



Private Purchase of Federal Land

On Friday, November 18, the House of Representatives, under the terms of a spending bill, authorized private companies and individuals to buy tracts of federal land by a two-vote margin. The real beneficiaries, however, could be real estate developers rather than miners.

A mining claim allows for the extraction of hard-rock minerals such as gold and silver. But under the house bill passed Friday, individuals can file claims even though the land at the heart of the claim has already been stripped of its minerals or could never support a profitable mine.

This bill could open old mining claims for developers to assemble large land parcels for projects like housing, hotels, ski resorts, spas, or retirement communities. Hunting and fishing groups in Montana fear that it could reduce public access to trout streams. Colorado hiking groups are concerned that more hiking trails to the fourteeners could be closed.

Under the General Mining Law of 1872, individuals can declare that the gold, silver, or copper under the earth are theirs. The claim is then considered a legally defensible right. Congress has barred claims from passing to full legal ownership, called "patenting," but this bill would end that 11-year moratorium. Some language in the bill says claimants with "valid existing rights" may now be able to exercise those rights to patent their claims (although proving a mine claim and moving on to full ownership

Continued on page 2

The Prez Sez

By Gary Hawley, President

December weather tends to slow down prospecting activities but there still may be a few warm days that will allow access to prospect areas. Be alert to weather changes and dress accordingly.

Winter is a good time to do maintenance on your equipment. Change oil in the pumps. Repair or replace hoses and connections. Clean picks and shovels. And don't forget to clean the mud off your boots!



The November meeting was well attended and we had a lot of "official club business" to take care of: election of Officers and selection of a recipient of the Ken Barker Award. Thanks to **Joe Shubert** for preparing the ballots and notifying the members of the election process.

Continued on page 2

VP's Corner

By Jeff Mosteller, Vice President

Greetings!

Thank you to all of you for once again voting me in to office for yet another year. This past year has gone by so fast I'm trying to remember where it all went. This next year should be a lot of fun; we are going to slow the Panning demos down just a bit so Donna and I can get some prospecting in. We will concentrate on libraries, museums, and city functions closer to the metro area. With all the changes going on in Central City, our arrangements with them might be somewhat fewer shows this year--we'll have to wait and see



Continued on page 5

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) 933-1147 <> ghawley1@juno.com
 Website: <http://www.GoldProspectorsOfTheRockies.com/>

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GPR Events Calendar

Month	Date(s)	Time(s)	Activity	Information	Coordinator
Dec	21	6:30p	Meeting	Christmas Potluck Dinner Meeting	Gary Hawley

All GPR meeting presentations and trip activities are subject to change. Non-club prospecting-related events may be included for your information. Members attending any trip activities are 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 so attendees may be contacted in the event of any change, cancellation, or rescheduling. For events added after the meeting, check the GPR website.

PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE AT PANNING DEMOS ONE HOUR IN ADVANCE OF THE START TIME.

Eluvial Gold and the Bible

By Paul Nagy

At November's club meeting program, President Gary Hawley described miners' superstitions which he believed had evolved because of the eerie and dangerous netherworld of the miner. In fact, the mystery of gold and its origin sometimes transcends the merely curious and appears in the downright religious. Gold was the pre-eminent gift brought to Bethlehem, for example.

The great Porcupine gold camp near Timmins in northern Ontario was discovered in the early 1900's and led to the development of rich and long-lived mines such as the Hollinger, Dome, and McIntyre. Each produced millions of ounces before finally passing to history. In 1972, I was hired by the Hollinger but left town for prospecting adventures elsewhere. Anyway, the initial vein at the Dome Mine was discovered as a low, mossy bench running along a side hill. As the vein eroded, gold-rich rock fragments spread down the slope like a carpet and the hillside came to be known as "The Golden Staircase." Needless to say, the magical golden staircase did not long survive its discovery.

Legendary U.S. Geological Survey geologist Ralph J. Roberts is more responsible than anyone else for America's global ascendance in gold production since the early 1960's. In his recent autobiography, which is a pretty good read, he relates his assignment to Saudi Arabia in the 1970's to assist that government in the evaluation and perhaps rejuvenation of ancient gold districts. Part of his job was to try to establish the location of the biblical "King Solomon's Mines."

Roberts makes a pretty good case for his ideas on this. One old district on the coastal "Gold Road" to the Red Sea has parallel gold veins running along a side hill. Roberts theorizes that the gold eroded downslope, forming a thick golden patina on the surface. Considering the multiple veins, the long slope, and the winnowing effect of the desert wind, one could imagine quite an accumulation. It would be easy for an eluvial (residual, near-source) deposit to form which could provide a lot of the 636 talents (about 500,000 ounces, if I figure correctly) which the good king supposedly collected in one year. This is a pretty good haul even by today's standards! Roberts doesn't say this but given the quantity of gold and the polishing effect of the desert wind, it may have been a golden staircase of epic appearance and proportion--perhaps enough even to inspire reverence in the irreligious.

Are there undiscovered golden staircases? Why not? They are probably covered by wind-blown surface material on the lee sides of hills in regions of rich gold veins and fairly steep slopes--like mountainous Colorado.

For the holiday season, even as dreams of sudden riches dance in our heads, may we yet give thanks for the time and place of our existence where we are at least about as free of destitution, violence, and untreated illness as any people have been, and let us give peace to those of good will!

(Continued from Land, page 1)

remain high hurdles).

Full story at:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/11/20/politics/20land.html>

(Continued from Prez Sez, page 1)

I am pleased that most of the current Officers chose to remain for another term. Thanks to them and to the new Officers, also.

Thanks to **Kathy Hawley** for her selection of gold nuggets for the drawings. This is the second year she has had one ounce of nuggets for the election meeting.

The GPR Cache is in full swing with three clues given so far. I heard several people talking about the clues and it appears to me they "almost know where it is."

Joe Johnston will present the Find-of-the-Year Awards at the December meeting. Be sure to bring your winning Find-of-the-Month item to be considered for the year award.

December 21 will be our annual Christmas Party. There will not be a nugget drawing and please: *No Vendors*. **Rick Miska** will give the Q&A Answer, too! Everyone is to bring something good to eat and share. (And yes, LeRoy, that means a dish or plate with food on it!) This will be a pot luck. The club will provide paper products, plastic ware, coffee, and sodas.

I am sure everyone will have a good time at the December meeting and I know it will be worth your time.

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

Miners' Superstitions

By Gary Hawley

Bad Luck

- A woman underground in a mine
- Whistling in a mine
- Clothes on the floor of the "dry room"
- Dropping tools
- Passing a candle
- Rats leave the mine
- Mules pull out early
- Black cats and howling dogs (at the surface)

Good Luck

- Lucky tools
- Carrying some gold (gold attracts gold)

Notes from Last Month's GPR Meetings

Board Meeting

by Gary Hawley, President

Roll Call

In attendance: Gary Hawley, Jeff Mosteller, Kathy Hawley, Joe Johnston, Joe Shubert, Matt Schreiner, Paul Nagy, Cindy Douthard, Hank Innerfeld, Terry Weatherly.

Unable to attend: Jim Jarnutowski, Allen Mershon.

Quorum Present?

Yes.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:18 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 and newsletters from other clubs.

Committee Reports

Reports: Presented and accepted.

Unfinished Business

Club Trommel. Gary Hawley. Tabled until contact can be made with Mining Museum curator.

Volunteer Recognition. Jeff Mosteller. This is taking shape. Jeff will select suitable recognition awards.

New Business

No new business was discussed.

Planned Outings

Outings. Refer to the GPR Events Calendar in *The Gold Nugget*.

Announcements

Next Board Meetings: December 21, 2005, at 6:00 p.m.

Next General Meeting: December 21, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.

Tonight's General Meeting Program: Gary Hawley talks about mining superstitions and strange sounding place names.

Adjournment

Meeting stands adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

General Meeting

By Paul Nagy, General Meeting Recorder

Meeting called to order by President Gary Hawley who leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joe Schubert announces new nominees for the board of directors: Donna Mosteller, Jim Intriglia, Mike Barker. All nominees were elected. Also current club officers were re-elected without opposition. Prez Hawley thanks all the people behind the scene who make things work.

Membership report by Cindy Douthard: 118 single and family memberships.

Vice President's report by Jeff Mosteller. He thanked Prez Hawley for the support and for all participants at panning demos. He also gave the answer to his personal quiz in the last newsletter.

Prez Hawley discussed metal prices and gave the next clue for the hidden cache. He also announced that the largest nugget for the evening's drawing was 4.2 grams.

Joe Johnston announces the Finds-of-the-Month and reminds that next month will be the awards for Finds-of-the-Year.

Gary Hawley gives a talk on mining superstitions and place names.

Prize drawings, then adjourn meeting.

Puns to Make You Groan

- Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.
- A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."
- Two peanuts walk into a bar . . . one was a salted.
- A dyslexic man walks into a bra.
- A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm and says, "A beer please, and one for the road."
- "Doc, I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home.'" "That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome." "Is it common?" "Well, It's Not Unusual."
- An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.
- I went to a seafood disco last week and pulled a mussel.
- What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh.
- Two termites walk into a bar. One asks, "Is the bar tender here?"
- A vulture carrying two dead raccoons boards an airplane . The stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger."
- Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.
- Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says "I've lost my electron," The other says, "Are you sure?" The first replies "Yes, I'm positive."
- Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal? His goal: transcendental medication.
- A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why," they asked, as they moved off. "Because", he said, "I can't stand chess-nuts boasting in an open foyer."

It's Membership Renewal Time!

Coming up in January is the time for most of us to renew our membership! Let's do it before then so Cindy Douthard can get everything all lined up!

Remember, you continue to receive *The Gold Nugget* on a regular basis, get to attend the club outings that are planned during the year, participate in club meetings, attend the club workshops, use the club library, get notified of special activities in gold prospecting and metal detecting being offered by other clubs in the area, receive other club members' knowledge and experience in the hobby, have fellowship with people who share a love for and an interest in prospecting and metal detecting, have the opportunity to participate in the club as a forum, and receive a membership card for each member of the family.

Members are in good standing when their fees are paid for the current year. Members are required to abide by the Code of Ethics, Bylaws, and Standing Rules of the club.

Drawing Winners

By Kathy Hawley, Drawings Coordinator

Nugget Drawings

4.2 gram nugget.....	Joe Shubert
3.6 gram nugget.....	Barbara Conte
3.5 gram nugget.....	Marc Johnson
2.6 gram nugget.....	Mary Fortunato
1.9 gram nugget.....	Joe Shubert
1.8 gram nugget.....	Donna Mosteller
1.8 gram nugget.....	Don Vixces
1.6 gram nugget.....	Joe Johnston
1.3 gram nugget.....	Barbara Conte
1.3 gram nugget.....	Fritz Meyer
1.2 gram nugget.....	Fritz Meyer
1.0 gram nugget.....	Peg Brozek

Members Only Drawings

5.4 gram nugget.....	Paul Nagy
	(Donated by the Club)
Gold Nugget.....	Ed Finney
	Donated by LeRoy Lamgo)
Gold Nugget.....	Jerry Jensen
	(Donated by LeRoy Lamgo)
Snow Globe.....	Ellen Buboltz
	(Donated by Cherry Creek Mall)
Snow Globe.....	Joe Fortunato
	(Donated by Cherry Creek Mall)
Snow Globe.....	Fritz Meyer
	(Donated by Cherry Creek Mall)
Classifiers.....	Cindy Douthard
	(Donated by Jerry Jensen)
Classifiers.....	Gary Hawley
	(Donated by Jerry Jensen)

Find of the Month/Year

By Joe Johnston, Find of the Month/Year Coordinator

Largest Raw Gold

Leroy Lamgo..... Gold Nugget (0.30 g)

Most Raw Gold

Ken Oyler..... Gold-bearing Pyrite, 60% Gold (3.84 oz)
LeRoy Lamgo..... Gold (1.4 g)

Best Jewelry

No Entries

Oldest Coin

LeRoy Lamgo..... 1853 3-cent Piece
Joe Johnston..... 1943 Silver Washington Quarter

Most Valuable Coin

Joe Johnston..... 1949-D Silver Washington Quarter

Most Unique (Excavated)

Jerry Jensen..... Smoky Quartz Microcline, Devil's Head
Joe Johnston..... Bird ID Band

Most Unique (Non-Excavated)

No Entries

Best Bottle

No Entries



By Rick Miska, Q&A Coordinator

November 2005

- I was born in 1779 in New Jersey.
- I led two expeditions as an army officer for the U.S. government.
- In 1805 I commanded a 20-man exploring party with orders to discover the headwaters of the Mississippi.
- In 1806 I led another expedition, this time to the southwestern borders of the Louisiana Purchase, to explore the Arkansas and Red Rivers, and to obtain information about nearby Spanish territory.
- It was on this trip that I tried, unsuccessfully, to climb the mountain peak later named for me.
- My published account of this last expedition, with information about the weakness of Spanish authority in Santa Fe and the profitability of trading with Mexico, stirred businessmen and politicians into expanding to Texas.
- I also helped establish the myth of the "Great American Desert," which retarded growth into the Great Plains.
- In 1810, I was quoted as saying ""These vast plains of the western hemisphere may become in time equally celebrated as the sandy deserts of Africa"
- I died in action in the War of 1812 at the battle of York.

WHO AM I?

I AM (to be revealed at the December meeting!)

Members who submit a correct answer to this question at the next meeting will receive a ticket for the nugget drawing.

Chuckles

Submitted by LeRoy Lamgo

- A husband is someone who, after taking out the trash, gives the impression that he just cleaned the whole house.
- A blonde said, "I was worried that my mechanic might try to rip me off. I was relieved when he told me all I needed was turn signal fluid."
- My neighbor was bitten by a stray rabid dog. I went to see how he was and found him writing frantically on a piece of paper. I told him rabies could be cured and he didn't have to worry about a will. He said, "Will? What will? I'm making a list of the people I want to bite!"
- My wife says I never listen to her. At least I think that's what she said.
- Just remember, if the world didn't suck, we'd all fall off.
- Why is it that our children can't read a Bible in school, but they can in prison?
- If raising children was going to be easy, it never would have started with something called labor.

From the Ledger

of Kathy Hawley, Treasurer

Thanks to **LeRoy Lamgo**, **Jerry Jensen**, and the Cherry Creek Mall for the donations to the "Members Only" drawing.

We will continue to sell tickets for the "Special Drawing Nuggets" at the January and February meeting. We will give away the three nuggets at the February meeting.

We will not have a nugget drawing at the December meeting. We will have our annual Christmas potluck instead of the normal meeting.

Thanks to all for your continued support of the nugget drawings.

Food for Thought

By Donna Mosteller, Acting Refreshments Coordinator

On behalf of Jackie and Michael I'd like to thank **LeRoy Lamgo** for the donuts and **Hank Innerfeld** for the banana bread. Don't forget--the December meeting is our potluck dinner. Bring a dish. I have a feeling Santa and his helpers will be there again this year. See ya then!

Donna

Elections and Ken Barker Award

By Joe Shubert, Nominations Coordinator

Thank you to all who participated in this election of GPR Officers and Board Members. Nominating someone, volunteering to run, or voting in the election is what it takes to keep the club running.

2006 GPR Officers and Board Members

President.....	Gary Hawley
Vice-President.....	Jeff Mosteller
Treasurer	Kathy Hawley
2-Year Board Member.....	Hank Innerfeld (elected 2005)
2-Year Board Member.....	Joe Johnston (elected 2005)
2-Year Board Member.....	Joe Shubert (elected 2006)
1-Year Board Member.....	Mike Barker
1-Year Board Member.....	Cindy Douthard
1-Year Board Member.....	Jim Intriglia
1-Year Board Member.....	Allen Mershon
1-Year Board Member.....	Donna Mosteller
1-Year Board Member.....	Paul Nagy
1-Year Board Member.....	Terry Weatherly

2005 Ken Barker Award

Thank you to all who participated this year by nominating someone to receive the Ken Barker Award. The recipient will be announced at the December general meeting.

Chuckles

Submitted by LeRoy Lamgo

Don't argue with an idiot; people watching may not be able to tell the difference.



GPR GOLD PANNING DEMONSTRATIONS

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

Jeff Mosteller

(303) 202-9302 <> jefndona@comcast.net

For additional information and photos, see

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

(Continued from VP's Corner, page 1)

what the next few months bring. Donna and I want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May everybody strike it rich this coming year.

Happy Holidays!

As I've Matured

- I've learned that you cannot make someone love you. All you can do is stalk them and hope they panic and give in.
- I've learned that one good turn gets most of the blankets.
- I've learned that no matter how much I care, some people are just jackasses.
- I've learned that it takes years to build up trust, and it only takes suspicion, not proof, to destroy it.
- I've learned that whatever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed.
- I've learned that you shouldn't compare yourself to others--they are more screwed up than you think.
- I've learned that depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- I've learned that it is not what you wear; it is how you take it off.
- I've learned to not sweat the petty things, and not pet the sweaty things.
- I've learned age is a very high price to pay for maturity.
- I've learned that I don't suffer from insanity; I enjoy it.
- I've learned that we are responsible for what we do, unless we are celebrities.
- I've learned that artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.
- I've learned that 99% of the time when something isn't working in your house, one of your kids did it.
- I've learned that there is a fine line between genius and insanity.

Quotes for Life

- In the 1400's a law was set forth that a man was not allowed to beat his wife with a stick thicker than his thumb. Hence we have "the rule of thumb."
- In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase "goodnight, sleep tight."

MEMBER CLASSIFIEDS

SPEEDAIRE COMPRESSOR FOR SALE

New Speedaire Compressor, 3PH-5HP, 80-gal tank, upright. Current model price is \$1,788; will sell now for \$950. Contact Rose Ann or Jon Knight, (303) 450-0580 or (303) 252-1759

THREE-WHEEL SCOOTER FOR SALE

Shuttle Personal Transport System, 3-wheel mobility scooter, good condition, \$950. Contact Rose Ann or Jon Knight, (303) 450-0580 or (303) 252-1759

MINELAB DETECTOR FOR SALE

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

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3.6" x 2.0" - Two Column Inches (Business Card Size)	\$ 6
3.6" x 4.3" - "Four" Column Inches	\$ 12
7.5" x 4.3" - "Eight" Column Inches (Horizontal)	\$ 24
3.6" x 9.3" - "Nine" Column Inches (Vertical)	\$ 24
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**Send ad copy to (or request an Ad Sheet
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For further info, see the GPR website

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Three- or four-wheeler ATV wanted (cheap). "Needs work" is fine with me. Call me at (303) 404 2897 or e-mail me at goldhunter@ricksthings.com

So You Think You Know Everything?

- Leonardo DaVinci invented the scissors.
- Maine is the only state whose name is just one syllable.
- No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.
- On a Canadian two dollar bill, the flag flying over the Parliament building is an American flag.
- Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.
- Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.
- Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.
- The longest English word that can be typed with only the left hand is "stewardesses" and with your right is "lollipop."
- The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.
- The cruise liner, QE2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.
- The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.
- The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet.
- The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.
- The words "racecar," "kayak," and "level" are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).
- There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.
- There are more chickens than people in the world.
- There are only four words in the English language which end in "dous": "tremendous," "horrendous," "stupendous," and "hazardous."
- There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."
- There's no Betty Rubble in Flintstones Chewables Vitamins.
- Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.
- The longest English word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard is "typewriter."
- Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.
- Women blink nearly twice as much as men.
- Your stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every two weeks; otherwise it will digest itself.
- Libya is the only country whose flag has only one color.
- Every country in the world has a rectangular flag except Nepal.

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 families dedicated to gold prospecting. Membership in the GPR is \$40 the first year and \$30 each subsequent year for an individual or family and includes a one-year subscription to *The Gold Nugget*, one name tag, and membership cards for all family members. Additional badges may be purchased. 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. Final deadline for all article submissions is five days before the month of publication. Single issues are \$3.00 per copy (postpaid).

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Gold Nuggets from Around the World



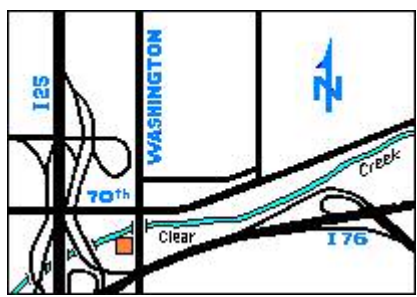
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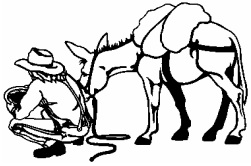
Actual Product Warnings

Submitted by Al Warren

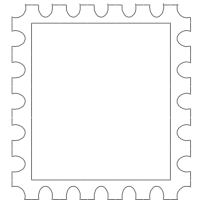
- On Sears hair dryer: Do not use while sleeping.
- On a bag of Fritos: You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside.
- On a bar of Dial soap: Directions: Use like regular soap.
- On some Swann frozen dinners: Serving suggestion: Defrost.
- On a hotel-provided shower cap in a box: Fits one head.
- Printed on the bottom of Tesco's Tiramisu desert: Do not turn upside down.
- On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding: Product will be hot after heating
- On Boot's Children's Cough Medicine: Do not drive car or operate machinery
- On Nytol sleep aid: Warning: may cause drowsiness
- On a string of Chinese-made Christmas lights: For indoor or outdoor use only.
- On a Japanese food processor: Not to be used for the other use.
- On Sainsbury's Peanuts Warning: contains nuts
- On an American Airlines packet of nuts: Instructions: open packet, eat nuts.
- On a Swedish chainsaw: Do not attempt to stop chain with your hands
- On a U.S. guide inside the sealed box of a new computer: To avoid condensation forming, allow the boxes to warm up to room temperature before opening.
- On a Korean kitchen knife: Warning keep out of children.
- On a Taiwanese shampoo: Use repeatedly for severe damage.

Only three words in standard English begin with the letters "dw." They are all common. Name two of them.

Dwarf, dwell, and dwindle.



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