



## The Gold Nugget

Vol. 11, No. 2

February 2006

### Letter to the Editor

I put this on the front page this month because I want to encourage more letters like it. **Rick**

Howdy Rick,

I pulled up GPR'S website today and noticed that my request to be added to the links isn't there, so I just wanted to remind you to, please, add it. I have been working hard on getting the website up to snuff, what with name changes and site changes and all. 20 some pages are published, and it will be time to go back and review most of them for better content. No one has answered this weeks' question, which should be a snap for anyone who read last month's newsletter, as I got the question from those pages. Give us a correct answer before Sunday night, and someone will win the prize! After that, I will be posting a new question for anyone to try.

Also, I think I forgot to put anything on the back of our card about giving away free websites. I have an affiliate that gives websites away for free to anyone who wants one, and we wanted to let the club know that they are all eligible for them. They can be accessed from the website at the menu or the bottom banner, and also from [www.hookedfreewebpages.clicksitebuilder.com](http://www.hookedfreewebpages.clicksitebuilder.com) <http://www.hookedfreewebpages.clicksitebuilder.com>. All for now. Thanks, Shirley

[www.hookedongold.com](http://www.hookedongold.com) <http://www.hookedongold.com> [hookedongold@msn.com](mailto:hookedongold@msn.com) [<mailto:hookedongold@msn.com](mailto:hookedongold@msn.com)  
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### The Prez Sez

By Gary Hawley, President

February has started out to be cool and windy. The snow pack in the mountains has given the skiers some excellent conditions. The down side is it has not been very pleasant prospecting weather and there is already concern about spring runoff. Just remember to be careful out there and keep an eye on the weather.



Jim Intriglia has indicated he will not be able to continue as a Board Member due to work conflicts. Upon approval of the Board, Sue Lemieux will become a Board Member with the duties of Outings Coordinator. I recently spoke with Sue and there are plans in the works to designate the first Saturday of each month as a "Planned Outings Day". Prospecting trips, visits to museums, metal detecting hunts and picnics are some of the outings

*Continued on page 2*

### VP's Corner

By Jeff Mosteller, Vice President

Greetings to all,

In case you missed the meeting last month the concentrates that we gave out to the Demo volunteers in December has small amounts of natural Arsenic mixed into it. this is the yellow material you are finding in it. PLEASE be careful with this stuff and be sure to wash your hands after handling it. We weren't

aware if it until after we gave the material out.

If you don't want to handle it you can return it to me at the meeting, were sorry this stuff showed up in your pay dirt.

The new design for the cards we give out in the demos was approved last month if you want to see what they



*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/>**

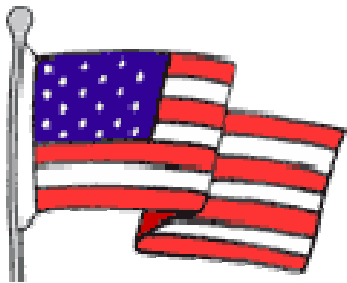
### GPOR Website

If you have updates for, comments about, or anything else regarding the club website, you can contact the club webmaster at:

[prospector@phantomranch.net](mailto:prospector@phantomranch.net)

Dick will be happy to review any suggestions or comments you may have.





(continued from *The Prez Says* onpage 1)

we discussed. Thanks, Sue, for stepping up to this challenge!

Rick Miska has requested newsletter articles from the general membership. If you have a special prospecting experience how about sharing it with the rest of us? Share your experiences with mining equipment, roads to beware of, locations that offer a prospecting challenge, or anything else you would like to tell about.

Check out Kathy's article *From the Ledger* to see how much gold will be available at the February 15 meeting.

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

## ETF

By Jeff Mosteller, Vice President

Did ya know ?

All commodities traded on the market have what is called an ETF (Exchange Traded Fund) that the FTC (Federal Trades Commission) tracks. For several years the Silver Users Association has successfully lobbied Washington and the FTC not to have an ETF for Silver, this would cause the cost Silver to skyrocket and lead to lower profits for those who use Silver in their manufacturing, here are a few facts about Silver that the Silver Users Association has been trying very hard to conceal from the public.

The preexisting silver deficit runs around 75 million ounces per annum, if an ETF were put into place there would be a new annual deficit of approx 250 million ounces. 250 million ounces is roughly one-third of the world's supply of above ground silver which would lead to a new annual deficit of 800 million ounces. This in many minds would almost certainly wipe out the entire world's supply of above ground silver in less than one year. As of January 27th of 2006 the FTC has opened a public comment period for 20 days to get public input on placing an ETF on Silver and as of the printing of this article things are looking pretty good for the placement of an ETF on Silver.

Do what you want to with this information, the bottom line is Silver could double in price over night. You can Google search "Silver ETF" and get up to date information on where the FTC stands on this ETF process.

Update on Palladium, last year I spoke briefly on the price of Palladium at that time the price per ounce was about \$118.00, today Friday Feb 3, 2006 the price is \$297.00. Both Ford and Chevrolet as well as the 2 China auto manufacturers that will be selling cars here in the United States are tooling up to use this material in their Catalytic Converters as the price of Platinum has gotten to high to be useful. This material is a good investment and will see a steady rise in price as more and more is put to use in the Automobile industry.

## GPR Events Calendar

### February 15th

General Meeting

### March 11th

Boy Scout leadership camp

730am to 430 pm

LDS Church located at 9800s Foothills Canyon Blvd (approx Lucent Blvd and C470).

### March 15th

General Meeting

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.

## Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Board meeting of January 18, 2006

**Roll call.** Those in attendance:

Gary Hawley, Hank Innerfeld, Allen Mershon, Mike Barker, Jeff Mosteller, Joe Johnston, Donna Mosteller, Kathy Hawley, Joe Shubert, Paul Nagy

**Quorum present?** Yes.

**Call to order.** Meeting was called to order at 6:25 PM by Gary Hawley.

**Reading and approval of minutes.** Read by Gary Hawley.

**Corrections:** None.

**Approved as read/corrected?** Yes.

**Treasurer's Report.** Prepared by Kathy Hawley, read by Gary Hawley.

**Questions:** None.

**Accepted?** Yes.

**Correspondence.** Membership renewals and newsletters from other clubs.

**Committee Reports:** Approved as read.

**Unfinished Business:** Club Trammel – Gary Hawley. Continue.

**Volunteer Recognition** – Jeff Mosteller.

**New Business:** Welcome new Board Members.

**Jeff Mosteller** – Mileage – Decision on amount. Finalize at February meeting.

**Donna Mosteller** – Discussion on calendars – continue.

**Planned Outings:** Board Members to suggest to Jim Intriglia one local outing per month.

Jan. 28 – Douglas County Library panning demo.

**Announcements:**

Next board meeting February 15, 2006, at 6:00 P.M.

Next general meeting February 15, 2006, at 7:00 P.M.

**Tonight's general meeting program:** Allen Mershon on placer gold.

**Adjournment:** Meeting stands adjourned at 6:57 P.M.

## Notes from Last Month's GPR Meetings

### GPR Genl Mtg Notes Paul Nagy

Clements Center  
Lakewood, CO  
18 Jan 2006

7:07 President Gary Hawley calls the meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance.

7:10 Introduction of new Board Members: Donna Mosteller and Mike Barker.

7:11 Prez Hawley discusses metal prices. Also this year he would like to increase club membership by 15% or so.

7:12 Treasurer's Report by Gary Hawley for Kathy Hawley. We have sufficient gold for prize drawings through April.

7:13 Membership Report by Dick Oakes for Cindy Douthard. 117 individual and family memberships, 2 guests.

7:14 VP Report by Jeff Mosteller. One newly scheduled panning demo for the grand opening of a public library in Douglas County. Contact Jeff if you are interested in helping. New club business cards are now available. The 2006 panning demo schedule is now in the works. This year we will focus more on local municipal festivals because they are attended mainly by local residents who are more likely to join the club. At the other "tourist" type events, we have made a lot of friends from around the country (indeed around the world!) but we have not recruited enough new members. There will be fewer demos but they will be more selectively chosen. Also, we will have more time for gold finding! Jeff then discussed the limits of private property on Clear Creek. Private property signs are usually correct and should be respected. Always carry in a large trash bag. Pick up others' trash first. (No one will blame you if you don't touch suspicious stuff. There is toxic junk out there.) If you are approached by law enforcement or anyone else, be sure that you point out the trash bag and then explain what it is for. We have pretty good rapport with the Jeffco Open Space Commission. If approached by one of their officials, you might show them your club ID and mention that you conform to the club's rules and regulations as well as Jeffco's. If you see anyone violating rules and regs, tactfully correct them.

7:27 Prez Hawley points out that we deal with law enforcement for several jurisdictions, including State Police, county sheriffs' departments, Jeffco Open Space officials, and others. They may not all be equally informed or sympathetic to us.

We are planning at least one club activity a month. A coin hunt will be scheduled for spring. We have also decided to award silver coins to find-of-the-year winners. Former member Jerry Jones is in the hospital. This week there is the Indian Market at the Merchandise Mart. Gary mentioned that he still works at the Cherry Creek Shopping Center, but has moved from security to management support. At last, a nine to five job! More time for prospecting! Tonight's largest drawing prize is a 5.2 gram nugget.

7:40 Question of the month by Rick Miska. Later, the answer.

7:41 Clue for the GPR Hidden Cache by Prez Hawley.

7:42 Joe Johnston awards prizes for find of the month.

7:48 Rick Miska requests submittals for newsletter articles. The best newsletters have many contributors. Be one!

7:49 Recess.

8:05 Evening's speaker Allen Mershon with "Local Placer Update and Marketing Your Gold."

#### Local Placer Developments and Marketing Your Gold

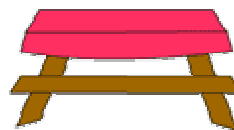
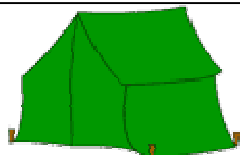
Allen Mershon is the club's program director (p.d.). He deserves much credit for the fine programs he has arranged for club meetings. The job requires more time on the telephone than you may think. If that isn't enough, it is customary, when the speaker cancels out or doesn't show up, for the p.d. to stand and deliver the evening's presentation. For that reason most p.d.'s learn to keep a "hip pocket" speech at the ready. Because of Allen's long association with a local gold placer operator, Placer Recoveries Inc., he can be counted on to give us a good show. No exception tonight.

To begin, Allen mentioned that samples he passed out last month may have contained arsenic minerals. He suggests hand-washing after handling to those who received them.

There are very few commercial gold placer mines in the U.S. where gold is the primary product. There are currently none in Colorado where all placer gold recovered is a by-product, usually of aggregate (sand and gravel) mining for the construction industry. Most of the placer operators are contractors. The attitude of the aggregate companies is "do what you must but above all stay the heck out of our way." That brusqueness is because the "mere" sand and gravel is valued in dollars per ton, while the recovered gold is worth only pennies per ton. To this end the placer guys are forced to try every new gadget or method--and hope they can pay for it--to maximize or realize a profit. They are religious, too: they continually pray for rising gold prices. Allen's latest project in this regard is installation of a state-of-the-art oscillating sluice box, electric motor driven, with an elliptical motion. This is a trial for low-gold placers. The capital cost for the sluice was \$ 50,000. Sadly, we can not see it in action, because it is well within private property. Good luck, guys! Allen then gave us a quick primer on buying and selling gold. Deals on the Internet should be viewed with suspicion. Ebay, for example, has buyers who will pay what appears to be a fair price, but in the gyrations of price, weight, purity, refining costs, etc., there may come a rude awakening. Placer gold, to receive a premium, must be identified by stream, state, location, etc. With modern analytical techniques, this can be verified! You will only be paid for contained gold. Placer gold is never pure. The most common impurity is silver. The finer the gold, the smaller the particle, and the less valuable the material. Talk about full circle! It is wise to deal with local buyers of good reputation. For the rest of us, we will keep our hard-won gold in vials for the day when the world collapses and we become rich and powerful. I have already selected the country which I will rule. No, I'm not telling!

Respectfully,

Paul Nagy



## Monthy Articles

The best things in life are built by teams, not individuals. With that in mind, I would like more member participation in writing this newsletter.

I am looking for volunteers to write the following monthly Columns for the newsletter:

Gold Prospecting Equipment - Whats new in prospecting hardware. What are prospectors fabricating themselves.

Current Gold and Precious Mining News - Whats happening in the news related to our hobby.

GPOR Bio of the Month - Short bio of one of our members each month.

Safety Tip of the Month - Something about first aid. Ideas to make our hobby safer. Common sense ways to pursue our hobby. Things like that.

Please contact me asap if you are interested in taking on one of these columns for the year. Goldhunter@ricksthings.com



By Rick Miska, Q&A Coordinator

February 2006

Prospectors first found me along Clear Creak near Golden in 1859.

45 different Colorado Streams are named after me.

I have been found in the mountains and the praries.

Between 1870 and 1930, the majority of mining for me was near Boulder.

Railroads loved me.

Colorado ranks 12th in my mining production.

What am I?

## Find of the Month

By Joe Johnston, Find of the Month/Year Coordinator

December 2005 - January 2006 Find Of the Month (FOM) results.

Winners in **bold**.

**Best Bottle**  
no entries

**Best Jewelry**

**Wolf Stumpf** - Large 14K Gold Diamond ring.

**Largest Raw Gold**  
no entries

**Most Raw Gold**

**Allen Mershon** - Gold Dusted Boots

**Most Unique (Excavated)**

**Larry Weilnau** - Hood (or Trunk ?) Ornament

**Carl Sauerland** - Perlite with Apache Tears (Opsidian)

**Most Unique (Non-Excavated)**

**Carl Sauerland** - Apache Tears (Opsidian)

**Most Valuable U.S Coin**

**Joe Johnston** - 1962-D silver Washington Quarter

**Oldest U.S. Coin**

**Joe Johnston** - 1934 wheat cent

**Show & Tell**

**Joe Johnston** - National Western Stock Show Pin collection 1906 - 2006 (56 pins and counting spanning 1949-2000).

Note - 2006 is the Centennial year of the National Western Stock Show.

Congratulations to this months winners, be sure to save your FOM winning items for entry in the Find Of the Year (FOY) competition in December. Finds made from the end of the January meeting to the time of the February meeting are eligible for entry in the February FOM program. Bring your best finds, and we'll see you at the next meeting.

Joe Johnston, Finds Program Coordinator.

## Thank You Shirley

**Shirley Weilnau** has stepped up to the plate for me. Starting next month, she will be submitting the question of the month.

I am still looking for volunteers to submit regular monthly columns in this newsletter. Please contact Rick if you have any ideas.

## 2006 Newsletter Article Submission Deadlines

Please submit your newsletter articles to Rick Miska at :

**Goldhunter@Ricksthings.com**

**January 4th**

**February 6th**

**March 3rd**

**April 7th**

**May 5th**

**June 9th**

**July 7th**

**August 4th**

**September 8th**

**October 6th**

**November 3rd**

**December 8th**

Exceptions to these dates can only be made by Gary Hawley and/or Rick Miska.

**From the Ledger**

of Kathy Hawley, Treasurer  
 Thanks to Leroy Lamgo, Joe Johnston and Allen Mershon for the members only drawing prizes.

We will continue to sell tickets for the "Special Drawing Nuggets" at the February and March meetings. We have a 12.7 gram California nugget, an 11.5 gram nugget from Australia and a 12.3 gram nugget from Siberia. They are all beauties. We will give the nuggets away at the March meeting.

At the February meeting we will give away **13.2 grams of gold** with 5 nuggets being **1.0 grams** or larger. The largest nugget will be **2.7 grams**.

So like I always say, come prepared to buy some extra tickets and Good Luck!!

**Food for Thought**

Hi everyone. Sorry I missed last months meeting but I am doing much better.  
 Many thanks go out to all who brought their "goodies" for the meeting.  
 Michael and I will see you soon.  
 Stay happy! Jackie and Michael

**2006 GPR Officers and Board Members**

- President..... Gary Hawley
- Vice-President..... Jeff Mosteller
- Treasurer..... Kathy Hawley
- 2-Year Board Member..... Hank Innerfled (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

**Other Colorado Prospecting Clubs**

For those in the Northern Front Range areas (and those of us who will drive how ever far it takes...) the **Rocky Mountain Prospectors and Treasure Hunters club** (RMPHT) meets on the first Wednesday of the month in Laporte south of Ft Collins just off I25 north of exit 259 on the west service road...see the map on their web site. (anyone for a carpool?) Has a Find of the Month program that was the model for the GPR club. No club library but a good 'club store' with books/periodicals, club logo clothing, and prospecting items. Monthly activities and does panning demos. <http://jymis.com/rmpt/>

And for those around Colorado Springs there is the **Gold Prospectors of Colorado** (GPOC). (They even have their own claims!) I am not familiar with their club, but they are quite active and spoken of highly. <http://www.gpoc.com/>



**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](mailto:jefndona@comcast.net)

For additional information and photos, see

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

*(Continued from VP's Corner, page 1)*

look like I will be carrying a sample of them at the meetings. I designed them with a "keepsake" idea in mind and not so much as a "business card" because of the tourists that get them in our outings.

On Saturday the 28th of January we did a Demo for Douglas County library systems new addition in Roxborough Park, the new library is a great addition to the community as they up until now have been relying on the "Bookmobile" to get their needs met. About 400 people showed up for the grand opening and I think we showed just about all of them how to pan for gold. What a busy day. I want to thank the following people for their help that day.

My wife, Donna Mosteller

Chuck Cown

Andy Doll

Gary and Kathy Hawley

Wayne and Diane McCarroll

Frank and Barb Conte

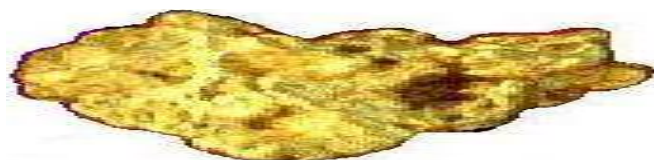
Larry and Shirley Weinau

and "better late than never" Joe Johnson, with out all of you showing up we would have had a lot of trouble getting every one through the demo.

On March 11, 2006 we have been booked on a demo for the Boy Scouts of America. This will for the leadership of the local scout groups in the Front Range & Colorado area. We will have about 500 scout leaders go through our booth to learn Gold Panning and Placer mining so they may take this information back to their various scouting groups. The demo will take place at the LDS Church located at 9800s Foothills Blvd (approx Lucent Blvd and C470).

the event times will be 730am to 430pm. For those who come please brush up on your Geology as we will be teaching on how to find the placer deposits in the field. Please bring a lunch to eat as we don't know if they will be providing food for this event. I understand there will be a " <http://www.medicinriver.com/> Rendezvous Encampment" on site as well their should be lot's to do and see.

We are in negotiations with Central City for 5 dates this summer all we know right now are the dates, they will be July 1, 2 and Sept 1, 2, 3, nothing set in stone as of yet.



**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

Your ad could have been here!

**MAX II 6-WHEEL-DRIVE ATV FOR SALE**

1991 Recreatives Industries, Inc. Max II 2-Passenger 6-Wheel-Drive Amphibious ATV with extras, incl. snow tracks, top roll bar, convertible cover, winch. Electric start, steel chassis, polyethylene body, more. Rated 25 mph land, 4 mph water. For a look-see, go to [www.maxatvs.com](http://www.maxatvs.com). Asking \$4,000.00. John Howell, (303) 429-0630

**ADVERTISING**

in *The Gold Nugget*

**Commercial Ads**

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
7.5" x 9.3" - "Eighteen Column Inches (Full Page).....	\$ 48

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Non-Commercial Classifieds ..... Free to GPR Members

**Send ad copy to (or request an Ad Sheet  
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 to the Editor.**

**For further info, see the GPR website**

**WANTED: 3- OR 4-WHEEL ATV**

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](mailto:goldhunter@ricksthings.com)

**GOT STUFF? WANT STUFF? PUT YOUR AD HERE!**

Members of the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies are welcome to submit their personal classified ads about items wanted or for sale. Please give this section a bit of your time and consideration. It is quite possible that you can see that you have a limitless space to give your entire constabulary and only then can you give of yourself. Dig?

**For Sale - Goldmaster 3 Detector \$275**

Goldmaster 3 gold detector with standard coil, new battery holder. Works great. Call me at (303) 404 2897 or e-mail me at [goldhunter@ricksthings.com](mailto:goldhunter@ricksthings.com)

**What have you been doing?**

Where did you prospect last summer?  
 What did you find?  
 What kind of equipment do you use?  
 How did you research your location?  
 Did you file any claims?  
 What would you have done differently?  
 Did you take any pictures?  
 Answer all of these questions with an article about your prospecting related experiences from recent times. Please send it to :  
**[Goldhunter@ricksthings.com](mailto:Goldhunter@ricksthings.com)**



Send in your comments, letters, articles, concerns, and suggestions for publication in this newsletter. Please try to keep the subject in line with things related to what our club is about. Articles should be submitted to Rick Miska at the meeting or [goldhunter@ricksthings.com](mailto:goldhunter@ricksthings.com)

**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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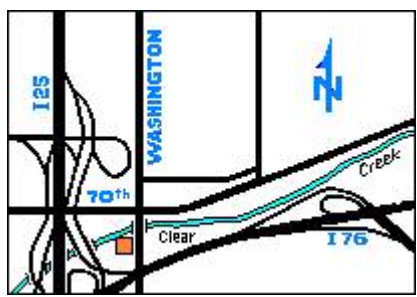
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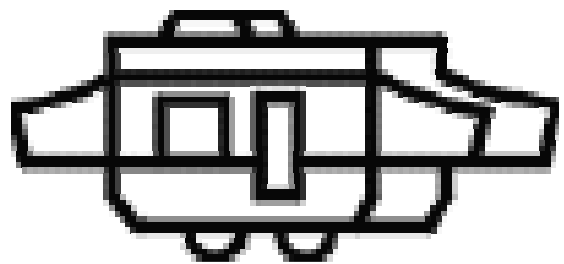
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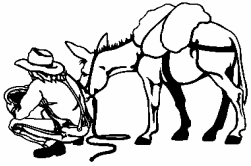
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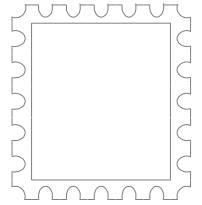
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