

# 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  
 Audit Committee—Fred Zajac



Claims Committee—John Bronstein  
 Education Committee—Fred Zajac  
 Librarian / Historian—Larry Clay  
 Merchandise Committee—Al Krause  
 Newsletter Committee—Stacy Thaler  
 Outing Committee—  
 Website Committee—J. Miller

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### Outing Announcement!

**When:** October 8th, 9th, 10th  
**Where:** Section 28 Claim

Two Days, Panning Demo and Contest, Detector Demo and Contest

Work Your Favorite Spot, Socialize, Drink My Coffee, Or Just Have Fun!

**Food:**  
 Saturday: Small Lunch (11:00 AM), Early Pot-Luck Dinner (4:00 PM)

**Food:**  
 Sunday Morning: Community Breakfast

More Information about October outing on Page 2!

### GSSN NOTICE

**NOTICE**

- GET READY FOR THE October OUTING. ITS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!!!!!!
- Check out Page 2 for outing information.



### Raffle Winners

Door Prize: John Calzone  
 50/50: Fred Hissong



Walking stick:	Fred Hissong	Magnet/gold:	Randy Huffine
Black hex gold pan:	Chuck Wherry	Candle & gloves:	Pam Goulder
Snake kit:	Bob Romans	GSSN cap:	C.Prohaska
Shovel & bag:	Charlotte Foley	Spade shovel:	Janet Schelling
Weekend gold miner book:	George Hegie	Bucket organizer:	Doug Parker
GSSN cap:	Morris S.	Cooldanna/hide a wipe	
Bag of gold/mug:	Charlotte F.	& gloves:	Bob Romans
Tow straps:	Frank Calhoun	GSSN t-shirt:	John Calzone
Straw hat:	Morris S.	Sluice mat:	Chuck Prohaska

## General Minutes

The GSSN met at the American Legion Hall in Henderson NV on Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2010. President Ian Thaler called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM & led in pledging allegiance to the flag. 55 signed in and there were 5 visitors. Ian asked if anyone had found any gold & there were a few people who said they had. Throughout the meeting Jet Silver Ventures (www.JetSilverVentures.com) analyzed minerals and jewelry which a lot of people had brought in & it was very interesting to learn what elements were present in the samples brought in. George Neiderriter talked about the "johnny" mining district area near Pahrump (where the GSSN previously had a claim) and he explained to the club some advantages of claiming a slightly larger area in the same vicinity and showed a nice sized nugget (approx. a quarter ounce) he had found at that site. John Bronstein then explained the process involved in securing the mining claim, describing some of the preparatory work he'd done in this regard. Morris Seguin then made a motion for the club to claim the land and Frank Calhoun seconded the motion. After some discussion the vote was unanimously in favor and the motion was approved. After a short break the meeting resumed and Dara gave the treasurer's report. Ian then proceeded to describe how the library was now working and reintroduced Larry Clay, the new librarian. Ian then brought up GSSN's By Laws and asked for volunteers to constitute a committee to review them relative to submitting same to the group for consideration. Frank Calhoun volunteered to serve as chair and Randy Huffine volunteered to serve on the by-laws committee. The next agenda item was the Septemer 18<sup>th</sup> outing at 20 Acres and 13 people indicated they plan to attend. The outings committee for that event is:

Dennis & Nic Johnson, Janet Schelling, George Neiderriter, Steve Reilly and Jim Barnett. George N. then talked about the weekend Oct. 17-19<sup>th</sup> outing and asked that any one interested in helping out to contact him. After a short break, there being no new business, the door prize of \$10.75 was awarded to John Calzone. The 50/50 of \$34 was won by Fred His-song & the consolation prize of a GSSN cap went to Pam Goulder. Other prizes raffled off were: (note see front page of news letter) At 8PM Phillis Harding made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Morris Seguin; and the meeting ended at that time.

Dolores Gee  
Secretary  
Sept. 2, 2010

## October Outing

I'll be setting up my "wet equipment" if you want to dig a few buckets and run the material through it. I'll get enough water to run all day. Also, the club will have it's dry washer(s) set up to run some material. We will have the club's metal detectors at the outing.

If you are new to prospecting, this is the perfect time to get acquainted with these types of equipment without having to buy your own yet.

We will hold a "Panning Contest" and a "Detector Contest" on Saturday

We expect to have a campfire Saturday nite (if fires are allowed).

Socializing and Fun will be the rule of the weekend. Come out for Saturday only or come for the weekend.

Accommodations:

Bring your Motor Home, Trailer, Tent, etc... and camp on the property.

Or you can contact the "Meadview RV Park" to stay there. They have camping spaces (motor home/trailer and tent) and some cabins (full Showers). The web site is: "rv-park.com". They are located across the Pierce-Ferry Road from our Section 34 Claim.

There are motel rooms in Meadview also. I have not dealt with them as yet so I have no first hand information on them.

Sign up will be at the October Meeting or we have an e-mail address for your convince.

E mail RSVP --- octouting@cox.net

We need to know how many to expect to have enough food for everyone.

Be There.....

George

## Classifigds

If you have something to sell, please email your ad to the president via the GSSN website and we will make sure it gets in the newsletter

As those who were at the September meeting know, the club has decided to stake a new mining claim NE of Johnnie, NV, near the historic Labbe Mine. At this writing, the claim (named "GSSNXJ") is still in process and will not yet show up in the BLM database, but it is valid and can be prospected by all club members. Members who are on the claim are also entirely justified in warning off non-members attempting to prospect it (politely, with an invitation to join the club, while making sure you are confident of the extent of the claim yourself!).

Long-time members will recall that the club had a claim here about 2004 and before, and may be familiar with the area. The new claim includes the area of the old claim but is about twice as large (155 acres), extending both north and south further than before. George Niederriter has shown at earlier meetings some fine gold and flakes he recovered from a wash in the East-Central portion of the claim on a visit prior to claiming this summer, as well as a nugget he found metal detecting there about 10 years ago. Other members have recovered varying amounts of small gold using various techniques there. While only time, effort and experience will show how productive this new claim will be compared to our Arizona claims, we are enthusiastic about it and believe that its potential has not been entirely discovered in prior workings.

This area has yielded a few nuggets in the past to detectorists and appears to be pretty easy to detect. VLF detectors like the White's MXT and the club's older Goldmaster work well here, with only a very modest number of hot rocks to slow you down. Among the PI machines, the White's TDI runs well, but does experience some noise, perhaps from the radio towers visible on the mountain to north. We haven't heard any reports from users of the big Minelab PI prospecting machines (SD2200, GP Extreme, 3500, 4500), and don't know if they will experience interference or not.

Those living in the Northern Las Vegas Valley, Summerlin, etc., will probably travel to the claim using US 95 north, turning, about 8 miles beyond Mercury, onto NV-160 toward Pahrump. From the Summerlin Parkway exit, it is about 65 miles on US 95 N to NV-160, and 10 miles on NV-160 to the turn-off (left) onto the gravel road leading to the claim. Pahrump is about 16 miles further south on NV-160, and is handy for food, lodging, etc., including a 24 hour Walmart Supercenter and a Home Depot (for parts when the equipment breaks down!).

Those living in Henderson and the Southern Las Vegas Valley may prefer to take Blue Diamond Road and NV-160 through Pahrump to approach the claim from the South. From Eastern Henderson, Boulder City, etc., take the Windmill Lane exit from I215 W, continuing West on Windmill, which crosses Las Vegas Blvd, and I15 to become Blue Diamond Road, and NV -160. From the Blue Diamond Road exit on I15, it is just under 70 miles on NV-160 to the turn-off (right) onto the gravel road leading to the claim. Along this route you will pass the exit onto NV-159 to Blue Diamond and Red Rock Canyon (while staying on NV-160), climb a fairly steep and scenic road to Mountain Springs (with its famous saloon), roll down the long gentle grade into Pahrump, and beyond about 16 miles to the turn-off.

Once on the well-graded gravel road, the first road, accessing the Western parts of the claim, is on the left at about 0.8 miles, marked by an old white (square) metal post. At a little over 0.2 mile on this road, branch right onto a less-traveled track to continue North through the claim. Failing to branch to the right here will take you up the slope, curving West, and onto the Nye Gold Seeker's claim (NGS 2). Unless you are also a member of their club, be sure not to prospect on their claim.

If you continue on the main gravel road, the second road, accessing the central and Eastern parts of the claim, is on the left at about 1.0 miles from the highway. It is marked with an old yellowish (round) metal post. On your right, across from this road, is a white 2"x2" post about 20 yards South of the road. This is our claim corner post #5, as you will see if you walk over to it and look at the metal placard. This second road immediately loops sharply to the left and then right before arcing North through the claim. A short distance along this road you will see a road branching to the left and down-slope into washes, crossing a couple of washes in the center of the claim which show signs of prior exploitation (can dump, etc.), finally joining the other road I described above. While this road looks good at the beginning, it is fairly rough in a couple of spots and slightly more challenging than the other roads described here. You should initially "take the high road" and continue about 0.3 mile from turning off the main gravel road, where you will see a gently sloped parking/camping area on the left. This is a good place to park and explore initially.

North a few yards from the parking/camping spot, a small wash crosses the road from the NE and curves West and South of the parking spot. This wash will provide at least a little gold in a number of spots, as several people have discovered (while, as usual, other places, a few feet away, show nothing!) A number of scrapes, holes, and tailing piles, mostly small and hand-dug, dot this wash, especially South of the parking spot. A few of these unfilled holes are fresh, and big enough to trip into, so, until we work the area and refill holes, watch where you step. This may not be the best spot to work on the claim, but it usually produces something to a determined effort, e.g., I've seen a number of small flakes from a couple of teaspoons of dirt sucked out of a small crack here, and the gold George Niederriter showed came from 1 1/2 buckets of dirt collected from this area

Beside the NGS 2 claim, along 1320 ft of our Western boundary, no other claims or private/patented land DIRECTLY border our claim, but this could change in the future if others claim adjacent public land. We will email maps and directions to all members soon, as well as update the printed directions in our claims book to include this new claim. There are private, patented land claims North and East of the claim, but several hundred feet separate our boundaries from theirs, as the claim map will make clear. In most places, signs or nearby buildings will make it obvious that you are entering these areas. On the second road through the claim, about 0.3 north of the parking/camping area, you leave our claim and in another 500 feet, enter private land. There is no sign at that point now, but a small pile of rocks on each side of the road mark the approximate boundary. If you see a branch in the road, followed by a wide cleared area, backed by a broad E-W excavation, you have gone too far and need to turn back.

We have not yet put up signs along the main roads into the claim to make it clear where its boundaries are on these roads, but will probably do that later this winter. E.G. the main gravel road is within the claim starting at about 0.7 miles from the highway until at least 1.3 miles, and a good deal of area South of the main road, encompassing a very broad E-W wash, is open to prospecting. The maps members will soon receive should make the boundaries clear enough until signs are erected.

Beside the usual dangers of the desert, there are two areas on the claim that should be avoided with children or pets. In the Northern-most extension of the claim, off the first road, to the West, there is a trench cut in the side of the wash, perhaps 8 to 10 feet deep and over 15 yards long. It is visible in the aerial photography that we will provide. It is only about 3-4 feet wide and steep sided, with a berm of dirt on each side. Some members may attempt to sample this, as it exposes the gravel to some depth, but undercutting the bank could cause a slide, and it is deep enough to cause injury if fallen into from the top. South and East of the camping/parking area about 200 yards, on the top of a low ridge, an orange sign can be seen, attached to a barbed wire fence. Inside the fence a nearly vertical open shaft, surrounded by a mound of loose tailings, offers an excellent opportunity for injury to anyone who crosses over or through the fence. While the shaft probably isn't very deep, it is deep enough. As far as we know, these are the only significant man-made hazards on the claim proper.

We will also be emailing and printing GPS data to locate the claim and its boundaries, including files that can be directly downloaded into various GPS units. Meantime, here are two very useful points, locating the turn off of the highway, and the parking/camping area we have mentioned. They are in two of the more common formats preferred by GPS users, decimal degrees of Latitude and Longitude for map datum WGS84 (also NAD83), the out-of-the-box default of a new GPS, as used by many modern electronic and online mapping sources, and UTM co-ordinates of Easting and Northing for map datum NAD27 (also NAD27 CONUS), used by older printed USGS Topo maps (look on map margins for map datum), and often set in GPS's used in conjunction with these paper maps.

Grid Lat/Lon hddd.dddd°  
Datum WGS 84

NV160 - Road Exit - N36.43694, W116.07870  
Camping / Parking - N36.44720, W116.06371

Grid UTM  
Datum NAD27 CONUS

NV160 - Road Exit - 11 S 582655 4032609  
Camping / Parking - 11 S 583987 4033760

Finally, the club owes thanks to the members who promoted this site for claiming, sampled the area, searched for claim and survey monuments, assisted in understanding the survey, planted claim posts, reviewed claim documents, etc. I won't mention them specifically here, in part for fear of omitting someone. If you haven't visited the web site recently, take a look. Eventually, some photos taken during the claiming process may show up there, picturing the claim and some of those involved, as well as identifying those who assisted, but escaped being photographed.

[http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s\\_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=N36.44720,+W116.06371&sl=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=34.176059,55.634766&ie=UTF8&t=h&ll=36.447212,-116.063712&spn=0.008475,0.013583&z=16](http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=N36.44720,+W116.06371&sl=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=34.176059,55.634766&ie=UTF8&t=h&ll=36.447212,-116.063712&spn=0.008475,0.013583&z=16)

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!**

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

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## 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.**

**September 1st, 2010.**

**October 6, 2010**

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

Do a little prospecting at our Website!

**!!Supporting Website!!**

**[www.goldsearcher.com](http://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.