



Wausau Prospectors

Volume 6, Issue 2

November 2012

NEXT MEETING –December 1st - at Cedar Creek Mall in Wausau – 11AM

The mall is located next to I-39 just north of Gander Mountain. Take I-39 exit 185 – Business 51 North to county road XX/ Imperial Avenue. Turn right and then go straight ahead. The community Room is located at the main entrance of the mall. BBQ will be provided. Please bring a dish-to-pass.

Presidents Letter

It was great to see all the prospectors that showed up at the November meeting. The swap meet was sort of like a mini Gold & Treasure Show and it really puts one in the mood to attend the next GPAA Gold & Treasure Show, like now.... The schedule is out for 2013 and the nearest show to Wisconsin will be in Pecatonica Illinois August 24–25. Pecatonica is located about 20 miles west of Rockford Illinois.

Now that the weather is getting cold, I am thankful for the various TV shows about prospecting. You have the Alaskan & Gold Fever shows on the Outdoor Channel and Gold Rush & Jungle Gold on the Discovery Channel. Lots of information on what works, and what doesn't work, and all the shows are entertaining. The Discovery Channel says that on Gold Rush someone will hit the Motherload. It is hard to say who, but I think it will be Fred and his son at Porcupine Creek.

The December 1st meeting will be our annual Christmas Party. This year as we have done in the past, we will do a gift exchange. **This is voluntary.** If you bring a gift you will get a gift. Please keep the cost of the gift to around \$10.00 and the gift should be one that can be used by a guy or gal (unisex). The meetings will back in the Community Rooms at the Cedar Creek Mall, just around the corner from the Patriot Center.

What do you want from Santa for Christmas? The gold pan is the basic tool of the prospector but if you are still using just a gold pan you might want to take the next big step and ask Santa for a sluice box. You can run so much more material with a sluice box and they are easy to transport and use. Kurt

CLUB OFFICERS

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Community Outreach Officer: Ken House

Club Historian: Peggy Gremler
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Club Librarian: Janice Laubenstein
janicelaubenstein@yahoo.com

Web Master: Rick Gremler
rgremler@charter.net
<http://wausauprospectors.com>

Canned Goods & Pet Food Donations

Remember that we are collecting canned goods for the local food pantries at our meetings. For every can of food you bring you get a raffle ticket for a piece of gold to be given away at every meeting. Maybe you can win yourself a little gold while helping others.

The pets need our help too. Donations go to neighboring Humane Society's or to some Food Pantries that except pet food.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

We had 65 folks show up for this great meeting. Kurt gave the President report, Dennis gave the VP report, Carl gave the secretary's report, Barb gave the treasurers report, Rick gave the web report, Janice gave the librarian report, Peggy gave the Historian report, and Ken gave the food report.

This was our last time in the big meeting room and next month we will be back in our regular room. We had our swap meet and I must say we had a great showing.

Welcome to the new members that came and joined this week. Carl



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2012 WAUSAU PROSPECTORS MEETINGS

December 1st - Christmas Party/gift exchange

January 5th, 2013 - Prospecting in the Midwest by David Towle

RAFFLE WINNERS

50/50 – Beverly Zestrow \$79.00

Special – Beverly Zestrow

Gold Nuggets – Steve Miller, Carla Miller two of them

Food – Carol Schwartz, Art Nagel

Carl's Special Nugget – Barb Publitz

Gold tester Kit – Barb Publitz

ITEMS FOR SALE

Anyone wanting to list items for sale in the monthly news-letter should contact Carl at (715)253-2228 or at

gold@huntforgems.com

Prospecting Picks \$30.00 Contact Dennis Lulloff

E-mail: dmflulloff@charter.net

Phone # 715-797-4904

Wet Suit XL up to 6' tall, zipper down front, pole over shirt with half zipper & size 11 boots, medium weigh N/N \$120.00.

Call Rich Hamann at 1-715-223-4139

GPAA Renewal Reminder HEY WAUSAU PROSPECTORS!!

You don't have to be a member of the Gold Prospectors Association of America to be a member of the Wausau Prospectors, a GPAA Chapter. But, if you're not a member of the GPAA, you are missing out on a lot of really good stories and information by not getting the "Gold Prospectors" magazine and the "Pick & Shovel Gazette" paper, plus the Mining Guide. Check out the GPAA website at: <http://www.goldprospectors.org> For the Wausau Prospectors members who join or renew the GPAA, please let them know that you are a member of the Wausau Prospectors GPAA Chapter. We earn Chapter credits from the GPAA that can be used like cash when ordering catalog items from the GPAA that we use for our club such as raffles. Joining the GPAA includes many benefits. Find out at <http://www.goldprospectors.org/membership/gpaa> or call the GPAA toll free: 800-551-9707



Wausau Prospectors

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Other Club News

Greenbush Wisconsin

Chapter of the GPAA – holds meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 3pm in the Greenbush Town Hall, N6644 Sugarbush Rd, Greenbush, WI. For more information contact Ron Smith at (920)207-4092 or visit www.wisgpaa.org.

Mid-State Metal Detecting Club

Mid-State Metal Detecting Club meets every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the Stevens Point area. Contact Steve Miller for more information (75)572-1845.

Tomah Wisconsin

Chapter of the GPAA – holds meetings on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the La Grange Town Hall, 22731 Flint Ave. 1.8 miles west of Tomah on Hwy-21. For more information contact Mike Fait at (715)384-9265 or e-mail at mgfait@charter.net

Wisconsin Northwoods Adventures

Chapter of the GPAA – holds meetings on the 2nd Saturday of every month. For more information contact Tom Frank at (715)579-7111 or visit <http://www.wisconsinpaa.com>.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

Wausau Prospectors <http://wausauprospectors.com>

Carl Mauritz www.huntforgems.com

Carl Mauritz Forum www.huntforgems.com/goldminers

Deerfield Detectors www.deerfelddetectors.com

Chippewa Falls Metal Detector www.threeseasonstreasurehunters.com

GPAA www.goldprospectors.org

Green Bush Chapter www.greenbushgpaa.com

Rick Gremler's Wausau Site <http://www.ricksbucketlist.com>

Heart of WI Gem & Mineral <http://fromtherockroom.com/club>

Please send me your stories or prospecting tips for consideration in future newsletters, I want to make this informative and interesting for all readers and I need your help. Thank you gold@huntforgems.com or Carl Mauritz, PO Box 233, Tigerton, WI 54486

I apologize for not getting the names for the Raffle Donations in last month's Newsletter so here it is:

Kurt Bublitz – all-purpose tub, Peggy & Rick Gremler – Wausau papers – paper & envelopes all so Arizon & BBQ Sauce, Carol Schwartz – 4 seasonal gifts (candle, melfors, cup, potpourri set) Guy Unger – Herkimer Dirt with Diamonds.

The stamp Drive was great thank you all that gave stamps or money for them. Carol Schwartz, Bill Grodevant, Beverly Zastrow, Ken House, Raleigh Hodge, Gary Schauer, Art Gacke, Kathren Ostrowski, Don Kulas, Barb Bublitz, Nate Gieb, Rod Gieb.

Names for Raffle Donations 11/03/2012

Carol Schwartz – 3 Seasonal Items

Peggy Gremler – Wausau Papers Packs

Deerfield Detectors – Assortment

Gary & Jeanne Morrison – 2 Geodes

Valerie Thompson – Cactus

Delight – Ornament Sluice Box

Jeanne Marie – Candle/Glass Holder

Harold Beringer – Gloves

Marcia Wysocky – Chalcedony

Kim Mickelson – Gold Pin



Copper Deposits of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan

Within the state of Michigan, copper is found almost exclusively in the western portion of the Upper Peninsula, in an area known as the Copper Country. The Copper Country is highly unusual among copper-mining districts, because copper is predominantly found in the form of pure copper metal (*native copper*) rather than the copper oxides or copper sulfides that form the copper ore at almost every other copper-mining district. The copper deposits occur in rocks of Precambrian age, in a thick sequence of northwest-dipping sandstones, conglomerates, ash beds, and flood basalts associated with the Keweenaw Rift.

Although native copper was the dominant ore mineral, chalcocite (copper sulfide) was sometimes present, and, especially in the Mohawk mine, copper arsenide minerals such as mohawkite and domeykite. Gangue minerals included calcite, quartz, epidote, chlorite, and various zeolites. A number of copper mines also contained a notable amount of silver, both in native form and naturally alloyed with the copper. *Halfbreed* is the term for an ore sample that contains the pure copper and pure silver in the same piece of rock; it is only found in the native copper deposits of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Native American mining

Native Americans were the first to mine and work the copper of Lake Superior and the Keweenaw Peninsula of northern Michigan between 5000 BCE and 1200 BCE. The natives used this copper to produce tools. Archaeological expeditions in the Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle Royale revealed the existence of copper producing pits and hammering stones which were used to work the copper. Fringe writers have suggested that as much as 1.5 billion pounds of copper was extracted during this period, but archaeologists consider such high figures as "ill-constructed estimates" and that the actual figure is unknown.

By the time the first European explorers arrived, the area was the home of the Chippewa people, who did not mine copper. According to Chippewa traditions, they had much earlier supplanted the original miners. The first written account of copper in Michigan was given by French missionary Claude Allouez in 1667. He noted that Indians of the Lake Superior region prized copper nuggets that they found there. Indians guided missionary Claude Dablon to the Ontonagon Boulder, a 1.5-ton piece of native copper along the Ontonagon River. When American prospectors arrived in the 1840s, pieces of copper were found in streams or on the ground. The copper pits abandoned by Native Americans led early miners to most of the first successful mines.

Here are some pictures of Carl giving a talk on Faceting at the Tomah GPAA Club in Oct.

