

**THE
ORANGE COUNTY
FORTY-NINERS**

GOLDEN AURA

August 2011

Volume: XXIX Number: VIII



**DON'T FORGET OUR NEXT MEETING IS
August 16th, 2011**

**THIS MONTHS OUTING IS AT
EAST FORK - August 27th, 2011**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

When: 3rd Tuesday of each month

Time: 7:30 p.m.

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

August Looking Back

August marks my 10th anniversary as a Member of the Orange County 49ers. Looking back over the years it has been a wonder and pleasurable time. I have met so many good people, and I can't even begin to express how much I have learned from the Membership. My first Outing was in the Piutes as a guest of Tom Grogan, who I did not know. At that Outing, members were dredging, high-banking, metal detecting and dry-washing and I had no idea of what any of that equipment was, or what it did, or why one would use it. I used a trowel and a gold pan and wasn't very efficient in its utilization. At the end of the weekend with all the panning I had trouble standing up straight, but was very happy to take home a small vial of specks. I do believe I caught the bug that weekend.

Ten year is not a long time as we still have Members from when the Club was formed in the 80's, but I will say there have been numerous changes during my time as a Member. Gold was just under \$300 and ounce, and today it is sneaking up on \$1,700. When I was first elected Treasurer in 2003, we had about 120 Members. Today, and for the last three years we have averaged over 240 Members. Back then, the dredge was the weapon of choice for the Members in the search for gold, and now it is the dry-washer and metal detector. Membership was concentrated in Orange County, and now, we have many members in the outlying counties and out of state.

The sad part of the past ten years is the number of members who are no longer around. The Club has lost a lot of quality individuals. (I will not mention names as there are too many and I am sure to forget to some). I will just say, our Outings are not the same without these individuals and their unique characteristics and traits. I even miss the repetition of repeated stories time and time again over dinner or around the campfire.

I have come a long way from swirling and shaking that single pan. I now have a high-banker, two dry-washers, three dredges (damn the governor) blue bowl, metal detector and countless other prospecting items and, even some gold. I owe my knowledge, education, and many terrific days of prospecting with fellow Club Members, and for that I say “thank you.”

Day Outing: August: This will be the on the East fork of the San Gabriel River on Saturday the 27th. We will meet at the parking lot at the end of the road.

Day Outing: September: This metal detecting outing will in Long Beach on the 11th. See the Wagon Master’s notes later in this edition for the exact location.

September’s Outing: This will be at Puppy Feet.

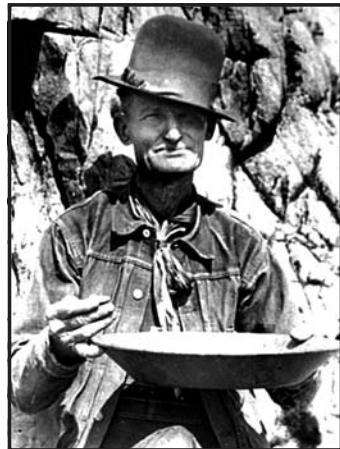
Speaker for August: “to be announced” or a related video. The Board is opening to ideas for speaker so do inform us of any possible ideas on topics or speakers.

October Outing: Since we can not use the clubhouse at LDMA and we do not have the availability of a cargo trailer for food serving, the Board is developing a new idea. Some may like it, and others may not. Details will be forth coming next month.....

Hope to see you at the East fork.

Happy Prospecting,

Steve



The TREASURE'S REPORT

July 2011

INCOME:

50-50 Income.....	\$ 0.00
Club Merchandise.....	50.00
Membership Renewal.....	20.00
New Membership.....	440.00
Raffle Income.....	260.00
Refreshments Income.....	6.00
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$ 776.00

EXPENSES:

May Outing	\$ 230
Newsletters	0.00
Porta Potties	0.00
Postage.....	0.00
Raffle Prizes.....	174.35
Referrals.....	0.00
Refreshments.....	0.00
Rent	125.00
Supplies	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 529.35

CHECKING ACCOUNT

7/01/2011, Beginning Balance.....	11,546.10	
7/31/2011, Ending Balance.....	11,907.75	
4 Outstanding Checks	385.00	
CHECK BOOK BALANCE.....	11,522.75	\$ 11,522.75

CERT DEP

00/00 CD Balance	2,344.23	\$ 2,344.23
CD Statements are sent Quarterly		

TOTAL CLUB ASSETS **\$ 13,866.98**

TOTAL INCOME YEAR TO DATE **\$12,662.50**

TOTAL EXPENSE YEAR TO DATE **\$11,158.42** **\$ (1,504.08)**

GENERAL MEETING

July 19, 2011

Our President, Steve Reid, called the meeting to order at 7:40pm, followed by the flag salute. Kathi Gave the Treasurer's Report and it was approved as written. Our Wagon master, Bryan DeGhetto, talked about the outing to be held at Santa Monica Beach and reminded everyone that we will be meeting in the parking lot at 8:00am.

We watched a couple of videos of Finders Keepers as our program for the night. Steve asked if anyone knows of people that would like to come and speak to the club for our nightly program to please contact Kathi or himself.

The monthly raffle winners were as follows: Phyllis Webb-Gold Nugget, Carolyn Kelly, Bryan DeGhetto—Silver Rounds, Dean Chapman, Leroy Kimoto, Bryan DeGhetto, Dean Chapman, and Leroy Kimoto-Silver Fifty cent pieces.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Secretary,
Sandy Hunt

MAY OUTING 2011

Ticket Sales Total.....\$3,135.00

EXPENSES

Ticket Printing.....	\$1,105.99
Stamps.....	230.70
Supplies.....	67.80
Gold.....	2,547.00
Porta Potties.....	217.45
Clad for Hunt.....	200.00
Pot Luck.....	244.31
Gold Pan.....	60.00
Total.....	4,673.25

TOTAL INCOME..... 3,135.00

TOTAL EXPENSE..... 4,673.25

The WAGON MASTER'S REPORT



AUGUST OUTING

Saturday August 27th 8:00am.

We will be meeting up at the East Fork of San Gabriel River
in the parking lot at the end of the road.

Bring your Sluice Box, Shovel, Lunch and Water.

I took a look and all the Gold is right there.
You just have to find it.

Do not forget to display your Wilderness Pass.

SEPTEMBER OUTING

We will be having a metal detecting day on
Sunday Sept. 11th 8am

The location is in Long Beach next to the Marina.
we will be meeting in the little parking lot located off
E. Ocean & E. Shoreline.

The parking lot entrance is off Shoreline.

The September monthly outing will be
Sept. 24th & 25th at Puppy Feet.

The Dam Has Broke!

Fire roared through gold rush towns, again and again, leaving complete destruction. Another potent natural disaster didn't come along as often: floods. One did show up the morning of June 18, 1883.

"The English Dam broke this morning at 5 a.m. Warn everyone along the Middle Yuba River!" was the message that raced down the Ridge Telephone Line.

Near the headwaters of the Yuba River's middle fork, the English Dam stored water for the Milton Mining and Water Company. It stretched 400 feet across the river, restraining a reservoir of water that backed itself up the river for two and a half miles. Pushing at the dam were 650 million cubic feet of water.

From behind the dam the water dropped down to hydraulic mining operations at French Corral, picking up pressure as it sped downward. It was used to blast away at hillsides to unearth buried gold. There was to be no hydraulic mining that day.

When the dam let go it sent a flood down the river, led by a wave 100 feet high, carrying a cargo of trees, rocks, and brush. The rushing water turned a bend and the debris became lodged, forming a hundred foot high barrier, saving some of the downstream buildings from being destroyed by the rubble. Water began to back up Oregon Creek. A covered bridge across the creek was lifted by the water and carried upstream.

At the town of Freeman's Crossing on the Yuba's Middle Fork, Tom Freeman abandoned his hotel, broom factory, barn, and blacksmith shop when he heard the flood was heading his way. With the hotel staff and a few Chinese miners who had cabins near the river, Freeman took to the high ground to wait it out.

Back down at the crossing the stagecoach from Nevada City to Downieville crossed a bridge over the Yuba. The passengers watched as the debris barricade broke and the flood swept away the bridge they had just crossed.

It was an hour and a half later when the reservoir ran empty. The weakening waters ran past a vivid scene of property destroyed, and much human suffering.

The dam had been inspected a few days before it broke and was declared sound. Rumors blamed the increasingly angry opponents of hydraulic mining. The debris washed down the rivers ended up on farmers' lands. Some got lawyers but the folks around French Corral's now idle hydraulic mining operation thought maybe some of 'em got dynamite.

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Changes to the By-Laws

The Board has been working on changes to the By-Laws to reflect the current way our club functions. As you can see, there are various wording that are in need of being updated. When reviewing the document, please keep in mind that the BOLD is to be added, and the underlined is to be deleted. If you have any concerns regarding the document, please send them Attention The Board of Directors, PO Box 1491, Orange, CA 92856-1491.

Thank you,

Board of Directors

Orange County 49ers, Inc.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
ORANGE COUNTY 49ERS, INC.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, the undersigned, all of whom are residents of the State of California, have this day voluntarily associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a non-profit corporation under the Mutual Benefit Corporation Laws of the State of California, and we do hereby certify:

I

That the name of this corporation is ORANGE COUNTY 49ERS, INC.

II

This corporation is a non-profit mutual benefit corporation organized under the Non-profit Mutual Benefit Corporation Law. The purpose of this corporation is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which a corporation may be organized under such law.

III

That the purposes for which the corporation is formed are:

- A. The specific purpose of this corporation is to educate members in the various techniques of prospecting, detection and recovery of gold and other valuable minerals, to protect the rights given under the mining law of 1872 and to provide pleasure and fellowship among members in the pursuit of this hobby as a recreational activity.
- B. (That the general purposes and powers are:
1. The corporation is an independently organized and controlled chapter of the Gold Prospectors Association of America (GPAA). Qualification for membership in the corporation is membership in good standing in the GPAA and attendance at regularly scheduled meetings and/or field trips.)
 2. The corporation will enroll new members in the GPAA, collect the required GPAA membership dues and submit same to the GPAA National Headquarters. In addition, a percentage of all income derived by the corporation is required to be paid to the GPAA, in order to maintain the Chapter charter.
3. (B.)To provide a proper area for the practice of these objectives, the corporation may acquire by gift, purchase or lease and hold, improve, maintain and dispose of one or more mining claims for the exclusive use of its members for recreational purposes only.
- C. In pursuit of the above purposes, the corporation may derive revenues through member donations and other fund raising activities among members, and additionally may engage in any lawful activity to raise funds for the corporation. Through amendment of its By-Laws, the corporation may require membership dues.
- D. All funds received by the corporation, with the exception of the funds due and owing to the GPAA, shall be used exclusively to promote the stated purposes of the corporation. No

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Bold Text is being added

funds may, at any time, inure to or be used for the personal gain or benefit of any one or more members.

- E. To have and exercise any and all powers, rights and privileges which a corporation organized under the Mutual Benefit Corporation Laws of the State of California by law may now or hereafter have and exercise.

The foregoing statement of purposes shall be construed as a statement both of purposes and powers, and purposes and powers in each clause shall be in no wise limited or restricted by reference to or inference from the terms or provisions of any other clause, but shall be broadly construed as independent purposes and powers.

IV

The County of this State where the principal place for the transaction of business of the corporation is located is the County of Orange.

V

The name and address in the State of California of this corporation's initial agent for service of process is:

Jan Goodnight
13792 Brenan Way
Santa Ana, California 92705 (Updated to reflect new)

VI

- A. The officers of the corporation shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, **(Secretary, Treasurer)** Chapter Reporter and News Editor, **Claims Chairman, and Wagonmaster**
- B. Election of officers shall be held annually at the regular January meeting. Vacancies occurring prior to the annual election shall be filled by election at the next regular meeting, following the vacancy.

VII

The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by an Executive Board. The Board will consist of seven (7) directors, **all of whom must be members in good standing of the Orange County 49ers**. Each corporate officer will serve as a member of the Board. Two members-at-large shall be appointed by the President with approval by the general membership. The President will act as Chairman of the Board.

The names and addresses of the persons who are to initially act in the capacity of directors are

Jean Pierre Masson	9271 Larkspur Drive, Westminster, CA 92683
John Wellman	2229 N. Pacific Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92706
Jan Goodnight	13792 Brenan Way, Santa Ana, CA 92705
Debbie Obole	13811 Mills Road, Garden Grove, CA 92643
Phyllis McElroy	415 S. Plum Lane, Orange, CA 92668
Donald Hofmann	6972 Bestel Avenue, Westminster, CA 92682

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VIII

The amendment of these Articles shall require the assent (by vote or written consent) of the members representing at least two-thirds of the voting interest then entitled to vote as provided in the By-Laws as such By-Laws are in effect from time to time.

IX

That the corporation is organized pursuant to the Mutual Benefit Corporation Law of the State of California and does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the members and is organized solely for non-profit purposes. Upon the winding up and dissolution of the corporation, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the corporation, the remaining assets shall be distributed to the Gold Prospectors Association of America, a non-profit corporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, constituting the incorporators of this corporation, have executed these Articles of Incorporation this _____ day of _____, 1983.

Jean Pierre Masson

John Wellman

Jan Goodnight

Debbie Obole

Phyllis McElroy

Donald Hofmann

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)
COUNTY OF ORANGE)

On _____, 1983, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the said State, personally appeared:

Jean Pierre Masson John Wellman
Jan Goodnight Debbie Obole
Phyllis McElroy Donald Hofmann

Known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that the executed the same.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Notary Public in and for said State

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Bold Text is being added

BY –LAWS
OF
ORANGE COUNTY 49ERS, INC.

SECTION I – POWERS AND DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board will establish and enforce the policies of the corporation within the framework of the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of the corporation.

Regular meetings of the Board shall be held at such times and place to be established at an annual organization meeting of new Board members to be held each February. Special meetings may be held upon five (5) days advance notice to all Board members.

A special meeting of the Board may also be called without advance notice if all Board members are present and unanimously consent to a meeting without prior notice.

Meetings of the Board are open to all members in good standing of the corporation.

No single individual may hold more than one Board position.

If an appointed member of the Board fails to attend three consecutive regular meetings, without sufficient cause, the Board member may be replaced by another member in good standing, at the option of the Board. If an elected officer/director fails to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, without sufficient cause, the President or Vice-President in his absence, will notify the members at the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Upon a two-thirds vote of the members present, the officer/director may be removed from office.

The Board will appoint a Chairperson for each of the permanent committees and may also, from time to time, establish special committees.

All business coming before the Board shall be approved or disapproved by a simple majority of the Board members present. The presence of five (5) Board members shall constitute a quorum for the conducting of business.

SECTION II – POWERS AND DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS

- A. The President shall be chief executive officer of the corporation. The President shall preside at all corporation meetings, serve as Chairman of the Board and act as spokesperson for the corporation. The President shall be responsible for the orderly conduct of the business of the corporation and enforcement of the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees with a voice and vote in any decision of such committees.
- B. The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, preside and perform all of the duties of the President. The Vice-President will be responsible for coordinating committees.

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- C. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep complete and accurate minutes of each Board and membership meeting. All books, records, accounts, correspondence and other materials shall be the property of the corporation, shall be open for review by Board members at all times and by any member in good standing upon reasonable notice and shall be delivered to the successor in office.
- D. **The Treasurer shall keep full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements of corporate funds. All receipts shall be deposited in accounts established by the Board. All books, records, accounts, correspondence and other materials shall be the property of the corporation, shall be open for review by Board members at all times and by any member in good standing upon reasonable notice and shall be delivered to the successor in office. The Treasurer shall be responsible for filing of tax forms and other reports which may be required of the corporation.**
- E. The Chapter Reporter shall be the primary contact between the corporation and GPAA National Headquarters, and will be responsible for a member news letter.
- F. (E.)The Editor will collect news and photographs of field activities and other information of potential interest to the membership and GPAA. The Editor will present material to the Chapter Reporter and assist in editing and preparation of material to be presented to GPAA. The Editor will assist the reporter in developing, publishing and mailing the news letter.
- G. **(F.) Claims Chairman is responsible to maintain information on each claim, filing the appropriate annual fees and assessments, which are to be paid with funds from the corporation general account.**

SECTION III – FIELD TRIPS

In pursuit of the basic purposes of the corporation, the Board will appoint a Wagonmaster **will be elected and is part of the Board of Directors**, who will be responsible for planning, arranging and conducting monthly field trips.

It is understood and agreed that each member is responsible for his or her own safety and well being and the safety and well being of any family members or invited guests.

There are certain risks involved in some member activities relative to personal health and/or injury due to the nature of the organization and its functions. These risks include, but are not limited to: hazardous plants and wildlife, open excavations, and mine shafts.

Each member is responsible and liable for the acts or actions of himself, members of his party and any domesticated animals which may accompany him.

Acceptance by an individual of membership in the corporation is considered as acknowledgement of, agreement to and compliance with this Section.

SECTION IV – GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. In any question of procedure, “Robert’s Rules of Order” shall dictate the proper procedure.

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- B. Any revision, deletion or amendment of these By-Laws shall be submitted in writing to the President to be read and acted upon at the next regularly scheduled monthly membership meeting. A two-thirds vote of the members present shall be required for approval. Upon failure of approval, the same issue may not again be brought before the members until after six months have elapsed.
- C. The Secretary/Treasurer shall send 10% of all donations received by the corporation to the GPAA National Headquarters. The GPAA portion of donations will be forwarded on a quarterly basis.
- D. ~~(C.)~~Regular meetings will be held monthly on the third Thursday(Tuesday) of the month at 7:30 p.m.
- E. ~~(D.)~~The meeting shall be opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- F. ~~(E.)~~The refreshments for each meeting shall be purchased with funds from the corporation general account.
- G. ~~(F.)~~Printing cost of the news letter and any postage fees incurred in mailing of the news letter or in the transaction of corporation business shall be paid with funds from the general account.
- H. ~~(G.)~~No person (member or non-member) shall be permitted to use corporation functions as a market place for wares or services, without first obtaining permission of the Executive Board. No material may be distributed at any general meeting without the approval of the President.
- I. ~~(H.)~~A quorum of seven members shall be required at any regularly scheduled meeting for transaction of any business of the corporation. A majority vote of members present at such meetings shall be sufficient to transact all business, except as may otherwise be specified in the Articles of Incorporation or these By-Laws.
- J. ~~(I.)~~No business shall be transacted at other than regularly scheduled monthly meetings unless all members have been notified of the time, place and nature of the business to be transacted, at least seven (7) days in advance. No business shall be transacted at such special meeting other than as stated in the member notification.
- K. Members having no communication with the corporation for a period of more than one year, or members who do not renew membership in the GPAA shall have their names removed from the roll.
- L. ~~(J.)~~The corporation shall not be responsible or reimburse any expense or indebtedness incurred by any member without the prior approval of the Board.
- M. ~~(K.)~~Members will be assessed annual dues of \$12.00, due and payable by the regular January 1st meeting, of each year. New members will be assessed on a pro-rata basis for the balance of the year in which they join.

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THE LOST SCHOFIELD MINE

THE TALE

The Mohave Desert of southeastern California is home to some of the most forbidding country in North America. This nearly waterless expanse of mountains and deserts is also rumored to contain a number of fabulously-rich gold mines. In the Ivanpah Mountains, north of Cima, a legendary "river of gold" is said to flow beneath Kokoweef Peak. The Turtle Mountains, which rise up from the desert sands north of Rice, are thought to harbor an incredibly rich gold placer. Although most of the gold-bearing ores of the Mohave Desert tend to be lean, a few fabulously-rich bonanzas have actually been found. In 1915, an amazing pocket of high-grade ore was discovered in the Hidden Hill Mine, located on the southeastern slopes of the Providence Mountains. The ore from this pocket assayed out at \$1.5 million per ton! Like most of the gold-bearing ores of the Mohave Desert, the Hidden Hill lode consisted of free-milling gold in quartz.

From the Hidden Hill Mine, the Clipper Mountains dominate the view to the southeast. Only 6 miles away, the Clipper Mountains loom up out of the sediment-filled basins that surround it. The Clippers also harbor a secret. Like many of the mountain ranges in the Mohave Desert, the Clippers are said to contain a lost vein of rich gold-bearing ore.

The year was 1894. A railroad employee and part-time prospector named Tom Schofield was working in the Clipper Mountains, north of Danby. Schofield was searching for a source of water for the railroad. The Clipper Mountains, which contain several springs, was a likely choice for his search and Schofield managed to scour much of the range. One day he found an old trail that led him to a canyon and then up the side of a mountain to a small niche or cleft in the rock. Schofield followed the trail through the niche to an outcrop of heavy, black rock. Nearby was an old abandoned mine shaft containing a rich vein of gold! Schofield collected samples of the ore and returned to his camp. He traveled to Los Angeles in June of that year where he showed his gold ore to several people.

Schofield tried to relocate the old mine shaft after his trip to Los Angeles, but was never able to find it. Since 1894, many Mohave Desert prospectors have searched for Schofield's lost mine, but all in vain.

MINING HISTORY

The history of mining in the Clipper Mountains of southeastern California consists of a brief flurry of activity that started in 1915 and ended in the mid-1920's. Huge deposits of low-grade gold ore were discovered along the southern flanks of the Clipper Mountains in 1915. The Gold Reef District, as the area came to be called, contained extensive deposits of very low-grade gold ore. Several mines were

developed on these deposits, including the Tom Reed, the Clipper, and the Gold Reef.

The famous Arrowhead District is located on the southeastern slopes of the Providence Mountains, only 8 miles from the Clippers. The incredibly rich surface deposits were discovered by Mexican prospectors during the 1880's. The Mexican miners extracted the gold using primitive arrastres. Large-scale mining operations were conducted by American companies during the early 1900's. In 1915, blasting in the Hidden Hill Mine revealed a fabulous pocket of nearly pure gold!

GEOLOGY OF THE AREA

The Clipper Mountains consist of an uplifted core of heavily weathered and dissected igneous and metamorphic rocks that include older Precambrian granites and gneisses and younger Tertiary volcanics (mostly basalts with minor pyroclastic rocks). A small exposure of Pliocene-Pleistocene nonmarine sedimentary rocks occurs along the southern flank of the Clippers. In addition, three small Tertiary-age rhyolitic intrusions occur just south of Castle Dome. The Tom Reed Mine is located just to the south of the largest Tertiary intrusion; the Clipper Mine and the Gold Reef Mine are also located in the same general area.

The Clippers are cut by a series of northwest-southeast trending faults, the result of widespread block faulting which characterizes the Basin and Range Province of North America.

PROSPECTING POTENTIAL

Railroad men seem to make pretty good prospectors. Tom Schofield's lost mine in the Clippers and John Sutter's fabulous Bagdad-Chase lode were both discovered by railroad men and both were incredibly rich. The Bagdad-Chase Mine eventually produced more than \$6 million worth of gold during its lifetime. That a rich vein of gold lies hidden in the Clipper Mountains is entirely possible. The Hidden Hill Mine is very close to the Clipper Mountains, only about 8 miles or so. We should never forget the extraordinary gold pocket taken out of that mine in 1915.

Prospectors may want to concentrate on the southern flanks of the Clippers and along the fault zones that cut the range. In addition, all contacts between the Tertiary rhyolites and older country rock should be checked for mineralization.

A metal-detector may be useful in tracing gold-bearing float.

Importantly, wear boots, spats, and heavy gloves if you are considering venturing into this area on foot! -- this is home ground for the highly poisonous and aggressive Mohave Rattlesnake (*Crotalus scutulatus*). Alone among rattlesnakes, the Mohave possesses a venom consisting of a mixture of hematoxic and neurotoxic agents. Drop for drop, it is the most toxic of all rattlesnake venoms.

Geology Park LLC

Gold Field Justice Was Seldom Just

Springtime came to Nevada City and in April of 1851 three men celebrated the new season by robbing J. Chambers' butcher shop on Broad Street. Their haul was \$2,600 in gold dust.

The men were named Alan, Miller, and Ridgely. The latter had been employed at the butcher shop. A-hah! An inside job.

Judge Lynch's court hastily convened on what is now the site of the National Hotel. Mob Jury was present - a considerable company of bearded, rough looking men in felt hats, boots, and flannel shirts. The entire company knew that to send the criminals to Marysville for trial would be to let them go free. Nobody there would care about their Nevada City crime and they probably wouldn't even be prosecuted.

The "court" decreed 39 lashes each for the undoubtedly guilty men. The butcher got to help deliver the blows, aided by a burly local teamster. Ridgely reportedly died of his punishment. It is said the example made of these thieves discouraged larceny for months.

A woman known in Nevada City as "Old Harriet" ran a saloon on Broad Street overlooking Deer Creek in 1852. The stream was high and raged along the boulders and logs, to be crossed only by walking a felled log that spanned the waters. On the far side a man named Pat Berry had a gold claim. One Saturday Berry walked the log into town and bought himself a new outfit of shirt, pants, and boots. Then he spent the night at Harriet's saloon.

That was the last place he was seen alive.

Two days later, six miles below Nevada City, Berry's naked body was found in an eddy of the creek he had to cross to get home. His forehead bore a large wound.

Harriet employed a man to keep bar and do any necessary fighting. They were both arrested and charged with Berry's murder. They had the good fortune to be brought to a real court, not to a convenient tree.

The prosecution told the court of the man's wound, which was said to be caused by a weight from a set of gold scales kept on the bar. The

new clothes were missing, pointing to robbery. It was impossible that the new duds could have been stripped off by the running water of Deer Creek, said the prosecutor. He had been murdered at Harriet's, stripped, and thrown into the water outside.

In their defense it was said that Berry was drunk and had to cross a narrow log in the dark to get home. Could he have fallen off, hit his head on a rock, and been washed downstream?

The justice hearing the trial took several days to consider the matter. While that was happening another man fell off the log and disappeared downstream. He was found in the same eddy where Berry's body came to rest. His head bore the same wound Berry had suffered, and all his clothes were gone save his shirt.

Old Harriet and her bartender were set free.

Trial by jury, according to Mark Twain, was "...the most ingenious and infallible agency for defeating justice that human wisdom could contrive." Miners and other residents of Grass Valley and Nevada City in the 1850s tended to agree with Twain and preferred prompt hanging to a lengthy trial.

Murderers and robbers usually got the death sentence - a rope necktie party - in Judge Lynch's court. Sometimes the criminal was branded on the cheek so he might be known and watched wherever he went. Tough times for the guilty and the suspected.

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MEMBER INFORMATION

NEW MEMBER

Hess Kent & Nancy
4787 Columbia Way
Lancaster, CA 93536

NEW MEMBER

Kim Thomas & Heather
12672 Abbott St.
Garden Grove, CA 92841

NEW MEMBER

Cunningham Chris
414 13th St. #A
Huntington Bch, CA 92048

NEW MEMBER

Rafferty Micheal
36743 Hillview Rd.
Hinkler, CA 92347

NEW MEMBER

Conway Drew
2200 Candice Ave.
Rosamond, CA 93560

FOR SALE

Minelab GPX 4500 Metal Detector used

Jon Kishi 310-741-1158,..... **\$3800.00**

AZ Desert Gold Dry Washer/Echo-210/Vac Combo (azdesertgold.com)

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SCHEDULED OUTINGS 2011

DATES AND LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

Meetings	Outing	Claim	Access	Rest Rooms
January 18	29-30	Puppy Feet	Easy	Yes
February 15	26-27	Puppy Feet	Easy	Yes
March 15	26-27	Puppy Feet	Easy	Yes
April 19	30, May 1	Puppy Feet	Easy	Yes
May 17	28-29	RM26 Road Side	Easy	Yes
June 21	24-25	Condor or TBA	Easy	No
July 19	30-31	Condor or TBA	Easy	No
August 16	27	East Fork	Easy	No
September 20	24-25	Puppy Feet	Easy	No
October 18	29-30	TBA	Easy	Yes
November 15	Dec. 3	Day Outing	4-WD	No
Dec. 13 or 20	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