

Central Virginia Gold Prospectors

April 18, 2009

Next Meeting is May 16, 2009 at 10:00 am on claim #1. If it rains we will be at the rescue squad building in Buckingham. We are going to have a private demo at this meeting.

We want to welcome everyone today. What a great turnout again we had over 80 last time and 76 at this meeting. We can't do this without all of the support we get from everyone.

We like to introduce all of our officers and the advisory board for you today. Please remember that if you have any concerns or questions feel free to contact these officers or board members and we will do our best to get your questions answered.

In May we are doing the relay for life, this is to help fund cancer research. We have a box on the table and we ask that you please donate anything you can. Every penny goes to this organization. If you want to walk, please let us know it will be on the 29 of May in the evening.

May 9th we are participating in the Buckingham County Days. We need volunteers to participate. If you work this, this will be considered you work day for the club. Part of our rules is that you sign up to do one work day a year and this can be from an event to clean etc. We need to have new people to help, and learn what is involved. It is not hard and you will get so much enjoyment to see the smile on children's faces when you help them find their first piece of gold. We will not be walking in the parade, just sitting up the panning booth. This is a large event for the community and we only asking for what ever time you can give. Contact Jack Wyatt for more details.

Just a reminder claims you can dredge on is #2, 5, 6, and 7. Claim #1, 4 is no dredging. We voted last month to drop claim #3 due to the lack of gold on this claim. We are looking for more land for the club and this savings will help in that. Please remember No digging in the banks, no under cutting of trees. This violation can cost you your land membership.

We are having a common dig today, and please see Lynne to have your name checked off that you are participating. Each person will go down to the creek and classify a ½ bucket of material. You will bring it up and we will dump into pans and mix it up. Then it will be divided between all those who participate placed in bags. As you pick it up your names will be checked off. We had over 33 sign up today, thanks to all of you who participated.

We had a lot of interest in a panning demo, due to all of our new members. Please raise your hands and we will get you paired up with someone to help you. We had 10 people sign up for the demonstration. After the common dig we had a cookout. Thanks to everyone who brought food. We had a great selection of things to choose from.

Nugget Raffle, each year the club raffles a 1oz nugget. This is our annual fundraiser and all proceeds go to support the club functions. We ask that each member sell at least 5 tickets. If you can't get them, sold turn unsold tickets back into the club. For those of you who are not aware of what we do, let me take a minute to let you know. Each year we give gold away to children at our panning activities. Then we have to pay for insurance for our members, to be able to protect our right to prospect. We have to pay for our license to the State of Virginia. We have printing costs, club outings and trailer upkeep. We have fuel expenses to operate the club. Our largest expense is our land lease that is due soon. We have other everyday operating expenses that we have to keep our club going. All positions held in the club are unpaid. We donate our time because of our love of the club and what it has meant to all of us.

Our lease is due in May this year. We had a meeting with our land manager and we have asked for a 3 year lease and the option to extend for another 2 years. We voted last month to drop claim #3, since it was not used much and the gold was not very good. We will use this money towards other properties in the future.

Please keep in mind that this club has grown because of our members. With that said, we need also to have more participation from our members. In our rules we have that all members must work one day and this can be at a function, outing, workday etc. We are proud of all the support of everyone and can't wait to see what's in our future.

Jim Strong made a motion that in the future if we have a president step down or choose not to run again, that they be appointed to our Board of Directors, there was a second and by show of hands all were in favor. This will be a benefit to the club to for advice and help with decisions.

Last year on claim #2 we had a problem with the president of the hunt club. After that there was a meeting with the land manager and this is the rules for now. During Spring Gobbler Season we can go on the property at 12:00 and be there the rest of the day. If you have any problems please contact Jack Wyatt or any other officer of the club and we will contact our land manager. Please drive slow through here, as they do have animals that are running loose. The road is not to be blocked at any time.

During deer season we can only prospect on Sundays for the exception of claim #4 and #7. There is no hunting on these properties. At no time is anyone allowed to block any road in out of the claims. Please make sure that someone can pass you in or out of the property. Also on claim #1, do not block the road next to the oak tree. The hunt club goes down there everyday to feed their dogs.

We will talk to the chamber about us being able to dump trash. We also have decided to lease a port a john for everyone to use. This will be there through September. Please keep in mind that everyone uses this and we had someone make a mess. Thanks to Rocky for his help to clean this up. Guys you have your own spot and ladies you have yours. I don't need to go into detail except it was a male who did not use his spot.

Next Meeting: we have some important votes for the club and future prospecting. Please be there, because any decision could affect you.

No open Fires! If you smoke, you can't throw cigarette butts on the ground; our landowner doesn't want to see any trash. Put your butts out and pick them up no exceptions. Also we had someone throw bottle caps on the ground. Clean up behind yourself. We all need to remember to clean up and set an example for others.

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The scheduled cookout for June's meeting has been canceled.