membership meeting 6:00 TBA

July 10th (Sun) Shadow Claims 7:00 AM SHADOW CLAIM 8:00 AM CABALLO LOCO RD. "A" ROCK

July 19th 6:30 Business Meeting by Zoom Application

The President's Corner

As a reminder I am not running for the Presidents position this year. The Board of Directors has made the decision to postpone the election until June to give time for someone to step up to run for President, Vice President and Secretary.

I have to thank all those who helped out with the huge success of the March Overnight Outing. Ron and Kathy Smith were gracious to drive all the way from Oracle to sell raffle tickets, Tom and Louis did a great job cooking, Becky worked wonders getting the meals arranged, Dan, Joe and Ralph put on a fabulous common dig. I know I am missing some names but there was so much great help there isn't space here to list them all.

We are going to start being more active with the Claims Stewards program, if there is a claim on which you would like to monitor as far as condition (open holes, garbage, etc.) and being sure the corners and signs are in place please attend the business meetings so you can learn more about the plans. They can also check the condition and retrieve data from any game cameras we may have in the area. Ralph Montano will be the Chief Claims Steward and answer to Claims Director Dan Walker.

As well as the claims Stewards Program we are going to start being more proactive in regards to maintaining the claims we have and finding new claims. The board has come to the decision to have a Claims Committee outing at least 3 times a year, to hold our own feet to the fire we have set the date of the first one to be Saturday April 24th to the Snoozing Claims north of Arivaca. At these outings we will be checking on the conditions of the claim, filling holes, searching for good spots to have common digs and replace claim signs and corners. Check the schedule on page 1 for time and locations.

Please be sure to fill your holes, be safe and may the bottom of your pan turn yellow.

Business Meeting Minutes: January 19, 2021

Kim opened the meeting at 6:31. Motion by Kim 2nd by Kay to approve the minutes as read.

- The Gazette will be mailed next week, Dave needs new ink to print it.
- Membership: Becky reported we have 9 new members, 6 former members renewed, 11 did not renew for the month. Membership stands at 302.
- Our by laws state there is only one class of membership and someone wanted to renew membership after a 10 -12 year absence.
- Treasurers Report: was given by Eric
- Outings Report was given by Dan Walker: It was only 28 degrees when the outing started, 13 members participated. There were 24 Mexican coins hidden. Then they moved on to Wishful for the dig & Becky & Joe brought their 1960 pan-o-matic. Some Claim signs need to be replaced.
- Amber Public Relations: Web Site, BLM.Gov/MRLS. We have 3 different URL's at \$8.00 a piece. We need 3 different passwords for them for info on paypal to be able to pay membership on line. Passwords need to be given to 3 appropriate members of the board.
- Carl stated we need to get everything set up for paypal & Membership in order to pass on to the new board. There will be a meeting regarding paypal tomorrow night @ 6:30 on zoom. Motion by Kay 2nd by Carl to get new club laptop. Motion carried. Motion included a warranty, hotspot. New gazette to be put on Web-site, by Valerie, Bob Clark to be liason with web-site person.
- New Business:
- Board positions. Dave reminds everyone we need people to run for president, vice president & secretary as well as board positions.
- March Outing: Becky & Dave to get food together.
- Motion to adjourn was made at 7:51, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Lapp, Secretary

Business Meeting Minutes: February 2021

Meeting started at 6:30. Minutes were read and approved.

- Dave is still waiting for printer cartridges so he can finish printing the Gazette.
- Membership: We have 29 new members, 8 off the website, 7 members returned after being gone for a year or two, 4 from paypal, 14 haven't renewed for this month making our total membership 319.
- Webmaster: Carl cleaned up paypal. Erik says we need to watch for scams, we have 3 different URL's and wants Becky & Treasurer & President to make any changes needed. Dave to send out announcement we are up and running. We need to update calendar, Bob Clark is the liaison.
- Treasurer & Gold Master reports were given. We've collected \$2,091.04 in Membership dues.
- Outings Report: outing was on February 7TH at A Rock, 21 members attended. 24 pesos were hidden, 5 coins un-found. Headed to Wishful for the dig where everyone found something. We need to change the start time from 8am to 7am and change coin value from \$1.00 to \$2.00
- March Outing: We will not detect at the March outing but just dig. We need to put trail camera's on Bruisers Claim & Snoozers Claim as some are not filling in their holes. If we know who is leaving the holes open we can send them a letter.
- Claim Stewart Program active again. Amber said NO.
- Old Business: EIN Documentation needs fixing. Eric thanked Carl again for all his hard work on the Web-site.
- Those running for Board positions this year: Ed, Dave, Darrell, Kay Bob, Kim & Bob Barns
New Business: By-Laws need looking at. Kim volunteered to be the next President, we are still looking for a Vice President, Secretary & Assistant Treasurer. We will extend election until June.
- March Outing, Dave needs help getting things out to Camp. We need to have the store at each outing, people are looking for maps, hats & shirts. Maps are \$2.00 each or set for \$10.00.
- We need to issue refunds on PayPal for Carl.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM

Respectfully Submitted, Sharon Lapp, Secretary

PHOTOS FROM THE MARCH 2021 OVERNIGHT OUTING



Some of the group of 70 who attended the outing

<

Kay's dog Waiting for Dan or Sharon to drop a piece of cinnamon-
role

>



MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2nd 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM

*A video was shown on amalgamating with mercury and David gave some safety tips while working with the element.

*Dan gave his Outing Report to the Wishful. 16 members participated there were 10 coins not found.

*February 7th is an outing to Steven Shadow, meet at 8:00am. They will be using Mexican Pesos

*The web-site is being set up to accept PayPal.

*Elections are upon us, please consider running for the President, Vice President & Secretary positions as well as board positions. Dave will run for a 1 year Board Position, as well as Darrell Mari-hugh.

*Dan Walker will continue as Claims Director & Outings Director. Road to Stevens Shadow is in good condition but claim marker is missing.

*Justin went digging at Ruby & found a rock with Gold in it.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Sharon Lapp, Secretary

MARCH 6th 2021

The meeting was called to order at 1:00PM at the campsite near Kentucky Camp after lunch

*The progress of the Common Dig was discussed.

*Dan Walker reported on the February outing to the Shadow Claims which proceeded to the Wishful Claims south of Arivaca. He stated that April's outing will be to Placer Pond Sunday the 11th meeting at the Greaterville turnoff on State Highway 83.

*David Salars gave the report on the progress of the elections stating the the Board of Directors has decided to postpone the election until November hoping that we have a place to meet with the reduction of danger of catching Covid-19.

*David stated he is not going to run for President this year and someone will step up for the position

*The nugget Raffles were held.

*The times and winners of the panning contest were announced

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35PM

SOUTHWEST MINING TOWNS

Duquesne/Washington Camp Southeast of Patagonia in the Patagonia Mountains.,On Forest Road #49 sit the sites of Washington Camp and Dusquesne They are about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile apart

First activity: 1860's first exploration in Washington gulch. Apache raids prevented development until the late '70s and early '80s. In 1880, the same year as the post office was opened in Washington Camp, George Westinghouse took up the major portion of the investments for the reduction works in Washington Camp. Westinghouse owned 80 Load claims in the area.

Washington camp had living quarters for the miners, a school and general store. The development of the Bonanza mine brought the rise of Duquense, with copper prices high in the late 90's the population Continued on page 8

Stranded, Stuck, Broken Down and Lost

All too many times, for the comfort of anyone who has been in the position, we have found ourselves scratching our heads wondering how we got where we were. Keys have been lost, vehicles have slid off roads, gotten stuck in the sand, gotten flats without a jack or spare tire, high centered, even allegedly stolen to be found later crashed. Hopefully the old saying, “a smart person learns from his mistakes, one that is wise learns from other people’s mistakes”, falls true for all the clubs members.

One of the most important safety guidelines for all the members of the club is let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return and try your best to stick to those plans. When you show up 4 hours after sundown after stating you would be there at 4:30 your house isn’t going to feel like a home, when your plans change by choice or by happenstance be sure to let your contact know as soon as possible. Practically everyone has a mobile phone these day and there are enough cell towers around to hike to a tall hill in the area and make a connection to let someone know you are having trouble. Going out into the field alone is not a recommended practice, two vehicles on an outing can make the difference between having a warm dinner or sleeping in a cold truck overnight.

Some basic equipment that is good to have along most of us already have at home. A first aid kit in case of injury, a book of fresh matches in your pocket to start a signal fire or a fire to stay warm, water (of course) and some extra food. Fluids for your vehicle are important to have along. A large knife or hatchet can also prove useful. These items should be as ready to go as your metal detector and your gold pans. Your cell phone should be fully charged when you leave, if during the day you find its charge low be sure to charge on your vehicles charger.

Most of the areas around the southwest are surrounded by some sort of road. If you get lost become anxious that you’re not going to be found and given up on finding your way back to where you started its good to start walking down a stream bed it will eventually lead to a road of some sort. Dirt roads eventually lead to paved roads with traffic where someone is bound to send for help. As you go down stream keep track of your cell phone to see if you have a signal and can call out. Very often you can send a text message informing someone of your situation and that message will be sent when a small amount signal available and your contact can begin a plan to rescue you or send for help.

If you’re lost and unable to walk down stream clear an area so a large fire can be safely built and feed that fire with lots of green branches to produce lots of smoke to act as a signal fire. A good smoky fire will act as a beacon to anyone who may be searching for you or may attract someone’s attention and lead them to you (be sure to extinguish the fire when you leave so you don’t end up with a situation like the Chediski Forest Fire). If a cell signal is available simply dial 911, with modern systems the 911 operator can track your location and dispatch help whether it be law enforcement, Forest Service or Border Patrol.

Before you head out you should check your vehicle over to be sure it’s running properly, your jack and spare tire are in place and you have plenty of fuel. A small tool kit and some bailing wire are good to have with along as well as a few assortment of nuts and bolts. In the past I have had the battery bracket break on a truck after hitting a large bump in turn breaking the battery cable, luckily I has some old clothes line cable with a plastic coating that I was able to use to replace the broken cable (it worked so well I ran the truck for several months in that condition). A bar of hand soap can often be used to seal a leak in a gas tank by stroking the soap over the leak in the tank until it builds up enough to plug the leak (save as much gas as you can if it’s running out quickly).



< This enormous cell tower disguised as a windmill services most of the east side of the Santa Rita Mountains. Most of the time a connection can be made on a tall hill.

Summer Monsoons can start with little notice. It’s best to keep your eyes on the weather report before your trip. >



A discussion two members years ago; one member was sure to carry an extra fan belt and old hoses in case there was a failure, the other member asked cynically if he carried a spare engine, the first member responded, “with that attitude why would you bother carrying a spare tire”. It’s good to be familiar with your vehicle so you can know what quick repairs may be possible. If the vehicle has metric nuts and bolts a standard tool set won’t be much good, There are very few wrenches that are comparable between metric and standard. I personally don’t like wheel lock nuts as I have had the security tool break their thin walls on a tight nut, it’s almost impossible to get them off after that thus leading to the beginning of a long walk.

Most everyone who participates in our hobby loves four wheel drive but for some the price can be forbidding. Driving practice is important whether you have a 4x4 or 2 wheel drive. It is important to know where your wheels are and are familiar with your vehicles clearance. A simple way to practice putting your tires in the proper place is to lay out some aluminum cans on an area with little traffic and practice running them over. Getting a feel for your tire position can lead you to know which rocks you can put your tires on when you are navigating a rough or rutted road. A person can often learn to

to protect the vehicles undercarriage by placing his tires on a rock that is high enough to straddle the danger spot. Ruts in the roadway often come to a hazardous end so you may consider straddling the ruts rather than driving in them.

Our wonderful monsoons (hopefully we have some this year) can bring great torrents of water down the stream bed. If a stream the road you’re traveling crosses a flooded wash just wait a while for the flood waters to subside. Unless the storm is prolonged you will be on your way within a few hours, a bit of lost time is preferable to a flood damaged vehicle and the embarrassment of being rescued out of a flooded wash. A vehicle sitting in a flood will lead to silt getting into the differential and transmission through small vent port which will thin the lubricants and grind the gears down.

Loss of traction can be problematic on a steep hill when the soil is loose or the roadway covered with gravel, loose gravel can act like ice under the vehicle. Very often in pick-up trucks the rear end is so light the rear wheels can’t get a grip on the roadway, to solve this problem one can load the back of the vehicle with rocks to weigh it down and get better traction. A recent rescue performed by some club members of a truck which slid off a road sideways, the driver said, “It felt like his truck was rolling on marbles”. The members ended up chaining the vehicle so it wouldn’t slide any further and with several jacks raising it inch by inch to a point where it was almost level and no longer high-centered. They placed lots of rocks and boards under the side they jacked up providing a platform to drive on. They were able with the help of a come-along and a High Lift Jack to pull the front of the vehicle onto the existing road so the owner could carefully drive out of the situation he had found himself.

Sand is often a trap people find themselves in. When driving across sand you think may be soft keep your momentum up as much as you can and your front wheels as straight as possible. Turning your wheels too sharp will cause them to plow into the sand stopping the momentum at which point the rear tires will spin in the sand and the vehicle will become stuck. When you get stuck in sand the first thing to do is stop, the more you try to drive forward the deeper your vehicle will sink. If the vehicle isn’t high centered in the sand you may try to dig paths in the sand for the wheels to travel in. Jacking the vehicle up place rocks and branches can prove helpful but has to be done under all 4 wheels and for quite a distance. If the vehicle is driven away too quickly the material under the wheels will simply be pushed backward by the moving tire. Another trick that can be helpful is to drench the sand with lots and lots of water if it is available, this will increase the friction between the sand grains and firm it up so the vehicle can be moved.

Sadly many of these tricks have been learned through bad experiences. One couple who became stranded when they lost the key to their ATV, having an extra along would have saved them from long hours in the late spring heat. Leaving the house knowing he had a flat spare proved an embarrassment for another member. A bit of preplanning with an expectation that a prospecting may fall into peril can prevent that peril.



< The spot where a member recently slid off the road. He was trying to miss the large rock to the left of the photo and ran out of road at the embankment.

Even in a 4 wheel drive a person can bury their vehicle up to their axles in the sand. >





DESERT GOLD DIGGERS, INC.

P.O BOX 5215 TUCSON, ARIZONA 85703

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Forms may be taken to the Membership Director
at our meetings or you may send it to our address.

Official use only: MTG MAIL

M# _____ Paid: _____

Check _____ Cash/money order

New packet given/sent: _____

Badge or'd _____ Sent: _____

MList _____ Acct list _____

Please circle what is need: New Member Annual Renewal Update Information Badge Order

Thank you for your interest in our club! We are a family orientated club with members from across the country! You must be over the age of 18 for an individual membership or we have a family membership that consists of you, your significant other and any children under the age of 18. (If you are under the age of 18 and are able to drive to claims you must have a guardian present or present a notarized waiver signed by parent/guardian to the membership director.) After payment of dues you will receive a new member packet with one ID Card; claim maps and claim information and your DGD name badge will be ordered. At least *one adult name badge is required* with membership. Other family name badges are optional and can be ordered for additional charges. Each membership entitles you access to all club claims, outings, socials and our club bi-monthly gazette. Your membership is good for one year from the date that you joined and *must be renewed* on your anniversary date listed on your ID card. All are invited to join our club however we reserve the right to cancel or revoke your membership for any circumstances deemed warranted by the DGD Board of Directors. DGD recommends that members never visit a club claim alone. We advise going with a partner or group and always tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return.

Pricing: Please choose one:

\$45.00: includes membership packet, shipping fee, **emailing of the gazette** _____ **NOTE: BADGE IS REQUIRED**

\$5.00: includes USPS mailing fee of the **gazette (no charge if received through email)** _____

\$15.00 REQUIRED BADGE _____

\$15.00 each for OPTIONAL badges this includes mailing fee

_____ =total due. We accept cash, check or money order. DO NOT SEND CASH IN MAIL

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Main phone _____ email: _____

Name to appear on **primary** badge **required:** _____

Name(s) to appear on **optional** badge(s) _____ ; _____ ; _____

Would you like your claim maps on: paper _____ CD _____

Disclaimer/ Release: BY AFFIXING MY SIGNATURE BELOW, I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT PROSPECTING AND PROSPECTING LOCATIONS CAN BE DANGEROUS WITH NUMEROUS NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL HAZARDS. BY SIGNING UP, AS A MEMBER OF THE DESERT GOLD DIGGERS INC. , I / MY SPOUSE / MY FAMILY / AND/OR MY GUESTS AGREE TO RELEASE THE DESERT GOLD DIGGERS INC., THEIR OFFICERS OR ASSIGNEES AND / OR PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNER (S) FROM ANY LIABILITY INCURRED DURING PROSPECTING OPERATIONS / OUTINGS. I FURTHER AGREE TO HAVE ANY GUESTS ACCOMPANYING ME TO ONE OF THE " CLUBS " CLAIMS , ON A PRIVATE OUTING, TO SIGN A " CLUB " WAIVER PRIOR TO THE OUTING. If I am under the age of 18 and visit the claims without a guardian, a notarized waiver will be given to the membership director and I will carry a copy with me at all times while on club claims.

Signature: _____ Spouse: _____ Date: _____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT DGD? _____ DGD Form Revised:
11/13/2019

Zoom Meeting Option for December Meeting

On February 2nd we are going to have our monthly membership meeting on Zoom which is a computer teleconferencing software. It is SUPER easy to use Just click on the highlighted link in the meeting announcement email, then join Zoom and download it. It is free and our meeting will be held using secure protocols. You can also dial into zoom. The phone numbers will be in the announcement. If you have a smart phone you will be able to see everyone, but if not, you will still be able to talk and hear everyone.

And here's the really cool thing..... If you are out of state for the summer, you can still attend! So Welcome back to our winter visitors.

We realize you would rather meet in person, but we just can't right now. Our meeting is too large to social distance properly for your safety (required by the county) and it's just too hot outside. We are still having outings and we are hoping that we will be able to have a regular meeting soon.

I will be available for you to log early if it's your first time and you need help. Also, you can call me direct at 520-333-8651 if you need help or have any questions.

Time: 6:00 Date: April 6, 2021 and May 4, 2021

DGD General Membership Meeting



The zoom link to enter the meeting is

<https://zoom.us/j/99549264713?pwd=bTNvSzk2cVpoVjZUdmzRWWpGUlczd09>

The access code is 609708 or 266446

Contact me for questions or send me your email if we don't have it

MASH REPORT

With the passing of his wife Faye, Hank Selfridge is able to increase his participation in club activities.

Dan Walker took a fall and broke a couple of ribs.

If you have an illness, injury or death in the family please contact Amber Clark at amclark4691@gmail.com

Duquesne/Washington Camp continued

rose to 2000. An ariel tram was built to service ore to the reduction plant in Washington camp. The post office was moved to Duquense in 1890.

Copper, silver, lead, and zinc were the major metals produced from the area, the largest copper producer was the Pride of the West Mine. As mining fizzled due to low metal prices and depletion of ore reserves the population fizzled as well, the post office eventually closes in 1920.

Washington camp and Duquesne can be reached by traveling Duquense road from Beyerville which sits between Patagonia and Nogales. There are some residents in the area so access to both sites are limited. It is always to be known that these historic places are often privately owned and entry is with permission only.

Correction from the last Gazette:

A photo was mislabeled, rather than being the Maudina Mine the photo is of a portion of the Bonito Mine.

Photos from the March 2021 Overnight Outing.

Even with Covid19 still looming over our heads we had a great turnout at the Overnight Outing near Kentucky Camp. Lots of people participated in the common dig on Hope#2, it as a great time to give demos and instructions on various pieces of equipment. Thanks to everyone who helped out at the outing from organizing to cooking to selling raffle tickets and store items, All the help is invaluable. We always have to remember Desert Gold Diggers will only be as good a club as we make it.



OUTING DIRECTORS REPORT

Stevens Shadow Claims February 7 2021

On Sunday February 7 2021, 8:00 AM we met at "A" rock for our monthly outing 21 members were in attendance. The metal detecting field had 24, \$1 peso coins with numbers stamped on them. A random number chart was created corresponding to the coins. The first 4 numbers on the chart were worth a gold nugget, the last coins were worth a dollar. Five coins weren't found.

After the detector hunt most of us went to the Wishful Claims, except for Bob and Amber Clark went exploring on their side by side and Carl Wruck went metal detecting. Every one who went to the Wishful Claims found gold and the weather was great. The Wishful Claim is popular with everyone, although it is a 200 mile roundtrip from Tucson.

Getting out and experiencing the out of doors is a great way to spend a day with friends. Until next time keep finding that yellow metal.

I need to recommend a change to the schedule for February to start at 7:00 AM because you are driving directly into the sun at 8:00AM.

Your outing director Dan

Dan Walker >



Hope Claims Outing March 5, 6, 7 2021 Common Dig

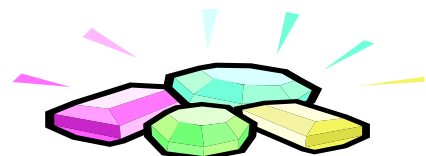
The March Outing was a 3 day event to the Hope 1 and Hope 2 claims. On Friday night there was a chili cook off with 5 entries, all of them good. Saturday was the day we had our common dig using trommels and a Pan O'matic. The recovered gold was split with 50 members getting a share of the gold, 59 members were at the outing. We found some good gold on the claims and even the children were having fun playing on the claims. We worked on the claim until approximately 10:30 AM then headed back to the campground. Joe Marihugh worked the concentrates for the gold split.

While we were working the claim those that stayed back helped with lunch which consisted of hot dogs, hamburgers, potato chips, salads and deserts. All the food was wonderful and the weather was great.

After lunch we had a regular meeting with a raffle that included (2) Fists Full of Gold Books by "Chris Ralph", (2) Standard sieves and 8 gold small nuggets and 2 larger nuggets, and a metal detector. Then the members helped pack up the tables, chairs, and barbecues, some of the members went back to the claims after the meeting.

We owe the success of the outing to the members of the board and all those people in the background who helped make this a successful outing.

Until next month keep digging.
Dan



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



ATTN: MEMBERS,

I have been coming across a lot of members stating they are not receiving their bi-monthly gazettes, come to find out they changed their email address. Please send me an email with your new email address so we can get the gazette out to you. Please send to DGDmembership@gmail.com

Becky Marihugh
Membership Director
520-304-0125

Please keep in mind that all above dues are for family memberships which include two adults and anyone under the age of 18 years.

Only one membership card

Membership is as follows:

- **\$45 a year**
- **\$5 mailing fee for the Gazette there is no charge if Gazette is received by email.**
- **\$15 for required name badge**
- **\$15 for any extra or replacement name badge**

RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS

Remember to check the date on your membership card—or you can e-mail the **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR** at dgdmembership@gmail.com for your membership expiration date.

Dues can be mailed to
DESERT GOLD DIGGERS
PO BOX 5215
TUCSON, AZ 85703

IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR EMAIL PLEASE CONTACT
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

You can also pay your dues at any membership meeting. Renewal Dues are \$45.00/year/family if your receiving your Gazette by E-mail and extra \$5.00 will be charged to have the Gazette mailed to your home.

DESERT GOLD DIGGERS OFFICERS 2019 – 2020

-CLUB PRESIDENT

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520-908-9214

OUTINGS DIRECTOR

Dan Walker
Digger.dan@juno.com

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

The Board of Directors has taken over the responsibilities for the social events. To participate in the planning of these events please attend the Business Meetings the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

CLAIMS Director

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PR DIRECTOR

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520-578-1203/520-203-4519

GOLD MASTER

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CLUB HISTORIAN

Mary Garcia

DGD CLUB STORE

Kim Ransom

GAZETTE EDITOR

David Salars
goldgazette45@gmail.com

Website Liaison

The new website is up and running and almost complete. When it is right Bob Clark will be the contact for website changes

CHIEF CLAIMS STEWARD

N/A

DESERT GOLD DIGGERS BOARD MEMBERS

ONE YEAR BOARD MEMBERS

Ed Madson, Bob Barnes, Kim Ransom, Bob Carter, Bob Melzer, Kay Jenkins

TWO YEAR BOARD MEMBERS

Joe Marihugh, Becky Marihugh, Sharron Lapp

THREE YEAR BOARD MEMBERS

Howard Cooper, Louis Pill, JR Smith, Ralph Montano

****CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD: Kim Ransom**

See the Club Store to get COLOR, laminated, full size maps, with driving directions and GPS coordinates for all the claims! If you prefer, grab the DVD and print out your own maps and directions.

These are just \$5.00

Club Store



Stop by our Club Store for a nice t-shirt, hat or maybe you are in need of a scoop. We carry laminated maps, pins and many other items. Our shirts make great gifts.

NOW—at the DGD Club Store....

All the maps on DVD!!! For the small price of \$2.00—you can take home a DVD that contains the color topo maps, GPS coordinates, directions to the claims and other useful information. You can print out what you need, when you need it!!

We also have more laminated maps back in stock—\$2.00 for each map or the complete set of 5 for just \$9.00. These have the color maps on one side and the GPS, directions, etc. on the other side.

We also have polo shirts, t-shirts, hats, visors, patches, license plates and laminated maps of all the claims and also CDs of all maps.

Come out and support the club with purchases from our club store.

With the guidance of Carl Wruck, Wowzers Web Design is building a new Desert Gold Diggers Web-site. The members will be able to pay their dues online and new members will be able to join the club through a secure link. The new address is desertgolddiggers.com . Entering the old web address should link you with to the new site.

Remember to have your badge and your membership card with you when you are on the claims. Take plenty of water—and drink at least 8 oz. every hour—if you wait until you feel thirsty, then you are already dehydrated!

Thanks for helping keep the claims clean and filling in the holes that you see.

Message from the Gold Master

At the moment we are not buying any gold. When we do we are looking for the size gold that we raffle off at the Membership meetings. If you have some contact us via email at v_1robu1@hotmail.com. And let us know the size and approximate amount. Thanks
Bob Burgette, Gold Master

Desert Gold Diggers, Inc., is a Non profit Arizona Corporation, exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue code.

www.desertgolddiggers.com

Dues are \$45.00/year/family when the Gazette is sent via e-mail and \$50.00/year/family if the Gazette is sent via regular mail., included in Membership Packet is One Name Badge and Claim Maps Dues should be paid within 30 days of your anniversary month of joining Desert Gold Diggers. Check your Membership Card for expiration date. Renewal fees are \$45 for Emailed Gazette, a \$5 if the Gazette is Mailed , or

e-mail DGDMembership@gmail.com and request your due date. Dues should be mailed to the Membership Director, Desert Gold Diggers, PO BOX 5215, Tucson, AZ 85703

DESERT GOLD DIGGERS

Upcoming Events

APRIL ELECTION POSTPONED UNTIL JUNE

The Bi-laws call for 9 to 15 members to sit on the board, with the nominees we have it brings the total to 16 so we need to have an election to vote on board members and any officers that may volunteer their name. We are falling short of people running for President, Vice President and Secretary. I have taken the Presidents position for the last 4 years and am ready to take a break and let someone else step up. Know that I won't let anyone come into the position without help and guidance on the workings of the club and the duties of the position. The last 2 pages of this edition of the Gazette include a description of each of the officer positions as described by the Bi-laws, please review these for an Idea of who does what.

The candidates for office and Board positions are as follows.

President—— ? Vice President—— ? Secretary—— ? Treasurer——Erick Ramirez

Outings Director——Dan Walker Club Historian——Mary Garcia

1 Year Board Members

Bob Melzer, David Salars, Ed Madson, Darrell Marihugh,

Kay Jenkins, Bob Carter, Kim Ransom & Bob Barns , Carl Wruck

2021 OUTINGS

APRIL 11 (Sun)	Placer Pond	8:00AM	Greaterville turnoff And Hwy. 83
May 8th (Sat)	Snoozer Claims	8:00AM	Arivaca Road Mile Post 7
JUNE 6TH (SUN)	HOPE 1	7:00 AM	GARDNER CYN RD. & HWY 83
JULY 10TH (SAT)	SHADOW CLAIMS	7:00 AM	CABALLO LOCO RD. "A" ROCK

MARCH RAFFLE AND PANNING CONTEST WINNERS

Regular nugget raffle Dick Smith, Ken Herholz, Mike Prevenas (2), Don Hartzler, John Stutz, Rodney G., Ed Madson, Gary Puckett

Hangover Drawing Ed Madson, Robert Burgette, Aaron Gilbert

Special Nugget Raffle Marrion Vittetoe, Ed Madson,

Panning Contest Winners for the next event we will offer contest for different skill levels with a variety of difficulty levels

Joe Marihugh—5.8 seconds Joe Alday—6.1 seconds Shawn Mosley—6.39 seconds

Gold, silver, and copper values December January 2021 to March 2021

Gold values:

Dec close/Jan open \$1898.60 Jan close/Feb. open \$1844.13 Feb close/March open \$1734.78

Silver values:

Dec close/Jan open \$26.38 Jan close/Feb. open \$27 Feb close/March open \$26.28

Copper values:

Dec close/Jan open \$3.514 Jan close/Feb. open \$3.5735 Feb close/March open \$4.0945

These metal values can be found and the daily price of gold can be tracked at Kitco.com. Base metal values can be found at kitcometals.com

FILL YOUR HOLES!!!!!!

It's happening again, there are holes being left open on the claims. The Forest Service has just mounted a huge gate at the entrance to the wash at the Bruiser 2 claim and there is no doubt they are looking for an excuse to close it, we can't afford to give them that excuse! The level of activity our club is involved in requires the holes to be filled and other restrictions are in place so we don't have to develop and expensive plan of operations.

If this behavior continues we will be forced to place game cameras in the area and expel offending members from the club. We've done it before.

Guests on the club claims

With the ongoing restrictions caused by the recent pandemic and our inability to have a meeting I encourage the members to take anyone they know is interested in gold prospecting out to the claims as a guest and to the outings. The general rule is to allow people on the claims as a guest once so if you see they have an interest in the club please direct them to the website or give David Salars a call at 520-490-4154



The DGD Market Place



Free 'FOR SALE OR WANTED' ads are on a **one month basis** and are for **DGD members only**.
Deadline for the ads is the **15th of the month**. If the space is limited, we must limit each ad. **Please**
send your carefully worded ad to the Gazette editor at Goldgazette45@gmail.com

PLACER CLAIMS FOR SALE NEAR GREATERVILLE

4 Contiguous placer claims are for sale on Ophir Gulch near Greaterville, AZ. These claims are next to GPAA claims. There are 2 20 acre claims priced at \$4000 each and 2 40 acre claims priced at \$6000 each all 4 can be yours at a lump sum of \$14,000. This claim group are located around T19S R15 and 16E sections 25, 28 and 29. For more information you can contact Ed Madson at 520-250-9626

Keene Dry Washer W/Hose for sale. Does not include blower. Used only a few times. Like new. Asking \$500. Contact Billy Clark 520-203-3807



Various homemade picks made from leaf springs . Make an offer. Approx 29" tall and 11" heads.



The Desert Gold Diggers is a club that is dependent on the participation of its members. Every year the members are asked to step forward and run for election to the various offices that are responsible for handling the club business. Over the years I've found that the best way to get the most out of the club is by participating as an officer. It is your chance to direct the club in a direction you see fit. The following is a simple list of the duties of the officer positions that are up for election at the April Membership Meeting. Several of the people who have held these positions for years are stepping down due to other obligations and some have grown tired and ready to sit back for a few years, this is a great chance for new people to get involved. All the members are eligible to run for officer and Board positions, however anyone with a felony conviction cannot be in a position in which money is handled according to the laws of the State of Arizona.

I encourage everyone to get involved in these offices by giving up a little time and a couple evenings each month. The club cannot run without your help and guidance. All the officers and board members receive a free membership during their time in service.

Elected officer positions and duties:

The President is the principle executive officer of the club responsible for presiding over the Membership Meetings, signing contracts, deeds, or other instruments authorized by the Board of Directors, and presiding over the meeting of the Board of Directors in the absence of the Board Chairperson.

The Vice President arranges for the program or Speaker at the Monthly Membership meeting and steps in for the President when the President is unable or unwilling to do his/her duties.

The Secretary keeps minutes at the membership and business meetings, prepared and sends notices under the bylaws and keeps the Corporate Seal for sealing official documents as directed by the Bylaws or Board of directors.

The Treasurer is responsible for all funds and securities of the corporation. He/she handles the banking duties for the club and presents financial reports to the Board of Directors. Kim Ransom has been the treasurer for several years and is stepping down but will train the new treasurer to do the job. This is a good opportunity for a person to learn the principles of accounting for someone with years of experience.

The Outing Coordinator arranges and directs the monthly outings and prepares the schedule of outings to be published in the monthly Gazette.

The Social Events coordinator with the assistance of the committee known at this time as the Nuggets organizes, directs and implements all social functions. There are 3 major social events each year; the family picnic which in the past several years has been held in conjunction with the March outing, the annual Steak fry, held in conjunction with the November outing and the Christmas Party at the time of the December Membership Meeting.

The Historian is responsible for keeping the club records, including minutes, financial reports and copies of the Gazette. He/she also hold the clubs video library.

Board appointed positions:

The Claims Director coordinates and leads the search for potential areas in which to stake placer claims for the club. He/she also is responsible for filing the claim paperwork and updating the claims packets to the members.

Newsletter editor produces the bi monthly Gazette.

Public Relations director is a Goodwill Ambassador and disperses information about the club to the public.

Membership Director is responsible for the list of members, taking the applications and payment of new members and, handling the renewal of memberships.

Board Members:

There are three classes of board Members; 1, 2 and 3-year positions. This year the all board positions are open for election. The board members are responsible for deciding the direction of the club and meet the third Tuesday of each month; these meetings seldom last over an hour.