

THE GOLD PAN NEWS®

September 2009

vol. 10 - # 9



Welcome New Members

Randy Noll
Darold Davis
Jason Davis
Garry McLaughlin
Terry Tompkins
Gene Kuhnel (The Rock Shed)
Roger Fields
Max Berc, Jr
Jeff Pansch
Brian Mount



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 Club Photographer	Dan Radomski (605) 342-7849
Raffles & Prizes	Nelda Thiel (605) 923-4059
Treasurer/Membership Director	
Newsletter/Website	Andy Goodwin
Equipment Manager	(605) 584-4698

BHPC Minutes 8/15/2009

The meeting was called to order by Mike Borden, President, at 11:20 am. We had approximately 40 attendees, including one cub scout from Pack 74 with his parents. As he was the only cub scout present, he was given a nice large gold picker as the prize. Congratulations, Jonathan!

Secretary's Report is posted on-line.

Vice President's Report: Wally reported:

1. Steve Geraghty, our honorary Irish member from last August, sends greetings to everyone.
2. Wally will hold his semi-annual gold prospecting class this September, again at Whitewood.
3. Wally demonstrated Bob Hamm's latest invention - a gravity-fed pump for highbankers, and says he intends to try it out shortly.
4. Wally reported a telephone call from Bill Swanson, distinguished Black Hills Teacher. Bill informed him that Michael DuPre, local NBC news anchor, had just toured the ghost town Spokane with him, and that it will be featured on the news show this Tuesday evening. Bill also stated that he intends to lead the Ghost Town tour (October 3) to Carbonate. It was also noted that we hope to see not only the upper town but the lower one.

Treasurer's Report: Andy later in the meeting reported that the club has approximately \$2,200 in the account. We've also signed up 6 new members.

Claims Director Report: Richard reminded club members to not dig on the right side of the Garnet Claim; also please don't take vehicles over the reclaimed area; use the trail higher up the creek bank. Richard also reminded us to watch for rattlesnakes and mountain lions - they both frequent the area.

New Business: Mike discussed the year-end party October 10. It will be at the Gold Dust - Holiday Inn again, as was last year's. There was some spirited discussion about whether we should opt for the Cattleman's feast for \$11 per person or the Wild Game Roast at \$12 per person (the club will pick up 1/2 of the \$22 or \$24 cost per person). The vote was close - but it was voted to order the Regional Wild Game menu.

Mike also discussed the major prizes that are going to be offered this year at the party, including a Cabela's \$400 gift certificate, a 1200-watt generator, a mini highbanker, and a 1/2 pound silver round (a beauty!).

Mike requested volunteers to help out at the Garnet Claim on August 20 and 22 when we will host the YMCA and another scout troop. He also noted that we have arranged to hold our winter meetings at Cabela's, and we will also work with Cabela's to hold demonstrations, even possible fund raisings for the club, etc. We are extremely happy with Cabela's cooperativeness and interest. We were honored to be visited by two Forestry rangers, Steve and Vince, something we have hoped to see for some time. They and other Forestry employees will always be welcome!

Our next outing will be September 19 at Richard Brandiger's claim on Iron Creek.

The meeting adjourned at 11: 50 am.

Wally Slattery



Adventurous Argonauts

by
Wallace "Wally" Slattery



Bob Hamm

You've been waiting for this one, haven't you? Bob, with his wide smile and

twinkling eyes, is respected and liked by all active club members. Not to mention that he's the senior member, with a lo-o-ong prospecting record. For a man in his 80's, he can keep the rest of us running to keep up with him. I can personally vouch for that! Bob has lived - and prospected - in the Hills forever - or so it seems. Born in the Hills, in Dead Man's Canyon, he used to help (he thought) at his father's steam-driven sawmill. In winters he used to stay near the boiler to keep warm! Also as a child he used to watch the placer miners working in the stratobowl - he was fascinated by their sluices and long toms. And he was privileged to watch the miners work with hydraulics in Spring Creek. His first panning as a child was with a frying pan, but you can be sure he soon graduated to more sophisticated methods. His panning took him all over the area, and he consistently found gold.

As an adult in the 1970's he placer

mined in Pleasant Valley southwest of Custer. He leased mining rights on private land, and did very well. It seems to have been the high point of his prospecting career.

Bob joined our club a few years ago - a natural match - and his donated trommel is used yearly with excellent results. He has dropped most of his claims around the Hills for now, but remains very active in the club. He's had several of us over twice to his pretty acreage to check out gold possibilities in the area.

Bob's best find? Eight to ten ounces of gold in that patented land mentioned previously. Being the creative sort, he made his own molds, poured the gold into them, and sold it to jewelers. It assayed out at 99.99 percent pure! He did note that much of it contained mercury, showing that the area had been mined previously, perhaps in the 1870's or 1930's. Bob loves gold mining! And we love Bob. Let me tell you, there's a lot more to come from Bob - he's already telling me about his newest gold mining invention - sounds very promising to me.

Oh yes, stop by at his place sometime and check out his restored Model A Ford. It's a treat!

Wallace Slattery

August 15th



August 20th - Rapid City YMCA Outing



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

www.blackhillsp Prospectingclub.com



YEAR-END PARTY R.S.V.P.

Date:

October 10th

Place:

Gold Dust/Holiday Inn Express in Deadwood South Dakota

Times:

5pm - 6:30pm Arrive & Visit

6:30pm Dinner (Regional Wild Game Menu)

7:30pm Meeting/Officer Elections/Spirit of Forrest Award/Raffles

Cost:

\$12 for Adults

\$ 6 for Kids (under 16)

Cash Bar Available

Please R.S.V.P. no later than October 1st

Please Print This page then cut on line and return with check or money order
Or hand it in at the September 19th Outing

How Many Adults?	
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Please send your R.S.V.P.
and Check or Money
Order made out to
Black Hills Prospecting Club

How Many Kids?	
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To:

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

Member Name

Phone Number

Our Next Outing
will be...

Regular Monthly Outing

Date: Saturday, 19th

Place: Iron Creek

Time: 10 am

Directions:

Take I-90 to Spearfish

Take Exit 8 follow McGuigan Rd SW

to the Tinton Rd continue on to the
Iron Creek Intersection (FS134 & 222)

There You will see the BHPC Arrow Signs

September 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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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			

ALSO VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.blackhillsprospectingclub.com

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

