

# THE GOLD NUGGET

June 2019

## The Prez Sez by Jim Long



What did I say last month about our Colorado weather? “We are having our usual crazy Colorado weather. Sun shining one day, rains the next, and snow on another day.” Boy was that true to close out the month of May. I had to cancel our Blackhawk trip and reschedule it as a result but it turned out okay in the end. It snowed through Thursday up there and then melted so fast that it was mostly mud by Saturday, which would have made it a mess to try to work in. However, everything was perfect the next weekend as you can read about later in the newsletter.

Sadly, now that things have turned nicer and warmer, the temperatures have raised high enough to start the snowmelt. The snow pack this year is record breaking and was at 200% plus as of June 1.

The drought for Colorado is now listed as less than 0.01%, which means that it is over, at least for this year. That also means we will have a high run-off and a longer one of high water to deal with. That is why we are so fortunate to have the Blackhawk location to play in as it doesn't matter how high the creek is, we can still play and get a little gold. And of course, whenever the water is running high, danger abounds and you should only work the edges if you truly know what you are doing. And sometimes, not even that is enough. We hear every single year about some prospector drowning in the high water. Mother Nature doesn't know your name and constantly seeks out the unwary to teach her lessons to. So no matter how good you think you are or how much caution you practice, just the smallest mistake could well be your last. There is no amount of gold that is worth your life. You can't enjoy it if you are dead!! I see that the EPA has dedicated some monies from the Super Fund to address some of the seepage of heavy metals and minerals of a number of older mines in southwestern Colorado. It is about time. The EPA is quite notorious for dragging their feet through miles and miles of red tape to never get anything done. But, of course, they are instantly on the job if they think you are doing something wrong, even if you aren't. However, it was the EPA themselves who were directly responsible for the Gold King Mine spill several years back that turned the Las Animas River an ugly orange from Colorado through New Mexico and into Arizona. I am not sure I am overly comfortable with them being in charge of how the mitigation of these other sites is going to be accomplished. Obviously, they are not the experts that they claim to be. Yet heaven help the outsider that tries to fix things. It has often been stated that the EPA is quick to claim credit for any success and even faster to point the finger of blame elsewhere at any failure, that was certainly true in the Gold King incident. By the way, that case is still wending its way through state and federal courts and will for years more to come, I am sure.

I heard recently that the lawsuit between some local small-scale miners and the Cripple Creek/Victor Mine has been resolved. I have not heard the details but I am sure that is because they all signed an agreement to not disclose the terms of the settlement. It was mostly about the Big Guy tromping on the small guy's feet, disregarding boundary lines of claims, illegal dumping, rule breaking and infractions, disregarding Plans of Operation, Reclamation and Mitigation and claims of underhanded dealing, miscommunication and all that kind of stuff. Anyway, apparently everyone involved are now friends again and claim that there was never any real animosity and that it was all a big misunderstanding and they are now at the same campfire all singing 'kum by ya'. We will probably never know how it all got settled and that is too bad. It goes that way when you have big time lawyers involved and potential reputations may or may not be at risk. The CC/V mine is a big time player in local affairs in and around Cripple Creek and is a big time player on the world stage as well. Settling the whole affair does not give me any comfort in knowing that there will not be any future rule breaking or that all parties involved will now do 'the right thing' in the future. However, it and will be considered a victory for the little guys in a way so I guess from that standpoint, it can be seen as a good thing.

Lastly, I wanted to just say thank you to all those service members, men and women, who have served and sacrificed their lives to preserve the freedoms that we enjoy in this wonderful nation of ours. That is what Memorial Day is all about. God Bless all those who choose to defend our nation and our people, and God Bless America!!

Anyway, that is the view from here and I wish you all Good Luck in your endeavors, no matter what they may be! 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](mailto:jnslong945@msn.com) . Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!



### The V.P. Corner by “Joe Fortunato



Hello again guys and gals, time for another installment of the V.P. Corner. The weather sure has been crazy for the last few weeks. I made it to Nevada for six days of metal detecting for gold. It is a 940-mile drive from my home in Westminster to Lovelock, Nevada. I was able to make this trip with just two stops along the way, one stop in Rock Springs, Wyoming and the other in Wendover, Nevada. The weather was good all the way to Lovelock, and I completed the trip in 13 hours and 20 minutes. My friend Ken drove in from Marysville, California early the same day, he was able to get in a day of detecting by the time I arrived. Then from Sunday to Friday, it was the same routine each day. Up at 5:00 AM, breakfast at 6:00 AM, load up our gear, head out to our chosen area or areas for the day, detect until 6:00 PM, head back to the motel, eat supper in our rooms, charge detector batteries, then get some sleep and do it all again the next day. I watched the weather forecast for several weeks prior to leaving and the weather looked pretty good for this trip. The problem was, that the closer it got to departure time, the chances for rain increased a little each day. The result was that we had a decent first day and a great sixth day, but the days in between were somewhere in the poor to lousy category. The soil in that part of Nevada has alkali in it, so when you add rain, it becomes noisy and you lose detection depth. Basically, it takes a difficult task, and makes it a very difficult task. The only plus that I could see in all of this, was that Ken and I pretty much had the area to ourselves for several days. We both got skunked on more days than we found gold, but we both scored multiple pieces on our good days. We didn't come up with anything to write home about as far as size or weight, but finding gold in those conditions is reason to celebrate for any gold detectorist. I ended up with eighteen pieces for six days of detecting. One piece was unique, shaped like a capital 'Z', the others were just little dinks, but a lot of fun to locate and recover. I ended my latest Nevada adventure on a positive note, thanks to a great last day, with gorgeous weather and sixteen little pieces of gold added to my poke. Ken added about the same number of pieces to his poke as I did, together we came away with thirty-five or forty pieces. I am already looking forward to returning in the fall, when soil conditions are usually at their best for detecting. That is about all that I have for this month, so 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 Joe Kafka



The June Meeting will feature a nine (9)-nugget giveaway of which the largest nugget will be 2.6 grams. The Club remains in the black and members may request to see the financial report at any time, which I have at my desk in the back. Hope to see you all there at the meeting!!

### Board Meeting Minutes From May 2019

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

**Quorum Present:** Yes.

**Call to Order by:** Pres Long at 5:55 pm.

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

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



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**Correspondence:** 2 phone calls, 11 e-mails, 6 mailings.

**Webmaster:** Total Hits 154189 Hits for last 2 month 175.

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

**Unfinished Business:** Received a \$500.00 check from Foothills Chapter of the GPAA for our assistance is putting on the Gold Show, which was very much appreciated.

**New Business:** None at this time.

**Planned Outings for 2019:** Outing Schedule completed and issued in Feb. Newsletter.

- May 16 Thur Panning Demo, Aurora Water Festival, 9a to 2p, see signup sheet.
- May 25 Sat Prospecting Outing #2, Blackhawk, 9am.
- June 22 Sat Prospecting Outing #3, Blackhawk, 9am.

### **From the Board:**

- Pres. Long discussed the prospecting outing in Blackhawk which went very well. Did a trash cleanup and hosted over 30 members for the day. Everybody got gold.
- Discussed Bohmker vs Oregon case in which SCOTUS has declined to hear it which means a loss for the mining community. Focus now will be on the Mining Amendment sponsored by PLP, AMRA, ICMJ and the GPAA.
- BM Bobby Manning advised the black wave lights were ready to be ordered and he was collecting monies tonight.
- BM Andy Doll discussed the need to create an Inactive members list to simply shorten the record keeping and mailing lists. It was agreed to do that.
- BM Johnston has obtained plastic vials for sale to the membership, so check in at the store.
- BM Joe Kafka has undergone surgery which went well and he is not at the meeting nor is BM Chris Kafka.
- There was nothing further added by the rest of the Board.

**Additional Announcements:** Next Board Meeting: June 19, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Next General Meeting: June 19, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

**Tonight's general meeting program:** We will be having a video presentation on mining for gems on Mt. Antero by the Cargill family.

**Adjournment:** Meeting stands adjourned at 6:48 pm.

### **QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

A carat was originally a unit of mass based on the ?????? used by ancient merchants.

#### **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 May 2019**

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 video presentation by Shannon Poe of AMRA on Metal Detecting Mine Walls in the Colorado Mine in California.
3. **Pres. Long** then gave the Metals Report: Gold 1296.10, Silver 14.77, Platinum 844.00, Palladium 1323.00, Rhodium 2820.00.
4. **Web hits** for last month was 175.
5. **Treasurer Joe Kafka** absent and recovering from surgery. Interim **Roger Schlenger** reports that the Club remains in the black. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it. We have a new 'Special Nugget' tonight so be sure to buy lots of tickets. It is a beautiful specimen from Australia. Also, don't forget to buy tickets for tonight's 9 nuggets drawing, the largest being 2.4 grams.
6. **Dan McConnell** reported from the Membership Table that we had 70 members in attendance. There were 2 guests present. The total meeting attendance was 72.
7. **Pres. Long** read the 'Question of the Month', which was **"What is the name of the biggest single gold specimen discovered on the planet, unearthed in Oct. 1872 in New South Wales, Australia, and how much**



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**did the gold in the specimen weigh???" We need two answers!!** The winners will receive an extra ticket to the gold nugget drawings later.

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**' # 5.
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 always have a supply of gold bags for sale as well. They are one of the best in town!
11. **Pres. Long** informed the membership that
  - The next Outings are as follow:
    - **May 16 thur., Panning Demo, Aurora Water Festival, see signup sheet.**
    - **May 25, Sat., Prospecting Outing #2, Blackhawk, 9am.**
    - **June 22, Sat. Prospecting Outing #3, Blackhawk, 9am.**
  - **The Club** received a \$500.00 check from the Foothills GPAA Chapter for our assistance with the GPAA Gold Show in April which was very much appreciated.
  - **Pres. Long** discussed the recent decision of the US Supreme Court to not hear the Bohmker vs Oregon mining case, which is very regretful. Another major loss for the mining community. Oregon is banning in many watersheds, digging in the stream with literally anything but a pan. Mining's next move will be the attempt to pass the Mining Amendment sponsored by PLP, AMRA, ICMJ and the GPAA. The fight must continue.
  - **Pres. Long** also discussed our last Prospecting Outing in Blackhawk. The trash cleanup went well and we had over 30 members attend. Everyone found gold so that was good.
  - Those who ordered the black wave lights, **BM Bobby Manning** is collecting monies tonight to order them.
  - There was nothing additional of note added from the Floor.
12. **Pres. Long** announced the break at 8:20 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:35 pm.
13. **Pres. Long** announced the winners of the '**Question of the Month**'. The answer was, "...'**Holtermann Nugget**' and '**2200 ounces**' !! There were only 24 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** – **John Olson** with an old 1917 mercury dime he found metal detecting in Eastern Colorado.
  - **Best Jewelry** – **John Olson** with a silver bracelet with hearts that he found while metal detecting in Denver.
  - **Best Mineral** – **Angie Yen** with a sample of Amethyst/fluorite she found in Unaweep Canyon, Colorado.
  - **Best Artifact** – **Dave Snyder** with an old stove he found in Gilpin County, Colorado.
  - **Best Bottle** – There was no entry in this category this month.
  - **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, Gordon Smith, Jessica Woodruff, Bill Duncanson, Mike Hurtado and Pres. Long**, followed by drawings for the 22 door prizes and 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 **Roger Schlenger 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.





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18. **The May Meeting Program** will be a video presentation of the Cargill Family Mining on Mt. Antero in Colorado. 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'!
19. The Meeting was **adjourned at 9:01 pm.**

## A Miner's Laugh

An old miner takes a vacation to see the nation's capital in Washington D.C. and is walking by the zoo when he sees a little girl leaning into the lion's cage. Suddenly the lion grabs her jacket and tries to pull her into the cage all under the eyes of her now panicked parents. The old miner immediately charges forward, strikes the lion square on the nose with his fist causing the lion to let go of the little girl. The parents profusely thank the old fellow as a reporter runs up to them. "I saw the whole thing sir, and that was the bravest thing I have ever seen anyone do in my entire life!" The old miner is embarrassed and says, "Well, it was nothing really. The lion was behind bars and couldn't really get me and I saw this little girl in danger so I just reacted." The reporter says, "Well, I am going to make sure this does not go un-noticed sir. As a reporter, I intend to do a big story. What do you do for a living and what political affiliation do you have?" The old miner replied, "I am a mining man, a republican, and I intend to vote for Trump again!" The next day, the old miner buys a paper to read about the incident and stops dead in his tracks at the headline, which read: 'AMERICAN MINER ASSAULTS AFRICAN IMMIGRANT AND STEALS HIS LUNCH!!!' That pretty much sums up the media's approach to the news these days!!!



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

## The finds of the Month May 2019:

**Best Coin** – John Olson with a 1917 mercury dime he found while metal detecting in eastern Colorado.

**Best Jewelry** – John Olson with a silver bracelet with crosses he found while metal detecting in Denver.

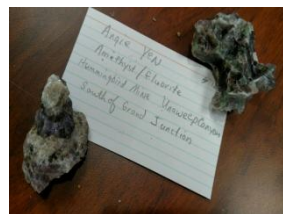
**Best Mineral** – Angie Yen with some amethyst/fluorite sample from Unaweep Canyon, Colorado.

**Best Artifact** – Dave Snyder with an old stove he found in Gilpin County, Colorado.

**Best Bottle** – There was no entry in this category this month.

**Most Raw Gold** – There was no entry in this category this month.

**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!!!!

## 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 every month or so 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)*

**US Supreme Court Declines to hear Bohmker v. Oregon:** The US Supreme Court has denied to review Oregon's ban on in-stream mining. This seems to leave only one option--getting federal legislation passed to restore reasonable



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regulation to the mining industry in America. From Jonathan Wood, Senior Attorney, Pacific Legal Foundation: "This morning, the Supreme Court denied further review in Bohmker, leaving the Ninth Circuit's decision in place. I thought Kaycee wrote an excellent brief on behalf of us but, as I'm sure you all know, the odds of the Supreme Court taking a case are extremely long. It only hears 2-3% of the cases presented to it. "There continues to be a split among the circuits on this issue, so we'll have to keep looking for opportunities to present the issue to the Court, especially in the Eighth or Tenth Circuits (AR, MO, IA, NE, SD, ND, MN, WY, UT, CO, NM, KS, OK). For those of you with members or contacts in those states, you might keep an eye out for state or local mining bans in those states."

**What Can I Do?** We've had some very significant meetings this year with legislators, staff members, Pentagon officials and members of the Trump Administration. Keep in mind that even though our proposed legislation has "Critical Minerals" and "China" in the title, it applies to all miners, including gold miners and dredgers. What you can do to help move this process along:

- 1) Read our proposed legislation. Although it is titled "Critical Minerals..." the changes will benefit all miners. You can [find it online here](#).
- 2) Check to see if your legislator is on one of the key committees. We are only listing those who have expressed their support. All of the Senators listed are on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources and/or Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests and Mining:

The Colorado Senator on these Committees is : **Senator Cory Gardner (R-Colorado) 202 224-5941**

- 3) If your legislator is on this list, **please give them a call**. Be polite. Let them know that you support the legislation proposed by Public Lands for the People titled "Critical Minerals: National Security Amendments to the NDAA — Breaking China's Grip on America's Mining and Production of Critical Minerals. Please ask them to support this crucial piece of legislation and give them the title so they know exactly which proposed legislation you are calling about.
- 4) Please pass this message along to your fellow miners. The more volume we can generate, the better the results. Members of Congress want to know that their constituents support this proposed legislation.

**PLP has proposed an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) called "Critical Minerals: National Security Amendments to the NDAA"**. This Critical Minerals Amendment, written and proposed by our legal researcher Clark Pearson, solves most of the small miner's regulatory problems observed by PLP over the last 29 years. A huge amount of research and practical knowledge has gone into this amendment. It was written by a working small miner to help all miners, big and small. It provides clear and concise regulatory certainty in dealing with all regulatory bodies the miner faces today. PLP is presently seeking co-sponsors on the House and Senate side.

This Critical Minerals amendment is a must read and should go down as the most important piece of legislation to help the mining industry in a very long time. You can help us **TAKE ACTION!** PLP has started a petition drive at:

<https://www.publiclandsforthepeople.org/take-action/> where you can read the proposed legislation and support material then electronically sign the petition. Your signature, along with thousands of others will be shown to select members of the United States Congress and Senate. The signatures will convince legislators of the groundswell grassroots support and that the time to act is now. ICMJ's Prospecting and Mining Journal, which has documented our progress in Washington, D.C., also has it available for viewing and comment at: [www.icmj.com](http://www.icmj.com).

The ICMJ has also taken the lead to receive individual miner and mining association endorsements in support of the "Critical Minerals: National Security Amendments to the NDAA" on their Facebook page or by sending your endorsement to their mailing address:

**ICMJ P.O. Box 2260 Aptos, CA 95001**

Read the detailed PLP update here: <https://www.icmj.com/magazine/article/plp-update-4022/>

**Australian family finds \$24,00.00 gold nugget on family walk with dog named Lucky:** An Australian family experienced a stroke of good fortune when they found a gold nugget — valued at tens of thousands of dollars — while they were walking their dog on Sunday. The family's father and two daughters, who asked to remain anonymous, were out with their dog, coincidentally named "Lucky," when they came across the pricey nugget. "I actually walked right past it but my daughter pretty much kicked it as she was walking," the father told the *Bendigo Advertiser*. "She then goes, 'Dad, is this gold?' I said, 'I think it might be.'" The father said they weighed the nugget at a nearby supermarket, as they couldn't find anywhere to properly weight it. The gold nugget weighed 20 ounces, or 1.25 pounds — a value the family claims could be worth upwards of \$24,000 USD. "To sell it as a nugget whole, it's probably worth a little bit more than



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that," he told the news outlet. "We've come on some tough times so it's really good because we've been struggling financially. It couldn't be better timing really."

The family's "Lucky" find was only the latest time an Australian has been revealed to have discovered a gold nugget. In September, a retired man found a roughly seven-pound gold nugget worth an estimated \$80,000 in the northern Goldfields of Western Australia. He had

been searching the area with a metal detector for years, and ultimately took him two hours to dig the nugget out of the ground.

### Biggest gold nugget in history weighing 198 pounds, worth \$2.6 million found in Australia:

A mine in Australia has produced what its owner believes are two of the biggest gold specimens in recorded history. The biggest of the stones came in at 198 pounds and is estimated by the company to contain about 143 pounds of gold, a total that at current prices would be worth around \$2.6 million. The second-biggest piece weighed 132 pounds and was valued at about \$1.95 million. Early estimates from RNC Minerals have put the total take of coarse gold from the cut at more than 562 pounds, or more than \$10.4 million worth. Airleg driller Henry Dole has been credited



with uncovering the astonishing find at the 45- year-old Beta Hunt gold mine near Kambalda.

Early estimates from RNC Minerals have put the total take of coarse gold from the cut at more than 562 pounds, or more than \$10.4 million worth (RNC Minerals)

He has been in the profession for 16 years and says he has never seen anything like it.

Henry said: "I've seen it in veins in the face but nothing like this — this was just



everywhere."

**China is Dangling a Potentially Harmful New Threat in Trade War: Denver Post – 5-30-19** Facing new trade sanctions and a US clampdown on its top telecommunications company, China issued a pointed reminder that it has yet to unleash all its weapons in its trade war with the Trump Administration. China warned that Beijing could cut off America from exotic minerals that are widely used in electric cars and mobile phones. The threat to use China's rich supply of so-called rare earths as leverage in the conflict has contributed to sharp losses in US Stocks and sliding long-term bond yields. This is all a result of the US putting the Chinese telecom giant Huawei on a blacklist that effectively bars US companies from supplying them with computer chips, software and other components without government approval. Huawei is trying to beat back one punitive US measure in federal court in Texas arguing that a 2018 law that bars them from selling telecom gear to US government agencies and contractors should be struck down as unconstitutional. *(and here we go. this is proof of the value of the Mining Amendment sponsored by PLP and AMRA, as discussed above and previously, trying to get approval for legislation declaring some rare earth minerals as vital to national security. Here is an example of China using those minerals as a threat against us. Is there any better proof that we are on the right track and need to support PLP and AMRA to the hilt..??? This may well be our best chance to secure legislation eventually giving more protection to mining that before, especially in today's climate of eco-nuttiness!!!..JJ)*

### **Aurora Water Festival Panning Demonstration**

Club members gathered on Thursday, May 16, at the Aurora Community College to celebrate their 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Festival. The Festival features approximately 25 various vendors and displays having to do with water and how it affects our daily lives. The Festival is designed for the Aurora School District and involves a one day field trip for fifth graders from 18 different schools for some 1200 students. The weather was again just perfect and we had plenty of volunteers this year to make the event go smoothly for everyone. The kids always get so excited to see actual gold in the pan when they try their hand at it and of course, our volunteers kind of 'help them along' with their panning. They often have a hard time accepting the fact that our panning trays are 'catch and release' as they all think they should be able to take that bright yellow stuff home with them. The Festival Staff was very helpful as always and even provided us with a very nice lunch for our efforts. Many thanks to our volunteers Mike Hurtado, Maria Hinson, Gordon and Yvonne Smith, Angie Yen, Jack Meineke, Carl Adams and Joe Johnston. These things don't happen unless our folks pitch in with their time





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and their 'can do' attitudes to make these events the successes that they are, and that is a fact..!! Pres. Long did manage to get a few photos as well.



## 2019 Prospecting Outing #2

Club members gathered again at our favorite place to dig up on the mountain in Lake Gulch. After the cancellation of the week before due to a last minute snow storm that left the area too muddy to risk anyone having any real fun, we hit a good weather day. Although we have worked in wet weather before and will likely do so again, that storm was just too much and would have resulted in a lot of difficulty for folks. As it was, this was a good day and we got a lot of digging done. The cleanups went pretty well as usual as we moved down into the lower Clear Creek Canyon to run everyone's material. Pres. Long and Jack Meineke donate the use of their high bankers to facilitate this for the rest of the members and it is a chance to see the high bankers perform their magic. It is amazing at how much material and how quickly it can be processed by using them. Classifying is not always a necessary thing although it makes things a little easier. The machines are designed to handle material that has not been classified as long as you utilize a second person to wash as you feed the machine. Proper washing allows the material to be cleaned and lets the gold separate out of the mixture allowing it to be captured by the matting and riffles in the machine. These high bankers that we use are identical and made by the late Bob Butler of Buena Vista. Pres. Long has one of the first Bob ever built and Jack has one of the last he ever built. They are 3-stage machines and the upper stage is on top with two lower stages that separate material. Some 90% of the gold is captured in the first stage and about 9% in the second stage. The third and final stage captures less than 1% and the total loss as determined by test panning is usually less than 1% which is highly desirable. It makes for a pretty efficient machine and is excellent for use in an outing such as the ones we do up near Blackhawk. Pres. Long took a few photos of all the fun:



## Sale of Minerals and Gems From The Estate Of Julie Hesse

Where: 2545 Teller St., Lakewood Co.

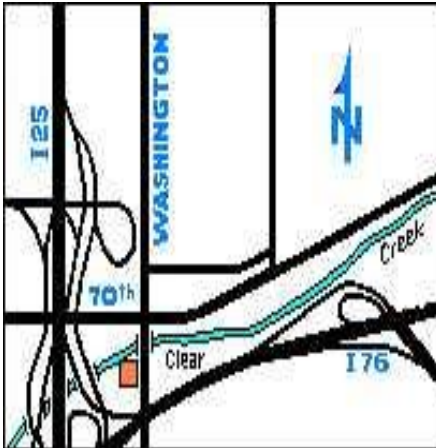
When: June 21st and 22<sup>nd</sup> 9am-4pm

Laura Maceis the stepdaughter of Julie Hesse. Unfortunately Julie passed away March 30 of 2018. Julie was an avid collector of fine gems and minerals. She specialized mostly Colorado specimens. Julie's family has decided to sell some of this collection to others who could enjoy. Julie was a Friend of the School of Mines Geology Museum and a member of the Colorado Mineral Society. Our rock hound members may want to try to take in this sale if you are looking for something neat. Laura will host the sale.





## TYMKOVICH MEATS



Established 1952  
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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 July 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   | 2  | 3                             | 4<br><i>Independence Day</i> | 5   | 6                                     |
| 7                         | 8   | 9<br><b>WMMI</b><br>Speakers' Bureau<br>Lecture<br>Kevin Singel<br><i>Finding Gold in Colorado</i> | 10                            | 11                           | 12  | 13                                    |
| 14                        | 15  |  | 17<br><b>GPR Club Meeting</b> | 18                           | 19  | 20                                    |
| 21                        | 22  | 23   | 24                            | 25                           | 26  | 27<br><b>GPR Outing</b><br>Lake Gulch |
| 28<br><i>Parents' Day</i> | 29  | 30   | 31                            |                              |     |                                       |