

Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada Highgrader



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

President—*Carl Richwine*
 Vice President—*Ian Thaler*
 Treasurer—*Dara Thaler*
 Secretary—*Dolores Gee*
 Membership—*Marcia Richwine*
 Audit Committee—*Fred Zajac*



Claims Committee—*Al Kraus*
 Education Committee—*Fred Zajac*
 Librarian / Historian—*Dennis Johnson*
 Merchandise Committee—*Joyce Johnson*
 Newsletter Committee—*Nicolas Johnson*
 Outing Committee—*Morris Seguin*
 Website Committee—*J. Miller*

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HIGHGRADER**

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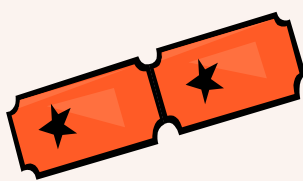
Secretary Minutes As of January 6th, 2010.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by President Carl Richwine, who led in pledging allegiance to the flag. The first meeting of 2010 got off to a new start with 63 people signing in; there were six visitors and several new members. Fred Zajac made a motion to have the minutes published in the Highgrader approved and Morris Seguin seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimously in favor of the motion and it was so approved. Dara Thaler gave a brief Treasurers Report, followed by an Audit Committee

report by Fred Z., who said everything jibed. Carl thanked everyone for their efforts (having previously introduced each new officer and committee chair).
 Carl then addressed the club's outings specifically asking about scheduling one-day, two-day, weekend events and mentioned that visitors can come to one meeting / outing prior to deciding if they want to become members. The next outing is scheduled for Saturday, January 16th at Section 28, White Hills in the Gold Basin.
 After a short break the meet-
 Continued on Page 3

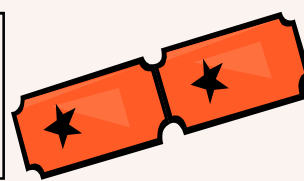
**GSSN
NOTICE**

- NOTICE**
- Information on Pre-ordering T-shirts on page 3!!
 - Gold Show @ South Point Hotel and Casino April 17th to 18th.
 - Newsflash Page 3
 - Next Outing February 20th!!



Raffle Winners

50/50 (\$40.00) - *Steve Christenson*
 Door Prize (\$17.00) - *Bonnie Evelyn*



12 inch Green Pan w/Vials.....Chuck Wherry
 14 inch Blue Pan w/Vials.....George Hegie
 Bag/Gold/Gems Book.....Pat Moore
 GSSN Mug/Gold Sand/Map.....Jeff Harper
 Mug/Gloves/Flashlight/Map.....Todd Wilson
 Umbrella.....Jeff Harper
 Mining Hand Shovel.....Darla Tong
 Radio.....Anita Desilva
 Folding Hamper.....Dennis Walker

10 inch Black Pan w/Vials.....Fred Zajac
 12 inch Blue Pan w/Vials.....Ken Newrones
 Barley's Mug/Hammer & TP.....Ian Thaler
 GSSN Mug/Map/TP/LED.....Cody Wilson
 Walking Stick.....John Roberts
 Straw Hat.....Steve Christenson
 Wine Glass/Magnet/Motorsport.....Gary Emery
 Tiki Torch.....Nancy Huffine

Valley Fever

Valley fever is a disease caused by a fungus that gets into your body through your lungs. It can make you feel like you have a cold or the flu and may cause a rash. Most people get better without treatment.

But if your body's natural defense system (immune system) is weak, valley fever can be deadly. In rare cases it can be deadly even for people with a normal immune system. Valley fever can spread to other parts of your body. Those at higher risk for severe illness include people with AIDS, Pregnant women, people who take medicines that weaken the immune system, and people with diabetes. Filipinos, African Americans, Mexican Americans, and Native Americans also have a higher risk.

Valley fever occurs in dry desert areas of the southwestern United States, central California, and Mexico. It also occurs in dry areas of Central and South America.

Valley fever is also called desert fever, San Joaquin Valley fever, or desert rheumatism.

What causes valley fever?

You can get valley fever if you breathe in the fungus that causes the disease.

The fungus grows in the soil. It gets into the air when the ground is broken and the dirt and dust spread into the air. People with jobs that require digging in the soil have the greatest chance of getting valley fever. This includes people who work on farms,

in construction, and in archeology or paleontology. People who ride bikes or drive all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) in the desert also have a higher chance of getting it. Dust Storms can spread the fungus in the air, so other people can also get valley fever.

You cannot get valley fever from another person or from animals.

After getting better, most people will not get valley fever again. This is called being immune. But valley fever can come back again in people who have weak immune systems and cannot fight infection. This includes people who have had an organ replaced or who have AIDs.

What are the Symptoms?

Most people do not have any symptoms, or they have only very mild symptoms. If you do have symptoms, you may feel like you have a cold or the flu. You may have a fever, chills, chest pain, a dry cough, and a rash.

The time from contact with the fungus until symptoms start is usually 1 to 3 weeks. This is called the incubation period.

In rare cases, valley fever can spread to the skin, bones, lymph nodes, and organs. It can lead to meningitis, a very serious infection of the coverings around the brain and spinal cord.

The disease is more likely to spread to other areas of the body in people who have weak immune systems. This includes people with AIDs, Pregnant women, people who take medicines that weaken the immune

system, and people with diabetes.

Talk with your doctor if your symptoms are severe or last more than a few weeks, or if you have a weak immune system and have valley fever.

How is valley fever diagnosed?

Your doctor will ask about your symptoms and do a physical exam. He or she may ask if you have traveled in areas where valley fever occurs. You may have a chest X-ray and a blood test to look for the fungus.

How is it treated?

Most people with valley fever get better without treatment. For severe cases, doctors may prescribe antifungal medicines. People who are more likely to have the disease spread to other areas of the body often get antifungal medicines even if they have no symptoms.

To make sure you are getting better, it's important to have follow-up visits with your doctor. You may have a chest X-ray or another blood test after several months to make sure.

There is no medicine to prevent valley fever. But you may be able to stay away from areas where valley fever is common.

MSH Health & Fitness, Respiratory problems Valley fever,30 June 2009, Available from <http://health.msn.com/health-topics/respiratory-problems/articlepage.aspx?cp-documentid=100209950>; internet; accessed 30 June 2009.

Continued General Meeting Minutes

ing resumed at 7pm with a very interesting slide presentation by Randy and Nancy Huffine on the Crime Scene Search Unit he is involved with in California. Next month Bill Durbin will speak on Nevada's gold-bearing areas. Next Joyce Johnson mentioned that since Jeff Harper had stepped down as chair of the Merchandise Committee she requested approval for the group to name a new chairperson and Carl said that request would be addressed by the Executive Committee and a response would be forthcoming. Dennis Johnson then asked if the GSSN was considering participation in the upcoming Gold Show this year which will be held April 16-18 at the Southpoint. Doug Parker will make some inquiries into this possibility and report back to the group.

Dolores Gee
Secretary of the GoldSearchers of
Southern Nevada, Inc.

February's General Meeting

There are several things, which make for a successful club of which you may be proud and enjoy attending. People working together to accomplish a common set of goals is one of the more important keys. YOUR Board has worked together to bring you some possible targets for the year. Be prepared in February to give you Board the direction we need to plan a year to remember.

One item requiring your direction will be the outing schedule. Number and preferred location of new claims you as members would like is another item. Where do you want your claims committee to direct their efforts? What type of program topics would you like to have for presentations? Please give the Board your input at the February Meeting.

Your Merchandise Committee has worked hard to make it possible for presale of T-shirts with the club's

logo at the February General meeting. They plan to have sample T-shirts and order information available.

By Carl Richwine
President of the Gold Searchers of
Southern Nevada, Inc.

Mistakes Made

Recently I was invited to a 50-year class reunion. I was not able to attend, but was able to catch up through sharing a life stories written by fellow class members. One man shared several of the mistakes he had made. Mistake number one while living in Alaska he and a friend and their wives bought gold pans, just to play around. Mistake number two they bought 12 claims sight unseen, way to heck and gone, 145 miles west of Fairbanks along the Yukon River.

Mistake Number three got hooked on gold mining. His partner did not work out the first season, ran him off and got a better partner. He had a D6 Cat, D8 Cat, 4X12 shaker screen, 30 foot sluice box, 50 kw generator and a water pump that would squirt 7,000 gallons of water a minute. He said that was not a misprint, 7,000 gallons per minute.

He said that was the education of a lifetime. He lost a bundle on that project, worked like a slave for five summers to lose it. Went to work in Prudhoe Bay every winter to pay for his gold mining addiction. Prudhoe Bay... northern coast of Alaska... this gave him a new meaning for the word "cold". One time for three days and nights it was 65 below zero and the wind was blowing 65 miles per hour. He sold out at a loss and is now retired in Arizona. Now his only claim is that he does nothing better than anyone he knows.

By Carl Richwine
President of the Gold Searchers of
Southern Nevada, Inc.

Newsflash!

Checking in on the GeoCommunicator website, we have a new thing that is coming our way. The Arizona BLM has installed a new mapping of where they

are planning to put up wind turbines in the north westward mountains of Arizona, in the Mohave County area (In other words behind White Hills residents and Senator Mountain).

I am looking into this matter and will have more information on this.

Here are some links to check out on your computer.

1. <http://www.geocommunicator.com>
2. <http://www.basinandrangewatch.org/WhiteHillsWind.html>
3. <http://solareis.anl.gov/>

Hopefully this will help.

Nicolas Johnson
Newsletter Editor of Gold Searchers
of Southern Nevada, Inc.

T-Shirt orders at General meeting!

Dear Members,

At the next General meeting (February 3rd, 2010) there will be a table in the back of the room to take members Pre-orders for T-shirts. Please stop on by and be the first one to Pre-order your T-shirt.

The shirts will have a small logo on the front and a big logo on the back of the shirt to show off your GSSN membership PROUDLY!!



This is what will be on the shirts!!

www.goldsearcher.com

I was exploring on the internet, because I needed to get an article in the Highgrader. I ended up at the gold-searcher.com website and had an inkling to write about it. Many people have looked at this website and we as a club have received members from this site and put up information relating to prospecting and showed our enthusiasm for helping members and non-members and to educate! Because knowledge is priceless!



When I was exploring out there on the World Wide Web I came upon the home page which directed me to the left side or the direc-

tory. I clicked on "About the Club" and found that we do a lot. Many people are interested in Gold Prospecting because of 1. Gold 2. the Friendship that comes from being in a club and 3. We educate many people from the young age to the many people who have contributed their heart and soul.

We also educate about the safety and know how about Mines. Because this is important when out looking around for Gold. Many people have gotten trapped within mines because they dig big holes down in the ground to horizontal shafts. When people go prospecting, it brings about curiosity and somewhat bravery and this is what causes accidents. Many people have ATV's (All Terrain Vehicles) and when people head out they get to traveling outdoors and go fast with the

ATV's. The sure thing to do is plan and go slow on trails. Get to know where you are going and take the time to enjoy the outdoors.

Next, I clicked on the "Club Contacts" where people can contact the Board members on information pertaining to the club. Pay special attention to the "Highgrader Newsletter" one because The Editor is looking for articles to put in the "Highgrader Newsletter". All kidding aside, the Board members answer your questions within a timely fashion and help where needed.

After the "Club Contacts", there is the "Code of Ethics" we have for the club to keep people coming back to a claim where members can prospect and enjoy the outdoors safely and have a fun time doing so.

"Education" is a good place to start because the members like to educate as I have mentioned before. This link shows that we like to show youngsters how to pan because it all starts with the pan and ends with the pan. When prospecting we all start off with the pan to see where the "Biggest Bang for the Buck" in other words might be and when prospecting you can get a lot of "Concentrates" that will load up in the Drywasher or Sluice or any apparatus that may be used at the time. When it comes time to collect the Cons the pan is a way to collect your gold or other collections of minerals. When members head out to the Griffith Elementary School they pan out previous Cons that are there to give our future prospectors, Knowledge on prospecting and Familiarity with it.

The "Upcoming Events" link shows what is happening on club dates that may be set, to bring members out on

sponsored outings or if they would just like to get together and just have fun prospecting. This link will also have day and times for Gold Shows or events that bring people together.

Our "Newsletter Archive" shows our past newsletters from 1998 to present. Most of the newsletters are very informative and contain information on Legislation updates and other things. Just make sure to have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed to see the newsletters. Without this it can be hard to read. Within the newsletters there, they have the minutes of the General and Board meetings and also our Treasury Reports, Outings and sometimes Ads that people are selling equipment. So much information to help us all.

"Outings" link shows that we do have fun on the claims and collect gold. The outings are every third Saturday of the Month and we have lunch prepared to keep our strength when out picking and shoveling dirt. There are all types of equipment to use when prospecting in example: Highbankers, drywashers, pans, and/or Trommels. Personally, I like to drop by members or new members and see how they process or classify for minerals. We have Pictures that are from 1998 to present showing members prospecting and metal detecting.

"The Posse" is a link to where members get together to close down abandoned mines that are no longer being processed with Bill Durbin. And what they do is put up a fence around the abandoned mines along with a sign saying "Stay Out!"

Continued on Page 6

Treasury Report from December 2nd 2009!

GOLD SEARCHERS OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

Financial statement for month of: December, 2009

Balance Forward: 4760.12
 Bank interest adjustment: 1.10
 Balance: 4761.22

Income:

Membership Dues: 615.00
 Raffle: 261.00
 Bank Interest: _____
 Other: _____
 Total Income: 876.00
 Balance: 5637.22

Expenses:

Rent: 50.00
 Food: 37.45 *Anna Party*
 Raffle Prizes: 159.54
 Newsletter Printing: _____
 Newsletter Postage: _____
 Office supplies, postage for
 Membership, etc: _____
 Miscellaneous expense: _____
 Total Expenses: 246.99

Balance: 5390.23 Petty cash 90.00
 Door Prize _____
 Petty Cash balance 90.00

Prepared by:  Treasurer, GSSN



At the "Links" page is where you can look into Ghost Towns, Nuggets and Ore's, Other clubs in the area, Prospecting equipment and supplies, maps, and Gold Mining and Geology. This is where things are interesting because you can find another club to expand your prospecting area and learn more about Gold Prospecting. A couple of links I found helpful are:

1. <http://www.mindat.org> - this will help with identifying minerals and looking up other minerals.
2. <http://earth.google.com> - very cool application from google, get to look at the earth from the heavens.
3. <http://www.mccawschoolofmines.org> - McCaw School of Mines located in Henderson, NV. To educate youngsters.

And the last Link "Library", where members can check out books from the clubs library so you can build your own sluice box or Drywasher. Also if you are a beginner to prospecting, these books will help with geology, panning, building equipment, and so much more!

Overall the website is very informative and has a uniqueness all on its own. Make sure to visit the website once in a while and check in on the contacts page. There may be someone who would like to head out and go prospecting! I know I would like to go!

Nicolas Johnson
Highgrader Newsletter Editor of Gold
Searchers of Southern Nevada, Inc.



Summer Heat Waves Can Cause Risk for Dehydration

Whether you are lounging poolside, playing tennis or simply watching T.V. at home, it is essential to consume plenty of fluids during summer heat waves.

On average, an adult's body weight is made up of about 10 to 12 gallons of water (about 55 to 75 percent of body weight). An elderly person's body weight is only about half water. But, when exposed to extremely high temperatures, your body requires even more water to maintain its normal temperature.

Extreme weakness and potential heat-stroke may result if more than 10 percent of body weight is lost from dehydration or water loss. And the average adult loses about 2½ quarts (about 10 cups) of water daily through perspiration, breathing and other body functions.

What are the signs of dehydration?

The effects of the body's loss of water are progressive: Thirst, then fatigue, next weakness, followed by delirium and finally, death. Though dehydration typically won't happen over the course of a single day, it is important to pay attention to signals of water loss and minimize risk of dehydration by drinking plenty of fluids throughout the day before thirst sets in.

What's to drink and how much

Of course, the most important fluid to consume is plain water, at least 8 to 12 + 8 ounce cups per day. If you are physically active, you should add one to three cups for each hour of activity. If you prefer a flavored beverage, milk and fruit juice are good options that provide other nutrients or try sports drinks or decaffeinated beverages (caffeine can act as a diuretic, causing water loss). Alcoholic beverages have a diuretic effect and pro-

mote water loss, so try alternating them with water or sparkling water at parties and social gatherings.

The bottom line is that if you keep yourself fueled with plenty of water, your body will perform better, you will have more fun for any extended period of time outdoors and that just might give you the edge you need to find that illusive gold nugget hiding just up ahead.

This is brought to you by the Highgrader Newsletter Archives, March of 1999, Issue 3

On a side note...

At the last General meeting (January 6th 2010) it was nice to see some activity from all members, especially a member that was doing her homework. She created the state of Nevada on a construction paper, showing the counties, cities, roadways, and Indian Reservations. I was inspired to put this picture in here because children are OUR future and we must help them with education. And what a cool looking picture of Nevada!!!



Application To : Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada, Inc.

P.O. Box 96732

Las Vegas NV, 89193 – 6732

(702) 263– 4846

Supporting Website:

Www.goldsearcher.com

Please Print Clearly

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ - _____ - _____ E-mail _____
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.

COMMITEES

- Audit Committee Claims Committee Education Committee Librarian/Historian
- Merchandise Committee Newsletter Committee Outing Committee Webmaster Committee

As of January 7, 2009 Dues are payable on the first of the month of 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!

Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada
A Non-Profit Corporation
P.O. Box 96732
Las Vegas, NV. 89193

Presorted STD
U.S. Postage
Paid
Las Vegas, NV.
Permit #2007

Postmaster: Dated Material

Current Resident Or Home Owner

Put Bottom of label on this Line here.

We print a membership application in each newsletter that must be used for all applications of New or Renewals. **We must have this information in its completed form to comply with our Bylaws.** Thank your for assisting your club with procedure!

Next General Meeting, 6:30 P.M.

February 3rd, 2010.

**425 East Van Wagenen Street
Henderson, NV. 89002-9111**

Do a little prospecting at our Website!

**!!Supporting Website!!
www.goldsearcher.com**

Membership is the life-blood of this Organization. Your renewal date is reflected on the address label, upper right. All of our programs cost this organization money. Your membership dues make it all possible. Membership numbers are important when contacting National Organizations, The Press, and Elected Representatives.