

# THE GOLD NUGGET

December 2018



## The Prez Sez by Jim Long



December is upon us and winter has settled in. I hope everybody got all their equipment winterized and stored away for the season. 2018 was a very busy year for the Club. We managed to get out on seven different prospecting outings during the year. It would seem that we have a core group of folks who like to get out and do their own digging along with a few others that are fairly new to the game and looking for some place to go and someone to go with. And we fit the bill for that. Though our prospecting ventures involve mostly public access, we do have access to a private claim in the Blackhawk area that has proved very lucrative for the Club.

I have been asked why the Club does not have any claims of our own for the members to utilize. The answer is fairly complicated and yet pretty simple. We don't have any claims because they cost too much money for the amount of gold that we would get - Short answer! The long answer is a little more complicated. First, we need to find one that is fairly close to town. There are requirements for outings. Things like sufficient parking for upwards of 20 vehicles for times when we want to have a Club outing. And we need to have or provide rest room facilities. The ladies are not too keen on stepping into the bushes if given any choice. The site needs to have sufficient placer gold enough to tolerate considerable digging for an extended amount of time. Consider that it would need to support 30 to 45 people on an organized outing upwards of a half dozen trips a year. Add to that, the use of the site by individual members who want to visit during those other days that there is no official Club event scheduled. Once the site has been located that meets all those requirements, we would need to file the claim after doing all the research to make sure the site was available and not already claimed. We would have to mark it and file with the appropriate authority. There would be a need for an insurance policy to indemnify the Club against civil action for injury or whatever. A bond would have to be posted and plans of operation and plans of reclamation would have to be submitted and approved. The approving agency would have the right to inspect the premise without notice to ensure that we were complying with said plans of operation and reclamation. For those few of you who have owned or do own a claim, you know what I am talking about. If the property has good quantities of gold, it can be worth it, but maybe not so much if it is being picked over by a lot of people on a regular basis. So what about buying an existing claim you say. The problem of the research and the paperwork no longer exists. But anyone who owns a claim that has really good values is going to want a pretty penny for it. That brings us to Club finances. There aren't any, short answer, at least not for buying a claim. Check the Treasurer's Report during the meeting and you will see. Our nugget purchases for the drawings keep the finances down to a couple of thousand dollars a year at most. We would have to raise the dues to an exorbitant amount which would result in a drastic and predictable loss of membership resulting in only those who could afford it having access to the claim for the gold that would be there. The sale of drawing tickets plus membership dues nets upwards of 11 or 12 thousand a year and the purchase of gold annually reduces that amount back down to 2 or 3 thousand. The price of gold fluctuates and has done so for the last 10 years. When it is up, gold costs more and we have to reduce the amount of nuggets we give away. When the price is down, we can buy more gold to give away. Part of the job of the Board of Directors is to ensure that we manage your money as wisely as we can. Keep in mind also, each Board Member is working for your interests and receiving no compensation for it. It is all volunteer work. So there you have it...! It would be nice and I am always on the lookout for possibilities and opportunities.

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'! Oh, and Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all our valued members and your families!

You may contact me at 303-452-6087 or at [jnslong945@msn.com](mailto:jnslong945@msn.com). Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!



**The V.P. Corner by “Joe Fortunato**



Greetings fellow gold prospectors! I keep saying it at about this time every year, so, here I go again... Wow!! Another year just flew past like a fast moving train!!! It doesn't seem as though it has been that long since our last Christmas Pot Luck, but here we are and it really is December again!! It seems like the first few months of the year pass at a normal pace for me. But then, by April, time starts to gradually speed up and before I know it, another year has flown past. This time of year can be tough when it comes to prospecting and detecting, but it seems like mother nature manages to give us a break every once in a while during the winter. There are still plenty of things to keep us engaged and involved during slow winter months. Cleaning and maintaining equipment is always a good idea. Adding to our knowledge of gold recovery, and researching new locations to prospect are always fun and potentially rewarding. I probably spend more time than I should reading and watching videos about prospecting and metal detecting on those cold winter days. Often times, my thoughts drift back in time to past adventures that I have had while prospecting and metal detecting. What great memories they make, some when I was out by myself, other times with family or friends, but all great adventures!! I am still enjoying the memories of the gold detecting adventures that I had this year in Colorado and Nevada. I am already thinking about getting back to those same places next year, I can hardly wait!! I have a rule that I made for myself when it comes to winter prospecting and detecting. If it is a sunny day, the temperature is at least 45 degrees, and the wind is not blowing go for it. It works for me most of the time give it a try!! Well, I guess that is about all that I have for now, I hope to see all of you at the Christmas Pot Luck in a couple of weeks. 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**



No nugget drawing for Dec 2018.

**Planned 2018 GPR Meeting Programs:**

Dec19 Christmas potluck dinner and program.

**GPR OFFICERS Elected FOR 2019**

- Jim Long.....President
- Joe Fortunato.....Vice President
- Joe Kafka.....Secretary/Treasurer
- Joe Shubert.....2 year Board Member 2018
- Joe Johnston.....2 year Board Member 2017
- Mike Stevens.....1 year Board Member
- Andy Doll.....1 year Board Member
- Brandon Luchtenburg..1 year Board Member
- John Johnson II .....1year Board Member
- Bobby Manning.....1 year Board Member
- Chris Kafka.....1 year Board Member
- Gary Hawley.....Past President



## Board Meeting Minutes From Nov 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:** Pres Long at 6:02 pm

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

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

**Correspondence:** 3 phone calls, 11 e-mails, 2 mailings.

**Webmaster:** Total Hits 152879 Hits for last 2 month 278.

**Committee Reports:** Elections tonight.

**Unfinished Business:** Xmas gold ordered and received. The numbers for the ID badges for 2019 thru 2024 have been ordered and received.

**New Business:**

- Discussed purchase of gold from Phil Huff. Purchase was approved unanimously.
- Discussed the GPAA Gold Show coming in April 2019. We will have a booth at the Show.

**Planned Outings for 2018:** None scheduled. We are done for the year on planned Outings. Next up will be the Christmas Pot Luck Dinner and Recognition Program. There will be no regular meeting or nugget drawings in December.

**From the Board:** Pres. Long advised that the Metal Detecting Hunt went very well on Nov. 10 and the weather was great for the Hunt. Additional discussion occurred concerning the membership rolls and retaining certain expired memberships. Additional discussion was entertained concerning a potential speaker on 'Situational Awareness' for the future.

**Additional Announcements:** Next Board Meeting: Jan. 16, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Next General Meeting: Jan. 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

**Tonight's general meeting program:** We will be showing a video by Sydney Moon titled "Following the Spanish Trail to Hidden Treasure"

**Adjournment:** Meeting stands adjourned at 6:47 pm.

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

No question for Dec. Be back Jan 2019

- 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**  
Garv Hawley

## General Meeting Minutes From Nov 2018

1. Meeting was opened at 7:07 pm by **Pres. Long** with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Pres. Long** then announced that the evening Program would feature a video presentation by **Sydney Moon** titled "**Following the Spanish Trail to Hidden Treasure**"
3. **Pres. Long** then gave the Metals Report: Gold 1225.60, Silver 14.50, Platinum 844.00, and Palladium 1133.00. Rhodium 2390.00.
4. **Web hits** for last month were approx. 278.
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. **Dan McConnell** reported from the Membership Table that we had 55 members in attendance. There was 1 guest present. The total meeting attendance was 56.
7. **Pres. Long** read the 'Question of the Month', which was "**What satellite employs gold to coat its 32 foot (10 meters) refrigerant tube**"???
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, 2019.



## Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 4

Also tonight, the **Finds of the Year** from the last 11 months will be voted on. 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. Only finds found within the last 30 days may be submitted.

9. **John Johnson** announced the '**Cache Clue # 9**'.
10. **Pres. Long** advised that **Mike Stevens** would be taking over the Club Store. We appreciate his stepping up to the task. Many thanks to **BM Mike Hurtado** for filling in for the last year.
11. **Pres. Long** informed the membership that:
  - The Club Metal Detecting Hunt on Nov. 10 went very well and the weather was perfect. Everybody had a good time.
  - There are no additional Outings planned for the remainder of the year.
  - Next up will be the Xmas Pot Luck Dinner and Recognition Program which will constitute the next meeting date. You may arrive at 6pm and we will eat at about 6:20 or so and the Program will commence at 7:30.
  - There will be no regular meeting or nugget giveaway in December.
  - Members were reminded to return items checked out of the Library in a prompt manner.
  - There was a reminder to be sure to vote on the Finds of the Month as well as the Finds of the Year.
  - Tonight is Election Night and ballots were available for both Board Member Elections as well as the Barker Award Candidates.
  - There will be a Gold Assay Class at the Western Mining Museum on Sat. Nov. 24 from 10a to 1p. You will need to call and reserve a seat.
  - The GPAA will host the Gold Show in Denver on April 13, 14 2019 and the Club will have a booth at the Show.
12. **Pres. Long** announced the break at 8:19 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:38 pm.
13. **Pres. Long** announced the winners of the '**Question of the Month**'. The answer was, "**NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, scheduled to launch in 2021**"!! There were 30 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** – **Dennis Perederin** with a Liberty Dollar coin he found while metal detecting in Denver.
  - **Best Jewelry** – **Nancy Knerl** with a silver Scissors Pendant she found while metal detecting in Denver.
  - **Best Mineral** – **James Shearer** with a shale specimen containing fossils he found at Tiber reservoir in Montana.
  - **Best Artifact** – **Dennis Perederin** with an old WW I medal from France that he found.
  - **Best Bottle** – **There was no entry for this category this month.**
  - **Most Raw Gold** – **Dennis Perederin** with 0.87 grams of gold he found while prospecting in Gilpin County.
  - **Largest Raw Gold** – **Dennis Perederin** with a small nugget weighing 0.058 grams, found while prospecting in Gilpin County.Winners will now need to save their items for the Find of the Year to be held in November 2019.
15. **Pres. Long** then announced the winners of the **Finds of the Year** as voted on by the attending membership.
  - **Best Coin** – **Joe Johnston** with a 1913 gold 2 ½ Cent piece he found while metal detecting in Aurora.
  - **Best Jewelry** – **Dennis Perederin** with 2 antique metal buttons he found while metal detecting in Denver.
  - **Best Mineral** – **Bill and Kris Wobbe** with a sample of blue barite they found near Hartsel, Colorado.
  - **Best Artifact** – **Brandon Luchtenburg** with a shale specimen containing fossils he found in Southern Colorado
  - **Best Bottle** – **James Long** with a 1932 bottle from Owens-Illinois Glass Co. he found in Southern Colorado.
  - **Most Raw Gold** – **Bobby Manning** with 0.789 grams of gold he found while prospecting in Gilpin County.
  - **Largest Raw Gold** – **Dennis Perederin** with a small nugget weighing 0.089 grams, found while prospecting in Gilpin County.
16. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR, Dick Oakes, Frank Zahn 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



## Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 5

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 **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 **November Meeting Program** will be a presentation to be determined. 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 9:02 pm.

## **History Of The Ken Barker Award To Be Presented At The Dec 2018 Meeting**

Long-time Gold Prospectors of the Rockies (GPR) member, Ken Barker, had taken over the position of Demonstrations Committee Coordinator in January 2000. The committee was charged with promoting "gold prospecting through the coordination, establishment, and sponsorship of gold panning demonstration booths." He started out with little more than a bucket of dirt, a tub, and a gold pan, and nursed the activity in to one of the most professional and sought after activities of any of the Front Range gold clubs.

Ken brought an air of professionalism to the club and a feeling of unity among the members. He perceived this club and the hobby of gold prospecting as a positive experience for the family as well as the individual.

Ken was elected to the office of vice-president for the 2003 term. Sadly, however, Ken passed away suddenly on the weekend of October 30, 2003. Those who worked with Ken in the panning demos all showed up at the November meeting in period costume and president Gary Hawley established the annual Ken Barker Award in Ken's honor.

The award is designed to recognize the club member who most closely exemplifies the love and passion for gold prospecting that Ken brought to the GPR organization. To be qualified for nomination for the award, a member must:

- be a GPR club member-in-good-standing,
- promote gold prospecting,
- promote the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies,
- participate in club activities,
- anticipate the needs of the club and do his/her best to fulfill those needs, and
- contribute to the success of the club with his/her extra efforts.

The recipient of the award is to be selected by secret ballot at the club's November general meeting. At the December meeting, the award and a "Ken Barker Award" plaque is presented to the award winner.

The first award was presented at the December 2004 meeting.

## **Finds of the Month 2018**

The finds of the Month for Nov were as follows:

- **Best Coin** – **Dennis Perederin** with a Liberty Dollar coin he found while metal detecting in Denver.
- **Best Jewelry** – **Nancy Knerl** with a silver Scissors Pendant she found while metal detecting in Denver.
- **Best Mineral** – **James Shearer** with a shale specimen containing fossils he found at Tiber reservoir in Montana.
- **Best Artifact** – **Dennis Perederin** with an old WW I medal from France that he found.
- **Best Bottle** – **There was no entry for this category this month.**
- **Most Raw Gold** – **Dennis Perederin** with 0.87 grams of gold he found while prospecting in Gilpin 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



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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.

## Finds of the Year 2018

- **Best Coin** – Joe Johnston with a 1913 gold 2 ½ Cent piece he found while metal detecting in Aurora.
- **Best Jewelry** – Dennis Perederin with 2 antique metal buttons he found while metal detecting in Denver.
- **Best Mineral** – Bill and Kris Wobbe with a sample of blue barite they found near Hartsel, Colorado.
- **Best Artifact** – Brandon Luchtenburg with a shale specimen containing fossils he found in Southern Colorado
- **Best Bottle** – James Long with a 1932 bottle from Owens-Illinois Glass Co. he found in Southern Colorado.
- **Most Raw Gold** – Bobby Manning with 0.789 grams of gold he found while prospecting in Gilpin County.
- **Largest Raw Gold** – Dennis Perederin with a small nugget weighing 0.089 grams, found while prospecting in Gilpin County.

## Mining Concerns from Around the Country

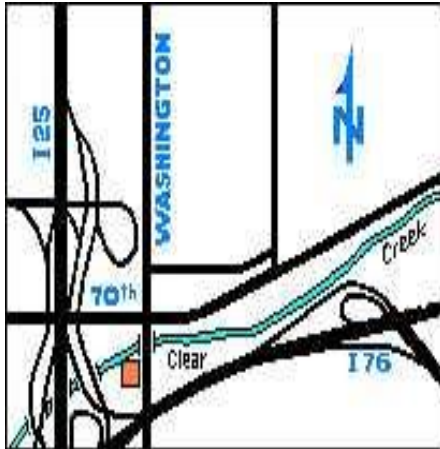
*(In my attempt to keep our members aware of what is happening involving mining from around the country, I will run this little section each month and see how it goes. I am apt to put a little passion and some direct finger pointing in my reporting, for which I will offer no apology to anyone who may 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)*

**Some Mining Claim Fees Increase** – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has increased some of the filing fees associated with mining claims. Effective October 1, 2018, the BLM increased the fee from \$10 dollars to \$15 per mining claim for filing an amendment, transfer of interest, notice of intent to hold and affidavit of labor. The agency claimed the increase is warranted per their cost recovery rules. Other mining claim fees remain the same, including the \$212 fee for filing a new 20-acre claim, the \$155 maintenance fee per 20 acres, \$20 processing fee and the \$37 location fee. Reminder that all claim holders need to file a notarized and recorded affidavit of labor with the BLM by December 30 if a small claim waiver was filed last year. The new \$15 fee will be required with this filing. If you have already filed your affidavit and submitted the old \$10 fee, it is highly recommended that you contact your BLM office and find out if another \$5 is required. Be sure to keep notes on who you spoke with and their answers in case a challenge needs to be made at a later date. *(I mentioned this once before a couple months back but since the December 30 date is coming up, a little reminder might be timely....jjl)*

**US Fish & Wildlife law enforcement Policing Powers Restrained** – On September 21, President Trump stripped law enforcement authority from those Fish and Wildlife employees working as refuge managers. Full time law enforcement officers within the agency will remain, only those who have dual roles as both enforcement and refuge management will lose their law enforcement authority. The change is due to take place on January 1, 2019. *(Food, I have commented in the past that some of those people have no business carrying guns because they think they can shoot you for stepping off the trail and 'killing' some poor never heard of before plant or gasp, frog....jjl)*



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- 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 Jan 2019**

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 New Years Day	2	3	4	5 WMMI Family Day Geology
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 GPR Club Meeting	17	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		