

THE GOLD NUGGET

Aug 2018

The Prez Sez by Jim Long



Summer seems to be just flying right along. This particular one has been a hot one indeed. We are having a record number of 90* plus weather and I heard on the news that there are over 100 fires now burning in the western part of our country. We have certainly had our share of big fires this year right here in Colorado. There has been a lot of smoke in the area and that is cause for concern for some of our older members. It is hard to get out when you can't breathe when you do. It is times like this that one can be forced to buy his bags of concentrates to get that gold. You can then pan it out at home without having to travel outside to do it. For the rest of us, the lure of gold still draws us out no matter what the conditions sometimes.

Speaking of the 'lure' of gold, it often boggles my mind to see the affect that the lure of gold has on some people. The desire to possess it just seems to overcome reason and people will do things that they would not normally do, all just to get possession of it. It never had that effect on me personally. I mean, I do enjoy finding gold and I kind of take it personal when I am out there looking for it to the degree that I really enjoy finding it. But I don't let the 'thrill of the chase' consume me. There is an evil quality as well as a healthy quality when one thinks about the lure of gold. I have long accepted the fact that I am one of those people who were born to survive by working hard and to enjoy only the basic pleasures of life that comes only from good hard honest labor. I will never have millions of dollars, nor will I own a yacht or a million dollar home. I am fortunate enough to have provided fairly well for my family and had a few toys to enjoy along the way. But I was never tempted by the 'evil lure' of riches that were not mine to possess, including gold. During my previous lifetime/career, I have held millions of dollars of cash and even drugs in my hands as well as tens of thousands of dollars' worth of valuable gems and jewels and other commodities. I was entrusted with the care of those items and held accountable for the possession of them until they could be returned to the proper owners or legally disposed of. None of it ever made its way into my bank account or came into my personal possession for my personal use. I was never wired or made like that. But sadly, I have seen others who were. Rarely did they ever get away with it and if they did, it was usually only temporary. And when the hammer fell, they always seemed to be so shocked that things just didn't seem to go their way or work out like they thought.

If you have ever studied human nature, it really isn't all that hard to understand. Temptation came in the very beginning with Adam and Even in the Garden with a mere apple. Since that fateful, day, temptation has been all around us each day of our lives, in one way or another. The strong of heart, those with courage and faith, and those among us of high moral and ethical fiber have never yielded to its evil. During the history of our country, there have been a number of gold discoveries and rushes. Tens of thousands of men and women dropped everything and succumbed to the lure of gold and the chance to 'strike it rich'. And the majority failed in that quest. New country was discovered, new trails were forged. Towns were born, many subsequently died, and the face of our nation was changed. And a lot of men and women died during those quests. Greed was a driving force and quite often, a catalyst that determined who would benefit and who would not. And though the temptation that Adam faced in the Garden in the Beginning was seemingly innocent, the consequences of his succumbing changed the destiny of Man. And we see that today, that temptation is still all around us and is not always plain to recognize. I used to tell my troops that 'one must, at all costs and no matter how difficult, always, always avoid even the appearance of impropriety'! I had a lot of those kinds of sayings/adages/maxims that were intended to help those younger officers under my charge to develop a strong moral and ethical fiber that would hold up to scrutiny when things got difficult for them. Those that learned went on to successful careers, and those who couldn't cut the mustard, were generally found out fairly early on and were let go. When you are surrounded by temptation on all sides constantly, those are the kinds of things that you draw on that will help you to not fall victim to the 'temptation' that is all around us, including the so called 'lure of gold'.

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!!!



The V.P. Corner by “Joe Fortunato



Hello again, guys and gals. I have noticed that Clear Creek is looking good for some (close to town) panning and sluicing these days. Other than the much-needed summer rain or an occasional pipe laying project, water flows should be good to go!! We are certainly at that time of the year, when prospecting trips farther from home are on people’s minds. There are a lot of locations for us to choose from here in Colorado. Deciding on a particular place to pursue that golden prize isn’t always an easy thing to do. If you are new to gold prospecting, things can be even more difficult. Whether you are an experienced prospector, or someone who is just getting started, the question is the same. Which location will provide a good chance for finding gold and at the same be open to prospecting. I know that I have said this more than once in the past, but it really cannot be over stated. When it comes to prospecting for gold, Knowledge Equals Success!! Along with the knowledge of where to find gold, you must also be knowledgeable when it comes to using your equipment. No matter what size a gold operation is, it always comes down to the gold pan! Ask any experienced gold miner what their most important piece of equipment is..it will be their gold pan!! I believe that we would all agree on that point. I certainly agree with that statement, but with one very important qualifier. If the person that is using the gold pan is not knowledgeable, i.e. (a skilled gold panner!!), then that gold pan is useless. A person can be right in the middle of a good gold producing location, but if that person lacks the ability to pan material down to the point that the gold becomes visible in the pan, no gold will be revealed. If you are struggling a bit with your panning, don’t be bashful, ask someone for some tips on panning. There are a lot of members who would be happy to help. Once you learn the basics, it’s just a matter of practice, the more you work at it, the better you will be at it!! There is still gold to be found out there, don’t let it slip out of your gold pan!! Until next time MAY ALL YOUR ADVENTURES BE GOLDEN!!!! Questions or comments...Call or Text me.303-263-7204 Joe Fortunato.

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Roger Schlenger



The Aug Meeting will feature a drawing for nine (9) gold nuggets of which the largest will be a 2.8 gram nugget. We now have a new ‘Special Nugget’ for give away, so be sure to purchase drawing tickets for it as well. Be sure to support your Club by buying as many nugget drawing and raffle tickets as you can afford. Remember, your odds of winning a nugget here are far better than your chances of winning the lottery.

Planned 2018 GPR Meeting Programs:

Aug 15 To be determined\
 Sept 19 To be announced

Board Meeting Minutes From Jul 2018

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

Quorum Present: Yes .

Call to Order by: VP Joe F. at 6:14 pm.

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

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

Correspondence: 1 phone calls, 9, e-mails, 7 mailings.

Webmaster: Total Hits 151853 Hits for last 2 month 233.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

How many stable gold isotopes are there?



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Committee Reports: The CD will be renewed on July 25th. None at this time.

Unfinished Business: None at this time.

New Business: Hostgator will be renewed on August 6th for 3 yrs.

Planned Outings for 2018:

- July 21 Sat Prospecting Outing #4, Lake Gulch, 9a
- Aug 4 Sat Beginners Panning/slucing Class, A Bar, 9a.
- Aug. 11 Sat Prospecting Outing to Nederland, 9a, broken glass contest.
- Aug. 18 Sat Prospecting Outing \$5, Lake Gulch, 9a
- Aug. 20 Sat Club Picnic, 1200 noon, bring a side dish, Club does all the b-b-q and soft drinks, 20th and Carr.

From the Board:

- Pres. Long advised that the Lake Gulch Outing of June 23 went very well as did the Georgetown Loop Panning for 2 days. Club made a little money.
- The Creek is down and we are good to go for the rest of the year.
- BM J. Johnston advised he was in need of a couple of tubs for books.
- BM J. Johnson discussed his trip to Alaska.
- BM J. Fortunato showed off his Colorado metal detector fold nugget find.
- Dan McConnell was not able to attend the meeting so BM J. Shubert covered the Registration Table tonight.

Additional Announcements: Next Board Meeting: Aug 18, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Next General Meeting: Aug 15, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Tonight's general meeting program: John Johnson will be showing photos of his Alaskan trip.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:50 pm

2018 GPR Board of Directors Members

President

James Long

Vice President

Joe Fortunato

Secretary/Treasurer

Roger Schlenger

2 Year Board Members

Joe Johnston (2016)

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 Jul 2018

1. Meeting was opened at 7:05 pm by **Pres. Long** with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Pres. Long** then announced that the evening Program would feature a power point presentation by John Johnson of his recent trip to Alaska up to the Gold King Creek Mine.
3. **Pres. Long** gave the Metals Report: Gold 1227.10, Silver 15.52, Platinum 817.00, Palladium 902.00, Rhodium 2135.00.
4. **Web hits** for last month were approx. 233.
5. **Treasurer Roger Schlenger** reports that the Club remains in the black. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it. We now have another 'Special Nugget' to raffle off so don't forget to buy these tickets as well. Also, be sure to buy tickets for tonight's 9 nuggets drawing, the largest being 2.8 grams.
6. **Joe Shubert** was covering the Registration Table as **Dan McConnell** was absent with his wife who is very sick and in the hospital. Joe reported that we had 81 members in attendance. There were 2 guests present. The total meeting attendance was 83.
7. **Pres. Long** read the 'Question of the Month', which was "**Find the Question of the Month asked in the July 2010 issue of the Newsletter and answer it??**"
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, 2018. 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 the entry cards completely.
9. **John Johnson** announced the 'Cache Clue # 5'.
10. **Pres. Long** advised that there are still lots of items in the back at the **Club Store** and be sure to stop by during the break and see if there is anything there that you need. And we still have gold bags for sale. Many thanks to **Mike Hurtado** for filling in as we have no volunteer to run this section as yet.
11. **Pres. Long** informed the membership that:
 - The Outing on 6-23 at Lake Gulch had a real good turnout.
 - We also had a good turnout up at Georgetown to pan gold for the train tourists.



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- The next Outing will be on July 21 up to Lake Gulch again in search of gold. We will then host the Fall Beginners panning/sluicing class at Arapaho Bar, 42nd and Youngfield, on Aug. 4 at 9am and the travel to Nederland on Aug. 11 to prospect for the day, and then back to Lake Gulch on Aug 18 to prospect for gold.
 - We will finish the month of August with the Club picnic on Aug. 25 at noon at 20th and Carr St., at Cross Park.
 - The water is down in Clear Creek and we are good to go for any type of prospecting as the water is now safe.
 - Members were encouraged to support the Store during the Break and to return any materials checked out from the Library as soon as possible, and to vote on the Finds of the Month, purchase their gold drawing tickets and submit their answers to the Question of the Month. Pres. Long announced the death of member Jim Peterson.
 - The big Mineral and Gem Show will be at the Merchandise Mart on Sept. 14 thru 16.
12. There was nothing additional of note added from the Floor.
 13. **Pres. Long** announced the break at 8:21 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, "**Question: Before George Jackson and John Gregory made their discovery of gold, this man in 1850, made the first documented gold discovery in Colorado...name him. Answer: Lewis Ralston while enroute to the /California gold fields, found gold in Ralston Creek which was later named for him...**" !! There were 37 winners who received their extra drawing ticket for the gold drawing.
 15. **Pres. Long** announced the winners for the '**Finds of the Month**'. Those were:
 - **Best Coin** – **John Olson** with an 1883 Morgan silver dollar found while metal detecting in West Denver.
 - **Best Jewelry** – **Dennis Perederin** with a button he found at the Peter Pan Park while metal detecting in Denver.
 - **Best Mineral** – **Don Bray** with a sample of silver ore he found in Summit county, Colo..
 - **Best Artifact** – **Joe Johnston** with an old book from 1920 he found in the trash in Denver.
 - **Best Bottle** – There was no entry for this category this month.
 - **Most Raw Gold** – **Roger Schlenger** with .4grams of gold he got from the Big Bend in Adams County.
 - **Largest Raw Gold** – **Mike Stevens** with a 0.14 gram nugget he found at the Gold King creek Mine in Alaska.
 16. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR, John Olson, Mike Hurtado, Dick Oakes, and Pres. Long**, followed by drawings for the 9 gold nuggets. Pres. Long also wants to remind 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 **Roger Schlenger**.
 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 **Kris 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.
 19. The **August Meeting Program** will be a video. 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 9:00 pm.

Finds of the Month Jul 2018

The finds of the Month for July were as follows:

Best Coin – **John Olson** with an 1883 Morgan Dollar he found while metal detecting west of Denver.

Best Jewelry – **Dennis Perederin** with a button he found in Peter Pan Park while metal detecting.



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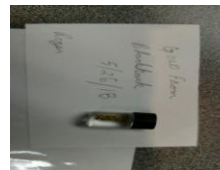
Best Mineral – Don Bray with a sample of Silver ore he found in Summit County, Colorado.

Best Artifact – Joe Johnston with an old book from 1920 that he found in a trash bin in Denver.

Best Bottle – There was no entry for this category this month..

Most Raw Gold – Roger Schlenger with .4 grams of gold he found at the Big Bend in Adams County.

Largest Raw Gold – Mike Stevens with a .14 gram nugget he found at the Gold King Creek Mine in Alaska.



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 2018 meeting to compete for the Find of the Year 2018. Thanks to all those who also submitted, additional finds that were not judged winners.

A Miner's Laugh

The Sheriff walks out into the street and sees a blond haired cowboy coming toward him with nothing on but his cowboy hat, his gun and his boots, he arrests him for indecent exposure. As he is locking him up, he asks, why in the world are you walking around like this? The cowboy says: Well it's like this Sheriff, I was in this bar down the road and this pretty little red head asks me to go out to her motor home with her... So I did.



We go inside and she pulls off her top and asks me to pull off my shirt.. So I did.

Then she pulls off her skirt and asks me to pull off my pants.... So I did.

Then she pulls off her panties and asks me to pull off my shorts.... So I did.

Then she gets on the bed and looks at me kind of sexy and says, "Now go to town cowboy."

So here I am>>!!!

Son of a gun... blondes' of both genders do exist!!!!

(Taken from the internet and revised just for all us 'old 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 strictly my opinion, and that is that, like it or not....jj)

Critical Minerals obtain National Security Status: The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) passed the Senate on June 18 with bipartisan support in an 85-10 vote. The House had passed its version back on May 24. The massive bill, as usual, became a pathway for lawmakers to include all their pet projects (pork), with many completely unrelated to national defense. There were 27 amendments proposed in the House and 639 in the Senate. While there was no time to wade through thousands of pages, I do know that an amendment was included that defined critical and strategic minerals as a national security issue. This opens up the NDAA path for additional mining related amendments in the future and will allow some mining projects to be designated as "infrastructure projects" as described in Executive Order 13604, qualifying them for expedited permitting and streamlined environmental reviews. It will also allow mining projects on some Forest Service lands to be exempt from regulations that prohibit tree cutting and road construction.

Idaho to Take Over EPA Permitting: Boise, Idaho (AP) Idaho will take over regulating pollution discharge into the state's lakes and rivers from the federal government under an agreement signed June 5 by the head of the US Environmental Protection agency (EPA). EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt said the agreement was the culmination of a tremendous amount of work and partnership between the state and federal agency. The agreement shifts control of permitting and enforcement aspects under the federal Clean Water Act to the state starting July 1. Idaho was one of only



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four states where federal authorities managed pollution discharge into surface waters. The others are New Mexico, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Officials say that a state run program will be far more responsive and local experts who are better acquainted with Idaho will be making the decisions. However, Idaho can't write permits that are less stringent than the EPA permits, and the EPA retains oversight of the program. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality will acquire additional responsibilities through 2021 for issuing pollution discharge permits to cities, industrial businesses, mining operators, animal feedlots and others. The change delegates authority to Idaho to implement its Idaho Pollution Discharge Elimination System, a goal set in the late 1990's. The added duties mean the state has to more than double the number of workers in the program to have the equivalent of 29 full time positions at a projected cost of \$3 million annually. Idaho lawmakers in recent years have been approving funding. Two thirds of the cost of the program will come from the state's general fund, with the rest from the fees on those seeking permits. The state has 22 workers on board as of this writing with 4 more being hired this summer and 3 more next year. The workers have been in the field with EPA permit writers and compliance officers.

Pruitt out at the EPA: On July 5, Scott Pruitt resigned as head of the Environmental Protection Agency. In his resignation letter, Pruitt stated "The unrelenting attacks on me personally as well as my family, are unprecedented and have taken a sizable toll on all of us". Pruitt was under fire from various media sources for renting a condo from a lobbyist, having aides perform errands for him that appeared to be personal in nature, asking an aide to contact a senior Chick-fil-a executive about a possible franchise opportunity for his wife, and for high expenses for travel and security. Andrew Wheeler, who was formerly the deputy EPA administrator, has taken over as the acting administrator. Wheeler was once a lobbyist for the coal industry and is a former aide to Senator Jim Inhofe (R-Ok). Inhofe has been an outspoken critic of global warming and authored *The Greatest Hoax: How Global Warming Conspiracy Threatens Your Future*.

AMRA's California Mining Bill fails to Reach Floor Vote: The American Mining Rights Association was optimistic that a bill they worked on with California State Senator Jeff Stone R-Temecula) would provide clarity on which types of mining equipment are allowed on or near streams in the state and possible provide an avenue to allow miners to apply for suction dredging permits again in the immediate future. Unfortunately, the bill failed to reach a vote in the State Senate. AMRA President Shannon Poe is still optimistic that the State Water Board will lift California's de facto ban on suction dredging, which has been in place for nine years now, and start issuing dredge permits again in 2019. Poe reported that negotiations are ongoing with the State Water Board. The Board was given authority by the State Legislature to take over suction dredge permitting in California nearly two and a half years ago, but the agency has yet to announce any formal permitting system. Izzy Martin of the Sierra Fund is just one of the environmental extremists who is participating in those negotiations. Meanwhile, Poe is in Idaho, operating a suction dredge in a challenge to the US Forest Service. A Forest Service law enforcement officer issued him a 'Notice of non-compliance' on July 18 for failure to obtain a Plan of Operation from the Forest Service. Poe obtained a permit from the State of Idaho but intentionally refused to comply with the Forest Service requirements. Poe stated he has a video of Nez Perce District Ranger Nevius stating that he does not consider suction dredging to be a significant disturbance, and this statement was made in front of Forest Supervisor Cheryl Probert. However, Probert still contends that a Plan of Operations is required. Poe's "Notice of non-compliance" states that he has 48 hours to comply. However, at the time you read this, the decision has not been made known to us yet so stay tuned.

Prospecting Outing # 4 to Lake Gulch:

This was the July trip for the Club up to Lake Gulch near Black Hawk for the purpose of finding some of that yellow gold. We had the usual number of suspects show up to capture more of that yellow gold. We had great weather and a good turnout. Most everybody found gold and we are finally learning that learning curve that involves prospecting. As usual, after digging all morning, the group retired down to the lower Clear Creek Canyon and high banked everyone's material and they took their concentrates home to pan out. Some of the material held some pretty decent gold and several pickers were recovered this time. **Jack Meineke** led this Outing and managed to get a few photos of the fun.





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Warship carrying \$130 Billion in Gold is found 113 Years After Sinking

A sunken Russian warship believed to contain \$130 billion in gold bullion and coins has been found off the coast of a South Korean Island 113 years after it was scuttled during the Russo-Japanese War. A joint team of British and Canadian explorers of the Shinil Group, found the wreck more than 1400 feet below the sea and a mile off the coast of the South Korean island of Ulleungdo. The Russian Imperial Navy cruiser was carrying 5500 boxes of gold bars and coins weighing some 200 tons when it went down in 1905. Its exact resting place remained a mystery until two manned submersibles captured pictures of the warship's remains. The 5800 ton Dmitri Donskoi had sails and a coal fired engine. It was badly damaged during the battle of Tsushima in May 1905 and was scuttled by its captain shortly before his capture so that the Japanese could not capture the gold. The Shinil Group plans to raise the ship in October or November of this year. An agreement has been reached to return half of the gold to the Russian government, with portions of the remainder going toward business development in northeast Asia. About 10% would be set aside for tourism projects on Ulleungdo including a museum, dedicated to the ship.

Annual Claim Filings Due

Mining claimants who wish to retain their mining claims on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and US Forest Service public lands through the 2019 assessment year must pay their assessment fee or file a Maintenance fee Waiver Certificate on or before Tuesday, September 4, 2018, to prevent the mining claim from being forfeited. The maintenance fee for a lode claim, tunnel site, or mill site is \$155.00 per claim/site. For placer mining claims only, the fee is \$155.00 for every 20 acres of land or portion thereof. Miners who file a 2019 Small Miner's Waiver on or before September 4 will be required to file an Affidavit of Assessment Work Form, including the \$10.00 processing fee per claim on or before December 31, 2018. Each payment must be accompanied by a written list of the claim names and BLM serial numbers for which the maintenance fee is being paid. You can find your state BLM office at www.blm.gov. It is highly recommended that you send your documents by registered mail or hand deliver them while retaining a copy for your own records, just to be safe.

Five reasons the Drop in Gold Prices Shouldn't Worry Investors

Gold prices are slowly dropping of late, so should you be worrying? No, not really. These five reasons are what you should know:

1. A 2% move in one day is really insignificant to the big picture.
2. Gold prices mostly move down when the dollar gains strength.
3. When gold prices do poorly, then other investments tend to do well.
4. Gold is still useful to own during those times of market stress.
5. The fact that gold prices move up and down is one of its attractions for investors.

Without going into boring detail, these 5 factors should leave you with the understanding that there is an aspect to the world gold market that is consistently stable and has been so for a very long time. This knowledge makes those who invest in gold realize that there are reasons for all of the ebb and flow that are consistent and that is why gold has always been and always will be something that you can rely on no matter what else is going on with the markets.

Rail by Rail to Blackhawk

BY Anna Lee Ames Frohlich

In 1872, the Colorado Central Rail Road was building up Clear Creek Canyon with Black Hawk as its goal and a completion deadline at the beginning 1873. In 1858 and 59, it took no time at all for news of gold finds in Colorado to disseminate through the communication channels of the country and even the world. William N. Byers sounded the first call in the *Rocky Mountain News*. Unsuccessful 49ers retraced their steps back from California toward the East as far as Colorado, many to the hills, gulches and streams around gold rich Gregory Gulch. Fortune seekers coming from the East joined them as well. The path to Colorado was treacherous and beautiful. Wagons broke down, partnerships broke up, Indians attacked, needed stock disappeared, temperatures soared, water was short game was scarce, supplies ran out, raging snow storms and frigid temperatures moved in and squatted. Along the way, unexpected rewards also appeared. Friendships grew, sun glinted off the snow, rainbows gave hope, missing stock was found and, finally, the Rocky Mountains arose out of the plains. The Gregory Diggings was no utopia in 1860. What buildings were there were mostly hastily thrown up with a few log cabins here and there. New arrivals lived in the wagons they had traveled in or in tents.



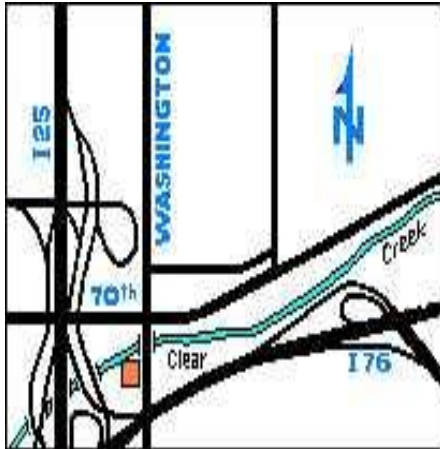
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They had to quickly start staking claims and building sluices where they washed the heavier gold from gravel. Everyone was hoping for a little color, gold dust. In July 1860, it rained and rained and rained. Sluice boxes washed down the hills, were rebuilt, and then washed down again. Claims disappointed and new ones were sought. In the wet conditions of working with the sluice boxes or standing in water, men became ill. There were 'doctors' but few remedies. Letters from home were hoped for and treasured. Food and other goods needed for mining and living were hauled over the prairie trails and up mountain passes to supply this new market. Many luckless miners turned back and headed home. The only law was miners' law. Aside from delivering swift justice for malfeasance, miners' law's main function was to organize and define ownership of property in a tumultuous time. Harper M. Orahoad was quoted as saying "Whenever a prospector discovered a mine of sufficient richness to attract a number of people, the next thing in order was to organize a mining district. Such a district was a democracy pure and simple. In a district, there were rules governing citizenship such as residence, of short duration, and ownership of a claim. In a mining district, every man had the right to take part in the government, which was conducted at miners' meetings. As this system of government became more organized, officers and judges were elected. Some of the laws thus formed remain valid to the State of Colorado and in the United States to this very day. In 1861, Washington appointed circuit judges were given the job of hearing cases in the mining camps. This was a dangerous job because of the perils encountered on their lonely travels from one camp to another. The miners were used to living by their own law, so the reception of these circuit judges varied from appreciation to no bones about it rejection. From these beginnings, Gregory's Diggins was next called Mountain City, and was later incorporated in 1864 as Black Hawk. It grew rapidly and has been known as the 'City of Mills' because of the stamp mills that pounded relentlessly 24 hours a day, releasing gold from the rock that bound. Black Hawk and the rest of the mining industry went through periods of 'bust and boom' starting when placer gold became scarce and deeper mining revealed difficult to process sulfide ores. Black Hawk's growth resumed when Nathaniel Hill's new process saved the day and became available at this Boston and Colorado Smelting Works. By the 1870's, Black Hawk had a robust economy and was anxious for the long awaited train up Clear Creek Canyon. By mid-1872, much of the grading had been accomplished by Berthoud and his crew, and only laying the track remained. Henry Teller, president, and Oliver Ames, vice president, were under pressure because the bonds that W.A.H. Loveland had arranged with Gilpin and Clear Creek counties required that the line be completed by Jan. 1, 1873. After Beaver Brook Station, track-laying continued to 'The Forks', which was the point where North and South Clear Creek joined to continue eastward toward Golden. One line of the railroad would follow the north branch to Black Hawk and the other would find its way to Idaho Springs and Georgetown along the south branch. Central City, just up the hill from Black Hawk, was in high hopes of getting the railroad too, but they would have to wait four more years. The first train reached Black Hawk on Dec. 15, 1872, bringing relief to the management of the railroad and joy to the inhabitants of the town. The event was marked on Dec. 27 by a ball, followed by a dinner and all the usual toasts and speeches. Black Hawk was now connected to a network of railroads and its precious gold to the markets of the world.

(Reprinted from the October 2-15, 2012 issue of the Colorado Gambler)



TYMKOVICH MEATS



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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 Sept 2018

(**WMMI** - Western Museum of Mining & Industry, 225 North Gate Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80921 (www.wmmi.org))

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						GPR Panning Demo Georgetown Loop
2 GPR Panning Demo Georgetown Loop	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7 GPR Panning Demo Highlands Ranch (3 day)	8 WMMI Family Day History
9 Grandparents Day	10	11 Patriot Day The WMMI Sneakers' Bureau	12	13	14	15
16	17 Constitution Day	18	19 GPR Club Meeting	20	21	22 Prospecting Outing Lake Gulch
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29