

THE GOLD NUGGET

Oct 2022

Don't forget to bring your carved pumpkin (mining theme) to the October Meeting. Top three carvings will win a prize!!!

The Prez Sez! by Joe Johnston



In support of National Public Lands Day, 690 volunteers cleaned up a 22 mile stretch of Clear Creek which resulted in the collection of 26,650 lbs./13 ¼ tons of trash from our waterways. This is the result of the Jefferson County Open Space Cleanup which included the Arapahoe Bar and park areas in Wheatridge where eight of our members participated, then held a panning demo at the after party in the mouth of Clear Creek Canyon. This has become an annual event that we look forward to participate in each year to help maintain our prospecting destinations. I extend a **hearty Well Done and thanks** to all that participated.

Reports of the fall colors being in splendor are being heard from those that venture into the foothills and beyond. This makes for a wonderful day trip, but weekends are seeing heavy traffic for viewers.

We are in the process of taking nominations for the club Officers and Board members at this time and we will be holding elections to fill all three officer positions and eight board member positions to have four 2 year board positions and four 1 year board positions. This will put us back on track with what we should have on the board for future rotations. All members are encouraged to run for an office or position on the board and/or submit nominations, nominees must accept and qualify to be put on the ballot. Board member Mike Hurtado is our nomination chair and will be recording the nominations for the ballot to be voted on during the November meeting.

Following the **November** elections we will have a 'silent auction' event where you can sell/trade your extra prospecting and metal detecting related items in place of the regular program presentation. This will be a great opportunity to pick up that Christmas gift or expand your inventory of equipment for the next season in the field. November will also be the *Find of the Year* voting so bring in you winning Find of the Month items from this year for entry.

I will be unable to attend the meeting in October, so our Vice President Mike Stevens will be at the helm on **October 19th**. Don't forget the **Pumpkin Carving contest**, there will be prizes for the top three entries voted by the members.

Until then, may your pan be filled with those precious colors you seek and your metal detectors hover over that find of a lifetime. (Bring those finds in for the find of the month entries.)

I can be reached at cjoej1@peoplepc.com or my cell phone 303-888-5417 (texting is discouraged).

Vice President's Corner! by Mike Stevens



Our last club outing happened to fall on the same date as national public lands day - JeffCo open space clean-up day. There's not much that will keep me from the opportunity to go dig some lucky buckets of dirt, but clean-up day took precedence for me. It's important to give back to one's community and help maintain the lands that give us so much joy. Most of our club members who attended were stationed at Clear Creek trailhead at Arapahoe bar. The county supplied us with vests, long grabber tongs and trash and recycle bags to clean up the trail and creek banks. All the people there were in good spirits. It was nice to hear positive comments from the coordinators, bicyclists and hikers as they passed by. After cleaning we met in the canyon for lunch, freebies, and entertainment. Our club sponsored a panning demo.

Hopefully we enticed a few people with the prospect of finding some riches and we'll see them at an upcoming meeting. It was nice to see hundreds of people come together for a good cause. Hope to see more of you participating in the clean up next year. Golden Smiles for All!



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 2

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Joe Kafka



It was nice to see everyone at the September meeting. The Club remains in the black and members may request to see the financial report at any time which I have at my table in the back whenever you wish to see it. Hope to see you all at the next meeting in October when we will again be giving away nine more gold nuggets, the largest of which is around 2.4 grams....!! Don't forget to buy your 'Special nugget tickets' as well. See you all in October, and don't forget to carve that pumpkin!

Board Meeting Minutes From Sept 2022

X	Joe Johnston	X	Andy Doll	X	Robert Ahr	X	Gordon Smith
X	Mike Stevens	X	Joe Kafka	X	Kathy Lemuel	X	Mike Hurtado
X	Bobby Manning	X	Chris Kafka	X	Kevin Singel	X	James Long

Quorum Present: Yes.

Call to Order by: Pres Johnston at 6:02 pm.

Reading and Approval of Minutes:

Corrections: Shelly Zornes Find of the Month will be corrected in the newsletter Approved as read/corrected: Yes .

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

Correspondence: phone calls/texts: 5/5 e-mails 24 mail 1 .

Webmaster: Total hits 162377 Hits in last 30 days 200 .

Committee Reports: Outings planning remains ongoing.

Unfinished Business: The Tri-fold Flyers was re-addressed and approved with changes. Christmas Pot Luck discussed. Club will provide a ham and a turkey at cost not to exceed 150.00. Sign-up draft submitted for review

New Business: Turn Over Folders proposal still pending. We are running short on member badges (26 left) and will need more soon. A 50/50 Raffle was proposed and will be put to the membership for approval. Pumpkin carving contest will be in October. We will also accept Nominations for Offices and the Board in October.

Planned Outings: The Outing Schedule has been pretty much established and Andy has published it with the Newsletter. We will continue to schedule as opportunities arrive.

- Sept 24 National Public Lands Day Cleanup in Clear Creek Canyon along with a panning booth hosted by the Club.
- Oct. 19 Pumpkin Carving Contest. Prizes awarded to top three places.
- Oct. 16 Prospecting Outing at Black Hawk, weather permitting.
- Nov. 5 Metal Detecting Hunt at Majestic Park in Arvada, weather permitting.

Board Members Items of Discussion: BM Manning will propose the 50/50 to the membership during meeting. BM Ahr submitted receipts for reimbursement for materials for Registration Table Also discussed membership list and error issues. BM Kevin Singel reported that he Beginning Panning Class on Sept. 17 went very well with nearly 30 participants. BM Hurtado discussed the upcoming elections and the Ken Barker Award Nominations. There were lively discussions which resulted in the Board running short of time and the meeting had to be adjourned.

Tonight's General Meeting Program: Kevin Singel will discuss prospecting in Puerto Rico.

Announcements: Next Board Meeting 10/19/22 at **6:00pm** Next General Meeting: 10/19/22 at **7:00pm**

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:59 pm.

'Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little'

Edmund Burke....

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

In 1925 an important invention that incorporated gold was patented which would eventually lead to all of the microelectronics that are in use today.(hint: C. Ducas)

2022 GPR Board of Directors Members

President
Joe Johnston

Vice President
Mike Stevens

Secretary/Treasurer
Joe Kafka

2 Year Board Members
Bobby Manning (2023)

1 Year Board Members

- Andy Doll
- Chris Kafka
- Robert Ahr
- Kevin Singel
- Kathy Lemuel
- Gordon Smith
- Mike Hurtado

Past President
James Long



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 3

General Meeting Minutes From Sept 2022

1. Meeting was opened at 7:10 pm by Pres. Johnston with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Pres. Johnston then announced that the evening Program was Kevin Singel on Prospecting in Puerto Rico.
3. Pres. Johnston then gave the Metals Report: Gold 1665.00, Silver 19.23, Platinum 919.00, Palladium 2100.00, Rhodium 12950.00.
4. Web hits for last month was 200.
5. Treasurer Joe Kafka advised that the Club remains in the black. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it. Also, don't forget to buy tickets for tonight's 9 nuggets drawing, the largest being 2.4 grams. We have a new 'Special Nugget' so buy lots of tickets.
6. Robert Ahr and Shelly Zornes reported that we had 48 members in attendance. There were 3 guests present tonight. The total meeting attendance was 51.
7. Pres. Johnston read the 'Question of the Month', which was "...A medical study in France during the twentieth century suggests that gold is an effective treatment for rheumatoid arthritis....True or False." Winners will receive an extra ticket to the gold nugget drawings later during the evening program.
8. Pres. Johnston 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, 2022. A reminder to all that their 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 # 9'. You must be present at the meeting in order to get the Cache clues
10. Bobby Dehmlow 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 have some more of our gold bags also.
11. Pres. Johnston informed the membership that the Schedule of Outings has been completed and posted in the Newsletter. There is room to add more Outings as the Year progresses. Volunteers are needed for the Clear Creek Cleanup on September 24. See Pres. Johnston if you can help.
12. Robert Ahr proposed the Club purchase a turkey and a ham for the Christmas Pot Luck, not to exceed 150.00 which was approved by the general membership.
13. Bobby Manning proposed a 50/50 raffle to the membership and after a brief discussion, the membership approved the proposal.
14. There was a reminder to be sure to vote on the Finds of the Month and to answer the Question of the Month during the break. Members who check things out of the Club Library are reminded to return them promptly. Don't forget to donate to the Refreshment Table. There was nothing added from the Floor.
15. Pres. Johnston announced the break at 8:00 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:20 pm.
16. Pres. Johnston announced the winners of the 'Question of the Month'. The answer was, "...True...! There were a total of 30 winners who received an extra ticket for the upcoming gold drawings.
17. Pres. Johnston announced the winners for the 'Finds of the Month' for May 2022. Those were:
 - Best Coin – Mark Rowland with a 1976 US quarter he found in his front yard at home in Evergreen, Colo.
 - Best Jewelry – Nancy Knerl with a gold pendant she found in the parking lot at her place of employment.
 - Best Mineral – Angela Yen with a sample of petrified wood she found in Buffalo Run Nat'l. Park, So. Dakota..
 - Best Artifact – John Johnson with a polishing stone he found while prospecting the South Platte River in Denver..
 - Best Bottle – There was no entry in this category for this month.
 - Most Raw Gold – There was no entry in this category for this month.
 - Largest Raw Gold – There was no entry in this category for this month.
18. Pres. Johnston concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the GPR, JJ Long, and followed by the drawing for 9 gold nuggets. Pres. Johnston 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 John Olson.
19. Pres. Johnston 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. Pres. Johnston thanked Greg and Nancy Knerl and all those who contributed to the Refreshment Table. All members are 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 of each and every one of you to make the refreshment table enjoyable.
21. . The October Meeting Program is to be determined.



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 4

22. Having nothing further at this time, remember to prospect safely, and we will see you all at the next get together.
23. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

A Miner's Laugh

A nun, badly needing the use of a restroom, walked into a local Hooters. The place was hopping with music and loud conversation and every once in a while 'the lights would turn off.' Each time the lights would go out, the place would erupt in laughter and cheers. However, when the revelers saw the nun, the place went dead silent. She walked up to the bartender, and old retired miner, and asked, 'May I please use the restroom?' The bartender replied, 'Sure, but I should warn that there is a statue of a naked man in there wearing only a fig leaf.' 'Well, in that case, I'll just look the other way,' said the nun. So the old miner showed her to the back of the restaurant. After a few minutes, she came back out and the whole place stopped just long enough to give the nun a very loud round of applause. She approached the bartender and said, 'Sir, I don't understand, why did they applaud for me just because I went to the restroom?' 'Well maam, now they know that you are one of us,' said the old miner. 'Would you care to have a drink maam?' 'No, thank you, but I still don't understand,' said the puzzled nun. 'Well, you see,' replied the old miner, 'every time someone lifts the fig leaf on that statue, the lights automatically go out. Now, how about that drink?'

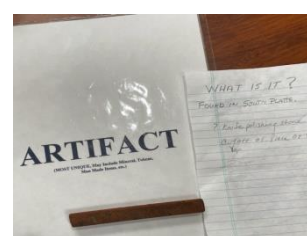
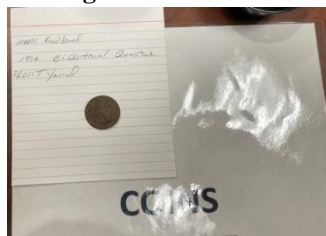


(Taken from the internet and revised just for all us 'old miners')

The finds of the Month Sept 2022:

Contest runs from November 2021 thru October 2022. We will be looking forward to seeing what you folks have found since last November. . The following submissions were selected at the September meeting.

- **Best Coin** – **Mark Rowland** with a 1976 Quarter he found in his front yard in Evergreen, Colo...
- **Best Jewelry** – **Nancy Knerl** with a gold necklace she found in the parking lot at her place of employment.
- **Best Mineral** – **Angie Yen** with some petrified wood she found in So. Dakota at Buffalo Gap Nat'l Park.
- **Best Artifact** – **John Johnson** with an old polishing stone he found in the South Platte River in Denver, Colo..
- **Best Bottle** – There was no entry in this category for this month.
- **Most Raw Gold** – There was no entry in this category for this month.
- **Largest Raw Gold** – There was no entry in this category for this month.



We do have a correction from July. Shelly Zornes found her gold necklace in Rocky Mountain Lake in Denver, not Rky. Mtn. Park. My apologies for the error.

Be sure to bring any Finds that you have found in the last 30 days to the meeting. You must list the date that you found the item and the area you found it when you submit it. Each monthly winner must save your winning Find and submit them in **November of 2022** for the **Find of the Year** in each category.

Hylands Ranch Festival Panning Demo

The Club conducted a Panning Demo at the Hylands Ranch Mansion for the Hylands Ranch Fall Festival. It was a 3 day event with Thursday and Friday dedicated to demonstrating for a large number of Douglas County elementary school kids. Each year we see over 750 to a 1000 kids from some 20 – 25 schools and you can be sure that most of them want to see the gold panning booth. This year, the weather was great on Thursday and cold on Friday, but very cold on Saturday. Saturday is a family day and we get to talk with grandparents and parents of a lot of kids and of course, everyone is very interested in gold panning. Many thanks to all of our volunteers who gave us a hand getting this 2-day event done. Thanks to **Jack Meineke, Frank Zahn, Gordon and Yvonne Smith, Joe and Chris Kafka, Angela Yen, Hank**



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 5

Innerfeld and Mark for all their help. We could not do these events without the volunteers who actually make it happen. Photos by Jack Meineke.



Fall Beginner's Panning Class

Free gold panning and sluicing training? You bet, that's what we are all about at Gold Prospectors of the Rockies! On September 17th we held the second training and digging session of the year. This time we had a beautiful day and all met up in the parking lot for Arapahoe Bar at 10am. Over 30 people turned out for the event with an even mix of newbies and experienced prospectors. With so many experienced folks, there were lots of different sluices and electric high bankers for the newbies to see. They also had lots of experienced panners on hand to provide training and coaching through the day. I can tell you that made my job a lot easier!

After a short meet & greet with a safety briefing, in the parking lot, we all headed down to the creek. The experienced prospectors got to work setting up sluices and highbankers. I did a little talk on panning for the newbies and did a demo pan using the dirt right at my feet at creekside. Bam, 5 colors in the first pan! Then folks fanned out to try their hand and to see the various setups. It's easy to be sure everyone got gold! Although the event was officially over at 2, there were still a few enthusiastic prospectors digging away when I left at 3pm. Gotta love gold fever on a gorgeous September day! I'd particularly like to thank Bobby Manning who thought to bring GPOR business cards along. Quite a few of the attendees came via my Facebook group, rather than via the club, so his quick thinking meant we got to promote the club to an interested audience. Thanks Bobby!

Many thanks to **Roger Schlenger and Bobby Manning** for assisting Kevin in helping all those folks learn a little something. Photos by Bobby Manning.



Quartz and its Relationship to Gold

by Jim Long

I recently was reflecting on an upcoming elk hunt and got to thinking about how much quartz I usually see laying all around on the surface of the ground in my hunting area. This quartz is highly visible and really looks like it should hold gold. But it doesn't. I know because I have crushed and panned it to no avail. I even had a friend try to recover any values using chemicals and I even had some of it crushed and assayed. Nope, nothing, nada, no gold...! And then I got to thinking about how so many of us look for quartz when we prospect new areas as we know that quartz is relatively related to gold, certainly in regard to veins of quartz that we encounter. And for the most part, finding a quartz vein containing gold would be a fantastic find and probably well worth mining. But we also know that not all quartz has gold. I was puzzling this all out and wondering if maybe I should write something about it and share with you all. And then I saw an article written by Chris Ralph of the *IC Mining Journal* folks and he was writing about the exact same things I had put



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 6

down to paper. I realized that great minds think alike (ha ha, not even close as Chris is a highly educated professional geologist and I am not...)! But I thought I would finish up my thoughts on the subject and share them with you all. Now those of you who know of Mr. Ralph and his writings certainly know that the man is absolutely amazing when it comes to his vast knowledge of gold prospecting and mining and the geology related to the topic. He is, in my opinion, a true expert in the field and on the subject. He verifies that the old adage of gold being closely related to quartz as being for the most part, true. He describes it in geologic terms using words like 'silicified' and 'gangue' and a dozen other terms that make my old head swim, but because I minored in college in geology, I do understand a lot of what he has to say about the subject. One of the mysteries that I encountered was that gold seemed to be prevalent in only certain types of quartz and that there were a number of varieties of quartz which most people do not realize. Most quartz was formed during the many processes of the formation of the planet and came up through the crust by way of fissures, cracks, chimneys and a host of other means and when cooled, solidified often into quartz. In some of those veins, gold came along for the ride and became encased in the final product of quartz. Now keep in mind that this was not the only way that gold came to the surface but it is the one that is associated with quartz. Quartz is one of the most common minerals on our planet and there is a large variety of different forms of quartz. Now Mr. Ralph will describe in great detail how all these various forms all occur but I am not going to do that because I don't know and would only be rewriting what others have already written. I just know that quartz does come in many different forms. You can find quartz nearly anywhere you look though it isn't always plainly obvious. It is in sandstone, granite and metamorphic rocks as well. Quartz is so abundant because it is made up of the two most abundant elements of the Earth's crust, silicon and oxygen. Ralph says it is actually 46% silicon and 54% oxygen, comprising of 2 atoms of oxygen and 1 atom of silica. The resulting silicon dioxide is called silica. And sometimes the silica atoms can be replaced by aluminum or iron resulting in color being given to an otherwise, colorless quartz. Chris can tell you the hardness and the density and all kinds of trivia information that can leave your head (and mine as well) spinning. But the bottom line is that when impurities mix with the quartz, the result is various colors of quartz such as smoky quartz, citrine, amethyst, rose quartz and crystal quartz. There are many other gemstones that are related to quartz as well but I will only mention a couple such as agate, jasper, and chalcedony. Quartz crystals are used in metal detectors in order to control the detector's frequency. So why is quartz so common in gold bearing veins? Why is quartz almost universal as a waste mineral? Ralph says it is simple...!! Well, maybe so to him, but it wasn't all that clear to me and I bet not so much to many of you as well. Since quartz is one of the most common minerals on the planet, it is found in many different rocks and can be dissolved by the same hot mineralized waters that dissolve gold. And Ralph points out that the changes in the mineral fluids that knock the gold out, like temperature and pressure, are the same as those that cause the quartz to drop out of the solution to form the veins. The second most common mineral in the crust is calcite, and it is another very common waste mineral found in gold bearing veins. Calcite is also carried by the same mineralized fluids. However, a very important thing for prospectors to know is that quartz is not necessary for gold to deposit. It is just coincidence that the two are so commonly found together. So why do we so much quartz in placer and hard rock areas? Simple...because of weathering...! Most minerals are subject to change through weathering. Feldspar and mica minerals are good examples of this, as are some others that will break down when exposed to water and wind over time. Many of the various minerals that breakdown become in one way or another, a form of clay. As Ralph points out, quartz does not weather away like that but can sit there for millions of years with no change. Like gold, quartz is left behind when everything else weathers away. This is why we see so much quartz in our mining areas. The quartz was there to begin with and stayed there while everything else weathered away, often into clays. And that is why quartz can be an important indicator for gold mineralization. Not always, of course, but it can be. So when you see lots of quartz on the ground, it could be an indicator of the presence of gold. If there is no quartz visible, there is less probability of gold present. There are lots of quartz veins with no gold, but as a quick indicator, lots of quartz on the ground could mean that there is gold nearby. Kind or reminds me of the other old adage that says, 'Black sands are nearly always found with gold, but not all gold is found with black sands'...! Quartz is a very common waste material in metallic ore veins, for a fact. Now, over the years, I had pretty much figured all this stuff out. But here is where my prospecting education was pretty weak. Ralph points out that quartz can preserve information about the type and conditions of vein formation that tells us how mineral deposits form. While there is apparently no accepted listing of categories of quartz vein textures, some are commonly known to be banded, bladed, brecciated, chalcedonic, massive and vuggy. Say what...?? Apparently, banded and vuggy quartz is more often found near surface epithermal deposits. This is because epithermal veins formed in volcanic rock and can be fine grained. Epithermal veins in areas such as Tonopals and Goldfield in Nevada have banded and crusty chalcedonic quartz similar to the banded quartz of hot springs deposits. And we know that those areas produced a lot of gold. Quartz veins don't always pop out on the surface either. Since



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 7

quartz is hard and resistant to weathering, those deeper veins can be moved or shifted due to seismic movement along fault lines, shifting due to large land slides, or subject to weathering over eons of time. Veins can easily be lost or become hidden. There are all kinds of faults fissures in the crust. There is no relative relationship between the length of a fissure and the depth of a vein. In some cases, deep tunnels were dug only to find a vein abruptly disappeared proving that the valuable ore may be limited in depth. An important thing to note about quartz veins is that not all the minerals in the vein are deposited at the same time. Quartz is usually first with no valuable base or precious metals. Typically, base metal and silver sulfides come next followed by gold coming in last. This is why we find the gold in cracks of the quartz or a space in the center of the quartz. If you look at quartz specimens with gold, you will see that this is usually true. Those spaces and cracks are the last to be filled and that is where the gold came in. And then Ralph finally answers my question. He states there are several types of recognized alterations and these altered rocks are key indicators of gold veins that may be buried or hidden. One of the most common types of alteration is the propylitic type. It affects mostly volcanic rocks like basalts and often spreads over wide areas in mining districts. It normally results in the abundant development of chlorite and pyrite in the altered rocks, sometimes with epidote, carbonate minerals and sericite. The study of the alteration types is vast and complex but it tells us that when we see them, they are fairly good indicators of the presence of gold. Quartz is so frequently associated with gold that it makes sense to learn more about it. While it is true that there are huge masses of quartz that is barren of gold, it remains enough of an indicator to watch for it everywhere you go. I heard someone once ask, "Where should I look for gold?" The answer he got was, "Gold is where you find it!" Well, maybe so, but I have learned as have many prospectors, that you need to really understand a little about geology and the relationships of minerals and certain types of rocks. The presence of iron or ferrous oxides, pyrite, calcite and quartz are all indicators of the potential for the presence of gold. Is it a guarantee? No, of course not, but I sure start looking harder when I see the presence of those deposits. Quartz is a very common mineral but to the learned eye, it can mean a lot more than you think it does. The more you know, the more you can find!!!

Beans Reduce the Risk of Heart Disease

You can significantly reduce cholesterol levels in your body and cut your risk of heart disease, just by eating 1 ½ to 2 ounces of beans a day. "Beans reduce the risk of deadly heart disease by dramatically reducing cholesterol," said Dr. Herman Helterstein, cardiologist and also the professor of medicine at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. The highly beneficial effects of beans in the diet were reported by some Chinese researchers who were looking into ways to treat high blood cholesterol without drugs that have side effects. In a 15 month study of 242 people, scientists at Sichuan Medical College found that cholesterol levels were lowered within one to three months after adding beans to the diet. Cholesterol levels in people who had high cholesterol were lowered by 20 percent, while in people with low to normal cholesterol, the levels were reduced by a significant 9.5 percent. The actual fact that it lowered the cholesterol level of people with low cholesterol to start with and did the same exact thing with people who had elevated cholesterol makes this extremely valuable. Researchers at Emory University School of Medicine stated that eating beans is a reasonable thing in terms of reducing heart disease. They venture to say that they would strongly encourage persons who definitely want to cut down on the risk of having heart attacks, to increase beans in their diets. They further stated that any kind of beans can be used in the diet to include lima, kidney, black, or any kind of bean. It was not known exactly why beans actually lower cholesterol, however, scientists say that there is evidence that sitosterol, which beans are rich in, may inhibit the absorption of cholesterol by the body. Medical authorities cautioned that foods that are heavy in animal fats, like ice cream, milk and also steak, should be reduced in the American diet.

By now, you are wondering what this has to do with gold prospecting? Well, nothing actually, but perhaps everything. I came across this article in the March 1982 issue of the *Gold Prospector* which was published by George 'Buzzard' Massie. Why would he print such a thing in a prospector's magazine? Because even old George knew the rigorous life that avid prospectors can lead. Heavy digging and long days of back breaking work can ruin one's health for a fact. And a poor diet and hard work can lead directly to health woes for he who seeks the gold. So even way back then, exactly 40 years ago, George wanted his readers to take care of themselves, advice that he didn't really take heed of for himself, as he died a scant decade later of, yeah, you guessed it, a heart attack attributable to hard work and more than likely, bad eating habits to go along with it. So take care of yourselves when you are out there looking for gold, and for gosh sakes, take plenty of beans along with you!!



All Bark and no Bite...?

President Joe Biden is turning to a Cold War era law to boost production of lithium and other minerals used to power electric vehicles, but the experts say that the move by itself is unlikely to ensure the robust domestic mining that Biden seeks as he promotes his cleaner energy sources. Biden's action, part of his efforts to feed alternatives to fossil fuels and combat climate change, does not waive or suspend existing environmental and labor standards, the White House said. Nor does it address the chief hurdle to increased domestic extraction of so called critical minerals, the years long process needed to obtain a federal permit for a new mine. Biden used the 1950 Defense Production Act to increase US supplies of lithium, nickel and other minerals needed for electric vehicles batteries and other 'so called clean energy technology'. But "unless we continue to build on this action' and approve new hardrock mines", said Rich Nolan of the National Mining Association, "we risk feeding the minerals dominance of geopolitical rivals such as China and Russia. We have plenty of abundant mineral resources here. What we need policy to ensure we can produce them and build the secure, reliable supply chains we know we must have'. Environmentalists, meanwhile, worry that Biden is activating a war time tool to boost mineral extraction that can contaminate groundwater and harm ranching and wildlife. Under Biden's order, the Pentagon is authorized to spend millions of dollars to support a range of activities, including feasibility studies to determine economical viability of a proposed mine and develop mineral waste recycling programs. Money also could help existing mines and other industrial sites produce valuable materials, the Pentagon said. For example, a copper mine or a gold mine could also produce nickel. It is unclear how much money will be available for mining, but the Defense Department is authorized to keep up to \$700 million on hand for its strategic and critical material stockpile. Unless the president streamlines permitting processes, we should not expect to see any meaningful increase in American mining production.

Suction-dredge gold miner working Idaho river fined \$150K

Keith Ridler, Associated

Press Posted: Sep 29, 2022, 2:36 pm

BOISE (AP) — A suction-dredge gold miner from California who operated in an Idaho river containing federally protected salmon and steelhead without permits required by the Clean Water Act must pay \$150,000, a federal judge has ruled.

Shannon Poe received the fine Wednesday in an order by Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge Raymond E. Patricco in U.S. District Court in Idaho.

Patricco ordered Poe to pay the \$150,000 to the U.S. Treasury following Poe's 42 violations over three years of gold dredging on the South Fork of the Clearwater River. The violations, according to court documents, took place in 2014, 2015 and 2018.

The Idaho Conservation League filed a citizen enforcement lawsuit in August 2018 against Poe, saying federal and state officials didn't act to make sure dozens of dredge miners followed the law.

"This ruling, which represents one of the largest Clean Water Act fines ever levied in Idaho against an individual, should send a clear message to miners, or anyone, who refuses to follow the rules," said Jonathan Oppenheimer of the Idaho Conservation League in a statement on Thursday.

Poe didn't return a phone message left for him on Thursday at the Coulterville, California-based American Mining Rights Association, where he serves as president. His attorneys, Constance Brooks of Fairfield and Woods, P.C., in Denver, Colorado, and Alan Schroeder of Schroeder Law in Boise, Idaho, also didn't respond to phone messages left by The Associated Press.

Suction dredge miners use an underwater hose to suck up gravel and sort it for gold in a sluice box mounted on a watercraft. The sediment is discharged downstream.

The waterway where Poe operated is designated critical habitat for federally protected steelhead, salmon and bull trout. Critics say dredging can destroy fish spawning beds, and that discharged sediment can smother fish eggs.



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 9

Federal and state agencies repeatedly notified Poe of the violations, but Poe denied being subject to the Clean Water Act, according to the lawsuit filed by the Idaho Conservation League. The Idaho Conservation League also said Poe encouraged unpermitted mining by other gold seekers in Idaho rivers.

Poe's defense was to argue he didn't need any type of Clean Water Act permit because his suction dredge didn't add pollutants to the river. He said that even if his suction dredge did add pollutants, it would be considered dredged or fill material regulated under a different section of the Clean Water Act, also not requiring a specific type of permit.

But Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge Ronald E. Bush in June 2021 disagreed. Bush said the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers agreed that the operation of a suction dredge resulted in discharge of processed waste, requiring the permit.

That led to the remedial phase of the case that resulted in the \$150,000 fine issued to Poe on Wednesday.

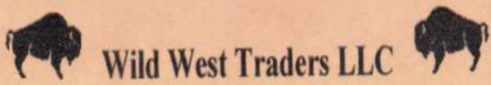
The maximum penalty Poe faced ranged from \$37,500 to \$60,000 per violation based on when the dredging occurred, adding up to nearly \$2 million.

The Idaho Conservation League argued for a fine of \$565,000. Poe said a fine of about \$61,000 would be in line with the environmental impacts and would be enough to deter him from dredging in the river again without the required permits.

Patricco, in a lengthy analysis of the potential fine, noted that suction-dredge gold mining is allowed on the South Fork of the Clearwater River, but that Poe repeatedly dredged without required permits.

Ultimately, Patricco decided on a fine of \$3,320 per violation for a total of about \$139,500. Patricco also included in the fine the value of the gold Poe pulled from the river, roughly \$10,500.

"The Court is satisfied that this penalty accounts for the harm involved, deters future violations, and represents an equitable application of the law," Patricco wrote.




Wild West Traders LLC

COINS GOLD SILVER

Buy - Sell Collections - Scrap
Historic, Rare, and Unusual Coins
Downtown Golden by the Welcome Arch
1111 Washington Ave Ste #105 303-279-1844



Jesse Peterson
720-331-9072
5023 Hwy.119, Blackhawk, Colo.



Kevin Singel
findinggoldincolorado@gmail.com
720-934-1428

www.findingGOLDinColorado.com
...historic sites and modern honey holes
Buy the book on Amazon!



A Touch of Class In Stained Glass Studios
New Projects · Restoration
Residential · Architectural · Liturgical

Copper foil · Zinc & Lead (free) came
Kiln-fired glass painting/staining/enameling

Parker, Colorado 719-924-5578
atouchofclassparker@gmail.com
www.atouchofclassinstainedglass.com

PLACE YOUR AD HERE

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

The Gold Nugget

Gold Prospectors of the Rockies
PO Box 150096
Lakewood, Co 80215-0096

ADVERTISING IN THE GOLD NUGGET

Commercial Ads

- 3.6" x 2.0" Two Column Inches (Business Card Size)..... \$6
- 3.6" x 4.3" Four Column Inches..... \$12
- 7.5" x 4.3" Eight Column Inches (Horizontal)..... \$24
- 3.6" x 9.3" Nine Column Inches (Vertical)..... \$24
- 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 Nov 2022

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5 GPR Metal Detecting Outing
6 Daylight Saving ENDS	7	8 ELECTION Day	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12
13	14	15	16 GPR Club Meeting	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27	28	29	30			