

Coker Creek G.P.A.A. Newsletter

November 2008

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Presidents Report

By Tim LeGrand, President – Coker Creek GPAA

Since I have been elected as the president of the chapter, I have made my first priority to get this chapter back on it's feet, and be an active and growing chapter. We are well on our way with **156 members** on the roster now!

Note: These are not all G.P.A.A. Members yet, but hopefully they will be soon. I have some great news for you in this issue! Please read, and you won't be disappointed.

My goal is to see over 100 people at the meetings. That looks possible at this point.

I can't do it without your help – BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

You do NOT have to be a G.P.A.A. Member to come to meetings.

One of our chapter members won the trip to Alaska at the Gainsville GPAA gold show!

Steve Nicol, won the 2 week trip, and tells me he will stay for another week too.

Congratulations Steve!

Thank you all,
Tim LeGrand

Financial Report

Our chapter funds are now up to: \$1008.86

With the Gold Festival, raffle, and T-shirt sales, we are growing our chapter fund.

Full report at the Nov. meeting.

Thank you for your support!

Property Report

We are currently seeking a larger property.

We have a large 60 acer property in the works! Well, one member knows a land owner, but the land owner is hiding out...

Also a 40 Acer property if the owner ever comes back around.

Keep your fingers crossed!

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Christmas Party

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Decembers meeting will also be the chapters Christmas Party!

We will have the normal raffle and meeting, but there will also be door prizes to win. Show up, have fun, and socialize with other members. Bring the family, and Bring a Gift in the \$5 to \$10 price range. We will do a drawing for the gifts, so that as you bring in a gift, you get your name on paper, and all the people that bring a gift will be drawn to receive a gift. The Dirty Santa thing was kinda fun last year. We will put that to a vote at the November meeting, and decide on that or not. **We will do this as a pot luck again this year, and we plan on it being a longer meeting than normal.**

The meeting will be on December 20th, at 10am.

We will have the meeting, in the front section of the Ruritan club, so we have use of the larger room and kitchen. So, there will be plenty of elbow room at the tables.

We will cover a few chapter topics, then eat some good food. The chapter will again supply the main course meat, and drinks. We need members to bring a side dish to cover 6 to 8 people. With a good turn out, there should be plenty of food for everyone.

After the meal, and some socializing time, we will hold a panning contest. Entry for the panning contest is \$5.00 . The chapter will receive \$1.00 per entry, and the winner gets the rest.

After the panning contest, we will have the raffle drawings, then hand out the door prizes.

Next is the fun part.. **The gift exchange!** Bring a gift, and you will get a gift.

If you did not come to the Nov. Meeting:

Watch the forums for the **big Event / winter project** we are all working on. It will be a blast at our April Meeting.

You won't want to miss the **modified, gold pan races!**

We will also have an unmodified race.

That's right – electric motor, modified gold pan races! No rocket or gas engines this year.

Winner will get a heck of a prize!!!

Prize to be announced at a later date.

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WATER REPORT

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Well, not too much for the water report this month. We have been getting rains lately, and that has got the creeks and rivers up better than they have been for several weeks.. Still a bit low, but getting a little better.

Wildcat and sixmile were just trickling last week. Hopefully the rains will bring them back up. Lower coker creek has a lot more water than north of the store.

Be safe, and remember to pack out all that you bring in, and more, if someone else left trash in your path.

Happy Panning!

Do Your Part!

As a club member, it is up to all of us, to make sure the club is doing well, and can continue to do well in the future.

When we have a meeting, **please show up**, be heard, support the chapter with the raffles, and **make friends**. Find a buddy to hit those remote areas with so your not going out alone.

On work days, Bring your gear to prospect, but we will have set work hours for work days. We will have at least one mandatory work day per year. We will set up a few, then you will need to be at one of them. It takes a team a short time to do what one person can do in a day. We wont work you to death, but if we want more properties then we have to take care of them to keep the land owner happy.

A good reference will go a long way in getting us more land.

Also, if you have an item, that you think could help the club in the raffle, you can bring it in to the meeting. We can always use things for the raffles. Anything that can be used for camping or prospecting usually do well. Thank you for your support!

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NEWBIES CORNER

Welcome to you all!

I would like very much to meet every one of our new members at our meetings. Don't be shy, walk up to me, and say hello!

When prospecting in the colder months, remember to be safe, and pay attention to your surroundings. **Hunters are out in the woods this time of year, so wearing Orange is a good idea.** Also, be mindful of the colder water temps. You can get frost bite if you get too wet and stay in the water too long without protection. Use neoprene waders if you can, to keep you toasty and dry, all day.

Diving gloves are great if you plan to have your hands in the water a lot. It is easier to pan with the white cotton gloves with the blue rubber on them though.

Remember, do not use a sluice box in the National forest without the dredge permit. It is needed for a sluice box, rocker box, and dredge. The permit is free, just call the Tellico ranger station and they will gladly mail it to you.

The permit is not needed for sluices in Polk County.

There is some great gold being found. Get out to the creeks and do some prospecting!

Advertise with us.

You can buy advertising space in the newsletter for your business. Selling advertising to local shops and businesses will make it possible to print and mail out our newsletter without having to come from the chapters funds.

Space was sold in the newsletter for years, then it all vanished. The news letter is back, so we need advertising revenue to get it back in print and the mail. If you, or someone you know is interested, please call; Tim LeGrand at 423-310-4445 10am to 8pm, please.