

# The Gold Nugget

## The Prez Sez by, Gary Hawley



There have been several days when the weather was warm enough to have done some prospecting. Now is a good time to check out your favorite area on the stream. Watch where the water moves over and around the larger rocks, creating an eddy where gold can drop. Make a mental note where the stream edge is now so you can compare it later during spring runoff. Being observant now will help locate those placer deposits later.

Reminder: Membership dues were due in January. Check with Jackie Barker to be sure your dues are paid. Those memberships whose January due dates are not paid by the end of March will no longer receive a newsletter until dues are paid.

The subject of loud talking and other noises in the back of the meeting room during presentations and meetings was discussed during the General Membership Meeting. As a result of a vote of the membership present, I will appoint a Sergeant-At-Arms to encourage quiet during meetings.

The GPR Cache has been found! Jeff and Donna Mosteller followed the clues to the Colorado Journey Miniature Golf Course in Littleton. Good job! By the way Jeff, you get to hide the next one.

Mark your calendars for May 10 & 11! We will be joining the Gold Prospectors of Colorado for a prospecting outing at Point Bar along the Arkansas River about 4 miles below Salida. Henry Chambless is getting information about lodging and camping in the area. You will need a dredge permit if you are planning to use motorized equipment.

(Continued on page 6)

## VP's Corner by, Allen Mershon

### Local Gold Prospecting Sites

By, Allen Mershon

Transcribed by,  
Paul Nagy

Allen Mershon is the club's Vice President, a long-time active member, and a professional expert of local gold placer mining. He

is very knowledgeable about local prospecting locales in his long association with a gold recovery company. However, we must include the important proviso that no guarantee can be given of the legality of ANY prospecting technique or of the legality of

prospecting, or even entering on ANY site mentioned. It is up to each individual to identify and contact the appropriate jurisdiction for each site.

Allen begins with the warning that because of the excessive

(Continued on page 6)

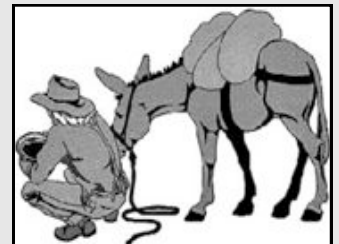
### GPOR Website

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



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

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



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**GPR Board Members**

Gold Prospectors  
of the Rockies

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Gary Hawley

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Allen Mershon

**Treasurer**

Kathy Hawley

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Robert Deschambault,

*(Elected 2007)*

Joe Johnston,

*(Elected 2007)*

Joe Shubert

*(Elected 2008)*

**1 Year Board Members**

Paul Nagy

Sue Lemeux

Mike Barker

Arron Ingalls

Jeff Mosteller

Andy Doll

Henry Chambless

**Program for the  
March 2008 Meeting**



The  
Program

**Schedule for the March  
2008 Meeting will be an-  
nounced at the Meeting.**

**Please plan to attend!**

**Board Meeting Minutes, for February 20, 2008**

**Gold Prospectors of the  
Rockies Board Meeting  
of February 20, 2008**

**Roll call.**

*(Those in attendance):*

Gary Hawley

Allen Mershon

Kathy Hawley

Rob Deschambault

Joe Johnston

Joe Shubert

Paul Nagy

Sue Lemieux

Aaron Ingalls

Mike Barker

Jeff Mosteller

Andy Doll

Henry Chambless

**Quorum present?**

Yes.

**Call to order.**

Meeting was called to order  
at 6:08 PM by, Gary Haw-  
ley.

**Reading and approval of  
minutes.**

Read by Gary Hawley.

**Corrections:**

None.

**Approved as read/  
corrected?**

Yes.

**Treasurer's Report.**

Read by Gary Hawley.

**Questions:**

None.

**Accepted?**

Yes.

**Correspondence.**

1. Newsletters from other  
clubs.

2. Membership renewals.

**Committee Reports:**

Web Master Report: *Not  
available.*

**Unfinished Business:**

1. Coin hunt – Joe Johnston,  
Henry Chambless, Gary  
Hawley. Set a date for the  
hunt. Possibly August 23?  
Approved by Henry Cham-  
bless.

2. Recorder Committee:  
Andy Doll – Does Andy  
need anything? Nothing  
needed.

3. Email newsletters – Gary  
Hawley – Discussed with  
editor. Gary will mention at  
tonight's meeting and fol-  
low up with newsletter arti-  
cle.

**New Business:**

1. Gary Hawley is request-  
ing Board input on control-  
ling the noise from the  
back of the meeting room  
during meetings. Several  
ideas were discussed and  
will be proposed to the gen-  
eral membership tonight.

2. Bruce Geller with the  
School of Mines is request-  
ing a supply of our tri-fold  
information sheet. Jeff  
Mosteller will deliver some  
to him.

**Join Us on the  
Third Wednesday  
of each month**

Lloyd G. Clements  
Community Center

1580 Yarrow Street  
Lakewood, CO.

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

**7 p.m. Meeting**

**6 p.m. Board  
Meeting**

**Information:**

303/933.1147  
[ghawley1@msn.com](mailto:ghawley1@msn.com)

**Website:**

[www.goldprospectors  
oftherockies.com](http://www.goldprospectors<br/>oftherockies.com)



3. Andy Doll requests the use of the club's panning tubs and gold pans the annual "Kids to Work" program at a local BLM office. Approved by the Board.

**Planned Outings:**

- 1. May 10 & 11- Point Bar prospecting outing.
- 2. June 21 - Hydee Mine tour.
- 3. September 20 - Club picnic.

**Announcements:**

- 1. Next board meeting: March 19, 2008, at 6:00 PM.
- 2. Next general meeting: March 19, 2008, at 7:00 PM.

Tonight's general meeting program:

Allen Mershon presents: Where to find gold in Colorado.

Adjournment:

Meeting stands adjourned at 6:40 PM.

**Your Write**

**Summers Travels**

By,  
Leslie Schomer

Hello all! During my travels this summer I found a very interesting rock shop in Creede that I'd like to share with you.

Creede is a very small town in the Southwest area of

Colorado. I make several visits to this area each summer, and I like to take different routes to see more of the beautiful state I live in. In the spring, I went through Ouray and Silverton to Durango. This summer included the Black Canyon of the Gunnison and Lake City and Creede.

Creede is on Highway 149 and can be approached from the north just west of Gunnison (Highway 50) or the south through South Fork (Highway 160). It is a little place in the canyon mouth with one main street full of touristy shops. The canyon and the hills above Creede are dotted with mines.

I came into Creede from the north through Lake City. The highway curves around the mountains and when you arrive in Creede, it brings you in on the south end of town. The very first shop I saw was a rock shop. There were rocks, mineral specimens, antiques, and mining equipment sitting out front. It was an old cabin-looking building with a wooden porch across the front. I am including these specific descriptions because I don't know what the name of the store is! After my purchase, I wrote a check to the business owner in his name,

and I don't remember a sign out front!!

So anyway, here I am with some time on my hands. And I needed it! I walked in the store and Ken Wyley, the owner, was very welcoming and full of information! I only had to ask one question and it was on! Lots of facts and stories flowed as Ken had worked in several of the mines around Creede. He had many gorgeous examples of Brazilian amethyst (from Colorado but a darker color), Colorado amethyst, and a beautiful huge \$8,000 hunk that displayed zinc and lead with amethyst. (No, I didn't bring that one home!) The lead specimens are really awesome because of their cubic formation.

Well, I ended up staying for an hour. A few other customers came in while I was there. I had fun listening to their questions and hearing more stories. I did buy two small samples from the mines and a sliced piece of a colorful intrusion of mixed composition.

Ken was a friendly host and I will plan to stop in again next time I go through the area. It was a lot of fun and a nice break on the drive. Highway 149 was an easy drive, so stop by Ken's - see what you can find!!

**Your Write  
(Instructions)**

GPR members, guests and visitors are welcome to submit articles of interest, topic ideas and even creative artwork for consideration to appear in the GPR monthly newsletter.

Submit your article, idea and/or your artwork (*pictures or hand illustrations*) by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of the month for appearance in the coming issue(s) of *The Gold Nugget*!

*(All submissions are subject to approval and editing by the GPR board president and the editor).*

Please respond to:  
Keith R. Hawley  
Editor,  
GPR Newsletter  
[daotter@msn.com](mailto:daotter@msn.com)



General Meeting Minutes, for February 20, 2008

Planning Calendar 2008

April

16<sup>th</sup>. Club Meeting

May

10<sup>th</sup>. & 11<sup>th</sup>. Point Bar

Outing

21<sup>st</sup>. Club Meeting

June

18<sup>th</sup>. Club Meeting

22<sup>nd</sup>. Hydee Mine Tour

July

16<sup>th</sup>. Club Meeting

August

20<sup>th</sup>. Club Meeting

23<sup>rd</sup>. Coin Hunt

September

17<sup>th</sup>. Club Meeting

20<sup>th</sup>. Club Picnic

October

15<sup>th</sup>. Club Meeting

November

19<sup>th</sup>. Club Meeting

December

17<sup>th</sup>. Annual Potluck Dinner

2009

January

21<sup>st</sup>. Club Meeting

February

18<sup>th</sup>. Club Meeting

March

18<sup>th</sup>. Club Meeting

GPR General Meeting Notes

Clements Center Lakewood, CO

February 20, 2008

By, Paul Nagy

7:08 Meeting called to order by President Gary Hawley. Pledge of Allegiance led by Sgt. Leroy Lamgo, U.S. Army (Ret.).

7:10 Metal Prices. Buy or sell?

7:12 Television clip of Gary Hawley recently prospecting in Clear Creek. Nice club promo by Channel 9 News reporting on record gold prices. Newscaster ends with, "Don't quit your day job."

7:18 Who's been out panning during recent fair weather. Also, the newsletter has been getting compliments and is coming up to snuff. Congrats to our new editor. Dues are due to those who have not re-upped.

7:20 Membership report by Jackie Barker: 127 individual and family memberships including three tonight: Don Luchtenburg, Robert Miller, and Steve Wine - Good move, guys! Welcome aboard! Also, guests Scott Auguste, Dan Michael, J. Daniel Sadillo, and Ryan Warner - Come back and sign up!

7:22 Prez Hawley brings up the subject of unnecessary loud talking in the

back of the hall during presentations. We owe the courtesy of quiet attention to those who have come here as our guests to entertain and edify us. Solutions were sought from the floor for this ongoing problem. In the end a motion was made and passed to appoint a Sergeant-At-Arms to enforce good behavior. Rudeness is not cool.

7:30 VP's report by Allen Mershon: Mineral prices at all time highs. You can make \$15.00/hr. collecting aluminum cans. Many metal parts and objects being stolen.

7:34 Gary Hawley says Westminster no longer allows ANY prospecting, including panning, metal detecting, etc. Also, Chaffee County allows camping only on official camp sites. There are none directly at prospecting sites on Cache Creek, so be sure you camp legally.

7:38 May 10 - 11 Point Bar campout near Salida scheduled. BLM has fixed up the area. More info coming.

7:44 Gary Hawley visited the Gold Exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Startling specimens including a 56 pound nugget! Pan that! Exhibit on into June.

7:48 Ian Duncanson asks the question of the month. Later the answer and prize tickets to the winners.

7:49 The Hidden Cache

has been found! Ace sleuths Jeff and Donna Mosteller doped it out. Explanation of clues. (Beats me how they do it.) Prize is the 8.4 gram nugget.

8:02 Recess.

8:17 Evening's program. Allen Mershon presents "Local Gold Prospecting Sites."

8:34 Gary Hawley announces finds of the month.

8:37 Prize drawings, then adjourn.

From the Editor

Thank you to all of the members who contributed their articles for consideration in the March newsletter.

The new Your Write column is for you to share your stories, experiences and even your imagination. Feel free to share your artwork (drawings or photographs). Please remember that we cannot use any material that is copyright protected. All work must be original or used with permission.

If your article does not appear in the month you have submitted it, it will appear in a later issue.

Again, thank you and please keep writing.

Keith R. Hawley



**Find of the Month (FOM) February, 2008**

**Winners in Bold**

By,  
Joe Johnston,  
Finds Program Coordinator.

Best Bottle

No entries

Best Jewelry

Susan Duncanson - Silver Charm

Largest Raw Gold

**Rick LaCombe - Arizona flake gold**

Most Raw Gold

**Joe Fortunato - Clear Creek gold .1 g**

Most Valuable U.S. Coin

Joe Johnston - 1941 Flying Liberty dime

**Joe Fortunato - 1978 Ike dollar from playground**

Oldest Coin

Susan Duncanson - 1974 quarter

Ian Duncanson - 1776-1976 half dollar

**Donovan Green - 1939 nickel**

Most Unique (Non-Excavated)

Steve DiSciullo- Pick & Spike, Green Mountain Open Space

Joe Johnston - folding knife

**Don Dixon - bronze token, Sloans Lake**

Most Unique (Excavated)

Joe Johnston - kids' toy

Way to go everyone, keep up the good hunting! **Congratulations to this month's winners! Be sure to save your FOM winning items for entry in the Find of the Year (FOY) competition in December.**

NOTE: Finds made from the end of the February meeting to the time of the March meeting are eligible for entry in the March FOM program. Keep those finds handy and bring them then. Bring your best finds, and we'll see you at the next meeting.

Don't forget to bring your bottles, jewelry, coins, gold or other finds. Remember those entries get you drawing tickets and those tickets WIN! Just ask Sue, Marlin and others that have held tickets for FOM entries and WON! **Note: While prospecting season is upon us be sure to bring a second IDENTICAL container with your gold sample entries for weigh in comparison. We will weigh the container with the gold and subtract the weight of the container without the gold to determine the weight of the**

**sample, so have an IDENTICAL container filled with the same liquid for comparison weigh in.**

Each member is allowed **one entry per category** each month. Additional finds may be displayed as 'show & tell' items.

**From the Ledger of,**  
*Kathy Hawley,*  
*Treasurer/Secretary*

I want to thank Sharon and Chuck Cown for handling my duties at the February meeting. I had the nasty flu bug that is going around. Thanks to Allen Mershon and Leroy Lamgo for the donations to the member's only drawing.

We will give away a total of **9.3 grams of gold** at the March meeting. **3 nuggets will be 1 gram or over,** with the largest being **1.9 grams.**

We will give away the "Special Nugget" at the March meeting. The Siberian nugget weighs 12.3 grams. You need not be present to win.

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

**"The Question of the Month"**  
*By, Ian & Susan Duncanson*  
What historical event took place on September 9, 1891 in the Cripple Creek Mining District?

Gold's chemical symbol, Au; comes from the Latin word for gold:  
**Aurum**



**“What have you been doing?”**

Where did you prospect last summer?

What did you find?

What kind of equipment did/do you use?

How did/do you research your location?

Did you file any claims?

What would you have done/do differently?

Did you take any pictures?

Answer any or all of these questions in an article about your prospecting related experiences from recent times and send it to:

Keith R. Hawley  
Editor,  
GPR Newsletter  
[daotter@msn.com](mailto:daotter@msn.com)

**VP's**

*(Continued from page 1)*

snowfall this winter, there will be dangerously fast run-off this spring and summer. Even shallow water can sweep you away. A good emergency flotation device to throw to someone is a Styrofoam cooler. Be careful - always!

Some of the better published sources for gold placer prospecting in Colorado are:

Gold Panning and Placering in Colorado by, Ben H. Parker, Jr., Pub. Colo. Geological Survey, 1992

Gold Prospector's Handbook by Jack Black, 1983

Gold Placer Map of Colorado by Western Prospector and Miner, Pub. K.B. Slocum Books, 1987

Maps of Proven Gold Placer Deposits in Colorado, H & H Publishing, Manitou Spgs, CO, 1982

Encyclopedia of Placer Mining by Reed A. Hatkoff, Pub. Inter Resources Publications, Lakewood, CO, 1983

Gold Mines and Prospects of Clear Creek County. CD-ROM=Summit Data Services, Golden, CO, 1999

Good on-line sources are:

Coloradoprospector.com

Prospector-Coalliance.org (search "placer")

Those should help you if you are new to gold prospecting or an Old Timer. Here are some good sites to try (*Remember to contact appropriate authorities first*):

Clear Creek. Below the water treatment plant in the canyon.

In Golden downstream of any of the three bridges behind the supports.

Ralston Creek at the 58th Avenue bridge and above the dam.

Idaho Springs. Near the high school football field.

Breckenridge. Along the Blue River and around the old spoils piles.

Leadville. Old mine dumps.

Cripple Creek. Below the mines.

Arkansas River. Bridge trestle supports and mossy places.

Placer prospecting is a "can't lose" activity because you will always get fresh air, exercise, and scenic beauty. Many would argue that your life and how you spend it is worth more than any gold!

**Prez**

*(Continued from page 1)*

If you plan to use motorized equipment in the Cache Creek area this year, you are invited to check the following web site for information about a required BLM permit for that area. BLM is going to be strict about use of this site and we will comply fully. This is too good an area to mess up.

[http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo/minerals/locatable\\_minerals/placer\\_mining/cache\\_creek.html](http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo/minerals/locatable_minerals/placer_mining/cache_creek.html)

Kathy Hawley was out sick during our meeting in February. Chuck and Sharon Cown handled the ticket sales and Chuck helped me during the drawings. Thanks to Chuck and Sharon for their help on short notice.

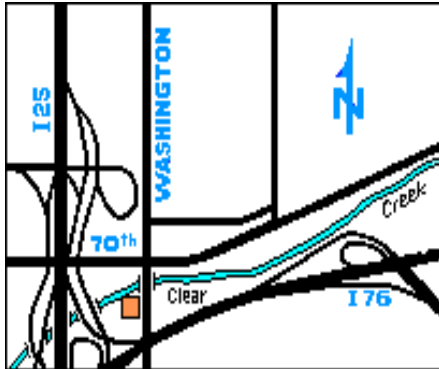
The 12.3 gram Siberian nugget will be given away at the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting so you don't want to miss this one. The winner need not be present to win however; the name must be readable on the ticket drawn.

We are off to a good start this year! Attend the meetings, get involved, and volunteer to help.

Until next time: May the gold in your pan be worth the effort you put into find-



## TYMKOVICH MEATS



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 Open Wed-Sat  
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Show your GPOR newsletter or membership card or Pic-n-Pan newsletter and receive a 5% discount on your purchases.

Authorized Keene Engineering Dealer

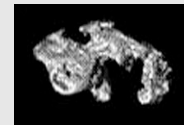
Randy Burks, Owner

720-635-6992

121 Main St, Central City Colorado 80427

### Colorado Nuggets

### Gold Nuggets from Around the World



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(303) 679-0475

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[www.coloradonuggets.com](http://www.coloradonuggets.com)

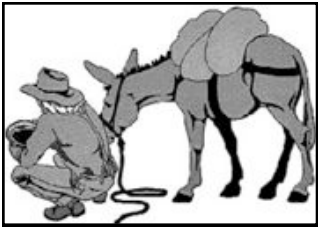
### For Sale

Proline 3” Highbanker/Dredge Combo 4HP Honda motor with 175 GPM pump. Complete unit with extras, tools, all hoses and everything shipped from the dealer. Has less than 100 total hours in the water. We paid \$1,400 new. New models are selling for \$2,600. Asking \$1,000 cash (firm). (This is the same machine we were displaying at the panning demos). Call Jeff Mosteller at 303.202.9302.

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

Members of the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies are welcome to submit their personal classified ads for items they want to sell, or for items they may be looking to buy. Place your ad in the Gold Nugget. If you are interested, please contact the newsletter editor. “Deadline” for submission is on the 25th of the month for publication in the next month’s issue of the newsletter.

Keith Hawley, [daotter@msn.com](mailto:daotter@msn.com)



**The Gold Nugget**

Gold Prospectors of the Rockies  
 PO Box 621988  
 Littleton, CO 80162-1988

Place  
 Postage  
 Here

**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

For information to publish your "Ad" in the Gold Nugget, please contact the editor. **Copy Deadline** is due to the editor by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month for publication in the following month's issue of the newsletter.

Keith R. Hawley, Editor GPR Newsletter  
[daotter@msn.com](mailto:daotter@msn.com)

*(Layout Design Subject to Additional Cost)*



**Coming Announcements and Special Events April 2008**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	<b>2 Submission Deadline for Newsletter</b>	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	<b>16 Club Meeting</b>	17	18	19 Passover begins at Sundown
20 Passover	21	22	23 Administrative Professionals Day	24	<b>25 Copy Deadline for Newsletter</b>	26
27 Eastern Orthodox Easter	28	29	30			