THE CLAIM POST

SUMMER 2007

The Claim Post is the official newsletter of the Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association. The purpose of the Claim Post is to provide a forum for our members to discuss current events and exchange information. The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association including all of its members and Directors. The writers accept full ownership of their contributions.

Steep Rock Lake open pit mine, Atikokan, Ontario, gradually filling with water (April 2007); mined from 1944 through 1979; produced 79 Mt of 56.5% Fe from geothite and hematite ore

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Visit NWOPA'S new website: http://nwopa.net/

Claim Post Editor: John Halet/Cyndee Komar (distribution)

NWOPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2007-08

Back Row: Joe Riives, Steve Kissin, Barb D'Silva, Karl Bjorkman, Bob Chataway, Dave Hunt

Front Row: Cyndee Komar, John Halet, Paul Nielsen

2007-08 Committees	*Members*
Communications	**J. Halet (editor)/ C. Komar (distribution)**
Education & Events	**B. D'Silva/K. Bjorkman/B. Chataway/ C. Bever (gold panning)**
Elections	**Garry Clark**
First Nations Issues	**B. D'Silva/J. Halet**
General Meetings	**Dates/chairs to be determined**
Land Use	**J. Halet/K. Bjorkman/J. Riives**
Minister Mining Act Advisory	**Garry Clark**
MNR NW Reg. Advisory	**J. Halet**
Ontario Prospectors Association	**J. Halet/D. Hunt**
Policies & Procedures	**Board**
Website	**Geoff Clark**

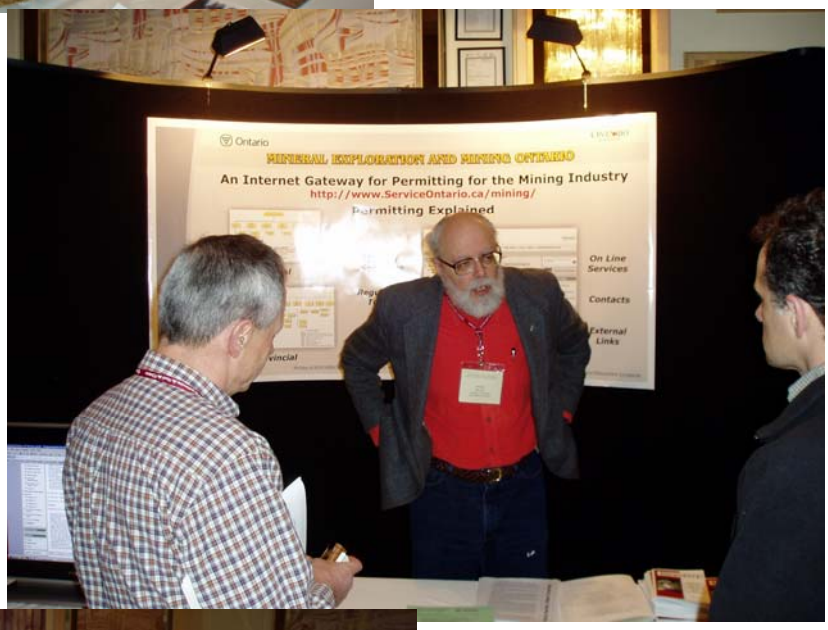
NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MINES AND MINERALS SYMPOSIUM 2007

This year's symposium was a great success. We had record numbers in attendance and there was a good representation from all parts of our industry.

SPIRIT STONE CREATIONS

PREMIER GOLD MINES LTD.

JESSICA BJORKMAN DISCUSSES FAMILY PROPERTIES



MIKE GRANT EXPLAINS THE INTERNET GATEWAY FOR PERMITTING

PETER KATHMANN IS DOING A FINE JOB PROMOTING AND SELLING HIS CORE RACKS

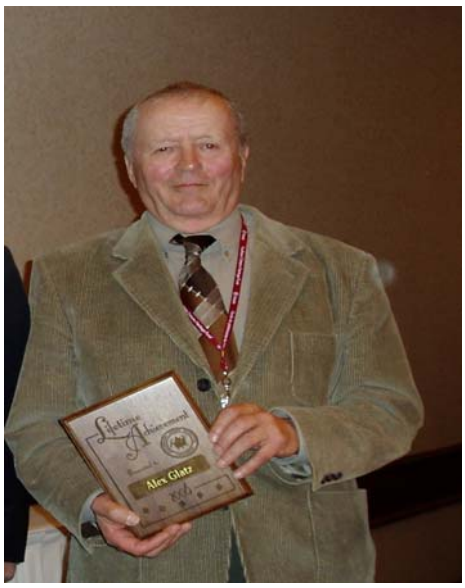
THE AWARDS LUNCHEON ON WEDNESDAY IS ALWAYS A FEATURE

BERNIE SCHNIEDERS DISCOVERY OF THE YEAR AWARD 2006:

RAINY RIVER RESOURCES LTD.
(RAINY RIVER PROJECT)

DEVELOPER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2006:

MARATHON PGM CORPORATION
(MARATHON PROJECT)



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2006:

ALEX GLATZ

JOE HACKL

John E. Hammell

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2006:

JACK HAMMELL

AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Awards Committee has done a great job selecting candidates and organizing the Awards Luncheon. Thank you:

John Mason
Dave Christianson
Mike MacIsaac

CLASSIFICATION OF ROCKS WORKSHOP

NWOPA tries to hold at least two workshops during the N.W. Mines & Minerals Symposium. The first workshop held on Monday night had more than 50 participants. The basics of rock identification and the problems associated with classifying rocks were dealt with. Interpreting coloured geological maps was also taught.

We couldn't have done this without the help of volunteers so many thanks to our presenters:

M.L. HILL **S. KISSIN**
P. FRALICK **M. SMYK**

DANGEROUS GOODS AND PROPANE HANDLING

The exploration sector requested NWOPA to certify their workers in these areas so we hired two instructors and certified 35 people.

2007 Symposium Sponsors

NWOPA would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations:

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SYMPOSIUM:

A. Glatz Prospecting
Bob Chataway
Bob Fairservice
Garden Lake Timber
Historical Prospecting

Minutes of the NWOPA Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, April 3, 2007
Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay

NWOPA By-Laws

A motion was made by Garry Clark and seconded by Joe Hackl that the proposed changes to the NWOPA By-Laws be accepted. The updated by-laws can be viewed on NWOPA's website. The motion was unanimously carried.

Director Emeritus

The membership was informed that the NWOPA Board of Directors was honouring Dan Calvert with the status of Director Emeritus.

Treasurer's Report

Paul Nielsen gave the 2006 Treasurer's Report for the year ending Dec. 31, 2006. A motion was made by Casimir Zimowski and seconded by Dave Hunt that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. The motion was unanimously carried.

President's Report

A report was delivered by J. Halet on the board's activities for the year 2006-2007 (*see next page*).

Adjournment

A motion was made by Joe Hackl that the meeting be adjourned.

Elections

The NWOPA Elections were chaired by Garry Clark. All previous directors were re-elected along with new director Joe Riives who was nominated by Ruth Petrunka and seconded by Joe Hackl. The motion to elect Joe was unanimously carried.

Prospecting can be a very relaxing and enjoyable experience.

President's Report 2007

Events (Barb D'Silva/Bob Chataway/Karl Bjorkman)

1. Christmas Party: Great time had at the Da Vinci Centre, subsidized by sponsors, gifts draws, great meal, dancing--very popular event.
2. Children's Festival: Gold panning project underway by Chris Bever.
3. Fur Trappers Association: NWOPA had a booth at this event.
4. NWOPA Symposium

Director Representations

1. Ontario Exploration & Geoscience Symposium (OEGS), Sudbury: John Halet represented NWOPA at this symposium.
2. Boreal Prospectors Association, Sioux Lookout: Karl Bjorkman represented NWOPA at this symposium.

Sponsorships by NWOPA

The NWOPA Board of Directors approved financial support to these causes:

1. Bernie Schnieders Scholarship Fund (Lakehead University).
2. Northwest Regional Science Fair (Lakehead University).

First Nations Issues (Barb D'Silva/John Halet)

This committee monitors First Nation issues that can and do affect our industry. Prospectors and junior mining companies are concerned that their issues are not being fairly represented during the consultation process. For example, if consultation is too lengthy and costly then prospectors could not afford to explore in F.N. traditional lands and also it is important that staking must precede consultation.

The Minister of MNDM has invited NWOPA to provide input into its discussion paper "Toward Developing an Aboriginal Consultation Approach for Mineral Sector Activities".

Land Use (John Halet)

Prospectors and mining companies are always concerned about access to Crown Land. Public pressure consistently attempts to create new parks. New legislation is being made that will withdraw land from staking in order to protect endangered species.

Forest Management Plans require that road access points be closed and that bridges and culverts be pulled after wood supplies have been harvested.

1. Northwest Regional Advisory Committee.
   NWOPA has a seat on this committee bringing its mining exploration issues to the MNR.
2. NWOPA along with MNDM's Regional Land Use Geologist (Peter Hinz) have been working hard to get a Mineral Representative on every Local Citizens Committee (LCC) in the Northwest.

Ontario Prospectors Association

John Halet and Dave Hunt represent NWOPA on the OPA Board of Directors as co-treasurers. OPA issues are published in the Explorationist available on the OPA website. **Wally Rayner** was elected OPA President at the OPA Board of Directors meeting in Sudbury on June 19, 2007. Wally replaces **Vivienne Cote**. Thank you to Vivienne for all of her hard work and for representing OPA's interests so well.

Web Site (Geoff Clark/Cyndee Komar)

Geoff Clark was engaged by NWOPA to manage its website. A number of Forest Management Plans have been posted on our site so that our members can see if forest harvesting activities will affect their claims.

Claim Post (John Halet/Cyndee Komar)

The Claim Post is NWOPA's newsletter.

Policies and Procedures (John Halet/Paul Nielsen)

NWOPA's by-laws have been revised to meet the current needs of its membership. The updated by-laws can be viewed on our website.

Jack Parker, Sr. Manager

NWOPA GENERAL MEETING
MAY 17, 2007

Jack Parker, Senior Manager, Precambrian Geoscience Section of the Ontario Geological Survey presented geoscience projects to be conducted across the province as part of the OGS's 2007/08 program. Copies of Jack's report can be obtained at the MNDM office on James Street, Thunder Bay. Mr. Parker welcomed members to submit areas of interest that they would like OGS to survey.

Jiro Shirota demonstrated how to use and manipulate OGS data using Google Earth. Prospectors will find this application very useful. It can be used by virtually anyone using the Google Earth viewer.

Children's Festival 2007

Once again NWOPA participated in the annual Children's Festival held in June at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. The children enjoyed three days of glorious weather with a variety of events and activities for them to participate in. However, the gold panning and claim staking activities put on by the prospectors were the favorite as judged by the feedback from the kids and parents.

As the children arrived to pan for gold they were told they had to stake a first stake a claim to ensure ownership of their potential discovery. So off they went to claim post No.1. Here they were given a claim form with a set of clues for each corner post. As they proceeded around the claim, they solved the riddle and went to the Mining Recorder to record their claim and receive a nice tumbled piece of amethyst. Now they were ready to pan and pan they did very successfully. The success rate was over 95% and some big nuggets sure brought out the "ohhhhhhs" and "ahhhhhs". Their parents were hard pressed to tear the prospectors away and many returned later in the day or on Saturday. Over 500 prospectors went away happy with a piece of amethyst, some gold and an understanding of the mining industry. Also, a lot of parents were found intently gazing into the gold pans as the lure of gold captured their interest also.

The event was a big hit because of the volunteers that contributed so much of their time. The Mining Recorder was Dan Calvert--thanks Dan for three days of volunteering. Others who helped with setup, daily activities and tear down were Rod Davidson, Chris Bishop and Bob Chataway. Chris Bever built the panning tables which were the hit of the display--many thanks to Chris. Others who helped were John Halet, Mark O'Brien, Seonaid Gerow (MNDM Student), Barb D'Silva and our three student volunteers--Erica Bishop (2 days), Michelle Bever and Danna Fuller (1 day each). Honourable mention to the veteran prospector Bill--for coming out with Dan one day--and Norma Chataway for the baking goodies.

I would also like to thank the following for contributing to the success of NWOPA prospector's camp: Lac des Iles Mine for supplying the gold nuggets and flecks and Accurassay for a donation toward the purchase of the tumbled amethyst from Norm Keetch who also gave us a great deal and made many kids thrilled at solving the claim quiz.

Thank you,
Bob Chataway, Director, NWOPA

NWOPA GETS SOME GREAT PUBLIC RELATIONS FROM THE CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM IN THUNDER BAY THIS JUNE

BOB CHATAWAY AND CHRIS BEVER SETTING UP AT THE EVENT

DAN CALVERT LOOKING "AT HOME" AS THE MINING RECORDER

CHILDREN AND PARENTS WERE FASCINATED PANNING FOR GOLD

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- DELIVERY: Can be negotiated.
- Phone (807) 468-1920 or Cell (807) 466-8172
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NWOPA T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

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Contact Cyndee at the

MNDM Geology Office

(Tel. 807/475-1414)

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It is often difficult to convince people that there were volcanoes in Thunder Bay's backyard until you show them evidence such as the beautiful pillow lava structures in the outcrop beside Hwy. 11 at the Swamp River, just 50 km from town.