

# THE GOLD NUGGET

February 2015

## 2015 Dues are Due Starting January 1, 2015 for ALL

### **The Prez Sez by Jim Long**



Dag nab it...the weather last month sure threw me for a curve. It wasn't bad at all at ten till 5 when I left for the meeting hall, but halfway there, I realized we were going to be in trouble. So I truly apologize to all for not getting the word out in time and sure glad that the 15 to 20 who actually made it there and back home did so safely and without injury.

But it did get me to thinking about getting back into the creek soon. And I realized that our 'Beginners' Class isn't far away. That means panning. I heard it said once that you start out with a gold pan and when it was all said and done, you ended up with the gold pan as well. And in my experience, that has certainly been true.

We buy our new pan and the first thing we have to do is break it in. They come from the factory with a coating of oil on the inner surface. Oil and water do not mix. And with the oil on the surface of the plastic, the gold just blows out of your pan. So you have to remove it. We do that by 'conditioning' our gold pan. We take small gravel, or some steel wool, and we rub the surface all over until the oil coating has been removed. You will know it because you will see little scratches on the inside of your pan. Then you learn the technique of panning. Panning is so important. It is used to test pan an area to determine its potential for gold in quantity. It is used to reduce your concentrates to a more manageable amount. It is used to remove the black sands from your gold. The skill of panning is crucial to being a good prospector. When used properly, a gold pan can be literally 100% efficient and effective.

But, there are many who have difficulty mastering the art for a multitude of reasons. And some of them then start spending a lot of money to buy various products that promise to do the job at phenomenal rates like 99% efficient or something high like that. Then sadly, the buyer often finds that the equipment is sometimes too complicated for them to set up and/or run right, or it doesn't meet their expectations, or they become unhappy with it for whatever reason, and they are back to that danged gold pan that gave them so much trouble to begin with. This frustration can cause people to quit prospecting completely and they never really get to experience the pleasure of getting their gold by themselves. Gold panning does require patience and a certain amount of skill. If you have the patience, the skill can definitely be learned. It just takes some dedicated practice. It helps to reach out and try to find an experienced panner who is willing to take you under their wing and help you.

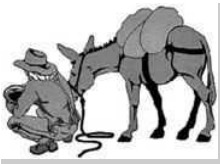
We have some experienced panners in the Club. That is why we put on the 'Beginners' Class each spring and fall every year. We can get you started and we do it for free. I have taught many people to pan. I get a certain thrill when I see the 'light bulb' go on in their head when the technique finally clicks for them. It is really quite a rush to see their excitement light up their eyes and the grin starts to go from ear to ear. And I can do it too..! There are folks in the Club that will tell you how well I can do it. And I am more than willing to share my skill and knowledge with you to help you learn and to make you better. Even though I do a lot of sluicing and quite a bit of high banking, I always end up using my gold pan in the final step to get my gold.

A few years ago, I helped one of our lady members with her panning at the GPAA Gold Show. She could pan but she was a little hesitant and lacked confidence. I spent a half an hour with her in the kids panning tubs, and showed her a couple of techniques to help her build her confidence, then left her there to practice. A mere one hour later, I was informed by another one of our members that the same gal I had worked with had entered the Women's Speed Panning Contest and won..! I had to go over there right away to see it for myself and sure enough, there was her name on the board as the winner. I was thrilled for her. I then promptly stuck out my chin and chest, sucked in my pot belly, and announced to all those gathered around her that I was the 'Master Panning Instructor' who had taught her all she knows about panning! It makes a great story, and it is a true one, except for me claiming any credit at all. But the bottom line is that you will often start with a gold pan and you will far too often, end up using the gold pan when it is all said and done. It is an important and even crucial tool in your search for gold.

And that is the view from here and I wish you all Good Luck in your search...! And until we meet again, keep your sunny sides up and may the bottoms of your pans turn bright with that treasured 'Yaller Gold'!

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

Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!



## 2015 Dues for ALL

### **The V.P. Corner by “Klondike” Mike**



#### **The "Lost " Arapahoe Bar and City of Arapahoe**

Arapahoe City the fourth town to be founded in the northern part of Colorado, only the towns of Denver, Auraria, and Montana City were established before, was founded by the gold seekers so they could be adjoined to their mine claims on Arapahoe Bar. The town was north of the banks of Clear Creek, east of the Table Mountains, west of today's McIntyre Street. Arapahoe Bar was a gold-laden placer bar in Clear Creek so it made sense to establish a town to serve the miners.

The town would not live long but it would play a vital part of the future of what is now Jefferson County and Colorado. The beginnings of this short lived town actually began much earlier. The Doniphan Party of gold prospectors, which included Marshall Cook, came to Colorado in 1858 prospecting along the Vasquez Fork. Trying to find leads they investigated Ralston Creek and found its potential for gold satisfactory. They found gold which was float gold, flat, scaly, and of fine character. As they continued to prospect along the Vasquez toward the eastern base of the Table Mountains they saw a very strange sight:

"We found upon measurement and staking that the bar had been staked on some previous occasions but by who or when no record was left only that of the three to five boulders that marked the corner, being nearly half buried (sic) in the earth denoting that many years had elapsed since being placed in their respective position marking the meets and bounds of former prospectors as well as our future wealth. The above mentioned boulders were about the size of a man's fist and larger, placed on the brink of the bar at regular intervals of one hundred feet apart lineal measurement, by the side of the ancient landmarks we placed our stake with no. of the claim marked there upon it."

Cook would discover later that he had come upon the mining claim remains of the Estes Party who had been in this very area 24 years before. The claims had been originally laid out in 1834. "The new mining district of Arapahoe Bar had again located and confirmed the bounds of what was possibly the oldest mining claim in northern Colorado, laid out many years before the first widely noted gold discoveries in the region took place.

The Gold Rush was put into high gear when George Andrew Jackson arrived in Arapahoe City in December 1858. He and his partner, Thomas L. Golden left their camp in the Golden Valley and Arapahoe to explore the mountains for gold. Jackson struck it rich in what is now Idaho Springs January 7, 1859. His secret strike was only shared with his partner Golden. Jackson spent the rest of his life in Colorado dying in 1897 at Ouray.

Another pivotal character in Colorado Gold Rush was John Hamilton Gregory. He arrived in Arapahoe City January 1859. Snow forced him back after finding mountain gold and David K. Wall gave him food to survive and follow up his finds. May 6 1859 would be the greatest day in Gregory's life as he found the vein which revealed the great gold riches of what is now Gilpin County. Gregory made \$21,000 returned back east and was to never be heard from again.

The Gold Rush was to bloom fully with the discoveries of Gregory's and Jackson's. The faith had been confirmed with miners that there was gold in them there hills.

Well folks I hope you have lots of questions because when it comes to Colorado mining

History I sure do. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. 720-443-9545. Klondike- Mike

### **From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Linda Luchtenburg**



The February Meeting will feature a nine nugget give away totaling 10.3 grams of gold with the largest nugget being a beauty of 2.6 grams. We will also resume the sales of tickets for the 'special nugget'. Don't miss your opportunity to purchase tickets for these nuggets in which your chances of winning are far better than the Colorado Lottery.



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**Planned GPR Meeting Programs:**

**Feb. 18:** Due to the January meeting being cancelled, the program for this meeting will be a 50 minute video from the History Channel titled "The Quest for King Solomon's Gold".

**Mar. 18:** This month, we will feature a short 30 minute presentation by **Deb Zack** of the **State of Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety Inactive Mine Program**. We anticipate that this will be a very good program and a 'really need to see'.

**Apr. 15:** We will be showing another video with pictures and such of the **Homestake Mine of South Dakota as filmed in 1985**, to show the difference in mining techniques from 1940 to 1985.

**May 20:** We will be presenting a 45 minute presentation by **Richard Sweeney** on **Modern Gold Assaying Techniques**. Richard will have some 'show and tell' items of the trade and puts on a fantastic program about gold assaying. You don't want to miss this one!

**Jun. 17** The first of a 2 part video from the Natl. Geographic Channel entitled "**Lost Gold of the Dark Ages**". This video uncovers the secrets of the largest hoard of Saxon Gold ever found.

**July 15** This will be part 2 of the NG Channel video "**Lost Gold of the Dark Ages**". This will conclude the story of the discovery of the largest hoard of Saxon Gold ever found.

**Aug 19** This month we will be showing History Channel DVD of the "**Klondike Gold Rush**". This 50 minute program will highlight what the 'Old Timers' went through in the search for gold in Alaska.

**Sept 16** This month will be a presentation from the A&E Channel titled "**Inca Gold**". This 50 minute DVD highlights an expedition into the Ecuadorian wilderness in search of a legendary gold horde of 750,000 pounds.

**Where is 'Prospector Pete', the GPR Gold Miner?**



We assign our Gold Miner, called 'Prospector Pete', to a lucky recipient by drawing each month. The idea is to take 'Prospector Pete' along with you during your travels and take a photograph of you and he doing something related to mining. Take a photograph at the location and bring 'Pete' back to the next meeting for the next person to win. Send your photograph of yourself and 'Pete' to President Long at [jnslong945@msn.com](mailto:jnslong945@msn.com) and we will publish it in the Newsletter each month. It should be fun to see where our Gold Miner winds up throughout the coming year. There are no limits, just take care of 'Pete' and treat him gently and show him the big world out there. At the January meeting that got cancelled,

'Pete' selected **Rich Beasley** as his caretaker until the February meeting. Rich and **Dan Fries** took 'Pete' down to Clear Creek on Feb. 27, and they dug 20 plus buckets and worked for 7 hours. Not bad for the middle of January. 'Pete' tells me they got some pretty good gold that day. He can't wait to see where he winds up next month. Should be lots of fun!

**Board Meeting Minutes From Jan 2014**

X	James Long		Joe Shubert		Joe Fortunato		John Johnson
X	Mike Hurtado		Joe Johnston		Terry Weatherly		Brandon Luchtenburg
	Linda Luchtenburg	X	Bobby Manning	X	Andy Doll		

**There was no official Board Meeting in January due to inclement weather**

Quorum present?

**Call to Order: Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Yes Corrections:

none...Approved as read/corrected: Yes

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

**Correspondence:**

**Webmaster:**

**Committee Reports:**

- Terry W. is working on the LLC application and will get the forms to Pres.

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

What percentage of the European Central Bank's reserves was held in gold in 2014?



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Long for filing.

**Unfinished business:** Nothing at this time.

**New Business:** None at this time.

**Planned Outings for 2014:**

**From the Board:**

**Announcements:** Next Board Meeting Jan. 21, 2015 at 6:00pm. Next General Meeting Jan. 21, 2015 at 7:00pm

**Tonight's general meeting program:**

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

### **2015 GPR Board of**

#### **Directors Members**

##### **President**

James Long

##### **Vice President**

Mike Hurtado

##### **Secretary/Treasurer**

Linda Luchtenburg

##### **2 Year Board Members**

Joe Johnston (2013)

Joe Shubert (2011)

##### **1 Year Board Members**

Joe Fortunato

Terry Weatherly

Andy Doll

Brandon Luchtenburg

John Johnson

Bobby Manning

## **General Meeting Minutes From Jan 2014**

The Meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. Many thanks to the few brave souls who did make it in with me. We will hope for better weather in February.

## **Schedule of 2015 Planned Outings:**

We are starting another new year and are in the process of scheduling speakers and programs, outings, tours and other events for the year. If anyone has any suggestions, please contact a Board Member with your ideas and information. We want to try to provide the things you are interested in. We tentatively have at least 20 or more events planned for 2015.

We are no longer printing the schedule in the newsletter as a copy was provided in the last email and copies will be sent in future to new members and as changes to the schedule occur, So print it out and hang it up.

## **Finds of the Month**

Be sure and bring your treasures and finds in to share with the rest of the Club. Winners each month will have their name published each month in the Newsletter. There are six (6) categories to choose from when entering. This contest will resume in February.



## **New Treasure Hunt Starting in Denver Area**

There is a new treasure hunt starting here in Denver Colorado on February 1st. Just go to [www.tenacioustreasuretracker.com](http://www.tenacioustreasuretracker.com) and click on "The Hunt" page on February 1st and read the rules and the clues to find the planted coin. The prize for the hunter that finds the coin is \$100.00 cash, a metal detector style T-Shirt and a trophy. Every Thursday of every week that the coin is not found a new clue will be posted. The Hunt page will be live at midnight February 1st. The Hunt is being sponsored by Brian Henry of Tenacious Treasure Trackers.

## **Prospecting/Mining Notes**

(mostly from the Denver Post, Internet and other wire services)

**1-3-15 Copper Hits 4 Year Low:** Copper dropped to the lowest in more than four years in London as signs of slower manufacturing in China and the US damped the outlook for demand. Copper slid 14% last year amid signs of a cooling in China, the world's largest user. Copper for delivery in 3 months dropped 0.7% to settle at \$6,255 a metric ton on the London Exchange.

**1-6-15 Coal Mine Fatalities at Record Low:** The nation's coal mines set a record for the lowest number of on the job fatalities last year with only 16 recorded deaths, the federal mining agency said. There were fewer deaths than the



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previous low of 18 in 2009 according to the Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration. Forty miners died in 2014 in all mines combined, which include metal and non-metal.

**1-6-15 Rare Earth Metals Market Drops:** Producers of rare earth minerals lost ground this week on news that China is removing export quotas on the minerals. Shares of Greenwood Village based Molycorp, Inc., fell 12% to .76 cents continuing a long slide from its one time high of \$77.54 in 2011. China has about 30% of global deposits of rare earth minerals but produces more than 90% of world supplies.

## 2015 SME Annual Meeting & Exhibit, and CMA 117<sup>th</sup> National Western

**Mining Conference.** Feb. 15-18, 2015. Colorado Convention Center, Denver, CO. For more information call SME Meetings Dept. (303-948-4200) or see the web site: [www.smeannualconference.com/](http://www.smeannualconference.com/).

**Denver Gem & Mineral Guild Show.** Feb. 27 to Mar. 1, 2015, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Exhibits Bldg. Minerals, fossils, gemstones, lapidary supplies, displays & demonstrations. Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free parking and admission. For more info, see the web site <http://denvergem.org/Shows.html>.

## Western Museum of Mining and Industry

1025 No. Gate Blvd., Colo. Springs., Colo.

Thursday February 12th 2015, at 6pm: Heritage lecture and Exhibit Opening: Molybdenum and the History of the Climax Mine.

Join WMMI as we welcome Mike McDonald, GM of the Henderson Mine, and former GM of the Climax Mine in Leadville Colorado, for an evening of learning about an element that we cannot live without: Molybdenum. Molybdenum, known to museum guests as a 'greasy' rock, is used in creating high strength steel alloys, lubricating spacecraft engines, producing radiographic images in medicine, and is an essential element to nearly all life on the planet. Yet most people have never even heard of it. Molybdenum mining is currently big business in Colorado and the Climax Mine recently reopened to supply the ever-growing demand for more of this highly important mineral. Enjoy an evening learning about the history and current operations of the Climax Mine and the growing value of molybdenum to our modern lifestyles.

Reception at 6 pm and lecture at 7 pm. All Heritage Lectures at WMMI are always free. Please RSVP to 719-488-0880 or [rsvp@wmmi.org](mailto:rsvp@wmmi.org) to save your seat.

## A Miner's Laugh

An old miner was and his wife had finally made it and were going to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They had 3 children who they had managed to send to college and each had become very successful.

As the first son arrived, he said "Happy Anniversary Mom and Dad," he gushed. "Sorry I'm running late. I had an emergency at the hospital with a patient, and you know how it is, and I didn't have time to get you a gift." "Not to worry," said the father. "The important thing is we're all together today."

Son No. 2 arrived. "You and Mom look great, Dad. I just flew in from LA between depositions and didn't have time to shop for you." "It's nothing," said the father. "We're glad you were able to come."

Just then the daughter arrived. "Hello and happy anniversary! Sorry, but my boss is sending me out of town tomorrow and I was really busy packing, so I didn't have time to get you anything."

After they had finished dessert, the father said, "There's something your mother and I have wanted to tell you for a very long time. "You see, we were really poor, but we managed to send each of you to college. Through the years your mother and I knew we loved each other very much, but we just never found the time to get married."

The three children gasped and exclaimed, "WHAT? You mean we're bastards?"

"Yep", said the father, and cheap ones too!!!"

*(Taken from the internet and revised just for all us 'old miners') 02/15 pg 12*





## **Latest on California Dredging Case (it affects all of us)**

The “NEW” Pres. Of PLP Sez!

First, I would like to wish all a healthy, happy and prosperous 2015. Great things are happening this year for the small scale mining community and all public land users!

For those of you who are not aware, we lost our President and our most courageous advocate, Jerry Hobbs, on December 28, 2014. Jerry will be sorely missed. I am honored to take over where Jerry left off. I am grateful for the time we spent together, what he taught me and the experience I gained by watching his actions over the years. I am also grateful for the new board of directors that have stepped up to support PLP as we move forward.

Jerry left us with very special gift. On January 12, 2015 Judge Ochoa ruled in PLP’s favor regarding Federal preemption overriding the State’s blanket prohibition on suction dredge mining. PLP is very excited about this ruling and I know Jerry would be too. We would have not achieved this victory without Jerry Hobbs. We would not have been able to fight this fight without the financial support from GPAA/LDMA. They have been the #1 contributor to support this battle over the past five years. Thank you GPAA/LDMA! In addition Keene Engineering, Prospecting and Mining Journal, American Prospector and Treasure Seeker, Gold Cube, Jobe Tools, MineLab, Whites and Fisher are all major contributors to our cause and we Thank You! We are especially grateful to the individuals and clubs who are members of PLP for your support for all these years. PLP wishes to thank everyone. A win for PLP is a win for the small scale mining community and all public land users.

Now what does this ruling mean to the small scale miner now?

PLP argued several points before Judge Ochoa:

Miners and prospectors on Federally managed land have a statutory right; not just a mere privilege;

Administrators may not unreasonably restrict or prohibit, temporarily or permanently, the exercise of that right;

The issuance of a permit from DFW is a non-discretionary act

SB670, AB120, SB1018 and the 2012 regulations are PROHIBITORY not regulatory in their fundamental character and that they are in direct conflict with Federal laws and violate the Supremacy Clause and Article IV of the United States Constitution.

And on a Federal mining claim where a waterway runs through it that a suction dredge is the ONLY viable, economic and environmentally sound manner to recover placer gold.

In the Judge’s ruling he declared that “prevailing parties to prepare notice and order”!

That means that PLP, as one of the prevailing parties, will write the order of the court, file it with the court and upon approval of the judge he will sign it. Once again, PLP is very pleased with this (!) while the State and the environmental extremists appear to be very frustrated with this.

We are scheduled to resume the Mandatory Settlement Conference on January 23, 2014 with the intent of settling on reasonable regulations that will not prohibit us illegally. The momentum is clearly on our side.

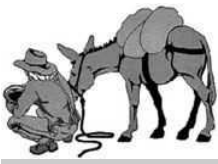
Now, the question is, “Can we go dredging”? That, as far as the State is concerned, is still illegal!

As far as Federal law goes, you have statutory rights to mine that cannot be preempted or prohibited by an arbitrary State action. Since the State still does not concede your right to suction dredge mine, despite Judge Ochoa’s ruling, the individual will have to determine what actions to take or not to take at this time. PLP strongly recommends that if an individual should decide to exercise one’s federally granted rights that one should first apply for a suction dredge permit from CDFW (California Department of Fish and Wildlife) . If you are denied a permit, record the date, time, location and the name of the CDFW official that has denied your request. This will be valuable in the event that one is cited by either a Federal or state agency.

As the newly elected President of PLP I will continue to fight to keep our rights to mine and access our Public Lands! PLP needs your continued help. Please join or renew your membership now to keep this winning juggernaut going! Go to PLP1.org to become part of this movement and let’s TAKE IT BACK AND KEEP IT!

The American Mining Rights Association (AMRA) for the last two years has been a big supporter of PLP and took on some of the “on the ground” issues that we just have not had time to handle. PLP sends a big thank you to AMRA for that!

Also, if an individual should request a permit from CDWF to engage in their statutory right to mine using a suction dredge and the CDFW should produce a permit application, one should read the regulations thoroughly before signing what



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would be a contract between the individual miner and the CDFW. Once one agrees to whatever is on that contract one is bound to that by law.

Thanks to all again and lets, TAKE IT BACK AND KEEP IT!

Walt Wegner

President, Public Lands for the People

## The Phoenix Mine Tour

On Jan. 24, the Club toured the Phoenix Gold Mine in Idaho Springs. The vein was first discovered in 1871 by a man named Miner and was subsequently named the Phoenix. It was acquired in 1972 by Al Mosch. Al has a very colorful background and joined our tour and provided some entertaining stories of the mine and his history with it. In 1979, his son David discovered the 'Resurrection Vein' which was valued at more than ½ million dollars in gold recoveries. The mine is located in Historical Clear Creek County, in the famous Trail Creek Mining District, and is at an elevation of 8,200 feet above sea level. Photos by Pres. Long



Getting ready to tour with 'Hank'



The Resurrection Vein

## What is a 'Magnetic Separator'?



Magnetic separation is a process in which magnetically susceptible material is extracted from a mixture using a magnetic force. This separation technique can be useful in mining iron as it is attracted to a magnet. In mines where wolframite was mixed with cassiterite, such as South Crofty and East Pool mine in Cromwell or with bismuth such as at the Shepard and Murphy mine in Moina, Tasmania, magnetic separation was used to separate the ores. At these mines a device called a Wetherill's Magnetic Separator (invented by John Price Wetherill, 1844–1906) was used. In this machine the raw ore, after calcination was fed onto a moving belt which passed underneath two pairs of electromagnets under which further belts ran at right angles to the feed belt. The first pair of electromagnets was weakly magnetized and served to

draw off any iron ore present. The second pair were strongly magnetized and attracted the wolframite, which is weakly magnetic. These machines were capable of treating 10 tons of ore a day. This process of separating magnetic substances from the non-magnetic substances in a mixture with the help of a magnet is called magnetic separation. It is also used in electromagnetic cranes that separate magnetic material from scraps.

## What is a 'Trommel'?

A trommel (from the German word for drum, *Trommel*<sup>1</sup>, also known as a "trommel screen", is a screened cylinder used to separate materials by size - for example, separating the biodegradable fraction of mixed municipal waste or separating different sizes of crushed stone. Portable trommels (also called portable trommel screens) are often used in the production of organic products from various types of waste. For example, excavation contractors may screen their site debris into two fractions; a saleable topsoil for farms, nurseries and worksites, as well as cleaned rock for aggregates or landscaping work. This allows the contractor to resell their waste, instead of incurring the cost of sending it for disposal. The same principle applies to the production of compost, sand/gravel, lumber mill by-products and municipal waste. Trommels are also used in the recovery of gold from mineral rich soils. The dirt is broken up by high pressure water jets before entering the trommel, which breaks up the dirt further and outputs the rocks and stones while depositing the gold fragments in special plastic mats.





## **Tourmaline – The Gemstone of the Rainbow** by Ray Lundin, Gemologist

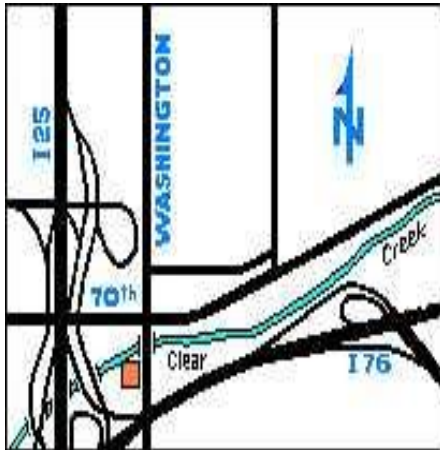
Tourmalines are gems with a large variety of colors. The reason, according to an old Egyptian legend, is that the tourmaline, on its long journey up from the center of the earth, passed over a rainbow. In doing so, it assumed all the colors of the rainbow. And that is why it is referred to as the “gemstone of the rainbow” today. The name tourmaline comes from the Singhalese words “tura mali.” In translation, this means something like ‘stone with mixed colors.’ Referring to the color spectrum of this gemstone, it outdoes that of all other precious stones. There are tourmalines from green to red to blue and yellow. They often have two or more colors. There are tourmalines, which change their color when the light changes from daylight to artificial light and some show the light effect of a cat’s eye. No two tourmalines are exactly alike. This gemstone has an endless number of faces and for that reason, it suits all moods. No wonder the magical powers have been attributed to it since ancient times. In particular, it is the gemstone of love and friendship, and is said to render them firm and long-lasting. Although tourmaline was undoubtedly known to the ancients, there are no definite descriptions of it by the gem writers of the early periods. It was not until the early part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, however, than an incident led to the discovery these beautiful crystals had a strange property not possessed by emeralds. According to a story, one warm summer day some children of Amsterdam, Holland, were playing with stones that had been brought home by Dutch navigators and noticed the odd effect produced on them by the sun’s rays. The children’s parents summoned to view the phenomenon were likewise astonished to find that the stones could attract or repel, with decided force, such light weight substances such as straws and ashes. Because of this, Dutchmen called them “aschentreckers”, or ash drawers. In the trade, the individual color variances have their own names. For example, a tourmaline of an intense red is known as a “rubalite”, but only if it continues to display the same fine ruby red in artificial light as it did in daylight. If the color changes when the light source does, the stone is called a pink or shocking pink tourmaline. In the language of gemologists, blue tourmalines are known as “indigolites”, yellowish-brown ones as “dravites” and black ones as “schorl”. The schorl is used mostly for engravings and esotericism (groups who use them for initiation purposes)> The schorl is said to have special powers with which people can be protected from harmful radiation. One particular variety is the green tourmaline, known as a “verdelite” in the trade. However, if its fine emerald like green is caused by tiny traces of chrome, it is referred to as a “chrome tourmaline”. The finest among the tourmalines is the “Paraiba tourmaline”, a gemstone of an intense blue to blue-green which was not discovered until 1987 in a mine in the Brazilian state of Paraiba. The high quality Paraiba tourmalines are in much demand today. If the center of a slice of tourmaline is red and the area around it is green, the stone is given the nickname “watermelon”. On the other hand, if the crystal is almost colorless and black at the ends only, it is called a “mohrenkopf”, (resembling a certain kind of cake popular in Germany. Tourmalines are found almost all over the world. There are major deposits in Brazil, Sri Lanka, and in South Africa. Other finds have been made in Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Tanzania, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Tourmalines are also found in the US, mainly in California and Maine. The most prominent tourmaline mine in the world is the Himalaya Tourmaline Mine found in Mesa Grande on Gem Hill across the valley from Mt. Palomar in San Diego County, California. The mine is an underground labyrinth of steep passageways that were dug, drilled and blasted over the past 100 years. The Himalaya Mine produced more tourmaline than any other tourmaline mine in the world for 15 years straight including an amazing 5.5 tons in 1904 (the most tourmaline ever produced in one year). Although there are plenty of gemstone deposits which contain tourmalines, good qualities and fine colors are not often discovered among them. For this reason, the price spectrum of the tourmaline is almost as broad as that of its colors.







## TYMKOVICH MEATS



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(303) 288-8655  
Open Wed-Sat  
9:30 to 5:30  
(Closed Sun-Tue)

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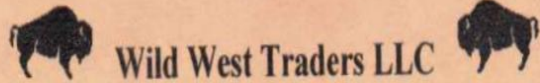
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For information to publish your "Ad" in The Gold Nugget, please contact the Editor. **COPY DEADLINE** is due to the editor by the 25th of the month for publication in the following months' issue of the Newsletter.

**Contact the GPR President**

*(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)*



**Coming Announcements and Special Events for Mar 2015**

(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	2	3	4	5	6 Newsletter Advert/Article Copy Deadline	7
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins	9	10	11	12	13	14 <b>Mar 14 WMMI Family Exploration Day:</b>
15	16	17 St Patrick's Day	18 <b>GPR Club Meeting</b>	19	20 Spring Begins	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Palm Sunday	30	31				