

THE GOLD NUGGET

Apr 2023

It's that time of year again for ANNUAL GPR membership renewal.

The Prez Sez! by **Bobby Manning**



Time has got away from me doing the Gold inventory and putting stickers on all the nuggets, and it has been a chore, THANK YOU BILL & CHUCK! It helps a lot. We still need to know if anyone knows a lawyer that the club could talk to on the firm that wants money from us. If we have to pay, it will take money that we use to buy gold for the drawings, so Please HELP IF YOU CAN. Will need a member to help in redrafting the code of ethics and the by-laws. And yes I did get a new computer but it has to go back on issues. I am learning Windows 11 but I don't like it as it wants to put things in drive one or the cloud. I like to do my own back up on an external drive. I have a 4 Terabyte Drive and no way will I ever fill it. We are working on an outing and Bob Ahr is doing a Metal Detecting the first Wednesday of each month. And watch outing for the Easter bunny and he'll be out hiding those eggs so be sure to look for them. I've been so busy at work and my time is limited, so for this month, we'll have a movie on gold or I might bring a surprise to one of the meetings. It's getting warmer and the water will soon start to rise so be careful out there! We will have lots of new things in the store from the donations we have received so bring your money to buy a Gold Cube, three stack, pans, classifiers, a big black box that needs the top put back on, Wolf Trap sluice, shovels pick, scale, and other miscellaneous things. This money will go to the club. Thank you Wayne Schumacher. HAPPY EASTER TO ALL! Now I'll go get ready for the meeting hope to see you all there. May your pan be SHINY with that GOLD! 303-420- 8830 or Bobby.manning13@me.com or 303-420-8830).

Vice President's Corner! by **Mike Stevens**



As I returned from Arizona I thought about getting out and enjoying some gold prospecting. I was looking at the mountains and rivers as I drove past and couldn't help but think about what the experts have said about possibly having a record runoff this year. Along with a record runoff comes the possibility of finding new gold deposits in the rivers. The shifting soils and uncovering of virgin ground is always exciting. Hopefully we're all able to find some of those wonderful pockets of yellow. We should all be looking forward to getting out there and panning, sluicing, and high banking. I myself have never felt this behind in getting ready, because mother nature still reminds us she may not be done with winter yet. Even as we've seen our first wildfires of the season, snow can still be right around the corner. The goal for me this year is to try something different. Personally, I would like to learn more about the gold cube. I think it's a wonderful piece of equipment that has tons of potential and I'm looking forward to at least learning how it processes the material. Good luck to all this year. Be safe at the rivers and digging and let's all find that wonderful yellow gold. Golden Smiles for All!

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Joe Kafka



Great turnout for the March meeting. Good to see so many folks coming back after all this Covid mess. These winter storms have not been so much fun but I sense spring on the way. 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 April when we will be giving away more gold nuggets, the largest of which may be close to 2 grams!! Don't forget to buy your 'Special nugget tickets and your 50/50 tickets as well. See you all at our next meeting!

Board Meeting Minutes From Mar2023

X	Bobby Manning	X	Andy Doll	X	Robert Ahr	X	Joe Johnson
X	Mike Stevens	X	Joe Kafka	X	Kevin Singel		
	Mike Hurtado	X	Gordon Smith	X	Roger Schlenger		



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Call to Order: 6:15 p.m. A quorum was present President Manning is experiencing computer issues and was unable to print out the February minutes for approval or report on email correspondence to the club, so that piece of board business will be tabled until the next meeting.

New business:

A discussion on a Code of Ethics vs. a Code of Conduct and an update to be placed on the back of membership applications that all members would agree to abide by in order for their application to be accepted. This needs to be a committee project with at least one active member on the committee. The board will take up formation of this committee at the next meeting and a motion was made by President Manning to move forward with this proposal. Moved and seconded, unanimously approved. President Manning mentioned the club was purchasing additional gold for club purposes from another member at the meeting tonight. Gold prices have jumped recently and as mentioned in last month’s meeting minutes, some nugget sizes/weights the club traditionally has in the red ticket drawings are not readily available.

President Manning is in the process of a complete inventory of club gold holdings and will report to the board as soon as that is complete. Based on that information, the board will need to take up next steps on what can be done to assure the club can continue the drawings into the future in light of rising gold costs and membership decline.

Unfinished business was next on the agenda:

The research done by member Yvonne Smith, regarding the law firm (Higbee & Assoc.) that sent legal notice the club had allegedly infringed on one of their client’s copyrights, was presented by board member Gordon Smith. Essentially, this is a legitimate California law firm that is legally able to perpetuate a scam based on a legal precedent of “casting a wide net” to protect and defend their client’s copyrighted material. The research indicates that it would be unwise for the club to just ignore the legal notice even though there has been no proof of an infringement. The best course of action is to consult with an attorney (one with copyright law experience, if possible) and have a “cease & desist” letter drawn up for the GPOTR on that attorney’s letterhead. It would then be sent certified mail to Higbee and could potentially be used should something similar come up in the future.

President Manning volunteered to connect with Legal Aid as well as a family member that is a well-known attorney in Colorado. He will report back to the board as more information is available. Board member Roger Schlenger also volunteered to discuss this with a relative that is an attorney and will report back to the board with his findings.

Board member Gordon Smith also provided a one-page handout on his research regarding no-cost Virtual Meeting software to the board. Time did not allow for a discussion on the various choices that could be used to hold online board meetings so it was tabled until the next meeting.

Individual board members items of discussion:

Joe Johnston announced the Gold Prospectors of Colorado (GPOC) Annual Poker Run/Fund Raiser to be held Saturday, May 13th in Florence, Colorado. Informational flyers will be placed out on the front table for members to take if interested. Andy Dahl announced the annual renewal of the club’s Go Daddy Internet Provider subscription is coming up soon. He will take care of obtaining a check from the Treasurer and sending it in. Bob Ahr discussed the membership signup form and asked for input and changes from the board to be in to him no later than the end of the month. The back of the form needs to remain blank so that whatever the committee for a Code of Conduct comes up with can be printed on the back of the form. Bob also mentioned the first planned outing for what is being called the “Pirate’s Hunt,” a monthly outing for anyone interested in metal detecting local parks, etc. was cancelled due to inclement weather. He plans to lead another one in April on the first Wed. of the month. Information will be in the newsletter as well as it being announced at tonight’s general meeting. Board members Kevin Singel and Gordon Smith both announced they will be unable to attend the April meeting.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Adjournment at: 7 p.m

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

The first time gold touched \$2000 an ounce was in what month and year???

2023 GPR Board of Directors Members

President

Bobby Manning

Vice President

Mike Stevens

Secretary/Treasurer

Joe Kafka

2 Year Board Members

Robert Ahr (2024)

Andy Doll (2024)

Gordon Smith (2024)

1 Year Board Members

Kevin Singel

Roger Schlenger

Vacant

Vacant

Past President

Joe Johnston



General Meeting Minutes From Mar 2023

1. Meeting was opened at 7:12pm by **Pres. Manning** with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Pres. Manning** then announced the evening Program which was cancelled due to computer issues. Hopefully, those will be resolved for next month. We also had severe microphone issues as well. Facility will try to resolve for next month.
3. **Pres. Manning** then gave the Metals Report: **Gold** 1909.00 **Silver** 21.74 **Platinum** 976.00 **Palladium** 1358.00 **Rhodium** 8000.00.
4. **Web hits** for last month was 163358 / 188.
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 also have a 'Special Nugget' so be sure to buy lots of tickets. It is a real nice specimen.
6. **Robert Ahr and Shelly Zornes** from the Membership Table reported that we had 49 members in attendance. There was 1 Guest Present and 2 new members joined up tonight. The total meeting attendance was 52. Great turnout tonight!!
7. **Pres. Manning** read the 'Question of the Month', which was "**The first records of metal being used as money goes back to about 640BC. What were these coins made of.?**" The winners will receive an extra ticket to the gold nugget drawings later during the evening program.
8. **Pres. Manning** 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, 2023. 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. **Bill Chapman** announced the '**Cache Clue**' # 4.
10. **Pres. Manning** 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 as of tonight so be sure to buy your bags. We received a large amount of items from Wayne Schumacher who donated them to the Club that will make their way into the Club store soon.
11. **Pres. Manning** informed the membership that the Outings schedule for 2023 is being determined and will be published Soon. Since our Clay County Claim seems to be drying up, we may be trying some of the local sites in Kevin's book this year. Also looking at some tours this year. Announcements will also be made with the Newsletter postings.
12. Additional items discussed included: The GPOC is hosting an upcoming Poker Run. See flyer at front table. The Club is still looking into an alleged copyright issue to determine if it is fraud or not. JJ Long announced the first Panning Demo of year will be May 18 in Aurora and a sign-up sheet is at the front table. Bob Ahr announced that weather cancelled the March metal detecting Outing but hopefully, it will be held in April 3rd. 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.
13. **Pres. Manning** announced the break at 8:10 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:30 pm.
14. **Pres. Manning** announced the winners of the '**Question of the Month**'. The answer was, "... **Electrum, a combination of gold and silver...!**" There were 20 winners who received their extra drawing ticket for the gold drawing.
15. **Pres. Manning** announced the winners for the '**Finds of the Month**'. Those were:
 - **Best Coin** – **Bobby Dehnlow** with an 1896 Indian Head penny he found in Aurora.
 - **Best Jewelry** – **Shellie Zornes** with a gold necklace she found metal detecting in Melrose Inspirational Gardens.
 - **Best Mineral** – **Angela Yen** with a Wulfinite specimen she found at the Red Cloud Mine in Arizona.
 - **Best Artifact** – **John Olson** with a toy spur he found while metal detecting east of Pueblo.
 - **Best Bottle** – **Aaron Ingalls** with an old boot polish bottle he found while prospecting Clear Creek.
 - **Most Raw Gold** – There was no find submitted for this category in March.
 - **Largest Raw Gold** – There was no find submitted for this category in March.
16. **Pres. Manning** concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR, JJ Long and Pres. Manning**, followed by the drawings for the gold nuggets.
17. **Pres. Manning** then conducted the **50/50 drawing** which was won by **Peggy Hazlett** who donated her winnings of \$35.00 back to the Club. Well done Peggy!



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18. **Pres. Manning** 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 Cohn**.
19. **Pres. Manning** 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. Manning** thanked **Greg and Nancy Knerl** and all those who contributed to the Refreshment Table. Each 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 April Meeting Program** is to be determined. Having nothing further at this time, remember to prospect safely.
22. **Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.**

A Miner's Laugh

A lawyer boarded an airplane in New York with a box of frozen crabs and asked a blond stewardess, who just happened to be the daughter of an old miner, to take care of them for him. She took the box and promised to put it in the crew's fridge. He advised her that he was holding her personally responsible for them staying frozen, mentioning in a haughty manner that he was a lawyer, and proceeded to rant at her about what would happen if she let them thaw out. Needless to say, she was annoyed at his behavior. Shortly before landing in Denver, the stewardess picked up the intercom and announced to the entire cabin, "Would the person who gave me the crabs in Dublin, please raise your hand?" Naturally, not a single hand was raised. So she took them home and enjoyed a great meal with her father. There are two valuable lessons to be learned here.



- 1) Not all lawyers are as smart as they think they are.
- 2) Not all blondes are as dumb as you may think they are.!!

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

The Finds of the Month Mar 2023:

Best Coin – **Bobby Dehnlow** with an 1896 Indian Head penny he found in Aurora.

Best Jewelry – **Shellie Zornes** with a gold necklace she found metal detecting in Melrose Inspirational Gardens.

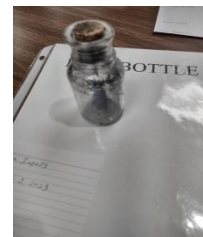
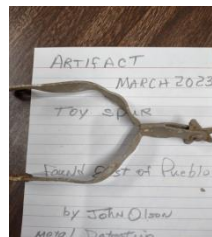
Best Mineral – **Angela Yen** with a Wulfinite specimen she found at the Red Cloud Mine in Arizona.

Best Artifact – **John Olson** with a toy spur he found while metal detecting east of Pueblo.

Best Bottle – **Aaron Ingalls** with an old boot polish bottle he found while prospecting Clear Creek.

Most Raw Gold – There was no find submitted for this category in March.

Largest Raw Gold – There was no find submitted for this category in March.



Remember that all gold must be dried and weighed. All monthly winners need save their entries for the November meeting when the Finds of the Month will be judged for the Finds of the Year. So be sure and save



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Report by NASA of Gemstones on Mars by Texas Digital Reporter Sana Ameer

NASA has reported in early 2023 that the agency's Curiosity rover, which has been operating on Mars since 2012, has found "halos" of rocks inside a crater that scientists said were actually opal gemstones, according to a study published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research: Planets*. In images taken by the rover, Arizona State University and NASA researchers said they saw circles of light around rocks situated near cracks in the surface of the Gale Crater, an ancient dried-up lake basin on Mars. When scientists compared the halos to ones seen in photographs taken in the past, they realized the circles of light contained the same opal-rich composition previously discovered. "Our new analysis of archival data showed striking similarity between all of the fracture halos we've observed much later in the mission," said Travis Gabriel, lead author of the study. "Seeing that these fracture networks were so widespread and likely chock-full of opal was incredible." Because opals are formed when water alters a hard compound called silica, scientists have reason to think the



area once held vast reserves of water and possibly even some form of life. "It's reasonable to expect that these potentially habitable subsurface conditions extended to many other regions of Gale Crater as well, and perhaps in other regions of Mars," Gabriel said. "These environments would have formed long after the ancient lakes in Gale Crater dried up." Now, these jewels could end up serving a greater purpose beyond interstellar bling for extraterrestrial beings. In a previous study, Gabriel and his colleagues demonstrated how grinding opal down and applying heat to it releases water. They said a single three-foot section of the mineral can release about 1.5 gallons of water within the top foot of the surface. Futurism news website predicted the fracture halos might serve as a source of water for future astronauts that "gravitate" toward the Red Planet. Gabriel and his team however proposed the fracture halos in Gale Crater as a new destination for collecting geological samples or for a potential human exploration mission, should NASA choose to "plan-et."

Does the Lure of Gold ever Fade? By JJ Long

I was lost in thought the other day, just thinking about prospecting and some of the adventures I have had over the last 30 or 35 years, and wondered if my love for chasing gold had begun to fade. It brought to mind the poem by Robert Service written so long ago and the famous line within it that read, "There's gold, and it's haunting and haunting; It's luring me on as of old; Yet it isn't the gold that I'm wanting So much as just finding the gold." And as I thought of the last 15 years or so and I recalled my first gold and then my first nugget (pictured), I realized that I too, had reached that point where the lure of having the gold had been long replaced by the thrill of just finding the gold. When I became President of the Club more than a decade ago, I think that is when my priorities changed. It became far more important to me to share that finding of the gold with the rest of the membership that listened to me stand up at the podium and talk to them each month. It was far more important to me to encourage others to experience the thrill of finding their gold, and to share my experience and knowledge with them in the hopes that they too, would feel the same thrill of the chase. I often worked as hard as anyone on many of our outings, but I took more and more time to help others, to point them in the right direction, show them how to read the ground and the rocks to find the pay layer. And more than once, I often shared my spot with others and let them dig in my holes. My sidekick and prospecting buddy for the last 20 plus years was my grandson. He was special in that he had a discerning eye for the unusual and that which wasn't seen by others or merely overlooked by others. It involved fossils, gemstones, arrowheads, all kinds of stuff most folks don't notice, including the presence of gold. That boy is a hard worker and he learned a lot from me as I learned from him and we learned a lot together. Often, we would argue about exactly where to dig and then discuss why each thought he was right. Rarely were we ever wrong and we always seemed to be on the gold whenever we were out and about. And as time marched on, I got a lot older and the buckets got a lot heavier and instead of walking 10 miles, I could manage only 5. He began working longer hours and different shifts and we just weren't getting out as much as we wanted. Then the wife suffered some medical setbacks that began eating up my time in caring for her and that took me pretty well out of the creeks and into the house. All of these things changed many of the things I was doing a lot of, and especially prospecting. I had to step down from my leadership role in the Club. In my younger days, I spent a lot of my off time out back packing all over Colorado and Wyoming. I helped to build many a mile with the Colorado Trail Foundation between Denver and Durango. I hunted and fished from New Mexico to Canada and even Alaska. I





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prospected all over Colorado and went to Alaska three times. I had my own boat, played a lot of golf and softball while supporting the wife and two kids while working full time in law enforcement. So I guess being a little tired can be expected. And when I am gone, my ashes will be spread across this great state that I have traveled so thoroughly. But, until then, the thrill is still there. When I see the shine of bright yellow in my pan, I always feel the thrill still. I have plenty of gold in my safe. I never got filthy rich with it. I never found the Mother Lode. And I can't buy a new truck with it either, at least I don't think I have quite that much. I remember back when I was just a little guy and my dad was chasing around Creede and Lake City during the early 1950's, staking Uranium claims here and there and using a Geiger counter (I still have his old machine to this day). I never really caught the 'fever' then and I never really caught it later on either. When I started getting interested in gold, it was only \$240 an ounce. Now it is pushing \$2000 an ounce again. I never really caught the fever, but I sure did feel that thrill when you find gold that has never been seen by any human before. It is more of a feeling of satisfaction than anything else, of taking your knowledge and skill and finding its hiding place and then bringing it into the sunlight after who knows how many eons of time passing. Gold is the only mineral on the planet that comes out of the ground a beautiful gleaming yellow for the most part. Rubies, diamonds, emeralds and all the other precious gems come out of the ground very dirty. You have to clean them and polish them and facet them before you can turn them into sparkling treasures or big money. That is why gold was the treasure of the Kings, because of its raw beauty. In another couple of years, I will be turning 80 and I really have no regrets. It has become fairly unimportant as to how much gold I have, but I am deeply satisfied with what I have found, and many of my close friends feel the same way about their gold. And with that said, I thought it might be good to include Robert's poem here for you to read again. The poem first appeared in a book authored by Service in 1907, though there are others that think it may well have been penned as far back as 1874 but never printed until 1907. Either way, there is much beauty and more than a little truth in his words and lines. It is almost like he was thinking of me at times when he penned these mighty thoughts. Robert's Yukon is my Colorado. Read and enjoy, as I have done!!

The Spell of the Yukon By Robert W. Service

*I wanted the gold, and I sought it; I scabbled and mucked like a slave.
Was it famine or scurvy—I fought it; I hurled my youth into a grave.
I wanted the gold, and I got it— Came out with a fortune last fall,—
Yet somehow life's not what I thought it, And somehow the gold isn't all.*

*No! There's the land. (Have you seen it?) It's the cussedest land that I know,
From the big, dizzy mountains that screen it, To the deep, deathlike valleys below.
Some say God was tired when He made it; Some say it's a fine land to shun;
Maybe; but there's some as would trade it, For no land on earth—and I'm one.*

*You come to get rich (damned good reason); You feel like an exile at first;
You hate it like hell for a season, And then you are worse than the worst.
It grips you like some kinds of sinning; It twists you from foe to a friend;
It seems it's been since the beginning; It seems it will be to the end.*

*I've stood in some mighty-mouthed hollow, That's plumb-full of hush to the brim;
I've watched the big, husky sun wallow In crimson and gold, and grow dim,
Till the moon set the pearly peaks gleaming, And the stars tumbled out, neck and crop;
And I've thought that I surely was dreaming, With the peace o' the world piled on top.*

*The summer—no sweeter was ever; The sunshiny woods all athrill;
The grayling aleap in the river, The bighorn asleep on the hill.
The strong life that never knows harness; The wilds where the caribou call;
The freshness, the freedom, the farness— O God! how I'm stuck on it all.*

*The winter! the brightness that blinds you, The white land locked tight as a drum,
The cold fear that follows and finds you, The silence that bludgeons you dumb.
The snows that are older than history, The woods where the weird shadows slant;*



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The stillness, the moonlight, the mystery, I've bade 'em good-by—but I can't.

*There's a land where the mountains are nameless, And the rivers all run God knows where;
There are lives that are erring and aimless, And deaths that just hang by a hair;
There are hardships that nobody reckons; There are valleys unpeopled and still;
There's a land—oh, it beckons and beckons, And I want to go back—and I will.*

*They're making my money diminish; I'm sick of the taste of champagne.
Thank God! when I'm skinned to a finish I'll pike to the Yukon again.
I'll fight—and you bet it's no sham-fight; It's hell!—but I've been there before;
And it's better than this by a damsite— So me for the Yukon once more.*

*There's gold, and it's haunting and haunting; It's luring me on as of old;
Yet it isn't the gold that I'm wanting So much as just finding the gold.
It's the great, big, broad land 'way up yonder, It's the forests where silence has lease;
It's the beauty that thrills me with wonder, It's the stillness that fills me with peace.*

Estimated \$3 billion gold deposit found in North Washington

According to various news sources, the north Washington town of Republic may hold a gold deposit worth more than \$3 billion.

Canadian mining company Calibre Mining Corp reported finding a high-value gold deposit on company-owned land called "The Golden Eagle". The town of Republic, Wash. sits only three miles away.

"The first phase of this drill program confirms a robust mineral system with consistent gold grades over broad widths," said Darren Hall, President and Chief Executive Officer of Calibre.

Calibre conducted an initial drill and estimated a 2 million-ounce deposit might be underground. In current market value, an ounce of gold is worth more than \$1,800, and the deposit's estimated value could come out to more than \$3 billion before extraction costs.

"Golden Eagle is a meaningful contributor to the Company's overall mineral resource estimate with 2.0 million ounces in Measured and Indicated Mineral Resource, adding positively to our organic growth strategy," Hall said.

Republic is a historic mining town, but its last gold mine, Kinross' Buckhorn, closed in 2017. Its most active years were from 1898 to 1947, with the Mountain Lion Mine. According to Calibre, the Republic area has produced about 4 million ounces of gold over the past 130 years.

15 Places to Find Gold in the United States

from TheTravel.com

Gold is an excellent investment, but it can be hard to find. Luckily, there are some places in the US where gold can be found still today. Although the process may be long and tedious, there is still hope in getting this precious metal. So these are sine great places to find gold.

California boasts several rivers and streams that contain gold. These include the American River, the San Gabriel River, and the Yuba River. In this state, it's possible to find gold by sifting through riverbeds and sandbars. This has made gold panning a popular activity. There are also a number of ghost towns in California that were once mining towns. Nowadays, these towns are abandoned, but they still offer a good chance of finding gold. One such example is Bodie, which is located in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Georgia has a long history of gold mining. Prospectors can find gold in many areas of the state, but the most productive areas are typically in the northwestern part. Dukes Creek is a major gold mining location in Georgia. There are also many smaller mines and prospecting operations throughout the state. Georgia has a vast public land where travelers can pan for





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gold or metal detect for gold nuggets. Some of the best areas to look for gold are near streams and rivers, as well as in old mining districts. Visitors can find gold in the Chestatee, Etowah, and Tesnatee rivers.

Idaho boasts a number of recreational areas where prospectors can search for gold. One such location is Boise Basin. Historically, it is one of the most productive gold mining sites in the state. Today, there are still a number of small-scale miners operating in the Boise Basin. Another good place to look for gold in Idaho is in the Salmon River Mountains. This area is home to a number of large placer deposits. There are also several small-scale miners who operate in this area.

Montana is home to several mines rich in placer gold. It also harbors the world-famous Bannack Ghost Town, which is full of abandoned gold mines. Gold panning is a popular activity in Montana, and there are several entities that offer guided tours. These tours typically last a few hours, and participants can keep any gold they find. Montana is a great place for both beginner and experienced prospectors. The state's rich history makes it an interesting place to explore.

Having a long history of gold mining, **Nevada** is home to the famous Carlin Trend, one of the richest gold deposits in the world. There are a number of ways to prospect for gold in the state. Some people choose to pan for gold in rivers and streams. Others use metal detectors to search for nuggets in areas that have been known to produce gold in the past. There are also a number of commercial gold mines in Nevada that offer tours and opportunities for visitors to try their hand at panning or prospecting.

One of the best places to consider visiting in **Colorado** is the more mountainous western region of the state which is rich in gold, mostly obtained through lode and placer mining. There are many deposits to be found here, including one at Tarryall Creek. Other places to find small amounts of gold include Gilpin County, Teller County, and Summit County. Clear Creek, The South Platte River, the Arkansas River and the Delores Rover all contain good placer gold. Our own Kevin Singel authored a book entitled '*Finding Gold in Colorado*' which lists over 160 public access places for anyone to find gold.

Potential gold prospectors won't find it easy in **Alaska** because the terrain is tough. If this doesn't sound like an acceptable scene, there are still some options available. Guided tours are offered by several entities. The tour guides will take travelers on trips throughout the difficult terrains. This includes hiking through pristine wilderness areas where both recreational prospectors and adventurers can find gold.



The most popular mining districts in **New Mexico** include Elizabethtown Baldy, Hillsboro, and Pinos Altos. These areas are home to small-scale miners who use dry washers to extract placer gold from streams and creeks. The Bear Creek area is also a major source of placer gold. With its rich history and abundant resources, tourists are sure to strike it lucky if they head out in search of this precious metal in New Mexico.

If planning to visit **Tennessee** for a weekend, there's more to it than just visiting parks and sampling different foods. Gold is found here! Most panning occurs near Tellico Plains. Recreational prospecting is also popular, and there are plenty of opportunities for beginners. The best places for the activity include

Citico, Cane, and Tobe in Monroe County. Visitors can also find gold along the Tellico River. Overall, Tennessee is a great state for recreational prospectors due to the many areas where gold can be found, and there is a long history of mining in the state.

Gold mining in **Oregon** has been happening since 1852. The state offers excellent opportunities for recreational prospectors as well as professionals who want to make a living off of it. Areas worth visiting include Jackson County, parts of Coos, and Curry Counties. There's gold in Applegate River, along the Elk, Palmer Creeks, and Patti Creek. Towns like Bourne, Granite, and Susanville also provide plenty of places where tourists can find their own piece of American history when exploring their rich landscape.

The Reed Gold Mine in **North Carolina** was the first documented commercial gold find in the United States. This is where it all began in the country when Conrad Reed found a 17-pound yellow "rock" in 1799 on the family farm. For three years it was used as a rather bulky doorstep until a jeweler in 1802 realized it was in fact a large gold nugget. He asked John Reed to name his price and not realizing its value he sold it for \$3.50 (a week's income) - it was actually worth \$3,600. Today one can visit the Reed Gold Mine.

While the **Yukon Territory** is obviously part of Canada and not part of the United States, it deserves an honorable mention here. It was the scene of the Klondike Gold Rush where an estimated 100,000 prospectors flocked onto the far-flung territory. The stampede of prospectors has been immortalized in films and media and most went in vain (although a few struck it rich). The Yukon is a place everyone should visit.



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 9

Ontario gets on the list as it was the site of the Porcupine Gold Rush. It was a later gold rush that started in 1909 and peaked in 1911. It was considered the most successful of the North American gold rushes. The gold rush happened in the Canadian Shield in the Timmins area of Ontario. It peaked in the 1940s and 1950s and remains active today. The gold in the area is considered one of the largest in the world.

Ok, this is very far out of the United States, but **New Zealand** should also get a mention as it too saw parallel gold rushes that somewhat mirrored those of California and Canada's Yukon. Today one can discover the New Zealand heritage of the gold rushes by going on a heritage train trip in the Middle Earth lands of Central Otago. Alternatively, explore the Old Ghost Trail and explore New Zealand's other gold rush and ghost towns in the forests.

And we might as well add **Australia** while we are at it. Australia has plenty of gold as well and a lot of it can be found metal detecting on the surface. The discovery of gold in the 1850s started a series of rushes that transformed the Australian colonies. The first discoveries of payable gold were at Ophir in New South Wales and then at Ballarat and Bendigo Creek in Victoria. In 1851 gold-seekers from around the world began pouring into the colonies, changing the course of Australian history. The gold rushes greatly expanded Australia's population, boosted its economy, and led to the emergence of a new national identity.


The truth of the matter is that gold occurs in each of the 50 states that make up the United States. It can also be found in Mexico and Canada as well as throughout South America. So if you are looking for gold, just open your eyes wherever you are and you just may find it.



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Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events for May 2023

(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 Cinco de Mayo	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17 GPR Club Meeting	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31			