



**Alternate Board Members**

Open Position.....

Edma Wade.....909.883.2198

Terry Wade.....909.883.2198



**Only in America:**

**Only in America.....do drugstores make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front.**

**Only in America.....do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and put our useless junk in the garage.**

**Only in America.....do they have drive-up ATM machines with Braille Lettering.**

**Only in America.....do we use the word ‘politics’ to describe the process so well: ‘Poli’ in Latin means ‘many’ and ‘tics’ means ‘bloodsucking creatures’.**

**Only in America....do banks leave both doors open and then chain the pens to the counters.**

## The Prezzzzzzz Sayzzzzzzz

We are starting off this season with a new membership chairman. Please mail all your dues to Burl La Rue at P.O. Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377. Don't let your membership run out as this is going to be a *GREAT* year.

"Welcome" to our newly weds Randy and Susan Landry who are getting married on Feb 19th. For those of you not making it to the wedding, we are having our outing on the 19th at the Summit Claim. I understand people are already finding gold out at Coolgardie. Don't forget to go and check it out!

### *In Memory of Our Friends*

*We were notified of the passing of a past member, Mona West. She passed away on January 26, 2006. When Valley Prospectors had our pasture Thanksgiving outing at Specicher's pasture, Mona West and Cora Morton made and donated all the ceramic ornaments used for prizes for the children's games. In past years they (Mona and Rupert) were very active in valley Prospectors. We will miss her, Steve and Mary Schubert*

*Ann Hutchison lost her loving husband and companion Bill. Bill first joined when the club had some financial growing pains. Bill recommended that each member pay an annual due of \$25. The club was soon out of debt. He was so kind he would give you the shirt off his back. He was a great prospector and shared his knowledge with new members who needed help. He donated many law books to the club's library witch helped with the many legal issues the club faces. He cooked the meat at many outings and at the Christmas Party each year. Our club will certainly miss our friends.*

### Editor's Corner

Thank you club members who have signed up for email Gazette. Forty-four members have signed up in the first month. We will have two drawings selected from those who have signed up so far for email Gazette. At the next general meeting, two people will win a \$10 gold bag. Remember, our goal is for 100 members to sign up this year for email Gazette. Get on the list and help us save our resources and a few trees as well.

As we plan our outings, invite a friend to join in on our prospecting fun. Friendship is invaluable.

Here are a couple of members and their recent experiences on our claims. Alton Salter's letter and pictures say it all. . .

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Greetings Fellow Miners,

Please find enclosed \$30.00 check for my 2006 annual dues. Thank you all very much for your efforts creating and perpetuating this great club. Especially in finding claims with gold on them.

Since my partner and I started dredging Pickett III next to Union Flat Campground we have taken home more than our share of nuggets and fine gold. Ted and Val have been very nice to us, watching our equipment while we are away and making sure we get our two weeks free camping in their cul-de-sac. I met Val in the Sierra Gold Shop in Downieville. She did not have to ask us twice to join your club!

I especially appreciate the friendly family orientated atmosphere. I bring my 80 year old Mom to the Riverfront Inn, Downieville, where she spends her nights. After breakfast I head into town and bring her to the river where she and her dog Buddie frolic in the sun all day while my partner and I dredge.

Please find enclosed some large reprints. I hope some of them copy well enough to use in your newsletter. If not, basically they are for all you good people down south, who do ALL the work involved in running our club, to enjoy. If a photo is worth a thousand words then these should allow me to end this letter now and publish my 'book' elsewhere.

Thanks Again,

Alton Salter





## Blue Cut Outing in Cajon

Blue Cut in Cajon Pass was the January 15, 2006 outing for Valley Prospectors. The wind was up and the temperature got up to 53° . . . a bit cold for working the streambed. A few members were scattered about but the numbers were nowhere near as many as last year. The brisk weather probably was the main factor, that and the showers the night before. I drove up early afternoon with my cousin Larry Wootten who was introduced for the first time to what drives our members to work in less than favorable conditions. Larry and I walked up the streambed a couple of hundred feet above the road crossing to where Bryan Eddy was operating his sluice.



Bryan Working His Sluice

Eddy said he had been there since 8 o'clock. He said a few members had moved off in various directions and he had talked to Mr. Gunderson earlier in the day. Eddy was there last year. It was good to see him again working hard to extract a little color from the stream. He had indicated that he had tried several different slopes of his sluice and seemed to have perfected the exact slope to capture a little gold. He showed Larry and I a little color he had trapped in the ribs of his sluice. We bent over and sure enough a few small flakes of gold stared right back up at us.

Eddy said he was looking forward to trying dry washing techniques in future outings. I offered joining him during a dry washing outing where we could use my dry washer. I know we have members that want to try different methods but are only limited by either lack of equipment or lack of knowledge of who wants to do what and when. I suggest members speak up and ask during the meetings to join in together in small groups as needed. It's almost always more fun joining in with others during outings rather than digging by yourself. So, if you want a partner don't be bashful. Speak up.



## Valley Prospectors General Meeting January 26, 2006

Meeting called to order 7:07 pm. Pledge by Don. Courtesy: Sharon Cornia sick but getting better. 4 Guests. No minutes for December and board minutes published in Gazette. Treasurers Report: Pat. Coming events: Steve read flier from West Coasters. Alice gave out awards to Valley volunteers that missed the Christmas Party. Lady Luck: Neva gold for Jan., Feb. regular prizes and March white elephant. Trish has gold coin raffle. Membership: Dues are due for 2006. Wagon master: Feb 19th Summit Sunday we need a volunteer to be wagon master for the desert claims and a liaison for the northern claims. Finds of the month: Terry and Edna. Pat introduced the budget for 2006 and motion to accept. Motion by Dee, 2nd by John, discussion, motion passed. Gold sales: Steve Trish gold coin raffle. Library: Robert, we have new books. Editor: Cornel, for every 50 names that sign up for newsletter on email, Cornel will draw 2 names for \$10 gold bags starting in Feb. Getting your newsletter by email will save our club money. Claims: John, San Bernardino is assessing property taxes on our claims. CFMS: Bural, Endowment Fund donation in memory of Jim Bergener. Big thanks from Laura. Blood Bank: Mary, gold coin awarded to Travis and Bural and Travis honored for donation in Jan. Club Apparel: Travis and Susan. Program: John, claims we have and claim rules. Terry reported on our northern claims our free campsites are washed out. We must have a liaison officer for these claims. Refreshments: Dee next month cupcakes and cookies. Valentine theme. No old business. New Business: Membership Bural and Cornel newsletter. 50/50 winner Oscar. He also won the brass gold pan for the fastest panning at the GPAA gold show. Door badge winner: Sandra C. Door Prize winner: Jennifer. Finds of the month: Traditional gold 1st Roger McGuire, 2nd Gary Jerka, and 3rd John Howell. Treasure 1st Gary Crabtree, 2nd Bill Gunderson, and 3rd Roger Zay. Meeting closed 8:45pm.

## Valley Prospectors Board Meeting Feb 2, 2006

Start 7pm. Roll call 13 present, 2 excused, and 3 absent. Treasurers report: Money market accounts to change in March. Blood bank: Mary two people donated in Jan. Alice, thanks to Mary Mary for doing pull tabs. Claims: John, the assessors office agreed that having only one assessor number for all our claims is wrong and they may change it. Phil, the claims are dry and roads are OK at the summit. Correspondence: Val and Ted letter read. Letter from Judy Carpenter. Editor Cornel, needs good items about Bill Hutchinson for Gazette entry. Programs: John, wants metal detector class. April will be Dave. Norm, will teach gold mining in the schools this year. John agrees we need volunteers. Dan, date for the Iris Festival are May 19-21. Club apparel: Travis and Susan still do not have the club apparel stuff. Old business: Keep printing the Gazette the same for now and keep pushing for email delivery. Our copy machine is too small to print the Gazette on it. Budget voted and approved by membership and board. Kent, we still need a liaison for our northern claims. New Business: Dan, how about a lady luck gift for member appreciation. Dan, how about quality events. John, how about prospecting contests. Hold meeting on the claims. Dan motion to change lady luck to be prospecting equipment. Kent 2nd. Discussion, motion defeated. Kent motion for Bill to run special raffle for rocker box, half for Bill half for club. Travis 2nd. Passed. Board member Chuck Smith resigned. Celine Hunt now board member. We need a new alternate. Cornel will help teach about minerals. On special raffles we need to find gold related items. Cornel says how much. John says maybe \$200 but \$50 to \$100 does best. Club members can have one free add in the newsletter per year. Motion to close. Dan 1st Jack and John 2nd closed 8:15pm.

Steven E. Schubert Secretary

## Blood Bank News – Feb

I wish to thank everyone who donated last year and hope to have another great year. We had 2 people donate in January. . . Burl and Travis. Thank you both very much! Remember the Blood Bank needs 400 donations every day to keep up. When you donate don't forget to tell them "MVP" account!

<b>SAN BERNARDINO</b>	<b>HIGH DESERT</b>	<b>RIVERSIDE</b>	<b>ONTARIO</b>
<b>384 ORANGE SHOW RD.</b>	<b>11941 HESPERIA RD. HES.</b>	<b>4006 VAN BUREN</b>	<b>1959 EAST 4TH ST.</b>
<b>909.885.6503</b>	<b>760.949.6344</b>	<b>951.687.2530</b>	<b>909.987.3158</b>

# Awards



**Mr. Lucky Cunningham received plaque for Prospector of the Year. He has been prospecting for 60 years! What a great guy!**



**Travis Templeton won Gold Coin for 2005 Blood Donations!  
Thank You Travis!**

## Minor's Sales



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