

The Prez Sez by Jim Long

Fall is here and winter is knocking at our door. The leaves are mostly gone from the trees now and the last time I was up in the canyon on Clear Creek, it snowed on us and the water was colder than.....well you know what!

The good thing about living in Colorado is the fact that our winter usually is not so bad that we can't prospect in Clear Creek or the South Platte River if we really want to get out and stay busy. Of course, I would rather have access to the same amount of gold that exists in the Mother Lode and up in Alaska, but still, we do pretty well here as it is. But winter does present its share of problems to consider. You have to deal with some cold and sometimes ice and it is always well to be well prepared.

Make sure that you always carry a survival kit in you vehicle. It should contain at the minimum, a blanket, a flashlight and spare batteries, some granola bars or power bars or something similar, a set of jumper cables, a rope, and at least a gallon of drinking water. Replenish your food and water items on a month to month basis. Never go prospecting without letting someone else know where you are going and how long you expect to be there. And take a partner with you as well. In this age, almost everyone has a cell phone and you should carry it and make sure that it is fully charged before you leave. If you like the truly remote places, a satellite phone will always go through. Verizon doesn't always get a signal, especially in our high mountains and deep canyons but you can often get a signal if you are higher up. But the bottom line is to be prepared. You can do that in many different ways but there are some basics such as I mentioned above that are well worth considering.

Accidents happen. And there are no guarantees in this life. Being prepared can simply mean the difference between potential disaster and survival with a great story to tell your buddies. Being smart is better than being stupid any day. I have slipped on rocks in the middle of the stream in fast water and I have had the bank crumble beneath my feet and drop me into the water. I have fallen through ice in -20 degree weather. I have been so cold I couldn't feel my fingers or my feet. I have tossed rocks over my shoulder and literally brained my partner. I have smacked partners with shovels (more than once). I have rolled boulders onto my legs and into my partners' legs (more than once). You name it and I have probably done it at least once and sometimes twice. Some of you have probably been a witness to or a victim of some of my 'less than better moments' on that rare occasion. The good thing about being stupid once in a while is that it eventually makes you smarter. And I am a lot smarter now than I used to be. And I am older as well. Perhaps it is true that age does increase one's wisdom.

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 # 8 Colorado Gold History**

Well after Ada closed up her house of prostitution, she was never again able to rise above the grinding poverty which dogged her from mining camp to mining camp. Eventually she drifted to Georgetown. There, in the midst of one of the West's biggest and richest, she died of starvation. With Russell's people solidly established in Auraria, November found two Kansas parties, Gen. William Larimer's from Leavenworth and Ned Wynkoop's from Lecompton, conceiving the idea of organizing a new town on the very same ground claimed by the St. Charles Association.

Larimer summoned his colleagues to a meeting. He pointed out that they would have to fight for the claim, and he agreed to the suggested tactic that their new town be named Denver City in honor of then governor of Kansas Territory. In this manner, of course, Larimer hoped to win the sanction of the governor and gain an advantage over the original St. Charles Company. It developed later that Governor Denver had resigned the month before. But Larimer bounced right back to win the patronage of the new administration by presenting to the son of the governor a hundred lots in the settlement. Charles Nichols attended the claim-jumping meeting and registered strong protests on behalf of his company. Physical threats silenced Nichols, and shares in the Denver City company for all St. Charles stockholders salved his conscience. Again if you have any questions please feel free to contact me at. 720-443-9545

Mike



From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Peg Brozek

Thanks to JJ, Don Bray and unknown person for their contributions to the door prize drawings. Time to elect the new board—so for this month's drawings we will have a total of 7.7 gms, with the largest nugget being 3.0 gms.

Blue tickets still on sale for that special nugget. Be prepared to buy extra and good luck to all.

Peg

Reminder of Nov Elections and Ken Barker Award Nominations By Joe Shubert

A person nominated for an office must be a Club member in good standing.

The candidates for President and Vice President shall be persons who have been active as Committee persons, or Officers, or Directors during the previous year.

All nominations for officers and board members must be given to the Nomination Committee Coordinator at the October meeting or emailed to him by the week before the November meeting. Open positions are:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- One 2-Year Board Member
- One 1-Year Board Member

If you would like to Nominate someone or want to run for an office that you qualify for you may

Email me by November 14 at: jstwiggy@msn.com. Elections are during the NOV GPR MEETING.

KEN BARKER AWARD

I will have forms at the November meeting for the Ken Barker Award Nominations. Ken Barker was the club Vice President that passed away while in office. The club set up an Award in his memory, and elects a club member to receive the award each year. Start thinking of someone that you believe qualifies for this award, and nominate him/her at the November meeting. Results will be announced at the December meeting.

KEN BARKER AWARD QUALIFICATIONS

- A person nominated for this award must be a Club Member in good standing.
- Promotes gold prospecting.
- Promotes the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies.
- Participates in Club Activities.
- Anticipates the needs of the Club and does his/her best to fulfill those needs.
- Contributes to the success of the Club with his/her extra efforts.
- Award is for current year activities only.

EXCEPTIONS: The current President and Vice-President, nor the Past Winners are eligible for this award. Past Winners: Donna Mosteller, Chuck Cown, Ed Finney, Kathy Hawley, Joe Shubert, Sue Lemieux, Andy Doll, Gary Hawley



Board Meeting Minutes From Oct 2012

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

Quorum Present? Yes

Call to Order: By VP MH at 6:05 pm

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Yes Corrections: None Approved as read/corrected: Yes

Treasurer's Report: Questions: None .Approved: yes

Correspondence: 2 phone calls, 5 e-mails, 1 mailing

Committee Reports:

- Commemorative Coin has arrived and has been placed in Store at \$7.00 each.
- GPAA Booth was very successful resulting in many new memberships.

Webmaster: Total Hits 124941, Hits for last month 632.

Unfinished Business: None.

New business:

- 2013 Elections are coming up, nominations due. Ken Barker Award nominations due in Nov.
- JJ and Peg will prepare for Xmas Meeting/dinner.
- Discussion about extending the room contract by 15 minutes. It was determined to try to manage time closer first.

Planned Outings for 2011:

- No other specific planned outings are scheduled as of yet!!!

From the Floor:

- Sue stated she is ready for 'pumpkin Carving Contest; we will give gold nuggets for 1st thru 3rd places.
- JS discussed the nomination and election process. Nominations have been tendered for each position open. Joe will make ballots for Nov Mtg.
- JJ's daughter has agreed to take over as Treasurer if no other options develop.
- Greg asked about how viable it would be to establish a 'Women Miners' group within the Club for those who wished to prospect without their men. The idea was discussed and it was tabled pending JJ's input, however, it was felt that it would be counter productive to establish a 'click' within the organization and doing so would be contrary to the basic Mission Statement.

Announcements: Next Board Meeting Nov. 21, 2012 at 6:00pm. Next General Meeting Nov. 21, 2012 at 7:00pm

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:40pm.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Scientists believe that gold can be found on what 3 planets in our solar system??

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

Past President

Gary Hawley

General Meeting Minutes From Oct 2012

- Meeting was opened at 7:00 by Vice Pres. Mike Hurtado with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- VP Mike introduced part 3 of the DVD video titled 'How to separate your gold from black sands without chemicals'.
- VP Mike gave the Metals Report with gold at \$1749.90 an ounce, silver at \$33.19, platinum at \$1670.50 and palladium at \$654.00.
- Web hits for last month were up, reflecting 632 hits for last 30 days.



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 4

5. Treasurer Peg Brozek reported that the Club remains in the black. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it. Also, we are now selling tickets for the new 'Members Only' drawing for a large 14 gram nugget.
6. Pam and George Schmitt reported from the Membership Table that approx. 90 members were in attendance. There were 8 guests and 19 new members and a current membership is at 150 families representing over 235 total members.
7. VP Mike announced that the Commemorative Coin has arrived and has been placed in the Store at \$7.00 each. Also, that the owner of the Cross Mine has been unable to offer any other tours at this time due to some unfortunate occurrences. We will try again for future dates.
8. Ian Duncanson, in Sue Clover's absence, delivered the Question of the Month to the attendees. 'What 2 U.S. States produce the most gold?'
9. Rob Deschambault presented the 2012 Cache Clue #8 to the membership.
10. VP Mike announced that the GPAA Booth went very well and the Club managed to sign up quite a few new memberships. On the final day, Janine Ballantine won the Women's Speed Panning Contest. At the end of the Show, members Steve Bustamonte and Joe Johnston won very neat door prizes and Janine Ballantine won the grand prize of a 2 week all expenses paid trip to the GPAA Cripple River Camp in Alaska. Congratulations to all of them for their great fortune. The Beginners' Panning/Sluicing Class conducted by Pres Long on Sept 29 had about 15 participants and everybody had a good time and even found gold. Pres Long and VP Mike assisted the Jeff Co Open Spaces folks with another video on Oct. 5 which will be used for promotional purposes by Jefferson County. VP Mike also asked that socializing be done before 7 pm in order to maximize the meeting content. Elections for 2012 are coming up. Nominations were read and Joe Schubert will prepare the ballots for the November Meeting.
11. From the Floor, an inquiry was made concerning a Membership Card. We used to have one and stopped giving them out. The matter will be referred to the Board to address.
12. Rob Deschambault 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 VP Mike will assume the position in January.
13. VP Mike reported that there are no scheduled outings for the remainder of 2012 at this time:
14. VP Mike announced that there were multiple entries in the Pumpkin Carving Contest and voting would occur on the break.
15. VP Mike announced the break at 8:10m. Meeting called back to order at 8:25pm.
16. Ian Duncanson announced that there were lots of winners of the 'Question of the Month' and that the answer was 'Alaska and Nevada'.
17. Winners of the Pumpkin Carving Contest were John Johnson, 1st place, Harry Albertson, 2nd place, and Rob Deschambault, 3rd place. Each winner received a gold nugget for their efforts. The carvings were very good. Well done guys!!
18. The evening was concluded with drawings for door prizes followed by drawings numerous prizes and 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.
19. VP Mike 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. Chris Nees and Don Bray have volunteered to assist the refreshment table for the Nov Mtg.. Next months program will be Joe Fortunato presenting his power point presentation of his 2012 Alaska trip. We hope to have all the equipment working this time.
20. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.



Sue's Sluice Box



6th Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest Entries



November Meeting Program

The November meeting will feature the attempt at reshowing the power point presentation by Joe Fortunato of his 2012 trip to Alaska where he and his partners recovered 30 ounces of gold by using metal detectors. The last time, we had some equipment failures that we will try to remedy this time. These pictures are well worth seeing. Don't miss it!!!! (The article below appeared in Nome Alaska, THE NOME NUGGET newspaper)



LOCAL

THE NOME NUGGET



Photo by Diana Haecker
NUGGETS— Colorado visitor Joe Fortunato shows the gold nuggets he found at Krutzsch's gold camp. According to Augie Krutzsch, the smaller nuggets weigh an ounce, the bigger nugget weighs 4.5 ounces.

Colorado man strikes it rich during vacation in Nome

By Diana Haecker

With a name like Fortunato, fortune did smile on Joe Fortunato, a 65-year old tourist from Westminster, Colorado doing some prospecting at Betty Krutzsch's AKau Gold and Resort near Anvil Creek. On day 11 of his Nome vacation at the gold resort, Fortunato ran his metal detector over an area that had shown some color before and then struck it rich. "You always hear about these kind of stories, but you don't think it could happen to you," Joe Fortunato said. It did. Fortunato said his metal detector started sounding the alarm and he started digging a few inches through the dirt before he found a pigeon-size gold nugget. "When I first saw it, I didn't think it was a nugget," Fortunato said. "I thought it was a rock covered with dirt." Fortunato said that a friend had been in the same area the day before and found some gold. He as well has been running his metal detector over it, but he said, he had not paid close enough attention to the task. "I'd gone right past them," he said. But on Tuesday, June 26 Fortunato had his mind on the game. Holding the heavy dirt-covered nugget in hand, the gold shone through and Fortunato realized what he's found. Giddy with excitement, he kept digging and found a second gold nugget about the same size. And then the metal detector went off again. Fortunato dug yet deeper into the earth and a few feet into the ground, he found a hunk of a

gold nugget, weighing in at about four and a half ounces.

The nuggets are his to keep, says Augie Krutzsch who runs the gold resort with his mother Betty Krutzsch. The Krutzsch's have operated their mine for years, but this year, they have opened their claim to visiting prospectors. The Krutzsch's have built guest cabins and offer visitors the chance to try their luck prospecting with metal detectors as well as high-banking with sluice-boxes.

Fortunato has been dreaming of

coming to Alaska to prospect all his life. He said, this was his first trip to Nome and he'll likely be coming back, next time with his wife. "I will treasure this forever," he said. At 65, he is still working at his business manufacturing machine parts for spray-painting equipment and computers. He said the three nuggets would be his forever. "No way, I'm gonna sell them. They'll be in a glass case on top of my mantelpiece for me to look at," he said with a big smile.

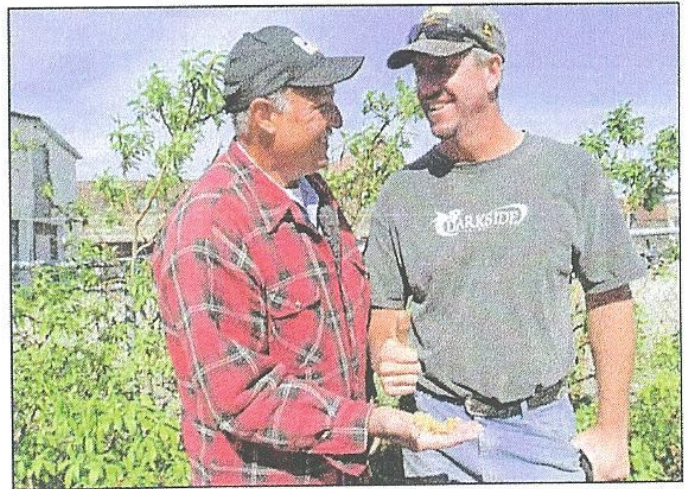


Photo by Diana Haecker

LUCKY— Joe Fortunato, left, gets the thumbs up from AKau Gold and Resort co-owner Augie Krutzsch, right.

If I could go, Where I would go and Why.....By Jim Long

RED FEATHER LAKES: Small but nice gems are cut from the large curious crystals that come from the Pennoyer Amethyst Mine at Red Feather lakes in Larimer County, Colorado. Although situated about 18 miles directly north of the boundary of Rocky Mountain National Park, this locality can be reached only from the east by going through Fort Collins, except by traveling miserable roads south from Wyoming.

The Red Feather Lakes are a group of seven mountain lakes popular for recreational purposes. The resort and post office of that name are reached by taking US 287 north from Fort Collins and turning 22 miles north at The Forks. Fifteen miles farther, turn right at LogCabin, going 6 miles to Red Feather Lakes. Then continue westward about 5 miles, cross a stream, and take the right hand fork parallel to the stream for 1/4 mile through the forest.

Flawless pieces that can yield gems weighing more than about 5 carats are extremely rare, and most of the cut stones of any size contain cloudy parts and tiny flaws. Irregular distribution of color is the rule, but this applies to practically all amethyst anywhere, including the finest Siberian material. Professor Burton O. Longyear of Fort Collins, who is regarded as the pioneer amateur lapidary in the United States, has cut more of this amethyst than anyone else and has created many choice gems. He has noted that some large crystals are penetrated by smaller ones having a dark smoky color but being free of flaws, and from those good-sized smoky gems can be cut.





Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 7

The amethyst crystals themselves are of especial interest. Collectors all over the world have remarked upon the curious 'stems' with large 'knobs' at one end. When the stems are colorless quartz and the knobs are amethyst, the crystals are then most highly regarded. Double terminations are occasionally produced by twinning. Various combinations of color, periodic growth, twinning, and capping form a rich array of museum specimens. Most of the crystals are separate, but many fine large groups have been found. The average maximum size is about 3 inches in both length and diameter.



This deposit was discovered about 1923 by Major Roy G. Coffin, a well known geologist and former professor at Colorado A. & M. College in Fort Collins. He started the first diggings near a stream with a depth of about 3 feet.

Most of the mining there has been done by Andrew A. Pennoyer, who died in 1949. He dug a large pit into a ridge along which milky and colorless quartz were exposed, and constructed a flume across it. Water from the stream was used to wash the crystals, which were then diverted by a screen at the bottom of the flume. A useless attempt was also made to recover metals from the washings by means of riffles in a separate trough at the end of the flume.

Amethyst has been found in a few other places in the general area besides the two pits just described, but the upper pit is the chief one. The crystals are found 8 to 12 feet below the surface in granite that has decomposed into a mixture of rock fragments held together in sticky iron rich clay. Bodies of quartz protruded into the original granite.

*** (NOTE: Much has changed in the last 50+ years and you should always be aware of private property and seek permission before any exploring or searching today....JJ)***.

Excerpts from Colorado Gem Trails by Richard M. Pearl printed in 1951.

A Miner's Laugh

A young man, accompanied by his dog, was metal detecting in the field bordering a wooded area when his dog encountered a porcupine. After a brief tussle in which the dog came out second best, it returned to its master with a snout full of porcupine quills. Being a far distance from the city where the lad lived, he decided to take the dog to a veterinarian in a nearby small village. After the vet had removed all of the quills, the lad asked how much he owed for the procedure.

"Fifty dollars," replied the vet.

"Fifty dollars!" exclaimed the young man. "Why, that is utterly outrageous. That is the problem with you country people, always taking advantage of us folk from the city during the summer months. I will bet you spend all winter at some expensive southern resort, don't you?"

"No," replied the vet quite calmly, "I raise porcupine's right here!"

Reprinted from the July/Aug 2005 issue of the GPAA Gold Prospectors magazine



A Bacteria That Poops Gold? Yep, That Exists, And It's In An Art Exhibit.

By Emi Kolawole

View Photo Gallery: □ It won't retrieve the global economy from the ditch, but there is a bacteria that consumes a toxic metal to produce pure gold.

(http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/innovations/from-toxic-metal-to-gold-bacteria-consumes-toxic-metal-to-produce-pure-gold/2012/10/04/443af048-0e6a-11e2-bd1a-b868e65d57eb_gallery.html)

It won't retrieve the global economy from the ditch, but there is a bacteria that consumes a toxic metal to produce pure gold.





Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 8

Our colleagues over at Slate have produced a video explaining how the super-strong bacteria *Cupriavidus metallidurans* goes about its precious dirty business:

This microbial magician, named *Cupriavidus metallidurans*, when placed in a minilab full of gold chloride, a nasty toxin, gobbled up the poison and, in about a week, processed it out as 24-karat nuggets of the precious yellow metal.

But before you grab your lab coat and rush out to nab some of the gold -pooping bacteria, stop. It is about as rare as the precious metal itself. And if you're thinking you can synthesize the reaction in your basement using your gold jewelry, think again. The bacteria is grown on large concentrations of gold chloride — the toxic metal in question — also known as liquid gold.

[Michigan State University announced on Oct. 1 \(http://news.msu.edu/story/superman-strength-bacteria-produces-gold/\)](http://news.msu.edu/story/superman-strength-bacteria-produces-gold/)

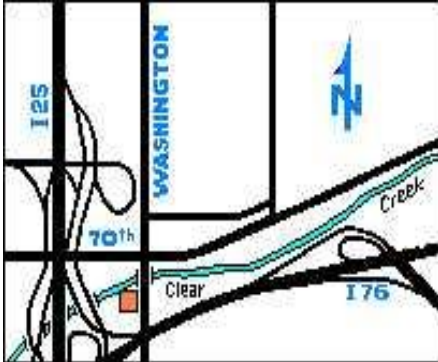
that Associate Professor of electronic art and intermedia Adam Brown and his colleague, Assistant Professor of microbiology and molecular genetics Kazem Kashefi had found that the metal-tolerant bacteria could grow in the highly toxic environment. In fact, Kashefi and Brown found that the bacteria is 25 times stronger than had been previously reported (<http://gizmodo.com/5948739/researchers-discover-bacteria-that-can-produce-pure-gold>). The process, according to Kashefi, is called “microbial alchemy,” and it’s on display in an art installation called “The Great Work of the Metal Lover.”

“This is neo-alchemy. Every part, every detail of the project is a cross between modern microbiology and alchemy,” Brown said via an Oct. 1 news release. “Science tries to explain the phenomenological world. As an artist, I’m trying to create a phenomenon. Art has the ability to push scientific inquiry.”

The installation is a portable laboratory, which consists of 24-karat gold-plated hardware, glass bioreactor and the bacteria. There is also a series of images made with a scanning electron microscope. Brown placed 24-karat gold leaf from the bioreactor over areas of the image where gold deposits had been identified.



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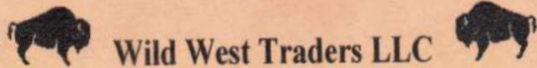
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For information to publish your "Ad" in The Gold Nugget, please contact the Editor. **COPY DEADLINE** is due to the editor by the 25th of the month for publication in the following months' issue of the Newsletter.

Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events for Dec 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	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Day	8 Newsletter Advert/Article Copy Deadline
9 First Day of Hanukkah	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 GPR Club Meeting Christmas Pot Luck	19	20	21 Winter Starts	22
23/30	24/31	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29
23/Christmas Eve 31/ New Years Eve						