



THE GOLD PAN NEWS

May 2008

vol. 9 - # 5



Welcome New Members

Richard Morgan
 Martin & Janice Houston
 Mike & LuAnn Denke
 Mike & Ruth Shannon
 Greg Berghammer
 Steve & Bev Laabs
 Stanley & Sandi Rusinak

BHPC Officers

President	Mike Borden 341-0483
Vice President	Wallace "Wally" Slattery 717-1512
Treasurer/ Membership Director	Andy Goodwin 584-4698
Secretary	Judy Farris 723-4669
Claims Director	Richard Nash
Outings Coordinator	Frank Garcia 754-6024
Raffles & Prizes	Nelda Thiel 923-4059
Club Photographer	Dan Radomski 342-7849
Newsletter/Website Equipment Manager	Andy Goodwin 584-4698



BHPC Meeting, April; 19, 2008

The meeting was held at the Husker claim. The meeting was called to order by President Mike Borden, with 42 members and 12 guests present, including members of Wally's prospecting class. Kate and Hillarie of the USFS were special guests. After the meeting, the clubs mechanized equipment was demonstrated for them. They took photos, and explored the boundaries of the claim.

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1. Secretary's Report: Minutes approved as published.
2. Treasurer's Report: As of Mar. 14, there was \$6310.25 in the account. Report was approved.

Old Business:

1. Wally reported on the success of his class.

New Business

1. Officers met April 3 with USFS Steve Pischke, DENR Eric Holmes, GF&P Stan Michaels, and the state hydrologist at the Garnet claim. Reclamation methods and area to be reclaimed were discussed. The meeting went well.
 2. Garnet Reclamation April 5 was completed in 1 day, with 23 members helping. Area reclaimed, and reseeded, is off limits to vehicles and foot traffic. There is a road open across and above the reclaimed area so the new work area can be reached.
 3. Dig tokens for "common dig" will be 'wooden nickels'. A worker will receive 1 for each 1/2 days work. Tokens will be turned in after the summer season, and used to determine the number of shares for the gold split. More information on this later.
 4. Internet service. A higher speed [minutes instead of dial-up hours] is available for about \$40 per month cost to the club. It will allow expansion of the on-line newsletter, on-line membership renewal, and other services. Motion made and passed unanimously. Members were asked to sign-up to receive newsletter on-line instead of snail-mail to reduce postage and paper costs. This will also greatly reduce the time spent uploading photos and text for the web site.
 5. GPAA membership, new or renewed: be sure to indicate you are a BHPC member in the comments box.
- Vice President report: Wally told the story and showed his silver dollar recovered from the "Great Train Robbery".
- Claims: Richard reported that the new signs are up on Husker, and reminded about 'Keep off the grass' at the Garnet.
- Outings: Frank Garcia is moving to New Mexico, and a new coordinator is needed. Carl Goetz volunteered to take over.

May 17 meeting: Southern Gem. Be sure to check website for any other news.

Meeting adjourned.
Judy Farris, Secretary



Ghost Stories

Black Hills Area
Ghost Towns
by
Wallace "Wally" Slattery

Deerfield

Deerfield is in one of the nicest, most scenic areas of the Hills. Cyndie Hall-Mcgee loved her A-frame in the neighborhood, and sadly it was in that area that she was killed, on her way home.

Deerfield originated as a station on the Cheyenne-Deadwood stage line; it was originally called Mountain or Mountain City. Good hunting for deer brought about its present name. When the big Deerfield dam flooded the original town site, it was moved about a mile northwest, where a gas station, post office, and general store serve the locals and hunters and fishermen. Want to visit it? Take the Deerfield road west from Rt. 385, and bring your camera.

Weight Conversions

	1 Troy (Ozt)	1 Imperial (Oz)
Grams	31.0	28.3
Grains	480	437.04
Dwt	20	18.21

Converting Calculations

Convert	to	Multiply by
Grams	Grains	15.4324
Grains	Grams	.0648
Grams	OZ(AVDP)	.0353
Grams	Ozt	.03215

HILL CITY

Well, I'll probably get a call about Hill City not being a ghost town, being the rather thriving little town it is today, but its history and attractiveness are so interesting that I'm writing it up anyway! Hill City was one of the earliest little towns to come into the Black Hills, in February 1876, founded by Tom Harvey and John Miller. It soon became a ghost town, reduced to one man and one dog. When John Finerty accompanied General George Crook through the town in September 1876, they asked the man (not the dog) why no one else lived there. The succinct answer? "Indians and no gold." Well, the miners could have looked harder. Quite a few profitable - and some not so profitable, except to questionable owners - mines opened up in the decades to come, led by a major tin boom in the 1880's. Although the mines are largely gone today, the sheer beauty of the area is enough of an attraction to draw many settlers to the town and its environs. The town has done an outstanding job of bringing its western aura out to tourists, along with many very attractive businesses, including the Jon Crane gallery, the winery, and the Christmas store. And there's that excellent Alpine restaurant in the middle of town, not to mention the Crazy Horse monument just a few miles south. This is one town I will go out of my way to visit any time.

Wallace Slattery

April 5th Reclamation at the Garnet



Get Your BHPC Newsletter Online

We are working on an online or e-Mail version of our newsletter. If this would be something you would be interested in please contact Andy at BHPCNewsletter@wildblue.net with your e-Mail address. This would help the club save money on ink, paper and postage.

Thank you for your support!
The Club Officers

Outing at the Husker



You can see all the photos from this year on our website.

www.blackhillsprospectingclub.com



**Ghost Town Tour
May 31st
8:30 am**

We will meet at the High
Planes Heritage Center in
Spearfish.

Tour includes Carbonate!

Bring your own lunch.

Don't forget your camera!

Around the Potbelly Stove -



If you would like to send in a prospecting story or a photo of something you found while out digging' in the dirt, or have a prospecting tip, or maybe a D.I.Y. project, we'd love to have 'em !

Please send them to Andy at
BHPCNewsletter@wildblue.net

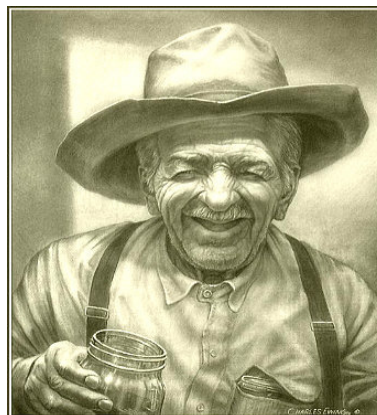
SAFETY ALWAYS!

We've had a recent spate of reports of mountain lions around our activities while members were gold prospecting. This reminds us that there are all sorts of potential dangers where our club conducts prospecting digs, ranging from bee stings and poison ivy to mine shafts, wild animals, and human predators.

PLEASE remember to keep a close watch on your children at all times. All of us feel a responsibility for things to go well and safely, but no one can protect your children like you can. Everyone will feel much better if parents keep their children well within their visual control when we are on club activities.

We all want our club outings to remain fun - and safe.

The Club Officers





Black Hills Prospecting Club
 c/o Andy Goodwin
 11228 Cougar Ct
 Lead, SD 57754

ALSO VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.blackhillsprospectingclub.com

Our Next Outing
 will be...

Regular Outing

Date: 17th
 Place: Southern Gem
 Time: 9 am

Memorial Outing

Date: 24th
 Place: 4-Leaf Clover
 Time: 9 am

Ghost Town Tour

Date: 31st
 Place: High Planes Heritage Center Spearfish
 Time: 8:30 am

May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31