

THE
**ORANGE COUNTY
FORTY-NINERS
GOLDEN AURA**

April 2013



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

April

Hello Everyone,

I hope you all had a nice Easter.

I look forward to seeing everyone out at our next monthly outing.
(Claim Crawl)

The board is working hard to come up with some speakers for the upcoming months and by the next meeting we should have some good news about our big May outing.

THE BOARD NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!

We need ideas, suggestions on things you the "MEMBERS" would like the club to do.

How about some ideas on speakers for the monthly meetings.

SMALL MINERS EXEMPTION

If anyone has any information that could help the club with the small miners exemption please contact me with that information.

You can e-mail me at oc49erbryan@gmail.com

Happy Digging

Bryan



The Treasure's Report

March 31, 2013

INCOME

50-50	\$8.00
Raffle	\$168.00
Refreshments	\$11.30
New Members	\$880.00
Renewal	\$795.00
Merchandise	\$40.00
Memorial Dal	20.00
Income	\$1,922.30

EXPENSES

Rent	\$125.00
Aura	\$453.73
Refreshments	\$11.11
Office Supplies	\$37.07
Postage	189.20
Prizes	330.67
Referrals	\$10.00
Expenses	\$1,156.78
Month	\$765.52

CHECKBOOK

Statement Balance	\$19,729.65
Outstanding Checks	\$352.63
Checkbook Balance	\$19,377.02
CD Balance	\$2,347.73
Total Cash	\$21,724.75

The Wagon Master's Report

Not Available at time of printing



General Meeting

March 19th 2013

Our President Bryan DeGhetto called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. followed by the Flag salute. One new visitor Rich Baxter. Steve Reid gave the Treasure,s Report along with the minutes from last month,s meeting, they approved as written.

Our speaker for the evening was Scott Reynolds, he talked about what to look for when buying coins and gold as there is some counterfeit stuff out there.

Our speaker for April will be Mike Samarian from Mad Mining he will be demonstrating his re circulating system that is designed for desert use.

Raffle Winners: Vile of gold, Sandy Hunt

Silver dollar: Mike Hulka

Silver half: Skipper

Silver quarters: Sandy Hunt, Mike Hulka, Randall Rigney

50-50: Art Chavez

Membership drawing: Kevin Carr

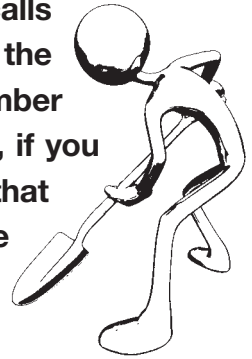
Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Secretary, Sandy Hunt



For all Members

The Board has received several phone calls about guests being on our claims without the Member present. A reminder, as a Club Member you may invite a guest(s) to use our claims, if you follow the Club Rules. The Club Rules state, that you must be present the entire time that the guest(s) is/are on the claim.



The Board thanks you for your cooperation.

New Members Information

Harmon Robert & Marish

400 Olive Ave.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
harmonr137@yahoo.com
559-974-1828

Wilbur Melvin

911 Starkight Dr.
Pahrump, NV 89048
jowill818@yahoo.com
702-523-0002

Pounds Stan & Tina

P.O. Box 381
Inyokern, CA 93527
t-flanigan52@gmail.com
760-377-3392

Henderson Brett & Tracy

3288 Camino Calandria
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
wbretthendeson@gailmail.com

Henderson Jon

3288 Camino Calandria
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
fallenobject@yahoo.com

Constable Dave & Kathie

1600 N. Norma, Spc. 30
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
kathie.constable@yahoo.com
760-499-1907



Raffle Tickets

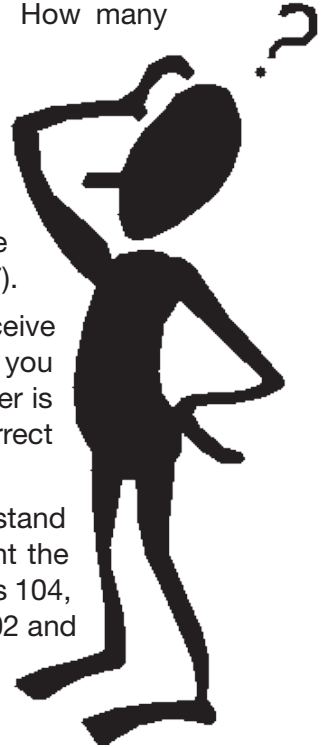
A Member stated that they only received 23 tickets in their packet. Their tickets were numbered 2040 to 2017. How many tickets did they receive?

A common error is to subtract $2040 - 2017$ and that answer is 23. That is the difference between 2040 and 2017 but one is looking for the total, not the difference. In this case one uses either 2016 or adds one to the difference (as in this case the Member did get ticket 2017).

An easier way to explain this follows: If you receive tickets 105 to 101 how many tickets did you receive? If you subtract, $105 - 101$ your answer is 4. Again this is the difference, but not the correct number of tickets you received.

A simple way for miners/prospectors to understand this concept is to use your fingers to represent the tickets. The pinky is ticket 105, the ring finger is 104, the middle finger is 103, the pointer finger is 102 and the thumb is 101. Now you have the correct answer.

Happy Prospecting,
The Board



May Outing Raffle Tickets

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND
IN YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS
TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A
CHANCE TO WIN THE GOLD
AT THE MAY OUTING.**

Orange County Forty-Niners Store

100% COTTON SHORT SLEEVE TEE-SHIRT WITH POCKET

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

Colors Available: Ash and Tan (4-XL Ash only) ALL SIZES \$20.00 each



Membership Renewal Agreement Annual Renewal \$60.00



Mail to:

Orange County 49er's, Inc.

P.O. Box 1491

Orange, CA 92856-1491

Name(s) _____

If there are any change of address, phone or e-mail? Please complete below.

Lost Gunsight Mine

THE TALE

Death Valley has always been a land steeped in legend. Many factors have combined to make it so. The valley is extremely remote and incredibly barren. The westbound 49'ers who used the Death Valley trail had to cross the arid Basin and Range province of southern Nevada and then the Amargosa Desert before they even reached the eastern ramparts of Death Valley. When the emaciated Argonauts stumbled out of the Amargosa Desert and dragged themselves to Furnace Creek Wash, they realized that the worst lay ahead of them as they gazed down at the inferno of Death Valley.

The valley has also attained legendary status in the mining world by virtue of its many mines. These include those that were found and developed (such as the mines at Panamint City, Ballarat, Harrisburg, Greenwater, Skidoo, and Chloride City), and those that were found and then lost. The list of Death Valley lost mines is indeed impressive. Some of the most famous lost mines of the Old West reside in the Death Valley area. These include the Lost Dutch Oven Mine, John Galler's Lost Mine, the Lost Chinaman Mine, the Lost Breyfogle, and the most famous all, the Lost Gunsight Mine.

The 49'ers who chose the untested Death Valley route were divided into a number of companies. These included the Manly-Bennett party, the Jayhawker party, a group of southerners from Georgia and Mississippi, the Towne-Martin party, the Wade party, and a small group of Argonauts led by J.W. Brier. The various parties split up and made their way westward across the Death Valley depression, through the forbidding Panamint Range, and then across the Panamint Valley to the Argus Range beyond. When the 49'ers emerged from the cauldron of Death Valley, they carried away with them the memory of a hellish and unforgiving land.

Something else was carried out of the valley that winter of 1849. It was fixed to the end of a rifle barrel owned by one of the Argonauts. Some accounts mention a member of the Jayhawker party as the owner of the rifle; other accounts claim that the rifle was owned by Captain Towne of the Towne-Martin party. All accounts agree on one thing. The homemade rifle sight was fashioned out of pure silver.

During the passage from Furnace Creek Wash to the Panamints, the owner of the rifle was out hunting when he stumbled on a low-lying hillock or mound of pure native silver! The owner used some of the silver to mold a primitive gunsight for his rifle. This rifle with its silver sight created quite a stir in the mining camps of the Mother Lode. Indeed, within a year one of the prospectors returned to Death Valley to search for the hill of silver.

The Lost Gunsight Mine generated a flurry of prospecting that lasted through the

1850's and 1860's. Many gold and silver strikes were made in the Death Valley area as a consequence of this prospecting frenzy. While searching for the Lost Gunsight Mine in 1860, a prospector named Alvord found gold in the Panamint Range. Dr. Darwin French, who named many of Death Valley's features, discovered silver veins in Wildrose Canyon and in the Coso Range while searching for the Lost Gunsight Mine. Prospectors found silver in the Panamint Range and the Slate Range, but none of these deposits matched the fabulous Gunsight Mine. Many of the original members of the Jayhawker party and the Manly-Bennett party returned to the Death Valley area to search for the hill of silver, but all in vain. It was never found.

MINING HISTORY

The history of mining in the Death Valley region of California really begins with the discovery of incredibly rich silver deposits in the Panamint Range, near the head of Surprise Canyon. The discovery occurred in January of 1873; by the following year a horde of prospectors had descended on the Panamints. A rough and tumble mining camp called Panamint City sprang up near the silver mines.

The new silver camp quickly acquired a bad reputation for lawlessness and hell-raising. And no wonder. The canyon had long been used as a hideout for local outlaws. Indeed, the first silver strikes in Surprise Canyon had been made by outlaws hiding out in the canyon! The Panamint City silver mines began to play out after only 3 years of operation. By 1877, Panamint City was a dead camp.

In spite of the legendary Gunsight Mine and the great silver discoveries of the 1870's, the Death Valley region would ultimately be famous for its gold deposits. The great Death Valley gold strikes occurred late in the mining history of California. Not until 1897 did the first of the big discoveries take place. It was during that year that extremely rich gold deposits were located only 7 miles south of the old site of Panamint City, in the heart of the Panamints. A mining camp called Ballarat sprang up on the western edge of the mountains, near the mouth of Pleasant Canyon. The gold mines at Ballarat yielded nearly 50,000 ounces of the yellow metal before the veins gave out. In 1903, prospectors stumbled on equally rich gold deposits in a small basin in the Funeral Range, near Chloride Cliff. A mining town known as Chloride City sprouted up near the mines in 1905. The district produced some 60,000 ounces of gold, most of which came from the famous Keane Wonder and Chloride Cliff mines.

1905 was a watershed year in the mining history of the Death Valley country. It was during that year that the Harrisburg gold deposits, the Leadfield copper and lead bodies, and the Greenwater copper deposits were all discovered. Unfortunately, all three were extremely short-lived. Greenwater lasted but 4 years, Harrisburg 3, and Leadfield barely 2 short years.

But the biggest strike of all was still left to be made. In 1906, massive lode deposits

of gold were discovered only 6 miles northwest of Harrisburg, near Emigrant Canyon. The mining town of Skidoo sprang up nearby. Named for the popular aphorism "23-Skidoo", the mining camp of Skidoo was one of the last of the old-time boom towns. The "Skidoovian" gold deposits poured out a river of the yellow metal; nearly 200,000 ounces of it! But like most mining towns, Skidoo's days were numbered. By 1917, most of the mines had closed down and the town faded away.

GEOLOGY OF THE AREA

The Death Valley depression harbors the lowest point in the United States (about 260 feet below sea level) and extends roughly 120 miles in a northwest-southeast direction. The valley and surrounding mountains and deserts constitute some of the most forbidding country in North America. At its northern end, the valley is bounded by the Last Chance Range (on the west) and the Grapevine Mountains (on the east). Both ranges are composed mostly of Paleozoic marine sediments. As one travels southward, the Cottonwood Mountains and Panamint Range rise up on the western side of the valley, while the Funeral Mountains and Amargosa Range loom up on the eastern side. The Cottonwood Mountains, like the Last Chance Range and Grapevine Mountains, are mostly composed of Paleozoic marine sediments, but in the southernmost part of the range a large Mesozoic granitic intrusion is exposed. This Mesozoic granite is one of several similar plutons that intrude the ancient Precambrian to Cambrian metamorphic and sedimentary basement rocks of the Panamint Range.

The Funeral Mountains are an uplifted block of ancient Precambrian to early Devonian metamorphic and sedimentary rocks. These rocks represent a virtually unbroken sequence of deposition extending some 220 million years.

The Amargosa Range marches southward from Boundary Canyon (the southern terminus of the Grapevine Mountains) to Copper Canyon (located about 7 miles south of Badwater). To the north, the Amargosa Range and the Funeral Mountains are very closely associated; indeed, there is really no intervening valley between them until one goes south of Echo Canyon and Death Valley National Monument. In this area, the Amargosa Range and the Black Mountains are similarly very closely associated. Further south, past Copper Canyon, only the Black Mountains form the eastern wall of Death Valley. The Black Mountains are an uplifted, northwest-southeast trending block of ancient basement rock wedged between the Death Valley and Furnace Creek fault zones. They are made up of Precambrian to Cambrian metamorphic and sedimentary country rock which is intruded and overlain by younger Mesozoic granite plutons and younger still Tertiary volcanic rocks. Tertiary volcanics include basalts, rhyolites, and pyroclastics; one deposit of pyroclastic rocks consists of brecciated tuffs 500 feet thick! These pyroclastic rocks bear witness to the violent history of this part of the Black Mountains during early-Tertiary time.

As one travels southward, the valley constricts somewhat as the Owlshhead Mountains

crowd in on the southern end of the Black Mountains. The Owlshhead Mountains form the western wall of Death Valley in this area and are mostly composed of Mesozoic-age granites. The southern spur of the Black Mountains is made up of Precambrian to Cambrian metamorphic and sedimentary rocks.

Further south, the southern terminus of Death Valley is finally encountered. The valley is bounded to the south by the heavily faulted Avawatz Mountains. These mountains consist of an uplifted core of ancient Precambrian metamorphic basement rock intruded by small Mesozoic granitic stocks. The Ibex Hills and Saddle Peak Hills pop up along the southern end of Death Valley. Both consist of Precambrian to Cambrian metamorphic and sedimentary rocks.

Many small hills and buttes in the Death Valley basin (and also in the surrounding deserts) are composed of Tertiary volcanic rocks. Examples include Shoreline Butte (located near Ashford Junction) and the Dublin Hills (located near Shoshone).

PROSPECTING POTENTIAL

The area of interest for the Lost Gunsight Mine presents some daunting problems for the prospector in that it is extremely barren and remote and encompasses a vast area. On the other hand, it's a prospector's delight in that it has virtually no vegetative cover and the remoteness of the area precludes thorough and detailed prospecting by anyone. Small deposits may still lie hidden in the area.

Prospectors may want to concentrate on the country paralleling the route of the 49'ers through Death Valley. For example, the Manly-Bennett party journeyed southward from Furnace Creek Wash to Bennett's Well, and then southwestward along the eastern edge of the Panamints to the Six Springs Canyon area. They headed west across the Panamints here. Prospectors may want to focus on the eastern foothills of the Panamints, especially the area just east of Panamint City. This includes

Johnson Canyon, which drains the eastern slope of the Panamints and heads less than 2 miles from the Panamint City silver district.

The Jayhawker party traveled northward from Furnace Creek Wash to the area near Stovepipe Wells. Here they turned west, passing around Tucki Mountain and into Emigrant Wash, which they used to climb out of Death Valley. Again, the eastern flank of the Panamints seems to offer the best potential for prospectors. The Panamints are the most heavily mineralized of all the Death Valley ranges. Consequently, they have been heavily prospected, but nevertheless still offer some potential for future strikes.

Many small hills, buttes, and mounds in the Death Valley basin (and also in the surrounding deserts) are composed of Tertiary volcanic rocks. The lost hill of silver may be hosted in one of these.

thegeozone.com

Advertisements



**TUSTIN
HEARING
CENTER**

Enjoy the Sound of Life!

Phone 714-731-6549
Fax 714-730-5372
jreid@TustinHearingCenter.com
www.TustinHearingCenter.com

Janell D. Reid, Au.D.
Audiologist/CCC-A/FAAA

Tustin Hearing Center, Inc. / Newport Avenue Medical Plaza
12791 Newport Avenue, Suite 101 / Tustin, California 92780

**CERTIFIED
METAL
PRODUCTS
INC.**

SPECIALIZES IN PRECISION METAL SPINNING

**TOMMY GROGAN
PRESIDENT**

Phone: 714-821-1720
Fax: 714-821-3944
grogantd@social.rr.com

10670 Flower Avenue
Stanton, California 90680



Paydirt USA

Robert Selinger
robert@paydirtusa.com

Paydirt USA has got it! Detailed Location Information on Ghost Towns, Mines and Quarries, Ruins, Post Offices, Historical Military Locations, Museums, Populated Places, Cemeteries, and other Locales of Interest such as Arches, Bridges, Cliffs, Craters & Calderas, Dams, Glaciers, Pillars, Rapids, Springs, Trails, and Water Falls. A great collection of useful information for Gold Prospecting, Gem and Mineral, Metal Detecting, Treasure Hunting. This information includes GPS Locations, Topographic Map Coordinates and USGS Map Names. Multiple mapping services along with Variant Names (A.K.A.) and Elevation information.

FRED CURTIS



Goldsmith Silversmith Platinum
Tel 714.963.7323
Fax 714.963.7491

PO Box 20342
Fountain Valley CA 92728

by appointment only
platinumfred@aol.com
www.platinumfred.com
Designer and maker of fine jewelry



**PEDERSENS
Metal Detectors**

Has Moved to a new 4000sq.ft Home

Buy Sell Trade Gold and Prospecting items

10689 Beach Blvd
Stanton, CA 90680
Ph 714-527-6463
Or 714-771-6463

Hours
M-F 10-6pm Sat 9-4pm
Club Members ask for 10% off
Trade-Ins Welcome
www.Pedersensintl.com

Brent Cross
Senior Project Manager

Lic. # 673910



Residential • Commercial • Industrial

(800) 496-3232
Tel (714) 557-7633
Cell (714) 931-7073
Fax (714) 557-7622
E-mail: brentc@trojanpainting.com

434 E. Borchard Ave. Santa Ana, CA 92705

TROJAN PAINTING CORP.

www.trojanpainting.com



TELE EXPRESS

Tele Express Business Systems, Inc.
230 Goddard, Irvine, CA 92618
(949) 861-4500 (949) 861-4501
www.telxpress.com CSL# 793980

Bryan De Ghetto
(949) 861-4500 x 300

bryan@telxpress.com



RUSTY'S

Gold & Treasure Hunting Supply
5642 E. La Palma Ave, Suite 208
Anaheim, California
714-693-GOLD (4653)
Website: www.rustysgold.com



**GOLDMINER'S OUTPOST
&
MR. SECURITY**



SMALL MINING EQUIPMENT • GOLD PANS
GOLD NUGGETS • DETECTORS • USED EQUIPMENT
PROSPECTING CLUBS • BOOKS • ADVENTURE!
(Also, Spy & Security Products)

8011 Pioneer Blvd., Whittier, CA 90606
1-800-594-3318 • crazyforgold007.com



**METAL DETECTOR
INVENTORY SALE**

Whites TDi, V3i, DFX 300

Please call for prices
310-741-1158

Scheduled Outings 2013

Dates and Locations are Subject to Change!

Meetings	Outing	Claim	Access	Rest Rooms
January 15	January 26 - 27	Puppy Feet	Easy	No
February 19	February 23 - 24	Puppy Feet	Easy	No
March 19	March 30 - 31	Puppy Feet	Easy	No
April 16	April 27 - 28	HMC1 & Claim Crawl	Easy	Yes
May 21	May 25 - 26	Duisenburg - LDMA	Easy	Yes
June 18	June 29 - 30			
July 16	July 27 - 28			
August 20	Aug 30 - Sep 1			
September 17	September 28 - 29			
October 15	October 26 - 27			
November 19	November 30			
December 17	December 17	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 49er's