

THE GOLD NUGGET

September 2016

The Prez Sez by Jim Long



Things seem to be happening all around us at the present. Some good, some not so good, but ahappening they are. Further in the newsletter, you will find an update on the California dredging situation. This update is not a good one. I have included an update concerning Public Lands for the People (PLP) and this is not a good update either. There is also an update on the Dennis O'Neil property up by Leadville and this one isn't really bad or good but kind of iffy at the moment. And lastly, there is an update of a good kind about a huge nugget being found in Australia.

So, like I say, things are ahappening all around us and August has been different for the prospecting community. One good thing about August is that the water dropped making access to the creeks and rivers much safer. And those of us who have ventured out are finding gold right where we left it before high water. At least, I have. My special place on Clear Creek continues to produce good gold, albeit, fairly fine with the occasional larger flakes but not what I could really call any pickers as yet. But the color remains bright yellow as is typical of the gold in this portion of the Creek. And the cobble bar I am working is fairly full of the stuff, so that makes me happy every time I run my sluice. September is always a busy time for the Club and we literally have every weekend booked up with something going on, so I hope to see some of you at some of these events as they are always a lot of fun. We will be everywhere from Georgetown and back to Highlands Ranch and then back up to Idaho Springs before finally returning to Lakewood. And in between, I suspect that I will make it into Clear Creek a few times just to make everything real interesting. This will be a hectic time for me because I roll right into the big game season following another Club prospecting outing up in Blackhawk. And I really do look forward to my annual adventures involving Odacelious Hemi onus Hemi onus (Bambi) and his larger cousin Cervis Canadensis Canadensis (elk). Still no moose tag although I have been applying since 1978. By the time I get one in Colorado, I will probably be too old to hunt them.

I have been following a number of product reviews conducted on some of the newer products for mining that have been introduced during the last year or two. I have seen everything from pans, high bankers, sluices, gravity separators to dredges and mostly have concluded that practically all of them are simply reinventions of the wheel, so to speak. All of them seem to work and nearly all of them are more expensive than the basic original designs that worked so well. Of course, the usual argument is that these new models and designs are intended to work better and of course, more efficiently than the old styles. And in some cases, I might agree, but not in all cases. I am reminded of the \$90.00 I spent on my Keene sluice box and the \$15.00 I spent on my Garrett Gold Catcher pan and 8" black pan. With those three expenditures, I have been able to do quite nicely over these many years of digging for gold without having spent several thousands of dollars on some of this other stuff that is out there. Of course, I did get me a high banker eventually just so I could maximize the amount of material I was running from time to time when the occasion presented itself. And one of the things I have noticed is that with the strong majority of all this newer and better stuff is that the end result still requires the use of a gold pan. Huuuuuuu!!!

A prospector who can't master the basic gold pan is basically a frustrated prospector. That is the person that all this new gear and equipment is targeting. Look around you and see who can pan and who can't. The ones who can are quietly collecting gold and the ones who can't pan are constantly on the lookout for some kind of shortcut that will promise great yields with little labor. And it generally means a healthy chunk out of their wallet. When all is said and done, a lot of that equipment eventually winds up being resold at a great discount. That just makes no sense to me, but it is so true. I see it all the time. Long ago, I was that guy to a lesser degree, but experience taught me that developing those basic skills would go a long way to success and was a whole lot cheaper in the long run. If I found a vein or had a large claim and needed to move a lot of material to recover high enough values to warrant it, I would be looking at the appropriate equipment to get the job done. But I haven't and I don't so I just won't. In the meantime, my sluice and pan suits me fine and when I need more than that, I have a dependable high banker as backup. And Kevin Singel and I will continue to do very well, thank you very much.

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



I have been racking my brain today, trying to come up with a subject for this month’s VP. Corner that will be useful to the majority of our members. I believe that I have found that subject, and it applies to all of us. It has nothing to do with the equipment we use, i.e. gold pan, sluice box, classifier etc. It is about how we equip ourselves for hours, days, or even weeks out in the elements. The quest to find gold is very demanding whatever your chosen method. If we do a good job of preparing ourselves, then we will be able to do a better job of finding and recovering gold. Our brain dictates how we perform in any environment or situation. If you are hot or cold, hungry or thirsty, or if flies and/or skeeters are driving you nuts, it is difficult to concentrate. If your mind is on what is bothering you at the moment then it’s not focused on the task at hand, and your gold recovery will be less!!!! I have been there myself in the past, more times than I care to admit. These days I try very hard to prepare myself for the environment that I will be in and any likely changes that might occur while I am at that location. Another thing that can really put a damper on results is if you push yourself too hard early in the day. You may find yourself wanting to head for home far earlier than you had planned if this should happen. These days, I push myself but at a more controlled and steady pace. By doing this, I am able to put in long days while remaining focused on getting the gold!!! It works for me, whether I am in a Colorado creek with a sluice box, or in the Nevada desert with a metal detector. May all your adventures be Golden!!! Comments or questions Call or Text me 303-263-7204.

Joe Fortunato

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Wayne Schomaker



The September 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 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 “Special Nugget” raffle which features a beautiful 14.4 gram Australian nugget which was a metal detector find.

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.
- Sept 21** We will feature Part 4 of “**Gold Rush – The discovery of America**”.
- Oct 19** We will feature Part 5 of “**Gold Rush – The discovery of America**”.
- Nov 16** Joe Fortunato will give a presentation on metal detecting for gold nuggets in Nevada.
- Dec 21** No general meeting, will be a potluck Christmas Dinner and Recognition Program.

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

On August 6, he visited with Pres. Long on Clear Creek near 42nd and Youngfield for the Beginner’s Panning/slucing class which was a lot of fun. Then, on August 20, he joined club members for an outing up in Nederland where the weather was simply gorgeous..





Board Meeting Minutes From Aug 2016

X	James Long	X	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 6:07 pm

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

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

Correspondence: 6 phone calls, 12 e-mails, 6 mailings.

Webmaster: Total Hits 145862 Hits for last 2 month 303..

Committee Reports: Kafka's will be gone for Club picnic, will need someone to Cover for them

Unfinished business: None at this time.

New Business: The Club is now up on Facebook.

Planned Outings for 2016:

- Aug 20 Prospecting Outing, Nederland.
- Sept 3,4 Panning Demo Georgetown Loop RR
- Sept 8,9,10 Panning Demo Highlands Ranch
- Sept 17 Panning Demo Idaho Springs
- Sept 24 Club Picnic Morse Park

From the Board:

- Pres. Long discussed the July 30 Clay County Outing. Over 20 members made it and the gold was pretty good.
- The Beginners Class on Aug 6 went well and had 21 folks present. Weather was great and everybody found gold.
- BM Brandon L. advised there was lots of gold mining equip. showing up at Mile High Flea Market lately.
- BM Chris K. advised that they will be wanting to step down from Refreshment Table at end of year.
- BM Joe S. advised that elections will be not too far away.
- BM Mike H. asked if we could check into getting some more t-shirts made up.
- BM Joe J. advised that we needed to go over the rules for Finds with membership again.

Announcements: Next Board Meeting Sept 21, 2016 at 6:00pm. Next General Meeting Sept 21, 2016 at 7:00pm

Tonight's general meeting program: We will be showing a video from Mill Creek Productions titled "Gold Rush – The Discovery of America", Part 3, which will run 45 minutes.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:51 pm.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH
Shareholders in what Australian mining company will now have the option of collecting their dividend payments in either gold or cash?

- 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

General Meeting Minutes From Aug 2016

1. Meeting was opened at 7:03 pm by **Pres. Long** with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Pres. Long** then announced the evening program which will be a video presentation by Mill Creek Productions titled "Gold Rush – The Discovery of America", Part 3 which will run 45 minutes.
3. **Pres. Long** gave the Metals Report with gold at \$1348.40 an ounce, silver at \$19.61, platinum at \$1116.00 and palladium at \$692.00. **Web hits** for last month were 303.
4. **Treasurer Wayne Schomaker** reports that the Club remains in the black. 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 2.8 grams.
5. **Dan and Becki McConnell** who oversee the Membership Table reported that we had 69 members in attendance. There were also 2 guests present. The meeting attendance was 71.



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 4

6. **Pres. Long** read the 'Question of the Month', which was **"The gold medals for the 2016 Rio Olympics contain how many grams of silver and how many grams of gold..??"**
7. **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'. Please, only 1 item per person per category. A reminder, gold submissions need to be weighed dry, please.
8. **George Sullivan** gave the 'Cache – Clue #3. So put on your thinking caps and let's get out there and find it.
9. **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, including some new art. Members were encouraged to support the Club by buying Store products. We continue to look for a volunteer to take over the Store. We thank **Mike Hurtado** for helping out at the Store.
10. **Pres. Long** informed the membership of the 2016 Outings report. The July 30 Outing at the Clay County Mine went very well with about 23 members in attendance. Some pretty good gold was found by some members. The Beginner's Panning/slucing Class held on Aug. 6 also went very well with 21 attendees. By the time we were done, everybody found gold in the pans they ran. One gentleman stated he found more gold learning to pan in the class than he had found in the previous 2 years of trying. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is what the Class is all about. We will be going to Nederland on Aug. 20, a Saturday, starting at 9a with a trash cleanup and a broken glass cleanup for prizes. Then we have 3 Panning Demos in September, the first being at Georgetown Loop RR on the 3rd and 4th, then at Highlands Ranch on the 8,9,10th, then Idaho Springs on the 17th. Sign-up sheets were available. The Club picnic will be held on Sept 24 at Morse Park and is a potluck. Member Bobby Manning presented the Club with a \$500 check from the Foothills GPAA Chapter for our help at the GPAA Gold Show in June. That was very much appreciated.
11. **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.
12. **Pres. Long** announced the break at 8:14 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:36 pm.
13. **Pres. Long** announced that the winners of the 'Question of the Month'. The answer was **"6 grams of gold and 694 grams of silver..."** There were 28 winners who received their extra drawing ticket for the gold drawing.
14. **Pres. Long** announced the winners for the 'Finds of the Month'. Those were:
 - **Best Coin – Dan Cheer** with a Mexican coin he found while metal detecting in a local park.
 - **Best Artifact – Mike Hurtado** with a palladium baffle from a catalytic converter he found while metal detecting in Commerce City.
 - **Best Jewelry – John Olsen** with a Class Ring from Scottsbluff, Nebr., he found in while metal detecting.
 - **Best Mineral – Steve Miller** with a quartz specimen he found in Silverton, Colo.
 - **Most Raw Gold – Kevin Singel** with 0.08 grams of gold that he found in the Blue River.
15. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR, Bert Cutshall, Wayne Schomaker, Joe Johnston, 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**.
16. **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.
17. **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



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 5

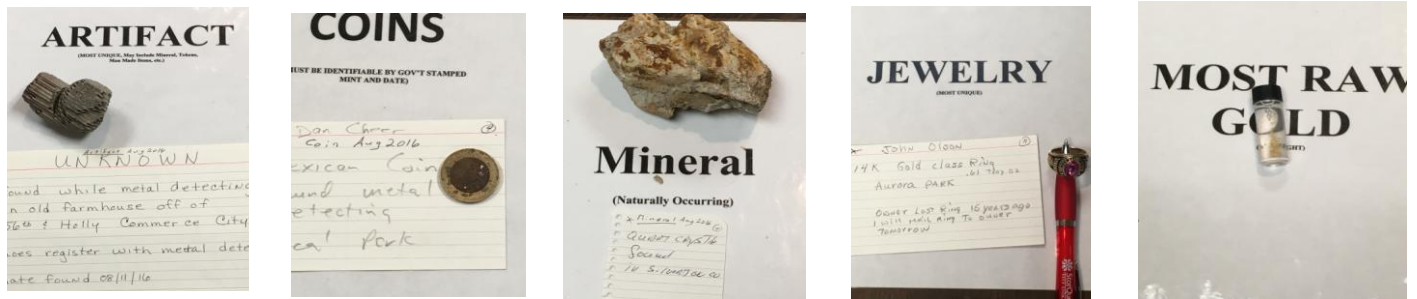
costs. This really helps the folks who run the table and those who volunteer up front each month. The Club appreciates the efforts that each and every one of you to make the refreshment table enjoyable.

18. The scheduled **Program for September** will be Part 4 of a video titled “Gold Rush – The Discovery of America”, a film by Mill Creek Productions.
19. 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’!
20. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Finds of the Month

The Aug winners and categories are as follows:

- **Best Artifact** – Winner is **Mike Hurtado** with a palladium baffle he found while m/detecting in Comm. City.
- **Best Coin** – Winner is **Dan Cheer** with a Mexican coin he found while m/detecting in a local park.
- **Best Mineral** – Winner is **Steve Miller** with a quartz specimen he found in Silverton, Colo.
- **Best Jewelry** – Winner is **John Olsen** with a Scottsbluff, Nebr. Class ring he found m/detecting.
- **Most Raw Gold** – Winner is **Kevin Singel** with 0.08 grams of gold he found in the Blue River.



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.

Good Turnout for Beginner's Panning/slucing Class

On August 6, some 20 Club members turned out on Clear Creek at the Arapahoe Bar for a Beginner's Class on panning and sluicing.

Everybody got a chance to learn some basic beginner skills and then got the opportunity to run pans containing gold from Pres. Long's own special digging area on Clear Creek. Everybody was able to find gold in their pans which was



theirs to keep. One new member said he found more gold today than he had in the last 2 years of prospecting. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is why we do these classes. We had a lot of folks who were very interested in the sluicing portion of the Class as well. Pres. Long really appreciated the help from VP Joe Fortunato, Bobby Manning and Jack Meineke. These helpers make everything work just the way it is supposed to go and I couldn't begin to do what I do without them. Thanks a bunch guys. Pres. Long took a few pictures to share.



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 6

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

8-05-16 **Bankrupt Peabody asks for Bonus for Executives:** Peabody Energy Corp., owner of the Twentymile Mine in Routt County, is asking a bankruptcy judge to let it pay up to \$12 million in bonuses to the coal mining company's top executives. The top executives are in line for the bonuses due to meeting goals in financial performance as well as safety, environmental and restructuring goals. *(Did I read this right...? You file for bankruptcy and then ask for \$12 million in bonuses...? Is it just me or is this the stupidest thing I have heard all year...? jj)*

8-12-16 **EPA Sues to Keep May Day Mine Unearthed:** The Wildcat Mining Company is hoping to move ahead with extraction of gold, silver and other minerals in La Plata County. However, the EPA has filed a lawsuit alleging desecration of mountain wetlands. If problems are fixed, the Wildcat Mining Co. will be allowed to continue their efforts to open the old May Day Mine. Opponents from a county commissioner to Earth First activists are claiming the mine will create a doomsday scenario. Wildcat widened a road which resulted in dumping materials into Little Deadwood Gulch which feeds into the La Plata river. Wildcat agreed to pay a \$50,000 fine and to restore the creek. The EPA contends Wildcat built a waste water pond in existing wetlands and violated the Clean Water Act by dumping fill material into the creek. The road was apparently illegally cut to the portal without state permission.

8-14-16 **Feds Announce Plans to Protect rare Birds:** Federal Land Managers (BLM and USFS) have announced plans to protect the rare Gunnison Sage Grouse, a bird found only in Colorado and Utah. The plan is a 1000 page document that proposes restrictions on energy development, grazing rights, and roads closures as well as barring access to areas where the birds mate and nest. The government says up to 2200 square miles of 'critical habitat' will need to be closed to protect the birds. *(This is the beginning of a plan by the BLM/USFS that is aimed at mining as well as ranchers grazing. Local authorities submitted a plan to protect the birds that had buy in of mining, energy and ranching interests and was a good plan, but the feds want their own plan and we all know why. It is all part of their great plan to use rare fish, birds, turtles, bugs and whatever to block ranching and mining interests throughout the west...!....jj)*

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)

National News: I received this notification from PLP dated August 17, 2016:

To all PLP members and supporters,

The Board of directors must inform you of the current situation we are experiencing. We were hoping to have solved this matter soon. However, it appears this might take longer than we expected so we must inform you now of recent events. Here are the facts: On July 14, 2016, this board received resignation letters from four of our board members: Ray Kender, resigned Secretary; Barry Wetherby, resigned Director; Pat Keene, resigned Director; Duane Platz, resigned Recording Secretary. On July 21, 2016, a meeting was held at Keene Engineering, unannounced to us and to you as PLP members, and an election was held that supposedly removed the current board members and supposedly placed Ray Kender as interim President. It appears all resigned board members were present. On July 23, 2016 Ray Kender, without any knowledge or consent from PLP, executed various corporate documents purporting to be an authorized agent of PLP, including the filing of an updated statement of information with the California Secretary of State appointing himself as an officer, director and agent of service of process. Soon after, Mr. Kender under the self-assumed title of "President" presented falsified documentation to the bank that PLP banks with, usurping our corporate bank account. He also changed the locks on our mailbox withholding access of all PLP property from your current board of directors, acts that this board sees as an improper exercise of corporate authority that Mr. Kender did not, and does not possess. "The current board of directors has taken steps to ensure that the funds of PLP are preserved by filing a corrected Statement of Information with the California Secretary of State. Unfortunately, because of Mr. Kender's actions and our attempts to regain access, PLP's bank accounts have been frozen. This jeopardizes all of our pending legal actions, including our lawsuit against the state over the suction dredge ban, our defense in deferral court of John Godfrey (cited for using a sluice box in a stream), and support for the Minerals and Mining Advisory Council (MMAC) and our newest defense of a suction dredger from the EPA in Idaho." Your board of directors is not only fighting for your rights, we are fighting to retain the assets from what we see as fraudulent and improper actions taken by former board members. A criminal report has been filed with the FBI to report this alleged bank fraud and intentional fraud on the State of



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 7

California. Your board is an all-volunteer board and we are proud of the progress that PLP has made in the past. We will continue to fight on your behalf in the future! We will give you updates as soon as possible. Please note our new mailing address: Public Lands for the People at 23501 Burbank Bl., Woodland Hills ca 91364

Thank you, Public Lands for the People President, Ron Kliever, Vice President, Jerry Shodall, Treasurer, Walt Wegner, Director, Bill Samarin, Director/Raffle Chair, Timothy Eakin

(I haven't heard any more about this but will keep the membership informed as I hear of anything....JJ)

California: California Supreme Court rules against Rinehart: Brad Jones of the GPAA has reported that the Supreme Court of California has ruled against suction dredge mining in the People v. Rinehart case. The court opinion was handed down this morning at 10 a.m. "We conclude the state's moratorium is not preempted. The federal laws Rinehart relies upon reflect a congressional intent to afford prospectors secure possession of, and in some instances title to, the places that they mine," the court stated. "But while Congress sought to protect miners' real property interests, it did not go further and guarantee them a right to mine immunized from the exercises of the states' police powers. We reverse the Court of Appeal." Mining groups, including Public Lands for the People and the American Mining Rights Association and the Western Mining Alliance, are disappointed with the court opinion released Monday, Aug. 22. Both PLP President Ron Kliever and AMRA President Shannon Poe blasted the court, suggesting politics were at play despite the legal rationale outlined in the court opinion. "I think the fix was in. We have a liberal activist chief justice," Kliever said. "It's obvious that the California Supreme Court justices do not understand dredging." "It's very discouraging. It really is. But. don't give up," he told miners. Poe concurred. "I'm deeply disappointed. It's hard not to assume there's not some politics at play here," Poe said.

U.S. Supreme Court "We have one option left, and that's the Supreme Court of the United States," Poe said. Poe suggested that AMRA and the Western Mining Alliance as well as other mining rights groups are considering enlisting the help of the Pacific Legal Foundation to petition the federal Supreme Court, which has an impressive track record of winning court cases at the federal level. "The WMA has been working with the Pacific Legal Foundation for years, and PLF has expressed interest in possibly taking this case to the U.S. Supreme Court. If that happens, it would be phenomenal because they are probably one of the best groups out there. They have exceptional attorneys," Poe said. "I think they've won every damn case. I can't think of one that they've lost." They've beat back the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management on all kinds of land rights issues. I think it is ripe for them to take it, but it obviously has to be their decision. I know that is something that WMA is going to pursue, and we're backing WMA 110 percent."

Prospecting in Nederland is Special

On August 20, Club members went to the Middle Boulder Creek in Nederland to search for gold. We started the day with a trash cleanup and then hit the creek for a day of fun. We have partnered with the City of Nederland several years now for this opportunity which is in Boulder County where prospecting is generally prohibited. But we help the City with a trash cleanup and then conduct a contest of removing broken glass from the stream and its banks. This reduces the injuries of City visitors and their kids who like to wade and play by the Creek. The Club members love the contest because we generally give away a few gold nuggets to the 3 members who collect the most broken glass. It is a lot of fun. This year, we collected several pounds total of glass and collected 3bags of trash. This is the cleanest I have ever seen the creek up there and Nikki and her parks helper have done a fantastic job. I heard that most everybody was able to find a little gold which made it all worth it. Pres. Long took a few pictures to share.





Huge Australian Nugget Found

By Brad Jones:

A lucky Australian prospector has unearthed a 145-ounce monster gold nugget, according to a report released by Minelab. Minelab, a world leader in metal detecting technologies, reports that the Australian prospector, who wants to remain anonymous, found the 145-ounce gold nugget with its flagship GPZ 7000 metal detector. The nugget was aptly named “Friday’s Joy” because it was found on a recent Friday morning in a well-worked area at the far southern edge of Central Victoria’s Golden Triangle, according to a Minelab media release issued Aug. 24. The estimated value of the nugget is \$250,000 AUD, or about \$190,575 US. “After discovering a nine-ounce tennis ball-shaped gold nugget more than two feet deep with his Minelab GPZ 7000 the previous day, he went back for more,” the release states. Minelab also quotes the prospector as saying, “I thought it was rubbish at first, maybe an old horseshoe. About 12 inches below the ground, I could just barely make out the top of something. As I began to scrape away the clay and dig deeper, I really couldn’t believe my eyes. This wasn’t an old piece of steel in front of me. I had just unearthed a colossal gold nugget — a once in a lifetime find! I was in total disbelief as I didn’t think nuggets of this size were still around.” As the story goes, the seasoned gold prospector in his quest for coins, relics and gold, had made a pact “with a couple of his closest mates” who are also avid detectorists. He had pledged an oath to split the proceeds on any large gold finds found when the group went prospecting together.



After alerting his friends and enjoying a few celebratory beers, the next order of business was to decide what to do with the nugget, the release states. “It’s like catching a big fish and not knowing what to do with it! Where do we put it? I washed it in water, covered it in aluminum foil and kept it in my oven on the first night,” the prospector said. While the find was a bit life changing for the prospector, it doesn’t mean he’s going to quit his job and retire, Minelab reports. “Rather, he plans to purchase a van and travel Australia when time allows, mixing travel and sightseeing with his love of detecting and prospecting. As for the nugget, which is now sitting in a bank vault, a replica is currently being constructed and auction plans are in the works,” the release states. “We’re thrilled that a Minelab customer has made such an amazing and important discovery. This is a historic find on par with a nugget like “Cindy’s Pride” and eclipsing Mick Brown’s recent “Fair Dinkum” nugget,” said Fraser Kendall, Minelab’s regional sales and marketing director. “He was prospecting in an area that others had clearly worked over and this just goes to show that there’s plenty of gold still coming out of Victoria.” Just last year, Australian gold prospector Mick Brown discovered an 87-ounce gold nugget with his Minelab detector during a prospecting trip near Wedderburn, a town located less than 140 miles from Melbourne. That buried treasure, the Fair Dinkum nugget, was auctioned off for \$175,000 AUD.

Equipped with Minelab’s exclusive, groundbreaking, Zero Voltage Transmission (ZVT) technology and state-of-the-art features, the GPZ 7000 offers the deepest ground penetration and represents the most significant advancement in gold detecting technologies in years. With its “Super-D” coil configuration, the detector has proven to provide up to 40 percent depth improvement to other detector models on the market. To learn more about Minelab or the GPZ 7000, visit minelab.com.

Brad Jones is the Managing Editor of Gold Prospectors magazine and the Pick & Shovel Gazette for the Gold Prospectors Association of America.

Changes to Dennis O’Neil’s Property in Leadville

As many of you have wondered, there have been some changes to how the O’Neil property can be prospected. The location has been known as the Derry Ranch Placer, a private, pay-to-dig site, on Lake Creek, at the intersection of Highway 24 & Highway 82, 2 miles north of Granite, CO. (19 miles north of Buena Vista, CO) A parking area is located on the west side of Hwy 24, just past the Hwy 82 junction. Although this is still Dennis O’Neil’s property, it is now under the exclusive management of Colorado Gold Camp, LLC (CGC). CGC is now managing this site as a Day Use Area and access is now limited and conditional. A liability release must be signed by each adult, with any family members and guests under 18 to be listed on the form for the responsible adult. Daily fees are to be paid to the respective Gold Camp, LLC (CGC) Representative.



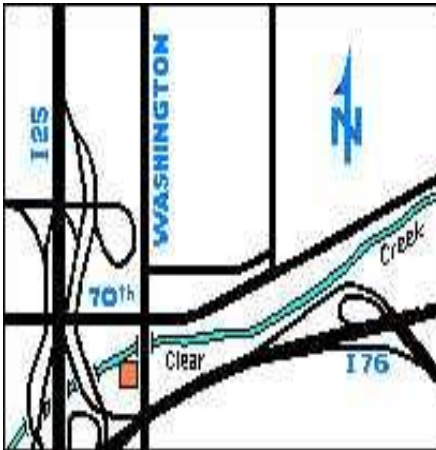
Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 9

Prospecting: Pay-to-dig daily rates are \$10 per prospector (age 17+), per day. There is no charge for those under 17, when escorted by a paying adult. Prospecting includes: panning, sluicing, high banking, dry washers, metal detecting, and re-circulating equipment like a *Gold Cube*. High bankers must use settling ponds or discharge far enough from the waterway to prevent sediment from returning to the stream. **Dredging is no longer permitted.** The only exception would be the use of a *Hydro Force Nozzle* (aka: dry land dredge nozzle) used with a high banker combo. Pumps are limited to 2" intake. A portable toilet will be available at the parking area; otherwise, there are no facilities at the site. No prospecting is permitted on the north side of Lake Creek. If you have questions, check at the information tent.

Camping: Camping is permitted on the property for \$2/person/day (16 and under are free with a paying adult). Tents/RVs/trailers/campers are allowed, but must be self-contained. There are no utility hook-ups and no dumping of holding tanks is allowed. RV and trailer/camper space is limited and available on a first come/first serve basis. Overnight parking is not permitted on the highway or shoulders. Free camping is also available on adjacent BLM and Forest Service property.

Contact: I have been unable to come up with a contact name or number, so hopefully, there is someone on site to take care of you should you go. But things have changed. Be aware of these changes. If we get contact information, we will pass it on. Their web site does not provide contact information other than membership recruitment.

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

A METAL DETECTING &
PROSPECTING
CENTER



(303) 278-6622

802 Washington Ave.
Golden, CO 80401

"Denver area's award winning hobby store, where we do what we sell."

- Metal Detectors
- High Bankers
- Rock Tumblers
- Books
- Goldpans
- Dredges
- RockPicks
- Accessories

Open 9-6 Monday through Saturday

VISA, MasterCard, Discover

Wild West Traders LLC COINS GOLD SILVER

Buy - Sell Collections - Scrap
Historic, Rare, and Unusual Coins
Downtown Golden by the Welcome Arch
1111 Washington Ave Ste #105 303-279-1844



Selling the **Bazooka Gold Trap Sluice**

Greg Doyle, President

P.O. Box 461231

Phone: 720-351-3345

Centennial, CO 80046-1231

grizzly.bear.gold@gmail.com

PLACE YOUR AD HERE

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

The Gold Nugget

Gold Prospectors of the Rockies
PO Box 150096
Lakewood, Co 80215-0096

ADVERTISING IN THE GOLD NUGGET

Commercial Ads

3.6" x 2.0" Two Column Inches (Business Card Size)..... \$6
 3.6" x 4.3" Four Column Inches..... \$12
 7.5" x 4.3" Eight Column Inches (Horizontal)..... \$24
 3.6" x 9.3" Nine Column Inches (Vertical)..... \$24
 7.5" x 9.3" Eighteen Column Inches (Full Page)..... \$48

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

Contact the GPR President
(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events for Oct 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
	WMMI Farmers Market Monday and Wednesday Oct 3, 5, 10, 12.					1 GPR Outing Clay County Mine
2 Rash Hashanah	3	4	5	6	7	8 WMMI Reynolds Ranch Restoration Day
9 WMMI Reynolds Ranch Restoration Day	10 Columbus Day	11 Yom Kippur	12	13	14	15
16	17 Panning Demo Arapahoe County Fall Festival	18	19 GPR Club Meeting Pumpkin Carving Contest	20	21	22
23/30	24/31 Halloween	25	26	27	28	29