

THE GOLD PAN NEWS®

February 2011

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Welcome New Members

Kevin Hoerner
Curt Taylor
Dennis Dohrman
Ted Beckler
Ward Williams
Phil Koehler
James Nehl
Richard Rice



BHPC Officers

President	Mike Borden (605) 341-0483
Vice President	Wallace "Wally" Slattery (605) 717-1512
Treasury	Dean & Mary Duncan
Secretary	Nyla Potter
Outings Director	Jeff Geist (605) 722-7018
Claim Safety Officer	Richard Nash
Club Photographer	Michelle Snyder
Raffles & Prizes	Nelda Thiel (605) 923-4059
Equipment and Mechanic	Devon Nikolas
Membership Director	Andy Goodwin (605) 584-4698

Please contact the correct club officer for the type of question you have to get the best possible answer.

President's Corner



Hello everyone. Well it sure has been a cold winter and hopefully spring is right around the corner. If you are anything like me, I can't wait

to get back up to the creek and look for gold.

Well I'm excited to let you know that the club has purchased a new piece of mining equipment called the Gold Screw. Now to let you know a little bit about this machine it is a gold getter. This machine retails for \$3000.00 however we were able to get this unit at a reduced price costing the club only \$1500.00 The gold screw is a trammel type unit that washes the material, and then the larger rocks go out one end, leaving behind the gold bearing material. The gold bearing material then runs through a shoot that goes to a spiral wheel. After the material goes into the spiral wheel the gold being heavier will climb up the wheel and dropped into a cup, while the lighter material will be washed away and disposed of.

Now the Gold Screw has been manufacturing the highly praised original Gold Screw since 1978 started by a fifth generation gold miner, and continues today as a family owned company. The original Gold Screw is a simple, reliable, and gets the gold! This unit is the same machine that companies are using all over the world including Africa, Russia, Australia, the Yukon, and of course the good old United States. We got this unit at a great price and I can't wait to get it out to the creek and try it out.

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WILD & WOOLLY DAYS IN THE OLD BLACK HILLS

by
Wallace "Wally" Slattery

Stage Lines

Thus we begin the next series, in which we will explore some of the most interesting characters and times in the early Black Hills. We all know about famous characters such as Wild Bill Hickock and Calamity Jane, but there were plenty of other interesting places, persons, and events in those days. As the stories of Black Hills gold discoveries spread through out the United States and then to the world, a rush of epic proportions ensued, with tens of thousands of would-be Argonauts pouring into the Hills. How were they going to get there? The Hills were hundreds of miles from the nearest civilization, and there were no railroads for the men to follow. The easiest answer for most of the entrepreneurs was to take the stage lines. Most people who came to the Hills came via the Cheyenne Deadwood road. It remained the main trail into the Hills until the first railroad came in 1886. The miners basically needed ALL their supplies brought into the Hills by freight - everything from food to clothing to mining supplies. And people came into the Hills via Concord stage coaches, light mail wagons, or even bought the privilege of walking alongside the freight trains for the safety in numbers that they imagined would be there - a considerable factor in those perilous days. The most pleasant travel was via the stagecoaches. They of course conveyed their passengers both inside and on top of the coach. Every few miles a relay station allowed the horses to be changed - any good stage line took excellent care of its horses. And about a day's trip long there was a stage stop where passengers would bed

down for the night. Now some of these travelers would be - er - "lonely," so there were "entertainment" places adjacent to these stage stops. Hog Ranches.

Now the gals who occupied these joints were gals who were pretty well at the end of their ropes, so the places earned the sobriquet "Hog ranches," evidently for good reason. Calamity Jane was an early occupant of the one near Fort Laramie. It must have been notorious: here is the description given it by Army Lieutenant (and author) John Bourke:

"...tenanted by as hardened and depraved set of witches as could be found on the face of the globe.

It was a rum mill of the worst kind with half a dozen Cyprians, virgins whose lamps were always burning

brightly in expectancy of the coming of the bridegroom, and who lured to destruction the soldiers of the

garrison. In all my experience I have never seen a lower, more beastly set of people of both sexes.

Perhaps we should sympathize with these desperate women, as most of them died early, terrible deaths, including many suicides.

Anyway, they must be counted among the early denizens of the Black Hills.

With the coming of the railroads, not to mention the motor cars, the stage coaches faded into

history. But if you are lucky, you can find remnants of their trails in the Hills. I have been lucky enough to see a number of them, both in northwestern Nebraska (the Deadwood-Sydney line) and near Silver City.

They served their purpose!

Wallace Slattery

DATE CHANGE

Folks, take note: There was a DATE MIXUP with Cabela's, and our next two club meetings will be held on the following dates:

FEBRUARY MEETING - Saturday 26th at 10AM

MARCH MEETING - Saturday 26th at 10AM

We greatly regret this change, as we try to be consistent, but have to go with the flow sometimes.

Anyway, please mark your calendars with these two dates, and we'll see you there!

Black Hills Sport Show

The show is March 11th through the 13th at Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City.

Secretary's Report

Notes were taken by Mike Borden, in Nyla's absence:

Mike noted that Nyla, Wally, and Andy could not make the meeting, for various reasons. Sports Show will be held March 11 through 13 at Rushmore Plaza Civic Center. The booth will be located in the upper level, as in the past; also a liability policy must be purchased for the show. The cost for the policy is \$50 for the show. The booth will cost \$500 for the three-day event.

Mike will send a letter to Mr. Haberstroh, the owner of the property below the Garnet claim, thanking him for the work he carries out to keep that road passable. We are sending a check for \$200 to help defray expenses. We are still in communication with GPAA regarding our club becoming a local chapter again. Mike has spoken to Randy Noll, and we are in the process of setting up a teleconference with the GPAA to try to resolve some

issues we have had in the past.

Mike discussed the possibility of becoming a 501 nonprofit club, which would allow us to apply for federal and state grants. This will be discussed more when the accounting is handed over to our new accountant/treasurer.

Mike mentioned that we are working about new possible claims in the northern and central Hills areas, with better access for members.

Mike has been contacted by Mr. Stone in Stone's Furniture. If anyone is interested for metal detecting for a plane that crashed back in the 1940's, contact Mr. Stone.

The officers have started to work on the outing schedule; as of now it looks as if April 16 will be at the Garnett for our first outing.

The club has donated \$200 to the South Dakota School of Mines mining and mucking team.

The treasurer's report shows \$7573.60 in our account.

REMEMBER: Our next two meetings will be held February 26 and March 26, because of a mix-up in scheduling, still at 10 am.

Richard Nash was appointed to the position of Claims Safety Officer. The members voted to amend the current position to call the old claims officer the Claims Safety Officer. Claims Director will no longer be responsible for the filing of paperwork for mining claims, as this will be done by the current president.

Meeting adjourned a little after 11 am.

Wallace Slattery for Mike Borden

Jan 15th at Cabela's



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

www.blackhillsprospectingclub.com

President's Corner Cont. from page 1.

Just a reminder, due to a scheduling conflict with Cabala's our winter meeting for February and March will be on the fourth Saturday of the month instead of the third Saturday of the month as in the past. We will be going back to our regular third Saturday meetings and outings starting in April.

If you were at our January meeting you may have won some of the great raffle prizes that were given away such as a (\$50.00) battery charger, (\$30.00) 10 million candlelight powered spotlight, (\$25.00) ratchet type tie downs, hats and many other items were given away. Now after talking to Wally, my vice president, him and I have decided that we may just give away some even better prizes at the next meeting. Besides gold and silver bars, we just may give away a brand new..... Well I guess you'll have to come to find out. However someone is going to be very happy.

Until I see you again, may your pan's be full gold and your life's full of happiness.

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 Meeting
will be...

Winter Meeting

Date: Saturday, Feb 26th
Place: Cabela's in Rapid City
Time: 10 AM

February 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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