

THE GOLD NUGGET

June 2016

In Memory:**Robert N. Butler** Age 79

Robert "Bob" Butler passed away on Feb. 15, 2016 due to a heart attack. Bob was a former member of the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies and was known as an experienced prospector who made his home in Buena Vista. Many members of the Club have purchased some of Bob's equipment. Bob was a city councilman and mayor of Lake Worth, Texas for many terms in the 1970s. He was the owner of numerous small businesses in Texas and Colorado. He had a life-long love of family camping, motorcycle riding, fishing and prospecting. He moved to Colorado in the 1990s because of its proximity to Taylor Park. Bob was a beloved brother of Helen Brown and father of Lynn Beckner and Tim Butler. He is survived by other family members including a son and daughter in-law, numerous grandchildren and a great-grandson. He was preceded in death by his son Jaime Butler. The family wishes to thank Bob's many friends, neighbors, Pastor Vaughn and the congregation at Clear View Community Church and the devoted volunteers and employees of county services, whose caring assistance and support helped Bob live at home when he became ill. *(Bob and I were good friends and first met at Cache Creek where we prospected together for several years. He sold me my first high banker which I still use to this day. He was a good and gentle man....JJ)*



The Prez Sez by Jim Long



The water is now too high to access most of our favorite locations. If you choose to go, then exercise due caution..!!! I had a good friend remind me the other day concerning last month's piece on determining how much gold is in your sample, that the weights are more reliable when using a triple beam scale as opposed to many of the more common digital or led scales that are commonly purchased today, and he is right. We recently finished a panning demonstration and a common question we often field all the time is "Where does gold come from?" And that is a good question. Simple answer is that it comes from outer space.

The not so simple answer is a little more complex than that so let's see if I can explain it a little better. Of all the valuable rare earth minerals, gold is the most beautiful of all. We find it in ore and in placers and it is bright yellow for the most part, even when not cleaned for display. Diamonds, rubies, jade, emeralds, they are all often dirty and dull in color and don't really show their beauty until they have been cleaned, cut and polished. Now I could bore you with all the scientific language that is often hard to spell, let alone say and understand, but it is true that gold truly comes from the stars. The universe began with what has been called 'the big bang'. As matter exploded and spread out across the universe, it was very hot and consisted of primarily atoms cooling, they began coalescing to form all the elements we are familiar with today. coalesce and form planetary bodies. Some became planetary bodies consisting of more and clusters due to gravitational forces within the now vast universe. Without galaxies and all were formed, let's just cut to the system of Sol, our own sun, and the formation of our own planet Earth,



all of which is located in the Milky Way Galaxy. As the Earth coalesced from all that galactic material, it consisted of all the basic elements and eventually, it all cooled on the surface forming a hard mantle, or crust. The interior remained hot and molten. Within the molten core were all the elemental minerals which were then brought to the surface by volcanic activity. The lava containing some elemental minerals such as gold, silver, iron, zinc, copper and such were spewed out onto the surface and forced into crusts within the rock layers, wherever it could find a little space. Over eons of time, this heating and cooling dispersed the minerals throughout our



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planet. The formation of other minerals took place as a result of heat, cooling, pressure, and time. Today, we recover the majority of these minerals which often tend to be concentrated in what are referred to as mineral belts around the world. That gold which was dispersed onto the surface is referred to as placer gold and the gold that was dispersed into cracks below the surface collected into what we know as venous deposits and are referred to as lode gold. The surface of the earth was drastically modified and moved around over eons of time as a result of continental drift along with tremendous forces involving erosion and weathering due to wind and water. Today, a new force has been added to the equation, that of man who can also cause drastic change. It is easy to see that though we have found a great deal of gold, our technology has yet to develop to the point the easily extract that gold which has been dispersed deep into the ground. Therefore, we can understand the theory which prescribes to the fact that it is believed that only 10 to 12% of the gold available has been recovered. There is a lot more gold below the surface that is very difficult to find and even more difficult to extract. It is believed that most celestial bodies pretty well all contain the essential elements of the universe. Therefore, the theory holds that we should find the presence of gold in many of them although how much in each depends upon a multitude of factors involving their compositions and how they were formed. We are learning more and more about the universe and there are efforts under way to actually attempt to mine some nearby planetary bodies for the resources that may be found there, but then, that is another story for another time.

Anyway, 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. Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!

The V.P. Corner by "Joe Fortunato"



It seems like it was just yesterday that I wrote about how the cold of winter prevented us from getting out to prospect. At the time I talked about how it was a good opportunity to do research and get things organized for those good weather days that were going to arrive eventually. Those days arrived as they always do and provided us with some prime early season stream flows. The problem now is all of those warm days have the snow in the high country melting and stream flows are making it difficult (if not impossible) to get in the water. In a few short months, we have gone from cold days and frozen water to

hot days and too much water. What is a person to do? There is always more research and maintenance of equipment that needs to be done. I have another option that I like to go with at this time of the year. I grab my metal detector and head out to find coins and jewelry. It is something that I enjoy just as much as I do prospecting for gold. Even on a hot summer day I can go to an older park (lots of big trees) and hunt in the shade where I am comfortable. If you own a detector chances are you are already doing what I am suggesting here. If you don't have a detector you might want to consider getting one. There are a number of very capable entry level machines available out there starting around \$250.00. It might be the solution for what to do on those days when you can't get in the creek !!! There really isn't much of a learning curve (if that is a concern for you) and there are a number of people in our club that would be happy to help you get started. May all your adventures be Golden!!! Any questions or comments, call or text me @ 303-263-7204. Joe Fortunato.

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Wayne Schomaker



The June Meeting will feature a nine nugget give away totaling 10.3 grams of gold with the largest nugget being a beauty of 2.8 grams. We sell tickets each month for the regular gold nugget drawing which features 9 spectacular gold nuggets as well. There are usually a good number of door prizes as well that could include anything under the sun but is usually mining related. Remember, your chances of winning a nugget are better than the Colorado lottery, so, support your Club and buy lots of tickets. Be sure and consider buying raffle tickets for the new 'Special Nugget' raffle which features a beautiful 14.4 gram Australian nugget which was a metal detector find.



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Planned GPR Meeting Programs:

May 18 This month, we will show Part 1 of a video entitled “**Ghosts of the West – The end of the Bonanza Trail**”. This video is about Lost Mines, Abandoned Digs and Ghost Towns, some of which was filmed in Colorado by a Colorado Company called Knight Sky Pictures. This will be an interesting look back into the old west and the search for gold.

June 15 We will feature Part 1 of “**Gold Rush – The discovery of America**”.

July 20 We will feature Part 2 of “**Gold Rush – The discovery of America**”.

Aug 17 We will feature Part 3 of “**Gold Rush – The discovery of America**”.

Sept 21 We will feature Part 4 of “**Gold Rush – The discovery of America**”.

Where is ‘Prospector Pete’, the GPR Gold Miner?

In May, “Pete” attended the Aurora Water Festival at the Aurora Community College campus and enjoyed the hundreds of kids who got a chance to try their hand at panning for real gold. Of course, the gold was ‘catch and release’, but they still all enjoyed the fun.



Board Meeting Minutes From May 2016

X	James Long		Joe Shubert	X	Joe Fortunato	X	John Johnson
X	Mike Hurtado	X	Joe Johnston	X	Chris Kafka	X	Brandon Luchtenburg
X	Wayne Schomaker	X	Bobby Manning	X	Andy Doll		Gary Hawley

Quorum present? Yes

Call to Order: By Pres. Long at 6:01 pm

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Yes Corrections: none.

Approved as read/corrected: Yes

Treasurer’s Report: Questions: none Approved: Yes.

Correspondence: 5 phone calls, 13 e-mails, 10 mailings

Webmaster: Total Hits 144858 Hits for last 2 month 299.

Committee Reports:

- Gold order for 2017 has been received.
- The delinquent members have been dropped.
- Donation of \$100 made to Gold Unlimited to replace the Arapahoe City Memorial plaque that was stolen.

Unfinished business: None at this time.

New Business: None at this time.

Planned Outings for 2016:

- May 19 Thur Panning Demo, Aurora Community College 9a – 2p. See sing-up sheet.
- June 4 Sat Prospecting Outing, Blackhawk, 9a till done.
- June 18,19 GPAA Gold Show, at Adams County FG, set up on Sat. the 17th, see sign-up sheet.

From the Board:

- Pres. Long discussed the Grant-Frontier Park Outing #2 which had 42 members attending. Lots of gold was found and everybody enjoyed this opportunity.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Gold's element symbol Au comes from the Latin word *aurum* which means?

2016 GPR Board of Directors Members

President

James Long

Vice President

Joe Fortunato

Secretary/Treasurer

Wayne Schomaker

2 Year Board Members

Joe Johnston (2013)

Joe Shubert (2011)

1 Year Board Members

Chris Kafka

Andy Doll

Brandon Luchtenburg

John Johnson

Bobby Manning

Mike Hurtado

Past President

Gary Hawley



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- BM Bobby M advised that Tim Fleming was doing ok and has started chemo now. Also discussed the GPAA Gold Show.

Announcements: Next Board Meeting June 15, 2016 at 6:00pm. Next General Meeting June 15, 2016 at 7:00pm

Tonight's general meeting program: We will be showing a video from a local film company titled "Ghosts of the West", which will run 45 minutes.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:40 pm.

General Meeting Minutes From May 2016

1. Meeting was opened at 7:02 pm by **Pres. Long** with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Pres. Long** then announced the evening program which will be a video presentation by a local film company titled "Ghosts of the West", which will run 50 minutes.
3. **Pres. Long** gave the Metals Report with gold at \$1258.00 an ounce, silver at \$17.00, platinum at \$1026.00 and palladium at \$571.00.
4. **Web hits** for last month were 299.
5. **Treasurer Wayne Schomaker** reports that the Club remains in the black. The gold for 2017 has been purchased. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it. Also, be sure to buy tickets for the 'Special Nugget' drawing. This is a new and shiny piece of gold that weighs in at 14.4 grams from Australia. Also, be sure to buy tickets for tonight's 9 nuggets drawing, the largest being 2.6 grams.
6. **Dan and Becki McConnell** who oversee the Membership Table reported that we had 88 members in attendance. There were also 5 guests present. The meeting attendance was 93.
7. **Pres. Long** read the 'Question of the Month', which was "What is the largest legal tender gold coin in existence today.???"
8. **Pres. Long** advised that there was time to enter items at the break for the 'Finds of the Month' table and that the monthly winners from tonight will need to be saved for the Finds of the Year competition in November, 2016. The Board has approved a new category called 'Mineral' and we will accept entries starting tonight. Please, only 1 item per person per category.
9. **John Johnson** announced the **Cache** had been found. John discussed the clues and then announced that **George Sullivan** had successfully found it. George was presented with a beautiful 6.4 gram nugget for his efforts. George will now work on developing a new set of clues for the next hunt which will start next month. So put on your thinking caps and let's get out there and find it.
10. **Pres. Long** advised that there were lots of stuff in the **Club Store** for sale. We have bags of sand containing gold for members to buy as well as lots of other stuff. Members were encouraged to support the Club by buying Store products. We continue to look for a volunteer to take over the Store.
11. **Pres. Long** informed the membership that the 2016 Outings Schedule has been completed. We did a second outing at Grant-Frontier Park on April 23 and 42 members made it out there and pretty much everybody was able to find some gold. Not sure if we will get another chance to get in there before the project winds down but we will see. Next 3 Outings are May 19 for a Panning Demo at the Aurora Youth Water Festival, June 4 for a prospecting Outing up in Blackhawk. An e-mail will be sent out before the outing. The June 18, 19 GPAA Gold Show will be needing lots of volunteers. We will be doing set-up on Friday the 17th and the Club will have a booth at the Show as well. Keep in mind that Jefferson County is doing construction in the Clear Creek Canyon between tunnel #1 and mile marker 262 and parking may be limited alongside the creek. The water is high now just about everywhere so use lots of caution if you are going to try any prospecting.
12. **Pres. Long** also informed the membership that there are handouts at the front desk podium for members to peruse during the break. Members are reminded to check out the Finds of the Month and vote accordingly as well as answer the Question of the Month during the break. Members were reminded to return items checked out of the Library in a timely manner. There was nothing further from the floor.
13. **Pres. Long** announced the break at 8:22 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:40 pm.



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14. **Pres. Long** announced that the winners of the ‘Question of the Month’. The answer was “**The Australian Kangaroo pure Gold Coin, weighing 2204 pounds of pure gold**”!! The 41 winners received their extra drawing ticket for the gold drawing.
15. **Pres. Long** announced the winners for the ‘Finds of the Month’. Those were:
 - a. **Best Coin** – **George Sullivan** with a gold President’s dollar he found while metal detecting.
16. **Best Artifact** – **Jerry Marz** with an ‘alien head’ he found on Table Mountain.
 - **Best Jewelry** – **George Sullivan** with a black and silver ring w/red stone he found while metal detecting.
 - **Best Mineral** – **Joe Johnston** with a large chunk of lead he found alongside the road.
 - **Best Bottle** – **Dave Pinsonneault** with a 1985 medicine bottle he found on So. Santa Fe Drive.
 - **Most Raw Gold** – **George Sullivan and John Johnson** with gold that they found at the Grant-Frontier outing.
17. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR, Bert Cutshall, Kevin Singel and Pres. Long**, followed by drawings for the 9 gold nuggets. A reminder that holders of drawing tickets for the regular gold drawings 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 shall be considered to have been donated back to the Club. Those assisting in the drawings were **Chuck Cown and Wayne Schomaker**.
18. **Pres. Long** reminds the members that sometimes during the meetings, The President’s time is overwhelmingly taken up by the many who wish to speak to him and he apologizes if anyone ever feels like he is unavailable. It is not his intent to be inaccessible and he encourages anyone with questions to contact him by e-mail or phone outside the meetings at any time. His e-mail and phone number are on the web site.
19. **Pres. Long** thanked **Chris and Joe Kafka** and all those who contributed to the Refreshment Table. Any member is encouraged to chip in and add to the spread each month. Don’t forget the ‘tip jar’ also, which helps to defray costs. 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 to make the refreshment table enjoyable.
20. The scheduled **Program for June** will be Part 1 of a video titled “Gold Rush – The Discovery of America”, a film by Mill Creek Productions.
21. Until next time, remember to prospect safely, live long and be grateful for that golden bounty from the stars, that gleaming magical miracle, called ‘gold’.
22. The Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm.

2016 Schedule of GPR Outings/Events:

We put together a schedule of events for the upcoming year.

Finds of the Month

The May winners and categories are as follows:

- **Best Artifact** – Winner is **Jerry Marz** with an ‘alien head’ object he found on Table Mountain.
- **Best Coin** – Winner is **George Sullivan** with a gold President’s dollar he found while m/detecting.
- **Best Jewelry** – Winner is **George Sullivan** with a black and silver ring he found while m/detecting.
- **Best Mineral** – Winner is **Joe Johnston** with a large hunk of lead he found along the road.
- **Most Raw Gold** – Winner is **John Johnson and George Sullivan** with gold from G-F Park Outing.
- **Best Bottle** – Winner is **Gary Pinsonneault** with a 1985 medicine bottle he found on S. Santa Fe Dr.





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Be sure and bring your treasures and finds in to share with the rest of the Club. We would all like to know what everyone else is finding out there so don't be bashful. Winners each month will have their name published in the Newsletter. There are six (6) categories to choose from when entering. Monthly winners will need to save their finds to bring back to the November meeting to compete for the Find of the Year. Thanks to all those who also submitted additional finds that were not judged to be winners.

Gold Prices are on the Rise – and so are Scams (Reprinted from the Denver Post of Sunday, May 7, 2016)

By Terry Savage Author of the Savage Truth

Rising gold prices, the precious metal was up 16.5 percent in the first quarter, have given renewed life to some old scams using new technologies. Just last week, a man was arrested in Kansas and charged with selling fake gold bars on Craigslist. Michael Fuljenz, president of Universal Coin and Bullion, a member of the Professional Numismatists Guild's Accredited Precious Metals Dealers program, says counterfeiting of popular coins, including the one ounce silver and gold American Eagles as well as ingots, has become a problem, with many forgeries coming from China. The fakes use metals such as copper, nickel and zinc with a gold or silver coating. The counterfeits may increase the dimensions of the bar or coin slightly to compensate for the different metal weights. In a new twist, counterfeiters are now using sophisticated packaging to fool gold buyers, who know they shouldn't open blister packs or special coin holders. With the US Treasury Department more focused on threats of terrorism, many of these scams fall under the radar. Here is what you should know before buying coins or bars of gold and silver.

Only buy from a reputable dealer: Not surprisingly, it is not necessarily the one blaring cable TV commercials at midnight. You can find that dealer at the website of the American Numismatic Association (Money.org). Click on "find a dealer" and search by location and specialties. Or visit PNGDealers.org, the website of the Professional Numismatists Guild where you can search for accredited dealers.

Don't pay too much: Gold coins that are not collector's items because of their rarity are known as bullion coins. They are priced based on the price of gold in the cash trading markets on the day of purchase. You shouldn't pay more than 5% over the 'spot' (London) price of gold for one ounce bullion coins or bars, although smaller bars and coins could cost a 10% premium. You can find the spot price of gold throughout the day at www.Kitco.com.

Take delivery of your gold and store it securely: Don't fall for offers of "free storage" of your coins (with the exception of IRA custodians noted below). Have the coins sent to you by insured certified mail, and then store the coins or bars in your own safe deposit box. (Yes, I know that if you're preparing for the end of the world, the banks will be closed. But you'll have some advance warning of that kind of disaster, and in that case, a loaf of bread or a 5 gallon bottle of water will be worth more than all your gold.)

Beware when selling your gold: It is as easy to get ripped off when selling as it is when buying. Unscrupulous dealers quote low gold prices, so you must check spot prices. Some may not give you full value for rare coins whose value you do not know, so get two appraisals before selling. And a dealer may take your gold and then his check bounces.

Bullion coins and bars may qualify for IRA investments: You can buy a limited variety of gold and silver bullion coins for your IRA, as well as some bullion bars. But they must be held by an independent IRA custodian trustee. Do your homework and make sure you get the real thing, not fool' gold. And that is the Savage Truth.

Terry Savage responds to questions on her blog at TerrySavage.com.

Prospecting/Mining Notes: (mostly from the Denver Post, Internet and other wire services)

5-7-16 Rio Tinto to Expand Mongolia Mine: Mining giant Rio Tinto on Friday announced the launch of the next stage of multi-billion dollar gold and copper mine in Mongolia following delays and political tension over revenue sharing and foreign roles in resource industries. The underground portion of the Oyu Tolgoi Mine will go ahead of the Rio Tinto, the Mongolian government and another partner agreed to a \$5.3 billion dollar investment plan. Production should begin in 2020. An open pit at Oyu Tolgoi opened in 2013 and employs about 3000 people.

5-10-16 Gold Miner Atna Resources Auctions Assets: Golden, Colorado, based Atna Resources Ltd., which filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in November, recently auctioned off some of its mining and mineral rights in California, Nevada and Montana. Atna officials also reported that they expect the British Columbia Securities Commission to issue a



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cease-trading order for its shares of its indirect parent, Atna Canada. The company has no present expectation that it will ever be in a position to remedy its failure to make its annual continuous disclosure filings. Most of its assets were auctioned off as part of the Chapter 11 proceedings.

5-29-16 **Gold King Sludge Plant May Need to Run for Duration:** Officials urge EPA to keep the water filtration system going until cleanup is completed. Acid sludge from the Gold King Mine spill has filled up waste bags at the EPA emergency treatment plant on headwaters of the Animas River in Colorado, forcing the agency to grapple with continued creek cleaning and disposal. And the muck continues to flow at a rate of 650 gallons a minute. Colorado officials want the EPA to commit to keeping the temporary plant running and maybe even expand it until the Superfund cleanup is done. But the EPA is staying mum at the moment, saying only that they are looking into the matter. *(this is typical foot dragging by the EPA and the government and should be no surprise to anyone as this is how they historically approach everything, including the moment the disaster happened....jj)*. Other major issues also loom on the horizon, such as how they will be dealing with the filtration of the waste and how it will be disposed of (and where), and when they will be reimbursing the local governments of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and the Navajo Nation for costs incurred in response to the disaster and its pollution, and what the EPA will do about the tainting of downstream wells which were also compromised. *(If history is any guide, hell may well freeze over before the EPA steps up and does the right thing here....just sayin.)*

Mining Concerns from Around the Country

(In my attempt to keep our members aware of what is happening involving mining from around the country, I will run this little section each month and see how it goes. I am apt to put a little passion and some direct finger pointing in my reporting, for which I will offer no apology to anyone who may feel offended. I support responsible mining and responsible miners, period. It is what it is, and it is my opinion, and that is that, like it or not .jj)

Arizona: Rep. Gosar Fights 1.7M Acre Land Grab – An Arizona congressman holds rally to prevent another national monument scam. The Obama administration plans to designate 1.7 million acres in northern Arizona as a national monument under the guise of the Antiquities Act. The rally was conducted on April 10 by US Rep. Paul Gosar and was attended by many ranchers and miners from the region. Gosar says that the attempt is no more than an unconstitutional land grab by the same people opposed to logging, mining, and other entities that are now using the Antiquities Act to usurp the peoples access to public property and is driven by those in support of the enviros. Gosar has introduced HR 3946 in Washington DC in an attempt to scale back the Antiquities Act and limit presidential powers. HR 3946 is known as the Protecting Local Communities from Executive Overreach Act and would update the Antiquities Act in order to protect property rights, water rights and local jobs.

California: Calling all Good People to ACTION- Wednesday JUNE 1, 2016 – The PLP says that the time has come for all who are supporting small scale mining in California and the West to gather at the California Supreme Court building in LA to support one of our own, Brandon Rinehart. Those that have been following this case know he has had his case appealed all the way up to the Supreme Court by those that get paid by the State to uphold the law. Funny thing is, the law is on the side of Brandon. He has won in lower court and they didn't like that, so they (using our taxpayer money), appealed the decision to try to obtain the outcome they personally want to get: All dredging banned-PERIOD (except for their friends). Funny thing is, the state is PAYING an "environmental" group to dredge the Combie Reservoir, but that's different...when certain groups dredge, that's ok, but not others. The PLP is asking all those that care about the future of freedom in this state to show up in huge numbers, making the statement that no matter what, we will not give up! If thousands of miners clog the streets, the press will take notice at the plight of small scale miners' rights being squashed by state employees and special interest groups. Be there and make history with us!

Oregon: SB 838 Lawsuit Drags on – Despite concerns from the Oregon mining community, the legislature failed to pass anti-mining SB 1530 in late February. Oregon miners are sure they will see the bill raise its ugly head once again to replace SB 838 which put a moratorium on small scale suction dredging at the beginning of the year. State Sen. Alan Bates *(this guy is the miners' public enemy #1 in Oregon)* has confirmed that he will bring the issue up again in 2017. An appeal has been filed by the mining community to the Ninth Circuit Court.

Idaho: AMRA Ready to Fight Dredging Restrictions – In addition to its fight in California, AMRA continues to pursue unjust actions by the US Forest Service in Idaho. In response to the Forest Service's move to limit the number of



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dredgers on Idaho's Clearwater River, AMRA has retained James Buschal, who is currently representing Oregon miners in their battle against Oregon SB 838 and the Brandon Rinehart California Supreme Court dredging case.

The West: Plot Thickens in Sage Grouse Saga, 19M Acre Land Grab – The sage grouse battle continues as rare mouse threatens to close lands across three states. The BLM and the USFS have banded together to draw up a plan that will withdraw 10 million acres of land from mineral and oil entry and exploration across five western states, 3 million acres which are in Nevada alone. The Nevada Attorney General has accused the Department of Interior of meeting with enviro groups after the public comment period had ended, saying that three Dept. of Interior officials who referred to themselves as ‘the Three Grouseketeers’ in internal memos, met with the enviros to see how those groups would agree to amendments created for the proposed land-use plan. The Nevada Atty. Gen further stated that the self-appointed ‘grouseketeers’ were mocking all Nevadans and were showing their true agenda. Meanwhile, in New Mexico, a mouse popped its head out of the ground and set off a frenzy with the government and the enviros, including the Center for Biological Diversity and the Santa Fe based WildEarth Guardians. As a result of this new ‘discovery’, 22 square miles have been set aside across 3 western states as critical habitat. This designation impacts farmers, ranchers, miners and other users of the lands in question. Naming of some of these critters onto the Endangered Species Act (ESA) list is another tactic of the enviros to take public lands access away from people, especially miners.

Wyoming: EPA says that Taxpayers will have to Pay for Mining Mitigation – As more coal companies file for bankruptcy, it is increasingly likely that taxpayers will be stuck with the very high costs of preventing abandoned mines from becoming environmental disasters. The question is not if but when, where, and how many more coal mines will close as the industry declines. This is because of ‘self-bonding’, a practice the industry currently uses in which a company ‘promises’ to put enough money aside to take care of any reclamation needed. But when they go bankrupt, the money isn't there because it was never really set aside to begin with. Nationwide, self-bonding in the coal industry alone amounts to around \$3.3 billion dollars. The IOU's from the three largest companies, Alpha Natural Resources, Arch Coal, and Peabody is at least \$3.3 billion and involves 5 states, including Wyoming. When they file for Bankruptcy, the money is not there for reclamation, leaving the taxpayers on the hook. *(This situation is of great concern to all of us because there are thousands of abandoned gold mines around the country that are in need of reclamation before they become the next GOLD KING disaster...JJ) 06*

Department of Interior: Interior Chief Calling for Conservation Shift – Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said in April that “Natural areas in the United States are disappearing at the rate of a football field every 2 ½ minutes, and dangerous movements threaten public lands. We as a country need to make a major course correction in how we approach conservation to ensure a bright future for our public lands and waters”. She further stated that land grabs for development, population growth and climate change were to blame and smarter landscape-scale planning and attention to deteriorating park infrastructure is essential. She stated that the key would be to appeal to the younger generation who are more diverse, tech savvy yet disconnected from nature than ever before. She feels the nation needs to kick off a new century of American conservation by issuing a giant open invitation to every American to visit their national parks and public lands. While her speech was fairly accurate concerning the current state of affairs around the country, she still maintains a back room policy of anti-mining and in fact, encourages the blocking of miners from public lands whenever she can get away with it. She has been getting her share of the cake and eating as much as she can of it without sharing. While I agree with much of what she said in her speech, it is what she didn't say that still concerns me and the entire mining community. It is like giving you a hug to tell you that she loves you as she rams the unseen and unexpected knife into your guts. I believe that we do need to encourage conservation but that is far different from her agencies stand on mining. It is time that she went ‘all in’ in totality rather than saying one thing yet supporting policies that say otherwise. It is apples and oranges in my opinion.

Aurora Youth Water Festival Panning Demo

On May 19, members of the Club conducted a gold panning demonstration at the Aurora Community College in celebration of the Aurora Youth Water Festival. The festival is hosted by the Community College and designed as a full day field trip for elementary school students from Aurora to learn about the many ways water is used today. The kids always come rushing to our booth because they love the idea of seeing real gold and we always have plenty for them to see. The Festival hosted 18 different schools that brought over 1000 5th grade students out to see all the vendors and exhibitors. Pres. Long wants to thank Jack Meineke, George Sullivan, Gerald Maki and Tom Peeples for donating 5 hours

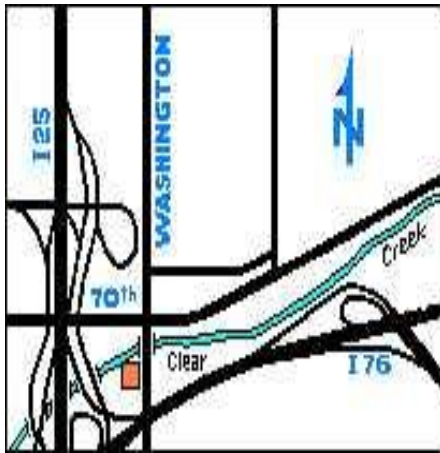


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of their time to ensure that the Club was able to put on a good show. These panning demos are a great way to hone some of your panning skills. Pres. Long managed to get in a few photos as well.



TYMKOVICH MEATS



Established 1952
6911 N.
Washington St,
Denver, CO 80229
(303) 288-8655
Open Wed-Sat
9:30 to 5:30
(Closed Sun-Tue)

GOLD - N - DETECTORS

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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 July 2016

(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 Independence Day	5	6	7 Newsletter Advert/Article Copy Deadline	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
					WMMI Museum Expo and Anniversary Celebration July 15, 16, 17	
17	18	19	20 GPR Club Meeting	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30