

THE GOLD PAN NEWS[®]

May 2010

vol. 11 - # 5



Welcome New Members

Chance Wooden Knife
Mike Engel
Ernest Fleming

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

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

Meeting High-lites

April 17, 2010

The meeting was held at the Garnet
Called to order by President Mike Borden



WELCOME BACK, BOB HAMM!!!

Officers reports:

Veep Wally:

Ghost Towns Tour - Tentatively Hole in the Wall near Buffalo, WY., TA Ranch, and Indian Medicine Wheel in the Big Horns. It will be June 5 and 6.

His class in Whitewood has 12 people.

About 150 Spearfish 7th graders will be at Ranch A again this year. Wally and Andy will be demonstrating panning – May 7

Prexy Mike:

Club still receiving repayment for embezzlement. About \$500 still due.

Mike and Andy will go to bank to see about becoming an LLC. This will give more grant opportunities for the club.

Still working on papers for new claim.

Belle Fourche Troop can't come in April, May. Now shooting for August

Gem and Mineral Show is the end of June.

Next outing May 15 and 16 at Iron Creek on the Brandiger claim. Members can leave their diggings open if they plan to return the next weekend to complete their digging/panning. When you are done, please fill in your holes.

Good chili, good eats.
Judy Farris, Secretary



GHOST TOWN TOUR

by
Wallace "Wally" Slattery

JUNE 2010 GHOST TOWNS TOUR

We have some great news! The June 5-6 Ghost Towns tour is on! You are familiar with Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, right? They were leaders of the famous Hole-in-the-Wall Gang that terrorized banks and trains in this area in the 1890's and early 1900's. You may not be so familiar with the Johnson County War of 1892 in northern Wyoming, in which big cattle barons imported 50 hired gunmen from Texas to drive the settlers out of the country. They killed two or three settlers, then the settlers holed them up in the T-A Ranch barn, until the gunmen were rescued by the U S Cavalry, no less. There are still local hard feelings about it. Well, the trip is ON. We are going to visit:

1. The beautiful Hole-in-the-Wall - an amazing 500-foot high sandstone wall, 30 miles long, with a narrow trail winding up it. This trail is the actual Hole-in-the-Wall, where the gang would climb after robbing a train or bank. Then they would leave a gunman there with a .30-30 to hold off the posses chasing them. The posse would look at an impossible situation and go home! This is in the middle of an 83-section private ranch. This is the opportunity of a lifetime - something you will never be able to repeat!

2. The T-A Ranch, where the Johnson County War hired gunmen were besieged by the settlers until the gunmen were rescued by the U S Cavalry. The huge old barn is still standing, complete with bullet holes from the siege! It's all in the middle of a beautiful guest ranch.

And that ain't all! We're also visiting the ancient 800-year-old Indian Medicine Wheel up in the gorgeous Bighorn Mountains. And there's more, folks!

HERE'S THE ITINERARY:

SATURDAY, June 5:

Take a 2-hour drive from Spearfish (3 hours from Rapid City).

10 am. BRUNCH at Pistol Pete's in Buffalo, Wyoming.

Afternoon - The Hole-in-the-Wall. This is for 4-wheel-drive vehicles, folks (NO ATV'S!), so we'll work it out so everyone gets a ride. TAKE A CAMERA, as there's lots to see, including llamas guarding sheep flocks and an old robbers' cabin out in the middle of nowhere. And the scenery is wonderful. Also, take your old cowboy clothes (and if possible an Old West rifle - EMPTY), as you'll want to get photos of yourself and everyone else "holdin' off" the posse at the Hole-in-the-Wall.

Evening - dinner at The Virginian, a FAMOUS old Western restaurant in Buffalo. The menu looks OUTSTANDING, with such things as great beef or BUFFALO steaks.

Continued next page.....

OVERNIGHT STAYS:

There are PLENTY of camping facilities around Buffalo. They include:

BIG HORN MOUNTAINS CAMPGROUND

307-684-2301

8935 Hwy. 16 West # 108

INDIAN CAMPGROUND

307-684-9601

666 Hart Street

MOTELS: Quite a few nice motels.

Here are a few that caught my eye:

SUPER 8

307-684-2531

665 E. Hart St.

COMFORT INN

877-477-8005

65 U S 16 E

MOTEL 6

307-684-7000

100 FLATIRON Drive

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

877-477-8005

(same as Comfort Inn)

106 E U S Hwy 16

Sunday, June 6:

8 am Breakfast at Pistol Pete's Trip to the T-A Ranch. They will give us a 30-45 minute talk about the Johnson County War (for a nominal fee each), then furnish lunch for \$6 each (you'll furnish nonalcoholic drinks). We have choices of beef, turkey, or ham sandwiches; also chips and cookie. Trip to the Bighorn Mountains - Indian Medicine Wheel

And that's it! This is a trip that offers once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to see major parts of our Western heritage. I am personally so excited that I'm bringing both my youngest son David and my lady friend, Gaynell.

IMPORTANT: I MUST know your plans to come no later than May 8. Please call me (605-717-1512) or email me at Tashonka@msn.com and let me know how many in your party are planning to come. And of course you will make your own arrangements for lodging.

Wallace Slattery
Trip Coordinator

GOLD

Crystals form as cubes or octahedra, but distinct examples are rare. The usual habits are as grains, flakes, nuggets, and dendritic masses. The bright, rich yellow color is resistant to tarnishing. Gold is often rich in silver, when it is paler in color. The streak is golden-yellow. Gold is opaque, and its luster is metallic.

- **FORMATION** Forms mainly in hydrothermal veins, often associated with quartz and sulfides. It also occurs in placer deposits of unconsolidated sand, and in sandstone and conglomerate. It is possible to find alluvial gold in grains or nuggets, in stream beds. Panning for gold by sifting the sediment is an age-old method of looking for this rare and valuable mineral. Gold can be confused with pyrite and chalcopyrite at first, but only a few tests are needed to identify it.
- **TESTS** Insoluble in all single acids; soluble in aqua regia.



April 17 at the Garnet



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

www.blackhillsprospectingclub.com



Some Reminders for this Season of Digging.

SAFETY ALWAYS!

We've had reports of mountain lions around our activities while members were gold prospecting. This reminds us that there are all sorts of potential dangers where our club conducts prospecting digs, ranging from bee stings and poison ivy to mine shafts, wild animals, and human predators.

PLEASE remember to keep a close watch on your children at all times. All of us feel a responsibility for things to go well and safely, but no one can protect your children like you can. Everyone will feel much better if parents keep their children well within their visual control when we are on club activities. We all want our club outings to remain fun - and safe. The Club Officers

NEW CLAIMS UPDATE

Okay, we have been getting a lot of calls and e-mails from members wanting to know if there are any new club claims. The answer is **YES** the Good-One claim in the Northern Hills in the Tinton area. **BUT** as it stands right now this claim is **VERY HARD** to get to! And in a **VERY** remote area!

The Club Officers will be working on finding an easier, safer access route to the claim this season.

When we have a good, safe route to the claim we will send a map and directions page to add to your member booklet, **THEN** the claim be ready for use by ALL members.

**This claim will be PAN and SLUICE ONLY !!!
We will be watching this claim closely!**

BHPC Mining Etiquette & Claim Rules

- 1.No open fires are allowed within the National Forest unless in an approved camping area.
- 2.Remember to pick up trash / Pack it in - Pack it out.
- 3.No loud noise (i.e. generators/music/tv's) during the hours of 10pm thru 7am
- 4.MINING ETIQUETTE:
 - a. Respect work areas of you fellow prospectors.
 - b. Work area shall be defined as a 10-foot radius from the center of the area being worked.
 - c. A work area can be (Reserved) for up to 48 continuous hours from the time work began. Tools and equipment shall be a marker to show work area is being used.
 - d. Fill in your holes before you leave the claim.
 - e. No tunneling / knocking down overburden before you leave the claim.
 - f. All flammable liquids (gas) shall be kept a minimum of 20-feet from the center of creek / stream.

-- IMPORTANT NOTICE --

There are to be NO vehicles over 54 inches wide past the steel posts at the Garnet claim. This access trail is a foot path and for ATV's 54 inches wide and under.

The Black Hills Prospecting Club (BHPC) reserves the right to refuse or revoke membership to anyone at any time.

ALL BHPC claims are Panning and Sluicing ONLY !

The exception is the Garnet claims area, here you can use other equipment in designated areas ONLY! The rest of the claim is panning and sluicing only.

Mission Statement

The Black Hills Prospecting Club promotes and teaches responsible mining/prospecting practices and brings together individuals for the advancement and enhancement of prospecting. We will strive to cooperate with local community organizations, State, Federal, and local governing authorities to promote prospecting in an environmentally responsible manner, and will educate the youth of the community to prospect accordingly.

Michael Borden
President
Black Hills Prospecting Club



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: May 15 & 16

Place: Brandiger's claim - PlusUltra - Iron Creek

Time: 10 AM

Follow-Up Outing

Date: May 22 & 23

Place: Brandiger's claim - PlusUltra - Iron Creek

Time: 10 AM

May 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					