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***DRYWASHER'S GAZETTE Aug 2006***

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Send Exchange Bulletins to:

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## Officers for 2006

President Kent Bryant.....	909.982.6776
Vice President John Howell.....	951.247.1037
Secretary Steve Schubert.....	951.943.0535
Treasurer Pat LaRue.....	909.874.5664

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Mario Capote.....	909.338.6690
Dan Cornia.....	909.797.6111
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Jack Hunt.....	951.654.1043
Celina Hunt.....	951.654.1043
Bural LaRue.....	909.874.5664
Susan Templeton.....	909.289.9265
Travis Templeton.....	909.289.9265
Phil Thomas.....	951.369.8658
Mary Mary Valdez.....	951.369.8658
Edna Wade.....	909.883.2198

## Alternate Board Members

Bart Van Holland.....	951.685.2440
Debby Van Holland.....	951.685.2440
Terry Wade.....	909.883.2198

## Humor in the Club

- Monday is an awful way to spend 1/7 of your week.
- No one is listening until you make a mistake.
- OK, so what's the speed of dark anyway?
- On the other hand, you have different fingers.
- Plan to be spontaneous. . .tomorrow.
- Save the whales. Collect the whole set.
- Success always occurs in private; failure, in full view.
- Support bacteria. . .they're the only culture some people have.

## Committee Chairpersons

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Apparel.....	Susan + Travis Templeton..	909.289.9265
Blood Bank...	Mary Schubert.....	951.943.0535
Budget.....	Pat LaRue.....	909.874.5664
CFMSDir....	Bural LaRue.....	909.874.5664
Claims.....	John Howell.....	951.247.1037
Courtesy.....	Jack + Celina Hunt.....	951.654.1043
Editor.....	Cornel Gleason.....	951.247.7429
Gazette Dist...	Cornel + Ruth Gleason..	951.247.7429
Finds/Month...	Edna + Terry Wade.....	909.883.2198
Gold Sales.....	Steve Schubert.....	951.943.0535
Lady Luck.....	Neva Golsch.....	909.944.0775
Librarian.....	Robert Garcia.....	909.335.4398
Membership...	Bural LaRue.....	909.874.5664
Program.....	John Howell.....	951.247.1037
Refreshments...	Lee + Dee Hoffman.....	760.364.4256
Web Master...	Gary Schistler.....	435.835.9451



Next General Meeting is Aug 30, 2006 @ 7:00 PM  
Last Thursday of Each Month  
Knights of Columbus Hall1  
729 E. Baseline Road  
San Bernardino, CA

## We're on the WEB

[www.valleyprospectors.com](http://www.valleyprospectors.com)

- The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required on it.
- To steal from one person is plagiarism, to steal from many is research.

Summer is vacation time and I hope all you Valley members are having the best of both.. My wife and I had a couple weeks on the Yuba River dredging up a little gold, enjoying the tree filled mountains and some new friends. We stayed in Sierra City at Sierra Skies RV Park which is close to Haypress Creek and about six miles upstream from Union Flat Campground. It's a nice place to stay if you have an RV, full hookups, which after eight years of dry camping made my wife a very happy camper, I have to say a warm shower is a bit nicer than a river bath. Many of the nice folks we met, spend their summers at the park, prospecting, fishing, hiking and just enjoying the mountains.

We stopped by Union Flat Campground to check the claims and found that river has completely changed things around, again. The river has shifted back to the road side bank which opened up some new ground to work and there were at least four dredges working the upper bend in the river. The spots used by Valley have not been available this summer due to a few problems with our Plan of Operation, which after a meeting with the Forestry Officials; we should have things back on track shortly. The Ranger has been giving out permits for staying on the road, but you have to go to the Camptonville Ranger Station to get one. Let them know of your intent and they will issue you one, Club Rules limit that stay to two weeks. Prospecting and dredging are OK and parking for the day does not need a permit. You must have a DFG Dredge Permit with you if you plan on dredging.

One more thing, the Moriah Claim is UPSTREAM of the WALKING BRIDGE at Rocky Rest Campground, just past the Indian Valley campground.

Enjoy the rest of your summer,

**Kent Bryant**



**Announcements:**

- 1. The Membership Appreciation Social will be October 1, 2006 at Gilman Ranch in Banning.**
- 2. The committee is chaired by Mary Mary. All questions regarding this event should be directed to Mary Mary at 951-369-8658. She needs volunteers!**
- 3. This month Gary, our WEB master, added a FAQ section on the page. If you have questions that you would like posted get them to the editor or WEB master and we'll try and get them posted. Don't ask where the Gold is because we try to keep it a very BIG secret.**
- 4. Thank you Kent for the photo of the Yuba that we see posted above and in several locations in this month's Gazette. And thank you members for the things you send me to post and or edit for the Gazette. Our membership has been sending more things than ever before. If anyone has sent me information that you haven't seen posted, don't feel that I forgot you.**

5. Several items are planned for future issues. Some have been expanded and you will all get to see some of the great things some of you have shared.
6. Keep sending those recipes in for the cookbook. We need more. I know you are hiding them because the cookbook will be thinner than any member unless you get with it!



### Editors Corner

Last week I was reminded how fragile and precious life can be. My cousin on my father's side of our family has only one son. She and her husband adopted her son when he was a baby. On Friday her son stepped on a land mine in Iraq. His body was riddled with flak and both feet were blown off. Barely alive his mother took the call. The DOD sent his mom to Virginia to be with her son and his new family. He is recovering from his injuries and is now back in the States with his wife and new baby girl. He was in his third term with the USMC and was on career track. I don't know if they will return to Hemet or stay in Virginia at this point, but what I do know is that these things impact us all. It will take a million dollars of corrective surgeries and a life of disabled prosthetic support to piece Ken's life together. . .all in the name of duty.

We have all been touched by the dedicated service of our Veterans. There is no greater honor than to one's Country, no greater love than to one's Family, and no greater service than to our God. How fitting this month's email note to me from Bill and Neva Golsch as they sent me the History of Taps.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War. Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing, Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment.

When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son.

The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a

full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son's funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as "Taps" used at military funerals was born.

The words are: Day is done. Gone the sun. From the lakes. From the hills. From the sky.  
All is well. Safely rest. God is nigh.

Fading light. Dims the sight. And a star. Gems the sky. Gleaming bright.  
From afar. Drawing nigh. Falls the night. Thanks and praise. For our days.  
Neath the sun. Neath the stars. Neath the sky. As we go. This we know.  
God is nigh.

I too have felt the chills while listening to "Taps" but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if you had either so I thought I'd pass it along. I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before. Remember Those Lost and Harmed While Serving Their Country.

Thank you Bill and Neva.



We are always looking for articles to be published in the Gazette. Several are constantly being written and edited to fit our format. If you have material that you think will add to the Gazette, send it to me via email attachment, mail it to our VP address, or hand it to me at the general meeting. Pictures are nice.

## **Valley Prospectors board meeting 6 July 2006**

Meeting called to order 7:20pm. John Howell presiding. Roll 18 present 1 absent. Minutes of the last board meeting read and corrected. Treasurer: Pat gave quarterly budget report. Membership: Bural more renewals. Bill we need to cut off renewals. Bill motion to stop renewals 15 July 2006 Dan 2<sup>nd</sup> discussion motion passed. Editor: Cornel E-mail more successful getting 4 or 5 a month. Have 70 now. Only one recipe for the cookbook. Travis discussion on putting club apparel on the valley web site. Travis to work up proposal. Cornel discussion on adds for the gazette. Valley should stick to adds related to gold mining and treasure hunting. Claims: John plan of operation for northern claims may be approved by 1 Aug. Hungry man closed due to fire danger. John and the claims committee to check out the AZ claims. Programs: John invited Scott from Big Bear for Aug. meeting. Courtesy: Celena . Wagon master: Debbie volunteered to be wagon master for July outing. Gold sales; Steve over \$300.00 in sales. Club apparel: Travis working on jackets waiting on catalog. Good month for sales \$72.00. Blood bank: Mary

summer blood bank needs more donations. Old business: discussion on gate bars larger rings should solve problem. Tables to be advertised in the gazette. New business: Pat membership dues cut off date is 1 April. Pay a penalty for late membership renewal. Jack motion MaryMary 2<sup>nd</sup> change to the constitution Passed. Mary Mary is doing pull-tabs for Ronald McDonald house. Dan needs money to purchase new tables. Must be brought to the general membership. Meeting adjourned 8:35pm.

Steven E. Schubert Secretary

## Feature Article

### Scorpions Anyone?



Scorpions are arachnids, close relatives of ticks, mites, and spiders. There are approximately 1,300 species worldwide, 23 varieties that are found in the U.S. They are characterized by an elongated body and a long segmented tail that is tipped with a venomous stinger.

The venom in most of the U.S. varieties is not too dangerous except for pain and swelling similar to a bee sting. The species to the left is one such species *Centruroides vittatus*. Notice the two dark stripes down the length of the scorpions back. Those two stripes are the best way to

identify a less venomous species. Scorpions are very common in the Southwestern States. They vary in size from ½ inch to 5 inches depending on the species. They are all nocturnal and feed on insects and small animals. They can move very quickly when they want to so be careful. During the day they hide under rocks and boards out of the sun and direct heat.

I once took off a door threshold on the front door of a house and found hundreds of scorpions hiding there. I have removed roofing shingles to discover scorpions under the composite shingles. I have found them in light fixtures in the center ceiling globe crawling around when you turn on the light. I have found them in tires stacked up in a warehouse. Once I found them by the thousands under a mobile home. I have seen lots of them from Texas to the California Coast in all times of the year. They are more active when its warm than cold and unlike the honey bee, they can sting you more than once. I even spent the night with a five incher that I shook out of my sleeping bag in the morning at the Colorado River Wagon Wheel Campground. That's what I get for sleeping on the ground. I'll

never do that again. So watch where you put your hands and don't go walking around in a cabin at night barefooted unless you don't mind getting stung.

If you look closely at these two scorpions to your right, you will notice only one center stripe down their back. These two babies are the more venomous bark scorpions *Centruroides exilicauda*. Can you guess why they call them bark scorpions? The last thing in the world I would do if I lived in Arizona or Southeast California would be to landscape my yard with bark chips. And yet I have seen many homes decorated with

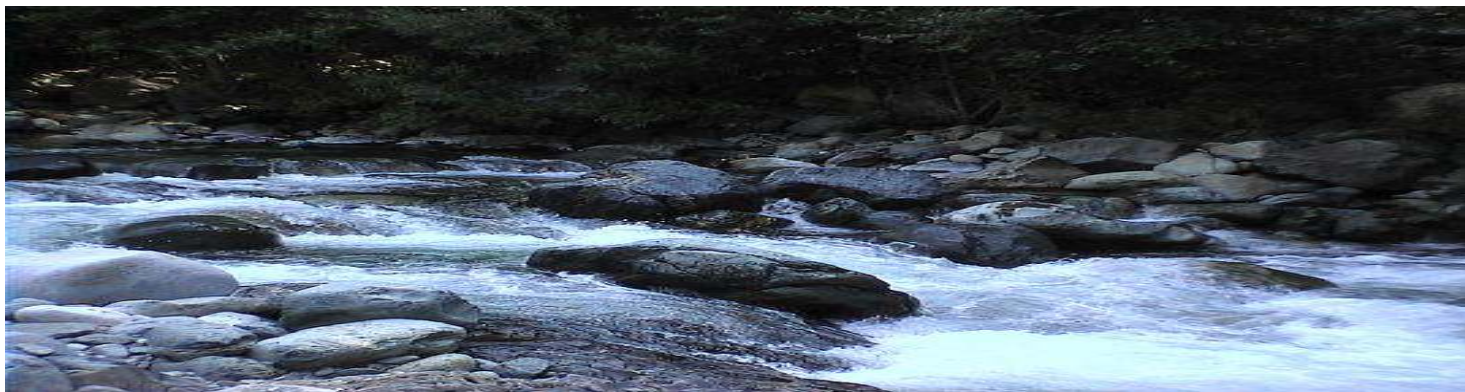


landscaping bark chips right dead center of this scorpion's habitat. Here is another suggestion, don't fall asleep floating on an air mattress at the coast while chumming with raw liver. If you must go to the coast, stay out of the water at San Onofre State Beach for a few more years until the whale they buried there completely decomposes. The shark attacks at that beach, in my opinion, were due to the scent of whale oil leeching into the sand while the whale decomposes. Whales are big. . . it takes a few years for their body mass to rot away. The sharks think they are attending a buffet to which the bathers are part of the fare.

I know, I digressed a little, but I also know some of you may go to the beach this summer just like some of you may go to the desert to look for Gold! Please, don't be careless! Think about what you are doing and live long and prosper. The advantage to being old and wise is to take advantage of your retirement check and your social security benefits so that you can spend a little at Wall Mart in your spare time.

If you were careful and still got stung, wash the area with soap and water and if you think it was a bark scorpion go ahead and go to the hospital. Besides the single stripe down their back, the sting of these more poisonous species is actually less painful with swelling and numbness reported by these patients.

Thanks goes to the Entomology staff of the University of Nebraska for providing information and the photos used in this article.



## Fuel Notice

As of March of this year 99.9% of all gas stations in America are selling gasoline with 10% ethanol blended in the gas. The government has required the oil companies to add an oxidizer to the fuel for many years. The oxidizer they chose was MTBE which is mostly methanol. MTBE is an environmental pollutant that contaminates water and does not breakdown easily. It is also toxic to animals and man. Several California water wells have been capped because of increased levels of MTBE contamination. Ethanol is, however, an approved oxidizer that has minimal environmental impact. Ethanol is grain alcohol that is found in beer, wine, and hard liquor. The manufactures are required by ATF to add some gasoline to the alcohol so that the blend is not consumed by humans. The new E-15 (ethanol 15%) that you use in your car complies with all DOT and ATF regulations and is fine to use in your small engines found in compressors, RV's, Dry Washers, etc. You do not have to add fuel additives to remove water from your gas tank since the new gas already contains enough alcohol do absorb the water in gas tanks. The new fuel is also cleaner and if we ever go to E-85 blends in California we will probably end both the smog, the horrendous deficit spending supporting foreign oil, and make lots of farmers happier since ethanol is made from corn, wheat, sugar, maze, beats, and biomass all grown right here in America. Just think no more displacement of Indians from Penn Crude, North Atlantic Shelf navel blockades, Indonesian Oil deals gone sour, Ploesti Air Missions, North African Campaigns, Viet Nam Cam Ron Bays, Falkland Island Wars, Iranian Treaties that backfired in our face, Iraq oil for peace, or Saudi parties funded by money we don't have. Did anyone know that the torpedo engines of WWII did just fine on alcohol? That model T fords were first designed and built to run on alcohol? That several airplanes both military and civilian, reciprocating and jet, were designed to fly using alcohol? And now, a hundred years later, after one war after another we have almost come full circle. We are headed for alcohol and trying to wean ourselves from gasoline and the importing of oil. What will be the new reason for War? Water? Corn? Surely we can think of something! I don't have all the answers, but I do know that people have a very hard time being kind to one another. I do know that when you spend a good hard day digging and dredging for Gold you will be too tired for War. So as Red Green says, keep your stick on the ice. Who knows, maybe the new slogan for the century will be Gold for Peace!

## BLOOD BANK NEWS - August

*By chairperson – Mary Schubert*

**August has arrived and the Blood Bank has dropped to dangerous levels prompting the Blood Bank to plead for donations. All blood types are urgently needed, especially Type O. Do your part to save lives this summer and donate blood today.**

**Well !! Valley Prospectors is on a roll -- we now have 17 donations for this year so far. THANK YOU ! THANK YOU! Remember only you can give the gift of life.**

**In June we had Lorraine Frost , Helen Lyga-Vejchar, Travis Templeton, and in July we had William Mahoney, Arvid Melvin , William Nganga, and Travis Templeton again. Thank You ALL for donating blood.**

**Please remember patients continue to need blood and blood components every day. Don't forget to mention your club when you donate. " MVP "**

**Keep in mind that the blood you donate as a VP member qualifies the club for blood bank benefits if a club member needs a transfusion. The blood bank works closely with VP to insure that all donations are recorded as VP members donate. This is the sort of thing that most people never think about until faced with real need. Then it gets expensive and quick. This is a great insurance policy and totally voluntary and without any monthly premiums. . . what a deal! For those who have donated this year VP extends a hardy THANKS!**

## COMMUNITY BLOOD DONOR CENTERS

**SAN BERNARDINO  
384 ORANGE SHOW RD.  
909.885.6503**

**HIGH DESERT  
11941 HESPERIA RD. HES.  
760.949.6344**

**RIVERSIDE  
4006 VAN BUREN  
951.687.2530**

**ONTARIO  
1959 EAST 4TH ST.  
909.987.3158**

**UPLAND  
1148 San Bernardino Road  
Suite 203, Upland  
909.920.0625**

**DON'T FORGET TO MENTION YOUR MVP!**

## Miner's Sales



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