

THE GOLD NUGGET

July 2019

The Prez Sez by Jim Long



We are in that part of the early summer when the water is running high. This last winter saw a record snowfall over the previous number of years, which has resulted in wiping out the Colorado drought. But the high run off brings immense danger. As of the last day of June, we have had five deaths from rafting the high waters and one more from fishing. I don't see the water receding until probably mid-July as we had snow as late as June 23 that closed Mt. Evans and Trail Ridge road with 2 and 3 feet of new snow. So caution is our watch work....please be careful if you are venturing out in search of the shiny.

I spent a few hours the other day with David Emslie of Prospectors Gold and Gems up in Ft. Collins. David spoke to the Club back in January or so. He is an incredibly smart and talented guy. What a pleasure it is to talk gold and geology with a man who knows what he is talking about. He showed me a sample of gold he had recently acquired and it was one of the most amazing pieces I have ever seen. I doubt I will ever see another piece like it in my lifetime. It is a chunk of gold with several imbedded pieces of jade in the matrix along with a chunk of quartz. It was literally something I had never seen or heard of before and neither had David. Naturally, he bought it on the spot. But a great deal of what we talked about is his new mine and the mill that he hopes to have operational by the first of October. This is going to be a really big deal here in Colorado and primarily so for the smaller miners who really can't afford to send their ore out of state for processing. That means that there is a kazillion tons of high-grade ore sitting on ore dumps around them thar hills that isn't getting done. This is going to mean a lot to miners like Jesse Peterson up at his Chaffee Mine and Tom Hendriks up at the Cross Mine. I can name off a dozen or more miners who just can't afford the high costs to send their stuff out for processing.

Another facet of this whole thing is also just amazing to me. You would think that the easiest way would be to simply send it by rail or by truck back east to a large smelter back there which offers the best price currently for processing. But it is actually cheaper to send it to Los Angeles via containers to be shipped down to Panama and through the Canal there and then back up to the East Coast to its destination. Not being a hard rock miner, I am pretty rusty when it comes to knowing the ins and outs of some of this stuff, but that pretty well floored me.

When we lost the mills in Nevada, I knew that some of the guys had to send stuff up to Canada and back east but I had no idea how transportation costs have changed over the years. So I am really pulling for David to get this thing off the ground and up and running. It is people like David who have the energy and the backing and the know how to put it all together and make it work that is going to bring back a surge in hard rock mining here in Colorado. I am so excited that I can hardly wait for all this to come together. David indicated that he already had agreements and orders from a lot of the Front Range and central Colorado mines to handle their ore. As to his own mine, he is close to getting it going as well. He is working on just one small detail to be resolved and he is in business. And everything is properly permitted to boot. Every time I talk to David, I learn something new. He is very sharp with geology as it relates to gold and the other heavy metals. He is one of those guys that when he talks, it is only a few seconds before everybody else around him slowly go quiet and everyone just stares and listens. That is because he knows what he is talking about, his audience recognizes that fact very quickly, and they all shut up in hopes of learning something. I know that he has that effect on me as well. He laughs and says that early on, it was a little unnerving when he took note of it but later came to accept it for the show of respect that it is. I hope to get David back later this fall when his super hectic schedule slows down enough for him to fit us into his schedule to talk about milling and hard rock mining. It will definitely be an 'I don't want to miss that' kind of deal that is for sure. And in the mean time, if you should need to buy or sell some gold, silver or other metals, it would be a good idea to keep his business in mind. He is fair and honest to a fault.

Anyway, that is the view from here and I wish you all Good Luck in your endeavors, no matter what they may be...! And until we meet again, keep your sunny sides up and may the bottoms of your pans turn bright with that treasured 'Yaller Gold'!

You may contact me at 303-452-6087 or at jnslong945@msn.com. Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!

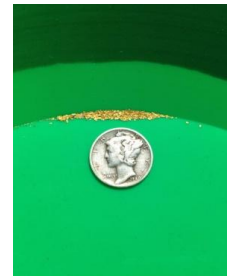




The V.P. Corner by “Joe Fortunato



Greetings, fellow gold prospectors! Another month has whizzed by, and the ‘new year’ is half-gone! I know that I have been telling all of you for months, that I was going to chase some gold close to town on Clear Creek. Well, I finally made it on June 7th. I have been talking to one of our club members (Dan Fries) about getting together on the creek for quite some time. We managed to come up with a plan that worked for both of us. We met up at about 8:15 in the morning and figured on staying until we were ...plum tuckered out!!! Access to Clear Creek, here in town, has become a bit of a challenge now that we can no longer park at the meat market on Washington St. It was a fifteen-minute walk for Dan and me, but when you are talking about gold prospecting, time passes quickly. The spot that we chose is one that Dan found well over a year ago. He has found some decent gold at this location, so we agreed that this would be a great place to start the day. If our test pans showed positive results, we would stay and work this spot, if our results were weak, we would move to another location. We found some fairly good color in our first test pans. It looked like this could be the place for us as long as the gold continued to show well. We decided to set up our sluice boxes and get to work. The only problem was we would be digging forty or fifty yards from nearest likely location to set up our sluices. This was early June, and the water flow was on the slow side. We found a promising spot and were able to get both sluices operating well enough to get the job done. We worked at a steady pace. Carrying buckets that distance, slowed our production, and walking on those slippery rocks is always a challenge but that is part of prospecting. I still use an old sluice that was given to me by a friend from my childhood days; it is similar to a Keene A-52. I have made some modifications to it over the years, and it works well for me. Dan brought along his lightweight gray plastic sluice, I believe he got it at Gold-N-Detectors. It seems to catch gold quite well, and it is a breeze at clean up time. We both took a lunch break at about 1:00 in the afternoon. After lunch, we got back to work, and stayed with it until about 3:30. It was after 4:00 by the time we collected our concentrates, carried our equipment back across the creek, and changed back into our walking shoes. We stopped several times during the walk back to our vehicles. You know how it is with all of us prospectors as we had to check out some locations along the way that could possibly produce gold on a future outing. I cleaned up my concentrates a couple of days later, and had a little run of color in my finishing pan. I snapped a picture for my gold photos collection. I forwarded the pic to Dan so that he could compare my results to his, to get a more accurate idea of how his location is producing over time. I also sent the pic to Pres. Long; maybe he will include it with this article in the July newsletter. It won't make the cover of the Prospecting Journal Magazine, but I will always have a reminder of a great day on the creek with Dan. I guess that about does it 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 July 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 my desk in the back. Hope to see you all there at the meeting!



Board Meeting Minutes From June 2019

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

Quorum Present: Yes.

Call to Order by: Pres Long at 5:56 pm.

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

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

Correspondence: 0 phone calls, 10, e-mails, 6 mailings.

Webmaster: Total Hits 154441 Hits for last 2 month 252.

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

Unfinished Business: Pres. Long reported on the Arvada Redevelopment Plan for the Clear Creek Corridor. This study is similar to the one Adams County did. I have been following the progress and it appears that there is no danger to the current status quo of small scale prospecting along that portion of the Creek. I will advise should things change.

New Business: None at this time.

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

- June 29 Sat Prospecting Outing #3, Blackhawk, 9am
- July 27 Sat Prospecting Outing #4 Blackhawk, 9am
- Aug. 3 Sat Beginner's Panning/sluicing Class, 42nd and Youngfield, 9am.

From the Board: Pres. Long discussed :

- The prospecting outing of May 25 in Blackhawk, which went very well. We had 18 members who showed up and everybody did pretty well.
- Gold is on the rise so I will be looking at getting the gold buy for 2020 done pretty soon.
- BM J. Johnston advised he was going to start supervising the Finds Table a little more closely.
- BM C> Kafka advised that Joe's surgery went very well and he was back to his old self and much improved.
- There was nothing further added by the rest of the Board.

Additional Announcements: Next Board Meeting: July 17, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Next General Meeting: July 17, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

Tonight's general meeting program: We will be having a video presentation on mining for gold in Suriname. This one will be an eye opener.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:30 pm.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What coin sold for \$7.6 Million in 2002?

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 June 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 on gold mining in Suriname. This one was an eye opener as to how they do it down there in that part of South America.
3. **Pres. Long** then gave the Metals Report: Gold 1360.20, Silver 15.13, Platinum 810.00, Palladium 1484.00, Rhodium 3050.00
4. **Web hits** for last month was 252.
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 have a new 'Special Nugget' 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 2.6 grams.



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6. **Dan McConnell** reported from the Membership Table that we had 74 members in attendance. There were 4 guests present. The total meeting attendance was 78.
7. **Pres. Long** read the 'Question of the Month', which was "A carat was originally a unit of mass based on .??? used by ancient merchants"???? 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' # 6.
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:
 - June 22, Sat. **Prospecting Outing #3**, Blackhawk, 9am;
 - July 27 Sat **Prospecting Outing #4**. Blackhawk, 9am;
 - August 3, **Beginners Panning/slucing Class**, Arapaho Bar, 9am.
12. **Pres. Long** also discussed our last Prospecting Outing in Blackhawk. The turnout was good and one member finally found a small nugget on this trip. Also discussed the Aurora Water Festival Panning Demo on May 25. We had 1200 fifth graders and it was a lot of fun. There was nothing additional of note added from the Floor.
13. **Pres. Long** announced the break at 8:19 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:36 pm.
14. **Pres. Long** announced the winners of the '**Question of the Month**'. The answer was, "Carob seed" There were 37 winners who received their extra drawing ticket for the gold drawing.
15. **Pres. Long** announced the winners for the 'Finds of the Month'. Those were:
 - **Best Coin** – **Dennis White** with a cross stamped penny he found in a local parking lot in Denver.
 - **Best Jewelry** – **Kale Smith** with numerous trinkets he found in the streets of Kyoto, Japan while on vacation.
 - **Best Mineral** – **Bill Wobbe** with a sample of Smoky Quartz he found at Arapaho in Wheatridge, Colorado.
 - **Best Artifact** – **Gordon Smith** with a sample of porcelain he found on the streets of Kyoto, Japan while on vacation.
 - **Best Bottle** – There was no entry in this category this month.
 - **Most Raw Gold** – **Bill and Kris Wobbe** with 0.30 grams of gold they found at Arapaho Bar in Wheatridge, Colorado.
 - **Largest Raw Gold** – **Bobby Manning** with a 0.05 gram nugget he found in Gilpin County on our last Prospecting Outing.

*****Winners will now need to save their items for the Find of the Year to be held in November 2019*****

16. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR, John Olson and Pres. Long**, followed by drawings for the 15 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 **Joe Kafka and Chuck Cown**.
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 **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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19. **The July Meeting Program** will be a video presentation on The Geology related to Gold, which was filmed in Arizona. Until next time, remember to prospect safely, live long and be grateful for that golden bounty from the stars, that gleaming magical miracle, called 'gold'!
20. The Meeting was **adjourned at 9:00 pm.**

A Miner's Laugh

An elderly miner had recently retired and thinking that it was time to live a little again after all his hard work, decided to buy a flashy new sports car. He took it for a spin and reaching 120 mph he thought, "Wow, this is just amazing..!" But then he noticed a police car behind him with blue lights flashing. "Ha," he thought, "I can leave this guy eating my dust.!" So he punched it and the car quickly hit 150 mph. But then the old boy thought, "ah nuts, I am too old for this kind of foolishness", so he pulled over and waited for the officer to catch up and pull in behind him. The officer walks up, looks the old boy over and remarks, "Sir, my shift is over in a mere 10 minutes. If you can give me a good reason for what you just did that I have never heard before, I will let you go." The old miner grinned and replied, "Shoot, years ago my wife ran off with a policeman and I thought you were bringing her back". The officer shook his head, nodded and replied, "Have a good day, sir" and walked away!!



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

The finds of the Month June 2019:

Best Coin – Dennis White with a cross stamped penny he found in a parking lot in Denver.

Best Jewelry – Kale Smith with some trinkets he found while vacationing in Japan.

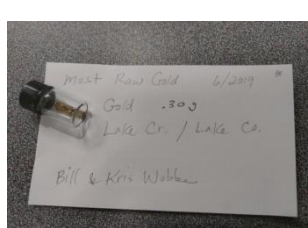
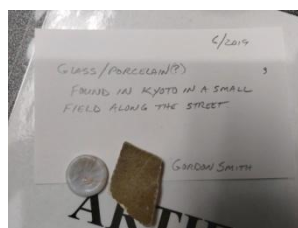
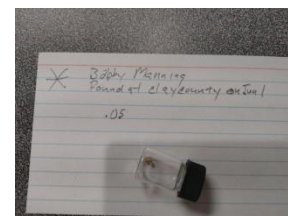
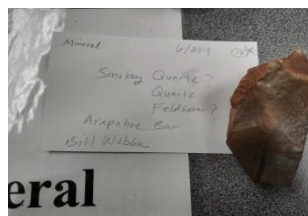
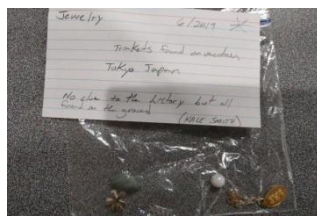
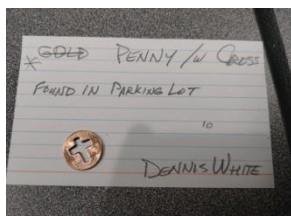
Best Mineral – Bill Wobbe with some smoky quartz he found at Arapahoe Bar in Wheatridge, Colorado.

Best Artifact – Gordon Smith with some porcelain he found in Kyoto, Japan.

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

Most Raw Gold – Bill/Kris Wobbe with .303 grams of gold found in Lake County, Colorado.

Largest Raw Gold – Bobby Manning with a .05 gram nugget he found in Gilpin County, Colorado.



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!!!!

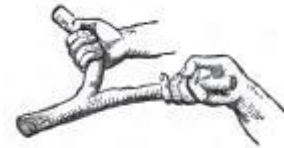


Dowsing for Gold: Does it Work or is it just Witchcraft..?

by Jim Long

For the last two years, we have been using dowsing to locate gold when we have been going out prospecting on the Club Outings. My good friend and digging partner, Jack Meineke, has somewhat perfected the art of locating gold with it. Don't laugh, we have found gold every single time he identifies a spot to dig. Some of you have witnessed us doing that and I have seen looks of interest and looks of disinterest. Does it work? Is it just some form of witchcraft maybe? Well, dowsing has been around for centuries. One of our Club members, Hank Innerfeld, teaches dowsing, among other things. Let's take a look at the history of dowsing as described in Wikipedia.

Dowsing is a type of divination deployed in attempts to locate ground water buried metals or ores, gemstones, and many other objects and materials without the use of scientific apparatus. Dowsing is considered a pseudoscience and there is no scientific evidence that it is any more effective than random chance and dowsers often achieve good results because random chance has a high probability of finding water in favourable terrain. Dowsing is also known as divining (especially in reference to interpretation of results), doodle bugging (particularly in the United States, in searching for petroleum) or (when searching specifically for water) water finding, water witching (in the United States) or water dowsing. A Y-shaped twig or rod, or two L-shaped ones—individually called a dowsing rod, divining rod (Latin: *virgula divina* or *baculus divinatorius*), "vining rod", or witching rod—are sometimes used during dowsing, although



some dowsers use other equipment or no equipment at all. Dowsing appears to have arisen in the context of Renaissance magic¹ in Germany and it remains popular among believers in Fortean¹ or radiesthesia. The motion of dowsing rods is now generally attributed to the ideomotor response. Use of a divining Rod observed in Great Britain in the late 18th century. Dowsing as practiced today may have originated in Germany during the 16th century, when it was used in attempts to find metals. As early as 1518 Martin Luther listed dowsing for metals as an act that broke the first commandment (*i.e.*, as occultism). The 1550 edition of Sebastian Munster's *Cosmographia* contains a woodcut of a dowser with forked rod in hand walking over a cutaway image of a mining operation. The rod is labelled "*Virgula Divina – Glück rüt*" (Latin: divine rod; German "*Wünschelrute*": fortune rod or stick), but there is no text accompanying the woodcut. By 1556 Georgius Agriola's treatment of mining and smelting of ore, *De Re Metallica*, included a detailed description of dowsing for metal ore. ...There are many great contentions between miners concerning the forked twig, for some say that it is of the greatest use in discovering veins, and others deny it. ... All alike grasp the forks of the twig with their hands, clenching their fists, it being necessary that the clenched fingers should be held toward the sky in order that the twig should be raised at that end where the two branches meet. Then they wander hither and thither at random through mountainous regions. It is said that the moment they place their feet on a vein the twig immediately turns and twists, and so by its action discloses the vein; when they move their feet again and go away from that spot the twig becomes once more immobile. In the sixteenth century, German deep mining technology was in enormous demand all over Europe. German miners were licensed to live and work in Elizabethan England, particularly in the Stannaries of Devon & Cornwall and in Cumbria. In other parts of England, the technique was used in Elizabeth's royal mines for calamine. By 1638 German miners were recorded using the technique in silver mines in Wales. In the lead-mining area of the Mendip Hills in Somerset in the 17th century the natural philosopher Robert Boyle, inspired by the writings of Agricola, watched a practitioner try to find "latent veins of metals". Boyle saw the hazel divining rod ("*virgula divinatoria*") stoop in the hands of the diviner, who protested that he was not applying any force to the twig; Boyle accepted the man's genuine belief but himself remained unconvinced. Although dowsing in search of water is considered an ancient practice by some, old texts about searching for water do not mention using the divining rod, and the first account of this practice was in 1568. Sir William F. Barrett wrote in his 1911 book *Psychical Research* that: ...in a recent admirable Life of St. Teresa of Spain, the following incident is narrated: Teresa in 1568 was offered the site for a convent to which there was only one objection, there was no water supply; happily, a Friar



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convent to which there was only one objection, there was no water supply; happily, a Friar Antonio came up with a twig in his hand, stopped at a certain spot and appeared to be making the sign of the cross; but Teresa says, "Really I cannot be sure if it were the sign he made, at any rate he made some movement with the twig and then he said, 'Dig just here'; they dug, and lo! a plentiful fount of water gushed forth, excellent for 'drinking, copious for washing, and it never ran dry.' " As the writer of this Life remarks: "Teresa, not having heard of dowsing, has no explanation for this event," and regarded it as a miracle. This, I believe, is the first historical reference to dowsing for water. In 1662, dowsing was declared to be "superstitious, or rather satanic" by a Jesuit, Gaspar Schott, though he later noted that he wasn't sure that the devil was always responsible for the movement of the rod. In the South of France in the 17th century, it was used in tracking criminals and heretics. Its abuse led to a decree of the inquisition in 1701, forbidding its employment for purposes of justice. An epigram by Samuel Sheppard, from *Epigrams theological, philosophical, and romantic* (1651) runs thus: *Virgula divina*. "Some Sorcerers do boast they have a Rod, Gather'd with Vowes and Sacrifice, And (borne about) will strangely nod To hidden Treasure where it lies; Mankind is (sure) that Rod divine, For to the Wealthiest (ever) they incline." Early attempts at an explanation of dowsing were based on the notion that the divining rod was physically affected by emanations from substances of interest. The following explanation is from William Pryce's 1778 *Mineralogical Cornubiensis*: The corpuscles... that rise from the Minerals, entering the rod, determine it to bow down, in order to render it parallel to the vertical lines which the effluvia describe in their rise. In effect the Mineral particles seem to be emitted from the earth; now the Virgula [rod], being of a light porous wood, gives an easy passage to these particles, which are also very fine and subtle; the effluvia then driven forwards by those that follow them, and pressed at the same time by the atmosphere incumbent on them, are forced to enter the little interstices between the fibres of the wood, and by that effort they oblige it to incline, or dip down perpendicularly, to become parallel with the little columns which those vapours form in their rise. A study towards the end of the nineteenth century concluded that the phenomenon was attributed to cryptesthesia, whereby the practitioner made unconscious observations of the terrain and involuntarily influenced the movement of the rod. Dowsing was conducted in South Dakota in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to help homesteaders, farmers, and ranchers locate water wells on their property. In the late 1960s during the Vietnam War, some United States Marines used dowsing to attempt to locate weapons and tunnels. As late as in 1986, when 31 soldiers were taken by an avalanche during an operation in the NATO drill Anchor Express in Vassdalen, Norway, the Norwegian Army attempted to locate soldiers buried in the avalanche using dowsing as a search method. Dowsing is still used by some farmers and by water engineers in the UK. Traditionally, the most common dowsing rod is a forked (Y-shaped) branch from a tree or bush. Some dowsers prefer branches from particular trees, and some prefer the branches to be freshly cut. Hazel twigs in Europe and witch-hazel in the United States are traditionally commonly chosen, as are branches from willow or peach trees. The two ends on the forked side are held one in each hand with the third (the stem of the Y) pointing straight ahead. Often the branches are grasped palms down. The dowser then walks slowly over the places where he suspects the target (for example, minerals or water) may be, and the dowsing rod is expected to dip, incline or twitch when a discovery is made. This method is sometimes known as "willow witching".

Many dowsers today use a pair of simple L-shaped metal rods. One rod is held in each hand, with the short arm of the L held upright, and the long arm pointing forward. When something is "found", the rods cross over one another. If the object is long and straight, such as a water pipe, the rods may point in opposite directions, showing its orientation. The rods may be fashioned from wire coat hangers or wire flags used for locating utilities. Glass or plastic rods have also been accepted. Straight rods are also sometimes used for the same purposes, and were not uncommon in early 19th-century New England. This is the type of equipment that Jack and I use today. They consist of copper rods with plastic/wooden handles. I know nothing of the science that may or may not be in affect here or as to the how or why it works, but I do know this...it does work. You need to be relaxed and clear your mind and merely allow your energy to flow into the rods in a positive manner. You sub-consciously ask the rods to "show you the gold". As I say, in the last 2 years or so that we have been doing it, they have not failed us. Where they cross, we find better amounts of gold than other locations. Having said all that, there is also a strong need to understand the geology of the area you are working and how gold is likely to settle out, and where, in placer locations. That is also part of the process. We know we are in a gold location but we want to find those 'pockets' where the gold occurs in a heavier pay streak or concentration





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that the others around us. It is just another 'tool' in the bag of tricks and equipment that we utilize to optimize or success. A good and smart prospector leaves no stone unturned. Gold is where you find it. The more tools you can utilize to find it, the better. It is a rare moment, indeed, that someone has stumbled onto a 'motherlode' purely by accident. While it may happen, far more gold is found by using knowledge, research and a variety of tools in the search....!! So good luck to you on your search and don't forget to open your mind, think positive thoughts, and let your positive energy flow out to point you to your next 'strike'..!

2019 Prospecting Outing #3

Club members gathered again on June 29 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 which 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. It was great to see **Kevin Single** who managed to join us to share a little digging. 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 and Kevin Single took a few photos of all the fun:



EPA: NO SERIOUS HEALTH RISKS FROM MINES

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently advised the Durango Herald that the contamination from nearly 50 mining sites do not pose a serious risk for human health. It was reported that the Bonita Peak Mining District Superfund site assessment recently released did not find any risks to people working, hunting, hiking, or fishing there. But it did find a risk of exposure to lead or arsenic for children at four camping sites along the Animas River and at three mine sites used as recreational staging areas. Most of those sites are set to be worked on starting this summer. The Agency designated the Superfund site after it inadvertently triggered a spill at the Gold King Mine in August of 2015. The spill released 3 million gallons of wastewater, polluting rivers in Colorado, New Mexico and Utah.



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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 Aug 2019

(WMMI - Western Museum of Mining & Industry, 225 North Gate Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80921 (www.wmmi.org))
(Free to GPR Member with badge)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 GPR Beginners Panning Class
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 WMMI Pikes Peak or Bust: Colorado's Women 59ers	14	15	16	17 GPR Outing Lake Gulch # 5
18	19		21 GPR Club Meeting	22	23	24 GPR Club Picnic
25	26	27	28	29	30	31