# GPR Website Link: www.goldprospectorsoftherockies.com

# THE GOLD NUGGET

June 2010

## The Prez Sez by Gary Hawley

Safety first! The spring thaw and recent thunderstorms have caused the creeks and rivers to rise. The current is powerful, swift, and cold. Caps,

gloves, pans and snuffer bottles float. Most prospectorsnot so well, especially in very cold water.

Thanks to Joe Fortunato for his wonderful presentation on mining claims. He will be back at our June 16 meeting for part 2 on the subject.

Sue Lemieux has scheduled a tour of the Cresson Mine in Victor on June 26. This is a wonderful guided tour, by small bus, of a large open pit mine. (Can you say "Vug"?) Seating is limited so you must be signed up and have paid the \$5.00 fee by our June 16 meeting. Winfield Scott Stratton was involved with locating and working mines in this area and became Cripple Creek's first millionaire.

Sue has also scheduled a tour of the Phoenix Mine for July 31. She will have more information at the meeting. Sue will have some interesting information about the Cache at the meeting. Stay tuned.

Joe Johnston reports that there are many books and videos that have not been returned to our library. He is asking that all past due items be returned at the June 16 meeting. In an effort to assist Joe, and as a reminder to those who have past due materials, there will be a list printed in our July newsletter indicating the past due article and the borrower.

Thanks to all members who help stack the chairs after the meeting. This helps secure our relationship with Clement Community Center.

Check out Kathy's article about the nuggets she will have at the meeting. She keeps throwing in at least one good sized nugget every time.

Personal request from me to you: Give a handshake and a "thank you" to your Board Members, they are a great group and have made my job much easier this year. And they care about the GPR.

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

Gary Hawley (303) 933-1147 <a href="mailto:ghawley1@msn.com">ghawley1@msn.com</a>

## The V.P. Corner by Jim Long

This is that time of year when playing in the water could potentially be hazardous to your health. Please, please, please be careful if you plan on

any outings. I cannot stress how important it is to tell someone where you are going and even better yet, take a friend and your cell phone along with you just for safety's sake.

How many of us would like to have a shaker table of our very own set up in the garage to separate those black sands and extract our gold in as pure a form as we can? The GPAA recently tested two new products that kind of go hand in hand and just might finally be affordable. They are called the <u>Gotcha Water Table</u> and the <u>Magna-Two Magnetite Remover</u>. They were invented and built by Bill Martsolf, a long time GPAA member.

The Magna-Two works on dry concentrates. They say that a magnet will remove your black sands without removing particles of gold, but I have found that to not necessarily be true. I am sure many of you out there have as well. The Magna-Two adds vibration to the magnetic system. It works on electricity and magnetism. This product is rated highly for separating all that magnetite from the gold concentrates. After using the Magna-Two, you are ready for the Gotcha-Water Table. The Gotcha Water Table works on gravity with a re-circulating water pump and a little Jet-Dry. The end result is quick clean up of your concentrates to a fairly pure product, providing of course, that you had any gold in those concentrates to begin with. The Magna-Two runs about 142.00 plus s&h and the Gotcha runs about 215.00 plus s&h. To review these products for yourselves, I recommend you check out Bill's web site by going to Google and search "nuggetbill' and pull up his four videos. These are well worth watching. You can also contact Bill at <a href="martsolf22@msn.com">martsolf22@msn.com</a> if you are really interested. It seems there are always a lot of products out there for the small scale miner and a lot of them usually will do a pretty fair job. It is always good to really look them over close though before you spend your hard earned money. Make sure that what you get will do the job that you want it to do or you could wind up with a shed and/or garage full of prospecting equipment destined for a future garage sale. I will have a copy of the test review by the GPAA at the front table during the June Meeting for those of you who would like to read it.

Our May speaker, Board Member Joe Fortunato, put on a great class on how to file your own mining claim. It was so informative that Joe will do the second half of the presentation at the June Meeting. This is a presentation that you don't want to miss!!

It was good to see Chuck Cown back at the Meeting and it looks like he will be all healed by June.

Until we meet again, keep your sunny side up and may the bottom of your pan turn bright with that 'Yaller Gold'!

Contact me at inslong945@msn.com



## From the Ledger Of Kathy Hawley, Treasurer/Secretary

Thanks to J.J. Long, Gordon

Morgan, Phillip Huff, Sue Lemieux, Don Bray and Steve Overton for the donations for the members only drawing.

We will give away a total of 7.6 grams of gold at the June meeting. 1 nugget will be 3.0 grams.

We will continue to sell tickets for a special nugget. The nugget weighs 14.8 grams, it is from the Dunglen Mining District of Nevada. This drawing is for club members only, tickets are \$1.00 each or 7 tickets for \$5.00. It will be a few months until we give the nugget away.

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

### **Board Meeting Minutes for May 2010 Meeting**

Roll Call: Attending

X Gary Hawley	X	Rob Deschambault	X	Terry Weatherly	X	Susan Duncanson	Aaron Ingalls
X James Long	X	Sue Lemieux	X	Joe Fortunato	X	Joe Johnston	
X Don Bray	X	Joe Shubert	X	Andy Doll	X	Kathy Hawley	

#### 2010 GPR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS

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Robert Deshambault (2008)

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Sue Lemieux

Don Bray

Susan Duncanson

Terry Weatherly

Joe Fortunato

Andy Doll

President Pro Tem

Aaron Ingalls

Quorum present? Yes.

Call to order. Meeting was called to order at 6:05 by Gary Hawley.

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. None.

<u>Committee Reports:</u> \*\*Membership Committee–Susan Duncanson reports the New

Member Packet is complete and presented a sample packet. Club meeting information,

prospecting locations and other information for New Members is included. Webmaster–Andy Doll reports 99,355 hits since website was developed.

Unfinished Business: Joe Johnston-metal detecting dates?? Still working.

<u>New Business</u>: \*\*Jim Long–Panning demos update. June 12–Bemis Library in Littleton, Noon to 3:00 pm.

\*\*Joe Johnston-Question on 'Lifetime Membership' for Rick La Combe. After discussion, 100% Board approval.

<u>Planned Outings</u>; \*\*Sue Lemieux - June 26-Tour of open pit mine in Victor.

Limited to 14 people. Must sing up now. Cost \$5.00 each. Be in Victor at 1:00 pm.

\*\*Sue Lemieux-July 31-Tour of Phoenix Mine. \$10.00 each for tour only. More

information at June meeting.

Announcements: Next board meeting June 16, 2010, at 6:00 P.M.

Next general meeting June 16, 2010, at 7:00 P.M.

Tonight's general meeting program: Member Joe Fortunato-mining claims.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:48 P.M.

#### **QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

In 1951 what happened at the Carlton Mill in Cripple Creek that revolutionized the mining industry?

### Fun Facts about Gold by Jim Long

A few Properties of Gold

An unparalleled combination of chemical and physical properties makes gold invaluable to a wide range of everyday applications. One of the most important of these properties is gold's virtual indestructibility. Gold is the most non-reactive of all metals. It is called a "noble" metal (an alchemistic term) because it does not oxidize under ordinary conditions, meaning that it will never rust and never tarnish. It will, however, dissolve in aqueous mixtures containing various halogens such as chlorides, bromides, or some iodides. It will also dissolve in some oxidizing mixtures, such as cyanide ion with oxygen, and in aqua regia, a mixture of hydrochloric and nitric acids.

Gold's physical properties of high electrical conductivity and chemical inertness make it an excellent and reliable conductor, particularly in harsh environments, where temperatures can range from -55°C to 200°C. The use of gold in



circuitry ensures reliability of equipment operation, particularly in the vital activation of safety airbag mechanisms in motor vehicles or deployment of satellites and spacecraft. No other metal is as ductile or as malleable as gold. A single ounce of the metal can be drawn into a wire five miles long. Gold can be hammered into sheets so thin that light can pass through. High purity gold reflects infrared (heat) energy almost completely, making it ideal for heat and radiation reflection. Gold-coated visors protected astronauts' eyes from searing sunlight on the Apollo 11 moon landing. Gold is also an excellent conductor of thermal energy. It is used in many electronic processes to draw heat away from delicate instruments. For example, the main engine nozzle of the space shuttle uses a 35% gold alloy.

#### From the Webmaster

If you haven't had a chance to take a look of the videos available on the web site. When we have guest speakers or something special going on at the meetings I will record it and list it here. These are not streaming videos so download and save them to your computer. Then run it.

In May we had Joe Fortunato speaking about how to establish a claim. That presentation is now on the web page for viewing. In June we will have part two.

Thanks: Andy Doll

#### **General Meeting Minutes for May 2010 Meeting**

- 1. President Gary Hawley called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.
- 2. LeRoy Lamgo led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance, to open the meeting.
- 3. Gary noted today's metal prices as follows: Gold \$1194.07 per oz, Silver \$18.25 per oz, Platinum\$1606 per oz. and Palladium \$464.00 per oz.
- 4. Gary announced, to the membership, that according to the Board Meeting treasurer's report the club is still operating in the black.
- 5. Gary asked Mike Hurtado for this evening's membership report. Mike reported that we have 97 paid memberships with 3 new members, 5 guests and 59 in attendance.
- 6. Gary recognized and thanked Phil Huff for filling in for Roger Biri, refreshment coordinator, in his temporary absence.
- 7. Gary turned the meeting over to Vice President Jim Long for the introduction of tonight's guest speaker. Jim introduced GPR Member/Board Member Joe Fortunato as tonight's program speaker. Joe's program purpose is to inform the membership about the issues involved with 'Claims Acquisition and Management', with an emphasis on placer claims as opposed to lode claims.
  - The U.S. Government recognizes two types of mining claims "Lode" and "Placer". Lode claims cover those mineral deposits still contained within their host rock layers such as veins, dikes, or minerals disseminated throughout the host rock. Placer claims cover those mineral deposits which have weathered from their host rock and been transported and deposited at some new location by the action of wind and/or water, usually in sand and gravel beds.
  - Mining claims can have one of two types of legal status, 'Patented' or 'Unpatented'. Most claims start as unpatented and some are later converted to patented. A patented claim is a 'Deeded' parcel of land conveyed from the U.S. Govt. to a private party and is then private property and to be treated as such. An unpatented claim grants the claim holder the ownership of the mineral rights only, on a parcel of Govt. owned public land. The surface rights and public access rights for all activities except mineral extraction are retained by the Govt.
  - Colorado has 36 counties that are known to have produced placer gold. Eight of these counties have produced 90% of the known CO placer gold production: Summit, Lake, Park, Clear Creek, Chaffee, Gilpin, Adams and Jefferson.
  - Joe suggested several research aids to facilitate the preliminary selection of "areas of interest". "BLM Surface Management Maps", USGS topographic maps, CO placer gold books authored by Ben Parker Jr., and the "Gold Occurrences of CO'book. Also, from the BLM obtain a "BLM Mining Claims Packet' and "Master Title Plat', of the townships of interest.
  - Upon selection of a prime of "area of interest" you need to research further to determine the availability unclaimed land in that section. Make use of the BLM search room facilities at the BLM Colorado State Office at 2850



Youngfield Street Lakewood, CO 80215 and/or use the GEOcommunicator and 'LR2000' websites to locate areas open for claims (http://www.geocommunicator.gov) (http://www.blm.gov/lr2000/links.htm).

- Field sample to determine the presence of mineralization in economically mineable quantities.
- Define the claim location, plot location on a topo map and fill out a "Claim Location Certificate."
- File the claim with the BLM, first, and then with the county clerk/recorder in the county seat of the county in which the claim resides.
- Go to the claim site and mark it on the ground in accordance with BLM procedures.
- In answer to a question Joe stated that, for placer claims, an individual may file up to a maximum 20-acre claim. An association of individuals may file, a single claim of up to 20 acres per individual to a maximum of 160 acres for eight or more individuals.

Joe did not finish his presentation tonight. Gary and Joe agreed that the presentation should be continued next month due to the importance of the subject to our club's activities.

- 8. Gary called on Ian Duncanson to announce his "question of the month" which is, "Name the business that Bob Ford (who killed Jesse James) owned in Creede, CO'. Ian stated he would accept two answers.
- 9. Gary asked and Kathy confirmed that she is still selling tickets for the 14.8-gram "Members-Only" Large Nugget Drawing later this year.
- 10. Gary asked Sue Lemieux to read her cache clue and make any other announcements, she announced the following:
  - Sue read Cache Clue #9.
  - Sue announced the Golden Cupcake awards for the month of May birthdays. Only two persons present admitted to a May birthday and received awards, Walt Nowakowski and Donna Mosteller.
  - Sue has a field trip to the Cresson Gold Mine in Victor (Cripple Creek) for Saturday, June 26. Tour start time is 1:00 P.M. and tour is limited to 14 persons due to tour van capacity. Tour cost is \$5.00 per person. Sign up sheet will be on the front table during the break. More information to follow next month.
  - Sue also has a field trip to the Phoenix Gold Mine in Idaho Springs for Saturday, July 31. Tour start time is 11:00 A.M. Tour cost is \$10.00 per adult, \$5.00 per child age 5-11, under 4 free. Gold panning is available with an extra fee and a senior discount is available. Sign up sheet will be on the front table during the break. More information to follow next month.
  - The club store is open tonight at the break.
- 11. Jim Long announced his next panning demonstration event on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. This demonstration is at the Bemis Library, 6014 Datura St. in Littleton, from 11:00 A.M. till 4:00 P.M. Jim needs eight people to help out with this one, a sign up sheet will be on the front table during the break.
- 12. Gary announced a 10-minute break. Gary reconvened the meeting at 8:27.
- 13. Ian announced the two answers, acceptable, for the "question of the month". "Exchange Gambling Hall" or "Tent Saloon" was the two answers he was looking for. Eighteen members won a ticket for tonight's "club nugget' drawing, for their correct answers.
- 14. Joe Johnston informed this recorder that during the break GPR member J. Daniel Sedillo donated to the GPR Library a book titled "Energy Technology Handbook" by Considine. Thanks Daniel, all donations are greatly appreciated by the club members.
- 15. Chuck, Kathy, Jim and Gary conducted this evenings "member's only" and the "club nugget' drawings. For the "member's only" drawing, 13 member's prizes were donated by several members and won by other members. Eight nuggets for the "club nugget" drawing were won tonight, the largest being 1.6 gram. All nuggets tonight are from the Sunrise Mine near Winnemucca, NV.
- 16. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 P.M.

Submitted by, Don Bray, Recorder



#### Gold Prospectors Demonstrate Gold Panning at Aurora Youth Water Festival By Jim Long

Just visualize this picture in your mind. Ten major exhibitors (including our own GPR folks), 28 classroom presentations, six competitive youth challenge competitions, 29 Elementary Schools participating, and at least 1700 to 2000 participating 5<sup>th</sup> grade school children!!!! And all of this was accomplished in a mere 4 hours.

I gotta tell you folks, when the first group of kids started swarming towards the GPR panning tables, I suspected we were in for it big time. The next four hours saw all of our volunteers swarmed by kids of all sizes, shapes, colors and temperament interested in just one thing gold. We barely had time to work in a lunch break. When the dust settled and the splashing stopped, I was plumb exhausted.

All of this took place on Monday, May 17, at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Aurora Youth Water Festival held at the Aurora Community College Campus in Aurora. Our host was the Aurora City Water Department who provided us with coffee and donuts and other health food breakfast snackies to start our day before the kids mobbed us. They also provided a free lunch to all our hard working volunteers as well.

My personal thanks go to Gary and Kathy Hawley, Don Luchtenburg, Don Bray, Andy Doll, Joe Johnston, Phil Huff, and Mike Hurtado who all took time off and out of their busy schedules to help me pull this event off. You guys/gals are all quite simply the best!!!

So, until our next outing or event, just remember, Gold is a 'good' four letter word!



## **Sue's Sluice Box**

## **Cripple Creek & Victor Mine Tour**

Saturday, June 26<sup>r</sup> Meeting Time: 12:30pm at the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum, 3<sup>rd</sup> & Victor Ave., (# 15 on the Map). Tour starts at 1:00pm Sharp!

<u>Where:</u> Victor, CO (79<sup>th</sup> Annual Donkey Derby Days—June 26 & 27<sup>t</sup>, Festivities throughout the town. Free! **Directions**: From Denver:

Take I-25 South to Exit 141 for US-24 w/Cimarron St. Go West on US-24 through Woodland Park to Divide, CO. Turn Left (South) at CO-67 towards Cripple Creek.

Follow CO-67 through Cripple Creek to Victor (Museum will be on the right-reference Map).

- Parking is available on side streets.
- Cost: Adults \$5 (Payment to be collected at June's Meeting).

The Cresson Mine, is the largest Gold Mine in Colorado. You will gain a perspective of the modern-day methods keeping Victor's gold mining legacy alive! Bring your cameras! Wear Closed Toe Shoes. Hardhats and safety glasses will be provided.

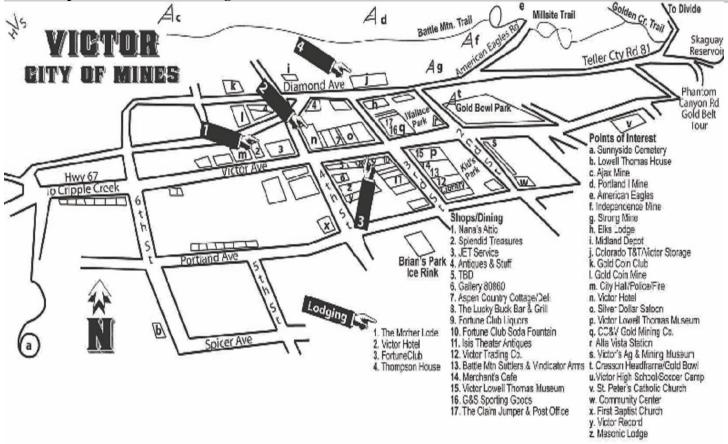
This tour is limited to 14 people MAX. 2 Spots still open!!

Any Questions: Come and talk with me or call 413-668-6008.

#### **Nearby Attractions & Events in Cripple Creek**

Molly Kathleen Mine Tours–9:00am to 5:00pm, Tours depart every 30 mins. Adults \$15, Children (3-12) \$10





### Lost Mine of Stevens Gulch by Jim Long

Henry Jackson, an old Negro, lived near the mouth of Stevens Gulch, the first big gulch this side of Strontia Springs, a station on the Platte Canyon branch of the Colorado and Southern Railway. In the early 1900's, Henry, gnarled and grizzled and gray, did not even know how old he was. His mother, a half-breed squaw, and he had lived with the Indians long before the white men came to Colorado.

When he was a little boy, he declared, the Indians used to go up Stevens Gulch and bring down ore in buckskin bags. Then the squaws would crush it up in crude mattes and wash it in a trough made of a hoowed-out log. When the sand was washed away, they would gather up the gold and put it in quills of eagle and goose feathers. Later on they would take it back to the 'River' (Missouri River) and trade it to the white men for beads, whiskey, and ammunition.

As Henry's story went, some time after the Civil War, two young men had stopped by his cabin one evening. They were from St. Joseph, Missouri. They listened in astonishment to Henry's account of the Indians mine and of the years there had been a steady flow of gold from it. The old Negro had not been interested enough to go up the gulch to see this piece of mountain that must be nearly solid with the precious metal. But the two young men wasted no time in exploring Stevens Gulch.

They had little trouble in locating the mine. They had more trouble getting an ox wagon up the narrow, rugged gulch in order to move their ore to market. It took them several months, but finally they had a wagon load of rich ore. They took it back to St. Joseph and sold it. While there, they made a crude map showing the location of their find and the hiding place of their tools.

They started back to their mine in 1867. They evidently had a road or trail somewhere near the present day Jarre Canyon Road, for their murdered bodies and the ox wagon were found near the Devil's Head mountains. It was supposed that Indians had killed them.

Later on, one of the relatives of the two young men sent a copy of the crude map to Henry Jackson and asked him to try to find the mine. He searched diligently but was unsuccessful. Yet, in 1910, he found the rusted remains of some very old-fashioned mining tools. They were concealed in a clump of dense underbrush and the location agreed with the point shown on the map.

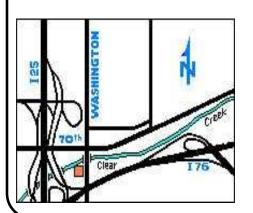


Strange to say, a young man named Carl R. Johnson brought indirect substantiation to this story. In 1911, he was hunting rabbits around the head of Stevens Gulch. Johnson noticed several veins of rusty quartz and picked up a sample or two from each vein. Altogether, he brought home a pocketful of rock. Later on, he was working in a testing plant in Denver and as the machinery was handy, he crushed up the pocketful of rocks and panned the lot. He was surprised to get a good string of colors.

It was not likely that all the quartz carried the gold. It was much more likely that one or two small pieces were rich and the rest worthless. So in 1912, he went back and hunted the same ground over, but he found only barren quartz. There was one place, however, which he could never find again. He remembered that he had pushed into the bushes because he thought he had seen a rabbit go in them and he had discovered a small tunnel. Johnson remembered picking up a piece of good looking quartz at that clump of bushes. It is possible that this was the rich piece of quartz that had yielded the colors and that the little hole or tunnel was the lost Indian mine. If so, that mine is still there, waiting to be rediscovered. Taken from Colorado's Lost Gold Mines and Buried Treasure by Caroline Bancroft and also told by George Jarvis Bancroft in the Rocky Mountain News in 1914.

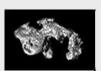
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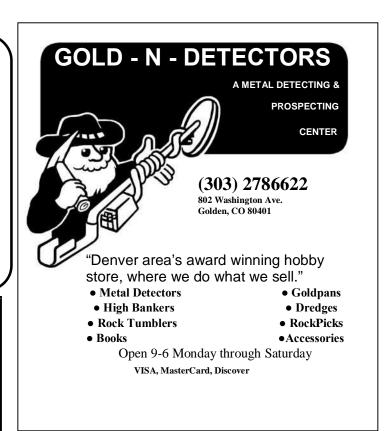
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#### **The Gold Nugget**

months' issue of the Newsletter.

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#### **Contact the GPR President**

please contact the Editor. **COPY DEADLINE** is due to the editor by the 25th of the month for publication in the following

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)

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Coming Announcements and Special Events for July 2010									
SUN	MON	TUE WED		THU	FRI	SAT			
				1	2	3			
Independence Day	5 Independence Day Observed	6	7	8	USGS Free GPS, Map, and Compass Class	Advert/Article Copy Deadline			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
18	19	20	GPR Club Meeting	22.	23	24			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31			