

# THE GOLD PAN NEWS®

## August 2009

vol. 10 - # 8



### Welcome New Members

Keith & Charlotte Harmon  
Ed & Dorothy Wheeler  
Brandon Oothoudt  
Paul Gates  
Randy Price  
Lyle Hanson  
Robert Golay  
Charles Bursack



### BHPC Officers

President	Mike Borden (605) 341-0483
Vice President	Wallace "Wally" Slattery (605) 717-1512
Secretary	Judy Farris (605) 723-4669
Claims Director	Richard Nash
Outings Coordinator	Dan Radomski (605) 342-7849
Club Photographer	
Raffles & Prizes	Nelda Thiel (605) 923-4059
Treasurer/Membership Director	
Newsletter/Website	Andy Goodwin (605) 584-4698
Equipment Manager	

### Secretary's Report, July 18, 2009, Meeting

About 40 Argonauts met at the 4-Leaf Clover in a meeting presided over by Wally Slattery, as Mike Borden was unable to attend. We had two guests.

The secretary's report is included in the newsletter. Andy Goodwin gave the membership/treasurer's report. We had an excellent turnout at the Gem & Mineral show, gaining six new memberships. Our treasury is back up to about \$3,300.

#### Old Business:

The Mega-raffle: Wally noted that Mike Borden has been busy getting prizes for the mega-raffle, including a half-pound silver round and a very nice 1200-watt generator. Many more prizes will be procured between now and the year-end meeting, of course.

Nelda Thiel talked about her and Mike's visit at Cabela's. They spoke with a company representative, Doug Hancock, about a number of questions: Doug offered a number of multi-tools as prizes. He also stated that Cabela's probably will offer a \$500 gift certificate. We can also use their conference room for our winter meetings! And they would love to have us come out (probably next spring) to give panning demonstrations. We are delighted with our relationship with Cabela's, and highly recommend the company to our club members.

Wally mentioned that the Boys Club of Rapid City did not show up today; they have not contacted us further about an outing. However, the YMCA is very interested in holding an outing with us in the near future.

The treasure hunt at the Garnet claim July 4 was very successful, but about 1/2 of the coins are still buried there! That includes an 1894 Barber quarter and a Deadwood Dick silver round.

#### New Business:

Next month's club meeting will be at the Garnet claim, and we will host a boy scout troop. Andy warned people to be careful there - July 4's meeting there featured a young mountain lion and a rattlesnake.

Our year-end meeting will be October 10 at the Gold Dust Holiday Inn Express again - drawing universal approval. We will have more information about that in our next meetings.

Because of rising costs, **next year** outing meals will be \$4 for adults, \$2 for kids 10 - 16, and free for kids under 10. Also, pops will cost \$.50 each. A round of applause was given for all those who worked so hard to prepare our excellent meal.

The Forest Service promised to stop by - good-will visit (they didn't make it).

We need more help for clean-up, and a number of people helped out - thank you all of you!

Meeting adjourned about 12 noon, just in time for lunch.

Our Thanks to Lisa Wilson for taking the Secretary notes!

Wallace Slattery



## Adventurous Argonauts

by  
Wallace "Wally" Slattery

### Ken and Nelda Thiel



Some of our Argonauts simply stand out by force of personality, and Ken and Nelda Thiel fit this category. I suspect just about everyone in our club knows this dynamic couple - Ken with his Rhino 4-wheeler and Nelda with that southern accent, while she runs our raffle. Wow! Well, a little background: Nelda was actually born in "L-A" - Lower Alabama(!), but she grew up in the Florida panhandle, while Ken hails from northern Illinois. Ken was hired by Nelda's boss at the company where she worked - and she and he did NOT get along! In fact, when Ken was made her supervisor, she walked out! Fortunately for us all, her boss talked her into returning to work, and the rest is history - they were soon married, and have remained happily together for 20 years.

Ken and Nelda actually started gold prospecting in the Dahloniga, Georgia, area and joined the GPAA about 1994. They moved to the Black Hills area in 2001, partly because Ken had a

cousin here who loved the hills, and who wanted to prospect for gold. Ken and Nelda laugh about how they went out - without any knowledge whatever of the hills - and found two little flakes. However they then went to the Husker claim where they found REAL gold. They were hooked! Nelda laughs about the time near Central City Ken disappeared. Nelda, in something like a panic, investigated, and found Ken sitting on a bucket under a bridge - asleep!

Our Argonaut couple joined the Black Hills Prospecting Club about 2002 or '03, and haven't looked back since. They are very active in our club, even while spending winters in Florida. As I mentioned previously, Nelda conducts our raffles - and is one dynamic hawk of raffle tickets. Their best find? They found a pea-size nugget on the Garnet Claim - under where we have our dirt piles today, of course. At the Garnet Nelda was also delighted to find a nice, large flake, perfect for hanging on a necklace - complete with a hole in the middle!

This is a delightful couple. Spend some time with them, and let Nelda's southern accent roll off your ears like syrup over flapjacks.

Wallace Slattery

Tickets for Lunch will be sold when you sign in or you can get them from Nelda when you get your raffle tickets.

Adults \$2.00

Kids \$1.00 (under 10 free)



4th of July Outing





## July 18th Outing



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

[www.blackhillsp Prospecting Club.com](http://www.blackhillsp Prospecting Club.com)





## TREASURE HUNTIN' AND GREAT EATIN'

I think it was only our second treasure hunt and first club barbeque, but it sure won't be our last. About 50 daring treasure hunters showed up Saturday, July 4, at the Garnet claim, ready to celebrate the holiday doing that which is most fun - prospecting and treasure hunting. After a good morning prospecting down at the creek, we repaired to the camp site for a short report on the successful gem and mineral show; then we dug down into an outright feast. Coupled with many excellent dishes brought by the club members, the barbeque of beef, pork, and chicken prepared by Jim and Sally Olson was simply outstanding. This club member knows only too well - he ate too groaningly much!

After lunch we held a treasure hunt, featuring silver coins, silver rounds, and a good many wheat cents. A little humor came when we learned that the Chinese coin (which was to earn a special award for its finder) was buried too deep - unfindable. Perhaps it returned to China! Anyway, the hunt was a lot of fun and a good many people were finding nice coins.

Let me mention that it seemed we had even more guests than usual - an indication of how much fun people actually have at our club meets. "You oughta visit our prospectin' club - it's a riot!" Well, keep them guests coming,

folks; it's always nice meeting new people and showing them what we do. And Jim and Sally Olson, we're definitely having you folks back with that big cooker. MMMMM.

Wallace Slattery

### Adventurous Argonauts

from last issue, here's a good picture we found of Nick & Jeanine



and from the May Issue a photo of Gordon



Gold found on a private claim found by the claim owners!



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

*ALSO VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT* [www.blackhillsp Prospectingclub.com](http://www.blackhillsp Prospectingclub.com)

Our Next Outing  
will be...

### Regular Monthly Outing

Date: Aug 15th

Place: Garnet Claims

Time: 9 AM

Please bring Food Items to go  
with the burgers and hot dogs

Scout troops will be there to learn  
how to pan for GOLD!

## August 2009

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					