

THE GOLD NUGGET

July 2012

Important Notice

I want to reiterate here in the Newsletter, exactly what the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies stands for. We are a non-profit family oriented Club. Our Mission is to promote education and demonstrate to the community and general public, the value of gold prospecting, creating a safe, fulfilling and enriching environment for prospecting activities while adhering to all Federal, State, County, and environmental laws. This is accomplished by adhering to the Club Code of Ethics (found on the web site), to the small scale miners Code of Ethics as well as the Treasure Hunters Code of Ethics, both of which are also on the web site.

The Club collects a small amount of money for annual dues. Each membership is a family membership, not necessarily an individual membership. Each member is assessed a small fee for a membership badge which entitles the individual member to extra benefits. These monies are used exclusively to purchase gold which is then returned to members by way of drawings and various contests, and to pay for printing of brochures, applications, and other necessary paperwork, and to pay for the rental of the premises where we conduct our board meetings and general meetings.

The Club does not have any claims nor does the Club have any leases for the purpose of pursuing prospecting. Members may prospect public access locations while adhering to the Codes cited above. Access may also be sought on private property only with landowner permission.

As of this date, I strongly encourage all members to cease the operation of any motorized equipment on Clear Creek below the Coors Brewery, all the way to the South Platte River and down stream to the Weld County line. That is primarily on the stretch known as the Youngfield portion of Clear Creek.

Though it is certainly not illegal to do so there, it is illegal to do so downstream from the I-70 Bridge that crosses Clear Creek at 36th and Youngfield. The reason for this is the condition of that stretch can no longer withstand the abuses by irresponsible miners who continue to undermine the south bank by digging horizontally instead of vertically and who perpetrate other abuses while using motorized equipment. Further, because this area is so close to the urban populations, this kind of mining activity is exposed to the local people who find it inflammatory, ugly, and consider it a scar on the aesthetic quality of the local environment. I do not want to see access to this area barred permanently, which is a possibility if we don't step up now and try to do the right thing before it is too late. **I encourage members to continue to pan and sluice responsibly.**

I anticipate that new regulations will occur soon in Jefferson County which will make the ban on motorized equipment permanent in that area only.

Remember, we stand for ethical prospecting and responsible stewardship of the environment entrusted to us by our forefathers. Let us not be part of the problem but part of the solution.

Thank you!

Jim Long

President

The Prez Sez by Jim Long



It is with heavy heart that I report the loss of the court action in California over dredging. The court wanted to believe the environmentalist and not the facts. So now the case will go to the US Supreme Court. The only problem with that is that it will be some time before it gets before the Court when I believe sanity will rule again and we miners will ultimately win. But until then, hang onto your pants because they could strike anywhere next at any time. However, PLP, the GPAA, and the Western Mining Alliance and others have filed a new lawsuit challenging California dredging regulations. This will create a second round in a separate court and an opportunity to create new case law before the Supreme Court gets the case.

The tragedy behind a lot of this, other than the lost opportunity to earn an income by many miners, is the view of us that some people have and how they portray us behind our backs. Gary Sturgill of the GPAA said it best when he said that the environmentalists often portray us miners as 'mostly old mercury sniffing, fish killing, donkey dragging men with



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scraggly unkempt hair, unwashed clothes and long beards'. Now I don't know about you folks but I launder my outdoor clothes the minute I get back home (no matter how long I have been out in the field). An even more interesting point to all this is the fact that they couldn't be more wrong.

If you look around at the various organized Clubs around the country, you will notice right away that there are more and more women joining the ranks. Not only that, but family participation is on the rise as well. In our own Club, the youngest member is 8 and the oldest is 98. And at the last meeting alone, there were some 15 women present constituting 20% of attendees. So obviously, those folks have their information all wrong. The GPAA has certainly recognized this and in fact has been running a little public relations campaign for a little while now to try to show the 'modern prospectors' out there in a far more diverse manner demonstrating quite clearly that the times have indeed been changing. There are more and more women involved and families are clearly making an impact as well. Organized Clubs are experiencing more and more family memberships and recreational small scale mining is pretty much booming. And why not?? You can't beat it for exercise and it is a great opportunity for the entire family to participate in something that is a lot of fun and can be done on somewhat of a budget.

I think that most people realize now that even though the high price of gold is certainly an incentive, there is realization that nobody is going to strike the 'mother lode' any time soon. Most of the gold found today by the vast majority of gold seekers is only found in recreational amounts and generally in placer locations. In other words, we spend 100 dollars in gas and food to find 10 dollars worth of gold. That is the reality of modern prospecting. Oh sure, there are stories out there of people finding hundreds of ounces with this and with that in that river, in this creek, and at that location over there, but it was usually in the 70's or 80's and prospectors are known to embellish their discoveries a wee bit. Okay, sometimes more than just a little bit..! But that is not to say that Alaska doesn't turn loose her gold in sometimes quite decent amounts even today. There are many accounts of folks finding upwards of an ounce a day when they really work at it up there. Many of these accounts are true as I personally know of people who have done just that very thing and just within the last few years, to include nuggets of several ounces in size. So, it is what it is and it is what you personally want to make of it.

Well, that is about all I have from here for now. So until we meet again, keep your sunny sides up and may the bottoms of your pans turn bright with that 'Yaller Gold'!

You may contact me at 303-452-6087 or at jnslong945@msn.com

Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!

The V.P. Corner by Mike Hurtado

PART 5 of Mike's history lesson.

As you know the members of the Lawrence group doubted that any new prospectors would come west before spring. And they guessed that their interests could be entrusted to a pair of trappers, John Smith and William McGaa, who had worked the area for years. So, leaving only one of their original party, Charles Nichols, and without completing any buildings in the townsite, the Kansans turned their wagons eastward on September 24.

It now became the duty of Charles Nichols to plot the tract and to construct a building upon the site in order to secure priority rights. Nichols did lay four logs on the ground. According to pioneer custom this was assumed to be the beginning of a cabin and it served as a protection of claim rights. But it was mid-November before Nichols got around to completing the shack which stood where Blake Street now crosses Cherry Creek.

The Russell party, driven from the hills by early snow, had been in camp just four days when the Kansas wagons headed east. Now it was the Georgians' turn to ponder upon the gold-seekers who would come swarming over the prairies at the first hint of spring. Not to be out-done by the new St. Charles, the Russell group organized their own town directly across the creek. And in order to better deal with neighboring Indians, they, too, included Smith and Mc Gaa in their company. Russell's brother named the new settlement after the old home town of Auraria, Georgia, a Latin term meaning "gold." And then the town planners thoughtfully incorporated Indian Row into their site. Indian Row was a cluster of a half-dozen rough-hewn log houses comprising the first white settlement in the area. Built of green pine timber hauled thirty-five miles from the lower slopes of the mountains, these cabins boasted eight-foot, mud-chinked walls and sod roofs. Floorless and without glass windows panes, the cabins invariably stood with door ajar on any day the sun chose to shine. Their mud ceilings dripped for days after a rain, and heating was crude at best. Furnishings seldom exceeded a straw bed, a table and a stool or two of rough pine boards, and occasional boxes and crates that served as cupboards.

Again as before if you have any questions, please contact me at any time at 720-443-9545



From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Peg Brozek

The club has purchased more gold, and even though I haven't seen it yet, I'm told it is beautiful!! JJ has also bought a new special nugget which should be available at the August meeting. So start saving your pennies for those blue tickets!!
Have a total of 7.2 grams for this month's meeting with the largest being 2.2 grams.
Good luck to all.
Peg

July Meeting Guest Speaker

The July meeting will feature guest speaker Donlyn Arbuthnot who will speak about the history of Gold Hill, a Colorado mining town first established in 1859. Ms. Arbuthnot is a Historical Storyteller of Colorado, Gold and Life and is a direct descendent of those who founded the historic site of Gold Hill. This should be a fascinating program and one you will want to catch.

Board Meeting Minutes From June 2012

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

Quorum present? Yes
Call to Order: By JJ at 6:03pm
Reading and Approval of Minutes: Yes
Corrections: No Victor Tour in Aug, it is July. Approved as read/corrected: Yes
Treasurer's Report: Questions: Ref. Liq. Purchase. Approved: yes
Correspondence: 12 phone calls, 6 e-mails, 3 mailings
Committee Reports: Mike H. reported he is getting close on the pins.
Greg D. no progress on Comm. Coin.

Webmaster: Total Hits 122289. Hits for last month 641.
Unfinished business: None.

New business: Have contract for booth at GPAA Gold Show.

Planned Outings for 2012: As of this date, the following outings are established:

- June 30 Sa Club Outing in Nederland 9am.
- July 21-22 Club Outing at Twin Lakes near Leadville. Map to be distributed.
- July 28 Sa Club Tour of Cresson Mine in Victor, Colo. 1pm. 2nd bus at 10am
- Aug 4 Sa Club Picnic at Lions Park in Golden. Will eat at 12 noon.
- Aug Club Outing to be determined.
- Sept 6,7,8 Panning Demo at Highlands Ranch Days
- Sept 15 Sa Panning Demo at Idaho Springs.
- Sept. 22-23 GPAA Gold Show at Denver Coliseum. We have obtained a booth for the show.
- No other specific planned outings are scheduled as of yet!!!

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What is the name for the only Anglo-Saxon hoard ever found?
How was it found?

- 2012 GPR Board of Directors Members**
- President** James Long
- Vice President** Mike Hurtado
- Secretary/Treasurer** Peg Brozek
- 2 Year Board Members**
Joe Johnston (2010)
Joe Shubert (2011)
- 1 Year Board Members**
Sue Lemieux
Joe Fortunato
Terry Weatherly
Andy Doll
Don Luchtenburg
Greg Davis



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From the Floor:

- JJ discussed recent court activity in Calif. and the PLP fight.
- Sue L. stated she has 3 books for the auction tonight, and she will not be running for Board next year.
- Andy D. reported having made some additions/changes to the web site.
- Greg D. reports Richard Harrison is stepping down from the Membership Table.
- Mike H. is working on a possible tour of the Cross Mine above Nederland.

Announcements:

- Next Board Meeting July 18, 2012 at 6:00pm.
- Next General Meeting July 18, 2012 at 7:00pm

Tonight's general meeting program: JJ will show 30 minutes of 'How to separate gold from black sands without chemicals'. Will be Part 1 of 3 parts.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:54pm.

General Meeting Minutes From June 2012

1. Meeting was opened at 7:03 by Pres. JJ Long with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. The evening program was a DVD on 'How to separate gold from black sand without chemicals – Part 1' of 3 parts. The DVD was filmed at the 'Cotton Patch Mine in North Carolina and ran for 30 minutes.
3. Treasurer Peg Brozek reported that the Club remains in the black. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it.
4. Pres. Long gave the Metals Report with gold at \$1601.00 an ounce, silver at \$28.31, platinum at \$1459.00 and palladium at \$624.00.
5. Web hits for last month were down a little, reflecting only 641 hits for last 30 days.
6. Richard Harrison/Greg Davis reported from Membership Table that approx.90 people were in attendance. There were 6 new members and 10 guests and current membership is at 110 families.
7. Mike Huratado announced that he is looking at a possible tour of the Cross Mine above Nederland or a return to the Clay County Mine for the August Outing.
8. Sue Clover delivered the Question of the Month to the attendees. 'Chemically liquefied gold is injected into muscles to aid in healing for what ailment?'
9. Rob Deschambault presented the 2012 Cache Clue #4 to the membership.
10. Sue Lemieux reported having 3 books for tonight's auction, and that there were plenty of folks signed u for the Cresson Mine Tour in Victor Colorado on July 28.
11. Rob Deshambault reports that the Club Store still has a lot of products for sale, so please support your Club and purchase several. They make great gift items as well. This will be Rob's last year overseeing the Store and we are seeking a volunteer to take over. Rob and Sue L. have had this responsibility for about 5 years at least.
12. Pres. Long reported that the following scheduled outings for 2012 to date:
 - June 30 Sa Prospecting Outing in Nederland. Prizes for collecting glass.
 - July 21-22 Prospecting Outing at Twin Lakes near Leadville. Map to be distributed.
 - July 28 Sa Club Tour of Cresson Gold Mine in Victor. Meet at 1pm. Sign up sheet limited to 13.
 - Aug 4 Sa Club Picnic in Lions Park, Golden. Will eat at 12noon.
 - Aug Outing at location and date to be determined.
 - Sept. 6,7,8 Panning Demo at Highlands Ranch Days. Will need 5 volunteers each day.
 - Sept 15 Sa Panning Demo at Idaho Springs Festival.
 - Sept. 22-23 GPAA Gold Show at Denver Coliseum. We will attempt to get a booth.
 - No other specific planned outings are scheduled at this moment but there will be plenty more to come!!!
13. Pres. Long also talked about the efforts of the Eureka Club and the fact that the City of Wheatridge has approved a free metal detecting permit system. Kudus go to the Eureka Club leadership for accomplishing that. JJ has also forwarded suggestions to the Adams County Attorney for the drafting of the Prospecting Ordinance. Jefferson Co



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Open Spaces got their Colorado Outdoors Grant in amount of 4.6 million dollars to complete the Clear Creek Canyon Trail 2 miles into Gilpin Co and 4 miles back into Jeff Co. JJ also noted that California miners lost the court action over dredging. The next step is the US Supreme Court. The dredging ban will continue. JeffCo will be meeting with the GPR to discuss revising their regulations and to discuss the Youngfield stretch of water. JJ mentioned that a fellow miner had left equipment on Clear creek that was found and later returned to him by a Club Member. JJ has not received petitions back from other Clubs yet for the Wheatridge issue. The Club will host a booth at the GPAA Gold Show in September.

14. Pres. Long announced at break at 8:30pm Meeting called back to order at 8:40pm.
15. Sue Clover announced that there were 39 winners of the 'Question of the Month' and that the answer was 'Rheumatoid Arthritis.'
16. Sue Lemieux announced the winners of the auction books.
17. The evening was concluded with drawings for door prizes followed by drawings for the gold nuggets, A reminder that holders of drawing tickets who did not win and want to redeem those tickets may present them at the end of the Meeting and they will be reimbursed at .01 cents on the dollar, or they can donate the tickets back to the Club. Those assisting Pres. Long in the drawings were Chuck Cown and Peg Brozek.
18. Pres. Long thanked all those who contributed to the Refreshment Table. Any member is encouraged to chip in and add to the spread. With the number of attendees skyrocketing recently, this really helps the folks who run the table and those who volunteer up front each month. The Club appreciates the efforts that each and every one of you make to make the refreshment table enjoyable.
19. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:59pm.

Nederland Club Outing Another Success: by Jim Long

The Club hosted another prospecting outing in the City of Nederland on June 30. The event was organized and led by Greg Davis and was attended by about 20 to 25 members and everybody had a good time. The weather was very cooperative and Boulder Creek was cool and inviting but was running just a tad higher than expected.

An invite had been extended to the local Foothills Chapter of the GPAA as well and a few of their folk were able to attend and spend a little time in the water with us.

While we were there, the Club was approached by a city reporter who was amazed to discover what we were up to and very appreciative of our 'broken glass' contest. Prizes will be awarded at the July meeting to those who managed to collect the most broken glass from the creek. Last years winner was Brandon Luchtenburg and I have to warn everyone that he was in good form again this year and will be hard to beat again.

When I checked up and down the creek, most everybody was finding a little gold, although none of us got rich. I thought that the gold was just a little better this year than last. I hope everyone who attended had as good a time as I did. Kudus certainly go to Greg Davis for another fine outing. (photos by Jim Long).



Janine, Mike, and Sheri



The Gillespie brothers hard at work



Brandon feeding JJ's sluice

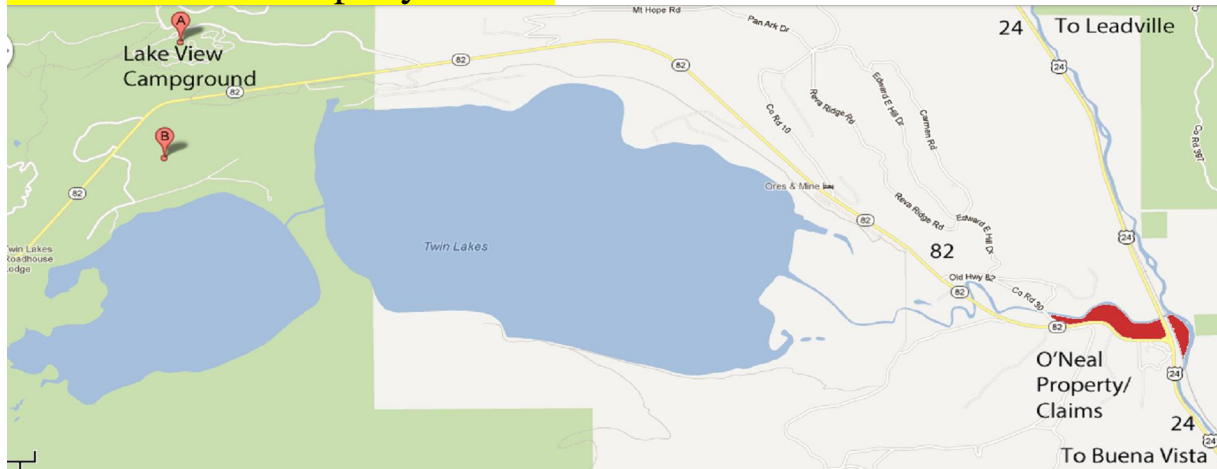


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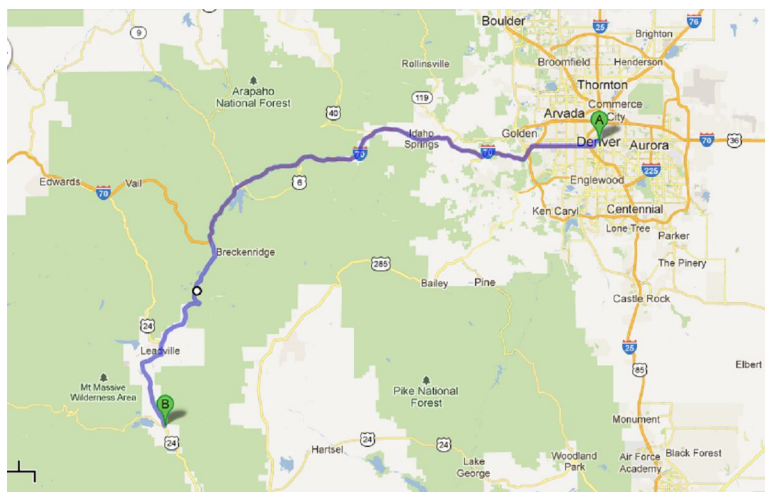
JULY 20, 21, 22 - TWIN LAKES OUTING (July 20 is early camper setup day)

Dennis O'Neal Property/Claims



Cost is \$5 per day per person to pan, sluice, dredge or high bank on this property (Money will be collected on site). Good lodging and restaurants can be found in Buena Vista or Leadville. Camping is available at the nearby Lake View Campground (Camping and Lodging Reservations are Essential). Limited 'Self-Contained' camping is available on site but you MUST let me know in advance if you intend to stay on site. Parking for the property is on the West side of Hwy 24 just north of the intersection of Hwy 82. From there you can access the placer on the south side of Lake Creek to the west, or the Arkansas River Placer across the highway and railroad to the east (areas in red). Gold here hasn't traveled very far and is coarse. Pickers have been found recently just to the south of the creek on the sandbar by digging down between the boulders

ALL AREAS NORTH OF LAKE CREEK ARE STRICTLY OFF LIMITS TO MINING ACTIVITIES DUE TO RECENT DEATH!!!



Directions from Denver (115 miles, 2 hours 30 min):

I-70 West to Hwy 91 at Copper Mountain.

South on Hwy 91 to Hwy 24 at Leadville.

South on Hwy 24 for 15 miles to intersection of Hwy 82.

Parking and property access is on Hwy 25 just north of this intersection.

Buena Vista is another 20 miles south on Hwy 24.

Campgrounds are west on Hwy 82 a short distance.

For Information Call Greg Davis at 303-526-1438

Or

davisgreg@yahoo.com



Sue's Sluice Box

Cripple Creek & Victor "Open Pit" Gold Mine Tour

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.

Saturday, July 28

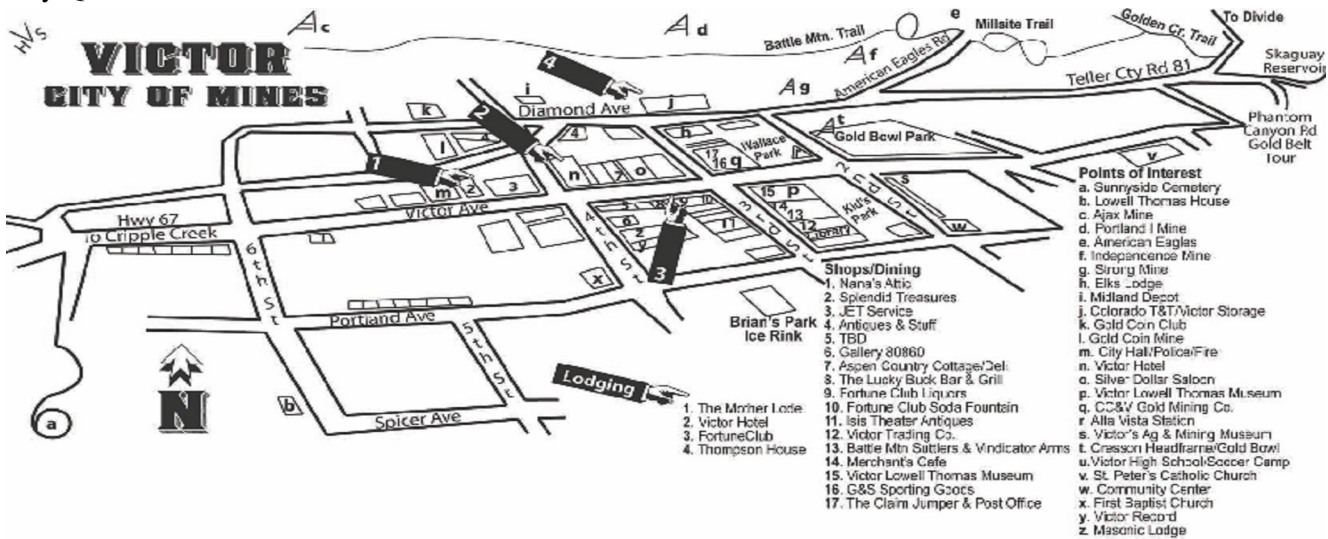
Meeting Time: 12:30pm at the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum, 3rd & Victor Ave., (# 15 on Map) Must be here no later than 12:45pm - Tour starts 1:00pm Sharp!

Where: Victor, CO

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 \$7.50 (non-refundable) (Payment to be collected at May, June & July Meetings) **This tour is limited to 13 people MAX.**

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



Gary Hawley Finally Receives His Ken Barker Award

Gary won the award at the 2011 Christmas party but Gary and Kathy had left for their winter job (vacation) in California.

Congratulations Gary





Newsorthy Notes Concerning Mining Interests

From the Denver Post:

6-17-12 From the Denver Post: Gold seen as less dependent:

The price of gold, traditionally viewed as a hedge against inflation, has outpaced the value implied by the U.S. consumer price index, suggesting prices for the precious metal are less dependent on inflation than on demand from emerging markets, according to Duke University professor Campbell R. Harvey and his collaborator Claude B. Erb.

Stock market futures seem to outpace the price implied by the consumer price index as measured by Comex, Labor Department as measured from 1975 and indexed every 5 years through 2010, ranging from less than 100.00 dollars per ounce until topping out at a high of 2000.00 an ounce, currently averaging 1600.00 an ounce.

Hicks Mountain

Douglas McLean had been restored to health in the clear, live giving air of Colorado. After two years in bed with tuberculosis, it was a blessing for him to be able to take a walk through he pine and aspen woods after his day's work on an Evergreen ranch. As the warm summer days of 1895 merged into the sunny brisk days of autumn, he found he could take longer walks. He could even do a little rabbit hunting while always noticing rock formations, for nobody lived in the Colorado mountains without getting something of the prospector's fever. Gold could be anywhere, it was everywhere.



As an Eastern tenderfoot who had come West for his health, he knew very little about veins and ores, yet he discovered a vein running a thousand dollars in gold to the ton! The vein has been lost from that very day to this.

He had wandered a little too far into the dense timber of Mt. Bergen, then called Mt. Strain, on the closest side to Hicks Mountain. He became hopelessly lost from ten in the morning until five at night. Finding himself in a small gulch after hours of wandering, he was hurrying a little desperately, as it had begun to snow. In the thin air of the Rockies, it is impossible to hurry without stopping every so often to take a breath. McLean, in spite of his anxiety, stopped to draw air into empty lungs, leaning against a ledge under a high earthen bank. Suddenly his pulses leaped what beautiful pink and white quartz! The vein was at least eighteen inches wide. He broke off a piece of the outcropping. In the poor light of dusk and with the prospects of a freezing night spent in the open alarming him, he did not pay too much attention to the locality.

He stuffed the ore specimens into his pocket and plunged on, fighting the fast increasing snow. Luckily, the gulch came out at a small creek which he followed and reached the Witter ranch. He was so grateful to be safe and out of the storm, that he forgot about his specimens until the next day. Then he studied them with unbelieving eyes, for he held in his shaking hands rose quartz, chockfull of gold.

The storm that had started the day before grew worse, but McLean could not wait to get to Denver to report his find. The next day he took the stage to the city, where he showed the specimens to his Doctor, F.J. Bancroft. Dr. Bancroft provided him with a pony and blank information notices and McLean hurried back to look for the rich ledge. In the deep snow that had piled up in the gulch, he could not even find the outlines of his ledge.

One storm after the other, in the way of the Continental Divide country, followed the first one, and McLean was forced to abandon his search until spring. The next two summers, 1896 and 1897, he tramped every inch of the south slope of Hicks Mountain without finding the slightest trace of his sedge of rose quartz outcropping.

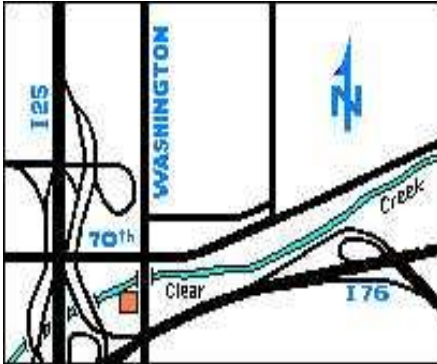
He always insisted that the ledge was in either a branch of Witter Gulch or in the next one coming into Bear Creek below Witter, and that it was at the bottom of the gulch under a high earthen bank. It is possible that the bank caved in under spring thaws, covering the ledge and changing the entire contours of the gulch. It is also possible that as a tenderfoot, worried about spending a freezing night in the open and in his case, so lately an invalid, likely fatal, that he was completely confused. He may have wandered farther around Hicks Mountain than he had thought.

Whatever the reason the vein has never again been found, nor has any quartz of that description been reported in the district. McLean gave up his search and returned East about 1910. But prospectors in that part of the hills still keep their eyes open for an outcropping of rose quartz, studded with course gold, assaying at least one thousand dollars to the ton.

Reprinted from Colorado's Lost Gold Mines and Buried Treasure by Caroline Bancroft © 196, and also told by George Jarvis Bancroft in the Rocky Mountain News, 1914.

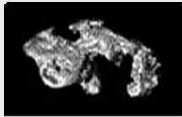


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For information to publish your "Ad" in The Gold Nugget, please contact the Editor. **COPY DEADLINE** is due to the editor by the 25th of the month for publication in the following months' issue of the Newsletter.

Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events for August 2012

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
					Newsletter Advert/Article Copy Deadline	Club Picnic at Lions Park, in Golden
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Friendship Day					Lazy Day	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
			GPR Club Meeting			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
National Aviation Day						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Women's Equality Day				Frankenstein Day		