# November 2009

vol. 10 - # 11



Percy Ahrandt & Diane Chamberlain Gary & Michele Schleuning

#### **Renew Your Memberships**

Everyone's membership is from Jan 1st to Dec 31st.
If you would like to renew your membership please send \$35 and photos for your ID Cards to:

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

Please make your check or money order out to Black Hills Prospecting Club

#### Note:

We do not pro-rate the renew price any more.

It is \$35 any time through-out the year.

#### **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

Club Photographer

(605) 342-7849

Raffles & Prizes Nelda Thiel

(605) 923-4059

Treasurer/Membership Director

Newsletter/Website Andy Goodwin Equipment Manager (605) 584-4698



### **Meeting High-lites**

October 10, 2009 - Year-end Party

The meeting was held at the Holiday Inn Express in Deadwood.

Called to order by president Mike Borden

- 1. Vice President Wally:
- a. He had 14 in the prospecting class at the Whitewood elementary school, and two of the couples have joined the club.
- b. Elections: President Mike Borden, Treasurer/Membership Director Andy Goodwin, and Claims Director Richard Nash were all re-elected unanimously.
- c. The 'Spirit of Forrest Award' was given to a very surprised Mike Borden. Congratulations!!
- 2. Winter meetings will be in January, February, and March at 10am on the third Saturday in Cabela's meeting room.

  Meeting adjourned, and the drawings continued.

Prize winners listed on page 4

### 2010 Photo ID Cards

When you renew your membership for 2010 please include a photo of yourself as well as anyone else in your membership that gets an ID Card. You can e-Mail them to:

BHPCMemberDirector@gmail.com

or send them in with your check. If you mail your photos with payment I will return the photos with your NEW ID cards.

Your 2010 Membership Packet will also include the NEW Membership Booklet. Please read through these as we have made some corrections and included GPS coordinates to the claims and added some important information <u>ALL</u> club members should know and be aware of.



# ARGONAUT ADVENTURERS

by Wallace "Wally" Slattery



#### **Richard Nash**

One of our quieter, more knowledgeable club members is Richard Nash. He usually

stays at our camp sites during our outings, but he knows an awful lot about gold prospecting. He is a deep well of knowledge that most of us simply don't know about.

Richard was born near Deadwood in Nevada Gulch close to Tery Peak chairlift. He has many fond memories of his childhood there, including the working of an iron mine on his place. He also speaks fondly of picking raspberries, blueberries, thimbleberries, and strawberries on the home place, as well as chasing and killing fool hens with rocks for dinner. Sounds like a tough life, doesn't it?

In 1959 his grandfather started him in prospecting, working at his mine up the Spearfish Canyon. Grandpa would get the ore out of the mine, and Richard would pan out the concentrates. The mine earned Grandpa enough to feed nine kids! Richard also laughs about how the mine started lower down the hill, until his grandfather met up with a large rock. He worked assiduously to remove the

rock; when he dislodged it, a huge flow of water washed him right out of the mine! His grandfather was forced to move the mine farther up the hill. Richard says he believes the mine is completely abandoned today, that it was not played out, and he has promised to take me to it next summer. Who knows what is left there? Incidentally, Richard is proud that he still owns his original pan and sluice box.

About 1959 Richard met an old Hill City prospector, who owned 48 claims - all active! Richard used a dowsing rod to locate more gold for the prospector. He also notes that he would be lowered in a swing down a shaft to the appropriate spot, where he would dig out raw gold into a cup or basket with a knife! Oooeee!

Richard has just been unanimously reelected Claims Director in our club, a sign of the confidence members feel in him. A couple of years ago several of us followed him into the hills to some old claims. Although they were covered up, thanks to the Forest Service, he has many more places that we will explore next summer.

Here's to you, Richard; many happy claims!

Wallace Slattery

## BILL SWANSON PULLS A (GHOST TOWN) CARD OUT OF HIS SLEEVE

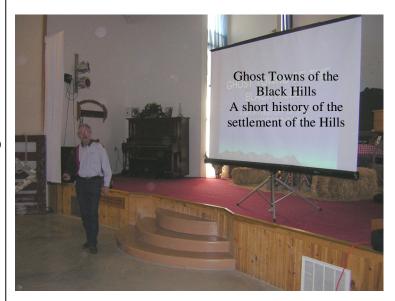
The snow was dangerously high around Carbonate, so our planned trip was out of the question; but Bill Swanson pulled a surprise on about 20 dedicated Ghost Towners Saturday, October 3. He invited us into the High Plains Heritage Center for a 3-hour presentation on the early history of the Black Hills. Bill outlined the early geological and growth of the Black Hills, and then moved into their early history.

The Thoen Stone is an example: A stone was found near Spearfish in 1877 on which someone named Ezra Kind reported finding "all the gold we could carry" in 1834, but his entire party had been killed by Indians, and he was without his horse and gun. We can only guess what happened to him, but such stories intrigue us even today.

Bill then went onto the Custer and Dodge-Jenney explorations of 1874-75 and the beginnings of the gold rush at that time. He kept us on the edge of our seats, and received a standing ovation when he finished. Now we intend to invite him to give at least two more presentations during our winter meetings.

Our profound thanks to Bill for his quickly extemporized presentation! And let me tell you all - if you haven't taken his classes through Community Education, you've missed a treat. Bill is teachings Ghost Towns I, II, and III this fall. You should really get involved; it gives you a much better understanding of prospecting in the Black Hills.

**Wallace Slattery** 





#### **Raffle Prize Winners**

#### **Door prizes**

Dore prize to Bill: Vial with gold in it. Dan Radomski: Clock and picker Richard Morgan: Rail spike

Nyla Potter: Jewelry

Renee Pansch: Shovel and necklace

Jim Olson: Nugget

Michelle Snyder: Spike and bucket cushion Brida Schlotterbeck: Clock and hat Charlie Gould: Spike and vial with gold Lyle Brabazon: Multi-tool and clock Fred Davis: Cap and bucket butt pad LuAnn Borden: Hat and vial with gold

Diane Chamberlain: Spike

Ken Johnson: Spike and multi-tool Matt Wong, Jo Rempher, Wally Slattery, &

Mike Denke: Cabela's caps



Roger Fields: Cowboy toilet paper holder. Does

this make him king of the port-a-potty? BobJelliffe: Knife with fancy handle and display

holder

Matt Wong: First surprise Lyle Barbizon: Binoculars

Richard Brandiger: Walkie-talkie set Tim Boren: Mosquito repellant

Renee Pansch: Duffle bags, for her school supplies

Sally Olson: Big clock

Theresa Rowland: Second surprise. Michael Cogley: Decorated egg set Toni Kotek: Emergency tool set Dan Viator: Solar lantern

Matt Wong: Telescoping fishing pole

Charlie Gould: Knife set Wally Slattery: Gator cutter

#### Mega raffle:

Wally Slattery: \$25 Applebee's gift card

and gold nugget

Lew Wight: ATV tire repair kit Vern Pinz: Knife set and nugget

Tom Cielik: Bucket with organizer insert and tools

Nelda Thiel: \$25 Red Lobster gift card Wally Slattery: Spotlight, rechargeable Ken Thiel: Chili's \$25 gift card.

Nancy Skoglund: Gold nugget and display case

Lou Ann Denke: ATV pack

Nyla Potter: \$25 Red Lobster gift card Dean Skoglund: \$25 Applebee's gift card

Tom Edgar: RBH recirculator

Richard Nash: \$100 Cabela's gift certificate Mark Rowland: \$200 Cabela's gift certificate

Wally Slattery: ½ lb walking liberty BIG silver coin [New king of the drawings. Jim and Sally Olson are deposed]

Charlie Gould: 1200 watt generator.





























































### 2009 Year-End Party at the Gold Dust/Holiday Inn in Deadwood



Our Next Meeting will be...

### **Winter Meeting**

Date: January 16th

Place: Cabela's in Rapid City

Time: 10 AM - 1PM

# January 2010

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						

ALSO VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.blackhillsprospectingclub.com

