



# Desert Gold Diggers Gazette 2023



The official publication of Desert Gold Diggers Inc. A report of the happenings and business for Feb. & March 2023

*May you always find yellow on the bottom of your pan*



<h2 style="font-family: cursive;">Monthly Meetings</h2>	<h2 style="font-family: cursive;">Monthly Events</h2>
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**Membership Meeting , April 4th and May 2nd at Ellie Towne Community Center**

It looks like we will have a speaker at both meetings and wont have to resort to a video. As usual we will have the nugget raffles to bring in a bit more income to the club so that we are able to pay for the claim fees coming up this summer. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there, as usual the address for Ellie Towne is 1660 W Ruthrauff it is easily accessed off of I-10 from prince and north on Romero or from the Ruthrauff/Camino Del Cerro exit.

**Membership Meeting**

**1st TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH @ 6:00PM**

The public facilities have opened again so we can look forward to having meetings live and in person. We are looking forward to seeing our group get together on a regular basis once again. We hope to continue to be able to continue to broadcast the meeting with the Zoom application so we can catch those folks who cant make it out or can't make it to Tucson.

A special word of thanks goes out to Kim Ransom who is the holder of the zoom account . At the time we are without a Vice President so if you have any ideas for a speaker contact any officer or board member. The board of directors voted in the past to reimburse any speaker up to \$300 for travel expenses.

**Business Meeting**

**3rd Tuesday of Every Month @ 6:30 pm**

IHOP at 4187 N. Oracle this is the Southwest corner of Oracle and Limberlost and through the Zoom application

**April**  
**April 4th** Annual Meeting and election of officers 6:00PM Ellie Towne Community Center at 1660 W. Ruthrauff.  
**April 8th** (sat) Outing PLACER POND 8:00 AM GREATERVILLE RD & HWY 83  
**April 18th** Business Meeting 6:30PM IHOP at 4187 N. Oracle at the southwest corner of Limberlost.

**May**  
**May 2nd** Membership Meeting 6:00PM Ellie Towne Community Center at 1660 W. Ruthrauff.  
**May 6th** (sat) SNOOZER 1 8:00 AM ARIVACA RD MILE POST 7  
**May 16th** Business Meeting 6:30PM IHOP at 4187 N. Oracle at the southwest corner of Limberlost.

**June**  
**June 6th** Membership Meeting 6:00PM Ellie Towne Community Center at 1660 W. Ruthrauff.  
**June 11th** (SUN) HOPE CLAIMS 7:00 AM GARDNER CYN RD. & HWY 83  
**June 20th** Membership Meeting 6:00PM Ellie Towne Community Center at 1660 W. Ruthrauff.

For submissions to the Gazette or suggestions contact David Salars at goldgazette45@gmail.com

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS, APRIL 4TH 2023

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.

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.

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 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. Unless someone runs for this position the Board of Directors takes 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.

The Historian is responsible for keeping the club records, including minutes, financial reports and copies of the Gazette. He/she also holds the club's 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.

Website Liaison acts as a go-between between The Board of Directors and our web creator to submit information for publication to the website.

**CANDIDATES FOR OFFICER AND BOARD POSITIONS FOR  
DESERT GOLD DIGGERS APRIL ELECTION 2023**

President \_\_\_\_\_ Ralph Montano

Vice President \_\_\_\_\_ Terry Becklund

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Darrell Marihugh

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Erick Ramirez

Outings Director \_\_\_\_\_ Dan Walker

Historian \_\_\_\_\_ Mary Garcia

**1 year board Members**

Ed Madson

Bob Barnes

David Salars

Bob Melzer

Kay Jenkins

**2 Year Board Members**

Joe Marihugh

Becky Marihugh

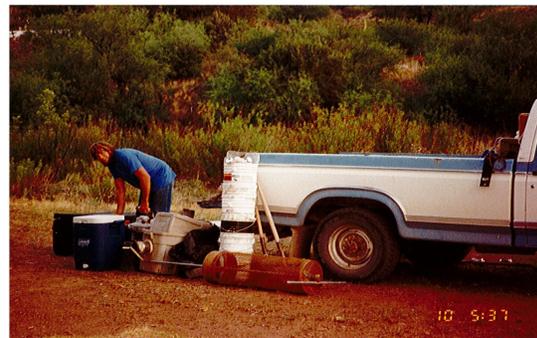
Hank Bassaraba

**BLAST FROM THE PAST**

Just a few memories of club activities years ago



Ed and Clara Bonnell at Pilgrim's Progress  
Feb. 5, 1994



Ron Malaney at Diggers Delight  
1994



Gene and Deb Lasalle  
Diggers Delight 1994



Jack Stevenson and Jerry Schultz  
at Pilgrim's Progress Feb. 5, 1994

# The President's Corner

Hello and welcome to all Desert Gold Digger's Members

I'd like to say to all the members that participated in the overnight March outing. Thank you for those that volunteered and Those that came out to enjoy their time out there.

It was an adorable overnight outing remember throughout the several of our claims Pilgrims fried and snoozen'.

Gold was found by members. The running joke was to follow Joe, Becky and Daryl if you wanted to find gold. The Friday night crock pot dinner went well.

I'd like to remind to be ready for the Coming hot weather. We all know what to expect for the new-comers have plenty of water use whatever shade you can find when out on the claims or bring your own like some do in the form of a Canopy, wearing A hat also helps.

Watch out for the creepy crawlers they're going to be. Rattlesnakes scorpions Gila monsters and the like, so be careful where you step or where you reach.

I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and hopefully have a better outing in the fall.

Now all you need to do is get out there and find some yellow stuff though and enjoy yourself.  
President Ralph Montano

## **BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

January 17th 2023 business meeting

<Kay Jenkins called meeting to order at 6:35 pm

<Darrell Marihugh read previous minutes, Dave Salars motioned approved, Becky Marihugh seconded they be approved as read. The motion passed

<Dave reported on the gazette stating a full page for overnight outing will be at the front. He will have it out before next meeting. Also have page for election outlining the office descriptions

<Becky reported on membership, stating there are 12 new plus some late renewals so up 19 with a total membership of 325

<Eric Ramirez gave the treasurer's report stating we had an ok year ending barely in the positive so that's good. We didn't have to depend too much on our savings

<Dan gave the outing director's report, stating in January we met at Arivaca store had 44 members and 45 scouts show up for a demonstration. We had metal detect hunt and members found gold.

<Mary Garcia the historian is working on finishing up for the whole years records. She is trying for March to get a speaker on Sutter's Mill.

Old business

<Elections are to be held at April 4th meeting. We need to promote election as well the march outing.

<Kim Ransom stated she won't be here February business meeting so no zoom option will be available.

<Ralph Montano reviewed the possibility of having Martin speak in February

<Becky Marihugh stated she printed out 30 copies of the club flyer.

<Erick stated we need keep better record of all tickets sold as there was some confusion of the numbers from the Overnight Outings and Christmas party.

New business

## January 17th, 2023 business Meeting Minutes continued

### New business

<Dave Salars stated we are looking for new gazette editor. He stated Ray Darragh has expressed interest.

<It was finalized that the March Overnight Outing will be held the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. A crockpot cook-off will be held Friday night the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

<We will still have March membership meeting as scheduled on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

<Ralph Montano wants look up history on Pilgrim's Pride and Snoozing claims as well as Arivaca Kings mine

<Kay Jenkins asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm Bob Melzer motioned Sharon Lapp seconded. The motion carried.

## February 21st, 2023 Business meeting

>Kay Jenkins called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM

>The minutes wore the January business Meeting were read and approved.

>David Salars Rereported that the Gazette is coming along at it's usual pace. He reported that he will edit the Gazette until July at which point Ray Daurough will take it over but will need a publishing program. Becky Marihugh moved, and Kay seconded that we allow the purchase of one for his needs. The motion passed.

>Becky reported that there at 12 new members and 14 non renewals with a current membership of 315. She reported that at times she gets a payment check with no renewal application so at time it can be confusing. She also reported that the price of badges rose 85 cents.

>David Salars read the treasures report provided by Erick stating expenses for the last month were \$1827 while income was \$1421.

>It was reported the Bob purchased an ounce of #2 gold nuggets and we can attempt to buy more gold from the members as we have a test kit to ensure the quality.

>Dan Walker gave the outings report, he stated he won't be running for outings director again.

>Mary Garcia's sister has taken ill so she hasn't had time to contact the Gregory school director to speak. Kay will try to contact a speaker from Westerners Intl. and ralph will try to contact someone from forest service of BLM to speak. Dave moved that we provide potential speakers with up to \$300 for travel and hotel expenses. The motion was seconded and approved. Dolores Hill will be asked to speak on meteorites in April.

### Old business

>The March outing was discussed, and plans finalized.

### New business

>The Gregory school has requested we give panning demos for their Oregon Trail days in September

>It was proposed we eliminate the zoom option for business meetings. Becky moved to do so, Sharron Lapp seconded the motion and it passed.

>Kay stated it's always best to have reports prepared before the business meeting.

>Ralph agreed to serve another year as president. a term limit was suggested for the position.

>The size and number of nuggets for raffles was discussed. The possibility of Paydirt bags was suggested.

>Becky moved and Sharron seconded that Kathy Smith be allowed to purchase a ne ticket dispenser. The motion passed.

>The April outing falls on Easter Sunday, so David S. moved to move it to the previous day, Joe Marihugh seconded the motion. The motion passed.

>Bob Melzer moved to adjourn the meeting; David s seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM

## Membership Meeting Minutes

February 7th, 2023 membership meeting

- >Ralph Montano called the meeting to order at 6:10pm with the pledge of allegiance.
- >Guests Birthdays and anniversaries were recognized.
- >It was announced that the overnight outing in March will be moved back to the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> in hopes for warmer weather. The campsite will be near the North Arivaca claims off of the Arivaca highway off Mile Post 7
- >The election coming up in April was announced, David Salars announced that all the positions are up for election except the 3 year board members.>David announced that Ray Darrough will be taking over the Gazette.
- >Martin Smrena gave a talk on the chemical formation of gold and how it fits into the Periodic Table of Elements.
- >The nugget raffles were held.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 membership meeting

- >Ralph Montano called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with the pledge of allegiance.
- >Guests Birthdays and anniversaries were recognized.
- >Ralph thanks everyone who helped with the Camp Life Scouts at the January outing.
- >The election coming up in April was announced, David Salars announced that all the positions are up for election except the 3 year board members.
- >Ralph announced that the April outing is moved forward a day so it won't conflict with Easter.
- >The Overnight outing on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> was reviewed. There will be a potluck cookoff on Friday evening a nugget shoot Saturday morning at 8:00 with 50 prize winning targets up for grabs. Lunch at noon Saturday will cost \$6 and a potluck dish is appreciated. A raffle will be held.
- >Ralph announced that a member from out of town ants to go to the Bruiser Claims between April 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>
- >There was no guest speaker, so we watched a Chris Ralph video.
- >Ralph stated he is looking for anyone who has stuff to show off at a show and tell.
- >The nugget raffles were held

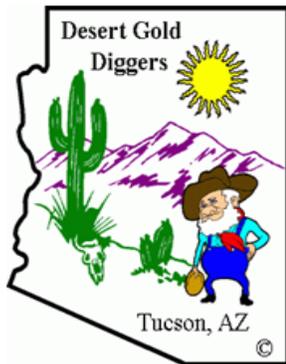
The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM



< This view of the snow capped Santa Rita Mountains show the reason we are moving t he overnight outings to different months

Using a modified highbanker with the sluice extended to reduce the chance to loose gold >





# 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**

**\$20.00 REQUIRED BADGE** \_\_\_\_\_

**\$20.00** 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) \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_

**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 April and May Membership Meeting

On April 4th and May 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 4th and May 2nd DGD General Membership Meeting

The zoom link to enter the meeting is



<https://zoom.us/j/98580781387?pwd=TS9TdGNNOUh2VndJTkZlbd4RmVkUT09>

If it doesn't work try

<https://zoom.us/j/99549264713?pwd=bTNvSzk2cVpoVjZUdmzRWWpGUlczdz09>

The access code is 266446

Contact me for questions or send me your email if we don't have it to: [kransom6a@gmail.com](mailto:kransom6a@gmail.com)

#### USEFUL CONVERSION TABLE FOR WEIGHTS USED IN MEASURING PRECIOUS METALS

15.4324 GRAINS/GRAM	480 GRAINS/TROY OUNCE
31.1035 GRAMS/TROY OUNCE	1.5552 GRAMS PER PENNYWEIGHT (DWT)
20 PENNYWEIGHT/TROY OUNCE	1.09714286 OUNCES (avoirdupois)/TROY OUNCE
12 TROY OUNCES/1 TROY POUND	28.3495 GRAMS/OUNCE (avoirdupois)
907185 GRAMS/1 TON	14.5833 TROY OUNCE/POUND (avoirdupois)
4 ½ BIG WHEEL BARROWS/TON	APPX. 22 5 GAL. BUCKETS/1 CUBIC YARD
6 #2 SHOVELS/CUBIC FOOT	162 #2 SHOVEL SCOOPS/1 TON

#### Mohs Hardness Scale

The resistance in which a smooth surface of a mineral offers to scratching is its hardness. Determining the hardness of a mineral is one of the first techniques in determining the type of mineral in question. In 1824 Friedrich Mohs chose 10 common minerals by which to compare the hardness of any mineral, they are as follows:

- |           |              |           |                               |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 1—Talc    | 2—Gypsum     | 3—Calcite | 4—Fluorite                    |
| 5—Apatite | 6—Orthoclase | 7—Quartz  | 8—Topaz 9—Corundum 10—Diamond |

Sets of these minerals can be purchased at stores that specialize in the sale of scientific items or assembled by following the list above.

## OUTING DIRECTORS REPORT

### February DGD OUTING DIRECTORS REPORT Pilgrims Pride Claims Outing

Our February 2023 outing started where we met near MP7 on Arivaca Road at 8:00 AM. We had 22 members present.

Our metal detector hunt was first with 24 (1) peso coins planted (3) for gold nuggets, (3) for \$2 bills and (18) for \$1 coins. One coin was not found.

The Members prospected on the Pilgrims Pride Claims. Members used recirculation system processes. Gold was found by everyone and the weather was sunny and warm and windy later in the day.

The outing was a complete success and we look forward to the next outing at the overnight outing March 24, 25 and 26 at the North Arivaca Claims on Las Guijas Road.

Keep finding the yellow stuff, Dan

Photo of a rock wall to a shelter or corral on the Pilgrim's Pride claim. This claim has lots of historic ruins



### DGD March 24,25,26 2023 Overnight Outing

#### Outings Directors Report

The Desert Gold Diggers Annual Spring Overnight Outing started the weekend of March 24<sup>th</sup> thru 26<sup>th</sup>. Friday was the evening of our potluck dinner with 25 members attending. Enjoying five dishes prepared by members and deserts brought by other members. After dinner the weather turned cold and everybody retired to their camping accommodations.

Early Saturday morning for breakfast pastries and hot coffee was available to everyone. The signup sheet was passed around at 7:00 AM with 52 members signed in with the final count after lunch.

Around 7:30 AM the metal detector hunt preparations started with 50 nickels hidden and the hunt started at 8:00 AM. The prizes awarded were 3 gold nuggets, 2 \$10 Frys Gift certificates, a one gram silver ingot and a tiny gold nugget donated by Joe and Becky Marihugh, 3 \$2 bills and 40 \$1 coins. There were only 3 coins not found. After the hunt individuals went to the Snoozin Claims and Pilgrim's Pride Claims prior to lunch at 12:00 PM. Nice gold was found on the claims.

Drawing tickets for \$1.00 and lunch tickets for \$6.00 were sold before lunch. Lunch was hamburgers, cheese burgers and hotdogs with condiments. Potato chips, baked beans, potato salad, strawberries and pastries.

After lunch drawings were held for gold nuggets, Frys Gift Certificates, and hats. Afterward people went back to prospecting or headed for home. This overnight outing enjoyed by all and the weather was better for this time of year.

The next outing will be Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup> at Placer Pond meeting at 8:00 AM at the intersection of HWY 83 and Greaterville Road.

Until next month keep finding the yellow stuff.

Your outing director 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](mailto: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 will be issued per family.

## **Membership is as follows:**

- **\$45 a year**
- **\$20 for required name badge**
- **\$20 for any extra or replacement name badge**
- **The exorbitant cost of producing and mailing the Gazette is leading the club to eliminate the USPS option.**

## **RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Remember to check the date on your membership card—or you can e-mail the **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR** at [dgdmembership@gmail.com](mailto: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

# DESERT GOLD DIGGERS OFFICERS 2023

**-CLUB PRESIDENT**

Ralph Montano  
dgdpresident8@gmail.com  
(520) 990-0945

**VICE PRESIDENT**

At this time we have no one serving as Vice President. If you are interested in filling this important position give Ralph a call.

**CLUB SECRETARY**

Darrell Marihugh  
520-245-6775  
darrell.marihugh@yahoo.com

**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  
520-449-694  
marycgarcia54@gmail.com

**DGD CLUB STORE**

Kim Ransom

**GAZETTE EDITOR**

David Salars  
goldgazette45@gmail.com  
520-490-4154

**Website Liaison**

Carl Wruck  
520-891-7702  
carlwruck06@comcast.net

**CHIEF CLAIMS STEWARD**

N/A

# DESERT GOLD DIGGERS BOARD MEMBERS

**ONE YEAR BOARD MEMBERS**

Ed Madson, Bob Barnes, David Salars, Bob Melzer, Kay Jenkins

**TWO YEAR BOARD MEMBERS**

Joe Marihugh, Becky Marihugh, Sharron Lapp, Hank Bassaraba

**THREE YEAR BOARD MEMBERS**

Howard Cooper, Louis Pill, JR Smith, Kim Ransom

**\*\*CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD: Kay Jenkins**

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, Wowser’s 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](http://desertgolddiggers.com) . Carl Wruck is the liaison between the web designer and the club. If you have any questions about the site or would like to see some additions contact him at [carlwruck06@comcast.net](mailto:carlwruck06@comcast.net)

**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**

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.desertgolddiggers.com)

Dues are \$45.00/year/family when the Gazette is sent via e-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 e-mail [DGDMembership@gmail.com](mailto: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

Be sure to visit the club website at [desertgolddiggers.com](http://desertgolddiggers.com)

## Claims Stewards

### Santa Catalina Claims

BRUISER #2 Ray Darragh(480)652-0648  
BRUISER #3 Ralph Montano 993-0945

### North Arivaca Claims

PILGRIMS PRIDE #1 Joe Marihugh 369-0112  
PILGRIMS PRIDE #2  
SNOOZIN #1 Jerry Smith 520-248-2028  
SNOOZIN #2  
SNOOZIN #3 Darrell Marihugh 245-6775  
SNOOZIN #4 Jerry Smith  
SNOOZIN #5 Jerry Smith

### Greaterville Claims

HOPE #1 Jim Gacey 520 777-6118  
HOPE #2 Jim Gacey 520 777-6118  
HOPE #3 Hank Bassaraba 520-495-9209  
HOPE #4 Hank Bassaraba  
PLACER POND #1 Ray Darragh (480)652-0648  
PLACER POND #2 Ray Darragh

### South Arivaca Claims

WISHFUL #1 Bed Rock Bob 520-429-7956  
WISHFUL #2 Bed Rock Bob  
WISHFUL #3 ??  
WISHFUL #4

If you see any problems on any of the claims please contact the Claim Steward assigned to that claim.

# DESERT GOLD DIGGERS

## Upcoming Events

Look for updates for meetings of the Claim Stewards at the IHOP at the SW corner of Oracle and Limberlost. We will be discussing the possibilities of acquiring new claims and reviewing status of the claims and any problems the Claims Stewards may be having with the claims they are assigned. If you would like to participate as a Claims Steward it would be wise to attend.

### 2023 OUTINGS

APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup> (SAT) PLACER POND 8:00 AT GREATERVILLE RD & HWY 83 (moved from the 9th due to Easter)

MAY 6<sup>TH</sup> (SAT) SNOOZER 11 8:00 AM ARIVACA RD MILE POST 7  
MAY 6<sup>TH</sup> (SAT) SNOOZER 1 8:00 AM ARIVACA RD MILE POST 7

June 11<sup>th</sup> (SUN) HOPE CLAIMS 7:00 AM GARDNER CYN RD. & HWY 83

JULY 8<sup>TH</sup> (SAT) BRUISER CLAIMS 7:00 AM 1 ST CIRCLE K IN ORACLE

AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup> (SUN) WISHFUL CLAIMS 7:00 AM 17180 W. ARIVACA RD. AT THE STORE

### MONTHLY NUGGET WINNERS

Hat: Bob Melzer, Don Albro,

Badge: Chris Lespron, Christian Verbinski

Shirt: Gregg Penn, Darrell Marihugh

Regular Dave Riley(2), Martin Smrena, Max Offerman, Ray Rarrough, Seth Henry, Sharron Lapp, Gloria Jackson, Joe Johnson, Tom Monroe, Hank Bassaraba, Red V.

Red ticket winners Sharron Lapp, Lisa A., Richard Smith, Bill Vasko

**For many years Kathy Smith, Jim Bradley and Bob Burgette have been selling the tickets and deserve our appreciation. Thanks to you all.**



A few photos from Campo Bonito area just north of the Bruiser Claims. Buffalo Bill Cody had great influence in the area as well as the town of Oracle, look up more to find his interesting history in the area. The area is considerably cooler in the summer and can lead to some pleasant outings.

### MASH REPORT

Mary Garcia's Sister has entered hospice care

Erick Ramirez's sister passed away

Wes Tucker is down with repertory problems

If you have an illness, injury of death in the family please contact Amber Clark at [amclark4691@gmail.com](mailto:amclark4691@gmail.com)

### Gold, silver, and copper values December 2022 to March 2023

**Gold values:**

December close/January open \$1823.86 January Close/February open \$1927.43 February close/March open \$1825.68

**Silver values:**

December close/January open \$23.96 January Close/February open \$23.68 February close/March open \$20.89

**Copper values:**

December close/January open \$3.8055 January Close/February open \$4.2285 February close/March open \$4.0975

These metal values can be found and the daily price of gold can be tracked at [Kitco.com](http://Kitco.com). Base metal values can be found at [kitcometals.com](http://kitcometals.com)

## Definitions of Lode and Placer Claims

**Lode Claims** cover classic veins or lodes having well-defined boundaries and also include other rock in-place bearing valuable mineral deposits. Examples include quartz or other veins bearing gold or other metallic mineral deposits and large volume, but low-grade disseminated metallic deposits, such as Carlin-type gold deposits and copper-bearing granites. Lode claims are usually located as parallelograms with the side lines parallel to the vein or lode. Descriptions are by metes and bounds surveys (giving the length and compass bearing of each boundary line from a central point or monument to each corner post, and then sequentially around the perimeter of the claim). Federal statute limits a lode claim to a maximum of 1,500' in length along the vein or lode. The width is a maximum of 600', 300' on either side of the centerline of the vein or lode. The end lines of the lode claim must be parallel to qualify for underground extralateral rights. Extralateral rights involve the rights to minerals in vein or lode form that extend at depth outside the vertical boundaries of the claim.

**Placer Claims** cover all those deposits not subject to lode claims. Originally, placer claims included only deposits of mineral-bearing sand and gravel containing free gold or other detrital minerals. By congressional acts and judicial interpretations, many nonmetallic bedded or layered deposits, such as gypsum and high-calcium limestone, are located as placer claims. Where possible, placer claims are to be located by legal subdivision, such as the E1/2NE1/4NE1/4, Section 2, Township 10 South, Range 21 East, Mount Diablo Meridian (30 U.S.C. § 35 and 43 CFR 3832, Subparts A and B). The maximum size of a placer claim you may locate is 20 acres (see Figure 2). An association of two locators may locate 40 acres, and three may locate 60 acres, etc. The maximum area of an association placer claim permitted by law is 160 acres for eight or more persons. The maximum size of a placer claim for a corporation is 20 acres per claim. Corporations may not locate association placer claims unless they are in association with other private individuals or other corporations as Co-locators.

## Amalgamation With Mercury

Mercury is a deadly poisonous heavy metal whose use is not recommended. It causes liver damage, hair loss, kidney damage, blindness, insanity and a host of serious ailments that can be found in the Online Material Data Sheet at <https://fscimage.fishersci.com/msds/96252.htm>.

If a person should decide to use mercury in the recovery of gold, they should always wear gloves, normally 2 pairs; a pair of latex gloves covered by a heavier pair of rubber or latex gloves like those used to wash dishes. Never use mercury in a closed area as it is rapidly vaporized even at room temperature, always work in an area that is well ventilated and stay upwind from the work area. The mercury must be clean or it won't be able to attract any gold.

In many third world countries, gold is amalgamated straight from the gold concentrates in a gold pan or plastic bucket. The mercury can be added to the concentrates in spiral gold wheel or on a shaker table. The mercury can also be placed on a clean, oil free copper plate in a very thin coating from a solution of mercury-laden nitric acid and the concentrate run over the plate.

The mercury is separated from the gold by distillation in a retort which is made of heavy steel boiler and a steel condenser surrounded by a water jacket, the end of the condenser should be placed in water to prevent any further vaporization and allow the mercury to be recovered, **never use glass as a retort**. The gold recovered from the retort is referred to as sponge gold. It can also be separated by squeezing the amalgam through chamois. Another way is to cut a potato in half and scooping out a small hole in the middle and placing the amalgam in the hole, wiring the potato shut and baking it in a fire by which the mercury will be absorbed into the potato and the sponge gold left behind.

# The DGD Market Place



Joshua Davis is selling off a large part of his coin and silver collection. He has a list and photos of the items up for sale. This may be a good chance to invest in some unique items. He can be contacted at 520-345-0423 [joshualeedavis1979@gmail.com](mailto:joshualeedavis1979@gmail.com)

From Wayne Ivey. I am selling my like-new Minelab GPX 4500 detector and all of my coils, some new & some that have had very little use. Prices are less than any price on the internet or on Craigslist. My phone number is 509-713-6004. My address is 620 West Limberlost Drive #22, Tucson 85705. Thank you. Wayne



Mel Thiessen is looking to buy a Rotopan.

He can be contacted at [mel.thiessen@me.com](mailto:mel.thiessen@me.com)



## 2 contiguous patented mining load claims in Pima County surrounded by Tohono-O'odham Reservation in the Cababi Mining District.

Golden West 18.93 Acres Pima County parcel #402-01-2080

Golden Cross 18.93 Acres Pima county Parcel #402-01-2090

they are located about 9 miles NNW of Sells

A patented claim gives **the miner the right to both the minerals and the land itself**. Since the government approved a patent request, it transferred property title to the miner. At that point, the miner can explore, extract the minerals or build permanent mining structures and a home.

To see the public information about these claims go to:

<https://gis.pima.gov/maps/landbase/parsrch.htm> and enter the parcel number into the parcel search window which you will take you to Assessors information. To see their location on a map scroll down and click on Pima Maps Main. The owner, Shiela Powell is asking \$40,000 each for these claims, She can be contacted at 520-578-1976