

VOL> VIII

MAY 2002

The Official Publication of the Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada, Inc.

There's Gold in them Hills!

I want to thank everyone who came to the meeting, New, Old, and Visitors. Hi! I'm the new President and my name is Sandy Burton, I live in Dolan Springs, AZ. I'm hoping to do some changes for the better and I'm hoping to resolve issues that should have been attended to in the past. Our new staff would appreciate any & all assistance, in either help or suggestions, toward new goals of education, prospecting and other fun activities. I would also like to thank everyone that came out to the Gold Show at Primm, NV and stopped by to say hello and visit our booth.

SANDY BURTON
PRESIDENT

Vice Presidents

Hello, My name is Duane Fortin. I was elected Vice - President at the April General Membership Meeting.

I would like to continue some of the programs already in place from the previous administration. I think that with fresh energy and new ideas, we can continue to grow and serve the needs of our members. The club phone number is 393-4653 (gold) call that number 24 hours a day/ seven days a week and leave messages. I will return every call. My E. Mail is putt-pu@yahoo.com and my phone number is 454-6379.

At present I am also the Outings Chairman. Let me know your ideas for places for outings, events and locations for outings here you would like to have. All things are possible.

Duane Fortin-Vice President

NEXT MEETING

MAY 1ST, 2002

SEE YOU THERE!!!

Secretary's Intro:

My name is Mike LaPlante and I am proud to follow in Leilani's footsteps as Secretary of GSSN. She will be a tough act to follow, I will do my best. I have no special talent for this, and with feedback from the club membership, I hope to provide the same level of coverage. I was relocated to Las Vegas almost two years ago and used to reside in Columbus, Ohio. I was a licensed Master Electrician for eight years and have been a communications programmer for five. My wife's name is Tina and I have a son named Paul.

Metal detecting had always been a passing interest, and when I ran into some gold prospecting web sites, I decided to get involved. I attended a GSSN meeting and met some very nice people. I purchased a metal detector and have gone out and had a blast (got stuck once too, but that's another story). I have yet to find "first gold", but I have found all kinds of other stuff. I am glad to be able to assist the new board, I wish them well, and thank all of you for Welcoming me.

March Executive Board meeting minutes from 3/27/02

Meeting called to order at 7:15 pm

By Daniel Boone, Pres. All Board members present.

Old Business; Laser printer was put on hold but noted on again to be purchased. Willie Biron will pick it up this week. The people running for the board will be printed for elections for the following meeting in April. Husband & wife each get one vote and only them. Willie had the new Mining Guides. A Mining guide was voted to be given to each board member present. Earl made a motion to accept this proposal & Willie Biron seconded. So noted. And passed. These guides will be sold to each member, if wanted for \$3.00 each. Tickets were sent out in April Highgrader 12 tickets for \$10.00, thereafter, \$1.00 a ticket.

These tickets will be present at the April meeting.

Dan Mc., will be selling the guide booklets at the April meeting.

Break at 7:50 P.M.

Meeting Reconvened at 8:00 P.M.

Outings: A big outing will be held for April on our 5 acres. Brad Fine is donating between 10 or 15 nuggets to be sold to put out for a detector hunt on this claim. Tickets have been sold to help pay for these nuggets. Chili will be furnished by the club & we ask that all who will be going to furnish one side dish to be shared with all.

Earl Hunter will hold a panning contest. Rules will be explained at the outing. Signs will be posted to show the way to the claim.

Dan Green Resigned as Editor/Publisher of Newsletter. Pat Miller offered his name for the position. Decision to be left to the new President.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20

PM.

- General Membership Minutes

utes

April 3, 02

Meeting called to order at 7 PM. President Daniel Boone Presiding.

All past and soon to be board members were present. Daniel noted that it was going to be a short meeting, introducing the new board members, Daniel asked if there were any additional nominations for the elections, there were none, he then proceeded to turn the meeting over to the new officers:

President: Sandy Burton

Vice President: Duane Fortin

Secretary: Mike LaPlante

Treasurer: Dick Vezzani

Board property was transferred to the new board members, and then Sandy addressed those in attendance.

Sandy started off by stating that we all have to do a better job of handling our differences and making the club a great place to be.

Sandy announced some of her plans for her Presidency, which include more outings, more education, more speakers, and more of what the membership wants. Some of

the speakers mentioned were Art Smith, Gus Langstrom of MineLab, and the owner of the Excelsior mine.

Sandy then made some general announcements she mentioned she spoke with Arizona BLM and they said that generators are allowed on the Arizona properties as long as they are under 10 hp. The GPAA gathering at Primm, NV and the free vials of gold being given to the first 100 entrants was mentioned as well. Rattlesnake Brad was holding a treasure+ hunt on April 20 at Section 28, and would be burying 20 NUGGETS to be hunted down and kept. Sandy also reiterated about the Gold Panning demonstration that will be held on Apr 19th at the Review- Journal From 4 pm to 8 pm All Volunteers will be welcome.

Sandy opened the floor to the membership asking for their input on what they would like;

Suggestions from the floor:

Mark corners of claims better

Find claims in California and Nevada.

More trips to Yucca Mountain.

More trip in General.

Sandy asked those in attendance how they would feel about an amendment to increase the membership price. The feedback was positive. She explained that we need additional funds for more property, outings, and rising costs.

Sandy again talked about how we need to work to make our club a better place to be and to handle our differences in better ways

he Break was held at 8 pm

The Meeting resumed at 8:15

Treasurer Dick Vezzani corrected an earlier announcement about GSSN being a non-profit and donations being tax deductible. Dick stated that currently our books need to be put in order and audited before we could qualify for non-profit status. As a non-profit the club can save about \$400 a year. Then he went on to make general financial announcements.

The drawing was then held. Some of the door prizes were provided by "DOC" Lousignon, There were six nuggets given away, along with a couple nice picks and an assortment of other goodies, no one seemed dissatisfied. Winners were: Mike - Gold Nugget, Jim - coffee mug, Ed - gloves, Mike - pouch, Jerry - shower, Henry - concentrate. Another anonymous member donated door prizes and issued a "challenge to other members to donate prizes for the drawing". The Gold Pick award went to Rich Montana, receiving a portable toilet. Other drawing winners were: Andrew - Gold Nugget, Gus - Pick, Eddie - Pocket Scale, Jerry - pole magnet, Beaucoup - Scoop, Lee - Gold Nugget, Burt - Pick, Mike - Gold Nugget, Mary- knee pads, Pete - Gold Nugget, New member Sam - folding shovel, Bob - folding chair, Dan - classifier, Mary - Magnifier, Tom - pouch, Ken - large pan, Pete -Gold Nugget., Mike- Gold Nugget, Jim- Coffee Mug, Ed- Gloves, Mike- pouch, Jerry- shower, Henry-concentrates, Pete- water bag, Wayne -loupe, Gus- compass, Robbyn -silver ring, Pat- phon pump.

Sandy went over the Christmas nugget raffle and how to get tickets, and asked everyone interested in attending the outing on the 20th to make sure they signed up and then closed the meeting by asking everyone to welcome the new members and help them out in any way we can. Attendance: 133 people signed in, 10 visitors..

Meeting ended around 9:30

New Executive Committee Meeting

9:PM APR 3, 02

All Board Members in Attendance.

Sandy brought to the floor the discussion of a new meeting place for our ever expanding membership. Willie produced an area survey of where the local membership lives and important considerations. Schools are ruled out from the start and the building needs to be handicapped accessible. Sandy stated that she would talk to some of the local casinos, and the Jokers Wild Casino was mentioned specifically. By the next meeting the board wants to bring possible locations to the membership. Sandy wants everyone to check 3 or 4 places each.

Willie then brought up that we should have a more structured meeting. Also mentioned need for someone to take over need to take over responsibility for club equipment.

Willie stated that he gave Rich Montana 2800 more Raffle Tickets for the Christmas nugget..

Pat Miller needs all Ads and articles before the 18th of each month and He's looking for help.

Sandy again mentioned raising of the dues and possibly the initiation fee as our club price is comparatively inexpensive. Willie suggested that maybe we could come up with some sort of package, like the GPAA does, for new members and charge a higher initial fee to join. Alternate ways to create and display membership badges were also discussed.

Willie mentioned using the leased 5 Acres as permanent Home base for all of the outings, due to its setup and central location.

Meeting Ended around 9:30 PM.

TREASURERS REPORT

April 1,2002-- Apr 15,2002

Asset Balance

Checking \$2537.19

Savings \$5687.82

Balance \$8225.01

Expenses

Office Equip \$428.98

Rent Apr,may,jun \$300

Petty cash(advance)\$200)

Postage \$10.16

Printing(higrdr & Tickets)

\$685.33

Badges\$45.05

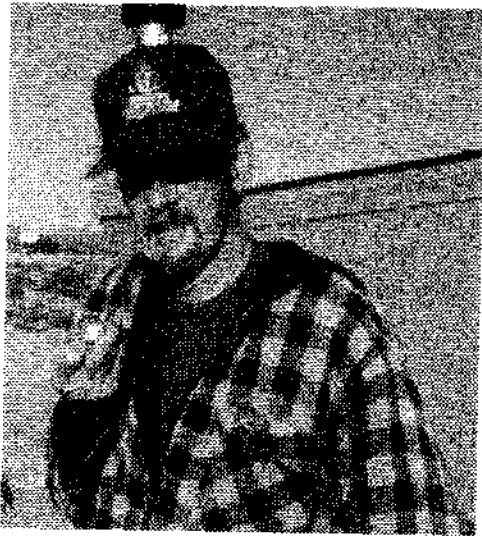
R-J PROJ \ \$434.06

CONTINUED

RIDE NEEDED !!!

Need Ride TO and from meetings; I live near Eastern and Owens. Willing to pay my way. Please Call

Thanks Rick Kuhlmeiy



Treasureres RPT

Cont

Total Expenses \$2103. 58

I hope That we can set up some books and get someone to apply for the Non Profit status. In addition I hope to satisfy all of our members with open books and a careful eye on the laws as well as helping to watch over all members needs and wats. That will make it a better organization in my opinion.

Dick Vezzani

Education Report

Preparation fro the Review-Journal 'SPRINGFEST' are well under way.

Over 500 Bags of Concentrate were "salted" each with at least 4 flakes of Gold. Each Bag will Provide the prospectors with the thrill of a lifetime. The prospect of finding your first gold is long remembered. Each prospector will have their gold put into a glass vial as a keepsake and a remembrance of this special event.

Special events such as the Springfest and the classes that we conduct at Parks and Recreation each month bring us new members into our club. Member Support for these projects is helpful and is appreciated.

For Earl Hunter

THANK YOU

With The Elections over and the new slate of officers installed, it is time to say Goodbye.

I must say a "Thank You" to each of you that made my work easier. It was fun doing the Highgrader in spite of some problems. I had help of all kinds from the membership.

I would like to make a special 'Thank You' to Gib Howell. Gib made it all possible because of his computer expertise. To Russell Gremore for his never-ending support with articles and information, which were beyond my knowledge. To Joe Catcher for his contribution as the Librarian. Joe has brought a life to stories long ago forgotten. These contributions are what make the Highgrader such an outstanding paper.

The incredible, valuable gift to the Gold Searchers of the COMPAQ Lap Top Computer by Richard Bruno when my own personal computer went down.

I owe "Thanks" to all of these and so many more for bringing us up to and over the 500 mark in membership.

An organization succeeds, not because it is long established, but because there are people in it that live it, sleep it, and build future plans for it. Thank you for your help. I will see you and be with you at the meetings.

Daniel Green,
Retired

Membership Report

TAX MONTH 2002

Last month I reported that

Lucky Winner!!!

Jerry Klafter is the lucky winner of the Nugget that was raffle off to raise funds for Aprils Treasure hunts.

Jerry lives in Kingman, AZ. And is the president of the Mojave Prospectors Club.

Jerry moved to Kingman from California where he was a painting contractor. He has also worked while in Kingman where he supplied the True Value Hardware stores.

He is now retired and enjoys going out in the desert to get his share of the gold.

Jerry said that all of the clubs seemed to have their problems. Even though he is the President of his club, her has yet to receive a membership card.

Congratulations, Jerry, for being the lucky winner of our Treasure hunt nugget.

NEXT MEETING

MAY 1ST, 2002

SEE YOU THERE

**GSSN LIBRARY
BOOK REVIEW
MAY 2002**

we had passed the 500 mark, and this month I report that we have many more new members, but, who is counting anyway?! I would like to start placing the names of our new members in this monthly report, but I will wait until the board gives me the ok. I wonder if some new members do not want their names published? Anyway, Welcome aboard the largest mining

and prospecting non-profit club in the world! If anyone knows of a larger club let me know. At the last general meeting one person was upset that he couldn't get a free mining guide. The present policy is to give one to each new member as they join. We are presently kicking around ideas on putting together a kit for new members with everything they need, so we would like to hear from you what to put in these kits! Badges, Hats, patches, maps, etc. AS far as the mining Guide goes, we are now back to the original concept that I introduced 3 years ago with the first printing: New members get it free, old timers get change supplements to update their books when changes are made. You need to keep your books to place the changes into. If you need another copy you can purchase one for a small fee. Every 5 Years a totally new guide is planned and will be distributed free. If you would like to Advertise in it let your board know. I realize that some of you paid five dollars for a few map pages under the previous administration and that these new books with the pretty yellow cover is nicer but..... These cost money to have printed and our clubs' reserves are meager. The three dollar donation will help cover the printing costs. At most general meetings there FREE update pages available, so you will always have directions to

-lopes will only be opened at our Board Meetings by an Appointed crew. This way we can be sure all the stubs are in the drum, and the funds are properly deposited. Watch the Treasurers Report for Status on these donations.

Did you know that this is the 20th Anniversary of our club? Who has the Oldest copy of our Newsletter? Please E-Mail me a wbironjr@aol

WILLIE

#Next meeting

May 1st 2002

See you there !!!

What was here is now on page 10. Both your Educational chairman and I at separate times submitted articles about the Review-Journal Spring fling that we participated in. Instead of picking one or the other, they are both together on page 10. Your Editor.



10 ADVANCED Prospecting & Detecting for Hardrock Gold
By Jim Straight

**# 11 ELECTRONIC PROPECT-
ING For Gold & Silver** _ By
Charles Garrett & Roy Lagal

**# 21 TREASURE HUNTING
PAYS OFF** -By Charles Garrett, 87
pages

22 ROCKS & MINERALS -
Great display book in color, 192
pages

**# 140 THE EXTRACTION OF
FREE GOLD (Virgin Placer Gold)**
By Al McGowen, 64 Pages

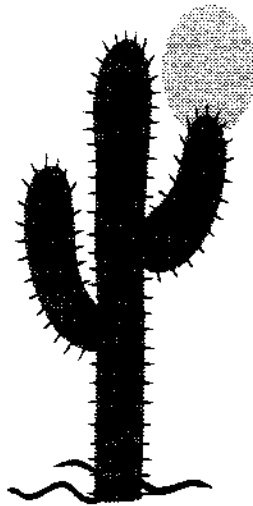
#170 GOLD PANNING IS EASY
Gives steps thru the panning pro-
cess. By Roy Lagal, 127 Page

**# 224 GOLD PANNER'S
MANUEL" How & Where"**. By
Garnet Basque
(CONT..)

**#228 GOLD COUNTRY Guide-
book All thru Mother Load-
California Locations &
Maps Handbook**

**#229 HUNTING DIA-
MONDS IN CA.** How to find &
where to look 80 pages.

(Continued from page 5)



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MINING CAMPS ATLAS
Looking for Ghost Towns of
NV, By Stan Pahan's

#233 GEM TRAILS of SOUTH-
ERN CALIFORNIA By James
Mitchell Note: Good Book with
maps

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Fund Raiser April 27th

7:00 am to 2:00 pm

RIDE NEEDED !!!

Need Ride TO and from
meetings; I live near Eastern and
Owens. Willing to pay my way.
Please Call:

Thanks Rick Kuhlmeier

NEXT MEETING
MAY 1st, 2002

SEE YOU THERE!!!

Referring to the article in
April the 18th R-J's Opinion col-
umn on page 8b titled " Wilder-
ness proposal deserves an early
burial" I can only cheer for the
good sense and the outspokenness
of the Author Richard V. Wyman

If anyone needs to see this
article, and you can't locate it
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be on file here with the high-
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* Chemistry: Au, Elemental gold

* Class: Elements

* Group: Gold

* Uses: Major ore of gold and as mineral specimens.

* Specimens

Gold is a pleasure to own and possess, as many people have discovered throughout the ages and around the world. Gold is a very stubborn element when it comes to reacting to or combining with other elements. Keeping this in mind, helps to explain many things about gold. There are very few true gold ores, besides native gold, because it forms a major part of only a few rare minerals, it is found as little more than a trace in a few others or it is alloyed to a small extent with other metals such as silver. Gold is almost indestructible and has been used and then reused for centuries to the extent that all gold of known existence is almost equal to all the gold that has ever been mined. Gold is a great medium metal for jewelry, as it never tarnishes. Native gold wires emerging from massive white quartz can make for a visually stunning specimen.

A few of the minerals that bear gold in their respective formulas are in a subclass of sulfides called the tellurides. The element gold seems to have an affinity for tellurium and this is one of the only elements that gold can bond with easily. In fact only a few rare tellurides are found with out gold. A few of the tellurides are nagyagite,

sylvanite and krennerite. These are all minor ores of gold but their contributions to the supply of gold pales next to native gold's own contribution. Occassionally these minerals are associated with native gold.

There are a number of minerals that are aptly named "Fool's Gold" because only a fool could believe they are gold! Actually it is easy for people who see shiny golden colored flakes sparkling at them from some rock they just picked up to believe that they have struck pay-dirt. Gold's ductility, sectility, density and softness are usually sufficient to distinguish it from the much cheaper imposters. The most famous "fool's gold" is the very common sulfide, pyrite. Chalcopyrite, marcasite and just about any golden colored sulfide has been also proven to be worthy the "fool's gold" monicure. Weathered flakes of biotite which can sport a bright yellow color and a nice flash of light when viewed just right, have also been mistaken for gold.

Gold specimens are sometimes artistically stunning and a good investment as well. After all, it is gold, which never seems to lose its value. Good natural specimens though are more expensive than their actual weight value. This is to be expected as good gold crystals are somewhat scarce (most are melted down for quick profits) and you really don't want a natural specimen to be worth what a lump of previously smelted and refined gold is worth, do you?

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

* Color is golden "butter" yellow.

* Luster is metallic.

* Transparency is opaque.

* Crystal System is isometric; 4/m bar 3 2/m

* Crystal Habits include massive nuggets and disseminated grains. Also wires, dendritic and arborescent crystal clusters.

* Cleavage is absent.

* Fracture is jagged.

* Streak is golden yellow.

* Hardness is 2.5 - 3

* Specific Gravity is 19.3+ (extremely heavy even for metallic minerals)

* Associated Minerals include quartz, nagyagite, calaverite, sylvanite, krennerite, pyrite and other sulfides.

* Other Characteristics: ductile, malleable and sectile, meaning it can be pounded into other shapes, stretched into a wire and cut into slices.

* Notable Occurrences include California and South Dakota, USA; Siberia, Russia; South Africa; Canada and other localities around the world.

* Best Field Indicators are color, density, hardness, sectility, malleability and ductility.

Next Meeting..

May 1st, 2002

at 6:45 pm

See you there!!

protect environmentally sensitive areas, and provide more and better opportunities for outdoor recreation."

Five land sales have been conducted since the Act became law. The proceeds from the 2,500 acres sold exceed \$120 million. Each year the BLM provides recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior for how the revenue should be spent. In June 2000, the Secretary approved \$24 million for land acquisitions and projects, and in June 2001, another \$33 million.

The current proposed land acquisitions and projects began with nominations last August. Committees made up of representatives of the State of Nevada, rural Nevada, local governments in southern Nevada and the federal natural resource management agencies screened and ranked the nominations.

Public comment is invited on any and all of the recommendations. More detailed information on each of the recommended properties and projects is available on the BLM Nevada Internet site www.nv.blm.gov. Public comments will be accepted by the BLM through May 15, or by calling (702) 515-5114. The comments will be considered in preparing a final recommendation for the Secretary of the Interior to approve. Comments may be mailed or delivered to the BLM Southern Nevada Special Project Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130.

- BLM

Next Meeting

May 1st, 2002

See You There!!!

Cleaning Gold

By Russell Gremore

When you find a gold nugget with your dry-washer or metal detector, usually it will be covered with clay, dirt, or caliche (lime deposits) and sometimes mercury or its layered in rock. My way of cleaning a nugget is by soaking it in a mild acid such as LIME-AWAY. Lime Away will remove the harder stuff but never use an abrasive cleaner.

If you have recovered a nugget that is specimen gold or a jewelry rock and you want to expose more of the gold by dissolving the outer layers of the rock so that the gold will show better, soak the specimen in Whink Rust Stain Remover, a cleaning product, that contains hydrofluoric acid is available in most grocery stores and cleaning supply houses.

If you have access to hydrofluoric acid, it is very dangerous so follow the directions carefully. If you use it, ask the supplier for the safety information about using and disposing of this product. All acids are dangerous, so use every safety precaution when using any acids.

Hydrofluoric acid is colorless and has an irritating odor. It attacks all the tissues of the body, which results in deep tissue burns that are extremely slow to heal. The acid may penetrate to the bone causing bone damage, as well. The vapor could burn the eyes and cause blindness. Hydrofluoric acid attacks glass, concrete, and many metals (not gold) and also materials such as leather, natural rubber, wood, and glass. Store the acid only in Polyethylene bottles. Use neoprene, nitrile, or nyl gloves

when handling, and never let it touch your skin. Also, keep it away from any ammonia. If you want more information on hydrofluoric acid, go to www.tufts.edu.

Remember, always be very careful when using any acid....

Thanks Russell

How Does Gold Move in the Desert?

By Russell Gremore

If during the dry season, it starts raining, the water tends to run off quite rapidly. When the water flow is at three inches per second or .17 miles per hour, it will barely work fine clay.

At eight inches per second or .45 MPH, the water flow will move small sand. At one foot per second or .68 MPH, the water will move small gravel and small gold with ease.

At three feet per second or just a hair over two miles per hour, the water flow will suspend fine gold and move loose nuggets with ease.

During high water periods all bets are off. The water flows are capable of moving large boulders, even cleaning out gold deposits during past seasons and moving it further down stream until the water flow starts to slow and the gold is dropped out of suspension.

One sure way for having something for your efforts is to focus on the fine gold and take the nuggets as they come.

My thanks to Russell Gremore without whom I wouldn't have been able to fill this issue.
The Editor.

New Membership or Renewal Application for
GOLD SEARCHERS OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

P.O. BOX 96732
 Las Vegas, NV 89193-6732

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

I/WE, the undersigned, (herein after 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. Participant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless all Club Officers, Sponsors and/or other third, fourth, etc. parties involved in club activities. Participant realizes that metal detecting, gold prospecting and associated activities can be dangerous. The terrain can be hazardous, and there may be wild and domestic animals and snakes present. Some locations may have open shafts, pits and tunnels. Some areas may be suitable for four-wheel-drive vehicles.

Participant assumes full responsibility for any injury, loss or liability which may result or be alleged to have resulted from involvement in these activities. This includes but is not limited to loss of life, limb and sight. Loss and liability is also accepted for, but not limited to metal detectors, mining equipment, tools and vehicles. This agreement includes the trip to and from the actual locations of Gold Searchers of Southern Nevada Inc., Properties or claims. In case of injury or sudden illness, Participant hereby gives authorization to any hospital, Doctor or emergency personnel to render immediate emergency aid as may be required at the time for Participant's health and safety. It is understood by Participant that the expense of this service is accepted by Participant, and it is advised that adequate health insurance be maintained.

This document applies to any and all activities while at Gold Searchers Of Southern Nevada Inc, properties or claims in which Participant is involved. It applies not only to the date of signature, but to any and all future dates. This document will be in effect until and unless written revocation is received.

Not valid Unless signed

Signature of Participant **X**

Date

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY BELOW

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Home Phone () _____ E-mail _____

Vehicle License # _____

We will volunteer as much as the areas checked. Please check at least one area

- Storage | Food | Claims | Education/Training | Audit | Ticket Sales | Club Crests | Website | Club Property | Public Relations | Newsletter | Membership | Elections | Photographs/Historian |

I am interested in running for the following position/s which have their dues waived during office.

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THAT I ASK YOU TO THINK
ABOUT :

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TAKES,
IN THIS PUBLICATION.
PLEASE CONSIDER THAT
THEY ARE THERE FOR A
PURPOSE. WE PUBLISH
SOMETHING FOR EVE-
RYONE, AND SOME PEOP-
LE ARE ALWAYS LOOK-
ING-FOR MISTAKES!!!!”

!THANK YOU, PAT
MILLER

OR IN OTHER WORDS
I'M ONLY HUMAN, I HAVE
BEEN KNOWN TO SCREW
UP!

