

THE GOLD NUGGET

Dec 2019

MERRY CHRISTMAS



The Prez Sez by Jim Long



Elections for the coming year are completed and your current Board of Directors will continue for another year. We hope to bring you a good dose of Outings that will include a little bit of everything. Though I may not be able to attend as many as I have in the past, I will still try to see to it that you have good on site leaders to see that things get done and that we can all have a good time. We have the Christmas Program coming up and it will be good to enjoy the usual Christmas Pot Luck as well. I am looking forward to this year's get together for sure.

In this issue, I have included some interesting articles for your reflection. Some deal with the value of gold in our economy as well as some of the issues surrounding the regulation of the mining industry.

And there is a matter involving a Grand Junction man that thought he could ignore whatever regulations he encountered. All of these facts and stories are relevant when we consider the overall picture of mining today. No one knows the matters of regulations and requirements better than our good friend David Emslie who is setting up the first operational mineral processing mill that we have had in Colorado for some time. David is up above Idaho Springs and is very near operational. But this process has been an ongoing saga for some time, as he has had to work hard to overcome all the issues of location, acquisition and permitting. There have been local, state and federal hurdles that he had to jump and all the I's and all the T's had to be properly dotted and crossed for this venture to happen. And it hasn't been without its ups and downs. Talk about your learning curve, this one was a real doozy, but David persevered and has succeeded. And the service that he will provide to large and small miners alike will be nothing short of fabulous for Colorado. And I think that most of us within the Club do understand the value of minerals in our American economy and how truly dependent we are on foreign entities to provide us with a lot of what the country really needs. From a military standpoint, that is not a good thing at all.

President Trump is on the right track when he says that minerals mining is a matter of national security and is horribly over regulated, thanks to previous administrations, especially Obama's. And I truly believe that the Public Lands for the People (PLP), the American Mining Rights Association (AMRA) and the Gold Prospectors Association of America (GPAA) are approaching things from the right angle now in this Small Mining Amendment that they have developed and are pushing in Washington. The anti-mining interests in California, Washington, Oregon and Idaho have clearly demonstrated that they are out to stop mining all together and are willingly to lie, cheat and steal to get their way. And I am afraid that I am not exaggerating when I say that, either.

The Grand Junction story is a reminder that we have to all be good stewards of the land while we pursue the search for and the extraction of the valuable minerals that mean so much to our country's economy and future. Most of us are all too familiar with the Hoffman Family who did a few fairly serious no no's with their Gold Rush operation up near Fairplay. They were very lucky that they didn't find themselves in a criminal prosecution as well. The majority of sensible and responsible miners are not opposed to doing the right thing. The Mining Law of 1872 did not intend nor provide for the utter rape of the land. But it did provide that sensible rules were to apply and that there would and should be legitimate remedy for violation of those rules. That old Law has been upheld time and time again by the highest courts and I strongly suspect that it will continue to be upheld as we move to the future. But we must remain vigilant in that common sense needs to take hold here. The left wing anti-mining interests have very deep pockets and a lot of attorneys willing to muddy the water, and sadly, facts and science are to be ignored and painted false to further their aims and goals. And for us to sit back and say and do nothing is to just throw in the towel.

We are very lucky here in Colorado, at least so far, in that we haven't had to face the issues that the California and Northwest miners are facing. But there have been small incidents here and there that are enough to make sensible men and women raise their eyebrows and start taking note. All it takes is a small rock to be thrown in the pond that will result



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in the ripples moving toward shore. The bigger the rock, the bigger the ripples. Large ripples cause shore erosion. Erosion can reduce a mountain to rubble. It is purely cause and effect!

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!! This will be the last V.P. Corner Article of 2019. It has happened again this year; I am sitting here wondering where the year went. Same story as always for me, this year started out slow, but as the months pass, things just seem to speed up for me. Kind of reminds me of metal detecting for gold on an old mine dump. I am on the top of pile swinging my detector and I kick a rock out of the way. I pause to watch as the rock tumbles down the side of the pile, picking up speed as it travels downhill. So it goes with the passing of another year, leave it up to a gold prospector

to come up with an analogy like that!!! I enjoyed last month's video by Chris Ralph. I am not much good at identifying gold bearing ore unless it contains "free milling gold" (visible to the naked eye). I rely more on the colors that I see when it comes to the soil and rocks in any given area that I am prospecting. Quartz is always an obvious indicator of gold possibly being present, but not all quartz is gold bearing. Shale and slate are also indicators that should be of interest to us gold prospectors. Fractured layers of grayish green or grayish blue shale or slate always get my attention when I am out chasing gold, wherever I am. Clay is a "four letter word" to a lot of gold prospectors. If clay is found with or near shale or slate, it is another indicator of possible gold bearing ground. Some very well respected geologists believe that the gold that is found in decomposed layers of shale and slate is on average, larger than the gold one would expect to find while panning or sluicing in the average creek. Chris Ralph happens to be one of those people and he discusses this subject in his book "Fists Full of Gold". It is a very compelling explanation of how the gold is thought to be deposited in these fractured layers of shale and slate. Keep in mind, that just as it is true with quartz, not all shale or slate is gold bearing. If you happen upon an area of fractured decomposing shale or slate with clay present, it might be very worthwhile to test any loose material in the cracks and some of the clay like material also. You just never know, you might get a pleasant surprise. Remember, that if you indeed do find gold in this type of material, it may be larger than the gold you have been finding in the creek!!! I guess that is about it for 2019, I hope to see everyone at the Christmas Potluck in a couple of weeks. Until next time MAY ALL YOUR ADVENTURES, BE GOLDEN!!! Questions or comments Call or text me 303-263-7204 Joe Fortunato

GPR OFFICERS FOR 2020

- Jim Long.....President
- Joe Fortunato.....Vice President
- Joe Kafka.....Secretary/Treasurer
- Joe Shubert.....2 year Board Member 2018
- Joe Johnston.....2 year Board Member 2017
- Mike Stevens.....1 year Board Member
- Andy Doll.....1 year Board Member
- Brandon Luchtenburg..1 year Board Member
- John Johnson II1 year Board Member
- Bobby Manning.....1 year Board Member
- Chris Kafka.....1 year Board Member
- Gary Hawley.....Past President



From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Joe Kafka



There will be no December Meeting. The Program will consist of a Pot Luck Dinner starting at about 6pm followed by a Recognition and Awards Program, which will conclude about 9pm. There will be no usual gold nugget giveaway, although there will be door prizes awarded and I hear Santa has a gift for ALL attending good Prospector's. 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 Nov 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 6:10 pm.

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

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

Correspondence: 2 phone calls, 15 e-mails, 4 mailings.

Webmaster: Total Hits 155467 Hits for last 2-month 212.

Committee Reports: Elections tonight along with the Barker Award voting.

Unfinished Business: None at this time.

New Business: Facility rental has gone up to \$155.42 from \$127.50. Pres Long signed the contract.

Planned Outings for 2019: Outing for the year have been complete.

From the Board:

- Pres. Long discussed the metal detecting hunt from November 9. Christmas Program is set and ready to go.
- BM Manning stated he is looking into a potential new supplier of black lights but they may cost more. He will advise when he gets more info.
- The web site link for Golden Detectors is no longer functional and it is our understanding that it will not be re-established until the County resolves the Estate matter.
- BM Fortunato spoke of his success in Nevada in metal detecting , getting 27 nuggets for nearly 1/2 ounce.
- There was nothing further added by the rest of the Board..

Additional Announcements: Next Board Meeting: Jan. 15, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Next General Meeting: Jan. 15, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Tonight's general meeting program: We will be having a video presentation on How to Identify Gold Ore by Chris Ralph.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:44 pm.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

No question of the Month for the Dec Meeting. Back in Jan 2020.

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 Nov 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 two video presentation on How to Identify Gold Ore by Chris Ralph.
3. **The Metals Report** is as follows: Gold 1471.50, Silver 17.13, Platinum 916.00, Palladium 1743.00 and Rhodium 5575.00.
4. **Web hits** for last month was 212.



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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 nine nuggets drawing, the largest being 2.4 grams.
6. **Dan McConnell** reported from the **Membership Table** that we had 55 members in attendance. There were no guests present. The total meeting attendance was 55.
7. The '**Question of the Month**', is "**If you are desperate, where can you possibly find some gold at Home Depot or Lowes???**" 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, 2020. 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. We will also be voting on the "**Finds of the Year**" tonight as well.
9. **John Johnson** announced that the Cache had been found and presented the finder, **John Olson**. Joh received a beautiful 6.8-gram Australian nugget for his efforts and will start the new Hunt in January. Stay tuned for the first clue at the January meeting.
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. There are items of **mining equipment** for sale in the back of the room so take a look at them during the break!
12. **The Outings Schedule** has been concluded for the year.
13. **Pres. Long** advised that:
 - The **Metal Detecting Hunt of Nov. 9** went very well. Searchers found some 208 of 220 targets hidden and a number of folks won prizes to include **Dennis Perederin, L.C. O'Neal, Joe Johnston, Kathy Lemuel, Angela Yen, John Brinkey, Bobby Manning, Dave Sheldon, John Johnson, Leslie Schumer, Jack Meineke and Nancy Knerl**.
 - Pres. Long reminded everyone to check pamphlets at the front desk during the break and to vote for the finds of the month, return any items checked out from the Club Library.
 - The Club Elections were conducted and there were no new nominations from the Floor and a Vote of Affirmation was held. The existing Board was re-elected to Office for the 2020 Year.
 - The membership was asked to vote for the Ken Barker Award recipient during the break.
 - Pres. Long asked for volunteers to take over the Registration Table and to do the Question of the Month for 2020.
 - There was nothing additional of note added from the Floor.
14. The break was then announced at 8:11 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:35 pm.
15. **Pres. Long** announced the winners of the '**Question of the Month**'. The answer was, "...'**Bags of Play Sand or Tubes of Sand!!**' There were 37 winners who received their extra drawing ticket for the gold drawing.
16. The winners for the '**Finds of the Month**' were then announced. They were:
 - **Best Coin** – There was no entry for this category this month.
 - **Best Jewelry** – **Nancy Knerl** with a silver child's ring found while metal detecting in Denver, Colorado.
 - **Best Mineral** – **Mike Hurtado** with an Agate specimen he found near Canon City, Colorado.
 - **Best Artifact** – **Joe Johnston** with an old truck clutch he found in Auror, Colorado.
 - **Best Bottle** – There was no entry for this category this month.
 - **Most Raw Gold** – **Kevin Single** with 0.555 grams of gold he found in Moffitt County, Colorado.
 - **Largest Raw Gold** – There was no entry for this category this month.

*****Winners will now need to save their items for the Find of the Year to be held in November 2020.*****

17. The winners for the "**Finds of the Year 2019**" were then announced. They were:
 - **Best Coin** – **John Olson** with his 1857 half dime he found in April of 2019.
 - **Best Jewelry** – **John Olson** with his silver cross bracelet he found in May of 2019.
 - **Best Mineral** – **Mike Hurtado** with his geodes he found back in October of 2019.
 - **Best Artifact** – **John Olson** with his circa 1860's Henry .45 cal cartridge he found in April of 2019.
 - **Best Bottle** – **Robert Mahoney** with the medicine bottle he found last October of 2019.



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- **Most Raw Gold** – Kevin Single with 2.02 grams of gold he found last April of 2019.
 - **Largest Raw Gold** – Bobby Manning with the 0.98-gram nugget he found last July of 2019.
18. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR, Jon Olson, and Pres. Long**, followed by drawings for the 16 door prizes and 9 gold nuggets. Pres. Long also wants to remind everyone 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**.
 19. **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.
 20. **Many Thanks go to 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.
 21. **The December Meeting Program will be a Pot Luck Dinner and Recognition Program for the preceding year. There will be no normal general meeting nor usual 'nugget' drawings. 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'!**
 22. The Meeting was **adjourned at 8:58 pm**.

A Miner's Laugh

(I just thought these were extra special so I have included a not so serious one for laughs and a more serious one that we can all take to heart...enjoy...!! JJ)

A new pastor was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house, it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out a business card and wrote 'Revelation 3:20' on the back of it and stuck it in the door. When the offering plate was processed at the next worship service, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message, "Genesis 3:10". Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up into gales of laughter. Revelation 3:20 begins 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock.' Genesis 3:10 reads, 'I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked'!!!!



A quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson:

He said, "Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety. Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt crept in. Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day, begin it well and serenely, with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense. This new day is too dear, with its hopes and invitation, to waste a moment on the yesterdays."

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

Finds of the Year 2019

The Finds of the Year as judged by the membership are as follow:

- Best Coin - John Olson with his 1857 half dime he found in April of 2019.
- Best Jewelry – John Olson with his silver cross bracelet he found in May of 2019.
- Best Mineral – Mike Hurtado with his geodes he found back in October of 2019.
- Best Artifact – John Olson with his circa 1860's Henry .45 cal. cartridge he found in April of 2019.
- Best Bottle – Robert Mahoney with the medicine bottle he found last October of 2019.
- Most Raw Gold – Kevin Single with 2.02 grams of gold he found last April of 2019.
- Largest Raw Gold – Bobby Manning with the 0.98-gram nugget he found last July of 2019.



The finds of the Month Nov 2019:

Best Coin – There was no entry submitted for this category this month.

Best Jewelry – Nancy Knerl with a child’s silver ring she found while metal detecting in Denver, Colorado.

Best Mineral – Mike Hurtado with an Agate specimen he found near Canon City, Colorado.

Best Artifact – Joe Johnston with an truck clutch he found in Aurora, Colorado.

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

Most Raw Gold – Kevin Single with 0.555 grams of gold he found in Moffitt County, Colorado.

Largest Raw Gold – There was no entry submitted for 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 for Find of the Year 2020!!!!**

Annual Club Metal Detecting Hunt

The Annual Club Hunt was held on November 9 at Majestic View Park in Arvada. Originally scheduled for the 2nd, it had to be moved a week due to an early snow storm, however, the 9th turned out to be 'golden' indeed with literally perfect weather. Plenty of hardy souls turned out for the event with machines all primed and ready to go. The Committee hid over 200 targets for them to try to find and they did pretty good at it. They found 197 of the 220 targets and actually found some pretty good stuff that the Club did not actually hide. It just proves the old adage that 'you will never find it all', an adage that goes pretty well with gold prospecting also. All in all, it was a good day and everybody had fun. Everyone found a little something and the 'Special Awards' were shared by Dennis Perederin, L.C. O'Neal, Joe Johnston, Kathy Lemuel, Angelina Yen, John Brinkey, Bobby Manning, David Sheldon, John Johnson, Leslie Schumer, Jack Meineke and Nancy Knerl. Many thanks go also to the Committee who helped to make all this a success, Joe Fortunato, Chuck Cown and Pres. Long.





2020 Member Dues are now due...pay by mail, or cash, card or check at the January 2020 meeting

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)

The Outcome of an Overregulated Mining Industry Posted on April 19, 2019 by Minerals Make Life

The mining industry is one of the most heavily regulated and costly industries in the world. Each new project faces robust environmental, reclamation and financial assurance requirements at both the federal and state level. In addition to these requirements, the industry is committed to investing heavily in the development of advanced technologies that minimize mining’s footprint and environmental impact. Environmental protections are necessary, but the sheer number of regulations in the U.S. – some conflicting with or duplicating others – has led to a lengthy permitting process that far exceeds countries with similar environmental standards, harming U.S. competitiveness. The purpose of the permitting process for any mining activity is to ensure that activity is done responsibly. For a major mining project, that can mean 30 or more federal, state and local regulatory programs could apply. Minerals mining also requires hundreds of millions of dollars to find, produce, and process minerals that are essential to everyday life. Companies make that investment and through their efforts, our domestic supply chain has the raw materials that are required for technological innovation, national defense, consumer goods and a strong infrastructure. But proposals to increase regulatory requirements and place additional fees on new and existing mining projects put that domestic supply chain in jeopardy, causing industries to look abroad for materials not readily available at home. The most recent USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries report shows our import reliance remains alarmingly high. In order to halt our increasing mineral import reliance, smarter regulation – not more regulation – is needed. Without a stricter timeline around the permitting process, our supply chains will continue to rely on foreign nations for an increasing percentage of minerals – putting our national security, manufacturing sector and economic growth at great risk.

Regulating U.S. Mining Posted on April 16, 2019 by Minerals Make Life

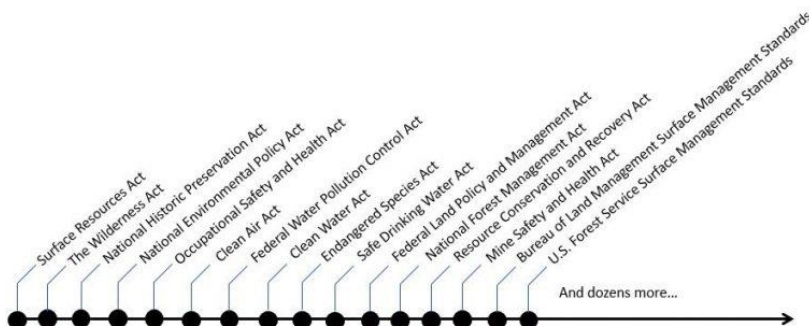
THE MINING LAW OF 1872 AND THE COMPREHENSIVE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS THAT GOVERN MINING

Mining is one of the most heavily regulated industries in the world. The Mining Law of 1872 – which governs prospecting and mining for minerals like gold, copper, silver and lithium – led the U.S. to become a global leader in minerals mining, and helped advance innovations in energy, healthcare, manufacturing and defense technology. It is complemented by exhaustive modern federal and state environmental, ecological and reclamation laws and regulations to ensure that operations fully protect public health and safety, the environment, and wildlife.

More than three dozen federal environmental laws and regulations govern the U.S. mining industry — in addition to laws at the state and local level.

Dozens of environmental and regulatory requirements ensure mining operations maintain the highest possible standards for safety and the environment. Given the applicability of the National Environmental Protection Act, Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, National Historic Preservation Act and other laws, including environmental standards in the text of the General Mining Law would create inconsistencies and uncertainty, while providing no additional environmental benefit. The National Academy of Sciences has concluded that the existing set of state and

federal regulations are comprehensive and effective. Mining’s contributions to the U.S. economy are substantial. Unnecessary changes to the Mining Law of 1872 will impair U.S. global competitiveness, depress employment, and reduce tax revenues at the federal and state level. The U.S. mining industry directly and indirectly employs more than 1.5 million





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individuals paying in excess of \$95 billion in labor income. In 2017, domestic mining activity generated an estimated \$17 billion in federal, state and local taxes that supported direct, indirect and induced taxes of \$42 billion.

The U.S. mining industry pays between 40 to 50 percent of earnings in federal, state and local royalties, taxes and other fees to benefit the communities in which it works and the U.S. federal government.

Our economy and national defense depend on a strong domestic mining industry, utilizing our nation's vast minerals reserves. Duplicative regulations and restrictions put critical U.S. supply chains for the manufacturing, infrastructure and defense industrial sectors at risk.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. is 100 percent import reliant for 18 minerals – 14 of which have been deemed “critical” by the Secretaries of Defense and the Interior – and more than 50 percent import reliant for another 30 minerals.

New mining operations are already either restricted or banned on more than half of all federally owned public lands, and mining is not permitted in national parks, wilderness areas, wildlife refuges, recreation areas and more. This means a significant percentage of our nation's mineral resources that reside on federal lands are already off limits. The current extensive environmental laws thoroughly protect land that remains open to mining.

More Precious Than Jewelry Posted on May 20, 2019 by Minerals Make Life

When we think of precious metals, it's hard not to think of jewelry. These decorative pieces, such as a gold wedding band, represent the most precious moments of our lives. And it's true that a substantial portion of gold is used for jewelry. But, according to a February 2019 report from the U.S. Geological Survey, more than half of gold consumed in the U.S. is used for purposes other than jewelry.

In fact, a considerable 40 percent of gold used in the U.S. was dedicated towards electronic purposes. Take a computer: inside, gold is laced through the circuit board, computer chips and the various connectors that keep the processors running. Gold is a highly efficient conductor and is therefore able to reliably carry the tiny currents within a computer.

Recently, scientists even stuck a smartphone in a blender to analyze its contents, finding 36mg of gold inside. Silver is another prime example of a precious metal with practical applications. Seventy four percent of silver is used for purposes other than making jewelry, and an equal amount of silver is used for electronics as is for jewelry and silverware combined. Like gold, silver is found in circuit boards and computer chips (and 90mg of silver were found in the blended smartphone). But silver can also be found in photovoltaic solar cells. A thin silver paste over the solar panels forms the electric current that becomes the electricity we use.

Platinum is also found in computer hard drives and circuits, but platinum and silver share another practical application: both can be used for medical purposes. Platinum, due to biocompatibility, is ideal for temporary and permanent implantation in the body, and thus can be found in pacemakers and catheters. Silver has anti-microbial properties and can be infused into bandages to fight off infection. These precious minerals are ones we simply cannot do without.

Mining brings to the surface all the minerals that go into our computers, phones, industrial equipment, roads, bridges and medical equipment. Even when we can't see these metals at work, they are providing a vital service. And it's all these practical uses that truly make these metals precious.

Grand Junction Man Sentenced To Federal Prison For Destroying Acres of Federal Land With A Bulldozer *Wednesday, October 2, 2019 Grand Junction Sentinel*

GRAND JUNCTION – United States Attorney Jason R. Dunn announced that Robert Timothy Allen was sentenced yesterday by Senior U.S. District Court Judge Marcia S. Krieger to serve 13 months in federal prison for depredation of federal property. In addition to the prison sentence, Allen was ordered to serve 3 years on supervised release and pay \$20,300 in restitution to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to repair the land he damaged. At sentencing, Judge Krieger emphasized that Allen's felony conviction means he can no longer legally possess firearms. Another fact considered by the Judge at sentencing was that Allen made threats to turn his arrest into an armed conflict.

Defendant Allen was indicted in 2016 and charged for damaging federal land in Saguache County between July 24, 2013, and May 22, 2014. After indictment, Allen evaded arrest for nearly two years before being arrested and ultimately detained in 2018. According to evidence presented at trial, Allen dug-up about three acres of federal land with a bulldozer. While he claimed to be lawfully prospecting federal land, he received four official notices from the Bureau of Land Management and the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety that he was violating the law and directing him to stop. After refusing to stop violating the law, he was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's office.



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Allen was convicted following a three-day trial that ended on August 14, 2019. The jury took less than an hour of deliberation to convict him.

“The defendant damaged precious resources that will take money and time to repair,” said U.S. Attorney Jason R. Dunn. “The consequences of his actions, and his felony conviction, will follow him for the rest of his life.”

“We appreciate the hard work of everyone involved in ensuring we live up to the public’s trust in our management of the public’s land,” said BLM Colorado State Director Jamie Connell.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Jeremy Chaffin and Kelly Winslow.



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- 7.5" x 9.3" Eighteen Column Inches (Full Page)..... \$48

For information to publish your "Ad" in The Gold Nugget, please contact the Editor. **COPY DEADLINE** is due to the editor by the 25th of the month for publication in the following months' issue of the Newsletter.

Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events for Jan 2020

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

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