



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

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

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

March 16,2021

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm

*Motion by Ed seconded by Kay the minutes be approved with correction that Kim did not volunteer to be President. Motion Carried.

*Dave reported the Gazette is coming along nicely & should be out by the end of the month.

*Membership Report: We have 24 new members, 19 renewal & 8 not renewed for March, 18 were done thru PayPal. Total membership is 341

*Web Master Report: Carl will be handing off the Project to Bob B. in April. He will need Valarie to help Bob transition.

*Treasurers Report and Gold Master Reports were given.

*Outings Report: Overnight Outing was held March 5, 6 & 7. There was a chili cook-off on Friday evening and a Common Dig on Saturday.

Old Business:

*EIN has been submitted and PayPal is in working status.

*Elections: Elections will be delayed until June, Dave will ask Bob Meltzer to run for Board.

*Claims Stewart Cleaned up claims at Bruisers, claim signs are needed.

New Business:

*Kim stated Roll of the Chairman is to run the Business Meetings but would like to help with getting function and duties of each position written. Dan disagreed, stating this is a hobby not a job which Ralph & Carl agreed with.

*Ed recommends a book "Walk to Riches" by Charles Dunning for a book review in the Gazette.

*Ralph reported the last outing was wonderful and we need to reach out to new members to help them & encourage a family atmosphere.

*April 11th, Sunday, 8am Placer Pond. April 24th is Cleanup starting at 7am at Snoozers

September 25 will be an Claims outing

*Motion by Becky, seconded by Ralph to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm

Respectfully Submitted Sharon Lapp, Secretary

Business Meeting Minutes: April 20th ,2021

Meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm.

- Motion by Kay, Seconded by Ralph to approve the minutes as read.
 - Dave reported that most of the Gazette is out. Still need to print more labels & Gazette. Have mailed out about 35 Gazettes and have another 35 to print and mail out. Kay suggests only mailing Gazette to those who don't have an email address. Erik suggests an August cut off date for those with email. Carl suggests revisiting the suggestion at a later date.
 - Membership Report: we have 20 more members, 16 new members (13 off the website) and 4 previous members have rejoined making our total membership 354.
 - Bob Clark gave the Web Master Report. Nothing to report, everything going fine. Dave will send pictures and Bob will have Valerie put them on the website.
 - Erick gave the Treasurers Report.
 - Carl commented that we need to continue to evaluate and use the website and contact Bob C. with and information, ideas or questions.
 - Bob Burgette gave the Gold Masters Report.
 - Outings Director Dan Walker, gave his report: The Outing was Sunday, April 11 at 8am at Greaterville, Placer Pond, 27 members attended. Joe & Becky did pretty well finding some gold. Saturday April 24 the Outing will be at Snoozers at mile post 7. Again it was suggested we get more trail cam's.
 - Claims Director Report, Bill Holtz reported there are no trees at the Shadow Claim to attach claim signs to. Hank will be Claim Stewart for Hope 4.
- P. R. Report: Carl & Kay will be having surgery and Linda Renz needs a card as well.
- Old Business:
- Kim asked to have her name removed from the 1 year Board Member list.
We still need people to step up to the plate and volunteer for President, Vice President & Secretary positions. Elections are next month.
 - Becky reported people have been asking to have the store items put on line. This will be discussed again at the May meeting.
 - Motion by Becky, 2nd by Joe to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm.

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

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MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

April 6th, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm.

- A very informative video by John Honan on “How To Open and Work A Crevice was shown.
- There will be an outing at Placer Pond in Greaterville @ 8am Sunday April 11th. Saturday April 24th at Snoozers @ Mile Post 7 for maintenance of our claims. Our Claim Stewart Program will have 2 people assigned to each claim to take care of our claims. Ralph will be Claims Stewart under Dan Walker and can be reached at 520-993-0945 if you wish to volunteer for a claim.
- Marion filled in 2 big holes at Bruiser 1. Hank went to Hope 4. Hank went to Hope 4 and took pictures of the Markers. Marion thinks we need to invest in some trail cam's to see who is digging the holes & not filling them in.
- Dave is having some trouble with the mailings he needs more address labels. He asks that any book reviews on recent reads would be appreciated.
- Dan had new Claim Signs ordered.
- The Outing at Placer Pond was a good is good this time of year. Next Outing is Saturday May 8th at Snoozers At 8am.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30

May 4th, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM by David Salars.

- Guests, birthdays, anniversaries and new members were recognized.
- Kim Ransom played a video from Chris Ralph in regards to types of metal detectors, coils and their different uses.
- Dan Walker reported on the April outing to Placer Pond stating that Becky Marihugh found a nugget sitting on to of the ground. He stated that the May's outing will be to the Snoozen' claims on May 8th and we will leave from Mile post 7 on the Arivaca Highway at 8:00.
- David Salars reminded the members to fill their holes on the claims and stated that game cameras are in use to catch the offenders.
- David stated that we still have openings for President, Vice President and Secretary,. Since the number of people running for 1 year board positions doesn't exceed the maximum number of board members allowed by the bi-laws we can elect them by acclamation at the June meeting.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM

PROSPECTING BASICS

Sources for bargains on equipment

Seeing cool equipment can be a source discouragement for those new to the hobby of Gold Prospecting when they see what it costs new. One thing a person should remember is that the equipment made 20 or 30 years ago was recovering gold with the same principles as the most modern equipment. Often with a few modifications these old machines can be made to work as efficient as if they were just purchased at a gold show.

Classified ad websites like Craigslist or Facebook Marketplace can lead a person to the right equipment at the right price. Although the type of plastic has changed in some brands of drywashers the same models can be had for hundreds of dollars less, recently scrolling through craigslist I saw a 3rd generation Keene 151 drywasher for \$900 whereas the newest version sells for \$2000 at the nearest prospecting store. I've picked up Keene drywasher for the mid 80's for \$50, the main difference between it and the modern machines is the vibratory fan which can be purchased online through Keene Engineering. Drywasher cloth is also available through the company's website.

Finding people who have become disenchanted with the hobby is always useful. Some people are so excited about using their new machine they don't do the necessary prospecting and end up running buckets of barren dirt eventually becoming discouraged. Some of these machines sit in the back shed or on a rack in the garage for a couple of years when the owner decides he is tired of looking at it and lets it go for cheap. This is where networking in the prospecting clubs is useful as a person can keep track of the members who no longer attend the outing or meeting and contact them in regards to their unwanted equipment.

A handy person should stay on the lookout for pieces and parts that may be useful in repairing used equipment. Electrically operated recliners often have 12 volt motors that can be used to power a small trommel of gold wheel, windshield wiper assemblies and mobility scooters are a good source of direct current motors that can be run off batteries. In the southwest desert lawnmower wheels tend to dry up and disintegrate long before the life of the mower itself and are often discarded by the roadside for brushy and bulky pickup, they are great for replacement motors on drywasher blowers. Leaf blowers can be had for cheap at yard sale and swap meets and make wonderful vacuums when attached to a 5 gallon bucket (plans can be found online).

A metal break, a tool that can bend sheet metal, comes in handy for the recreational prospector when it comes to making sluice boxes and highbankers. With a good source of aluminum or galvanized sheet metal a person can make equipment to sell and benefit others with bargain equipment. We all must remember that the people who made the greatest wealth in the Gold Rush were the vendors selling equipment to the prospectors as they arrived.

If you are unsure of the condition of a piece of equipment up for sale contact someone who has been involved in the hobby for a while and get their opinion on the price and workability of a used item. A rusty set of riffles in a sluice box can only a minor cosmetic problem where a carburetor on a drywasher blower that is clogged with fuel that has turned to varnish is more complicated. A bargain price can soon disappear if lots of repairs need to be made.



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: June 1st, 2021 and July 6th, 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

Carl Wruck, Pinky Surgery. Linda Renz. Hip Replacement. Kay Jenkins, surgery.

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

OUTING DIRECTORS REPORT

APRIL OUTING DIRECTORS REPORT

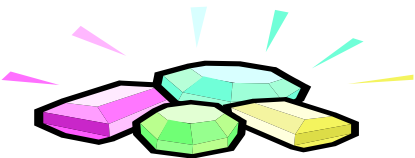
Placer Pond Claims Outing April 11 2021

The April Outing was held at Placer Pond 1 and 2 claims. On Sunday morning at 8:00 AM at the Greaterville turnoff from Highway 83; 27 members and our mascot Scar met and caravanned to Placer Pond 1 for the metal detector hunt. I planted 24 one peso numbered targets each matched a randomly generated list. There were (4) worth a gold nugget and (3) worth a (\$2 bill) All except 4 targets were found.

After the metal detector hunt the members went off to high bank and use recirculation equipment, including a Timms Gold Extractor and a rocker box. The best gold was found crevassing the bed rock in areas above the cattle tank.

There were also members metal detecting and visiting each other since it has been awhile since they had been out in the hills. The weather was great and outing successful. until next month keep digging. Dan

Dan Walker >



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

Dave Salars
Docsalars@prodigy.net
520-490-4154

VICE PRESIDENT

Kay Jenkins
kayjenkins1016@gmail.com
503-314-4305

CLUB SECRETARY

Sharron Lapp
s_lapp@hotmail.com
616-443-1948

CLUB TREASURER

Erick Ramirez
eram007@hotmail.com
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

Dan Walker
Digger.dan@juno.com

PR DIRECTOR

Amber Clark
amclark4691@gmail.com
520-578-1203/520-203-4519

GOLD MASTER

Bob Burgette
1robu1@hotmail.com
520-235-7822

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Becky Marihugh
dgdmembership@gmail.com
520-304-0125

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 & Bob Barns, Carl Wruck

2021 OUTINGS

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

Gold, silver, and copper values February 2021 to April 2021

Gold values:

Feb close/March open \$1734.78 March close/April open \$1707.50 April close/May open \$1768.91

Silver values:

Feb close/March open \$26.28 March close/April open \$24.43 April close/May open \$25.91

Copper values:

Feb close/March open \$4.0945 March close/April open \$3.9785 April close/May open \$4.479

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.