

The Prez Sez by Gary Hawley

The holidays are upon us and winter weather will soon arrive.

However, with proper layering of clothing and checking the weather reports before you go, you can still prospect the streams and develop some black sands to work on at home when the snow arrives. Be careful, be safe and have a good time.

Our last meeting was very busy with the election of Board Members for 2011 and nominations for the 2010 Ken Barker Award. Because Kathy and I are planning to do some traveling next year we had to remove our names from the ballot. My thanks to those members who stepped up and volunteered to take on our positions and also to those who volunteered for other open board positions. I have always been impressed by the amount of work and hours spent by members helping promote gold prospecting in general and the GPR specifically. Thank you!

Thanks to Joe Shubert for his professional handling of the elections. It's a tough job and Joe has mastered the procedure. Look for his article outlining the election results.

Thanks to Ed & Gina Fielding for taking over the Membership Committee.

December 15 will be our Christmas Potluck social. There will be **no nugget drawings** at this meeting. Be there early as **we will begin the meal at 6:00 p.m.** Please bring the dish of your choice with enough for your family and one other person. The club will provide plastic ware, paper plates, coffee, sodas and ice. Please mark your dishes and serving utensils so you can find them after dinner.

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

Gary Hawley (303) 933-1147 ghawley1@msn.com

Until Next Time...By Gary Hawley

You have seen this end-line on my newsletter articles since 2002. It has been a reminder to put prospecting into perspective when compared to the cost of equipment, gasoline, time spent away from home, and what the hoped-for results might be...beautiful gold nuggets (we wish), volumes of "pickers" (that would be nice), a vial of gold dust (that would be fine, also).

In reality, though some are fortunate enough to make those finds, the "gold in your pan" is the enjoyment of the activity, the hope for riches and the camaraderie of like-minded people who share your enthusiasm for the activity.

Over the last several years I have become aware that the gold in my pan includes the value of many wonderful friends and members of GPR. Your willingness to volunteer to help the club, your attendance at the meetings and your support of the president and Board members has been the "pickers" that I look for. Thank you!

Kathy and I will be doing some traveling and prospecting next year and it appears the "gold in our pan" will include a map and a mining guide. I have been very fortunate to have Kathy's help and involvement in the GPR and she is definitely my "nugget" for our next adventure.

Continue to support your club, your President, your Board members, and the prospecting community for combined they are the vial of gold you are searching for.

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



The V.P. Corner by Jim Long

Well, I hope everyone enjoyed a great Thanksgiving. And if you had a great meal like I did, I hope you have been able to get out

and get your exercise by doing a little gold prospecting, rock hounding, or something to shed those extra pounds. Christmas is coming and that means another great feast as well as other Yule festivities.

You know, prospecting is really an excellent form of exercise to get rid of those extra unwanted pounds gained during the holiday feasting. If you don't believe me, then you have never spent 3 hours or more bent over shoveling dirt into a highbanker, or classifying material in a streambed, feeding a sluice box, or just plain panning. You work a large variety of muscles throughout the body and limbs, muscles you don't normally work during the everyday routine. It not only works a large amount of various muscle groups in the legs, arms, back, and stomach but also provides a pretty good cardio workout as well. Even though we are usually standing in water or working with water, we often forget to drink water. Hydration is a critical matter, and even more so for those of us who have aged just a little bit. Lack of proper hydration leads to fatigue and can result in dizziness and that is not good when working in the creek. Falls resulting from dizziness can result in serious injury to say the least. I know from experience, any injury suffered in remote areas can often be life threatening. It is no fun at all for the injured or ill and even less so for those who are helping. Remote area rescues can be quite traumatic as well as quite expensive. All things that you need to consider when you are out prospecting. That is why we stress so hard the need to always let someone know where you are going and take someone with you. Prospectors are notorious for being loners and overly secretive about their comings and goings and though I certainly understand the rationale behind it, it has cost many a prospector their life.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Party on Dec 15. We always have a good time at the party. It will be my last meeting as your current Vice President but I will be assuming the role of President in January. I sincerely appreciate the support of the membership during this last year and I think the Club has had a really good 2010. I hope that 2011 proves to be just as entertaining and event filled and fun for everyone.

And that is how I see it from here. So until we meet again, keep your sunny sides up and may the bottom of your pans turn bright with that 'Yaller Gold'!

Contact me at jnslong945@msn.com

From the Ledger Of Kathy Hawley, Treasurer/Secretary

Thanks to J. J. Long, Lloyd Lauck, Phillip Huff and Mike Hurtado for their donations to the members only drawing.

There will not be a nugget drawing at the December 15 meeting as that is our Christmas potluck dinner. I always look forward to this event as I can enjoy great food and play Santa.

Thanks to Chuck Cown for all his help at the drawing table throughout the year.

Thanks to Peg Brozek. She will be taking over as Secretary/Treasurer in January 2011. I am leaving you in very capable hands.

Best wishes and I'll see you next year.



Board Meeting Minutes From Nov 2010

Roll Call: Attending

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

Quorum present? Yes.

Call to order. Meeting was called to order at 6:17 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.

Committee Reports: Web hits: 102,183.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- Thanks to Sue Lemieux for the Pumpkin Carvin' contest.
- Joe Shubert – report – tonight's elections.
- Joe Shubert – report – Ken Barker Award nominations.

Planned Outings: Thanks to Sue Lemieux for the School of Mines Museum tour.

Announcements:

- Next Board Meeting: December 15, 2010, at 5:55 p.m.
- Next general meeting: December 15, 2010, at 6:00 P.M.
- CHRISTMAS POTLUCK!
- Next board meeting: January 19, 2011, at 6:00 P.M.

Tonight's general meeting program: Board member elections and Ken Barker Award nominations.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

GPR Officers 2011 by Joe Shubert

Hello all Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Members. Listed below are your club officers for 2011.

PRESIDENT James Long

VICE PRESIDENT Don Bray

SECRETARY/TREASURER Peg Bruzek

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT (Gary Hawley until he resigns or next President replaces him).

2 YEAR BOARD MEMBER

- ❖ Joe Johnston
- ❖ Mike Hurtado
- ❖ Joe Shubert

1 YEAR BOARD MEMBER

- ❖ Sue Lemieux
- ❖ Don Luchtenburg
- ❖ Andy Doll
- ❖ Terry Weatherly
- ❖ Joe Fortunato

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

No Question this month. Be back in January 2011.



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.

No new recordings

Thanks: Andy Doll

General Meeting Minutes From Nov 2010

1. President Gary Hawley called the meeting to order at 7:13 P.M.
2. Gary asked Leroy Lamgo to lead the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance, to open the meeting.
3. Today's metal prices, as noted by Gary, were as follows: Gold \$1338.20 per oz, Silver \$25.68 per oz, Platinum \$1641.00 per oz. and Palladium \$667.00 per oz.
4. Gary stated that according to the Board Meeting treasurer's report the club's finances remain in the black. He also noted that he, Kathy and Don Bray had gone and purchased more gold for the club. Gary reminded members that Kathy has a copy of the full balance sheet available for any member's inspection.
5. Gary asked Mike Hurtado for this evening's membership report. Mike reported that we have 46 in attendance with 2 guests and 118 paid memberships tonight. Gary further noted that Ed and Gina Fielding have agreed to take over the membership chair duties for 2011 to allow Mike to run for a Board Member position. He thanked Ed and Gina for stepping up, for 2011, and Mike and Susan Duncanson for their membership work this year.
6. Gary asked Jim Long, GPR Vice President, for any announcements he had for the membership. Jim stated that he had some Colorado State Mineral/Rock/Gem stickers and some Colorado Miner stickers, from the Clear Creek Water Festival, for any members who want them.
7. Gary called on Ian Duncanson to read his "question of the month" which is,
 "Alive without breath,
 As cold as death;
 Never thirsty, ever drinking,
 All in mail never clinking.
 What am I?"

Ian will collect your answers to this question during the break and distribute a "Club Nugget" drawing ticket to each person turning in a correct answer.

8. Gary noted that Kathy is selling tickets for eight nuggets to be given away in tonight's "Club Nugget" drawing.
9. Gary reminded the members that their memberships will be up for renewal in January, dues will be due then.
10. Gary read the second of his "Cache Clues".
11. Gary noted that the club store would be open during the break tonight. The store has some books, donated by former member Wayne Hale, for sale tonight. Tonight is the last time the store will be open until next year.
12. Gary announced that next months meeting would be the Christmas Potluck Dinner. The club will furnish the beverages, paper goods and plastic dining utensils. Attendees are asked bring a dish to share, "that will feed your family plus one other", with any serving tools needed.
13. Gary recognized the attendance of Aaron Ingalls at tonight's meeting. Aaron is past president of the GPR and has been unable to attend meetings, due to his job commitments, for the last year.
14. Gary called on Joe Shubert to come forward to present an announcement. Joe announced that tonight the members are being asked to vote for the person that they feel has given, in the last year, the most toward the improvement of the GPR as a club. The winner of the vote will receive the "Ken Barker Award" for this year, at the December Potluck Dinner. Joe has ballots, with the rules, and a ballot box (can) so you can vote during tonight's break.
15. Gary asked Sue Lemieux to come forward to make her announcements and she announced that tonight's "Golden Cupcake Awards" are going to be "Birthday Cookies" for those with November birthdays. Upon hearing that the



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cookies were “snicker doodles” six people signed up claiming (?) November birthdays: Jim Hite, Boots Lewis, Mike Hurtado, Con Ogden, Lloyd Lauck and Wm. Herbertson.

16. Gary announced that he and Kathy are moving to California to take a six month assignment as camp hosts at a private campground, out there, and will not be running to continue their present club officer positions.
17. Gary again asked Joe Shubert to come forward and present the nominations for the 2011 officers and board members. The nominations are as follows: James Long for President, Donald Bray for Vice President, Peg Brozek for Secretary/Treasurer. For 2-year Board Members (two positions open) Joe Johnston and Mike Hurtado. For 1-year Board Members (five positions open) Sue Lemieux, Andy Doll, Terry Weatherly, Joe Fortunato and Donald Luchtenburg. Since there are no contested positions Leroy Lamgo moved that the entire slate of nominees be elected as proposed. Don Dixon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, by a show-of-hands vote.
18. Gary announced the meeting refreshment break, at 7:45. Gary reconvened the meeting at 8:07.
19. Gary asked Ian Duncanson to announce the answer to the “Question of the Month” contest. Ian stated that he had 17 contest entries with 15 being correct. The correct answer is “a fish”. This poem/riddle comes from “The Hobbit” by J. R. R. Tolkien.
20. Gary asked Jim Long to introduce the program for tonight. The program is from the DVD “Sure Fire Panning Methods” produced by the GPAA. This program was started at an earlier meeting and is continued tonight. The first panning method presented tonight was by Perry Massie, mining engineer with the GPAA. Perry’s demonstration is of a very technical and methodical six-step process that if practiced, anyone could learn to pan from. The second panning presentation was by “Blueberry John”, a colorful Nome, AK beach sand miner with about 25-years of experience. “Blueberry John’s” method is a basic panning technique with several nuances added for dealing with the very fine gold of the Nome beach sands. His demonstration was very enjoyable to watch as it is filled with colorful language and stories.
21. Kathy, Chuck, Jim and Gary conducted this evening’s “Members-Only” and the “Club-Nugget” drawings. For the “Member’s-Only” drawing, 12 prizes were awarded to members. Eight gold nuggets for the “Club-Nugget” drawing were won tonight, the largest being 3.1 gram. All nuggets tonight are from the Sunrise Mine near Winnemucca, NV.
22. Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 15 at 6:00 P.M. and will be Christmas Potluck Dinner. Come prepared for some good food and good times.
23. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

Submitted by, Don Bray, Recorder

Devil’s Head Stands Guard by Jim Long

Over 9 thousand feet high against the western sky, a landmark clearly visible for 75 miles, rears the jagged, sinister figure of Devil’s Head Mountain. It looks down arrogantly on its wild gulches and thick timber, almost impassable, and many are the weird stories of outlaws, ghosts and death told about this evil looking peak. Lost treasure stories too – and one of the most famous concerns the robbery of a government train in the 1870’s by a gang who got away with \$60,000 in gold eagles.

Devil’s Head made an ideal hideout for outlaws in the early days. Even today, desperados will seek cover on its rugged slopes, but with a national forest fire lookout atop the Head, it is not as safe a hideout as it was back in the ’70’s.

The bandits who had robbed the government train hid in the forest near Devil’s Head. The posse pursuing them consisted of men who had lived in that area and knew it well. As the posse drew closer and closer to the outlaws, they hurriedly buried their loot of \$60,000 and stuck a long knife into a towering spruce at the head of the treasure grave, and then got out of the country.

Little is known of the outlaws from then on. Something must have kept them from returning to get their stolen gold. Or they may have tried many times and were unable in that fierce, untracked wilderness to find the tree – so like ten thousand others – with a knife stuck into it.

In 1923, fifty years after the robbery, an old man, grizzled and bent, was seen day after day wandering on the mountain. A forester at the lookout station kept watching him. What was he looking for and why was he fumblingly trying to cover up his tracks? He was far too old and rheumatic to be climbing the rugged ascents for the fun of it.



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Finally the forester trailed and stopped him. The old man lifted furtive alarmed eyes claiming he was doing no harm, he was just looking. "Looking for what?" the forester prodded gently. There was something pathetic and broken about the scared old man, his shifting eyes and shaking hands. For a time, he would not say anything. But at last he told the forester he had been a member of the gang so many years ago that had robbed the government train and then hid the gold under a tree with a knife stuck into it.

"I know it was right about here," the old man insisted. "I never forgot just where we was and I knew that some day I'd be back. But now...?" he looked about him blankly at the open area where blackened stumps of trees were all that remained of the deep forest.

"These woods burned from a big forest fire some years ago," the forester said. "Your tree with the knife in it went up in smoke". The old man's watery eyes scanned the barren miles of mountain slope. "Take a heap of digging to find the spot now," he quavered. "Guess I ain't got that many years left to dig up all this".

So far, nobody else has tried to dig up that mountain slope either. Searchers have looked from time to time, arguing that the bandits were in a hurry with the posse on their backs and could not have dug too deep a hole. Yet no buried treasure has ever come to light.

With the erosion of weather forever eating away at the earth, maybe the edge of an iron banded box sticking out of the ground will be seen someday....by someone willing to look hard, inch by inch, on the mighty slope of Devil's Head's charred shoulder.

Taken from Colorado's Lost Gold Mines and Buried Treasure by Caroline Bancroft 1961

(Also told by Editha L. Watson in the Daily Sentinel (Grand Junction)printed in 1936)

Sue's Sluice Box

GPR STORE PRICES

Ben Parker Book	\$12.00	<u>Denim Long Sleeve Shirts</u>	<u>Polo Knit Shirts</u>	<u>Fleece Vests</u>
"New" Black Hats	\$15.00	Small	Medium	Medium
GPR Window Stickers	\$4.00	Medium	Large	Large
Gold Nugget Cling-Ons	\$5.00	Large	XLarge	XLarge
White Vinyl Stickers	\$6.00	XLarge	2XLarge	2XLarge
T-Shirts	\$2.00	2XLarge		
Lanyards	\$2.00	3XLarge		
		4XLarge		
		5XLarge		

Sluicing The Roscoe Placer, Jefferson County, Colorado

As appearing in *The Gold Nugget*, July 2008 by Beth Simmons

We all knew that the club's favorite placer grounds in Clear Creek Canyon had some history as a commercial venture, but little did we realize the extent of past operations there! Beth Simmons, historian and faculty member at U.C. Denver, and assisted by Katherine Honda, has researched the sources including the voluminous works of legendary geologist Arthur Lakes and come up with a story which gives a new meaning to every drive up Clear Creek Canyon.

In 1895, a group of Denver capitalists surmised that the millions of ounces of gold mined in the Central City area must have some representation in the deep gravels of Clear Creek Canyon. They, augmented with European capital, initiated a program to recover that gold. The project was known as the Roscoe Placer, although it has not yet been discovered who or what "Roscoe" was. Among the efforts involved was a 2,500 foot flume diverting all of Clear Creek around the workings. Remnants of that flume are visible today. The railroad up the canyon was moved again and again for mining access. Devices were employed such as the boulder elevator which, using water pressure, could lift boulders up to 11 tons out of the creek bed.

A small town was built just to house the workmen for the project. All of this was shown to us in slides made from early photographs and above all by the breathtaking draftsmanship of Arthur Lakes. With computer simulation, Ms. Simmons was able to superimpose or otherwise combine old data with recent photographs in stunning displays of "then and now." The main target of the project was the deep gravel just above the bedrock. Indeed, the nearly vertically tilted layers of meta-sediment which form the bedrock surface, made natural riffles which may have been lucrative. Alas, there are no



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financial records of the Roscoe Placer and so we did not find out whether or not the project was a success. But in any case each time we drive past Roscoe Rock our imaginations will take us back past the current tranquility to the days of big time placer mining.

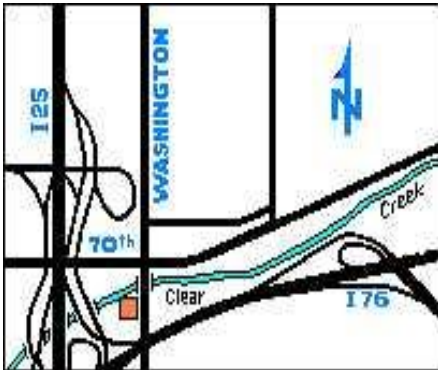
But the story did not end with the Roscoe Placer. About forty years later, in the depths of depression days, there was renewed interest in Clear Creek placering. Upstream of the Roscoe Placer were new developments known as the Humphreys Placer. This time there was the use of steam power. Dredging failed because the boulders were too big. Underground placering is always extremely dangerous, but that is one thing they also did--big time. They were aided by a new invention--the magnetometer, developed by Dart Wantland, which could locate black sands at depth. There is some indication that the project was a success. The yield for at least part of the job was reported at \$0.61 per cubic yard. Workmen's pay was eight dollars for a ten hour shift and one dollar and thirty-five cents covered room and board. Those employed were probably very happy to get the work.

Our thanks to Beth Simmons and Kathy Honda for an elucidating memorable story of history in our midst.

Beth Simmons authored "A Quick History of Idaho Springs" and has submitted her second book, co-authored with Katherine Honda, "The Legacy of Arthur Lakes," to the same publisher, Western Reflections. Her doctorate research is the history of an Idaho Springs family, the Mosch's, and how their hands literally created the Front Range region as we see it today. The resultant video DVD, "Tahosa Territory," will soon be available at the Phoenix Mine. In 1895-1896, local geologist and mining reporter, Arthur Lakes, wrote four front-page articles about the bend in Clear Creek you know well at Roscoe, partially where the historically incorrect sign parking area is along US Route 6 eight miles west of Golden. This eye-opening presentation tells about the humongous development called the Roscoe operation and its aftermath, the Humphrey's Gold Operation.

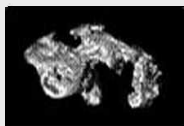
[\(You can watch Beth's informative presentation by going to the Video tab on the GPR web home page\)](#)

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For information to publish your "Ad" in The Gold Nugget, please contact the Editor. **COPY DEADLINE** is due to the editor by the 25th of the month for publication in the following months' issue of the Newsletter.

Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events for Jan 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 New Years Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Newsletter Advert/Article Copy Deadline
9	10	11 Amelia Earhart Birthday	12	13	14 USGS Free GPS, Map, and Compass Class	15
16	17 Martin Luther King Birthday	18	19 GPR Club Meeting	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28 Space Shuttle Challenger Exploded	29