

THE GOLD NUGGET

July 2023

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

The Prez Sez! By Bobby Manning



Greetings to all. The auction raised 553.00 and we still have more stuff that we will take to Idaho Springs to sell at Kevin book party at the Idaho Springs Visitor Center on the 15th of July. Thank you very much, Wayne, for your very generous donation. It really did help the Club. I'm working with board members on outings going to the Argo mine or the Heidi mine. Then maybe a trip to the Edger Mine in August and a person to talk to the club on mine safety. They do a mine tour and the cost is 25.00 a person, 10 to 15 at a time. Then we will look at Kevin's new book where you can have one on the way or come to the party and get one there. I need your HELP on things to do or what you want to do...! In September, we will try to do a cook out for the meeting to be able to talk with you. Because in the meeting, my mind is going at 90 miles an hour. The water is still too high to go and do some prospecting safely right now, so that is why we HAVE OUR PAY DIRTY to KEEP your panning skills up to par. Or you can volunteer and HELP AT THE PANNING DEMOS which is the best way to learn to pan and you don't have to worry about losing gold. That is where I learned to pan and at home with a tub and a pan with a strong light to help see the fine gold. I hope to get Kevin to speak to the club or will do our movie. Thanks to all who bought things in the auction as it really helped the club! Sorry that I don't have a lot more to say as I am dealing with the loss of a very dear friend. And what with my aunt's health deteriorating as well, my mind is on other things and work doesn't really help either. I am trying to work on getting our gold for Christmas as well. So, MAY YOU ALL HAVE A WONDERFUL AND SAFE 4th OF JULY 🌟!!

Vice President's Corner! By Mike Stevens



Well, it seems like summer time is finally here. The weather is definitely hotter, even though those much needed golden drops of liquid still continue. My lawn has never looked so good. My wife and I had a trip planned to go up to Black Hawk and Central city. We drove up the canyon last week and I stopped off to see how the river was looking. Definitely way too much white water for me to think about digging or sluicing along the river. I guess I'll need to venture back down and see how the water is closer to town. I did see a group panning along north Clear Creek where the water was a bit calmer. While in Black Hawk we did play a machine that had a prospector called Pete and the machine next to it had a donkey name Lucky. My wife and I both had luck playing those machines. Hopefully it's a sign of how my gold prospecting season is going to be. I still have a few concentrates to clean up, and I'm looking forward to seeing what gold I've got in there. Once I finish that off, I'll be ready for a brand new season and a brand new batch of dirt full of gold. Golden Smiles for All

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Joe Kafka



Enjoyed the June meeting and we had a good turnout. 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 July when we will be giving away more gold nuggets....!! 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 June 2023

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

The meeting was called to order by President Manning at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum being present. A reminder was given to the board that the auction on the items donated to the club would end tonight. Attendees will be reminded of this at the beginning of the meeting and encouraged to get their bids in. Next item: The previous board meeting minutes were approved (Gordon was late to the meeting and did not get the names of the motioner and second).

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

According to the World Gold Council, which would you be more likely to find, a one ounce gold nugget or a five carat diamond???

- 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

Board member Roger Schlenger interjected on the member’s list pages he had worked since they were distributed to all board members at the last meeting. After some discussion around this topic, each board member provided their feedback to Robert Ahr for compilation. A separate list of lapsed/non-active members will be generated and Andy Doll will use that list to purge names from the list of mailed newsletters.

Next item up: the Treasurer’s Report was discussed noting that the latest large expense item was to purchase gold for the club’s use. Additionally, a decision was made to reimburse President Manning by check for his outlay related to the alleged copyright infringement settlement. That way, all proceeds from the auction of donated equipment would go directly into the club. This was deemed to be a simpler and better way to handle the situation. A motion to approve the report was made by Mike Stevens with a second by Kevin Singel. The motion passed unanimously.

Next item discussed related to club outings for the remainder of the year. It was agreed that as much advanced notice as possible needs to be given to members to encourage participation. Several mine tours were discussed such as the Edgar (School of Mines), the Phoenix and the Argo, and board members are looking into the schedules so that there is information to present to members next month.

Board member Kevin Singel is releasing his second book on gold prospecting “The Wandering Prospector” and requested five minutes of the general meeting to announce the launch next month and invite members to help celebrate. It will be at the Idaho Springs Visitor’s Center and Heritage Museum on July 15, from 1p.m until 4 p.m. GPOTR will be manning the panning booth at the event. There were no objections to Kevin making the announcement. After that, the video presentation about the Klondike gold rush will be resumed. It is a long documentary, needing to be broken up to fit our meeting schedule.

The final discussion point was brought up by board member Gordon Smith regarding the automatic rollover of the one-year CD that the club owns. Due to current market situations and interest rate hikes, it was recommended by Kevin Singel to ask the treasurer to investigate higher rate CDs or the possibility of a two-year term CD if the interest paid is substantially higher than a one-year CD.

A motion was made by Roger Schlenger to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mike Stevens. The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

General Meeting Minutes from June 2023

1. **Meeting** was opened at 7:22pm by **Pres. Manning** with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Pres. Manning** then gave the Metals Report: **Gold** 1973.00 **Silver** 23.30 **Platinum** 982.00 **Palladium** 1281.00 **Rhodium** 2880.00.
3. **Web hits** for last month was 164073 / 234.
4. **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.



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 3

5. **6Robert Ahr and Shelly Zornes** from the Membership Table reported that we had 43 members in attendance. There were no Guests Present and no new members joined up tonight. The total meeting attendance was 43.
6. **Pres. Manning** read the ‘Question of the Month’, which was “**To be called “solid gold,” gold must have a minimum weight of what...???** The winners will receive an extra ticket to the gold nugget drawings later during the evening program.
7. **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.
8. **Bill Chapman** announced the ‘**Cache Clue**’ # 7. The original Cache has been stolen so Bill replaced it with a Blue token in the same general area.
9. **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. A large amount of items from Wayne Schumacher who donated them to the Club were auctioned off tonight.
10. **Pres. Manning** informed the membership that there were several Outings discussed. Announcements will also be made with the Newsletter postings. Also, local waters are extremely high and dangerous so be careful out there.
11. Additional items discussed included: Kevin Singel announced that his book was now 5 years old and he just released his second book called ‘Finding Gold in Colorado’ – The Wandering Prospector. There is a release party in Idaho springs on July 15 at the Visitor Center. The Club will man a panning booth and have books available to sell as well. Robert Ahr then spoke about the ‘Pirate’s Hunt’ Outings and the fact that they would be moving to the last Wednesday of each month.
12. **Pres. Manning** then announced the evening Program which was a continuation of the video presentation entitled ‘The Klondike Rush’ which was an enjoyable presentation.. It was still too long to watch in its entirety so we will see the rest on another night. 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 8:20 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:39 pm.
14. **Pres. Manning** announced the winners of the ‘**Question of the Month**’. The answer was, “... **10 carats...!** There were only 7 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** – **Shellie Zornes** with a 1905 Indian Head penny she found while metal detecting in Denver.
 - **Best Jewelry** – **Bobby Manning** with a silver ring he found while metal detecting in Denver.
 - **Best Mineral** – **Angie Yen** with a chunk of bubble Chalcedony she found near Idaho Springs.
 - **Best Artifact** – **John Olson** with a metal Fob he found while metal detecting near Leadville.
 - **Best Bottle** – There was no find submitted for this category in June.
 - **Most Raw Gold** – **Roger Schlenger** with .5 grams of gold nuggets he found metal detecting in Nevada..
 - **Largest Raw Gold** – There was no find submitted for this category in June.
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. **1Pres. Manning** then conducted the **50/50 drawing** which was won by Chris Kafka who won \$29.00.
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 John Olson**.
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



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 4

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 July Meeting Program is to be determined.** Having nothing further at this time, remember to prospect safely.
22. **Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.**

A Miner's Laugh

Arnold and his wife were cleaning out the attic one day when he came across a ticket from the local shoe repair shop. The date stamped on the ticket showed that it was over eleven years old. They both laughed and tried to remember which of them might have forgotten to pick up a pair of shoes over a decade ago. "Do you think the shoes will still be in the shop?" Arnold asked. "Not very likely," his wife said.

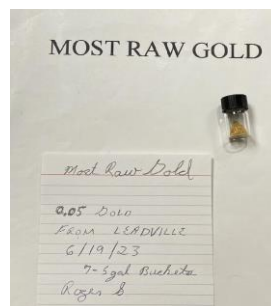
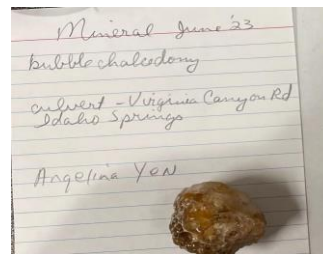
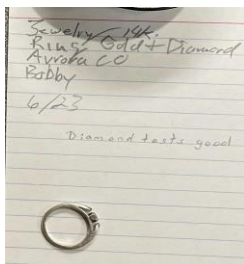
"It's worth a try," Arnold said, pocketing the ticket. He went downstairs, hopped into the car, and drove to the store. With a straight face, he handed the ticket to the man behind the counter who just happened to be an old retired miner. With a face just as straight, the old boy said, "Just a minute. I'll have to look for these." He disappeared into a dark corner at the back of the shop. Two minutes later, the old boy called out, "Here they are!" "No kidding?" Arnold called back. "That's terrific! Who would have thought they'd still be here after all this time." The old man came back to the counter, empty-handed. "They'll be ready Thursday," he said calmly, with a wry smile.

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



The Finds of the Month June 2023:

- **Best Coin** – Shellie Zornes with a 1905 Indian Head penny she found while metal detecting in Denver.
- **Best Jewelry** – Bobby Manning with a silver ring he found while metal detecting in Denver.
- **Best Mineral** – Angie Yen with a chunk of bubble Chalcedony she found near Idaho Springs.
- **Best Artifact** – John Olson with a metal Fob he found while metal detecting near Leadville.
- **Best Bottle** – There was no find submitted for this category in June.
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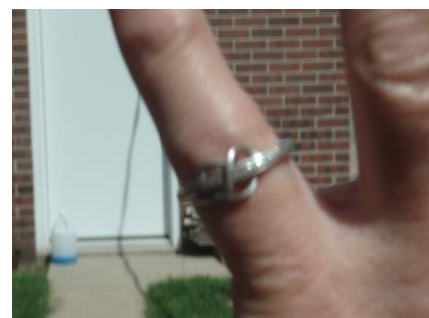
Remember that all gold must be dried and weighed. All monthly winners need save their entries for the November meeting when the Finds of the Month will be judged for the Finds of the Year. So be sure and save them.



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 5

The Pirate's June 7 Hunt by Robert 'The Pirate' Ahr

Hello, another late report but it's been a busy month so far. Anyway we had a small crew this day due to prior commitments. We started off with a good Breakfast at McCoy's restaurant and then headed down to Highland's Park in north Denver where very little was found except for Connie C. finding a 50 Pesos coin. The 5 of us decided to call that park a bust for the day. Jack and Angie decided to head for a park closer to their home, so we bid them a farewell and went over to Viking Park. We had a little better luck and Shellie Z. came up with a silver ring and a cheap locket while I was able to hone my coin recovery with a total of 2.16 in change and a cheap pot metal ring.. And one last thing for the present and upcoming hunters is that I would like to change the Pirate's Hunt to the last Wednesday of the month so we can get our Hunt info into the Newsletter before the dead line the first of each month. Let me know what you think??? If we agree to the last Wednesday of the month the next hunt will be June 28th. Thanks, and I have a great park in mind. See you all soon..! (Photos by Bob Ahr)



The Pirate's June 28th Hunt by Robert 'The Pirate' Ahr

Hello fellow Pirate's. We had a great day as we started off with breakfast at McCoy's restaurant and then we decided to go to Jefferson Park in North Denver. The Park is an old Park founded around 1896, give or take. We had some new hunters joining us this outing which was nice to see.. Not too sure what Bill C., Chuck C., and Jack M. found on this outing but like I said, it was nice to see them out there... So the #1 for the day was Joe F. with 86 coins = 4.35 in which one was a 1951 wheat cent and the frosting on the cake was a 925 silver ring with a Opal stone setting.. #2 was Bob H. with 62 coins = 3.09 plus one 20 Euro and a gold plated snake ring along with some other bling. #3 was myself as I bought in a weak 31 coins = 1.83 and a key. And Connie C. had 10 coins = .61 cents and 1 bling earring. \$9.88 cents total for the day which was not a bad day for about 4 hrs. of fun. Anyway, I will see you all at the next G.P.O.R. meeting. (Photos by Robert Ahr)





Prospecting Equipment for the RVer/Camper By JJ Long

For those of us who like to go on vacation and we see a place that looks like it ought to hold gold and your prospecting juices get to flowing and we realize that we could have and should have packed a few items to get a little gold, then pay attention. Here are a few things you should pack to scratch that itch. And they don't take up all that much room either.



First, you need a **couple of buckets, a pan, a trowel, a scoop a classifier (a # 8 would be perfect) and a shovel.** By this time, most of you have already learned the types of places you should be digging, provided of course, that you have legal access and are in compliance with local rules and/or regulations, so I won't bother with talking about all that for this short piece. Keep in mind that not all prospecting is done in the creeks and rivers. There are numerous old dry creek beds and ancient river beds that you should be able to identify and explore as well. And these areas are

harder to work for sure but that is where test panning comes in handy, right? And of course, you should always have a **snuffer bottle** and a **couple of vials** for your gold so that should go without saying. These few items can go a long way to finding color and having fun. A lot of the bare essentials will fit into a back pack which also serves you well in several ways such as storing your gear and packing your gear from your RV or camp to where you want to dig. And it wouldn't hurt to have a **pair of knee high rubber boots** or a **light weight pair of hip waders** packed away just in case you want to keep your feet dry.



Having spent 60 years of wandering the back country of three different states, I can't stress enough about the value of having dry and comfortable feet. But what if you find 'great color' and gold fever strikes? You may want to consider having a **small sluice box** available if that area should have running water nearby. There are a number of smaller brands out there that are very good gold catchers. I am not in the market to sell you equipment but a little research on your own before you go will show you that there are several brands available out there and most of them do a good job. So choose what works best for you based on how much room you have for the stuff you want to take. If there is lots of room left, you can consider a **smaller mini-high banker**. These units are generally driven by battery power and have smaller electric pumps to move the water. There are some models that come in smaller plastic totes for easy storage and all your



components fit in the tub. If you should have a lot of extra room, you can always consider a larger high banker unit. The high banker is a sluice box with a motorized agitator attached to separate gold and other high-value materials from dry gravel when working near the stream is feasible. The high banker is a little more expensive and cumbersome piece of equipment that you will only need if you discover a promising gold deposit on high, dry ground, such as one of those ancient streams mentioned earlier. They work fairly well but for my money personally, I can move more dirt through a sluice box than I can through a mini-high banker. I personally love sluicing but when the opportunity is there to really

move a lot of material, then I have a larger high banker that really works well. But whatever floats your boat, as they say. There is always room for consideration of a **metal detector** if you are going to be camping near or traveling through country that is conducive to detecting for gold. These places are more commonly in Arizona, Nevada, California and/or Alaska. Most of the other states are not really all that productive for nugget hunting with a detector, not to say that it can't be done because there are plenty of stories out there proving that it has been and can be done, and I know some of the people who have done it. But the odds are highly against you, just saying. But if you do take your metal detector, then take all the accessories that you would normally take when detecting to include your headphones, pin pointer and anything else that you normally use. There is a lot of equipment out there that you can spend your money on, but I have found that the basic essentials are good enough for the weekend panner and the folks who might want to try a little prospecting on vacation or while camping. So plan ahead and take what you need and stop along the way and get some gold..!!

(Photos by JJ Long)



America Faces a Rare Earth Element Crisis by Richard Li

Rare earth elements will power the future economy, but the United States still needs to do more to secure them. From wind turbines to electric vehicles, rare earth elements—rare earths for short—are needed for key technologies to transition to a sustainable energy revolution. In addition, rare earths power modern military technology, such as radar systems and precision-guided munitions. Furthermore, as technological advancements continue in these areas, companies will need more rare earth for future technologies to function. The Chinese government has committed tremendous financial and political resources to control the global rare earth elements market. These actions have yielded great dividends for the Chinese economy, which now controls 85 percent of the global rare earth processing market. With decades of financial and institutional support, Chinese refining businesses have developed the technology and skills to refine rare earth at a far lower price than the United States and other countries.

It is alarming that China is willing to leverage its rare earth monopoly to accomplish its foreign policy objectives. After the Japanese government detained a Chinese fish trawler due to an ongoing border dispute, China responded by embargoing its rare earth supply to Japan. Japan, which had imported 30 percent of its rare earth elements from China, was eventually forced to release the fishing captain back to China so that they could have a supply of rare earth. During the ongoing trade war, China has threatened to restrict rare earth exports to the United States.

To counter this threat, former President Donald Trump signed an executive order to increase the domestic production of rare earth for military technology. The Biden administration has also noted in its 2023 Annual Threat Assessment that China's dominance in the critical minerals market "could pose a significant risk to U.S. and Western manufacturing and consumer sectors if the Government of China was able to adeptly leverage its dominance for political or economic gain." The Biden administration has devised a few policies to diminish China's dominance in the rare earth market. Notably, U.S. Defense Department has granted \$10 million to MP Materials Inc., one of America's rare earth mines. Furthermore, President Joe Biden signed executive order 14051 to ensure an adequate stockpile of rare earth for national security purposes. However, these policies are equivalent to shuffling deck chairs on the *Titanic*, as they are inadequate in addressing China's current dominance.

The timeframe for Biden's current investments in mining and extraction will take too long to materialize. A study found that rare earth mines from 2010 to 2019 took over sixteen years from initial discovery to production. The process takes this long because it typically takes twelve years to conduct feasibility studies of potential mining locations, followed by four years of construction. The urgent shortage of rare earth elements means the United States cannot rely on opening new mines and immediately seeing current problems disappear.

To address this, the Biden administration should also continue to invest in businesses that can efficiently decrease their dependence on rare earth elements. Following the 2010 Senkaku boat collision incident, the Japanese government began investing in rare earth recycling and electric vehicle battery production that did not require rare earth to function. The United States should take notes and needs to continue to invest in businesses dedicated to decreasing its dependence on rare earths. While many U.S. startups will fail, just a few startups surviving in the market will provide the U.S. with the ability to diminish China's concentration and leverage in the rare earth market.

Most importantly, the Biden administration must recognize and prioritize the rare earth elements it needs to ensure national security. In a recent congressional hearing about U.S. energy policy, Interior Secretary Haaland stated that the administration is currently "identifying those critical minerals within the U.S. Geological Survey." Not all rare earth are created equal. Some rare earth, like yttrium, is essential for munitions, while others, like neodymium, is more useful for powering electric vehicles. Given the time frame and the severity of the shortage, the Biden administration needs to prioritize this research. Only with an understanding of the type and quantity of certain rare earth can the Biden administration devise the optimal rare earth policy for the United States economic and national security.

Rare earth elements have propelled the global economy. The nations that control rare earth element refining capabilities will be able to determine the future environmental, economic, and military capabilities of their country and its allies. In 1992, while visiting a Chinese Rare Earths Research Institute in Baotou, Deng Xiaoping famously stated that "there is oil in the Middle East; there is rare earth in China." America's leaders must share the same attitude that Deng had for China.

Richard Li is an undergraduate student at Cornell University. (Photo by JJ Long of Cresson Mine, Victor, Colo.)





Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 8

Record Rain & Snow Said to Bring a New Gold Rush to the West in 2023

Get ready guys and gals for the 2023 gold prospecting season because it is going to be one of the best in decades according to gold prospecting experts across the country. Massive flooding across western mining states, including California and Arizona, has eroded thousands of miles of rivers and creeks.

Once the water subsides and mining begins, the gold will likely be more abundant than usual. A hotspot could be waiting for you this year. Once the water subsides and the real mining begins, the gold will likely be more abundant than usual. A hotspot could be just waiting for you to find this year. The more flooding, the more turbulent the water becomes and the more erosion it causes. This presents a unique opportunity for prospectors, as the gold that was previously stuck in hard-to-reach places is now being carried downstream by the water, creating new placer and bench deposits. The greater the flooding, the higher the bench deposits can be found on the riverbanks once the water returns to its normal level. This will also cause the deposits found below on flatter ground to be more spread out.

Additionally, flooding can also move gold deposits to new locations. As the water rushes through riverbeds and creeks, it can pick up sand and gravels, along with gold, and carry it downstream. This can create new opportunities for prospectors who are willing to venture beyond their usual search areas. The recent floods in California, Nevada, and Arizona due to the “Pineapple Express”, or atmospheric river, are causing historic high levels of rain to flood the rivers, creeks and lakes well beyond levels that have been seen in decades.



The storms have created high water levels that are almost twice what is normal. This has been happening all winter, and the major lakes and impoundments that are holding back water have had to release a large amount of water. Rivers are overflowing their banks with new record highs causing gold to be in places it wasn't before. And the massive snowfall in the Sierra Nevada Mountains means that the mining season will be longer than normal, giving prospectors an extended window of opportunity to search for gold.

The historic flooding coupled with the record snowpack in the Sierra Nevada's means that rivers and creeks that were normally dry by May will still have flowing water well into July as the snowpack melts. This will allow gold prospectors to use their sluice boxes for most, if not all, of the season. And every prospector knows that means a lot more gold than using only your trusty gold pan. If you're not sure where to go to take advantage of this modern day gold rush, then read on. We've already seen first-hand the opportunity major weather systems present with the record-breaking storm in Nome, Alaska last September. The storm surge was over 9 feet as it hit the sandy beaches and the streets of Nome. This led to massive erosion of the beach which revealed amounts of gold that hadn't been seen in decades. The water had barely receded before miners were out on the beach with high bankers and pans finding large amounts of gold. This was clearly reported by the Nome paper as well as the GPAA. The combination of increased flooding and a longer mining season means that there could possibly be a new gold rush on the horizon. Flooding can change the shape and structure of waterways, creating new channels, eroding existing ones, and exposing new areas of bedrock or other geological features that may contain gold deposits. How You Can Get On the Gold After a Flood you might be asking yourself. Gold



prospecting after flooding can be a different experience than during normal conditions. With water levels higher than usual, gold deposits can be moved around and new pay streaks can be created. Look for high water marks during floods as the water levels can rise to unprecedented heights. As the water recedes, it will leave behind visible marks on trees, rocks, and other natural features that indicate the highest point the water reached. These marks can help you identify areas that were previously underwater and therefore may contain gold deposits that have been moved. Follow the paystreaks. Paystreaks are deposits of gold that have accumulated over time in a particular area. During flooding, these paystreaks can shift and move to new locations. Look for areas where the paystreaks may have been deposited as the water recedes.

You should also look at higher ground: As the water recedes, it will leave behind layers of sediment in different areas. Pay attention to areas of higher elevation where the water may have deposited larger and heavier sediment, including gold. You can follow the water flow because water naturally moves gold deposits downstream, so pay attention to the direction of the water flow during flooding. Look for areas where the water flow changes direction or slows down, as this is where gold deposits are likely to



Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 9

accumulate. Also, look for areas where the water has crashed into exposed bedrock, pushing gold into the crevices higher than normal. Another thing to watch out for is where there were trees or large boulders that were underwater or obstructing flood water, causing eddies and causing the water to flow differently, those are great gold trapping areas. Flattened grass can also be a great indicator as to how and where the water flowed. Use your gold pan to test areas you think may hold gold. During flooding, gold can be found in higher locations than normal. To find these deposits, use a gold pan to sample the sediment from different elevations. This will help you identify where the gold is located in the water column. And look for changes in color. Gold has a distinct yellow color, but during flooding, it can be mixed in with other sediments. Look for changes in color in the sediment, such as black sands or red clay, which can indicate the presence of gold. You can also use a metal detector. Metal detectors can be useful for locating larger gold deposits that may have been moved during flooding. Use the detector to search for gold nuggets or larger pieces of gold in areas where the water has receded. And it goes without saying that not all detectors are equal, so make sure that your detector is capable of doing the job. These floods are not just affecting the rivers and waterways directly on the west coast but most of the water ways connected to them. And though the emphasis may be towards California, Nevada and Arizona, keep in mind that we had record snows this winter here in Colorado as well and much of what has been said here can apply to our local conditions as well. So find a spot close to you to take advantage of these ideal gold prospecting conditions. All the experts say the 2023 gold rush season is going to be one of the best in decades due to massive flooding that has broken loose a lot of gold and eroded a lot of areas along rivers, creeks and streams that haven't seen this type of water flow in decades. Once the water subsides, the gold will be abundant, and gold prospectors can take advantage of the incredible opportunities that these floods have created. So get your equipment ready and start prospecting! *(Photos by JJ Long)*



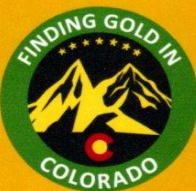
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Contact the GPR President

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Coming Announcements and Special Events for Aug 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
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 GPR Club Meeting	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		