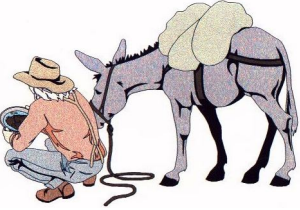


# THE GOLD NUGGET

December 2011



## Merry Christmas



### The Prez Sez by Jim Long

The November meeting was a good one. I always enjoy it when folks bring in some of their equipment for sale, swap and/or demonstration. There is always the opportunity to see new stuff or different stuff. The meeting was well attended and I think everyone had a good time. I really want to give a special 'Thank You!' to Rich, Don, Con, Roy, Will, Dana, Peg and Susan for the unbelievable spread at the refreshment table. I mean Wow, that spread was fit for a whole camp of prospectors. You guys really outdid yourselves and I heard a lot of good feedback about it. It is this kind of volunteering that makes our Club so great. Again, Thank You..!!

It was kind of sad to hear that Gary and Kathy Hawley will be going back to California for the bulk of the winter. The good news is that they will be back next July or so. It is great that they have the opportunity to do something that they enjoy together. And being in the 'Mother Lode' country is pretty dang neat also.

I want to take this opportunity to once again say how much I appreciated what Vice President Don Bray has done for us this last year. His VP column was very informative and entertaining and he made a number of other excellent contributions during his tenure. I personally really enjoyed the trip to the Calumet Mine in Salida that he led. I am sad to see him step down but I understand how demanding a job can be. His successor will be announced in December and we will continue forward as always.

The coming month has always been somewhat melancholy for me in as much as my father died of a heart attack a mere 3 days before Christmas back in 1982. He was a man I much admired and respected. He taught me his values and the ways of the outdoors and though he generally worked seven days a week, always made time for me and my brother and he always tried to be there whenever we had big events in our lives. He prospected back in the fifties in the Creede and Lake City areas as well as north of Del Norte. Though he filed a number of claims for gold and silver, he was more interested in uranium as I recall and many of his claims were promising for uranium. I suspect that the bottom line was that the uranium claims were only trace amounts and would have never paid. I still have his old Geiger counter that he used. Dad never was a man of much means so he never had the capital to really pursue most of his claims. The ones that he had that I recall were mostly promising lode sites and when he was unable to develop them and couldn't find prospective buyers, they were eventually lost. From what I could gather, he probably had no less than 20 promising claims in that country as well as one working mine north of Del Norte that he sold to a couple of Oklahoma brothers who were family friends. I remember hunting deer near there but don't recall what it was that they mined there. They tunneled back quite a way as they worked it. I do know that one brother built a really nice cabin near South Fork from his mine profits. I once stayed at his cabin in the late 1970's with my young family and it was a very nice place, a mere 50 yards from the Rio Grande River. I was more interested in hunting and fishing back then.

I reiterate the need for caution when prospecting now that winter is upon us. Make sure that you are properly prepared by having all the proper equipment, plenty of food and water, and always let somebody know where you will be and when you will return.

Elections have been held and the results are in and will be announced at the December banquet along with the recipient of the Ken Barker award. Don't forget, **for those who wish to participate, we will feature a 'gold elephant' gift exchange with a limit of up to 5.00 or so. If you bring one, you will have the opportunity to receive one. Participation is voluntary.** The Banquet is a pot luck dinner.

Well, that is how I see it from here. So until we meet again, keep your sunny sides up and may the bottoms of your pans turn bright with that 'Yaller Gold'..! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year..!

You may contact me at 303-452-6087 or at [jnslong945@msn.com](mailto:jnslong945@msn.com)

Happy and safe prospecting....!!!

### The V.P. Corner by Don Bray

CONFUSED ABOUT SCREEN SIZES, MESH NUMBERS AND ETC?  
Let's investigate this subject and see what shakes out.



## Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 2

As gold prospectors every one of us which is beyond the neophyte stage in our panning experience has at least one classification screen in our arsenal of tools. In the act of using the screen (or sieve) we take a mixture of various sized particles (sand & gravel) and attempt to shake it through the screen, in doing so we have divided the lot into two fractions. Those particles that passed through the screen (say the minus particles) and those that did not pass through (say the plus particles). In the US screen mesh is defined as “the number of screen opening per inch”. So a #8-mesh screen will have 8 openings per inch in each direction and a #12-mesh will have 12 openings per inch. Note that as the number of openings and mesh number increase the size of the openings hence the particle size able to pass through decreases. Also note that since the openings per inch is fixed for a given mesh the thicker the wire used to make the screen the smaller the openings will be. Without standardization in manufacturing this can be a problem.

Because many of the uses for screens involve commerce and critical scientific testing, such as in assay labs, most screens are manufactured in accordance ASTM Specification E-11, by the American Society for Testing and Materials. This specification standardizes manufacture methods and materials of construction such as wire sizes and opening sizes, mitigating the above-mentioned wire size problem among others. As an example, with an 8-mesh screen ASTM to be 0.0937” not 0.125” (1/8”) the difference is the wire size making up the screen defines the openings. Manufacturing limitations on minimum wire size make mesh ratings above 325-mesh impractical, so those particles are usually described in “microns”. A micron is one-thousandth of a millimeter or one-millionth of a meter.

When specifying powder products you may read something like “-20 by +30 (mesh) Potash” which means that the powder has pass through 20 mesh and was retained on a 30 mesh screen. Typically 90% or more of the particles will be within the indicated range.

The following table illustrates the mesh size and other particle size characteristics of some common things.

Sieve Mesh #	Inches	Microns	Typical Material
14	.0555	1400	-
28	.028	700	Beach Sand
60	.0098	250	Fine Sand
100	.0059	150	-
200	.0029	74	Portland Cement
325	.0017	44	Silt
400	.0015	37	Plant Pollen
(1200)	.0005	12	Red Blood Cell
(2400)	.0002	6	-
(4800)	.0001	2	Cigarette Smoke

The mesh numbers in parentheses are too small to exist as actual screen sizes; they are estimates included for reference.

You can contact me at: [don\\_bray@copper.net](mailto:don_bray@copper.net)

## From the Ledger of Peg Brozek, Treasurer/Secretary

Thanks to JJ Long, Lloyd Lauck, Don Bray and Gale Herbertson for their donations to the members only drawing.

It's December-time for the club Christmas party-always a wonderful time. **Remember there will be no nugget drawings or ticket sales.**

I would like to thank everyone for their patience and support this year, as I attempted to replace Kathy as sec/treas. Very **special thanks to Chuck Cown** for his help at the ticket table-helped to keep me sane when chaos seemed to reign.

The **refreshment committee of Bill Duncanson and Sue Duncanson** would also like to extend a huge "thank you" to all that donated to the incredible success of the food table. The monthly spreads were unreal--due to the generous food and monetary donations.

Peg



### Board Meeting Minutes From Nov 2011

X	James Long	X	Joe Shubert	X	Joe Fortunato	X	Don Luchtenburg
X	Don Bray	X	Joe Johnston	X	Terry Weatherly	X	Mike Hurtado
X	Peg Brozek	X	Sue Lemieux	X	Andy Doll		
	Gary Hawley						

**Quorum present?** Yes

**Call to Order:** By JJ at 6:08pm

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Yes

**Corrections:** None

**Approved as read/corrected:** Yes

**Treasurer's Report:** Questions: None Approved: Yes

**Correspondence:** 7 phone calls, 6 e-mails, 1 mailing

**Committee Reports:** None pending

**Webmaster:** Total Hits 116937 Hits for last month 1188.

**Unfinished business:** None at this time.

**New business:** Elections are pending tonight, nominations for Ken Barker Award to be solicited tonight. Christmas Dinner next month. Short Board meeting at 5:45pm.

**Planned Outings for 2011:** As of this date, the following outings are established.

- o Dec 21 Christmas Pot Luck at 6pm. Pot Luck with 'Gold' Elephant gift exchange, limit \$5.00.
- o No other planned outings are scheduled for December!!!

**From the Floor:** Sue informs no book auction or birthday recognition tonight. Mike H. will check into some prospector pins to sell at Club Store. Some confusion over pro-rating of new member dues. Some confusion over prices for vendors at back tables. Joe Johnston requested folks return books they have checked out. Foothills Chapter GPAA will have speaker from Denver Mint on Dec 12 followed by their Christmas dinner. In the event a computer is needed for Membership Committee, Board agreed to purchase laptop when it becomes necessary.

**Announcements:** Next Board Meeting Dec 21, 2011 at 5:45pm.

Next General Meeting Jan 18, 2012 at 7:00pm

**Tonight's general meeting program:** The Club will entertain an equipment sale/swap/exchange and/or demonstration during a longer than normal break.

**Adjournment:** Meeting stands adjourned at 6:58pm.

#### QUESTION OF THE MONTH

No question of the month for Dec.

#### 2011 GPR Board of Directors Members

**President**  
James Long

**Vice President**  
Don Bray

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Peg Brozek

#### 2 Year Board Members

Joe Johnston (2010)  
Joe Shubert (2009)

#### 1 Year Board Members

Sue Lemieux  
Joe Fortunato  
Terry Weatherly  
Andy Doll  
Don Luchtenburg  
Mike Hurtado

### General Meeting Minutes From Nov 2011

- 1) President Jim Long called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.
- 2) Jim led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance, to open the meeting.
- 3) Jim announced that today's metal prices were as follows: Gold \$1764.95 per t oz, Silver \$33.62 per t oz, Platinum \$1626.00 per t oz. and Palladium \$658.00 per t oz. Jim also announced that he has found a new buyer for small quantities of placer gold. If you need this service see Jim for the contact information.
- 4) Jim announced that the website had access problems last month and the website hits quantity was not available for last month's meeting. The two months total quantity of hits averaged 1188 per month for Oct. and Nov.
- 5) Jim asked Joe Shubert to come forward and present the nominations for the 2012 officers and board members election. Joe announced that there are only two contested positions: that of the Vice President and the other a one-year term Board Member. Greg Davis and Mike Hurtado are the nominees for both positions. Members are asked to vote



## Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 4

for one of the nominees for Vice President and the other nominee for Board Member. The membership is asked to vote during the break using the preprinted ballots and ballot box provided by Joe. Joe also asked members to nominate a person for the “Ken Barker” award. Members are asked to nominate the one person they feel has given 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. Past winners, the current president and vice president are not eligible. Joe has ballots, with the rules, and a ballot box (can) so you can vote during tonight’s break.

- 6) Jim announced that according to Peg Brozek’s Board Meeting Treasurer’s Report the club’s finances remain in the black. Jim stated that in order to protect the club’s “non-profit” status, next year the Board will be considering ways to make a charitable contribution to some mining related organization. Jim floated several possible ideas; a donation to CSM, a donation to WMMI, or a scholarship for a CSM student. He is soliciting other ideas from the membership. Jim also reminded the membership that the treasurer’s report details are available, from the treasurer, at the club meetings to any member who would like to see them.
- 7) Jim asks, membership chairman, Greg Davis for his membership report. Greg reported that tonight, we have 121 paid memberships including 2 new memberships tonight and 79 in attendance including 10 guests.
- 8) Jim asked vice president, Don Bray for any VP announcements. Don reported that he has none.
- 9) Jim called on Sue Clover for her “Question of the Month” which is, “Of the 263 million ounces of gold held by the US Treasury, how much is held at the Denver Mint?” Sue 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.
- 10) Jim announced that Peg Brozek is selling tickets for a 17.1-gram “Members-Only” large nugget drawing during the break. The drawing will be held during one of the first couple of meetings in 2012.
- 11) Jim next read Barbara Barrow’s fourth cache clue.
- 12) Jim announced that the Club Store would be open during the break tonight
- 13) Jim asks Sue Lemieux for her announcements.
  - Sue reported on the Colorado School of Mines tour of the geology museum on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>. She indicated that between 35 to 40 members and guests attended.
  - Sue announced that during the break, no books will be auctioned tonight because of members’ sale and election activities.
  - She has no planned activities for the rest of 2011 except for the December 21<sup>st</sup> Christmas Pot-Luck Dinner and Gold Elephant gift exchange (maximum \$5 value).
- 14) Jim requested member’s comments/questions “from the floor”.
  - A member requested that the club schedule a “show and tell” program in the near future.
  - A member requested that Jim give a report on the Jeffco Rangers Demo outing. Jim reported that the outing was very well attended by the Jeffco personnel and that club members setup several demonstration stations including one demonstrating several prospecting operational errors.
  - Club business cards are available to club members from the club store during the break see Rob.
  - A member requested a report on the Greg Davis outing to Clear Creek Tunnel #1 on October 29. Greg reported that the outing was held in spite of questionable weather and was attended by several club members.
  - Gary Hawley announced that he and Kathy will be returning to California for the winter.
  - Joe Johnston announce that the Foothills Club (GPAA) will be holding their Christmas Banquet on December 12 with a speaker and presentation from the Denver Mint.
  - A member requested that Jim clarify whether gold panning is allowed on Clear Creek near Youngfield St. Jim confirmed gold panning activities are allowed and that you must only dig within the high water lines and do not undermine the concrete trail.
- 15) Jim announced the meeting refreshment break, at 7:50 with a reminder to the members to cast their ballots for the officers and Ken Barker award elections. At 8:33 Jim reconvened the meeting.
- 16) Jim asked Sue Clover to announce the answer for her “Question of the Month” contest. Sue’s correct answer is “59 million t oz”. However a member supplied a recent federal gov’t. document stating “47 million t oz” so Sue accepted



## Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 5

answers between 40 to 59 million as being correct. Twenty-two people turned in correct answers tonight. Each person with a correct answer received a red nugget drawing ticket.

17) Jim stated that election results will be announced at the December meeting/dinner.

18) Jim thanked all that donated food for the snack table tonight.

19) Chuck Cown, Peggy Brozek, and Jim conducted this evening's "Members-Only" and the "Club-Nugget" drawings. For the "Member's-Only" drawing, 8 prizes were awarded to members, our thanks go to all who donated tonight's prizes. Eight nuggets for the "Club-Nugget" drawing were won tonight, the largest being 3.8 gram. The nuggets tonight are from various localities (as noted on the containers).

20) Next meeting is Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 P.M. This will be the Christmas Pot Luck Dinner.

21) Meeting adjourned at 8:52 P.M

**Submitted by, Don Bray, recorder**

## WHAT THE HECK ARE THEY??? by Ian Duncanson

This photo was taken last month in Virginia. Does anyone know the name and purpose of these??



## GOLD RECOVERY HIBANKERS by Bob Butler

The processing, production and recovery capabilities of this multi-stage system, (3 and 4 stage recovery system), are far greater than most other hibankers using only the single riffle design. This design will process up to one cubic yard of unclassified gravel per hour with adequate water volume of 140+ GPM.

A very important part of this recovery system is its ability to separate and flush out the major portion of the unwanted light weight sand and gravel while trapping the Gold and black sand values. This ability will save a lot of time, effort and expense when the concentrates are reduced down to the Gold and other values.



Each stage in this system is separate, containing its own hi-ribbed carpet and raised expanded metal. On clean up, this allows each section to be cleaned and tested until it is determined which section contains the highest percentage of gold. After many months of daily use, it is observed that the first stage in the hopper box retains the greater amount of gold and the other sections in line decreasing until the final section contains almost nothing. Since the first stage contains the most gold and also the least amount of sand, it should be "harvested" regularly and the next stages can be run much longer with

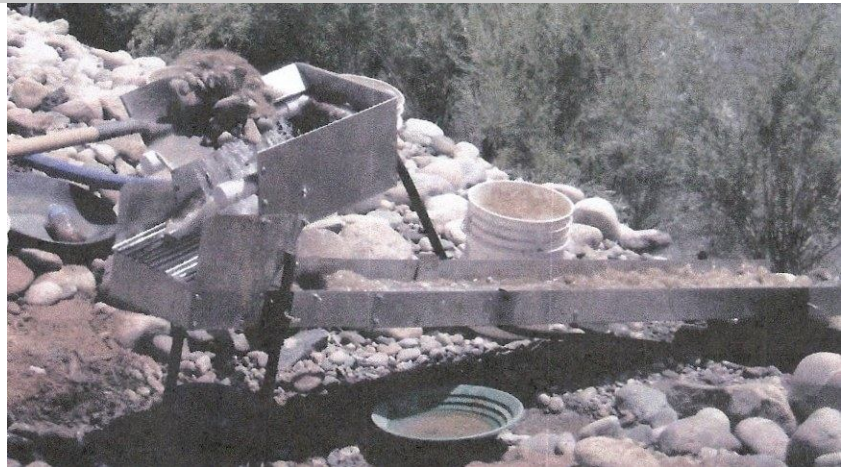


**Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 6**

the final stage cleaned at the end of the day. Also checking this stage will tell if the gravel that is being processed has any gold or other value.

**Coming Soon:** A small attachment to the hibanker that will process the concentrates at the same time the equipment is running.

**For more information about this and other Gold Recovery Equipment, contact Bob Butler at [cadillacbob1936@netscape.com](mailto:cadillacbob1936@netscape.com) or 719-395-2003 (Buena Vista).**



**Sue's Sluice Box**

**GPR STORE PRICES**

Ben Parker Book	\$12.00	<b><u>Denim Long Sleeve Shirts</u></b>	<b><u>Polo Knit Shirts</u></b>	<b><u>Fleece Vests</u></b>
"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		
			Medium	\$40.00
			Large	\$41.00
			XLarge	\$42.00
			2XLarge	\$43.00
			Small	\$28.00
			Medium	\$28.00
			Large	\$30.00
			XLarge	\$30.00
			2XLarge	\$32.00
			3XLarge	\$35.00
			4XLarge	\$37.00
			5XLarge	\$39.00

**Sluicin' Sue**

**Into Thin Air**

In January of 1859, George A. Jackson trudged up Clear Creek by himself and panned enough gold at the present site of Idaho Springs to make the first important placer gold discovery in Colorado. And he was also the man who hid \$10,000 worth of gold dust in buckskin bags that have never been found, even though the location is no secret, but definitely known.

The lost gold is not what he found in Clear Creek in January, 1859. He made another rich find high on the top of the range in Middle Park twelve years later. After Jackson made his first discoveries, he returned to serve in the Civil War and to farm in Missouri for several years. Then he and a friend returned to Colorado to go prospecting and they made a strike.

Realizing the strike was rich and fearing unfriendly Indians, the two men returned to Georgetown. They wanted to get together a dozen men or so to further explore the new area which was four or five miles from Rabbit Ears Peak. They had no trouble finding ten prospectors willing to go to Middle Park for gold. As soon as they reached the spot, they got to work building a camp with cabin and corral. Then Jackson, at the end of a hard day, relaxed by carving his name onto a tree at the corner of the cabin. In a short time, more than \$10,000 in gold was panned from the stream. The miners stored their wealth in buckskin bags and hid them under the earth in a corner of the cabin.

This was when a band of blood thirsty Indian warriors descended on the peaceful little camp high on the mountainside. The prospectors managed to hide and later made their way through the mountains and over Berthoud Pass to Georgetown. All but Jackson decided the West was far too wild for them and they returned to their Eastern homes. By now the heavy snows had started and it was impossible for Jackson to go back for the gold. He told a close friend where the mine and the hidden gold were, and they made plans to go there the instant weather permitted in the spring. But before spring



### Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 7

arrived, Jackson was recalled to Missouri on serious family business with the agreement that the friend would forward his share.

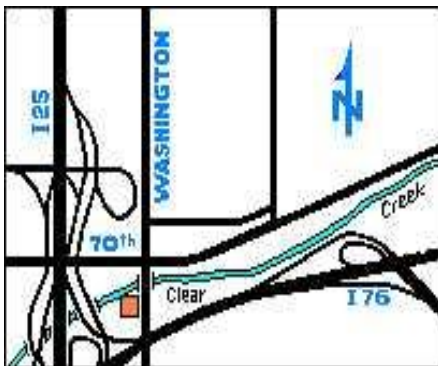
His friend and another miner made the journey into the wild country that June. On Walton Creek, near where the old Steamboat road crossed, they found the cabin and the corral. They also found the tree with Jackson's name on it. There could be no mistake, this was the place..! Eagerly, they went to work in the cabin, digging up the old dirt floor covered with debris. They turned the earth upside down from wall to wall, but they found no buckskin bags filled with gold. Jackson, they then decided, had been mixed up about his directions, so they kept on digging, not stopping until they had explored to a good depth all around the cabin, the corral, and under the tree with Jackson's name on it. But there was no gold!

Who had been in the deserted and lonely place since the Indians? Because of the heavy snows, it was unlikely that any white man had been there.

Maybe, and this is the more generally accepted theory, Jackson and his miners, wily and shrewd men that they were where their gold was concerned, really hid the gold farther away from the cabin, perhaps in some secret cave nearby. If so, it still awaits the lucky finder in that remote, sky high wilderness.

*Taken from Colorado's Lost Gold Mines and Buried Treasure by Caroline Bancroft, 1961, and also told by Editha L. Watson in the Dolores Star Newspaper in 1935*

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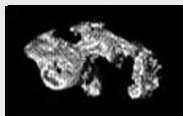
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- 3.6" x 2.0" Two Column Inches (Business Card Size)..... \$6
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- 7.5" x 4.3" Eight Column Inches (Horizontal)..... \$24
- 3.6" x 9.3" Nine Column Inches (Vertical)..... \$24
- 7.5" x 9.3" Eighteen 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 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 January 2012

(WMMI - Western Museum of Mining & Industry, 225 North Gate Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80921 ([www.wmmi.org](http://www.wmmi.org)))

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 New Years Day	2	3	4	5	6 Newsletter Advert/Article Copy Deadline	7
8	9	10 Save the Eagle Day	11 Amelia Earhart Day	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Day	17 Ben Franklin Birthday	18 <b>GPR Club Meeting</b>	19	20	21
22	23 Chinese New Year	24	25	26	27	28 SST Challenger Exploded
29	30	31				