

THE GOLD NUGGET

May 2017



The Prez Sez by Jim Long



Spring has sprung and we have had some great weather to be down in the Creek. I hope that some of you have taken advantage of this warm spell to get out and about as there is still gold to be found out there. I have managed to get out a few times and the gold hasn't changed. Arapaho Bar is getting hit pretty heavily but other sections down lower aren't getting hardly any pressure. Where I dig, I have only seen 7 other people all winter long.

What I love so much about Clear Creek is that not only is it one of the top gold producers in the state, it is so dang close to my house. And I don't have to drive 100 or 250 miles to get to good gold. My drive is about 5 miles one way and a 100 yard walk. Even my old bones can handle that. I recently had the pleasure of taken a gentleman who is writing a piece for a major magazine on 'Urban Gold Mining', down to the Creek and along with John Johnson and Bobby Manning, we managed to show him what it was like to spend a morning on the Creek within sight of the city and with people all around us, and still find gold. We panned and ran a sluice box for him and gave him the gold from about 3 buckets of screened material. He asked questions galore and took lots of pictures as well.

His topic of 'Urban Gold Mining' is a really good one. There are not a whole lot of places in the country where you can do this with any degree of success, but Denver is one of them. The South Platte River runs right through the middle of Denver with views of the downtown sky scrapers all the way down to small neighborhood homes. And there is gold throughout the river system. There is gold in Dry Creek, Bear Creek, Cherry Creek, Sand Creek, Ralston Creek, and Clear Creek. Just take your pick pretty much of any creek and it will carry gold. But there is a whole lot more gold in Clear Creek than any of the others and there is a whole lot more access as well. Although the last 10 years or so have seen a dramatic change in rules and regulations of small scale mining throughout the greater and lesser Denver area, we can still pan and sluice with little difficulty. We used to be able to high bank and dredge but things have changed now. People don't recognize nor do they want to admit that Denver would never have been built if it had not been for the miners in 1859 finding gold here. From the first discovery, they started building and haven't stopped to this very day. But Denver, Golden, Blackhawk, Central City, Idaho Springs, Georgetown, Leadville, all got their start directly from mining and had there been no gold discoveries in those locations, who is to say if a settlement would have occurred in these locations. One cannot predict such things but supply and demand usually is the predicator of development and men set up shops to 'mine the miners', as we love to say, and provide them with food, clothing, tools, equipment, alcohol and women. These were all things that the miners wanted and were willing to pay money for. The result, of course, was that the ones who set up shop were the ones to make the most money while the miners spent nearly all that they found until the gold had all been found and the boom went bust.

In those days, they were certainly placer miners, but they gleaned only the larger and more readily available gold, not really having the equipment or means, other than a gold pan, to extract the fine gold. Their pans were often no more than the blade of a shovel and if you have ever tried using the blade of a shovel, you can easily see why they didn't really have a lot of the flour gold. But those who did recover the flour gold, often used it to buy their necessities while they banked the bigger stuff. Besides shovels, they were known to use metal lids for pots and pans or metal plates used for eating. It wasn't until later when the Chinese came in that the riffles in gold pans were created by turning the implement upside down and pounding with a hammer to create the riffles. And the Chinese did very well with that little technique until word got out and the miners began copying their technique.

But by and large, there are few places in the country where you can pan and sluice in the heart of the city and find fair amounts of gold, but Denver is truly one of the best. And I find it one of the few blessings that this city can actually offer that I personally like. I came to this town back in the 60's fresh out of college and not wanting to work on the farm and ranch anymore. I sought a nice government job with benefits and a retirement program, and I found one. Found several, in fact. Had I not found one, I would not have been here long. Discovering the bounty of Clear Creek and the other





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waters around the city and just outside it was definitely a plus that I was able to really take advantage of when I retired and had the time to enjoy it.

Anyway, that is the view from here and I wish you all Good Luck in your endeavors, no matter what they may be! 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!!!

2017 Dues are Due and Payable....Please Consider Paying Your Dues SOON

The V.P. Corner by "Joe Fortunato



I don't have a particular topic in mind to write about this month. There are actually several topics, some are good, and some not so good (more like, just plain sad). Any time that someone says to me, "I have good news and bad news; I always prefer the bad news first option. I don't really know why, it doesn't make the bad news any less bad. In my case, it does seem to ease the pain just a little, to finish with the good news. I am sure anyone that is a GPR member and reads the club newsletter, is aware that former member Jay Nunn passed away a few weeks ago. I had the pleasure of Jay's company on a number of prospecting adventures several years ago. We did some dredging on south boulder creek (private property of a friend), and some high banking on upper clear creek (again on a private claim). We found some pretty darn good gold at both locations and the memories are better than the gold!! The loss of Jay was compounded, when Smokey Baird of Lovelock, Nevada, passed away on March 25th. You might remember me talking about Smokey during my presentation on Rye Patch a few months ago. Smokey was a multitasking individual for sure. He was a (real) cowboy, excellent horseman, hunter, poet, and legendary nugget shooter!! I spoke with Smokey on the phone last December. He had been battling cancer for over a year, but he sounded good and was very upbeat and positive. He told me that he had written a new poem, and then he read it to me. He said that he would make a copy for me, and give it to me in the spring when I returned to Lovelock. Sadly, I did not make it back to Nevada in time to see him in person. I will be in Lovelock in late April, and will be stopping by to pay my respects. On the brighter side, the weather continues to amaze, and the prospects for finding a bit of color remain good!! Better take advantage of these conditions, it won't be long before all that snow in the high country starts to melt. Then it is tough times again (and dangerous) until the runoff subsides. Some good news for "yours truly" this month, the FEDEX truck stopped by my shop a couple of days ago, and dropped off a brand new metal detector. If this bad boy works out for me, I may never need to buy another nugget detector.....EVER!! Well maybe not.....EVER!!, but at least a couple of years.....MAYBE?!?!? With some hard work and a little luck (make that, a lot of luck!), I will have a few pictures and another story to tell later this year. But until then, MAY ALL YOUR ADVENTURES BE GOLDEN!!!! Joe Fortunato Questions or comments call or text me 303-263-7204.

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Wayne Schomaker

The May Meeting will feature a 9 nugget drawing that will include a nugget of at least 2.6 grams or more. We have another fine specimen from Alaska to auction off.. We will also be giving away numerous door prizes as well. Remember that your chances of winning are better than the Colorado Lottery as there are so many less people participating. Be sure to support your Club and buy lots of tickets. See you all at the up-coming Meeting.

Planned 2017 GPR Meeting Programs:

May 17 Front Range Mine Rescue will speak on mines and mine danger.

Jun 21 Stump the Panel', an opportunity to ask 'GPR Club Experts', questions related to gold mining.

July 19 To be Determined



Board Meeting Minutes From Apr 2017

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

Quorum present? Yes

Call to Order: By V. Pres. Fortunato at 6:08 pm.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Corrections: n/a Approved as read/corrected: Yes.

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

Correspondence: 3 phone calls, 10 e-mails, 6 mailing.

Webmaster: Total Hits 148090 Hits for last 2 month 245.

Committee Reports: None at this time.

Unfinished Business: None at this time.

New Business:

- Discussed upcoming Foothills GPAA Chapter's Gold Show at JeffCo Fairgrounds on June 9, 10, 11. We will have a sign up sheet at the May Mtg.
- Discussed the CSM Book Sale on April 29/30.

Planned Outings for 2017:

- Notice of Outings planned for 2017 was sent out with Feb Newsletter.
- Next event is a Panning Demo at Aurora Water Festival on May 18, sign-up sheet on table.
- Next Outing is Prospecting Outing at Clay County Mine in Blackhawk on June 3.

From the Board:

- BM B. Manning advised he has fliers and half price tickets for Gold Show and has placed them back in Store for the membership.
- BM J. Shubert was in Hospital and unable to attend.
- BM B. Luchtenburg was also ill. Pres. Long advised
- That the Open House for the Clear Creek Developmental Plan will be April 22nd at the Community Center at 54th and Meade St. from 9a to noon.

Announcements: None at this time.

Next Board Meeting, May 17, 2017, at 6:00 pm. Next General Meeting, May 17, 2017, at 7:00 pm.

Tonight's general meeting program: We will feature Hank Innerfeld who will give a presentation on 'Dowsing', to include dowsing for gold.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:35 pm.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What 1959 movie (starring Gary Cooper, Karl Malden and George C. Scott), is set primarily in a gold-mining camp just after gold was discovered in California? (Hint: Marty Robbins sang the theme song with the same title as the movie.)

2017 GPR Board of Directors Members

President

James Long

Vice President

Joe Fortunato

Secretary/Treasurer

Wayne Schomaker

2 Year Board Members

Joe Johnston (2014)

Joe Shubert (2015)

1 Year Board Members

Chris Kafka

Andy Doll

Brandon Luchtenburg

John Johnson

Bobby Manning

Mike Hurtado

Past President

Gary Hawley

General Meeting Minutes From Apr 2017

1. Meeting was opened at 7:06 pm by Pres. Long with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Pres. Long then announced the evening program that was GPR member Hank Innerfeld who presented a discussion on 'Dowsing' to include its origin, history, and application today, to include its use in gold detection. The Program was well received by the membership.
3. Pres. Long did not have numbers for the Metals Report this month.
4. Web hits for last month were 245.
5. 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. We have a brand new



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Alaskan chunk of raw gold weighing in at 13.9 grams. 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 77 members in attendance. There were 3 guests present. The total meeting attendance was 80.
7. Pres. Long read the 'Question of the Month', which was "Who was the French born women mule freight team driver who had her gold claim jumped in Central City??"
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, 2017. A reminder to all that gold submissions need to be weighed dry, and only one submission per person per category. Be sure to fill out entry cards completely.
9. John Johnson announced the 'Cache Clue #3', which was in Crypto quip form.
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, and we have discounted several items. There are also half price tickets to the upcoming Gold and Mineral Show at Jefferson County Fairgrounds. We continue to look for a volunteer to take over the Store. We thank Mike Hurtado for helping out at the Store in the meanwhile.
11. Pres. Long informed the membership of:
 - The next 2017 Outing which will be a Panning Demo at the Aurora Water Festival on May 18, There is a sign-up sheet at front table.
 - On June 3, we will have a Prospecting Outing at Blackhawk again.
 - The Gold and Mineral Show will be on June 9/10/11 and we will have a booth at the Show. There will be a sign-up sheet at the May mtg.
 - Beginners panning /Sluicing Class held on Sat., March 25 was well attended as was the Tour of the School of Mines Geology Museum on May 8.
 - The Clear Creek Developmental Plan is having a last Open House on April 22nd at the Community Center at 54th and Meade St. in Adams County from 9a to noon.
 - The School of Mines is having a Book Sale on April 29/30.
 - 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.
 - Check the Monthly Newsletter Calendar for future Gem and Mineral Shows coming up in the future.
12. There is an outstanding article on how to select the right metal detector for gold which has been placed on the 'Links' Section in the Newsletter as well.
13. Pres. Long announced the break at 8:16 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:36 pm.
14. Pres. Long announced the winners of the 'Question of the Month'. The answer was "Mary Delay..." !! There were only 4 winners who received their extra drawing ticket for the gold drawing.
15. Pres. Long announced the winners for the 'Finds of the Month'. They were:
 - Best Mineral – Jack Meineke and Angie Yenn with some quartz, malachite and obsidian samples from the Rye Patch in Nevada.
 - Best Artifact – Ian Duncanson with an unfired .50 cal. Shell he found while agate hunting at the Railroad Buttes in South Dakota..
 - Best Jewelry – No submission this month.
 - Best Coin – Joe Johnston with an unstruck penny that he found in Aurora.
 - Best Bottle – John Johnson with a bottle that he found in Aurora.
 - Most raw Gold – Dave Snyder with an unweighed amount of gold he found in Park County, Colorado.
16. Pres. Long concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the GPoR, Lloyd Lauck, Dick Oakes, 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



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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.

17. 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.
18. 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. Thanks to Brandon Luchtenburg, Alanna Croak and Jonah Rudd for taking care of the Table for Chris and Joe during the March meeting.
19. The May meeting Program will feature a program put on by the folks from 'Front Range Mine Rescue'. This should be a fun and interesting program so be sure not to miss it. It will highlight the dangers of lode mining
20. 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'!
21. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Finds of the Month

The finds of the Month for Apr are as follows:

Best Coin – The winner was Joe Johnston with an 'unmarked' penny he found in Aurora.

Best Jewelry – There was no entry for this category.

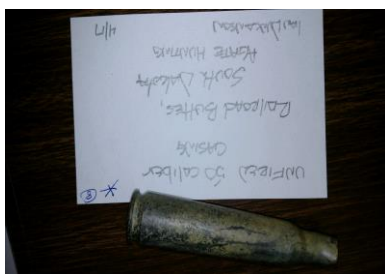
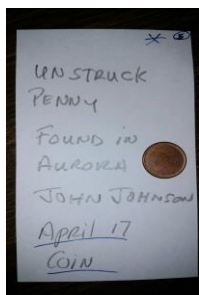
Best Bottle – The winner was John Johnson with an unmarked glass bottle he found in Aurora.

Best Artifact – The winner was Ian Duncanson with a .50 cal. Unfired cartridge he found while rock hounding in South Dakota.

Best Mineral – The winner was Angie Yenn and Jack Meineke with some quartz malachite and obsidian they found at the Rye Patch in Nevada.

Largest Raw Gold – There was no entry for this category.

Most Raw Gold – The winner was Dave Snyder with 0.3 grams of gold that he found while prospecting in Park County.



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 2017 meeting to compete for the Find of the Year 2017. Thanks to all those who also submitted additional finds that were not judged to be winners.

A Miner's Laugh

An old miner decided to finally retire and since he had a love for animals, thought he would open up a Veterinarian office and provide a service to the community. One day, a man runs into the vet's office carrying his dog, screaming for help. The vet rushes him back to an examination room and has the man





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put his dog down on the examination table. The vet examines the still, limp body and after a few moments, tells the man that his dog, regrettably, is dead. The man, clearly agitated and not willing to accept this, demands a second opinion. So the old miner, now a vet, goes into the back room and comes out with a cat and puts the cat down next to the dog's body. The cat sniffs the body, walks from head to tail, poking and sniffing the dog's body and finally looks at the vet and meows. The vet looks at the man and says, "I'm sorry, but the cat thinks that your dog is dead, too." The man is still unwilling to accept that his dog is dead. So the vet brings in a black Labrador retriever. The lab sniffs the body, walks from head to tail, and finally looks at the vet and barks. The vet looks at the man and says, "I'm sorry, but the lab thinks your dog is dead too."

The man, finally resigned to the diagnosis, thanks the vet and asks how much he owes. The vet answers, "\$650." "What, \$650 to tell me my dog is dead?" exclaims the man.

"Well," the old miner/vet replies, "I would only have charged you \$50 for my initial diagnosis. The additional \$600 was for the cat scan and lab test!!!"

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

4-13-17 Political Risks push Gold to Five Month High: Concerns about rising global tensions surrounding Syria and North Korea are revitalizing demand for gold as a haven, with the metal trading near its highest price since Donald Trump was elected President. A standoff between Russian and the US after a missile strike by Syria involving chemical weapons and a subsequent strike by the US on a Syrian air base, as well as rising tension between North Korea and the US has driven many traders to believe that the time is right again to save gold as a hedge. Of course, should tensions cool down, gold will lose its appeal as that haven and prices will fall again. This is an example of the influence of world conflict, tensions and economies over the gold markets.

4-24-17 Congress Said to be Nearing Deal on Coal Miner Benefits: Congress is close to a deal to extend health benefits for more than 22,000 retired miners and widows whose medical coverage is set to expire soon. A 'permanent fix would cost \$1.3 billion over 10 years, according to Sen. Joe Manchin, D – W. Vir.. He further said that Pres. Trump had called him earlier to express his support for the miners.

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)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE...Congress Canceling Regulations: Some of you may have heard of the Congressional Review Act (CRA). It was a bill passed in 1996 that allows the rescinding of recent regulations by a simple majority vote in the House and the Senate. On its face, it appears to apply to rules and regulations put in place in the last 60 legislative days. At least that is what most people believe. The CRA was enacted to help prevent administrations from promulgating unpopular rules or regulations without Congressional approval. However, Todd Gaziano, a senior fellow in constitutional law at the Pacific Legal Foundation, believes that the CRA goes far beyond 'recent' regulations, and he should know. Back in 1996, Gaziano was intimately involved in drafting and passing a bill sponsored by Rep. David McIntosh, for whom Gaziano worked for at the time. That bill was, in fact, the CRA, therefore, no one knows the law better than Gaziano. And according to him, a federal agency must submit a report to the House and Senate after promulgating a rule. Congress then has 60 days to utilize the CRA, if desired, and rescind the rule. Rules or regulations promulgated during the last 60 legislative days would take us back to about June 2016 because only days where Congress was in session are counted. But Gaziano says some agencies neglected to turn in the required reports for older rules and regulations, allowing the Trump Administration to do so now. The 60 day clock would start the date the report is submitted. This would create the opportunity to rescind regulations by a simple majority vote in the House and Senate, even for rules, regulations or agency guidance that was put into place as far back as 1996 when the CRA was passed, if the required reports were not completed and submitted to Congress. And the CRA specifically states that if a rule is rescinded, a similar rule cannot be reissued by an agency unless expressly authorized by Congress. Therefore, the CRA could potentially be utilized to provide lasting relief for miners, ranchers, and other public land users, to include all types of businesses in all areas of America (like logging and others). Pres. Trump stated on January 23 that "we are going to be



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cutting regulations massively!” And the process has already begun, with some thirty regulations having already been addressed under the CRA by the House and the Senate. As an example, the House voted to repeal the Obama-era Department of Interior rule known as ‘Planning 2.0,’ which was touted as giving non-governmental organizations a larger say in public land use decisions. The fate of the rule is now in the hands of the Senate. If the Senate also votes to repeal the rule, the BLM will be prohibited from establishing a similar rule in the future without the express consent of Congress.

(What an oversight by previous agency administrators...!!! This will ultimately prove to be a major game changer, especially for the mining industry. You can be sure that the agents of MMAC, GPAA, PLP, AMRA and others are taking the steps to review a lot of the crap that has been done in the last 8 years and potentially rectify it..jj

Oregon follows California’s Lead: Bills to ban motorized, instream mining through January 2, 2021, in many areas of the state of Oregon and increase the fees and permitting requirements for surface mining have been introduced. House Bill 2106 and Senate Bill 3 include provisions for fines of up to \$10,000 for violating any of the rules.

Lawsuit Coming: Bill Introduced to Stop Mining in Washington State - Washington State is introducing their own Bill to revamp mining regulations, House Bill 1077, which would impose heavy restrictions on instream miners. In addition, the Center for Biological Diversity and Cascadia Wildlands have filed a 60 day Notice of Intent to Sue against the State of Washington for failing to protect endangered species from instream miners. Like California, the way to correct this is to remove the state from the regulatory process by passing legislation at the federal level. And this is precisely what AMRA, PLP, WMA and MMAC are working on at this very moment. *(And we have senators and representatives who are listening to us. It seems that the entire west coast has gone to the extreme and is being operated and run by nuts and wackos. And a lot of them were coming to Colorado for the free use of marijuana,. and bringing their stupid ideology with them.all I have to say is hang onto your gold pans because our day is coming.....jj*

Tour of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum

On April 8, March 25, members of the Club visited the Geology Museum located at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado, for a tour led by Dr. Bruce Geller. Dr. Geller is a renowned expert in the field of geology with an emphasis on gold bearing telluride’s. Each year, the museum, which is the sixth largest tourist attraction in the Golden area at the moment, replaces roughly 20% of its specimens. Some of the items are owned by the museum and some are owned by private entities and loaned to the museum for display. Each year, there is a theme that is generally followed in what types of specimens are generally shown but not always. There is an upstairs display area and a downstairs display area. The museum does not charge for admittance but accepts donations from its visitors. The downstairs display area includes a black light area featuring rare earth elements and ‘off world’ minerals such as meteorites,, moon rocks and other really neat and rare stuff . The normal visiting public does not get to visit the ‘back room’ of the museum which contains tens of thousands of warehoused specimens from gold and diamonds to fossils and other minerals and gems which are not being displayed at the time. It is a privilege to get a look in this room and Dr. Geller generally lets us take a look at some of the stuff in there like the amazing micro mineral displays. All in all, a trip to this museum is well worth your time. This is one of the best University museums in the entire United States. One can actually spend hours looking at everything and truly be amazed at what is there. Pres. Long did take a few photos while there.



What Mining Means to Americans by The American Mining Congress

Most people pass their days with no thought to the role that mining plays in their lives. They know where to buy the things they want but seldom stop to think of the origins of that stuff. Food comes from the grocery, electricity from the



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wall socket, tools from a hardware store, cars from a car dealer, appliances from a department store, and so on. If we do think about how these things are created, many of us probably begin with farms, factories and power stations. In fact, they all begin with mining. Without minerals, we could not till our soil, build our machines, supply our energy, transport our goods or maintain any society beyond the most primitive. Our horn of plenty starts with a hole in the ground. We are in big trouble if we ever forget that!!

The World's Five Largest Gold Nuggets by Ray Lundin

There have been many claims for the 'World's Largest Gold Nugget'. At the time that some of these large nuggets were found (mostly in the 1800's) they were indeed the world's largest. However, as time went on and gold strikes occurred all over the world, larger nuggets were found and the title was shifted from one nugget to another. What was needed was a clear definition of 'gold nugget'. The type of nugget that most people are familiar with is the true gold nugget, i.e. a blob of gold formed by nature. The other type is called 'reef gold', i.e. gold that appears imbedded in rock, usually in quartz. When the rock is removed from around the gold, the gold can be recovered in one piece. Reef gold is synonymous with the terms ledge, lode, and vein gold. There are many claims to the world's largest gold nugget. Some say the world's largest nugget in existence, others say the world's largest recorded nugget and some say the world's largest nugget on display. These five nuggets that follow are graded by weight. Now, the largest five are as follows: (this list has changed since I first wrote this article in February 2009.)

Fifth Largest Nugget – The 'Hand of Faith' Nugget: This 54.69 pound nugget was found in 1980 in Western Australia and is the largest nugget on public display in the world. Using a metal detector, it was found lying in a vertical position just below the surface by Kevin Hillier behind his trailer home. It was sold to the Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino for \$1 million dollars and is now on display at that casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.



Fourth Largest Nugget – Newmont's Normandy Nugget: This 56.18 pound nugget was found near Kalgoorlie, Western Australia in 1995. It is currently on display in the Perth Mint in Australia.



Third Largest Nugget – The Golden Eagle Nugget: This nugget weighs in at 71 pounds and was found by 16 year old Jack Larcombe on January 8, 1931 in Larkenville, Western Australia. The nugget required two men to lift it and was given its name due to its resemblance to a bird.



Second Largest Nugget – The Pepita Canaa Nugget: This nugget weighed in at a whopping 134.06 pounds and was found on September 13, 1983 by miners in the Serra Pelada Mine in the State of Para, Brazil. It currently resides in the Banco Central Museum in Brazil.



First Largest Nugget – The Welcome Stranger Nugget: This nugget weighed in at a staggering 158 pounds and was found three inches deep in Victoria, Australia, in 1869 by John Deason and Richard Oats. Since there were no scales capable of weighing a nugget of this size at the time, it was broken into three pieces and weighed at the bank. In 1897, an obelisk was erected near the spot where the nugget was discovered. A replica of the nugget is in the City Museum in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

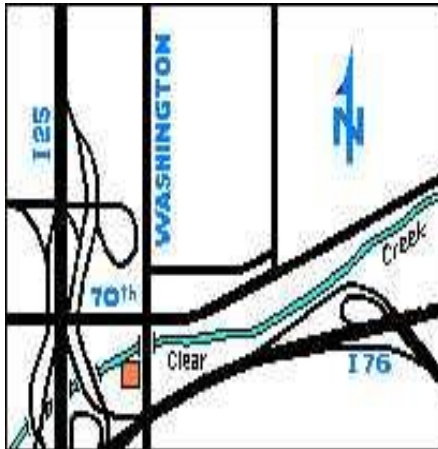


Honorable Mention – The Holtermann Nugget: This was the largest single mass of gold ever found, however, it was not a true nugget. It was actually reef gold, meaning it was composed of other minerals imbedded in the gold. It was found in South Wales, Australia, in 1872. It weighed in at about 630 pounds (about 400 pounds of gold when melted down). Holtermann was the manager and part owner of the Star of Hope Mine where it was found. The 'nugget' was broken up and smelted except for a piece that Holtermann chipped off as a souvenir.

(The author, Ray Lundin, is a gemologist and frequent contributor to the 'Colorado Gambler' publication and writes a column on 'minerals and gemstones')



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Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events for Jun 2017

(**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 GPR Prospecting Outing Lake Gulch
4 Pentecost	5	6 D-Day	7	8	9	10 GPR Foothills Chapter GPAA Gold Show 9/10/11
11	12	13	14 Army Birthday Flag Day	15	16	17 WMMI First Annual All Colorado Festival
18 Fathers Day	19	20	21 GPR Club Meeting	22	23	
25	26	27	28	29	30	