



GSSN HIGHGRADER

Issues 1 Vol. GO-XXXI FEBRUARY 2000

The Official Monthly Newsletter Publication of the Gold Searcher's of Southern Nevada, Inc. A not-for profit Nevada Corp.

Elections Followed By Show & Tell At April Meeting

The election for the 2000 Executive Board will be at the April Membership Meeting. After the elections, we will have another big show and tell. We invite all prospectors to bring their equipment and tell the Club members how it works and what it does. There will be prizes for all who bring their equipment to show. This meeting will be big. Don't miss the meeting on April 5 at the Nevada Palace Hotel.

*Big Show and Tell After The
Elections at the April 5
Membership Meeting. Plan
on Being There!*



Don't miss the fun at Club Outings

GSSN OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT
DOUG PARKER 642
VICE PRESIDENT
ROLAND LeCLERC 565
TREASURER
DONNA SCHORN 65
SECRETARY
LEILANI LeCLERC 56
MEMBERSHIP
GREG OLSON 3
LIBRARIAN
SUSAN BENGE 6
EDUCATION
DANIEL GREEN 7
EXPLORATION & CLAIMS
CALL GREG FOR CLAIM MAPS
NEWSLETTER
GREG OLSON



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since the elections are in April, I want to thank everyone who has assisted me in my position in the Club over the years. I have seen the Club grow to an organization of almost 500 members. This phenomenal growth would not have been possible without support from dedicated volunteers. Please support your Club and consider volunteering a small amount of time. It will go a long way. Thank you, Doug

GOLD SEARCHERS OF SOUTHERN NEVADA CALENDAR OF EVENTS & MEETINGS

FEBRUARY	26	OUTING AT SEC. 28 CLAIM
MARCH	1	GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING
MARCH	8	EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
MARCH	18	PAHRUMP CLAIM SEC. 30
APRIL	15	OUTING AT SEC. 34 CLAIM
MAY	20&21	WILLIE OUTING SEC. 28 CLAIM
JUNE	24	OUTING PAHRUMP CLAIM

**GENERAL MEETING
February 2, 2000**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Doug Parker. All Board members were present except for Treasurer Donna.

All new members were introduced and greeted by Doug. We do hope the guests return again as members. We welcome all visitors to the Club meeting.

January Minutes were read by Secretary Leilani. A motion to accept the minutes as read at the meeting was made and seconded. The motion was affirmed by all members. The Treasurer's report was read by Leilani in Donna's absence. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Meeting attendance was 131 which included five guests and six new members.

Preliminary nominations for the elections were made. Frank Mahoney and Sam Johnson for President, Bridget pope for Secretary. Treasurer and Vice-President positions are still open and in need of Volunteers.

An agreement was later made that which ever candidate for President

was unsuccessful in their bid for office, they would assume the position of vice-president.

Don Adams donated Bottles for the door prizes. Doug reminded al members to read the Highgrader classifieds. There are several members looking to buy and sell prospecting equipment.

Doug reported that someone was seen on our Sec. 34 Claim digging out a Joshua Tree. Please note that all cactus are protected from removal by Federal Statute and you could be fined and imprisoned for digging up cactus in the desert without a Federal permit.

Door Prize Winners:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Gold Nugget - | Dick
Yvonne
Frank
Wanda |
| First Aid Kit | Jack |
| Shovel- | Vern |
| Pan- | Ed |
| Solar Radio- | Fred |
| Pick- | Amanda |
| All Purpose Tool- | Gary |
| Water Pack- | Lea |
| Pack & Water Jug-- | Brad |
| Propane Stove- | Chuck |
| Solar Blanket- | Willie |

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 pm

Secretary, Leilani

**BOARD MEETING
January 12, 2000**

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by President Doug Parker. Present were Doug, Susan Benge, Greg Olson, Don Adams, Dan Green, Willie Biron.

Dan stated that there have been over 12,440 students through the McCaw School of mines, and thanked everyone in the Club for their support. Dan also presented the dates for the February 2000 schedule for the Newsletter.

The Board discussed the possibility of putting out a second newsletter in the month of January. After some discussion it was decided to publish only one newsletter in January and one in February. The Board then discussed putting names in the Highgrader of renewal information. Greg stated that it is a good idea as people send in their membership with copies of the ad. Also if there is any errors in membership dates they have been corrected by this method. Advertising in the Highgrader was then discussed. There was one ad the Club decided not to continue related to Minelab metal detector sales.

(Continued on page 3)

GREEN DRAGON GLASS
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 Will bring sample designs to you home. Free In-Home Estimates.
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Tiberi, Mitch

**Board Meeting
Minutes Cont.
January 2000**

Discussion of methods to keep order at the General Membership Meeting was then evaluated. Keeping the meeting flowing and on track in the goal of the President. Keeping members discussion in order is also important at the General Membership Meetings. We want each member to have the opportunity to state their business, but it must be maintained in an accord with Roberts Rule of Order. We want everyone to have a good time at the meetings.

Outings were discussed next. March 18, Pahrump, April 15, Sec. 34; may 20 & 21 Sec 28 "Willie Outing".

We then discussed if any current Board Members will be running for office again and if we had enough people to run for each office. Doug is unable to run for President this year since our rules only allow two consecutive terms in office.

The Board then discussed the location of the precise boundaries of the Sec. 28

claim. The boundaries have been marked and posted by Willie Biron. During the discussion we determined that the Club's GPS unit is outdated and ineffective in marking claim boundaries. The board asked for assistance in getting a new GPS unit donated to the Club. If you have any ideas, please let the Club know.

Next the Board discussed the production of the Official Club Claims Guide. We decided that if the book cost \$1 to print that we would sell the book for \$1 at the meetings and give one door prize raffle ticket with the book. Mail orders of the book would cost \$2.00. This price would cover postage and the cost of the book. New members will receive one copy free at the time they sign up. Meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.

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7/2000

CLUB MEMBER OUTINGS ARE FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

Club members young and old alike always have a great time

You will not want to miss the "Big Willie Outing" in May

digging for gold at Club Member Outings. The Club brings lunch and there are always people bringing their equipment who are happy to



show you how it functions. You are highly encouraged to

at the Section 28 claim in Arizona. The last big outing had



attend these outings even if you don't have any equipment of your own. New members especially should attend outings as they can learn how prospecting equipment works and determine which type of equipment will fit their needs, desires, and budgets.

Don't forget that when the Club has a common dig that everyone who participates on the operations receives a share of the gold that is found. Watch the Highgrader for an announcement of a Common Dig in the future.

almost 100 members in attendance. This next big outing includes a swap meet, metal detecting classes, panning classes, dry washer classes and tours of the "hot spots" on the Claim. Plan on camping out for the weekend and making it an event to remember! There will be a sign-up sheet for this outing at the April and May membership meetings. This is a fun and educational weekend for the whole family.

See you there!!!

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"Chucks Gold Trapper" Revolutionary Hand Dredge See field test report in April 8 WEGM Newsletter.

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Chuck Cummins 970-686-2238
or E-Mail: Chuck2238@aol.com

Board Meeting Minutes February 9, 2000

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by Vice-President Roland LeClerc. Doug Parker was out ill. Present were Greg Olson, Leilani LeClerc, Roland LeClerc, Willie Biron, Dan Green, Sam Johnson, Bridget Pope, Don Adams, and Mort LeMonde. Treasurer Donna was also not present.

Lengthily discussion took place regarding how voting should take place at the April meeting. Ballots will be given out and membership verified as members enter the room. Ballots will be tallied during the meeting and current Board Members will introduce the new Executive Members. A motion was made to nominate Hank Mayhue as Treasurer.

Doug's panning classes will be Feb 23, March 15 and April 13 at the Senior Room at Paradise park from 6-8 pm. This is the class that Doug teaches to introduce people to panning.

Outings were scheduled for June 24 at Pahrump Section 30 Claim, July 22 In Lida (Location to be provided in future.)

We will try to reserve august 5 for the Annual Club Picnic in Mt. Charleston. Labor Day weekend outing is tentatively set for Sept. 1-

4 in Lida. More will come on this at a later time.

A motion was made by Greg Olson for the Club to purchase a reliable and top of the line G.P.S. Unit for use by the Claim's Committee and then to be placed in the Club Library to be checked out by members for their use and benefit. Greg said his motion was prompted by the location problem of the section 28 claim border where the Club encroached on a bordering claim due to the Club's existing gps unit being so out of date that it was not accurate to 300 yards. The motion included topo cd's and a battery pack all of which is not to exceed \$350.00. Sam Johnson seconded the motion and it was approved by all Board Members.

A motion was made by Willie Biron for the club to purchase several disposable cameras to take photographs for the newsletter at the club outings and other events. The motion was changed to three cameras as a trial basis, was seconded and approved.

April General Membership meeting will include a show and tell for prospecting equipment. There will be prizes for various categories. Meeting adjourned at 9:08p.m.
Secretary Leilani

MEETING

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

OUR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS HELD AT NEVADA PALACE HOTEL & CASINO 2ND FLOOR LOCATED AT 5255 S. BOULDER HIGHWAY, LAS VEGAS, NV ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM ALL GUEST AND PROSPECTORS ARE WELCOMED. THE MAP TO THIS LOCATION IS LOCATED IN THE REAR OF THIS PUBLICATION.

GSSN BOARD MEETING

GSSN BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE VALLEY VISTA MOBILE HOME PARK RE BUILDING ON CABANA DRIVE. MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 PM ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME. TAKE DESERT INN TO CABANA AND TURN LEFT GO 1/4 MILE AND TURN LEFT INTO VALLEY VISTA MOBILE HOME PARK. REC BLDG. IS ON LEFT JUST INSIDE GATE.

CLAIM'S COMMITTEE MEETING

CLAIM'S COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE HELD THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE VALLEY VISTA MOBILE HOME PARK. THE MEETINGS ARE AT 8:00 PM. THIS MEETING IS THE SAME LOCATION AS THE BOARD MEETING AND ON THE SAME NIGHT.

THE CLUB'S PHONE
NUMBER : 393-GOLD (-4653)

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Larry Miller 260-6844



HAVE YOU SENT YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

HAVE WE RECEIVED YOUR RENEWAL?

We have not received renewals from the following members. If your name is on this list, please complete the application on the back of this newsletter and send it to the Club with your renewal check payable to Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada in the amount of \$20.00.

CURRENT MARCH 2000

Anslev, Jason
Keas, Bud & Marge
Bond, Jack & Maria
Verdi, Carlo & Antionette
Davis, Duane & Dianna
Hardison, Michael & Denise
Vedral, James & Gwen
Longshore, Robert & Mona
Lavryk, Joseph
Della Gagna, Domenick
Cook, Tuffy & Rhonda
Plante, Gerard
Metzger, Harold & Nancy
Janasov, George & Lorene
Tiberi, Mitch
Dufault, James
Manning, Bill
Caldaro, Benedict
Quincel, Ron
Thompson, JT
Woods, Ron
Williams, Dale & Yon
Banegas, Alex & Kathy
Tontsch, William
Syzdek, Bruno
Schmuth, Don & Evelyne
Nacht, Eric & Jeanette
Molnar, Steve

Mayes, John & Betty
Kay, Clark & Jane
Johnson, Sam
Jepsen, C.W. & Cora
Hall, Barbara
Clunan, Regis

ONE MONTH FEBRUARY 2000

Kennedy, DF. & Ruth
Dunn, Allen & Lois
Baum, Donald
Schorn, Donna
Summers, Jerry
Madison, Joseph & Diane
Fentress, Phillip & Demaris
Utlev, Robert & Ruth
Urbauer, Alton & Pamela
Greymore, Russell & Jackie
Fenton, George & Nancy
Broderick, Eugene
Baldis, Gary & Elaine
Ames, Ron & Dorothy

TWO MONTHS JANUARY 2000

Haas, BooCoo
Pochowski, Gina
Kade, Donald & Diana
Davis, Richard & Frances
Tseu, Ron
Scherk, Bob & Nola
Branca, Gerald
Osborne, Leonard
Thomas, Kim & Chuck
Nenstiel, Larry & Sandra
Cook, Bill & Kelly
Bodo, Richard
Howard, Frank & Angelina
Dayton, Madeline
Steffen, Jim & Shari
Johnson, James
Johnson, Bill & Pat

Bryant, Spencer
Smith, Art & Marge
Underwood, Boyd & Cathy
Swartz, John & Donna
Schultz, Ed
Ranum, Pete & Kit
Pederson, Dave & Edith
Krotz, Laird
Flannagan, R.A. & Barbara
Fisher, Roger & Kristene
Carnes, Bill & Katie

THREE MONTHS DECEMBER 1999

Smith, John & Victoria
Smiley, Jerry & Janet
Keifer, Dick & Ruth
Wright, Mike & Gabriela
O'Donnell, John
Sullivan, Richard "Hank"
Fuchs, Edwin

LAST CALL

Van Barriger, George & Ursula
Sharkey, Bob & Jill
Riley, Terry & Pearl
Allison, Thomas & Dawn
Allen, Bob & Dawn
Shepard, James & Yvonne

Please send in
your renewal as
soon as possible
so you don't miss
out on any of the
Club's exciting
events.

If you know any of these
members, please encourage
them to send in their renewal
as soon as possible.

Call Greg Olson, Membership
Committee at 313-2600 with
questions related to dues.

Thank You!

History Of The Internet

by Bruce Sterling From *THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION*, February 1993.

Some thirty years ago, the RAND Corporation, America's foremost Cold War think-tank, faced a strange strategic problem. How could the US authorities successfully communicate after a nuclear war?

Post nuclear America would need a command-and-control network, linked from city to city, state to state, base to base. But no matter how thoroughly that network was armored or protected, its switches and wiring would always be vulnerable to the impact of atomic bombs. A nuclear attack would reduce any conceivable network to tatters. And how would the network itself be commanded and controlled? Any central authority, any network central citadel, would be an obvious and immediate target for an enemy missile. The center of the network would be the very first place to go. RAND mulled over this grim puzzle in deep military secrecy, and arrived at a daring solution. The RAND proposal (the brainchild of RAND staffer Paul Baran) was made public in 1964. In the first place, the network would *have no central authority.* Furthermore, it would be *designed from the beginning to operate while in tatters.*

The principles were simple. The network itself would be assumed to be unreliable at all times. It would be designed from the get-go to transcend its own unreliability. All the nodes in the network would be equal in status to all other nodes, each node with its own authority to originate, pass, and receive messages. The messages themselves would be divided into packets, each packet separately addressed. Each packet would begin at some speci-

fied source node, and end at some other specified destination node. Each packet would wind its way through the network on an individual basis.

The particular route that the packet took would be unimportant. Only final results would count. Basically, the packet would be tossed like a hot potato from node to node to node, more or less in the direction of its destination, until it ended up in the proper place. If big pieces of the network had been blown away, that simply wouldn't matter; the packets would still stay airborne, lateralled wildly across the field by whatever nodes happened to survive. This rather haphazard delivery system might be "inefficient" in the usual sense (especially compared to, say, the telephone system) -- but it would be extremely rugged.

During the 60s, this intriguing concept of a decentralized, blast proof, packet-switching network was kicked around by RAND, MIT and UCLA. The National Physical Laboratory in Great Britain set up the first test network on these principles in 1968. Shortly afterward, the Pentagon's Advanced Research Projects Agency decided to fund a larger, more ambitious project in the USA. The nodes of the network were to be high-speed supercomputers (or what passed for supercomputers at the time). These were rare and valuable machines which were in real need of good solid networking, for the sake of national research-and-development projects.

In fall 1969, the first such node was installed in UCLA. By December 1969, there were four nodes on the infant network, which was named ARPANET, after its Pentagon sponsor. The four computers could transfer data on dedicated high-speed transmission lines. They could even be programmed

remotely from the other nodes. Thanks to ARPANET, scientists and researchers could share one another's computer facilities by long-distance. This was a very handy service, for computer-time was precious in the early '70s. In 1971 there were fifteen nodes in ARPANET; by 1972, thirty-seven nodes. And it was good.

By the second year of operation, however, an odd fact became clear. ARPANET's users had warped the computer-sharing network into a dedicated, high-speed, federally subsidized electronic post-office. The main traffic on ARPANET was not long-distance computing. Instead, it was news and personal messages. Researchers were using ARPANET to collaborate on projects, to trade notes on work, and eventually, to downright gossip. People had their own personal user accounts on the ARPANET computers, and their own personal addresses for electronic mail. Not only were they using ARPANET for person-to-person communication, but they were very enthusiastic about this particular service -- far more enthusiastic than they were about long-distance computation.



It wasn't long before the invention of the mailing-list, an ARPANET broadcasting technique in which an identical message could be sent automatically to large numbers of network subscribers. Interestingly, one of the first really big mailing-lists was "SF-LOVERS," for science fiction fans. Discussing science fiction on the network was not work-related and was frowned upon by many ARPANET computer administrators, but this didn't stop it from happening.

Throughout the '70s, ARPA's network grew. Its decentralized structure made expansion easy. Unlike standard corporate computer networks, the ARPA network could ac-

(Continued on page 13)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 ★ DON'T
 ★ MISS THE
 ★ NEXT BIG
 ★ OUTING
 ★ HOSTED
 ★ BY
 ★ WILLIE
 ★ BIRON
 ★ ON
 ★ MAY
 ★ 20 & 21
 ★ AT THE
 ★ SECTION
 ★ 28 CLAIM

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- ★ * FREE FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES
- ★ * SIGN UP AT THE MARCH MEETING

★ We will have a sign-up sheet at the monthly general membership meeting. Please sign-up so we can plan on how much food to bring since this is an overnight event.

★ SEE YOU THERE

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*What is the Gold Searchers
of Southern Nevada?*

It is a local, non profit, Las Vegas Club comprised of members from all walks of humanity. Be it young "Greenhorns" or "Seasoned Prospectors." Some members are experts in such fields as Geology, Mineralogy, and even Mine Engineering. Some are Couchpotatologists. But most of all, members have a common love of their freedom to explore the "Great Outdoors."

GOLD FEVER spurs a lot of us to get out and extract enjoyment out of our mother earth, and learn more about her hidden wealth. There's a wealth of knowledge to be obtained, and friendships to be made. Lest we forget, the wealth of excitement in finding that beautiful, yellowish metal called **GOLD!**

Though finding **GOLD** is not our sole priority (we do public service for the mining industry, such as teaching scouts, and public school

(702) 393-GOLD

students how to pan gold), it is, however a lot of what we are about.

We are a fun-loving bunch that welcomes new members, and we gather together on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:45 PM, at NEVADA PALACE HOTEL AND CASINO, 5255 S. Boulder Highway, Las Vegas We voice our opinions as one on such matters as land use, and mining laws. Also, to help others who have become aware of our recreation or livelihood. We teach how to use mineral rights without abusing them, and work to protect our rights to continue in our prospecting interests. The majority of our members own a Metal Detector. Our Club plans field trips where such an instrument could help unearth that precious metal. Others in our Club put more trust into known gold extracting equipment, such as Dry Washers or Recirculating Sluices. Some of their equipment is handmade, and some of it is store bought. Being in a local Club, such as ours, can help you to see and use a variety of mining equipment first hand in a location known to produce **GOLD.**

Our Club is open for your

David, Duane & Dianna

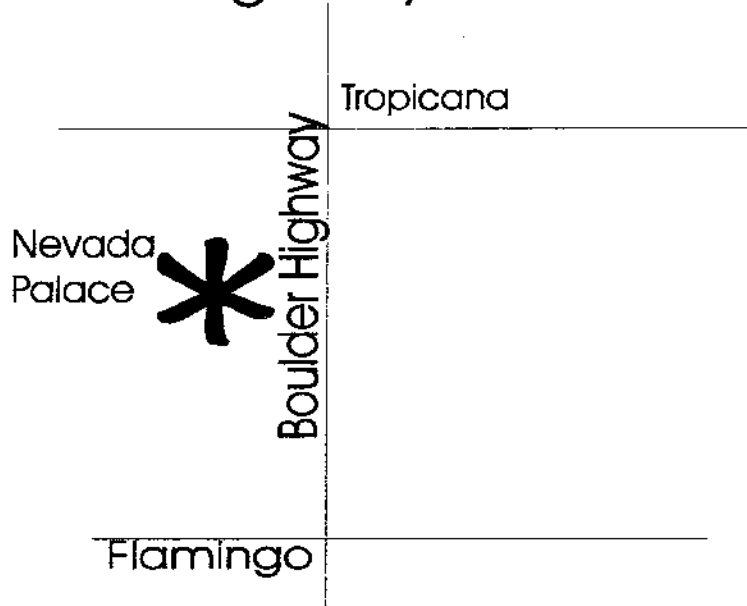
inspection. You may attend **TWO GENERAL MEETINGS** and/or go one **FIELD TRIP** with the **GOLD SEARCHERS OF SOUTHERN NEVADA** free of charge. After that, simply join the Club for a mere membership fee of \$35.00 for the first year and \$20.00 each year thereafter. This is a "**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**" which includes all your immediate family. Once you join, you receive the Club's monthly newsletter, **THE HIGHGRADER.** The **HIGHGRADER** contains news from the general and board meetings, upcoming field trip information, articles relating to prospecting, and you may even submit your own articles or place an ad in the Free Classified section for publication. We would love to have you join our Club! A membership application is in this issue for your convenience. Simply complete and enclose your check for \$35.00 then either bring it to our next meeting or mail to us at:

**GSSN
PO Box 96732
Las Vegas, NV 89193**



HIGHGRADER

Meetings held 1st Wed. of each month
at 6:45 pm at Nevada Palace Hotel 2nd Floor
5225 S. Boulder Highway



(Cut Here And Return Bottom With Check)

**APPLICATION TO:
GOLD SEARCHERS OF SOUTHERN NEVADA, INC.**

(Important Notice - Please Read Carefully)

Due to the nature of gold prospecting and/or recreational mining activities, you and/or your family are hereby forewarned that it can be dangerous and hazardous. These activities are most often outdoors and often in remote areas. You and your family are responsible for your own safety, Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada, Inc. is not and shall not be held responsible for any and all damages and/or injuries that might occur during any Club activities or events.

Dues are \$35.00 for the first year (single or family), renewable at \$20.00 annually on the month joined. Club name badges or Club hats are \$5.00 each. Make checks payable to "GOLD SEARCHERS."

Bring to meeting or mail to:

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P.O. Box 96732
Las Vegas, NV 89193

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Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Emergency: _____ E-Mail _____

HOT MEMBER ADVERTISING

This is the new advertising section established for our members who offer products and services. Shop these ads each month and please support our members. If you are interested in advertising your product or service on this page contact **Greg Olson at** Ads are only \$20 for six months. Ads may be customized for you. All ad sizes are approximate and will be resized by the editor to fit the page. Exact sizes or ad placement within the publication are not represented or guaranteed. All advertising may be cancelled at any time by the Club and the Club reserves the right to not accept any advertising.

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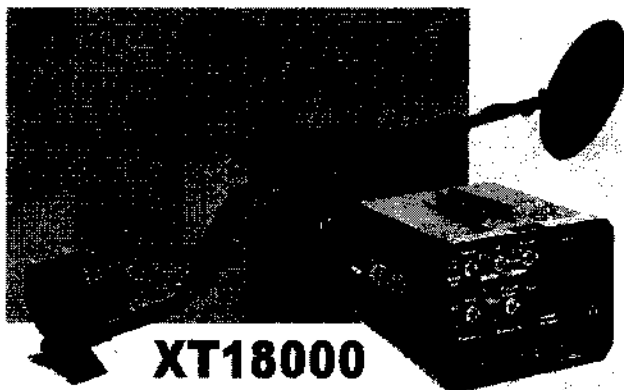
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Until now, there's never been a detector made that's so easy to operate that really finds GOLD!

Among the features are:

- Auto Ground Balance and Tracking
- Three nugget hunting frequencies
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- Difficult Soil Switch
- Iron Reject setting
- 10" Elliptical DD coil supplied, Optional: 11" and 8" round
- Battery System Supplied: Nicad with charger and Alkaline backup pack

History of The Internet Continued

(Continued from page 7)

commodate many different kinds of machine. As long as individual machines could speak the packet-switching lingua franca of the new, anarchic network, their brand-names, and their content, and even their ownership, were irrelevant.

The ARPA's original standard for communication was known as NCP, "Network Control Protocol," but as time passed and the technique advanced, NCP was superseded by a higher-level, more sophisticated standard known as TCP/IP. TCP, or "Transmission Control Protocol," converts messages into streams of packets at the source, then reassembles them back into messages at the destination. IP, or "Internet Protocol," handles the addressing, seeing to it that packets are routed across multiple nodes and even across multiple networks with multiple standards -- not only ARPA's pioneering NCP standard, but others like Ethernet, FDDI, and X.25.

As early as 1977, TCP/IP was being used by other networks to link to ARPANET. ARPANET itself remained fairly tightly controlled, at least until 1983, when its military segment broke off and became MILNET. ARPANET itself, though it was growing, became a smaller and smaller neighborhood amid the vastly growing galaxy of other linked machines.

As the '70s and '80s advanced, many very different social groups found themselves in possession of

powerful computers. It was fairly easy to link these computers to the growing network-of-networks. As the use of TCP/IP became more common, entire other networks fell into the digital embrace of the Internet, and messily adhered. Since the software called TCP/IP was public-domain, and the basic technology was decentralized and rather anarchic by its very nature, it was difficult to stop people from barging in and linking up somewhere-or-other. In point of fact, nobody *wanted* to stop them from joining this branching complex of networks, which came to be known as the "Internet."

Connecting to the Internet cost the taxpayer little or nothing, since each node was independent, and had to handle its own financing and its own technical requirements. A fax machine is only valuable if *everybody else* has a fax machine. Until they do, a fax machine is just a curiosity. ARPANET, too, was a curiosity for a while. Then computer-networking became an utter necessity.

In 1984 the National Science Foundation got into the act, through its Office of Advanced Scientific Computing. The nodes in this growing network-of-networks were divvied up into basic varieties. Foreign computers, and a few American ones, chose to be denoted by their geographical locations. The others were grouped by the six basic Internet "domains": gov, mil, edu, com, org

and net. ARPANET itself formally expired in 1989. Its users scarcely noticed, for ARPANET's functions not only continued but steadily improved. The use of TCP/IP standards for computer networking is now global. In 1971, a mere twenty-one years ago, there were only four nodes in the ARPANET network. The Internet's pace of growth in the early 1990s is spectacular, almost ferocious. It is spreading faster than cellular phones, faster than fax machines. Last year the Internet was growing at a rate of twenty percent a *month.* The number of "host" machines with direct connection to TCP/IP has been doubling every year since

1988. The Internet is moving out of its original base in military and research institutions, into elementary and high schools, as well as into public libraries and the commercial sector.

The future of the Internet bids fair to be bigger and exponentially faster. Commercialization of the Internet is a very hot topic today, with every manner of wild new commercial information-service promised. The federal government, pleased with an unsought success, is also still very much in the act. NREN, the National Research and Education Network, was approved by the US Congress in fall 1991, as a five-year, \$2 billion project to upgrade the Internet "backbone." NREN will be some fifty times faster than the fastest network available today, allowing the electronic transfer of the entire Encyclopedia Britannica in one hot second. Computer networks worldwide will feature 3-D animated graphics, radio and cellular phone-links to portable computers, as well as fax, voice, and high-definition television. What will be next? One thing for sure we will report about it here in the Highgrader! Remember to visit the Club's website often.

Surfing For Gold

The Gold Searcher's are finally on the internet. Please visit us at:

www.fasthomefunding.com

When you get there click on the Gold Searcher Page and you will be taken to the Official Club Web Site. We are looking for people to help create content for the web. If you have any information or ideas and would like to participate on the web project please call Greg Olson at 313-2600.

How Much Is The Gold I Find Worth?

*From the website
freeyellow.com/members2*

When you are new to prospecting, it is sometimes hard to figure out just what is going on. One of the worst things is to have to admit you don't know about something. An example, I was on the Arkansas River with the sluice one day. A guy that was kind of new at prospecting came up to me with a smile beaming from ear to ear. He was very excited as he waved to me off to the side. He had something to tell me that was sort of secret, or so he thought. He said to me, "This place is great for black sand!". He then showed me a 1/2 full 5 gallon bucket of black sand. He was under the impression that the black sand was what we were all looking for, since that is what he saw in most of our buckets. You will usually find black sand where you find gold, but finding black sand doesn't necessarily mean you have found gold.

So, when you get around people who are talking about their success over the week-end, you will hear words like flake and flour. Someone might mention the pennyweight they found, and you might not want to admit you don't have a clue to what they are saying. Here is a little bit of terminology to help you out.

BLACK SAND-----This is exactly what it sounds like, sand that is black in color. It is usually an iron. Gold does hide in black sand, but this is not the goal of prospecting, since the gold hiding in there is awfully small, and it takes a lot of time to separate the gold from the sand.

FLOUR-----This should be obvious. The gold looks similar to baking flour, only it is gold in color. Sometimes it is microscopic in size, and people wonder how you found it without a microscope.

SPECK-----This is going to be just a bit bigger than **FLOUR**, but it is still very small.

FLECK-----This is similar to a **SPECK**, but it is flatter in shape, and still very small and difficult to separate from the black sand.

FLAKE-----Now we're getting somewhere! A **FLAKE** is going to be larger in size. You will begin to get excited when the gold you are finding reaches **FLAKE** size. A **FLAKE** is too small to pick up with your fingers, but you can get it with a tweezers.

PICKER-----Yahoo!! This is a piece of gold big enough to pick up from your pan with your finger and thumb. If you have to fumble around to get it, it is a **SMALL PICKER**. If you can pick it out with little difficulty, it qualifies as a **NICE PICKER**. If it is real easy to pick up, call it a **NICE PICKER**.

When you actually hear a piece of gold hitting the bottom of your pan, or the bottom of your sluice, you may get real excited. Some people call these **PLINKERS**, but for the most part, they are **SMALL NUGGETS**. If one dents your pan or sluice, no doubt about it, you got a **NUGGET!**

MEASUREMENT FOR GOLD
ONE OUNCE EQUALS:
20 Pennyweight---OR---31.10
Grams---OR---480 Grains

ONE PENNYWEIGHT
(ABBREVIATED AS dwt.)
E Q U A L S :
1.56 Grams---OR---24 Grains

ONE GRAM EQUALS 15.43
grains, so if you find a **NUGGET**
that weights 48 Grains, it also
weights 2 dwt. (Pennyweight), and it

also weighs 1/10th of an OUNCE. To add just a bit more confusion, this measurement system is based on **TROY OUNCES**. These are not the same ounces we use to weigh and measure everything else. **TROY** is used for measuring precious metals only. You see, a **TROY POUND** is only 12 ounces!! When you measure flour or whatever, you are using the **AVOIRDUPOIS** weight system, which is 16 ounces to a pound. **WHY?** I don't know, it is a French thing from a couple thousand years ago. Just remember, when you have a **POUND** of gold, it is 12 **TROY OUNCES**.

**THIS IS THE WAY TO COMPUTE
THE VALUE OF THE GOLD YOU
HAVE. NOTE THAT THE VALUE
USED IN THE FOLLOWING COM-
PUTATIONS (\$350) IS ONLY FOR
DEMONSTRATION PURPOSES
AND IS NOT NECESSARILY THE
CURRENT VALUE OF AN
O U N C E O F G O L D
GRAINS.**

Take the value of gold and divide it by 480. This will give you the value of a **GRAIN**. **EXAMPLE**—\$350 divided by 480=.73---So, each **GRAIN** of gold is worth 73 cents.

PENNYWEIGHT

Take the value of gold and divide it by 20. This will give you the value of a **PENNYWEIGHT** (dwt). **EXAMPLE**—\$350 divided by 20=17.5---So, each **PENNYWEIGHT** of gold is worth \$17.50. **BUT WAIT! THERE'S MORE!** If your **NUGGET** is large enough to be made into a jewelry piece, it's value increases. Also, if your nugget has **CHARACTER**, that is, it looks like something or somebody in particular, then that also increases it's value. These factors can double or even triple the value of your nugget.

**SO GET OUT THER AND START
PICKIN' AND DIGGIN'! GOOD
LUCK!**

A Note To Our Guests And Potential Fellow Prospectors

What's gold prospecting all about anyway? Simple. One day a guy goes out along the creek or a river, and he sees someone squatting down by the water. The guy will be twirling a pan around with a bunch of dirt and rocks in it. You watch as the rocks go out one by one, then the small gravel, then the dirt, and finally, as you peek over the guy's shoulder, you notice that there's just some old black colored sand left in the pan. But then, all of a sudden, there's this glitter in amongst the black, and you realize this guy has found some real gold. Now you are all excited, and ask if the guy will let you try. It's not as easy as he made it look. There must be some tricks to this panning thing. Anyway, you finally get down to the black sand, and there in the bottom of the pan is a picker size piece of gold. The guy who let you use his pan says he hasn't found one that big all summer, but you can barely hear him. You see, you have been bitten by the gold bug, and in that instant, you are under the control of gold fever. You'll never be the same again. Every time you go past a hill, or a wash, or a gorge, your mind will be spinning with the question, "I wonder if there's gold in

there?" You'll go by a creek or a river, and you'll want to pull over to try a few test pans to see how much gold is in there. Face it! You are a gold prospector now. The fever has taken full effect. From now on you'll be chasing empty white 5 gallon buckets that you see along the highway. You'll buy pans, classifiers, shovels, gloves, and maybe a sluice, and you'll carry them with you where ever you go so you can stop to pan any time it looks like a good spot. I've got news for you prospector, they all look like good spots. What seems like a hobby for some people becomes a quest.

**JOIN THE GOLD
SEARCHER'S OF
SOUTHERN NEVADA
AND FIND OUT!**

We will look and look time after time in hopes of finding just one big nugget that will give us bragging rights for a while. We'll keep a lot of little stuff along the way, but now we are hooked on panning until we find that big one.

This serious gold fever infection spreads to your family and friends. It does another thing too. It brings you all

closer together as you all work toward that common goal, finding the nugget. You'll find yourself enjoying each others company. You'll have great conversations with your family members while you all commonly look for the big one. In short, you will be acting all family together. It's a good thing. The gold you find is almost as good as the time you have spending the day or week-end with your family. And you are going to have others come along to watch, and to ask you how to do it. Now you have to go and make friends with other prospectors. Just wait until you attend an exciting camp-out during our weekend outings at a Club Claim. We'll be sitting around a campfire all night telling stories, including the ones about the one pound gold nugget found and then lost up in the hills.

Well, what is it all about anyway?

You will get hooked. We all do! Welcome to our Club!



Volunteer Assists School of Mines

By Lynn Collier
Green Valley News
View staff writer

Ron, Naftal spends his weekends scouring the area's mountains for treasured minerals and fossils.

One of his most interesting finds was a 420 million-year old snail fossil he picked up in the Arrow Canyon Range near St. George, Utah, a few years ago.

Recently, he gave the large fossil to a group of science teachers who were visiting the McCaw School of Mines. Many of his and his friends' collections of minerals and fossils are housed at the simulated mine, which is attached to McCaw Elementary School.

One of Naftal's favorite minerals to show off to mine visitors is diatomite, a light-weight, chalk-like material, which is comprised of remains of ancient microscopic marine life. A cubic-inch contains more than 50 million individual microscopic organisms called diatoms, which are mined in many states, including Nevada, and used for making kitty litter and swimming pool filters.

"Lots of the kids brush off their hands on their clothes and say 'yuck' when they find

out this is what kitty litter is made from," Naftal said. "It's actually more profitable than mining for gold since there are more cats in the country



Ron Naftal
GSSN Volunteer

which need kitty litter than there are people who want gold products."

The mine is used as a learning tool for area teachers and elementary school children. Since it opened three years ago, 14,000 people have visited the mine.

Naftal, a retired mining engineer, has put in countless hours as a volunteer to help create the mine, and he is currently designing displays for the mine's new museum, which is expected to open by January.

Over the past two months, Naftal has compiled old photos of miners at work during the early part of the century from historical societies, museums, mining schools and companies throughout the state. One photo shows a thick lightning bolt ripping across the sky near a Tonopah mine in the early 1800s.

With the photos, Naftal has added facts and figures and some Nevada history into his presentation. He's also included modern mining techniques and current uses of gold.

One display will show where the state's 12 most commercially used minerals are mined. Those minerals are: barite, diatomite, perlite, magnesite, clay, dolomite, silica, lithium carbonate, gold, silver, gypsum and lead.

Another display tells the story of Nevada's biggest mining effort, the Comstock Lode, which occurred about 140 years ago near Virginia City. The tale is presented in a storybook format and includes photographs of old mines in Nevada.

The story continues to include modern-day techniques of extracting gold from the earth. One of those methods involves an electrical process which uses small amounts of cyanide in controlled conditions to strip microscopic gold particles from slabs of rocks to produce bars of gold.

(Continued on page 17)

**Ron Naftel
Volunteer (Continued)**

(Continued from page 16)

The third museum display shows how gold is used in modern times. For instance, small amounts of gold are used as fire-resistant material to make firefighters' visors and for computer chips.

Recently, the Silver and Gold Institute in Washington D.C., gave the School of Mines \$10,000 to produce the museum displays. While Naftal is doing the historical and technical research and designing what the displays will look like, Las Vegas-based Derse Exhibits will build the three large displays.

Naftal, 70, got involved with the School of Mines when it opened three years ago. He placed the equipment in the mine and trained the first group of volunteers. Using his expertise in the field of mining, he wrote a speech for the volunteers to use while giving the tour through the mine, which features a mineral room, old mining equipment and artifacts.

"He's been one of our best volunteers," said McCaw principal Janet Dobry.

Before he was recreating mines for school children, Naftal spent 40 years in the mining business. Half of that

was in Chili and Peru, where he mined for copper, zinc, lead and gold. He spent the other half of his career in the United States. Much of that time was as corporate vice president for Pennsylvania Virginia Corp., a large publicly traded mining company.

Naftal retired 14 years ago and spent the next six years boating at lakes near his Philadelphia home. He moved to Henderson in 1992 so he could be closer to his favorite states, Wyoming and Montana. As an outdoorsman, he's also learned to love the desert.

Naftal likes to spend time hiking in the desert and enjoying its wildlife. He spends many hours exploring the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. Recently, he spent a morning at Brownstone Canyon and spotted two Desert Bighorn Sheep.

"That made the trip for me," he said. "Got to see some good scenery and a few petroglyphs; it's fabulous."



Kids Learning About Gold Mining at McCaw School of Mines in Henderson, NV

**VOLUNTEER
FOR THE
EDUCATION
COMMITTEE**

The education committee looks forward to bringing you innovative, interesting and useful programs. There is always room for members to participate in the activities of this committee. We take care of education at meetings and at public gatherings. Public relations with the press and with other prospecting Clubs.

As we go into the year 2000 and beyond, your faithful participation in the various Club activities such as the McCaw School, Boy Scouts, the Heritage Museum and at the outings are what make our Club interesting and fun.

If you have any videos relating to prospecting, treasure hunting or mining, please let us know. Perhaps you would allow us to make copies of your material for presentation at a Club function. We wish you good health happiness and color in your pans in the new year.

Join the fun, get on the Education Committee call Dan Green
0383 for ir

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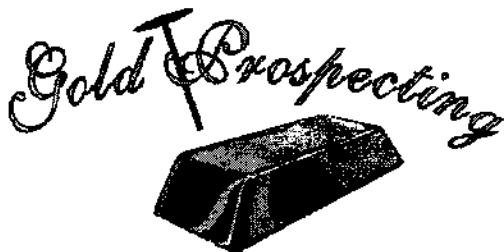
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