

# Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada



# Highgrader

## Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada Officers and Standing Committees...

**President**—Ian Thaler  
**Vice President**—John Roberts  
**Treasurer**—Dara Thaler  
**Secretary**—Dolores Gee  
**Membership**—Steve Christenson



**Claims Committee**— John Anderson  
**Education Committee**— Fred Zajac  
**Librarian / Historian**— Larry Clay  
**Merchandise** Al Krause  
**Website** J. Miller  
**Newsletter** - Ian Thaler and Dara Thaler

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HIGHGRADER**

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**OUTTINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Hello everyone,  
 Sorry for the delay in the newsletter. Please join us for the outing in Pahrump on February 25 and 26. We will be having a potluck lunch on Saturday. The club will provide breakfast and lunch on Sunday. There is plenty of parking and camping space available

on the Pahrump claim. Please let us know if you plan to attend by emailing the President via the GSSN website. Also look for the club announcement via email to respond for the outing. Please be safe out there, and find lots of gold.

**GSSN  
NOTICE**

**Next Meeting**  
 March 7th 2012  
**6:30 PM**  
 425 East Van Wagenen  
 Henderson NV 89002  
[www.goldsearcher.com](http://www.goldsearcher.com)



## Outing Pictures from Past Outings



**MINUTES FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2012**

## MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 4, 2012

The GSSN met on Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at the American Legion Hall in Henderson NV. President Ian Thaler called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and led in pledging allegiance to the flag. Everyone was asked to silence their cell phones and all were welcomed to the meeting--there were 13 visitors and 71 signed in. Dara gave the Treasurer's Report; and then Fred made a motion to accept the report as read. Rick Young seconded the motion and it was passed. Next Ian asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the October 5<sup>th</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup> meetings as published in the HighGrader. Fred made such a motion and Morris seconded. Vote was unanimously in favor & it too passed. The next agenda item was the January outing which will be a 2-day outing (Jan. 21-22) at claim #28 -- lunch on Sat. will be pot luck and on Sun. breakfast and lunch will be provided by the club. Camping was encouraged and a sign-up sheet was provided. Next, the purchase of a puffer-type dryer was discussed. which will be further researched.

The Feb. 1, 2012 meeting will feature a Show & Tell. Everyone is invited to bring in equipment and dry washers will be discussed at that time. Next Fred (chair of the audit committee) reported that the Audit Committee met at his house on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> and everything balanced to the penny. The treasurer, Dara, was thanked for a job well done. (She also did a great job organizing the GSSN Christmas Party Dec. 7, 2011, and was congratulated for that as well.) The annual Gold Show was discussed next and a committee will be formed this year relative to streamlining our planning and participation. There being no further new business, a short break was taken after which Bill Durban, Chief of Southern NV Operations - Abandoned Mine Lands / Mineral Education Programs spoke on "Stay Out and Stay Alive" and the group enjoyed his interesting and informative slide presentation followed by a Q & A. The raffles were held next and the results follow below. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Dolores Gee, Secretary  
January 6, 2012

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MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 1, 2012

The GSSN met at the American Legion Hall in Henderson NV on Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2012. President Ian Thaler called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and led in pledging allegiance to the flag. He welcomed all (96 signed in and there were 13 visitors). Dara gave the Treasurer's Report. Fred then made a motion to accept the report as read; Morris seconded; and the motion carried. Ian asked who came to the last outing and if anyone found gold. Many hands were raised. The next outing will be Feb. 25 & 26 in Pahrump at the Johnnie claim. A sign-up sheet as well as some directions were provided. Volunteers were asked to help out with outings and a reminder was made to bring a pick, water, chairs. Ian asked those interested in helping out to contact him and thanked those who have helped out at past outings. He also asked for volunteers to help out with the HighGrader and also requested those interested in doing so to contact him.

Under New Business Ian said that Rick of Desert Outfitters is in the planning stage of organizing a class in geology -- anyone interested should contact Rick. Alan Shook then announced that if anyone is interested in square dancing to contact him for more information. Next Dennis Johnson spoke about a mining museum / recreational facility which is in the process of being put together in Dolan Springs by 80-yr-old Bob Taylor; more information will be provided as it becomes available. DeAnna Costen, president of the Las Vegas chapter of the GPAA spoke briefly about Quartzite AZ. She has info on claims there; anyone interested should contact her. Ron Huff expressed concerns about non-members being on GSSN claims and specifically about asking people for ID in order to prevent unauthorized people from prospecting and removing material who shouldn't be doing so. He made a motion that a committee be formed to deal with these concerns and Dave Simpson seconded the motion. DeAnna agreed to chair the committee, and several volunteered to serve on it (including Dennis and George N). After some discussion, a motion was made by Rick Young to table the motion to form this committee and Dennis J. seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion was tabled.

After a short break, Ian brought up Old Business -- specifically the purchase of a puffer by the club. He mentioned a few options. Then Alan Shook made a motion (which was seconded by Richard Harding) to buy a Keene DW 212 from Desert Outfitters for \$500. After a brief discussion, the vote was unanimous and the motion carried. \$340 from a December 2011 fund raiser will be used and \$160 will be added to that amount to complete the purchase. A 12v. DC Battery will be the responsibility of whomever uses the puffer. There being no further Old Business, the "show & tell" of equipment took place for half an hour.

Feb 1 minutes continued

After a short break, the meeting resumed at 8:15 PM with the raffle. Ian thanked those who donated items. A list of those with winning tickets is listed below. At 8:40 PM Fred made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Jim Hansen. The meeting ended at that time.

Dolores Gee, Secretary  
February 2, 2012

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The door prize (\$22.95 was won by Phillis Harding & the 50/50 of \$66 was won by Larry Shoemaker.

- |                                         |                                                        |                               |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Blue pan/snifter..John Roberts       | 9. Flashlite/vial...Rick Caskey                        | 17. Magnifier..John Bronstein |
| 2. Task forse..Richard Gonzales         | 10. Yellow shovel...Gary Toll                          | 18. Black tub...Gary Toll     |
| 3. NV map...Mike Westover               | 11. Tool bag..Charlotte Foley                          | 19. Bag/cup..Rick Young       |
| 4. Funnel w/bottle..Janet Schelling     | 12. Bucket...Jim Hansen                                | 20. Shovel..Fred Josephs      |
| 5. Mini-classifier..John Burns          | 13. Walking stick..John Roberts                        | 21. 10" fan..Charlotte Foley  |
| 6. GSSN t-shirt..Alfonso Monterio       | 14. GSSN cap..Doug Parker                              | 22. Classifier..Jerry Keene   |
| 7. Flint starter/flashlite..Julie Quinn | 15. Camp towel..John Anderson                          | 23. Garden bag, tweezers,     |
| 8. Baking dish & flashlite..Doug P.     | 16. Wine set, flashlite, &<br>tweezers...John Anderson | & cup..Charlotte Foley        |

dg/2-14-12

## Classified Ads

The Gold searchers of Southern Nevada, Inc. is selling T-Shirts.. If you would like a T-Shirt, please contact Al Kraus, head of Merchandise. We have sizes small to XXL. The club is also looking into purchasing more sizes, if you need a size we do not have let us know and we will put it on the order sheet. A new order of shirts are in, and we have lots of white and grey. Check with Al for your Size.

If you are a current member of the Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada, Inc. and would like to place an ad in the newsletter for 6 months it is free of charge. For non members, the fee for 6 months is \$20.00.  
Send a photo if you want that included.

### Desert Outfitters

Www.desertoutfitters.com

- Metal Detectors
- Topo and City Maps
- Prospecting and Rockhounding
- Equipment and Supplies

Rick Kasky

702-362-7177

Fax 702-362-2561

3340 W. Sirius Ave., Las Vegas NV 89102

### JAKE'S MINING EQUIPMENT

Www.jakesminingequipment.com

Prospecting/Mining Equipment & Supplies  
Gold Cube, Gold Pans & Classifiers, Dry  
Washers, Vacuum, Rock Crusher, Broll,  
Books and more

Jake Jakl

Prospector1@cox.net  
Henderson Nevada 89002  
702-326-9043

## FINANCIALS FOR November, December 2011, and January 2012

GOLD SEARCHERS OF SOUTHERN  
NEVADA  
Financial Statement November 2011

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance forwarded & Interest | \$13,059.30        |
| Income:                      |                    |
| Membership                   | \$ 930.00          |
| Raffle                       | \$ 220.25          |
| Other                        | \$ 10.00           |
| Total Income                 | <u>\$ 1,160.25</u> |
| Balance                      | \$14,219.55        |
| Expenses:                    |                    |
| Rent                         | \$ 88.00           |
| Outings                      | \$ 153.46          |
| Raffle                       | \$ 25.70           |
| Taxes                        | \$ 621.06          |
| Office/Membership            | \$ <u>103.71</u>   |
| Total Expenses               | \$ 991.93          |
| Balance: Income less expense | <u>13,227.62</u>   |

GOLD SEARCHERS OF SOUTHERN  
NEVADA  
Financial Statement December 2011

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance forwarded & Interest | \$13,229.26        |
| Income:                      |                    |
| Membership                   | \$ 1,095.00        |
| Raffle                       | \$ 1,320.00        |
| Bank Adjustment              | <u>\$ 106.42</u>   |
| Total Income                 | \$ 2,521.42        |
| Expenses                     |                    |
| Rent                         | \$ 88.00           |
| Christmas Party              | \$ 532.92          |
| Raffle                       | \$ 814.59          |
| Accountant                   | \$ 125.00          |
| Club Property                | \$ 78.88           |
| Donation PLP                 | \$ 100.00          |
| Total Expenses               | \$ <u>1,739.39</u> |
| Balance: Income less expense | \$14,011.29        |

GOLD SEARCHERS OF SOUTHERN  
NEVADA  
Financial Statement January 2012

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance forwarded & Interest | \$ 14,013.04       |
| Income:                      |                    |
| Membership                   | \$ 1,205.00        |
| Raffle                       | \$ 290.00          |
| T Shirts                     | \$ 33.00           |
| Adjustment                   | <u>\$ 1.80</u>     |
| Total Income                 | \$ 1,529.80        |
| Expenses:                    |                    |
| Rent                         | \$ 88.00           |
| Outings                      | \$ 175.74          |
| Raffle                       | \$ 301.38          |
| Office/Membership            | <u>\$ 53.80</u>    |
| Total Expenses               | \$ 618.92          |
| Balance: Income less expense | <u>\$14,923.92</u> |

## Our First Picker

We set up Saturday morning at "34" ( the November outing). Dan, June, and I were here to run our wet wash sluice to see if we could find Gold. All we needed was a little color to make us happy. What we got was a little more than we expected.

The first bucket we ran was from the bottom of the wash below the camping area. There was only one little speck in the cleanup. We moved up out of the bottom only to find one more speck. The 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> buckets yielded less than that.

We decided to visit with the others at the outing, hoping to find out the "**Golden Secret**". We talked with members from our club and some from the Mohave club. Some had metal detectors, dry washers, shovel and buckets (taking their material home because it was too wet to dry wash), and one couple had a cup of coffee for me (things were looking up). We talked about where the "**Gold**" was and how to get it. Everyone was so helpful. With a large sweep of their hand they told us that "**The Gold is out there**". When Willie Biron got there he said to look for the "**Red Dirt**".

After hearing the stories of the latest find - The 6 ounce Nugget- we headed "**Out There**" looking for the "**Red Dirt**". We moved to the head of the wash where a few of the others were working. Finding bedrock/caliche in the bottom and up the sides of the wash, we recovered a bucket from the first 8 inches above the caliche. We swept the caliche clean of all material and headed back to our set-up area.

It was getting late and the sun was going down fast. Working fast we ran the material through the sluice and did a quick clean-up. Panning the concentrated material in the dark and cold isn't fun. Not until you see the large piece in the pan when you're not even sure it was even **Gold**. After screaming for someone to find my glasses and a flashlight, I showed my wife and son our "**Picker**". All of the others who had been standing around to see if we found anything seemed to have left for home. Even Dan Boone who was camping there that night could not be found.

We packed up and headed for home not wanting to loose any gold in the dark. The first thing we did at home was to finish panning in the light of our kitchen. There was enough color in the pan to make us happy, but there was our "**Picker**". This was our first piece of gold we could pick up with our fingers. It probably weighs less than a pennyweight, but it was the "**Mother Load**" to us.

**Remember:**  
**"The Gold Is Out There"**  
**and**  
**"Look For The Red Dirt"**

Application To : Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada, Inc.

P.O. Box 96732  
Las Vegas NV, 89193 – 6732

Supporting Website:  
www.goldsearcher.com

**Please Print Clearly**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**PROSPECTING VEHICLE**

Vehicle \_\_\_\_\_ Lic# \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that as a member of the Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada Inc., I can run for office and Participate in the voting on all major policies and officer elections. I will also be able to attend all meetings and use the club claims, subject to the club By-laws. I can also use club equipment by appointment and check out books and video's from out extensive library.

**HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

I / we, the undersigned, ( hereafter referred to as participant ) assume all risk and/or hazards associated with participant's involvement in the Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada Inc., a prospecting club. Participants agree to indemnify and **HOLD HARMLESS** all club officers, sponsors, and/or other third, fourth, etc., parties involved in club activities. Participants realize that metal detecting, gold prospecting, and associated activities can be dangerous. The terrain can be hazardous and there may be wild or domesticated animals and snakes present. Some locations may have open shafts, pits, and tunnels. Participants assume animals and snakes present. Participants assume all responsibility by signing below.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATED \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

CLUBS ONLY FUNCTION IF MEMBERS VOLUNTEER

I/we will volunteer to assist in the areas checked. Please check at least one area.

**COMMITTEES**

Audit  Claims  Education  Librarian/Historian  Newsletter

Outing  Website

DUES ARE PAYABLE ON THE FIRST OF THE MONTH ON YOUR ANNIVERSARY DATE.

New members \$45.00 and to Renew is \$30.00.

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_  
Receipt \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_  
Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Card Sent \_\_\_\_\_ Claims Book Sent \_\_\_\_\_

**DEDICATED TO THE PURSUIT OF GOLD!**