

January 2011

The Prez Sez by Jim Long

I hope that everyone enjoyed the great Christmas Potluck. I know that I sure did. There were some really great selections there and some of you put in quite an effort on behalf of the Club. I certainly thank everyone for what they brought.

We closed out the year on a high note overall but had a last minute low one as well. We are certainly going to miss Gary and Kathy Hawley, as they have been an integral part of this Club for some time now. I certainly wish them the best in their new adventure. They are great people. And now it is left to those of us remaining to carry on the fine work that they did for the Club. I know that I will certainly have some big shoes to fill.

My congratulations also go to Andy Doll for being selected for the 2010 Ken Barker Award. Andy has been an integral part of the Club for some time now and is certainly a deserving member. My congratulations to Mike Hurtado, Chuck Cohn, and Roger Biri for all that they have done and continue to do for the Club as well. I also really appreciate those others who step up and take on a little extra responsibility to help make the Club more fun for the members, folks like Sue Lemieux, Rob Deschambault, Don Bray, Susan and Ian Duncanson, Joe Schubert and Joe Johnston, to mention just a few. So many of the things we do are family oriented to help make things just that much more interesting for everyone. We have some new folks stepping up this year into roles of responsibility and I think they are going to do fantastic. I am truly looking forward to the coming year. It was good to see 'Big Ben' Higley, the President of the GPOC Chapter from Colorado Springs, at the banquet as well. Big Ben will be up later during the early part of the year to talk to us about the need for unity among all the users of public property resources to prevent the future closing of access to our public property resources like they have been doing in California and Oregon. I will let you all know when he will be coming. He is truly an interesting and entertaining speaker as well as a very accomplished prospector in his own right.

I am hoping that 2011 will be an interesting one for us all. We will be doing 4-5 gold panning demonstrations for several repeat customers and I will host another 'How To' class on Clear Creek for beginners and other interested folks. We will try to schedule several tours again during the coming year and several outings such as rock hounding, metal detecting, gold outings, and such. I will try to ensure that we get some good speakers again this year as well as other presentations of worth/value. We should be pretty busy.

I sincerely hope that I will be able to continue to earn the respect and trust that you have all placed in me as your new president. I intend to do my best.

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'!

Feel free to contact me at 303-452-6087, or by e-mail at jnslong945@msn.com

The V.P. Corner by Don Bray

Well, Happy New Year! I hope you were fortunate enough to be among the 71 persons who attended the GPR Christmas

Party/Potluck Dinner on December 15th. For those of you who were there, I further hope you got as much enjoyment as I did from all that good food and enlightening conversations around your table. For those who were not there, you missed a very good time, plan now to attend this year's party.

Oh the perils of Internet research. Before Christmas I was preparing to silver solder some small brass machine parts for a new gold recovery project and was trying to find information as to what flux to use, it's been many years since I have had occasion to braze or silver solder anything. A little Internet research produced a formula that had "potash" as a component in addition to the "borax", I remember from years ago. I know of potash as a generic term for several potassium salts (carbonates, chlorides, sulfates, nitrates, and etc.) used as agricultural fertilizers. I concluded that some additional internet research was in order to further clarify which kind of potash I should be using for my application.

I started my research with a Google search for "Potash". The one problem with using Google is that their search method organizes your result list with the "most popular" sites at the top and with "decreasing



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popularity” as you go down the list. Their search criteria is based on the number of “hits” a site receives not on the accuracy or reliability of the information presented or the technological authenticity of a site’s presenter. So I always peruse the sites going beyond the first page of the search results list.

I have also found that you should never use any one site’s information without checking it against several other websites’ information. To illustrate, after checking six or seven sites, on three or four of the results pages, as presented by Google, for my “potash” search, I found two of the sites contained the same informational error. They both referred to the mined ore from which potash is derived as “sylvanite” a name some of you gold prospectors may recognize. The correct information is that the mineral used for potash fertilizer is “sylvite” [KCl, potassium chloride] which is extracted from a mined ore (think rock) named “sylvinite”. Sylvinite is a, natural occurring, mixture of sylvite and halite [NaCl, common table salt]. Sylvanite [(Au,Ag)Te₂] is a gold, silver telluride mineral and is completely unrelated to either potash or potassium mineralization

In conclusion, remember that like the Clint Eastwood movie the Internet contains ‘The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly’.

That’s as I see it.

You contact me at: don_bray@copper.net

From the Ledger of Peg Bruzek, Treasurer/Secretary

It's a new year (hoping the holidays were wonderful for all) and the first order of business - Thank you, Gary and Kathy for your years of hard work and service.

Kathy's organizational skills have made the transition easier than expected.

Second order of business, to start the year and welcome in new board members and officers, we will have a total of 8.5 grams of nuggets for the drawings the largest will be 3.6 grams.

So as Kathy always said "come prepared to buy some extra tickets and Good Luck!!

Just one small request, please be patient if I'm a little slow at the back table. Thanks.

GPR Members and Friends from Gary Hawley

Just to let you know that Kathy and I made it to Coarsegold, California, on Christmas day, just in time for prime rib dinner at the clubhouse. Our travels were delayed one day because of high wind from Pueblo southbound that closed I-25 for a while. Then we had to avoid snow storms around Flagstaff, Arizona, by traveling farther south than originally planned. This set us back another day but it was better than traveling through snow. Our park site is on a raised area and we have a great view of a small valley with lots of trees, rock formations, green grass and flowers with blooms. We were in Fresno on the 4th and saw someone mowing the lawn. I think we can get used to this.

Kathy and I thank all of you for the words of encouragement and friendship we received at the December meeting. It means a lot to us. We have kept our same cell phone numbers and email address so please keep in contact with us as we will with you.

We invite you to take a look at where we are by checking the information and photos at: www.parksierra.net

We have not had opportunity to do any serious prospecting yet but, as the photo shows, it might not be as hard to find gold here as I first thought.

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

Gary & Kathy Hawley (ghawley1@msn.com)

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

How many troy oz. was the largest nugget known to have been found in Victoria, Australia? What is that nugget called?





Ken Barker Award Winner 2010 by Joe Shubert

Congratulations Andy Doll

The winner of the Ken Barker Award for 2010 is Andy Doll. Andy has been our web master and newsletter editor for several years and has been instrumental in making changes and improvements to both. His involvement in converting the newsletter from hard copy to electronic editions has provided a much needed savings for the club. He has also prepared a way to share information quickly, via the internet that has proved to be invaluable.

Andy's involvement and dedication to the GPR and to prospecting in general along with his position as Board Member, volunteer at numerous panning demos and other activities in the club when called upon, certainly qualifies him for this award.

From the Webmaster

Thanks to everyone for the Ken Barker award, I had no idea. I was standing off to the side of the room recording Gary's Ken Barker introduction and ready to zoom in on the unsuspecting winner in the audience. It was unexpected, Thanks, but their are more deserving.

If you haven't had a chance to take a look of the videos available on the web site, do so. 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 Dec 2010

1. President Gary Hawley called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M.
2. Gary asked and Leroy Lamgo led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance, to open the meeting.
3. There are 71 members and guests in attendance for tonight's meeting and Christmas Potluck Dinner.
4. Gary announced a meeting break for the potluck dinner at 6:15.





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5. Gary reconvened the meeting at 7:20.
6. Gary asks Vice President Jim Long to substitute as Santa Claus and pass out a Christmas present from the Club to each member present.
7. Gary recognizes former members and guests, Clarence and Pat Douthett from Fairbanks, AK. Gary also recognizes guests Ben Higley-President, Wayne Wittkopp-Vice President, and Trish Barr all of Gold Prospectors of Colorado in Colorado Springs.
8. Gary introduces each of the GPR, 2010, Officers and Board Members and asks them to stand for recognition before the membership. Those recognized are as follows: Gary Hawley-President, James Long-Vice President, Aaron Ingalls-Past President, Kathy Hawley-Secretary/Treasurer, and Board Members are Joe Johnston, Donald Bray, Robert Deschambault, Joe Shubert, Sue Lemieux, Andy Doll, Terry Weatherly, Joe Fortunato and Susan Duncanson. Gary added that he is proud of the working relationship that these officers and board members have had this year.
9. Gary introduces each of the GPR, 2011, Officers and Board Members and asks them to stand for recognition before the membership. Those recognized are as follows: James Long-President, Donald Bray-Vice President, Gary Hawley-Past President, Peg Brozek-Secretary/Treasurer, and Board Members are Joe Johnston, Joe Shubert, Mike Hurtado, Sue Lemieux, Andy Doll, Terry Weatherly, Joe Fortunato and Donald Luchtenburg. Gary thanked them for their willingness to step up and serve next year.
10. Gary and Kathy presented each of the 2010 Officers and Board Members with an additional gift as thanks for their service to the club this year.
11. Gary and Jim Long presented a "Certificate of Appreciation" to several members for their work, this year, as committee chairmen and other efforts to benefit the club. Those receiving certificates were: Mike Hurtado-Membership Chairman, Roger Biri-Refreshments Chairman, Chuck Cown-drawings and ticket sales, Brandon Luchtenburg-audio, video, and computer work, and Ian Duncanson-"Question of the Month" work.
12. Gary announced that anyone sitting on a chair with a colored sticker under the seat should come up front with the sticker and receive an extra gift. About a quarter of the attendee had stickers.
13. Mike Hurtado and Gina and Ed Fielding presented Gary and Kathy with a gift of a cast iron Dutch oven as a bon voyage gift.
14. Gary announced that the membership has elected Andy Doll to receive the "Ken Barker Award for 2010. The award goes to the person, in the club, that shows the most effort in working for and promotion of the GPR and gold prospecting in general. Congratulations to Andy.
15. Gary recognized Joe Shubert, Jeff and Donna Mosteller, and Joe Johnston for their work benefiting the GPR, both this year and over the previous years.



Submitted by, Don Bray, Recorder

If I Could Go, Where I Would Go and Why By Jim Long

South Park:

South Park is a wide expanse of high ranch land, surrounded by mountains. It extends for about 50 miles in length and 35 miles in width in the center of Colorado. Through it flow the South Platte River and Tarryall Creek.

Alma and some of the other mining districts mentioned in the Leadville section previously given are even closer to South Park than they are to Leadville. The largest gold dredge in Colorado has been operating near Fairplay



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for some years and is now visible a short distance east of US 285 (to the right when going toward Denver). Excellent blue barite is found near Hartsel, and opaque black tourmaline occurs at Wilkerson Pass at the southeastern limits of South Park.

Beautiful almandite garnets of gem quality have been found in the placer deposits of South Park since they were first described by J. Alden Smith in 1870.

Agate Plateau:

Agate Plateau, between Guffey and Hartsel along Colo. 9, is a source of scattered agate of pleasing color. Gem-quality agate is found at the hot springs east of Guffey. About 1908, J. D. Endicott obtained commercially some translucent light blue agate at Thirtyone Mile Mountain, 7 miles west of Guffey. Banded Chalcedony, both white and medium blue, occurs in the stream gravels on the west side of the first bridge west of Hartsel at the bend in the South Platte River. Chester R. Howard, of Denver, and Ivan J. Mercer Jr., of Colorado Springs, has collected considerable material from these places.

Salt Works:

Moss agate, bloodstone, plasma, and petrified wood are varieties of chalcedony quartz that have been picked up in the vicinity of the old salt works near Antero Junction since the early days of Colorado. This is an outstanding historical spot, yet it is scarcely known to people outside the immediate area. The site of the large salt springs that existed here was disclosed by Indians to white explorers of the region. The salt works that was established served as a distribution center for all of central Colorado, and interesting stories are told of the trade in salt which helped materially in opening up of this part of the West. Nearby Salt Creek and Agate Creek are both appropriately named.

This location is about 1 mile from the intersection of US 24 and US 285 at Antero Junction, and within the wedge formed by these roads. What remains of the large wood buildings of the salt works can be recognized by the large chimney still standing. The buildings are between two hills as seen from US 285. The road that goes to the locality is on the left of US 24 as one travels toward Hartsel and Colorado Springs, 0.3 miles from the road triangle at Antero Junction.

Excerpts from COLORADO GEM TRAILS by Richard M. Pearl printed in 1951.

Note: As written in 1951, some things have changed in the last 60 years, such as the old dredge in Fairplay no longer being there. However, one can still find these gems in the same areas today...just keep in mind, respect private property and always ask permission first.

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		

A Miner's Laugh

There I was, sitting at the bar in one of the mining town's saloons staring at my drink when a large trouble-making miner steps up next to me, grabs my drink and gulps it down in one swig.



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“Well, whatcha gonna do about that?” he says, menacingly, as I burst into tears. “Ah come on man,” the miner says, “I didn’t think you’d cry. I can’t stand to see a grown man cry.”

“This has been the worst day of my life,” I said. “I’m a complete failure. I was late at the mine site and my boss fired me. When I went to the parking lot, I found my car had been stolen and I don’t have any insurance. I left my wallet in the cab I took home. I found my old lady with the mine foreman who fired me and then my own dog bit me.

I came to this saloon to work up the courage to put an end to it all. I buy a drink, I drop a poison capsule into it and sit here watching the poison dissolve, and then you, you big jerk, show up and drink the whole darn thing!

But hey, enough about me....how’s your day going?”

Featured GPR Speaker: Larry Sallee

As appearing in *The Gold Nugget*, August 1997

by Jim Yeatrakas

Wow! What a meeting. Larry Sallee, a Denver native, was our featured presenter at our [Gold Prospectors of the Rockies](#) (GPR) meeting during July, 1997. Those of you who are metal detector users have heard of Larry's book, *Zip Zip: Mastering Your Metal Detector*, and know that is like a metal detectorist's bible. The tips and tricks help everyone find gold, from the beginner to the pro.

When Larry asked the members how many had detectors, around 70 hands went up. When he asked how many had found gold, about 5 went up. That emphasized the importance of learning how to use the detector and how important it is to practice using it.

Two things were high on Larry's list of importance: knowing how to set the ground balance and coil control. It is also important, however, that as ground terrain conditions change, you need to make sure you tune your detector to the changing conditions. If you move from sandy to hard ground, re-tune.

The use of test nuggets, in a variety of sizes, is absolutely important when in the field to make sure you have the confidence that the detector will find gold. You have to believe in yourself and in your detector to be successful in finding gold. The surest way to build confidence is practice. Practice a couple of hours every day until you do believe. Use your test nuggets at varying depths. Larry uses bright colored poker chips with about a two-inch two-part Velcro strip glued to them between which he sandwiches gold nuggets. This way, he can easily swap his test nuggets of varying sizes when he wants to tune his detector. Larry uses nuggets from one quarter grain up to ten grains. Practice until recognizing the sound becomes second nature to you.

When you sweep the coil of your detector keep it at the same height above the terrain and sweep smoothly and without hurrying. The example Larry gave was that you should sweep at the same pace you do in successful practice. If you are finding the test nuggets in practice, use the same technique in the field. If you are not finding your test nuggets, you should make sure the detector is tuned, then work on your pace and, most importantly, concentrate. Remember those sounds when you find your test nuggets. When you begin to find your test nuggets consistently at varying depths, and in different terrain with outside noises distracting you, then you are ready for the field.

Practice with the test nugget below six inches in depth. The shallow nuggets are in areas that are well worked are mostly gone. Learn to work deep. Keep the coil close to the ground--an inch or two at most or as close as the terrain will allow. The coil should be scraping the ground occasionally in overlapping sweeps.

One of Larry's important points was that the only thing you should be concentrating on, once you begin sweeping your coil, is the sounds you are receiving from the headphones. Ignore outside influences. Your practice sessions and pre-sweep tuning should give you the confidence you need to concentrate only on the sounds for which you are listening. If you are there, then you must believe that gold is there also. Your attitude must be that you fully expect to find gold. If you do not believe, then move to someplace else.

According to Larry, "Gold finds gold," meaning that once you find the first piece, do not abandon the search. There will be more. Larry has found over 4,000 pieces of gold in eight years, and only on the rarest occasions (100 or so) has he not found gold in groups. So, stick with it and scour the area.



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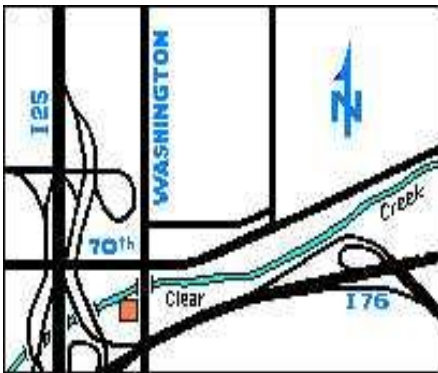
Larry said it took him nine months to find his first piece of gold. He said that it can take a year of experience and practice before you can expect to find gold regularly.

The subject of headphones was raised during the question-and-answer period. Larry said you should buy the best you can get, the higher the impedance, the better--not less than 60 ohms for the really good headphones. Also, find headphones with volume controls or get an external control.

Asked about the larger coils, Larry said that they worked well but not in confined spaces, such as between rocks or in bushy terrain. Also, being heavier, they sometimes can be too much weight for a full day's work (unless you can separate the controls or use a support harness).

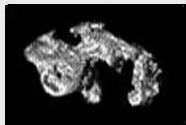
A very important point: when you decide on which detector to purchase, forget about all others. Get to know your detector. With practice, you will know every intimate beep, groan, and zip. Once you know the sounds of your detector, it will serve you well.

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Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events for Feb 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4	5 Newsletter Advert/Article Copy Deadline
6 Boy Scout Day	7	8	9	10	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday
13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16 GPR Club Meeting	17	18 USGS Free GPS, Map, and Compass Class	19
20	21 Presidents Day HOLIDAY	22 Washington's Birthday	23	24	25	26
27	28					