



THE GOLD PAN NEWS[®]

September 2008

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Welcome New Members

Carol McBride
Tim Reed
John Hiller
Gerold & Diane Nitz
Chris & Angela Geinitz

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

BHPC Officers

President	Mike Borden 341-0483
Vice President	Wallace "Wally" Slattery 717-1512
Secretary	Judy Farris 723-4669
Claims Director	Richard Nash
Outings Coordinator	Carl Goetz 721-7708
Raffles & Prizes	Nelda Thiel 923-4059
Club Photographer	Dan Radomski 342-7849
Treasurer/Membership Director	
Newsletter/Website	Andy Goodwin
Equipment Manager	584-4698

SECRETARY'S REPORT

AUGUST 10, 2008

About 68 excited club members and guests were present when Mike Borden, Club President, opened proceedings about 12 noon at the 4-Leaf Clover claim. Mike first welcomed the Boy Scout troupe 74, then introduced Steve Geraghty, visiting from Ireland. Mike then called Steve up front, gave him a club cap, embroidered "#1 International Member," then presented Steve with a humorous plaque giving him honorary membership in the club.

Mike then presented at length the problems our club has been having with the Gold Prospectors of America (GPAA) over the following issues:

- * The GPAA promised to return the gold show to Rapid City this coming year. It is not doing so.
- * The GPAA is demanding that our club create and fill a large number of officer positions, something our club is not prepared or able to do.
- * The GPAA does not fulfill its responsibilities, either in caring for its claims (leaving them to our club to police), or in forcing our officers to handle phone calls from their members, etc.
- * The GPAA is requiring our officers to be GPAA members, something our officers do not intend to accept.

After prolonged discussion and some debate, the club voted to withdraw from GPAA affiliation. Mike will send GPAA a letter informing them of our decision. Andy Goodwin and Mike presented information about the coming year-end party. Silverado Club has given a tentative offer, which is attractive in many ways, but last year's room seemed crowded to members. We are interested in meeting elsewhere if there is a more attractive proposition. Other places mentioned included Spearfish Canyon Lodge, and the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Spearfish. Mike, Andy, and Wallace Slattery will meet shortly, and will conduct more research into this important topic. There will be a \$10 charge per attendee, with the club picking up the rest of the charge. Also, members were unanimous in their approval of the lottery system, which allowed people to put as many lottery tickets as they wish into any pocket in front of the various prizes.

Richard Markovich presented a suggestion for our winter meeting place - the Senior Citizens Center at New York and Haines Avenue. It would cost \$35/meeting, plus \$75 (refundable) deposit. The large room includes a refrigerator. It was voted by the club to accept this offer for our winter meetings.

None of the officers had any business to bring up, but Lou Wight thanked the club for the sympathy card given after Mack's passing. Lew also noted that he is offering an excellent DVD about gold prospecting - which tells a person about anything he/she needs to know about the subject.

Mike mentioned that Andrew Hartze has been named our sergeant at arms.

Our next meeting is September 20 at the Garnet claim. We will have a potluck meal, listed in the newsletter alphabetically for members to furnish food. Mike also noted that we will have a Ghost Towns tour under Bill Swanson's auspices October 4. These have been outstanding in the past, and this is a date to put on your calendar.

Andy and Mike then reminded people that we will switch our club account to the Great Western Bank shortly.

On a personal basis, let me thank those many club members who were so friendly to Steve Geraghty. He was simply overwhelmed with everyone's kindness and friendliness, and asked me to thank you all. I think it was the high point of his trip to America.

Meeting adjourned about 12:40 pm.

Wallace Slattery, Acting Secretary for Judy Farris



Ghost Stories

Black Hills Area
Ghost Towns
by
Wallace "Wally" Slattery



MYERSVILLE

Myersville, of Myers City, is a gen-u-ine ghost town about 2 1/2 miles southwest of Rochford, which only adds to its Old West flavor. Named for John Myers, an early miner, it had up to 150 inhabitants, but went through the usual boom-bust cycle of most early mining towns.

It did experience a revival during the 1930's, when it supported several small mines, but has since quietly slipped into ghost town status. However, a number of people have settled in the area recently, building attractive new homes.

Bill Swanson, the distinguished Ghost Towns lecturer, has often included Myersville in his tours of the hills.

Its large old leaning house is fun to push against, and there is a fair amount of mining equipment in the forest. It is not easy to spot from the road, as much of the town is hidden in the trees east of the road, but it is definitely worth a visit. You can also spot a lot of old placering activity evidence in the valley below the town.

Noteworthy is the fact that in the Myersville cemetery is buried Reverend Rumney, the only minister to preach in a Deadwood bar. It is told that, upon completion of his sermon, the faro dealer announced, "All right now, boys, the preacher has been telling you how to get to Heaven. Just step this way, gents, and I'll show you how to make some money!"

Wallace Slattery

For Sale

White's Spectrum XLT metal detector:
Excellent condition, lightly used.

NEW BATTERY!

Custom (very successful) coin program,
also COINS, COIN & JEWELRY, RELIC,
PROSPECTING modes.

Includes manual and re-charger.

List new: \$899.95.

My price: \$300, priced to sell.

Wally (605) 717-1512



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

www.blackhillsprospectingclub.com

August 16th



President Mike Borden Presenting Our 1st International Honorary Member
Stephen Geraghty from Dublin, Ireland with a Certificate & Hat



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 Monthly Outing

Date: Saturday, 20th

Place: Garnet Claim

Time: 9 AM

September 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				