

THE ORANGE COUNTY FORTY-NINERS

GOLDEN AURA

April 2010

Volume: XXVIII Number: IV



DON'T FORGET OUR NEXT MEETING IS
April 20th, 2010

Our Next Outing is at The Puppy Feet Claim
April 24th-25th, 2010

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

When: 3rd Tuesday of each month

Time: 7:30 pm

Where: Garden Grove Woman's Club
9501 Chapman Avenue
Garden Grove, California 92841
(Corner of Chapman and Gilbert)

**Check us out on the Internet
at
www.oc49ers.com**



CLUB OUTINGS

Regular scheduled outings take place the last full weekend of the month. "Regular" Club outings in November, December and January are scheduled around the Holidays and/or inclement weather.

The PRESIDENT'S MINUTE

We will start this edition by doing some **housekeeping**. There was an error in last month's Aura regarding the May Outing. The May Outing starts with the Chili Cook-off on Friday, the 28th contrary to what you may have read, as we used a different date in parts of the Aura.

In last month's Aura there was a copy of the press release from Jerry Hobbs with PLP. The first round was lost in the fight to obtain an injunction of **SB 670**. A second approach is on the horizon, and the battle continues. No one is sure of what the answer will be, or when a decision will be forth coming, but it will not be soon enough for those who like to dredge or to those who make a living selling equipment for that purpose.

During the March Outing, several Members were sitting around, chewing-the-fat and expressing their thoughts on SB 670. There were no great legal minds in attendance, but it appears that the consensus is, that there will be no dredging at least for this year, and the best-case scenario is we might have a positive answer by the end of the year. We do hope we are wrong in our conclusion though.

This brings us to the **Club's Outings** for the summer months. Where do you want the Outings for the months of June, July and August? Our tentative schedule is for the Condor 2 claim (Rose Creek) in June and July and for the Tailings claim (Slate Creek) in August or more precisely, Labor Day weekend as is customary. Though we cannot legally dredge, one can sluice, power sluice, crevasse, metal detect and pan for that yellow metal. Our alternative would be to have the Outings in the desert, but when June rolls around, it does get mighty warm in that neck-of-the-woods so to speak. Please contact me with your thoughts and/or opinions either by phone or email at 714-788-6407 or oc49ersteve@sbcglobal.net as the Board needs to make some final decisions within the next month or so.

Membership: Membership presently stands at 214. Prior Members who chose or forgot to renew their membership have been eliminated from the Membership master list. If you would like a copy of the Membership roster, you can email Kathi Brown at Katper56@msn.com or myself at oc49ersteve@sbcglobal.net and we will gladly email you a copy. At the present time, we do not have a schedule of when or if hard copies will be printed.

March Outing: It is my best guess that there were about twenty-five Members at the March Outing. The setting was beautiful with yellow and purple flower in full bloom. On Friday the wind was calm and it was a gorgeous day, but it did blow on Saturday, though it was warm for this time of the year. The bad news is that the ground is still pretty wet once you dig several inches below the surface. This condition does slow down one's production, but there are solutions. We all have our own method of handling those damp conditions; some send their tailings back through the dry washer a second or third time, while others spread the dirt around on the ground, hoping it dries before shoveling it into the dry washer. As for me, I figure the larger pieces will get caught in the riffle tray, so why shovel the same dirt through a second time for those microscopic pieces. Like any prospector, we are always hoping that the next new shovel full will have that special nugget we are looking for, and that is why I do not re-shovel the same dirt. My method may not be the sound, but then again, I am not claiming to be an expert. After fighting the damp soil conditions on Friday, I decided to try something different for me. On Saturday, I borrowed one of Skipper's metal detectors and tried my hand at that experience. After several hours of swinging that piece of equipment back and forth, and digging in the dirt, I can say with all certainly that our claims have a lot of bullets, casings and rusted wire. There is some good news though;I left all the gold on Triple RC for other Members to find. Good luck to you.

Speaker: Our speaker for the April meeting will be Scott Reynolds owner of Pedersen's Metal Detectors. He will discuss the products Pedersen's carries for our prospecting needs and will do a little "Show and Tell" about metal detectors. As Mother's Day is fast approaching, now would be a great time to purchase that special lady, or the Mother of your children, a nice shiny new detector. Think of the quality bonding time and fun you will have during the May Outing searching for those nuggets in the hot, dry, dusty, and very possibly windy desert together. And don't forget those accessories, larger coils, scopes, probes, headphones and back packs, as women love accessories.

May Outing: Remember to mark your calendar for Memorial Day weekend, the 28th to the 31st and join your fellow Members for our largest Outing of the year. You can read about the details further back in this issue.

Hope to see you all at the Meeting and/or the Outing.

Happy Prospecting
Steve

The TREASURE'S REPORT

March 2010

INCOME:

50-50 Income.....	\$ 36.00
Club Merchandise.....	247.50
MAY Outing Tickets	20.00
Membership Renewal.....	715.00
New Membership.....	330.00
Raffle Income.....	308.00
Refreshments Income.....	9.00
Miscellaneous.....	0.00
Add Checks Back.....	0.00
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$ 1,665.50

EXPENSES:

May Outing	\$ 0.00
Merchandise	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00
Newsletters	440.09
Postage.....	183.71
Porta Potties	105.82
Raffle Prizes.....	139.68
Referrals.....	10.00
Refreshments.....	13.32
Rent	100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 992.62

CHECKING ACCOUNT

2/28/2010	Beginning Balance	8,384.39	
2/31/2010	Ending Balance	9,057.27	
4	Outstanding Checks.....	130.00	
CHECK BOOK BALANCE.....		9,187.27	\$ 9,187.27

CERT DEP

00/00	CD Balance	2,336.39
	CD Statements are sent Quarterly	

TOTAL CLUB ASSETS **\$ 11,523.66**

TOTAL INCOME YEAR TO DATE **\$ 5,087.52**

TOTAL EXPENSE YEAR TO DATE **\$ 4,682.43** **\$ (405.09)**

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2010

The meeting was called to order by our President, Steve Reid at 7:40pm, followed by the flag salute. Kathi announced we had 3 visitors, Tome Weiss, Stephanie Martin, and Wesley Hamilton. Kathi then gave the monthly Treasurer's Report. Skipper made a motion to accept the report and all were in favor.

Steve told the group, we will postpone purchasing the PLP tickets until later on. Bryan DeGhetto gave a report on the outing at Puppy Feet. He also talked about the May Outing and that we have the raffle tickets for sale tonight.

Vice-President, Skipper, gave a talk on survival in the desert, and how to stay safe if you are stranded. He brought many items to show, most of which are inexpensive and can be purchased at Army Navy Stores. A few necessary items are canteen, wool blanket, parachute cords, hat, knife, compact shovel, water filters, duct tape, spare blanket, first aid, fire stick, signal mirror.

Our 50/50 drawing of \$37.00 was won by Ralph Kolbush.

In our monthly drawing, Linda DeFields won a gold nugget, Mike Hulka won a Silver round, Scott Schmid a silver round, Ann McFarland a silver round, Leroy Kimoto a silver round, Clint DeFields a silver round, and Noel Clinton a silver rounds.

Stan Gilman was the winner of the Gold Nugget door prize.

Meeting was adjourned.

Secretary,

Sandy Hunt

The WAGON MASTER'S REPORT



MAY OUTING 5/28-5/30

Last year was a real fun time we want this to be even better then last year.

FRIDAY MAY 28TH 6PM DESERT TIME

The world famous Orange County 49ers chili cook off will be starting at 6pm in the clubhouse. The club will furnish hot dogs and buns. If you are not bringing chili please bring something for the potluck.

SATURDAY MAY 29TH 6PM DESERT TIME

Orange County 49ers amazing potluck and gold raffle extravaganza. We will be burning the coals on the new BBQ for some tasty burgers and dogs. I want to take this time to volunteer to be first to taste the food in the potluck to make sure it is up to the 49ers standards. I can not wait for the feast to begin there will not be a better place to eat for miles.

We will be having a auction on Saturday starting at 5pm.

If you would like to donate items for the auction talk with me (bryan). You can also auction off your own items with a portion of the selling price going to the club.

We prefer to only auction off mining or camping related products.

PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE



LEGAL FUND SPRING 2010 RAFFLE JUNE 17, 2010

PRIZE

DONATED BY

160 Acre Arizona Mining Claim	PLP
Keene 4 inch Dredge Model #4405PH	Keene Engineering
1 oz. Placer Gold	Roger Plata
Whites GMT Metal Detector	Jimmy Sierra, CA
Custom Gold Pendant	Natural Gold Jewery
Deluxe Blue Bowl Kit	Pioneer Mining Supplies
1 Year Membership Golden Caribou Mining Association	Gordon Burton
Gold Neggut Pendant	Scott Wrner
4.4 grams Alaskan Placer Gold	Ed Romine
Badger Pick	Apex Picks
Crystalline Gold Tie Tac	Scott Warner
Hystware Mines & Minerals CD	Arizona Outback

DONATIONS \$1.00 EACH OR 12 FOR \$10.00

Contact: Paul Toepel • pgtoepel@sbcglobal.net

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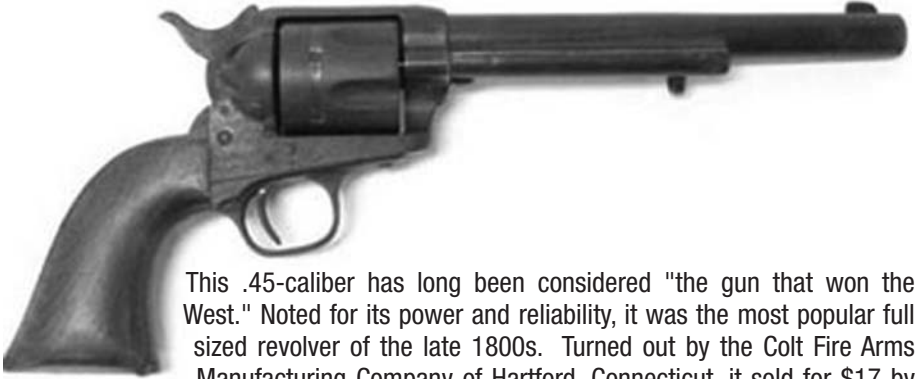
GOLD NUGGETS - MAY OUTING RAFFLE



ACTUAL SIZE - 4, 6 & 8 GRAM NUGGETS

ORANGE COUNTY 49ERS

COLT PEACEMAKER OF 1873



This .45-caliber has long been considered "the gun that won the West." Noted for its power and reliability, it was the most popular full sized revolver of the late 1800s. Turned out by the Colt Fire Arms Manufacturing Company of Hartford, Connecticut, it sold for \$17 by mail order. A classic single action revolver, it remains in production today.

The model 1873 revolver, commonly known as the Colt Single Action, Peacemaker, or Frontier, was actually developed in 1872, based on the patents granted to Charles B. Richards and W. Mason. In 1873, the US Army adopted this revolver along with its black powder centerfire cartridge of .45 caliber, and issued it to troops in 2 models, the Cavalry model with a 7 1/2 inch barrel, and the artillery model with a 5 1/2 barrel. Both were chambered in .45 Colt (also known as .45Long Colt or .45LC).

Colt also initially produced the same gun in .44-40 WCF and .32-20WCF for the civilian market. The company later added more modern chamberings similar to the .38 S&W Special (.38Spl), the .44 S&W Special (.44Spl), .357 Magnum, .22LR. Civilian guns also were available in various barrel lengths, varying from 4 3/4 inches and up to 12 inches.

During the period from 1873 and until 1893, the US Army bought about 37,000 Colts of both models. Commercial production was ceased in 1941, with the outbreak of the World War II, with about 370 000 guns having been made in all. Then, in 1956, Colt brought the Single Action back into production due to the popular demand by the TV and film industry for "Wild West" era guns.

The "First Generation" Single Action Colts were the ones made from 1873 until 1941 (serial numbers below 357860 and with no letters). Colts made from 1956 until another cease in production in 1974 are called "Second Generation" (serial numbers in the range from 0001SA to 73319SA). Yet a "Third Generation" Single Action Army models (.45 Colt, .44 Special, .44-40 and .357 Magnum) were offered in 1976 after the company developed newer equipment and production techniques. Once again, in 1981, Colt dropped production, and for some time these legendary revolvers were available only as an expensive collectibles. At the present time, Colt again offers these guns as regular products, in the .45LC, .357Mag and .44-40, and in all standard barrel lengths.

thewildwest.org



***COOKS, CHIEFS AND CONCOCTION CREATORS COME FROM ALL
AROUND THE GLOBE TO COMPETE IN THE WORLD FAMOUS***

ORANGE COUNTY 49ERS CHILI COOK-OFF

Last year was tuff, 9 chilies fighting for the prestigious copper gold pan. Who will win this year! The club will provide BBQ hot dogs, buns and condiments. We are asking the folks who are not entering chili to bring something to the Friday pot luck.

SATURDAY MAY 29TH 5:00PM DESERT TIME

Will be starting the auction at 5:00pm around the clubhouse area. Talk with Bryan about items you want to auction.

THE POTLUCK WILL START AT 6PM

We will BBQ some big burgers and dogs (maybe some fish) Please bring your items in a little bit early to set them up. Remember to bring your own serving spoons and forks. The club will provide paper plates, napkins and utensils.

GOLD*GOLD*GOLD*GOLD*GOLD*GOLD*GOLD*GOLD*GOLD

The raffle tickets have been mailed out to all members. Who do not or can not make the meetings.

Please fill out and send in your raffle tickets. ASAP!!!!

This year Steve has selected some beautiful nuggets for the raffle. The gold nugget raffle will be held right after dinner.

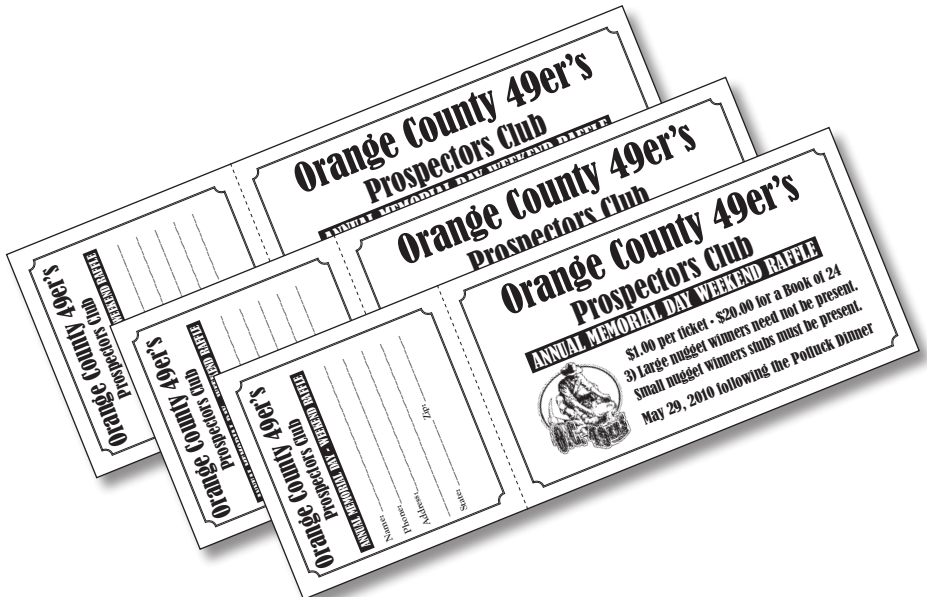
ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

RAFFLE TICKETS

**IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED
OR YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE MORE
RAFFLE TICKETS FOR THE MAY OUTING
PLEASE CONTACT**

**KATHI BROWN
AT 562-233-3022**

**OR E-MAIL
KATPER56@MSN.COM**



**REMEMBER TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT
THE GENERAL MEETINGS AND ANY TICKETS
REMAINING WILL BE SOLD AT THE OUTING.
BEFORE AND AFTER THE DRAWING.**

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**Full color logo on the back
and black ink logo on the front**

Colors Available: Ash and Tan (4-XL Ash only)

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AVAILABLE AT THE MAY OUTING**



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MEMBER INFORMATION

NEW MEMBER

Johnson, Kevin
253-820-5365
2040 W. Main #210-2607
Rapid City, SD 57702
prospector@hughes.net

NEW MEMBER

Arndell, Robert & Margaret
775-577-2187
2465 Antelope St.
Silver Springs, NV 89429

Lost Turquoise Mine of Slocum Mountain

THE TALE

Turquoise was one of many natural substances utilized by Pre-Columbian Indians in North America. Its sky-blue color was universally revered by all Indian tribes. One of the most famous of these Pre-Columbian sites is the Cerrillos District, located 20 miles south of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Most of the turquoise in the Cerrillos Hills occurs on two small peaks, Turquoise Hill and Mount Chalchihuitl. These two peaks have been mined since prehistoric times. Turquoise from Cerrillos almost certainly found its way southward to the Aztec Empire where it was highly prized! Another ancient source of turquoise lies 14 miles northeast of Baker, California, in the Mohave Desert. Known as Turquoise Mountain, the peak is laced with veinlets of blue-green turquoise. Turquoise Mountain is part of a highly mineralized zone that includes the Halloran Springs gold district. When American prospectors from the gold mines wandered over to Turquoise Mountain, they discovered many ancient shafts, tools, and excavation pits on the slopes of Turquoise Mountain.

About 80 miles west of Turquoise Mountain another source of the blue gemstone exists. This rich deposit lies somewhere on the western flanks of a small peak known as Slocum Mountain. It is located 3 miles south of the old site of Copper City, in the south-central part of California. The Superior Valley bounds the mountain on the east while Grass Valley forms the western boundary. Slocum Mountain is a small peak, encompassing only about 7 square miles and rising to an elevation of 5123 feet.

The ore deposits at Copper City were discovered in the 1880's. By the following decade, the camp was bustling with activity. It was to the mining camp known as Copper City that two brothers named Jim and Roy Morrow came in the year 1898. The Morrow brothers found more than they bargained for in this desert mining camp. It happened one day when they were working on the slopes of Slocum Mountain, just south of Copper City. Jim and Roy stumbled onto a rich turquoise deposit on a low ridge, along the west flank of the mountain. The deposit contained no primary ore minerals of copper so they abandoned the claim. Years later, the Morrow brothers decided to return to the turquoise deposit on Slocum Mountain, but they were unable to find it. After several more attempts, they eventually gave up.

MINING HISTORY

The history of mining in the mountains and deserts of south-central California must surely begin with the Pre-Columbian Indians who lived in the area. The early natives were extracting turquoise and other mineral from the earth centuries before the Spaniards arrived.

The nearest mining camp to Slocum Mountain was Copper City, located only 3 miles to the north. The ore bodies at Copper City were located in the 1880's. The deposits

were rich enough to keep the mining camp going until about the turn of the century. The Goldstone Mining District lies 15 miles east of Slocum Mountain, on the other side of Superior Valley. First discovered in 1881, the district produced both placer gold and lode gold.

The famous Randsburg District lies 30 miles west of Slocum Mountain. Gold was discovered here in 1894 followed by the Johannesburg strikes in 1897. Randsburg was named for the renowned South African Rand gold mines while Johannesburg took its name from the mining town in South Africa.

Roughly 16 miles southeast of Slocum Mountain lie the so-called "Coolgardie Placers". Discovered around 1900, the area has extensive dry placer diggings. Virtually all the washes and gullies on both sides of Coolgardie Road are productive.

GEOLOGY OF THE AREA

Slocum Mountain and the majority of the surrounding hills are mostly composed of highly weathered Mesozoic-age granitic rock. A few small exposures of Tertiary volcanic rocks occur on Slocum Mountain; much larger exposures of similar rock crop out 10 miles northwest of Slocum Mountain at Eagle Crags. To the south of Slocum Mountain, in the Opal Mountain/Black Mountain area, Miocene volcanic and pyroclastic rocks and younger Pleistocene basalts are abundant.

A few miles west of Slocum Mountain lie a series of heavily weathered and dissected hills that extend roughly 7 miles in a northwest-southeast direction. These small hills are composed of hypabyssal Tertiary-age rhyolite. But again, most of the underlying bedrock in the area consists of Mesozoic granitic rock. The heavily weathered granite is ideal host rock for veinlets and nodules of turquoise.

PROSPECTING POTENTIAL

Turquoise is found only in the oxidized zone of primary copper deposits, usually within about 150 feet of the surface. It almost invariably occurs in arid regions and is generally associated with silicic igneous rocks like granite, rhyolite, and trachyte. Extreme alteration of the host rock combined with copper and phosphorus-rich fluids produces an environment conducive to the formation of turquoise deposits. Slocum Mountain and most of the surrounding hills are predominantly composed of highly weathered granitic rock.

This is ideal host rock for veinlets and nodules of turquoise. Prospectors may want to concentrate on the western slopes of Slocum Mountain. The Morrow brothers' account places the mine on a low ridge or hillock on the west side of the mountain, and this is certainly as good a place as any to start. Prospectors should realize that Slocum Mountain lies just inside the China Lake Naval Weapons Center. Permission is required to enter this facility.

Geology Park LLC

Crazy Horse



Tashunca-uitco
Oglala Lakota (Sioux)
1849-1877

While there have been many renowned leaders among the Lakota (Sioux), perhaps the most high-profile of them all is Crazy Horse. A fierce and fearless warrior, and considered a visionary by his people, Crazy Horse also wielded great power and influence in many social and political affairs that faced the Lakota. While his role in battle is often recounted, more important perhaps was his dedication to tradition and the Lakota way of life.

As a child, Crazy Horse looked little like the rest of his people. In fact, his hair was so light and wavy he was called "Curly" as a childhood name. Many a white settler who saw him playing along side the trail they traveled thought he was actually a white captive living among the Indians. An enigma then, Crazy Horse remained so. While other Lakota and their leaders sat for portraits, Crazy Horse never allowed a rendering of himself in any medium, especially photographs, saying: "Why would you wish to shorten my life by taking my shadow from me?"

While still a very young man, Crazy Horse began his journey toward becoming a legendary warrior. At 13 he stole horses from the Crow and led his first war party before the age of 20. Early on he decided he would fight to protect the Lakota way of life and encroachment of white armies and settlers, fighting against the new arrivals in Wyoming with Red Cloud in the 1865-68 war, playing a key role in destroying William J. Fetterman's brigade at Fort Phil Kearny in 1867. That victory did not stop the influx, however, and the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 opened the door of Lakota land to all that Crazy Horse fought to prevent. Undaunted, Crazy Horse led an attack on a surveying party sent into the Black Hills by General George Armstrong Custer in 1873.

When the U.S. War Department ordered all Lakota bands onto reservations in 1876, Crazy Horse took it upon himself to lead the resistance. Crazy Horse had taken a

Cheyenne woman as his first wife, which allowed a close alliance between the Lakota and Cheyenne. Crazy Horse called upon his Cheyenne relatives to join forces with his Oglala warriors in an attempt to keep General George Crook from following the Rosebud Creek to Sitting Bull's camp on the Little Big Horn River. Crazy Horse and his band of 1,200 warriors turned Crook and his men back on June 17, 1876. This victory paved the way for hope. A week later Crazy Horse joined forces with Sitting Bull and Hunkpapa Lakota leader Gall in an attack that destroyed Custer's Seventh Cavalry.

Despite the Indian victory at the Little Bighorn, things changed. Though all three leaders chose not to submit to government orders to report to the reservation, Sitting Bull and Gall decided to lead their people to Canada. Crazy Horse chose to remain in the sacred lands of the Lakota. General Nelson Miles pursued Crazy Horse, the Lakota and their allies relentlessly throughout the winter of 1876-77, bringing Crazy Horse into battle several times. Eventually, the intense focus of the military on his position and intent, coupled with the decline of the buffalo population, led Crazy Horse to surrender on May 6, 1877.

Even in defeat, Crazy Horse remained a free spirit. On September 5, 1877, he left the reservation without authorization to take his sick wife to her parents. General George Crook, whom Crazy Horse had defeated a year earlier, ordered 43 men to go and arrest him, fearing that he was plotting an outbreak and return to battle. Crazy Horse did not resist arrest at first, but when he realized that he was being led to a guardhouse, he began to struggle. For the entirety of his life, Crazy Horse had abhorred gunfire and believed he could not be killed by bullets, and this belief held firm in the end for once he began to struggle, his arms were held by one of the arresting officers and a soldier ran him through with a bayonet.

He was secretly buried by his parents somewhere in the hills in the vicinity of where he was camped when he was arrested. The location has been known to very few over the years and remains a secret today.



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SCHEDULED OUTINGS 2010

DATES AND LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

Meetings	Outing	Claim	Access	Rest Rooms
January 19th	30 & 31	Puppy Feet	Easy	Yes
February 16th	27 & 28	Puppy Feet	Easy	Yes
March 16th	27 & 28	Puppy Feet	Easy	Yes
April 20th	24 & 25	Puppy Feet	Easy	Yes
May 18th	29, 30 & 31	Duiesenberg	Easy	Yes
June 15th	25 & 26	Rose Creek or TBA	Easy	No
July 20th	30 & 31	Rose Creek or TBA	Easy	No
August 17th	Sept. 3, 4 & 5	Tailings	Med	Yes
September 21st	24 & 25	Kern River	Easy	No
October 19th	30 & 31	Duiesenberg	Easy	Yes
November 16th	Dec. 4	Day Outing, Goler Gulch	4-WD	No
December 21st	Holiday Party	Club House	Easy	Yes



Access Easy	Good access for Passenger Car, 2 Wheel Drive, RV, and Trailers.
Access Medium	Can be accessed by 2 Wheel Drive. RV's, Trailers and 5th Wheels check with other members!!!
Access Tuff	Serious 4 Wheel Drive Trail/Dirt Road.
Restrooms	Are Chemical Toilets (Porta-Potties) that we rent for specific outings.

It is highly recommended that you attend the meetings and check with other members to discuss accessibility to these claims before going.

ORANGE COUNTY 49ERS



Orange County 49ers, Inc.
P.O. Box 1491
Orange, CA 92856-1491

GOLD NUGGETS - MAY OUTING RAFFLE



4, 6 AND 8 GRAM NUGGETS