

THE GOLD NUGGET

March 2019

2019 Membership Dues are now Due!!!

You may pay by cash, check, or credit card this year at the Registration Table.

You may also mail your payment (\$30/year):

Payable to GPR

Send to: PO Box 150096, Lakewood, Colo, 80215.

We appreciate your continued membership!!

The Prez Sez by Jim Long



Is it just me or is everybody else ready for summer...? This winter seems to have been colder than we have had for a few years. I thought that all the liberals were screaming about the impending disaster of global warming and passing New Green Deal laws to force us to give up cars and our non-green houses and all that stuff.

Now don't get me wrong. I do believe that as a people, we need to do more recycling, clean up trash, make wiser decisions about how we live and do a better job of taking care of this great planet that we all live on. But I am also a firm believer that the end of the world is not directly at hand, as some zealots have preached for the last 2000 years. We do have some time on our hands and whatever will be will be, and probably long after all of us are long gone.

Much of the weather we are experiencing now is in my opinion, no more than the normal ebb and flow that goes on from time to time over the many thousands of years of time past. We go from ice age to tropics to ice age and on and on and on. I have personally seen the Matanuska Glacier north of Anchorage, Alaska, and observed for myself the vast melting of that particular glacier. In the last two decades, it has lost 25 miles of its ice flow...! And that is significant. And the polar arctic ice cap is receding at a phenomenal rate and the polar bear's habitat is rapidly shrinking as to endanger the majority of their population. So just based on those few obvious changes, I do believe the planet is in a cycle of change. And I think man has played a role somewhat in all this but as to how much and how serious, I think the jury is still out and will be out for some time yet to come. I tend to look at things critically and not rush to judgment based on emotions. I have always been a man of science and fact and I don't deal in nor dwell on conspiracy theories. My time is better spent on other things.

I do know for a fact that the annual snow pack in Colorado this year is currently over 100% in every single basin in the state for the first time in years. And there is a lot more snow coming so we are not done yet. This is good for the drought that we have in the southwest and the southeast. And I predict that the runoff is going to be a little higher and last a little longer this year than in recent past years. That is going to keep folks out of the creeks and rivers, for the most part, a little longer this year. And I expect to hear of a drowning or two this year and I fervently hope that they aren't prospectors. But in the great circle of life that is ever on-going, Darwin's Theory of Evolution is often upheld through natural selection and a few of those with terrible judgment and dang little common sense will be surgically removed. And the rest of us will shake our heads over the tragedy, silently saying, "Damn fool", while publicly saying "There but for the Grace of God...!" In the meantime, we are still well below average snowfall in the Denver area for the year with the snowiest month looking us in the eye as I speak. But all this stuff hasn't kept folks out of the creeks and rivers. There are a lot of folks getting out even in the really cold weather and they continue to find gold.

That is one of the amazing things about Colorado and our wonderful mineral belt. Places like Clear Creek and the Arkansas River continue to pump out lots of gold. True, the strong majority of it is flour, or fines, but it is plentiful and it remains beautiful and bright yellow. Colorado is the type of place where the plentiful gold is of the type that will make you into a 'proper panner' or it will break you. Gold prospecting is like life in that there are no shortcuts. You will live or die with your ability to learn how to properly use your gold pan. But panning for some people is like asking them to design a functioning space rocket to go to Mars and back. They just don't have the tools to make it happen. Sadly, those folks get discouraged and give up, often before they experience the joy of finding some of that beautiful gold for themselves. But for all those willing to give the good old college try and stick with it, there are lots of folks willing to help to teach them the skills to be successful. Once those skills are learned and practiced, they learn that successfully



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searching for gold starts with the gold pan, and ends with the gold pan. As in life, so it is for gold prospecting, there are no short cuts!!!

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. Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!

The V.P. Corner by "Joe Fortunato



Hello again guys and gals. It's time for the March installment of the V.P. Corner Article. I know February is a short month, but it flew by for me as if it had 21 days instead of 28!! It has been a bit on the cold side lately, but we should be seeing some consistently warmer temperatures in just a few short weeks. Because of the recent colder weather, I have been spending even more time than usual looking at new locations to pursue that elusive gold that we all treasure. I hope it's the same for all of you as it is for me, but I get quite pumped up even in the early stages of planning and researching

new gold prospecting adventures!! There are several locations in Nevada that I have identified as potential nugget bearing ground for metal detecting. They are close to areas that I have been successful on in the past. My research points to the fact that others have found detectable size gold in these spots, so I am eager to give them a try as well. I have three places here in Colorado that I am looking forward to revisiting, but two of them won't be accessible until mid-June or early July. I did manage to get out for a brief time after our February meeting to do some metal detecting at a school near my shop. The ground was wet and didn't have any kneepads with me, so it was a little difficult in recovering targets. I managed to find twenty or so coins and two rings (both junk) before a brisk cold wind blew in, so I called it a day and headed home. On another note, I know that I have mentioned in the past, how much I enjoy reading about prospecting and metal detecting while having breakfast at my local restaurant. Well a few months ago Lost Treasure magazine shut down completely. Then last month Western and Eastern Treasures magazine notified all their subscribers that it would no longer be available in print, only on line. Talk about a double whammy for me!!! I really looked forward to reading all of the various articles and stories while sipping coffee and having my breakfast. Now I am down to one magazine (the Mining Journal) and it won't provide me with enough reading material to get by for an entire month!! To top things off, they don't have WIFI at the restaurant so I can't even bring my laptop with me to read W&E Treasures on line. What a predicament for a guy that is as set in his ways as I am!!! I will manage, but it won't be easy!! Until next time...MAY ALL YOUR ADVENTURES BE GOLDEN!! Questions or comments Call me 303-263-7204 Joe Fortunato

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Joe Kafka



The March Meeting will feature a nine (9)-nugget giveaway of which the largest nugget will be 2.4 grams. The Club remains in the black and members may request to see the financial report at any time, which I have at the desk. Hope to see you all there at the meeting!

Planned 2019 GPR Meeting Programs:

Mar ---Presentation by **Kevin Single** on Finding Gold in Colorado

Board Meeting Minutes From Feb 2019

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

Quorum Present: Yes.

Call to Order by: Pres Long at 6:00 pm.



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

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

Correspondence: 3 phone calls, 14 e-mails, 15 mailings.

Webmaster: Total Hits 153635 Hits for last two month 300.

Committee Reports: Pres. Long working on 2019 Director's Books updates.

Unfinished Business:

- Memberships to WWMI, CSM-GM and PLP completed.
- The PO Box has been paid for 2019
- Pavilion rented for Club picnic in August.
- App. For GPAA Gold Show completed and turned in.

New Business: Motion discussed to order flour gold which was approved unanimously, also motion to buy 2020 gold was approved.

Planned Outings for 2019: Outing Schedule completed and issued in Feb. Newsletter. Added 2 additional Tours on this date, which will be added to the Schedule.

From the Board:

- Pres. Long discussed the PLP Agenda at the Roundtable and advised that we have half price tickets to the Gold Show to sell. The Club will get 50% of sales.
- BM Manning discussed the design for making new member cards and flyers. They looked good and we will be updating them.
- BM Johnston advised that they would be selling Club merchandise at the Tanner Gun Show each month as well.
- BM Johnson reported thinking that membership list may have been hacked. We will check into this.
- BM J. will be having surgery in early April.
- BM Shubert will be having surgery in March

Additional Announcements: Next Board Meeting: Mar. 20, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Next General Meeting: Mar. 20, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

Tonight's general meeting program: We will be having a video presentation on Basic Prospecting Techniques by David McCracken.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:38pm.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Who was the German-born grandfather of the current U.S. president, who originated the family fortune by running restaurants and hotels in the Klondike gold rush area?

2019 GPR Board of Directors Members

President

James 'JJ' Long

Vice President

Joe Fortunato

Secretary/Treasurer

Joe Kafka

2 Year Board Members

Joe Johnston (2017)

Joe Shubert (2018)

1 Year Board Members

Andy Doll

Brandon Luchtenburg

John Johnson II

Bobby Manning

Chris Kafka

Mike Stevens

Past President

Gary Hawley

General Meeting Minutes From Feb 2019

1. Meeting was **opened at 7:02 pm** by **Pres. Long** with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Pres. Long** then announced that the evening Program would feature a video presentation by David McCracken on the Basic Techniques of Prospecting.
3. **Pres. Long** then gave the Metals Report: Gold 1337.80, Silver 16.02, Platinum 826.00, Palladium 1465.00, Rhodium 2340.00
4. **Web hits** for last 2 months were approx. 456.
5. **Treasurer Joe Kafka** reports that the Club remains in the black. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it. We anticipate giving away the 'Special Nugget' in March for sure so don't forget to buy these tickets as well. Also, don't forget to buy tickets for tonight's 9 nuggets drawing, the largest being 2.5 grams.
6. **Dan McConnell** reported from the Membership Table that we had 61 members in attendance. There were 4 guests present. The total meeting attendance was 65.
7. **Pres. Long** read the 'Question of the Month', which was **"Who was the 4th GPR President and How many individuals have held the Office of GPR President??"** The winners receive an extra ticket to the gold nugget drawings later.



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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. 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. **Gordon Smith** announced the '**Cache Clue**' # 2.
10. **Pres. Long** advised that the Club Store had numerous items for sale. Be sure to drop by at the break and support your Club by buying something. We still maintain a supply of gold bags for sale as well.
11. **Pres. Long** informed the membership that:
 - The 2019 Outing Schedule had been completed and added two new items to it tonight, the first being a Tour of the Conifer Historical Society Museum which has a good exhibit on the History of mining in Jefferson County on Sunday February 24, and a Tour of the Chaffee Mine at Vic's Panning on Saturday March 23. Both events are at 10am.
 - There was a reminder to be sure to vote on the Finds of the Month and to answer the Question of the Month during the break. Members who check things out of the Club Library are reminded to return them promptly.
 - The GPAA will host the Gold Show in Denver on April 13, 14, the Club will have a booth at the Show, and we have half price tickets for sale now.
 - Pres. Long also discussed the PLP's Small Miners Amendment, which is being presented to US Senators now in Washington. They are carrying letters of support, including ours, hoping to get some legislation passed to ease the burdens of small scale mining
12. **Pres. Long** announced the break at 8:11 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:33 pm.
13. **Pres. Long** announced the winners of the '**Question of the Month**'. The answer was, "**...Rick Miska and 7 in all**" !! There were only 7 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** – **Joe Johnston** with a 1958 wheat penny he found in Denver.
 - **Best Jewelry** – **Joe Johnston** with a 14kt gold ring he found in Denver.
 - **Best Mineral** – There was no entry in this category this month.
 - **Best Artifact** – **Joe Johnston** with a Tiger Cub Den Leader Neckerchief slide he found in Golden.
 - **Best Bottle** – **Joe Johnston** with a Jarritos bottle he found in Denver.
 - **Most Raw Gold** – There was no entry in this category this month
 - **Largest Raw Gold** – There was no entry in this category this month

*****Winners will now need to save their items for the Find of the Year to be held in November 2019*****
15. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR 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 **Joe Kafka and Chuck Cown.**
16. **Pres. Long** reminds the members that sometimes during the meetings, The President's time is overwhelmingly taken up by the many who wish to speak to him and he apologizes if anyone ever feels like he is unavailable. It is not his intent to be inaccessible and he encourages anyone with questions to contact him by e-mail or phone outside the meetings at any time. His e-mail and phone number are on the web site.
17. **Pres. Long** thanked **Greg and Nancy Knerl** 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.
18. The **March Meeting Program** will be a presentation by **Kevin Single** on Finding Gold in Colorado.
19. Until next time, remember to prospect safely, live long and be grateful for that golden bounty from the stars, that gleaming magical miracle, called 'gold'!
20. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.



The Club now has half price entry tickets available to the GPAA Gold Show which will be on April 13, 14 at the National Western Complex at 4655 Humboldt St., Denver, Colo. You can purchase these tickets for \$5.00 here at the Club, which is half of what you will pay at the door. Contact Pres. Long or Treasurer Joe Kafka for your tickets now...don't wait to the last moment or they may be gone!!!

A Miner's Laugh

A old miner is stopped while driving by a police officer. The old miner asks, "What's the problem officer?"

Officer: "You were going at least 75 in a 55 zone." Miner: "No sir, I was going 65." Miner's Wife: "Oh, Harry. You were going at least 80."

(The miner gives his wife a dirty look.)

Officer: "I'm also going to give you a ticket for your broken tail light."

Miner: "Broken tail light? I didn't know about a broken tail light!"

Miner's Wife: "Oh Harry, you've known about that tail light for weeks."

(The miner gives his wife another dirty look.)

Officer: "I'm also going to give you a citation for not wearing your seatbelt."

Miner: "Oh I just took it off when you were walking up to the car."

Miner's Wife: "Oh Harry, you never wear your seatbelt and you know it."

The miner turns to his wife and yells, "WILL YOU JUST SHUT UP PLEASE!"

The Officer turns to the woman and asks, "Ma'am, does your husband talk to you this way all the time?"

The old miner's wife says, "No sir, only when he's real drunk!!!"

(Taken from the internet and revised just for all us 'old miners')



The finds of the Month Feb 2019:

Best Coin – Joe Johnston with a 1958 wheat penny he found in north Denver.

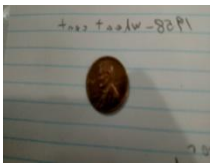
Best Jewelry – Joe Johnston with a 14 kt gold ring he found in Denver.

Best Mineral – There was no entry in this category this month.

Best Artifact – Joe Johnston with a Cub Scout Den Leader bobcat neckerchief slide he found in Golden.

Best Bottle – Joe Johnston with a Jarritos bottle he found in Denver.

Largest Raw Gold – There was no entry in this category this month



Be sure and bring your treasures and finds in to share with the rest of the membership each month. We would like to know what everyone else is finding so don't be bashful. Winners each month will have their names published in the Newsletter. There are seven (7) categories to choose from when entering. Winners of the monthly judging will need to save and return with their winning find next November 2019, when the Finds of the Year will be judged. DON'T FORGET...SAVE THEM!!!!

Local Gold Mining News Notes:

Interestingly, there has been very little localized news in the last few months and suddenly, with the increase in gold prices, comes a flurry of gold news go figure!



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2-22-19: Newmont Posts Q4 Earnings – Newmont Mining Corp. on Thursday reported fourth quarter net income of \$2 million, after reporting a loss in the same period a year earlier. On a per share basis, the Greenwood Village based Colorado company said it had net income of less than 1 cent. Earnings, adjusted for one-time gains and costs, were 40 cents per share.

2-23-19: Lab Studies Rare Wire Gold Specimen – Scientists at a federal laboratory in Albuquerque have helped to unravel some of the mysteries of a rare specimen of wire gold discovered in a Colorado gold mine more than 130 years ago. Officials at Harvard University's mineral museum have asked Los Alamos National Laboratory for help in understanding more about the structure of the gold specimen known as the Ram's Horn. They say it is the finest specimen known of its kind in the world. No scientific studies have previously been published on the internal nature of the specimen.

2-26-19 Barrick Gold goes after Colorado's Newmont to Create \$42 Billion Giant – Barrick Gold will try to acquire Newmont Mining Corp. in an approx. \$18 billion dollar all-stock deal that would create a mining behemoth worth about \$42 billion dollars. Colorado's Newmont Mining has rejected any talk of a buyout from the Canadian miner so far and the unsolicited bid from its fierce rival appears likely to become hostile. Combining the two companies would save an estimated \$7 billion in lowered costs. Barrick started last month when it acquired Randgold Resources for more than \$6 billion. Newmont then launched its own take-over bid with a \$10 billion offer for Canada's Goldcorp. All of this is a result of gold becoming more expensive to procure. Gold prices have been on an upward trajectory for the last two decades and are up about 4% this year to about \$1330.00 an ounce. Barrick thinks Newmont should stop its acquisition efforts toward Goldcorp. Newmont said that the offer from Barrick was at a negative premium and ignoring risks of such a deal and overstating potential rewards.

(Note: For those of you who may be unaware, Newmont is embroiled in several disputes in the local Victor, Colorado area involving small scale miners who claim that Newmont has claim jumped their claims, trespassed beyond their own boundaries, are violating many aspects of their permits and are discharging harmful pollutants. This is an ongoing situation that has been taking place since last fall and may well wind up in federal court before it is done. There are complaints that have been filed with the local, state and federal permit issuing agencies. We will have to wait and see how this all shakes out but there is apparently photographic evidence and independent corroboration of the violations that have accompanied the complaints...JJ)

2-27-19: Dozens Buried by Collapse of Unlicensed Gold Mine – In Jakarta, Indonesia, the collapse of an unlicensed gold mine in North Sulawesi Province has buried dozens of people. Emergency personnel were using their bare hands and farm tools in an attempt to reach the victims who were heard calling for help from under the rubble. Local disaster officials said that one person was dead and 14 others suffered injuries and had been rescued. It was believed that up to 60 people were buried and there may be additional fatalities.

A Glimpse into Colorado History

CARDINAL (New Cardinal): Although Cardinal was a mining town, it was important for the Caribou railway branch, and was most remembered as a frequent refuge for the shady ladies of Caribou. Reformers frequently rose to the fore in Caribou and the ladies were run out of that town. The gals set up shop in Cardinal, greatly bolstering the commercial value of the city below Caribou. Eventually the ladies would drift back to Caribou, only to return to Cardinal now and again. Much to the dissatisfaction of Caribou residents, the railroad only went so far as Cardinal. This kept Cardinal happy and busy for a time. But the shady ladies and the railroad couldn't sustain Cardinal more than a few years. The boom lasted from 1878 to 1873, and the peak population was 2,000. After that, the miners and the businessmen drifted off or discovered they could live as well in Caribou. Cardinal's top mine was the Boulder County, which is still producing. The mine and a few scattered ruins are all that are left at the old site.

CARDINAL CITY (Old Cardinal): Cardinal City or Old Cardinal was founded two miles below Caribou in 1870, several years before New Cardinal came into being. By 1872, more than 200 persons lived here, and the city had a post office, several saloons and other less lucrative enterprises. A courthouse was planned but never built. It is not clear why the city was moved to a new site closer to Nederland but it is believed that the railroad had much to do with it and may have actually been the sole reason. New Cardinal soon replaced the old location and now nothing remains of the old community.



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ELDORA (Eldorado Camp, Happy Valley): Eldora prospers anew, as a summer recreation mecca. Traces of old Eldora have disappeared or are well hidden, by the new. Eldora got off to a slow start, but once it caught on, it was thought to be another Cripple Creek. It wasn't, of course. Some prospecting was carried on here and some locations made it in 1860. The Grand Island mining district was organized the following year but little was done to develop the area until Sam Conger located the Caribou Mine in 1869. In 1875 the Fourth of July Mine was located near the Divide. There was activity all around Eldora but nothing nearby until 1891 when a group of Central City miners located the Happy Valley placer in 1891. The camp that resulted was called Happy Valley. A rival town company set up a town site within the Happy Valley land grant. Litigation followed and eventually the court ruled in favor of the original town company. The site came to be called Eldorado Camp, but the post office department complained of the confusion caused by the similar name in California. So the citizens dropped the final syllables of the name. Eldora prospered all through the 90's. Although it had a mining life of its own, it also served as a supply center for the camps in the area. The first time the manager of the Bailey Chlorination Mill missed a payday, the workers shot him and burned down the mill. Eldora was a sociable and lively town. The many dancehalls and gambling houses ran night and day. The sporting district was across the creek. The Miners Hotel was the hub of the elite social activity and many lavish and boisterous dances were held there. However, the ore started giving out after the turn of the century. Some residents continued to make money by selling worthless claims for fabulous sums. Some lease mining has been done in recent years, but for the most part, Eldora has settled back into a quiet and respectable tourist center and today is a ski destination site in the winter months.

BEST MINES: Grand Island, Happy Valley, Enterprise, Bird's Nest, Clara, Virginia, Virginia Belle and Revenge.

Gold Dust: *The mining district was 16 miles long and 4 miles wide, extending from Castle Rock in Boulder Canyon to the Continental Divide....heavy snow in the winter frequently forced the mines to lug out on heavy sleds....the Mogul tunnel drilled below the mines further developed the area....the Eldora jail was just behind the Miners Hotel. A two-teacher school was nearby. Eldora had just about everything but a cemetery, boasting there was no need for one....during the boom, four Boulder stage companies ran stages to Eldora...."Old Bob" Stewart was a hermit for many years in the mountains near Eldora.*

(Excerpts taken from the 1968 printing of The Guide to the Colorado Ghost Towns and Mining Camps by Perry Eberhart.)

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)

Oregon Miners Petition US Supreme Court in *Bohmker v. Oregon*: Multiple states now assert the right to ban mining as a use of specified federal lands categorically, rather than provide a permit-based process for imposing reasonable environmental standards on federal mining operations", said attorney James Buchal in his Petition for Writ of Certiorari filed with the United States Supreme Court submitted on January 21. In *Bohmker vs State of Oregon*, the Miners argue the State of Oregon is thumbing its collective nose at federal preemption under the Property Clause and the Supremacy Clause of the US Constitution, Articles IV and VI, respectively. This case differs from *Rinehart v. State of California* in that *Rinehart* was cited for suction dredging without a permit, while *Bohmker* sued the State of Oregon for passing legislation that outlawed the use of motorized equipment on federal mining claims. The legislation permanently prevents a miner from developing his mining claim on federal lands. It should be noted that the Galice Mining District intervened in this case and is asserting their rights under the 1872 Mining Act. The 1872 Mining Act includes "...and according to the local customs or rules of miners in the several mining districts. It was hoped that Mr. Buchal would incorporate Mining District rights, as defined in the 1872 Mining Act, into the *Rinehart* case, but for whatever reason that did not happen. With *Bohmker v. State of Oregon*, this may be an opportunity to see if the US Supreme Court will honor this relevant statute in this case and see if the new make-up of the USSC justices are ready to take a hard look at federal preemption.

EPA Mishandling State Mining Cleanup According to Gold Company: In February, a gold company issued a statement saying that the US Environmental Protection Agency is mismanaging the Superfund cleanup of nearly 50 old mining sites in southwestern Colorado and should be removed as the agency in charge. Sunnyside Gold Corp., which owns mining property in the Bonita Peak Superfund District, made the complaint in a letter to the EPA. In a written



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statement, the EPA said it is following Superfund laws and is conducting a thorough investigation and cleanup. The exchange was the latest skirmish in a long running battle between Sunnyside and the EPA. EPA has targeted Sunnyside to help pay for the cleanup and the company has resisted, launching multiple challenges to the size and management of the project. Sunnyside says the EPA has a conflict of interest because the agency was in fact, responsible for a massive spill of polluted water in 2015 from the Gold King Mine, another site in the superfund district. As a result of the spill and the many lawsuits filed, the Bonita Superfund District was designated. The 'conflict of interest' is obvious says Sunnyside because the EPA's liability for the spill resulted in the Superfund listing and the EPA is a defendant in multiple legal actions. Sunnyside says that they have already spent more than \$30 million over 30 years cleaning u its property and has made measureable improvement to water quality already and that the EPA was targeting them unfairly. The EPA said that Sunnyside should help pay for the Superfund cleanup because its previous mining work contributed to a significant water quality problem in the area. The EPA said that it will continue to require the company to take actions to ensure that financial responsibility for cleanup is not shifted to the taxpayer.

Tour of Conifer Historical Society Museum

Club members gathered on Sunday, February 24 at the Conifer Historical Society's Museum in Conifer for a wonderful tour of an excellent exhibit featuring the mining history of Jefferson County. Exhibits walked us through the history of mining from 1859 to modern day ventures in the county. An absolutely stunning interactive display of the White Ash Mine was one of the star exhibits and highlighted how the mine operated before a flood occurred killing 10 miners and subsequently closing the mine. As with many of the counties just to the west of Denver, Jefferson County certainly has its share of history and though gold and silver were extracted, ultimately coal was the primary resource. Thanks to all those who showed up for this interesting exhibit. Pres.Long managed to get a few photos.





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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 Apr 2019

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6 GPR Beginners Panning/slucing Class
7	8	WMMI Lecture! "Poker Alice History"	10	11	12	13
14 Palm Sunday	15 Tax Day	16	17 GPR Club Meeting	18	19 Good Friday	20 Passover
21 Easter Sunday	22	23	24	25	26	27 GPR Prospecting Outing Lake Gulch
28	29	30				