

The Gold Nugget

Vol. 8, No. 10

October 2003

Gates Corporate Event

By Ken Barker



On August 16th, 2003, at around 1:00 p.m., **Jeff & Donna Mosteller, Dan & Debbie Lefor, and Chuck & Sharon Cown** met at the home of yours truly, **Ken & Jackie Barker**, for a grand adventure. We loaded up our vehicles and headed for Vail and the Piney River Ranch. The reason for this had all begun about a week after the club's article on Gold Panning appeared in the Rocky Mountain News. I was receiving a lot of telephone calls from folks who were interested in the club as well as the panning demonstrations and one of the calls was from the Gates Rubber Company. Every year Gates holds a week-long corporate meeting of their top-level executives. This year it was to be held in Denver. One day out of the meeting week was to be put aside to play golf.

The CEO for Gates had seen the newspaper article and wanted to have an outing where at least part of it involved gold panning. The company assigned the task to a project lead who gathered a group of people to set up the event. The task force decided that it would be held at Piney River Ranch, about eleven miles north of Vail. I drove to the ranch and met with the contacts from Gates

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Where to Find Gold

By Ken Oyler, Metal Detecting Coordinator

There are two phrases for which the "Old Timers" were known. One is that "Gold is where you find it." The second is "To find gold, always go where gold has been found before." These sayings still hold true today, but the first one had to do with how little they knew about gold in the beginning. Even though we know much more now than they did then, we still have much to learn.

For beginners and hobbyists, going where gold has been found before is the best advice. Certainly they didn't find it all, so it stands to reason they left some behind (and oh boy, did they!). We should use the experience and knowledge of all who went before us. Virtually every gold-bearing area of any size has already been

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The Prez Sez

By Gary Hawley, GPR President

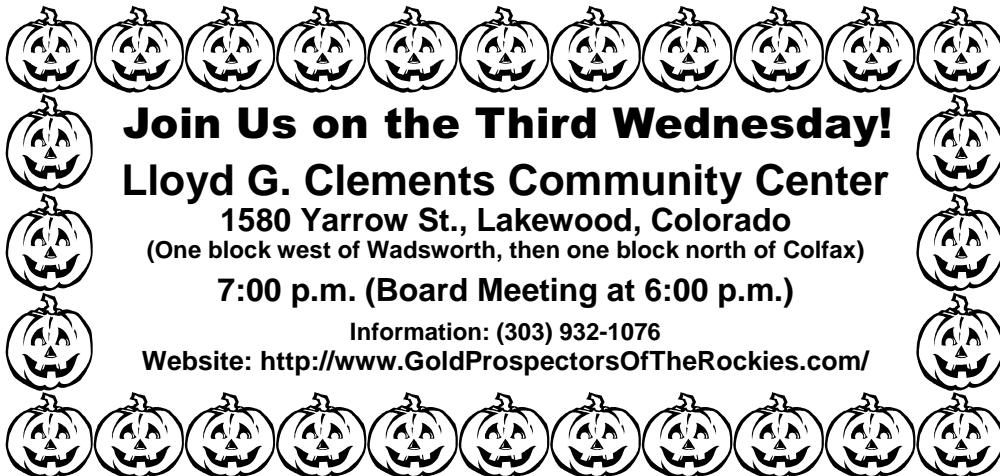
Greetings to all "Gold Prospectors of the Rockies" members, past members, and prospective members!



Fall is upon us and we have already had snow at the 8,000 foot level. There are still many good gold prospecting days ahead for this year and I hope you get a chance to take advantage of the warm weather while it is here.

Many members have been busy with gold panning demos, the Denver Gem & Mineral Show, and our latest endeavor: a coin hunt. **Shawn & Pinie Conell and Joe Johnston,**

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Join Us on the Third Wednesday!

Lloyd G. Clements Community Center

1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood, Colorado

(One block west of Wadsworth, then one block north of Colfax)

7:00 p.m. (Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.)

Information: (303) 932-1076

Website: <http://www.GoldProspectorsOfTheRockies.com/>

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and the Breckenridge Outdoor Experimental Education group. We discussed a team-building challenge about orienteering based around mining and history.

Orienteering is the process of using a compass and maps to approximate distance and time to get to remote locations. Each location was given a designation of some mine or a historic name such as the Cresson Mine, Alferd Packer, or the Ice Palace. The object for the teams would be to find their way around the ranch to get to these locations and to collect points at each. The teams had to make decisions based upon time and distance. Some of the locations were far away with a large number of points and some were close in with fewer points. The team with the largest number of points collected would be the winner.

The "Cresson Mine" was the location for the gold panning. **Shawn Conell** had made up six sets of numbered and gold-painted "nuggets" that were put in each panning tub. The challenge at the panning location was to pan for the gold nuggets for points and for the gold in the tubs.

Each team had been given a designated time when they were to be at the "Cresson Mine." If early or late, the team only received basic points. If the team was on time, its points were doubled. Each team member would be given a panning lesson and then would begin panning.

As each team member finished panning, his points would be subtotaled. Then the entire team's points would be totaled. Each team member also would randomly select a gold vial that already contained a 1-gram gold nugget to which any gold that had been panned would be added. Each team member then would be given his gold vial to take with him and the team scribe would be given a card with the total points collected at the Cresson Mine.

With that as the background, the fun began. Jeff provided radios so we could keep in touch.

We headed out, drove I-70 pulled up as Chuck's car decided to stop in out. We let the radiator cool started out again. As we again at a service station as running real hot. We found sticking and left the car in Chuck & Sharon ride with everyone went on to the



to the tunnel where we was overheating. We Silverthorne and check it down, added water, and reached Vail, we stopped Chuck's car was still that the thermostat was Vail to be fixed. We had Dan & Debbie and hotel and checked in.

We figured that the guys would take the ride to the ranch and set up for the next morning while the ladies would go to look around town and maybe do some shopping. We agreed to meet back at the hotel at 6:30 p.m.

I had told the guys that the trip to the ranch was a thirty-minute drive on a dirt road. I had made the trip a month earlier and the road was not too bad. Well, that was before about ten inches of snow and several rainstorms in the area. It was still thirty minutes each way but the road was really rough in spots and, in one area, someone had tried to plow it but didn't do a very good job.

We finally reached the ranch, set up, and returned to town. Of course, we were late by about twenty minutes. The ladies had about the same luck, this being the off-season, and most of the stores were closed, so they just went back to the hotel. They did pick out a restaurant for dinner and obtained directions. Around 7:30 p.m., we had a great dinner at the Outback restaurant--a great finish to a long day.

The next morning we were up early, as we had to be at the ranch by 8:00 a.m. As you might have guessed, the ladies weren't impressed with the ride up to the ranch. They loved the views but that road was not appreciated at all.

Once at the ranch, we went to the panning location and started putting water in the tubs right out of the river. These folks were going to experience the real world of panning in creek water! After we finished setting up, I located our contact people and let them know we were ready. They wanted to know if we need anything and I said coffee would be greatly appreciated. In about ten minutes we had our cups of coffee. **Gary Hawley** arrived about that time and was pretty beat up, as his back really took a pounding from that road.

At 9:20 a.m., we had our first team arrive and the event began. All of the Gates folks had a great time talking about the gold and panning. They were very interested in what we did as a club. These people were all corporate executives from all over the United States and from as far away as Asia and Europe. Then teams began to arrive at about twenty-minute intervals until noon, when the last team arrived.

After we had finished, we cleaned up our area, packed up the vehicles, and went over to the lodge area to watch the remainder of their program. About 1:00 p.m. we were treated to lunch, after which we thanked our hosts, started back to Vail to get Chuck's car, then headed home. We all arrived back in time to turn around and head for the club meeting.

This was a very good experience in running a corporate event for the club's first time. We

(Continued from Prez Sez, page 1)

organized a coin hunt in Clear Creek Canyon and arranged for several prizes for the skilled (lucky?) detectorists. Participants had a great time searching for coins and even found a few coins that had not been buried for the hunt. Check elsewhere in the Nugget for more information about this fun outing. (I heard that not all of the buried coins have been found. Hint, hint!) Thanks Shawn, Pinie, and Joe for the effort you put into this event.

It will soon be time for our annual election of Board Members. **Joe Shubert** is Chairperson of the Nominating Committee and will be seeking candidates for the various offices. Contact Joe if you would like to be a Board Member or would like to nominate someone for a position.

There has been another adjustment in our volunteer lineup. **Kathy Hawley** will become Club Treasurer and **Donna Mosteller** will be in charge of the Refreshment Committee. Thank you both for taking over these important positions.

My thanks to **Carol Oakes** for running the Library-History-Video table at the September meeting.

This club has come a long way this year and will continue to be the most active club along the front range as long as the members take an active part and keep the momentum moving forward. I appreciate all the hard work and positive attitude presented at each meeting, outing, and event that we have. Let's keep it up and keep it going!

The next General Membership meeting is October 15, 2003, at 7:00 p.m.

Until next time: May the gold in your pan be worth the effort you put into finding it.

There were several ways to steal a miner's gold dust. The weighers in the gambling halls and saloons lived off the tiny bits of gold dust they could make stick to fingers wet with beer and wiping the hands in leather pant pockets, or wearing long finger nails. One ingenious weigher groomed his hair by combing syrup into it. He'd run his hands through his hair after each weighing and washed out the gold dust frequently.

~Al Look

can now add this type of event to our club résumé. My thanks to all the folks who helped out on this event and made it work and, of course, a very special thank you to my wife, Jackie. She said that she had a great outing, really enjoyed the time spent with the group, and wanted to say thanks to all of you for letting her join in.

We Get Letters



We went out with the detector yesterday and found some junk. Found a penny and a wedding ring, too. No engraving on the ring, so I guess unless we hear from someone who lost one we can keep it.

The ring is almost white. White gold? Platinum? Aluminum? As I think of how short many marriages are today, aluminum would

be appropriate. No point in binding a short term union with an eternal metal. Seems engagement rings have lost significance too. Lots of young people today consider an engagement ring to be a learner's permit.

Seems the woolly worm forecast for winter is, as usual, somewhat confusing. Some say they see light-colored woollies indicating a mild season. An equal number see dark worms indicating a cold winter. What I have seen have been light and dark. The light ones began crossing roads about a month ago and were very light. In the past week, dark ones are emerging from the fields. To me the light color showing up first and the dark later means but one thing--from October to December 26 (early winter) we will have a mild season and from December 27 to March (deep into winter) it will be colder. Don't think I can go wrong with that prediction.

Anyhow, what do worms know? That's all silly superstition and old wives tales. I will be getting an accurate prediction in a few weeks when persimmons mature. The persimmon seed forecast is never wrong. How do you forecast winter weather using a persimmon? Cut open a persimmon seed and look at the shape of the kernel inside. If the kernel is spoon-shaped, lots of heavy, wet snow will fall. If it is fork-shaped, you can expect powdery, light snow and a mild winter. If the kernel is knife-shaped, icy, cutting winds will occur for the next few months. Oddly enough all seeds will show the identical thing. If ever I see a complete setting of flatware in a seed I am moving south.

Speaking of woolly worms (which are nothing but plain worms with upholstery), I did see something that intrigues me. First, I do not know how the woollies travel in the fields but when crossing roads they travel straight across. No wandering zigzag, up or down the road, or even angled. They go straight across. The light colored caterpillars I saw crossed north-south roads in an east or west direction. Those in the east fields moving west, those in the west fields crossed the road going east. The black ones crossed east-west roads in a north or south direction. (Grass greener on the other side syndrome?) I don't understand it. I never stopped in an intersection, however, to see if banded woolly worms traveled by jay walking (crawling) in diagonal directions.

If you should know of anyone with political connections, you can do me a favor. Let them know I would be open to accepting a sizable grant to study woolly worm road crossing behavior. Hey, it makes as much sense as many government grants given out!

From lifetime member **Don Ditzler**, Savoy, Illinois.

Thanks a jillion, Don! ~ed

VP's Corner

By Ken Barker, GPR Vice President

Hi Gang, Just thought I would change this month and give you something to laugh about. All of the following are taken from the *Kiwanis Kapers* newsletter.

HEADINGS

- Something went wrong in jet crash, experts say.
- Police begin campaign to run down jaywalkers.
- Iraqi head seeks arms.
- Teacher strikes idle kids.
- Miners refuse to work after death.
- Juvenile court to try shooting defendant.
- War dims hope for peace.
- Enfield couple slain, police suspect homicide.
- Red tape holds up new bridges.
- Typhoon rips through cemetery, hundreds dead.
- Man struck by lighting faces battery charges.
- New study of obesity looks for larger test group.
- Astronaut takes blame for gas in spacecraft.



HOMILIES

- Never slap a man who is chewing tobacco.
- Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.
- Always drink upstream from the herd.

HYPOTHESES

- There are two theories to arguing with a woman . . . neither works.
- Gamblers: The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket.

Happy Halloween!

Ken Barker

Gold to Reach \$500 in 2004?

Gold prices rose Monday, September 22, 2003, to a seven-year high of \$388 per troy ounce. In an article the next day in the *Denver Post* by Steve Raabe, a Victoria, British Columbia, gold analyst, Martin Murenbeeld speculated that gold futures could be headed as high as \$500 within the next year. Murenbeeld said that an expected weaker dollar is positive for the price of gold.

All gold in the natural state is an alloy of gold and silver plus minute traces of other elements. Average fineness of gold in a deposit seldom varies more than 10 points in a stream channel.

~SME Mining Engineering Handbook

(Continued from *Where to Find Gold*, page 1)

located, mapped, and worked. Frankly, very few 'virgin' areas yet remain to be found. Some might ask, "But aren't all those well known areas 'worked out'?" The answer, plain and simple is, no area was worked out to where there is no gold left. An area that is considered 'worked out' means only that the vast majority of the easy stuff on the surface has been found. A good rain or 'gully washer' could expose more for us nugget shooters and there are 'hunting techniques' to recover nuggets from the so-called 'worked out' areas. We will go over many of these techniques next time. Stay tuned.

GPR Events Calendar

Month	Date(s)	Time(s)	Activity	Information	Coordinator(s)
Oct	12		Panning Demo	Pumpkin Festival, Four Mile Historical Park, Denver	Mary Jane Duran, Ken Barker
	17-19	11-4	Panning Demo	Visitors Center, Central City	Ken Barker
	25		Tour	Phoenix Mine, Idaho Springs	Pinie Conell
Nov	22		Tour	Western Mining Museum, Colorado Springs	Pinie Conell
Dec	13		Tour	Colorado History Museum, Denver	Pinie Conell
	17		Program	GPR Annual Christmas Pot-Luck Dinner	Gary Hawley

All GPR meeting programs and trip activities are subject to change. Non-club-related prospecting events are included for your information. Members attending any trip activities will be asked to **be sure to sign up or contact the event coordinator prior to the activity to allow planning for an estimated number of people** and to contact attendees in the event of any changes, cancellations, or rescheduling.

Who's Who in the GPR? Larry & Shirley Weilnau

Larry and I began our dance with precious metals before we were married. We camped near the Dolly Varden Ranch in the shadow of Mt. Bross, photographed those lonely Bristle Cone Pines, and drove the roads in the area over 30 years ago. Yes, we are old married people who will celebrate 33 wonderful years together in November. On our journey we produced two sons, Steve, who is now 29, and Matt, who is now 21. Steve has two sons, Devin and Powers, who are 10 and 7, and who occasionally accompany us on our summer mountain romps.

We are often asked how we got started with our passion. Well, we drove a Jeep back then and belonged to a 4-wheeling club. Those old roads usually went by mines. When lunch came around, there always seemed to be a mine handy, and rockhounding became a given. One thing led to another and before we knew it we were in the water with our pans and shovels trying to figure out what those books were talking about. We even tried our luck on the American River in California one year after visiting relatives in San Francisco.

As our children grew, we could indulge with more ease. A move to Brush, Colorado, made it harder to go as often because of the distance, so we joined the Gold Prospectors Association of America (GPAA) to get information and keep in touch. We were in the mountains enough to find the Colorado Springs club, the Gold Prospectors of Colorado (GPOC), in Fairplay one year in the late 1980s. Shortly after joining we began learning how to gold pan competitively, and after a few years began to win the state championships. Even our youngest, Matt, won the Juniors' Division several years in a row and ran the Rock Board. In 1997, we went to Coloma, California, to compete in the National Championships and Larry won that year, coming in as an unknown. Shocked everyone in California! We, of course, knew it had been highly probable that he would take all the marbles. Coloma was hosting the World Panning Competition the next year, so, of course, we had to go back in 1998 as the National Champion. We sent a five-person team and Larry finished about 42nd in the World competition out of about 200 entrants. I myself learned a great deal from those competitions and returned to be the first woman to take the Colorado State Championship in 2000 and 2001. It involves three types of panning and men and women compete against each other.

Over the years we have both won more than our fair share of titles in men's, women's, state, and team competitions. We both competed

in the GPAA panning competitions here in Denver in 2002 and in Albuquerque, New Mexico, this past spring with my beating Larry both times with a first and a second. We also had been involved with Chaffee County Prospectors, which was dissolved about 3 years ago, and have been included in one video that was for sale on panning and sluicing basics and another that was begun for educational distribution, but has not been finished. In 2002, we taught a group of students from the Colorado School of Mines gold panning for one of the competitions at the mining championships held each year at the college level. We also run a Proline dredge and a highbanker dredge combo, as well as metal detectors. Larry usually builds his equipment and revises it periodically. He is currently experimenting with a dry washer. We have found enough flour gold to cast one ring, which Larry has, that includes nuggets we have found all over the state, along with a Colorado diamond. We will be casting the next one for me, which will include more dust, nuggets, a diamond, and an aquamarine Larry found this last summer on Mt. White. We also have found many different types of semi-precious gems in the past few years, which helps fill the time when we can't be in the water. We also greatly enjoy teaching panning to thousands of people every year at 8 to 10 fairs during the summer and fall months. But no matter what we are up to we always come back to the river in search of the yellow stuff.



LARRY & SHIRLEY WEILNAU

Three years ago, we moved back to the Denver area and shortly after that joined the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies (GPR). We knew of this club because of our long affiliation with the GPOC in Colorado Springs, from which many of the original GPR members came. It has been a joy to add members of the GPR to our group of friends. This past summer, our grandsons accompanied us to Breckenridge where the oldest, Devin, won the younger Juniors' Competition. Both of the boys ran the Rock Board and we all spent the rest of the week 4-wheeling, rockhounding, and fishing.

And so the legacy goes on. See you on the river!

Shirley

By the way, the "Rock Board" is a game of chance. The game board is divided into spaces numbered 2 through 12 (plus a blank space) and various mineral specimens are placed on the numbers. Each contestant pays twenty-five cents to play the game, calls out a number, and rolls a pair of dice. If the number called comes up, he wins the specimen of his choice. If it doesn't, he wins the specimen on the numbered space that matches the number showing on the dice. The specimen won is replaced by another specimen and the game is played again. A winner every time!

GPR Contact List for October 2003

Officers and Board	Name	Phone	E-mail
President	Gary Hawley		
Vice President	Ken Barker		
Treasurer	Kathy Hawley		
2-Year Board Member	Pinie Conell		
2-Year Board Member	Wayne Hale		
2-Year Board Member	Ken Oyler		
Board Member	Sue Clover		
Board Member	Shawn Conell		
Board Member	Allen Mershon		
Board Member	Jeff Mosteller		
Board Member	Carl Sauerland		
Board Member	Joe Shubert		
Appointed Officers	Name	Phone	E-mail
Recorder, General Meeting	Dick Oakes		
Recorder, Board Meeting	Gary Hawley		
Standing Committees	Name	Phone	E-mail
Advertising	Dick Oakes		
Bylaws	Rick Miska		
Demonstrations	Ken Barker		
Drawings	Kathy Hawley		
Find of the Month/Year	Rick Miska		
Library/History/Video	Dick Oakes		
Membership	Dick Oakes		
Metal Detecting	Ken Oyler Joe Shubert		
Newsletter	Dick Oakes		
Nominating	Joe Shubert		
Outings	Wayne Hale Allen Mershon		
Prospecting	Ken Barker		
Refreshments	Donna Mosteller		
Speakers	Sue Clover Jeff Mosteller		
Store	Jerry Jensen		
Vendors	Randy Solomon		
Web Site	Dick Oakes		
Special Committees	Name	Phone	E-mail
Dowsing	Hank Innerfeld		
Publicity	Dick Oakes		
Q&A	Nora Dorn		
Standard Operating Procedures	Dick Oakes		

Notes from GPR Meetings of September, 2003

Board Meeting

by Gary Hawley, President

Roll Call

In Attendance: Gary Hawley, Ken Barker, Shawn Conell, Pinie Conell, Carl Sauerland, Wayne Hale, Jeff Mosteller, Allen Mershon.

Quorum Present?

Yes.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:26 p.m. by Gary Hawley.

Reading and Approval of Minutes

Read by Gary Hawley and approved as read.

Treasurer's report

Accepted as read and available at tonight's general meeting.

Correspondence

Membership renewals, new member applications, and newsletter from Rocky Mountain Prospectors and Treasure Hunters.

Committee Reports

Eight committee reports submitted by Dick Oakes, Coordinator.

Unfinished Business

Jefferson County Open Space: Gary Hawley. Ongoing.

Adams County/Clear Creek: Sue Clover. Ongoing.

Club Trommel: Allen Mershon. Ongoing. Brothers Dale and Gale Herbertson have shown an interest in the trommel.

Club Logo: Gary Hawley. Ongoing.

Gold Nugget Supplier: Gary Hawley, Ken Oyler was selected as our gold nugget supplier through the end of the year

Liability Insurance: Gary Hawley/Sue Clover. Ongoing. Dan & Debbie Lefor also are obtaining information.

New Business

Nominations and Elections: Joe Shubert was appointed chairman with the Board's approval.

T-Shirts for Dan Daru and Staff: Jeff Mosteller suggested presenting them in appreciation for the excellent television presentation that was done highlighting the GPR. Jeff will obtain pricing and present findings at the next Board meeting.

Planned Outings

Refer to the Events Calendar posted in *The Gold Nugget*.

Announcements

Next board meeting: October 15, 2003, at 6:00 p.m.

Tonight's general meeting program: Rick Miska will present a slide show of unique mining photos and share web site information where mining photos can be found.

Adjournment

Meeting stands adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

General Meeting

By Dick Oakes, General Meeting Recorder

President Gary Hawley opened the club's general meeting by having Cub Scout Mitchell McConnell lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Ken Barker talked about the Gates Corporate Event (see our lead story on page 1). Several of our "clients" this year are interested in panning demos next year as are several others. Ken again thanked all who have helped and said that he and Gary Hawley are planning a BBQ in Gary's back yard for those who helped this year.

We tried to have two outings a month during 2002. The same kind of schedule is already being planned for 2003 to include funshops for beginners as well as advanced prospectors in panning, highbanking, sluicing, dredging, metal detecting, and more.

Shawn Conell talked about the Early American Hunt and Gold Panning Outing to be held the following Saturday. Tokens will be planted which are to be turned in for gift certificates and early American coins. Cleanup will be at 6:30 a.m., Detecting Clinic will be at 9:00 a.m., and the Metal Detecting Hunt will start at 10:00 a.m. *sharp!* He said to bring your lunch, metal detector, and prospecting equipment (we will have access to Clear Creek for prospecting).

Guest Jim Larsen of the Pactolus Fishing Club is hoping to get folks to give panning lessons to Cub Scouts. He is building a fish habitat on his property and is looking for investors.

Past President Rick Miska gave a very nice PowerPoint slide presentation of Colorado mining photographs he obtained from the Denver Public Library's Western History/Geneology Department's photography collection. Rick would like to have your personal prospecting photos so he can do a more personalized presentation. The DPL website address is: <http://photoswest.org/>.

Food for Thought

By Kathy Hawley, Refreshments Coordinator

Thank you Bill Carr and Nora Dorn for the great refreshment table at the September meeting. The pizza was a big hit and he who hesitated missed out.

Our refreshment volunteer for the October meeting is Maria Stone.

If anyone else would like to contribute to the table please call me so we don't duplicate goodies. Remember, your donations to the cause help keep the refreshment table going.

As you may already know, Donna Mosteller will be taking over as Refreshments Coordinator and I will become Club Treasurer. I hope you will all help Donna as much as you have helped me. I have enjoyed working on refreshments and will be available to help Donna get started.

Thanks to all of you who have made the refreshments table a success this year. Look for me at the other side of the meeting room at the October meeting.

Kathy



Stargne

Aoccdmrig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it doesn't mtttaer in waht oredr the lttters in a wrod are, the olny iprmoentn thng is taht the frist and lsat ltter be at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a total mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe.

Drawing Winners

By Kathy Hawley, Drawings Coordinator

Nugget Drawings

0.5 gram nugget	Fritz Meyer
0.5 gram nugget	Ken Oylar
0.6 gram nugget	Mary Lorenz
0.6 gram nugget	Lila McConnell
0.6 gram nugget	Fritz Meyer
0.6 gram nugget	Donna Mosteller
0.7 gram nugget	Fritz Meyer
0.7 gram nugget	Nancy Narrin
0.8 gram nugget	Chuck Harris
0.8 gram nugget	Gale Herbertson
0.8 gram nugget	Adam Lanham
1.6 gram nugget	Chuck Cown

Door Prize Drawings

0.6 gram nugget	Pat Kime
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(Donated by **Randy Solomon**)

The Q&A

By Nora Dorn, Q&A Coordinator

The **Question for September** was:

Q: "What was the *de facto* mining district law?"

A: The common person or not participated equally in staking a claim. "They only needed to arrive early enough to stake a claim in their own names under the grassroots democracy of *de facto* mining district law. They kept every grain of gold they washed from their claims, paid no percentage to a distant king, nor any taxes even to their own government." *Colorado Gold: From the Pike's Peak Rush to the Present*. Stephen M. Voynick, Mountain Press Publishing Company, 1992, pp 42.

Seems as if this one was a bit harder. There were no correct answers this month (shucks, there weren't any answers submitted, period!).

The **Question for October** is:

Q: "Where did the colorful and enduring expressions like 'stake a claim', 'see how it pans out', and 'strike it rich' originate?"

Members who submit the correct answer at the November meeting will receive a red ticket for the nugget drawings.

Find of the Month/Year

By Rick Miska, Finds Coordinator

September's winner was Terry Weatherly. He found a gold ring with two diamonds in it.

Starting in October, the Find of the Month/Year program is going to be simplified. There will be no special categories, just a single winner-take-all category. The winner will get three red drawing tickets.

Also, please keep in mind that this is a contest for what you have found, not for what you have bought. If you bought something that you want to show, we can set up a show-and-tell table for you.

Welcome New Members and Guests

By Dick Oakes, Membership Coordinator

Our general meeting in September saw two more families sign up for membership. **Jon & Rose Ann Knight** and their son **Jon Knight Jr.** were signed up by Rose Ann. **Paul Nagy** was also there to turn in his membership application. **Andrew Glendenning** sent in an application for membership, naming other family members **Ed Glendenning, Linda Glendenning, and Mark Glendenning** (his father, mother, and brother respectively).

September guests were **Tom Bates, Robert Innerfeld, Adam Lanham, Jim Larsen, Nancy Narrin, and Larry Wambsganss**. Both Adam and Nancy won nuggets in the drawings. Robert told me he had a great time when his brother, **Hank Innerfeld**, a very active GPR member and our Dowsing Coordinator, took him panning.



Early American Treasure Hunt

By Shawn Conell

Everyone had a good time at our Early American Hunt and Gold Panning Outing on Saturday, September 20th. In attendance were **Ken Barker, Shawn & Pinie Conell, Don Dixon, Wayne Hale, Gary Hawley, Dale Herbertson, Gale Herbertson, Joe Johnston, Dan & Debbie Lefor, and Paul Nagy**. Winners of the King Soopers gift certificates: 1st place (for \$50.00) was **Debbie Lefor** and 2nd place (for \$25.00) was **Wayne Hale**.

Dick and Carol Oakes arrived too late for the festivities, but taught some first-time prospectors down on Clear Creek some gold panning techniques and how to tell gold from shiny rocks. Dick also gave them literature about the GPR and Gold-N-Detectors.

Attitude

- Challenges come so we can grow and be prepared for things we are not equipped to handle now. When we face our challenges with faith, prepared to learn, willing to make changes, and if necessary, to let go, we are demanding our power be turned on. ~Iyanla Vanzant
- My days of whining and complaining about others have come to an end. Nothing is easier than fault finding. All it will do is discolor my personality so that none will want to associate with me. That was my old life. No more. ~Og Mandino
- If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain. ~Maya Angelou
- The difference between a good day and a bad day on most days is your attitude! ~Dennis Gaskill
- The only disability in life is a bad attitude. ~Scott Hamilton
- Okay, okay, I get the picture, consarnit! ~Dick Oakes

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The Gold Nugget

This copyrighted newsletter is the official publication of the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies (GPR), PO Box 621988, Littleton, Colorado 80162-1988, a non-profit organization of professionally minded prospectors dedicated to gold prospecting.

Membership in the GPR is \$30 the first year and \$25 each subsequent year for an individual or family and includes a one-year subscription to *The Gold Nugget*, one name tag, and a membership card for each family member.

We meet at the Lloyd G. Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood, Colorado, on the third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. sharp to educate members about gold prospecting and gold prospecting rules, review old and new products, coordinate outings, participate in drawings for door prizes and nuggets, socialize with like-minded friendly folks, and promote the pursuit of gold.

Deadline for all newsletter submissions is five days before the month of publication. Single issues are \$3.00 per copy (postpaid).

Dick Oakes, Editor, goldnugget@phantomranch.net.

MEMBER CLASSIFIEDS

SMALL HOUSE FOR SALE

This 2-bedroom house in Bonanza, Colorado, has a large kitchen, storage room, wood stove for cooking, and an electric heater. There is, however, no water available. Prospecting and hunting are allowed. \$18,000 (Negotiable/Trade). Contact Teena Swisher, (303) 428-5696, Ext. 237 (Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

TRAILER FOR SALE

Trailer made from a white half-ton Ford pickup bed (don't know year) with 15-inch tires and two-inch ball. \$125.00. Contact Rick Miska, (303) 404-2897, RichardM@imrgold.com

SUPER DETECTOR FOR SALE

Minelab SD-2100 metal detector with 8", 11", and 15" Coils. Contact Ken Oyler for all the details. (303) 696-7230, (303) 523-8046, goldfinder2@comcast.net



GPR GOLD PANNING DEMONSTRATIONS

Know an organization that might want us to set up a gold panning demonstration booth? Contact

Ken Barker

(303) 932-1076 <> barkerk@worldnet.att.net

For additional information and photos, see
<http://www.GoldProspectorsOfTheRockies.com/>

A cubic foot of gold weighs 1,203 pounds.

Pages from the Librarian

By Dick Oakes, Library-History-Video Coordinator

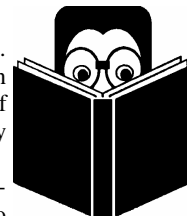
Special thanks to my wife, **Carol Oakes**, for manning (or is that "personing") the Library Table in September!

We've had three missing books and one missing video returned and they are available for your edification and enjoyment. But please, please don't take them down to the creek or out to the desert with you! Scribble down the important information and just take your notes along. If you don't want your notes or your topo maps to get wet or muddy, you can apply a waterproof coating available at hiking stores. We've had two more books donated: *You Can Find Gold With a Metal Detector*, donated by **Bill Carr**, and *True Treasure Tales: The Missing Nez Perce Gold*, donated by **Jill Eads**.

One of our recently returned books is *Advanced Prospecting & Detecting for Hardrock Gold* by Jim Straight. This self-published 30-page soft-cover booklet is chock full of great information for the prospecting detectorist. Jim tells you how to locate placer deposits as well as those mother lodes we'd all like to find. Subjects include "Detecting for Hardrock Gold," "How to Detect for Gold Ore and Float," "Ground Effects," "Free Quartz Float," "Prospecting Tips," "Tips to Better Detecting," and "Character of Hardrock Gold." He has some "Warnings" for us prospectors, including "Stay Out of Old Mines." Not only informative, but a great read, with several good black-and-white photographs that take you right to the locations Jim talks about so you can see for yourself what you should be looking for.

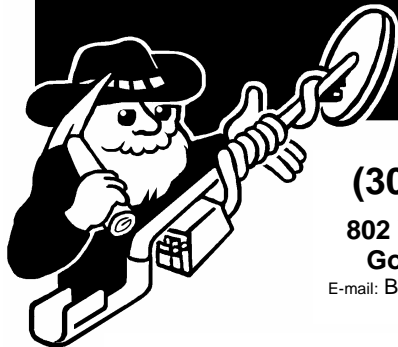
Remember that books and videos may be checked out for one month. Maximum checkout is two items. Items must be returned at the meeting following the meeting during which they were checked out. You may check out an item for another month, if no one else wants to check it out. Please rewind videos before returning them. Of course, library items may only be checked out to members in good standing (dues paid!).

Check out our new "Scrapbook of GPR History" at the meeting. If you have any fliers or such that you can donate to the scrapbook, please let me know. Also, if you have a video camera and attend our outings, please take videos for us so we can add them to our library inventory.



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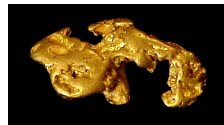
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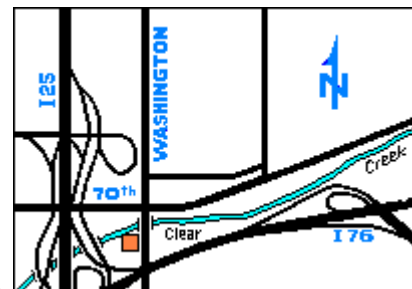
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Colorado Campground Directory Available by Phone or Online

If you don't have Internet access (or even if you do), you can obtain by mail a free copy of the latest edition of "The Colorado Directory" of more than 180 RV Parks and Campgrounds by calling toll-free 1-888-222-4641. The directory actually describes more than 500 places to stay because it includes Cabins & Cottages, Country Bed & Breakfast Inns, Motels & Hotels, and other lodgings.

On the other hand, if you're Internet savvy, by pointing your browser to www.colorado-campgrounds.com, you can view the directory, download it, or order it delivered by mail. While online, you may search Colorado Towns & Areas, RV Parks & Campgrounds, Tent Camping in Campgrounds, and even Romance Packages!

If you are taking the entire family prospecting, you might want to look into doing something else while you're not diggin' for gold. In addition to looking up more than thirty tourist attractions online, you

GOLD NUGGETS FOR SALE

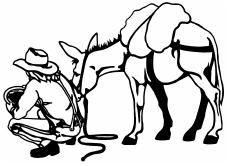


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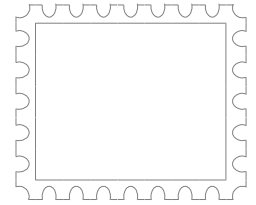


Contact Ken Oyler
(303) 523-8046
goldfinder2@comcast.net

can search the many indexes of "Fun Things to Do" to locate information about ATVing, Fishing, Horse Rides, Hot Springs, Jeeping & 4WD, and More Fun Stuff.



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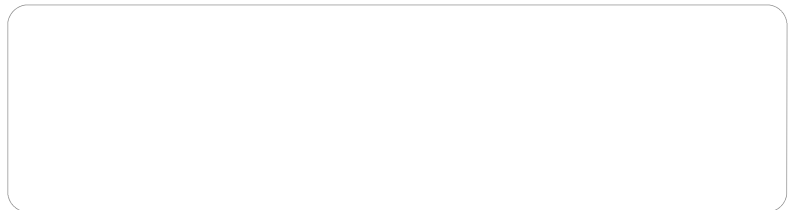


DATED MATERIAL

Please check the **date** on your label to see the last month you may renew your GPR membership and continue your subscription to *The Gold Nugget* without interruption. Thanks, and happy prospecting!

- Renew today Last newsletter

FIRST CLASS



The Brothers H Find the Big One

By Gale Herbertson, writing from Paradise, Alaska
 Alaska 2000, July 31st - August 16th
 Printed with permission of Kellyco online.
<http://www.kellycodetectors.com/>



It was a beautiful day in Paradise, Alaska, where the sun goes around you 24 hours a day. Mick and Cece Mann, the owners, have 4,000 acres of mining claims for prospectors to go up and have a wonderful time gold hunting and fishing. On the second day of our two-week trip, Mick was digging and stockpiling for the prospectors. Later we would check out his diggings for gold nuggets. My brother and I asked Mick if we could go on top of the mountain by the waterfalls. Looking for gold nuggets with his Minelab SD-2200D, my brother was going fast and furious and went clear beyond the waterfalls where the stream started. "Dale, you are going too fast. You better slow down. You need to

concentrate," I told him. I went slow and took my time, checking every crevice and rock. My brother came down and said, "It's time to get off the hill. I can't find anything and I have looked everywhere." He wanted me to follow him back down the hill but I had another reading with my Minelab Explorer XS. He helped me dig the reading. He wanted to know what I had found. "Put your hand out," I said as I

dropped an 8-ounce nugget into his hand. "Oh my God! Where did you get that?" he asked. "See," I replied, "you should look a little closer. It was up by the waterfall. I checked all those areas. You have to dig." We dug up another target which ended up being a diver's lead weight belt.

"Show me where and how you found it!" my brother exclaimed. We walked up there and I showed him: I didn't get any readings. I looked all the over burn area above me. I looked down and saw a bedrock. There was a little cavity between two rocks. If there is a gold nugget anywhere it would be right there, I thought. I dug a foot and didn't get any reading with my metal detector, but I kept digging. I was getting discouraged. I dug another foot and got a faint reading. I dug one more foot and lost the reading. I pulled my metal detector upwards and heard my reading again and dug another foot off to the side. I ran into another boulder, dug about 6 inches, and there it was lodged in a groove. I pulled out a gold nugget half as big as my hand from that groove and said "Oh my God!" I held it up and thanked God.



We went back down the mountain to show everyone my nugget. Then we checked Mick's Diggings and pulled off some bedrock boulders from the top of the pile. Dale checked with his Goldbug II and got some tiny signals. I went over the top of the pile with my Minelab and also picked up some tiny signals. We found a gold nugget, small as a match head. Because my Minelab would only pick up gold, Dale would always have me check with my Minelab before he would dig for the gold nuggets.

In the next week we found 2 1/2 ounces of small gold!

Gale H., Paradise, Alaska