

April Fool's Gold Rally

Nevada County

Fairgrounds RV Park

March 29 - April 2, 2023



Welcome to the Grass Valley April Fool's Gold Rally. Grass Valley is a famous mining district in western Nevada county. It was the richest and most famous gold-mining district in California. The value of the total output of the lode mines is estimated to have been at least \$300 million, and the placer mines yielded a few million dollars more worth of gold. FYI, "placer mining" is the process that is used to find the gold that has been eroded from the lode. Very generally speaking, placer mining involves sifting through gravel to separate the pieces of gold. Placer mining can be done by a single prospector with a gold pan. The process of lode, or hard rock, mining, on the other hand, is the process by which gold is extracted directly from the lode beneath the ground. Lode mining requires the labor of many miners working together to extract the gold from tunnels or massive open pits in the ground. The two largest operations, the Empire-Star and Idaho-Maryland groups, had total outputs of \$130 million and \$70 million respectively. Many famous mining engineers and geologists worked in the Grass Valley district. A number of important inventions and improvements were made in mining and milling equipment in the Grass Valley gold mines. A few historic mine structures are still standing, but most of the extensive surface plants of the major mines have been dismantled. However, the North Star mine and its 32-foot Pelton wheel are part of a Nevada County historical display at the North Star Mining Museum.



Wednesday we will start off with our usual social hour followed by a pot luck dinner. Please sign up for your contribution to the dinner below. You will have the option of signing up for dessert which will be an assortment of Ikedas pies, at \$5 per person.

Thursday through Saturday will be free for us to explore the Grass Valley area. The Empire Mine Historic State Park may be worthy of a visit. As stated above, the Empire Mine was one of the west's most lucrative gold mines and is "one of the oldest, largest, deepest, longest and richest gold

mines in California." It has since been preserved as a wonderful state park. Between 1850 and its closure in 1956, the Empire Mine produced 5.8 million ounces (165 tons) of gold extracted from 367 miles of underground passages. Also in Grass Valley is the North Star Power House Mining Museum listed as "One of the gems of Nevada County." The museum exists not only to preserve and protect the area's mining heritage but also educates and informs people about the mining process, and about the impact the industry had upon the humanity of the people who built the mines and toiled there during their operation.



Non-mining places of interest include the Root 49 and Lucchesi winery/tasting rooms and in Nevada City, Dedrick's Cheese market who will host our tasting on Thursday. More local places of interest will be included with your welcome info when you arrive.

Thursday will feature a cheese tasting from cheese monger Dedrick's Cheese. Dedrick's is a local gourmet food store located in Nevada City. Charge for the tasting is \$20 pp. Starts at 3 p.m. After the tasting and social hour, we will be on our own for dinner.



On Friday we will honor our Grass Valley location with a demonstration on how to successfully pan for gold. Local panning expert Heather Willis will lead us back in time to experience the adventures of the gold rush. Not to be missed even if you are not planning on pivoting to a new income stream. Once again we are on our own for dinner.

Dinner on Saturday will be a Taco Bar following our social hour. The cost will be \$20. Hope you can make it!

Your Hosts: Marget and Dave Williams, Gail and Dan Crutchfield, with apprentices Debbie Ames and Doug Fritz

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Nevada County Fairgrounds RV Park
11228 McCourtney Rd Grass Valley, CA 95949
March 29 - April 2, 2023
Coupon Deadline February 28, 2023

Name: _____ Cell Phone _____

Email: _____ BRN# _____

Arrival Day _____ Departure Day _____ RV length _____

Site Fee _____ nights @ \$42 per night Parking Fee \$ _____

Rally Fee _____ persons @ \$7.50 pp Rally Fee \$ _____

Wed. Potluck: No Charge

Bringing (check one) Entree _____, Side dish _____, Salad _____
Dessert; _____ person @ \$5 pp (Ikeda Pie!) Pie \$ _____

Thursday Dedricks Cheese Tasting _____ person @ \$20 pp (3 pm) \$ _____

Saturday Taco Bar Dinner _____ person @ \$20 pp \$ _____

TOTAL RALLY COST \$ _____

INSTRUCTIONS

- Either directly register online using the jotform link: <https://form.jotform.com/230198385722158> or follow the 'Register for the Rally' link on the webpage, or send this form and payment to the registrar at norcalregistrar3854@gmail.com. **It is preferred you register online**, which makes it easier for the Registrar and Treasurer to keep track of rally registrations.
- **You can now choose to pay your rally fee online via Zelle or by sending a check directly to the Registrar.**
- If you pay by check, **make your checks payable to WBCCI/NorCal** and mail to NorCal Registrar Lori Bibby, 3029 Black Hawk Ln., Lincoln, CA 95648-7716.
- If you want to pay via Zelle but do not know how, check out: <https://www.zellepay.com/>
- **Refund Policy:** Cancellations and/or changes to registration must be received no later than Wednesday of the week prior to the rally, in other words, a week before the start of the rally. Refunds will be available depending on funds recovered in all categories. Parking fees are refunded according to RV park cancellation policy. Meals, tours, rally fees, etc., are refunded if money has not been spent by the hosts.
- **Please contact the Rally Registrar if you have ANY changes to your registration**, or wish to register after the deadline. **973-270-4132.**
- **Under no circumstances are members to contact the RV Park with changes or cancellations.**
- NorCal abides by the federal, state and local COVID19 mandates to keep not only its members safe but also the employees of the RV Parks and the communities we visit safe, which in turn allows us to continue to rally during the pandemic. If you are unable or unwilling to do so, please do not sign up for this rally. If you are ill or not feeling well, please stay home and get better. Thank you for your courtesy in this regard.
- Please inform the Registrar if you need a handicap accommodation, or if this is your first NorCal rally.
- Your registration is incomplete and not confirmed until we receive BOTH your registration and payment. Do not wait until the last minute to pay or you may not have a site regardless of when you initially apply.