

THE GOLD PAN NEWS®

February 2010

vol. 11 - # 2



Welcome New Members

Ron White
Daniel King
Jeff Geist
Kurt Deisinger
Sandy Hannan
Ken Reed



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www.phillyted.com

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 Equipment Manager	Andy Goodwin (605) 584-4698

Meeting High-lites

People really came into the club meeting in Cabela's on January 16. We stopped counting when the number hit 70 and people kept coming in. It was the best-attended Prospecting Club winter meeting in memory, with standing room only.

Mike Borden, President, gaveled the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

Old Business. Mike noted that the year-end party last fall was a great success, then turned to the officers for their reports.

Wally Slattery, vice president: Wally will offer his prospecting classes in Whitewood again this spring. Wally also said that club officers are working, together with Bill Swanson, to put together an especially outstanding Ghost Towns tour this June. As it is still in the works, no details are forthcoming at this time.

Richard Nash, claims director: People need to remember to wear their badges this fall. If they don't, they will be reminded to go get them. Richard expects a good year on the claims. He also told us that there is a good deal of firewood available on the Garnet claim for those who wish to pick it up.

Andy Goodwin, Treasurer/Membership Director. There had been 125 renewals as of Friday, better than last year's total. We expect a bumper year in memberships.

Question: How many claims do we have? We have six claims, including the new one on Beaver Creek. But officers are still working to make a good route into it.

Mike also commented that he intends to put an ad into various local papers asking to buy or lease good claims.

Richard Nash announced that he is looking to sell a combination dredge/sluice, asking \$1,500 for it.

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ARGONAUT ADVENTURERS

by
Wallace "Wally" Slattery

Mike Borden



It's about time we wrote about Mike Borden, isn't it? He has been the well-known - and beloved - president of the

club for over four years now.

As you might guess, Mike has a great past, akin to our other adventurers. He was born in the Black Hawk area before it was Black Hawk. His grandpa came from Blunt, SD, in the early 1940's and bought the farmland that became Black Hawk. His dad owned and operated a dairy there, and played a large role in developing the town of Black Hawk. Mike has fond memories of working in that dairy. Mike's prospecting days began at the "ripe old age" of 7 when his folks took him to visit friends over in Keystone. The friends operated a restaurant there and gave Mike a gold pan (with dirt containing a gold flake in it) and told him to go play in the creek. Mike panned out the dirt and found the gold flake. Eureka! Nothing could convince Mike that he hadn't actually discovered the gold. Anyway, he was hooked!

Years later, Mike had the good sense to

marry LuAnn, whose folks owned a number of gold claims. So off went Mike with her dad to prospect about 1983, and from then on Mike was an Argonaut Adventurer, gone each weekend during the warm weather.

About 2000 Mike heard about the new gold prospecting club being formed as a chapter of the GPAA, and joined. He remembers his first outing was at the Bear Pickens claim. Since then Mike has become president of the club, and the club has continued to prosper. The club has approximately doubled in membership, and morale has never been higher. I don't know a better word to use to describe Mike's leadership except "dynamic." And I consider myself very fortunate to work so closely with him. Mike's best find? He actually WON it - he calls it the Bear Nugget because it resembles the bear on the California state flag. It is a 1/4 ounce. He has actually found a 1/8oz nugget too, and he's pretty proud of that.

If you happen to show up early on one of our claims, say the day before a meeting, look for the big RV, and look around. You'll likely find Mike lounging around, "chewing the fat" with other club members.

Mike, here's to you. It's a pleasure to know you.

Wallace Slattery

Miner's Alert

We recently heard of some person on the internet, who had no personal experience in the matter, blasting Lew Wight, club member and the last full-time prospector in the Black Hills, claiming he was "ripping off" gold panning tourists. Let it be known that during the last several years we club officers have often referred would-be gold panners to Lew for training, and without exception they have been very happy with the results - bragging about the gold they found. We will continue to refer people to Lew and are happy that he is a club member.

Wallace Slattery

You can view this forum for yourself and post your own message if you like.

Register for Free and then search for "Mystic Mine SD" at <http://forum.treasurenet.com/>

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

Cont from page 1

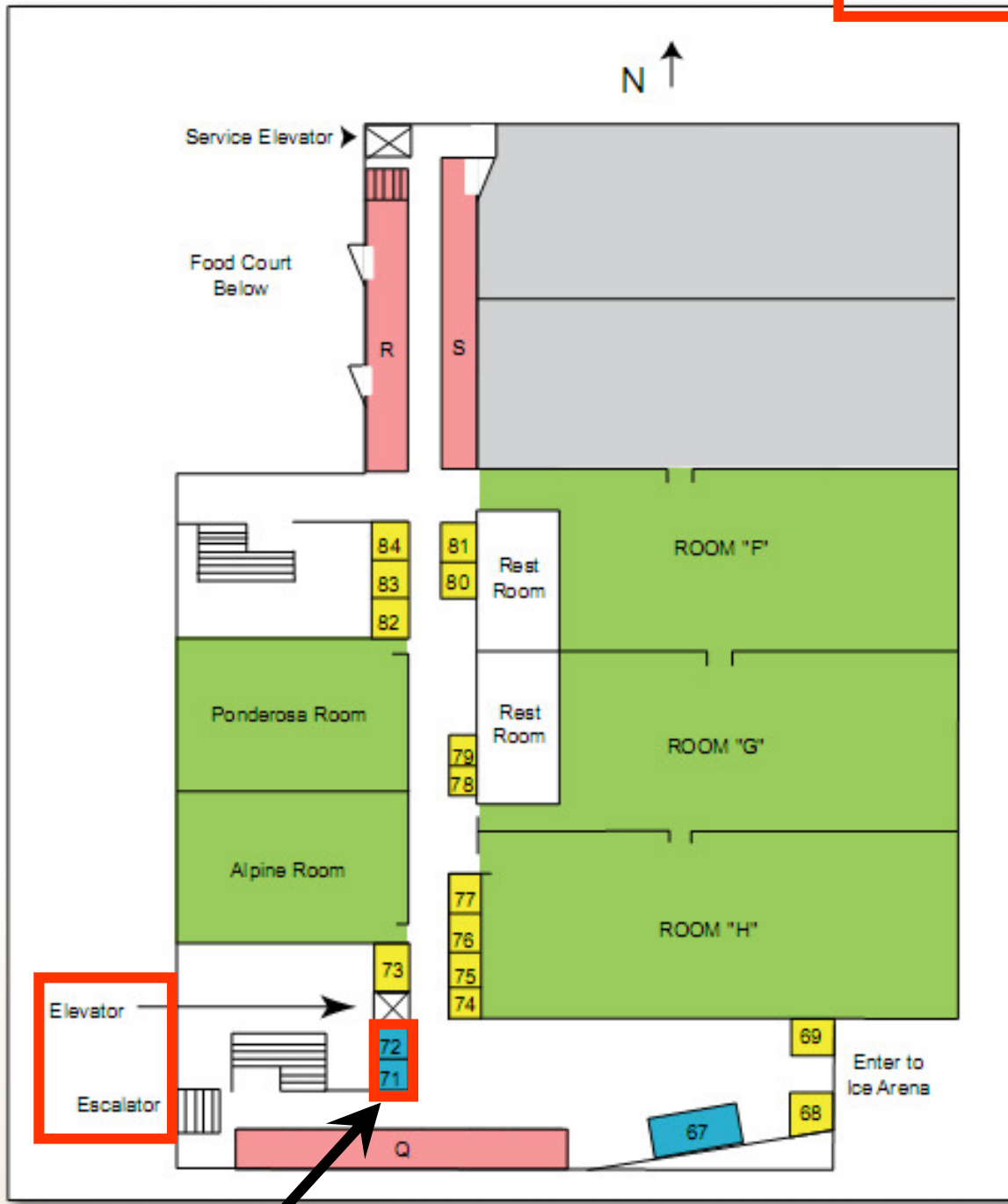
New Business.

1. The Black Hills Sports Show will be held February 19-21. We intend to be represented, and want a much better place than we had last year. The Gem and Mineral Show will be the last weekend of June, and we intend to be represented there too.
 2. Outings: We expect to have the following outings at this point: April - Garnet; May - Iron Creek or Garnet (depending on weather); June - Ghost Town Tour, also June 19 regular outing - TBA.
 3. Treasurer's Report: We are still paying off Gold Dust for our year-end party. We have approximately \$1,800 on hand. Also, the Bill Eide payments are still coming in regularly.
 4. Speaking of the year-end party, Mike commented that we are considering renting a room, and having Jim and Sally Olson (who put on such an outstanding meal last July 4) cater it. Or we are thinking of having our party at Ft. Hays.
- Lew Wight was given time to inform the club that a man has been "bad-mouthing" him about his honesty, etc. He will get the website in question to Wally, and requests that people who have had positive experiences on Lew's claims to write in on the website and inform others of their experiences.
- Special Feature: Bill Swanson, the outstanding Ghost Towns instructor, favored our club with an interesting, humorous presentation on the Holy Terror Mine near Keystone. You had to be there to really savor it, but it was priceless.
- We had outstanding participation in the raffle, and a number of nice prizes were given out.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.

For Judy Farris: Wallace Slattery

Black Hills Sport Show - February 19 - 21

Upper Floor



**This is where the Club's booth will be set up in #71 & 72
Just up from the top of the Escalator or Just outside the main
elevator.**

For more info go to

www.bhsportshow.com



Bill Swanson gave a great talk on the Holy Terror mine in Keystone





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 Meeting
will be...

Winter Meeting

Date: 20th
Place: Cabela's in Rapid City
Time: 10 AM

Black Hills Sport Show

Date: 19-21
Place: Rapid City Civic Center
Times:
19th - Noon - 9 PM
20th - 10 AM - 9 PM
21st - 10 AM - 4 PM

February 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						