

September Outing To “Broken Step”

There were more than ten of us showed up on Friday to stay for the weekend. After setting up my rig, we set up the wet sluice and got the out water needed to run it. We set up the BBQ grill and got the shade canopies ready for the next day.



Brock had a new camping rig. 40+ ft., with a big deck on the rear. Very nice. There were no incidents on it's “Maiden Voyage”.



Friday night I shared dinner with Ian. He cooked the steaks and I got the beans and salad ready for dinner. Steaks were cooked to perfection. Great dinner (we eat well out there).

The campfire was started and we gathered around for probably the most important social event of everybody's month. We talked about everything from prospecting to

Mark's inability to set his schedule at home (he was told that this weekend he was going to "Lego Land"). Politics fell somewhere in between.

It got quite chilly and the group started to break up about 9 PM. Ian and I stayed out till 10:30. I need to get a beanie cap or a hoodie to protect my ears from the wind when it gets colder out.

The night was very cool, but was survivable. In the morning we did the final set-up of the wet sluice and it was put to use right away. There was gold in every bucket run.

There were about 40 people who showed up for the Pot-Luck lunch. About 18 of us stayed over Saturday nite.

We found a new "Hot Spot" to dig. One thing I noticed was that the gold is in a similar position to what we found on the "20 Acres" when Jim brought out his digger. It is under the overburden. You need to clear about 18 inches of this overburden to get to the pay dirt. If you were there with us you know the secret (I'm not telling it here).

We were privileged to have two reporters from the "Sun" newspaper join us for the day. Brian and Leila were there to do the ground work for an article on modern gold prospecting. They interviewed and took photos of almost everyone. We demonstrated the different processes we use. We explained the differences, similarities, and technical advances from the 1849 gold rush.

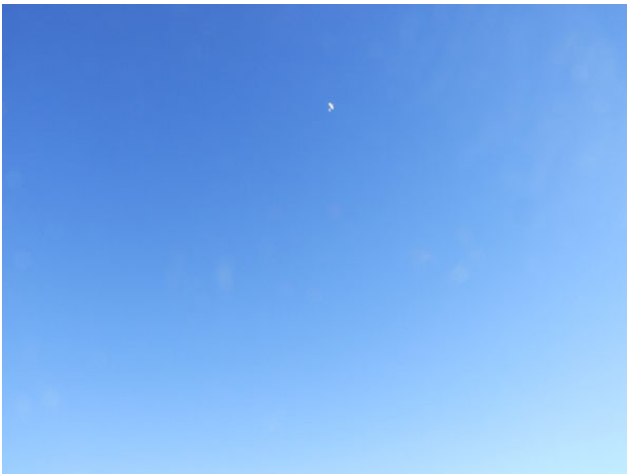
Pot-Luck lunch was good (I think we were a little short on the "pot" and long on "luck". As always there were a few who did not contribute to the food, preparation, or clean-up.). Thank you to all who did help out.

After lunch Ian set up a detector contest. First prize was a nugget. There were other prizes for different targets.

After the detector hunt, I took Brian out to dig some dirt of his own. He then ran it thru the wet sluice, and panned it out himself. We found him a good spot to dig because he took home some good GOLD!!! Even Leila took home a small gold nugget.

Ian brought out his "DRONE" and buzzed the camp a few times. I don't think his camera or listening devices were on so we got lucky this time. If you start seeing government agents following you around, blame his "DRONE".

Look close at the pictures to see it.



At the Saturday night campfire it was decided that we need to ask Mark's wife if he can come out to play with us. But we need to ask early before she makes plans for him.



Sunday morning came early - 6:30 AM. Most of us were up and around getting things ready for the day and the "Brunch" set for 10 AM. Socializing is a big part of our outings, so we sat around enjoying the interaction. Cooking started at 9:30. Ian and his crew (both guys and ladies) took charge of the bacon, sausage, and pancakes,

while Merc and I did the eggs. Everyone had their fill and we had some help doing the clean-up.

I was packed up and on the road by 2:30. I want to thank those who helped me get everything cleaned and loaded into my camper. It is a big job to do it myself. Without the help, I may not have been able to head home till 5PM. Thank you again!!!



We had a great first outing of the season. I expect the next one to be just as good or even better. Every month until May.

“IT DON’T GET NO BETTER THAN THIS!!!”

If you were not there:

YOU MISSED OUT BIG TIME!!!

George.....