Newly Revealed Research for Gold Placer Operators

By Paul Nagy

Continuing a boyhood passion for rockhounding, Bill Reid became a mineralogist of global experience. In 1971, returning from a four-year work stint in Africa, Bill became affiliated with the Colorado School of Mines Research Institute (CSMRI). Shortly after, he was approached by the inheritors of 35 acres of gold placer ground along Clear Creek below Black Hawk. This is not strictly a mineralogy problem and Bill endeavored to refer them to an expert in gold placering. To his surprise he discovered that there were no experts, owing to the decades-long stagnant gold price which drove all knowledgable persons from the field. Always one to try new things, Bill embarked on a gold placer research program of his own. In the end, he pleased the Clear Creek heirs by recovering 200 ounces with the then value of $7,000. He did not sell his own share of this, which increased in value by many times. He concedes that with the knowledge he subsequently gained, he might have recovered more.

Bill's timing was good. The price of gold climbed steadily through the 1970's and the value of Bill's research and expertise climbed with it. His employment arrangement with CSMRI allowed him access to state-of-the-art, and very expensive, research equipment not available to potential competitors. He seldom published and he said that much of what he revealed to us is being made public for the first time. His research mostly applies to commercial-size operations and especially to by-product gold recovered from stream-borne sand and gravel operations, but his talk was nevertheless both interesting and informative.

Continued on page 2

The Prez Sez

By Gary Hawley, President

It's here! Gold prospecting weather has finally arrived. Cool mornings make you work faster to set up your mining equipment. The days are warm enough to be considered shirt-sleeve weather and the cool evenings make for sound sleep. It don't get much better than that. We still have to be aware of spring runoff and afternoon thunderstorms but now is a great time to explore new prospect areas and revisit old ones.

I enjoyed visiting with the members at our May meeting. I wish we had more time to share prospecting stories and tales. Thanks to all who help clean up the meeting place and pick up the tables and chairs. The Clements Center people have mentioned their appreciation on how we treat

Continued on page 5

VP's Corner

By Jeff Mosteller, Vice President

Greetings to all!

The Panning Demo season is upon us again and it looks like we will be busy! Last year, over a period of 19 days that covered 12 events, we had well over 2000 visitors at the panning tubs. Thanks to all of you who helped out. We couldn't have done it without you. The panning demos are very important to the GPR as they give us exposure to the public and an opportunity to share our hobby with people who may otherwise never know what gold panning is all about. We are

Continued on page 5

Join Us on the Third Wednesday!
Lloyd G. Clements Community Center
1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood, Colorado
(One block west of Wadsworth, then one block north of Colfax)
7:00 p.m. (Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.)
Information: (303) 933-1147 <> ghawley1@juno.com
Website: http://www.GoldProspectorsOfTheRockies.com/

More Nuggets Inside

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### GPR Events Calendar

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Time(s)</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10:00a to 4:00p</td>
<td>Panning Demo</td>
<td>Bellview Ministry's Frontier Days, 80th &amp; Federal, &quot;The Castle.&quot;</td>
<td>Jeff Mosteller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12:00p to 4:00p</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Free Map, Compass, and GPS Classes given for the public by the USGS, Bldg. 810, Denver Federal Center. Reservations: 303-202-4640.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11,12</td>
<td>10:00a to 6:00p</td>
<td>Panning Demo</td>
<td>Arfada Gold Strike Festival, on Grandview.</td>
<td>Jeff Mosteller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7:00p</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Presentation:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>10:00a</td>
<td>4:00p</td>
<td>Panning Demo</td>
<td>Lou Bunch Days, Visitor Center, Central City, Colorado.</td>
<td>Jeff Mosteller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>12:00a</td>
<td>4:30p</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Hands-On Gold Panning, Gilpin History Museum, Central City, Colorado. $25 includes class, gold pan, and admission to the museum.</td>
<td>Al Benjamin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>10:00a to 4:00p</td>
<td>Panning Demo</td>
<td>Freedom Fest, Visitors Center, Central City, Colorado</td>
<td>Jeff Mosteller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>12:00p to 4:00p</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Free Map, Compass, and GPS Classes given for the public by the USGS, Bldg. 810, Denver Federal Center. Reservations: 303-202-4640.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>10:00a</td>
<td>4:00p</td>
<td>Panning Demo</td>
<td>Rhubarb Fest, Visitors Center, Central City, Colorado</td>
<td>Jeff Mosteller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>7:00p</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Presentation:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-31</td>
<td>11:00a</td>
<td>4:30p</td>
<td>Panning Demo</td>
<td>Buffalo Bill Days, History Park, Golden Colorado (for Astor House)</td>
<td>Jeff Mosteller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All GPR meeting presentations and trip activities are subject to change. Non-club prospecting-related events may be included for your information. Members attending any trip activities are asked to be sure to sign up or contact the event coordinator prior to the activity to allow planning for an estimated number of people and so attendees may be contacted in the event of any change, cancellation, or rescheduling. For events added after the meeting, check the GPR website.

**PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE AT PANNING DEMOS ONE HOUR IN ADVANCE OF THE START TIME.**

(Continued from page 1)

Bill's experiments corroborate published data that in a sluice box the ideal ratio of the height of the riffles to the riffle spacing should be $1:3.5$. If, for example, the riffle height is one inch, then the riffles should be three and one-half inches apart. Anyone with a home-made or store-bought sluice box can check theirs and adjust it to that spec. He mentioned that he had greatest success with "Australian riffles." This is the style which is vertical for half its height and then sharply bends backward and up at 45 degrees. Also, in his work in Clear Creek, where many of us prospect, he recovered almost no gold larger than 10-mesh. (Mesh sizes are measured in holes per linear inch, such that, for example, a 10-mesh screen has ten holes per inch.) Because there is seldom any gold particle in Clear Creek larger than 10-mesh, it is most productive to classify your pan or sluice to include only material that can pass through a 10-mesh screen.

For very fine gold, smaller than 50-mesh, the losses were 50% using even the most sophisticated equipment because in that size range the gold "floats like a leaf off the [concentrating] table." He mentioned too, that the typical gold yield from local sand and gravel operations is five to ten cents per ton. May times never get so bad that we are compelled to duplicate this with shovel and wheelbarrow!

Mr. Reid graciously gave thanks that his childhood hopes and dreams became the reality of a fulfilling, fascinating, and remunerative life's work, the enjoyment of which he expects to continue. May we all have such good prospecting!

### Alternate Meanings

1. Coffee (n.), a person who is coughed upon.
2. Flabbergasted (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained.
3. Abdicate (v.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. Negligent (adj.), describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightgown.
5. Lymph (v.), to walk with a lisp.
6. Balderdash (n.), a rapidly receding hairline.
7. Oyster (n.), a person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddish expressions.

### Gold Is Where You Find It

When the owners tried to stop high-grading by forcing the miners to take a shower after each shift, the thieves claimed the bath was "weakening." The Independence mine at Cripple Creek estimated it lost over $1,000,000 to "dirty" miners. ~Al Look

Silver is also where you find it. A gold miner in 1880 was getting a two-bit hair cut in Breckenridge, a placer gold camp, and the barber noticed that he had silver dust in his hair. The prospector visited the place where he slept the night before and a new silver camp was born. ~Al Look
Notes from Last Month's GPR Meetings

Board Meeting
by Gary Hawley, President

Roll Call
In Attendance: Gary Hawley, Jeff Mosteller, Kathy Hawley, Hank Innerfeld, Joe Johnston, Matt Schreiner, Paul Nagy, Jim Jarnutowski, Cindy Douthard, Terry Weatherly.
Unable to Attend: Joe Shubert, Allen Mershon.

Quorum Present?
Yes.

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 6:16 p.m. by Gary Hawley.

Reading and Approval of Minutes
Read by Gary Hawley and approved as read.

Treasurer's Report
Accepted as read and available at tonight's general meeting.

Correspondence
Membership dues and newsletters from other clubs.

Committee Reports
Reports: Presented and discussed.

Unfinished Business
Club Trommel. Allen Mershon. Gary Hawley has contacted Rick LaCombe and now has pictures of the trommel.
C.A.N.P.O. Hank Innerfeld. Ongoing. The Board has determined to not pursue affiliation with this organization.
Find of the Month/Year Committee. Joe Johnston. Presentation of proposal that reflects the suggested changes. Open for Board voting. The Board approved the proposal and changes. Joe will publish his guidelines and being charge of this committee.
Boy Scouts Environmental Sciences Merit Badge. Allen Mershon checking to see if GPR members can be involved in this program. Ongoing.

New Business
Aurora History Museum. The museum is requesting loan of mining equipment for June display. Jim Jarnutowski.

Planned Outings
Outings. Check the GPR Events Calendar in the newsletter.

Announcements
Next Board Meetings: June 15, 2005, at 6:00 p.m.
Next General Meeting: June 15, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.
Tonight's general meeting program: "Newly Revealed Research for Gold Placer Operators" by Bill Reid.

Adjournment
Meeting stands adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

What's In a Phrase?
In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer on which to sleep. Hence the phrase "goodnight, sleep tight."

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts. So in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them mind their own pints and quarts and settle down. It's where we get the phrase "mind your Ps and Qs."

General Meeting
By Paul Nagy, General Meeting Recorder

Meeting called to order by President Gary Hawley. Pledge of Allegiance.
Treasurer's report given by Prez Hawley. The adjustment in the treasury is because of gold purchases for drawings, which may be sufficient for the remainder of the year. Applause for Treasurer Kathy Hawley for dedication and fine performance.
Membership report by Cindy Douthard: 124 memberships, 5 guests present.
Vice President's report by Jeff Mosteller. Jeff gave a rundown of planned and prospective gold panning demonstrations for the spring and summer months. The panning demos are by far our greatest interface with the public and are always successful in promoting interest and good will. Volunteers are needed! We will train you if you need it. Sharpen your social skills and have some fun. Dress as you like; no costumes required. Sign-up sheets at the front of the hall. The panning demos have made us known from coast to coast. We have had enquiries from New York, Hollywood, and points between.
Prez Hawley notes recent letters to the club, including a congratulatory note from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and a letter of inquiry which, sadly, had no return address. Although we hope never to disappoint someone, under that circumstance it is hard not to.
The recent weekend on gold claims along the Arkansas River sponsored by the Colorado Springs club was very well attended and included at least a few GPR club members. Thanks to the Colorado Springs club for the invite.
The Aurora History Museum is planning a Colorado History Month and has requested us to supply mining artifacts which represent the gold rush period. We are endeavoring to comply. Jim Jarnutowski is handling this.
Rick Miska gave the question of the month and later awarded prize drawing tickets for the correct answer.
Joe Johnston announces the inception of the "Find of the Month/Year" contest. It will begin in July. This has been a popular event at the Fort Collins club, and Joe has taken the initiative to set it up and see how it works out here, on a trial basis. Joe also gives clue #11 for the hidden treasure.
Prez Hawley shows a new type of gold pan he purchased at the recent GPAA Gold Show. Several members attended the show.
Introduction of new members and guests.
Board Member Matt Schreiner shows the gold specimen for the special drawing. The word on this beautiful Venezuelan specimen is spreading fast and generating considerable interest. The drawing for it will be at some time in the future after its cost has been recouped. Tickets are one dollar apiece or seven for five bucks. You need not be present to win.
Hank Innerfeld introduces the evening's speaker, Bill Reid, who talks about "Newly Revealed Research for Gold Placer Operators."
Prize drawings, then adjourn meeting.

So You Think You Know Everything?
If the population of China walked past you, in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
**Drawing Winners**
*By Kathy Hawley, Drawings Coordinator*

**Nugget Drawings**
- 2.8 gram nugget........................................... Marilynn Kenny
- 1.8 gram nugget........................................... Frank Conte
- 1.0 gram nugget........................................... Con Ogden
- 0.8 gram nugget........................................... Jim Jarnutowski
- 0.8 gram nugget........................................... Wolf Stumpf
- 0.6 gram nugget........................................... Chuck Cown
- 0.6 gram nugget........................................... Wolf Stumpf
- 0.5 gram nugget........................................... Cindy Douthard
- 0.5 gram nugget........................................... David Laurita
- 0.5 gram nugget........................................... Carol Oakes
- 0.4 gram nugget........................................... Chuck Harris
- 0.3 gram nugget........................................... Susan Duncanson

**Membership Drawings**
- Gold nugget............................................. Wayne McCarroll
  (Donated by The Club)

**Members Only Drawings**
- Vial of gold............................................. Shirley Weilnau
  (Donated by Allen Mershon)
- "Gold" bar .............................................. Jay Nunn
  (Donated by LeRoy Lamgo)
- Pocket Watch ........................................... Unreadable
  (Donated by LeRoy Lamgo)
- Lawn chair ............................................. Terry Weatherly
  (Donated by Wayne & Diane McCarroll)

**Quotes**

Stand up to your obstacles and do something about them. You will find that they haven't half the strength you think they have.

~ Norman Vincent Peale

You learn something every day if you pay attention.

~ Ray LeBlond

I am learning all the time. The tombstone will be my diploma.

~ Eartha Kitt

I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday.

~ Abraham Lincoln

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty.

~ Henry Ford

Every act of conscious learning requires a small sacrifice of ego. That is why children, who have yet to discover their self-importance, learn so easily; and why adults, with ego in full bloom, pretend to know more than they do.

~ Alice Ruddy

**Q & A**
*By Rick Miska, Q&A Coordinator*

**May, 2005**
- I was born on December 27, 1820, in South Carolina.
- I moved to Georgia at an early age.
- I owned a 1,000-acre plantation on the Etowah River in Cherokee County, Georgia.
- I learned the trade of gold mining from my father.
- I started looking for gold in Colorado in 1858 after hearing about gold finds there.
- I followed the most promising forks upstream from the Vasquez Fork of the South Platte.
- I eventually found the source of gold in what is now Central City.

**Question:** Who am I?

**Answer:** John H. Gregory

**Source:** [http://freepages.history.rootsweb.com/~cescott/jhgregory.html](http://freepages.history.rootsweb.com/~cescott/jhgregory.html)

**June, 2005**
- I was born March 19, 1814.
- In 1838, I graduated with an M.D. from Clermont Academy.
- I founded the Illinois Medical Society.
- Along with Colonel John Chivington, I created the Denver Seminary, which is now Denver University.
- I was the second person to ever hold my job in Colorado.
- A fourteener is named after me.

**Question:** Who am I?

**Food for Thought**
*By Jackie Barker, Refreshments Coordinator*

Many thanks go to LeRoy Lamgo for the cookies which he said he worked on all day; they were yummy. Thanks to Hank Innerfeld for his popular banana bread and to Ed Finney for his tasty pumpkin bread.

Hope to see everyone next month. Till then remember, "The noblest of all dogs, is the hot dog; it feeds the hand that bites it." -- Laurence J. Peter

Jackie and Michael

**Another Thought**

If Wyle E Coyote had enough money to buy all that ACME stuff, why didn't he just buy dinner?
(Continued from Prez Sez, page 1)
the property.
Check Rick Miska's Q&A article. He has had some great questions this year and it feels good to answer the question and get a free ticket for the nugget drawings.

Speaking of gold nuggets, read Kathy Hawley's 'From the Ledger' for the latest information on the 33.6 gram Venezuela nugget she has for the special drawing.

Joe Johnston is finalizing the guidelines for the revived "Find of the Month/Year" program and will publish information for it as soon as he can. This promises to be a fun and educational program that all members will be able to participate in. Joe will need some help with setting up and running a table for the displays so I am counting on a couple members to get involved.

Jeff Mosteller has a fine lineup of panning demos for this summer and he would much appreciate having a full roster of volunteers for these events. This activity benefits the club by giving us exposure to public and private groups and individuals that have involvement with rules and regulation making bodies. Through the panning demos we have been beneficial in keeping prospecting available to the small miner in Gilpin County and Clear Creek Canyon. Please contact Jeff and make arrangements to volunteer for a couple of these events.

Prospect with care and respect the land. Support our advertisers. Attend the club meetings.

Until next time: May the gold in your pan be worth the effort you put into finding it.

---

**From the Ledger**

of Kathy Hawley, Treasurer

Many thanks to those who donated items for the "Members Only" prizes. LeRoy Lamgo donated a gold plated bar and pocket watch, a vial of gold came from Allen Mershon, and a lawn chair from the McCarrolls/Herbertsons. We will continue to give items donated by members as monthly "Members Only" prizes. The club will also donate 1 nugget for this drawing monthly.

The "Special Drawing Nugget" is a 33.6 gram beauty from Venezuela. Tickets for this drawing will only be available during the break and are $1.00 each or 7 for $5.00. We may be able to give this nugget away as early as the July meeting.

At the June meeting, I will have north Washington State gold nuggets and one Alaskan gold nugget for the drawings. We will give away a total of 10.8 grams of gold with the largest nugget being 2.8 grams. There will be 3 nuggets over 1 gram each.

So like I always say, come prepared to buy some extra tickets and Good Luck!

---

**Another Quote**

Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights.

~ Pauline R. Kezer

---

**Good Advice From an Old Prospector**

Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

Always drink upstream from the herd.
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MINELAB DETECTOR FOR SALE
Minelab SD-2100 metal detector with 8", 11", and 15" coils. For all the details, contact Ken Oyler, (303) 696-7230, (303) 523-8046, or goldfinder2@comcast.net

SPEEDAIRE COMPRESSOR FOR SALE
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THREE-WHEEL SCOOTER FOR SALE
Shuttle Personal Transport System, 3-wheel mobility scooter, good condition, $950. Contact Rose Ann or Jon Knight, (303) 450-0580 or (303) 252-1759

GOT STUFF? WANT STUFF? PUT YOUR AD HERE!
Members of the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies are welcome to submit their personal classified ads about items wanted or for sale. Please give this section a bit of your time and consideration. It is quite possible that you can see that you have a limitless space to give your entire constabulary and only then can you give of yourself. Dig?

KEENE DREDGE FOR SALE
Keene 5-inch triple sluice dredge w/2 new hoses, 8HP Briggs & Stratton motor, 25-foot air hose w/respirator, upgraded to pump hot water into wet suit, made as a 2-wheel bed trailer w/racks, comes w/current license plates. Included are a wet suit that fits a 6-foot, 140-pound guy, boots, gloves, hat, and brand new face mask. $1,500 firm. Alan Hamaker, (303) 582-3144

2 FAIRPLAY GOLD MINING CLAIMS FOR SALE
Each is 10 acres on Beaver Creek below Beaver Creek Park. Good access road, mineral rights only (on USFS land), "Golden Bridge" claim #251958. Asking $1,500 for both. Alan Hamaker, (303) 582-3144

2 CENTRAL CITY GOLD MINING PROPERTIES FOR SALE
"Two Sisters" - 1.57 acres and "Clara Maria" - 1.65 acres, Central City. Property owned, therefore all land, mineral, and water rights included. Power poles 10 ft. away. Alan Hamaker, (303) 582-3144

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Dated Material
Please check the date on your label to see the last month you may renew your GPR membership and continue your subscription to The Gold Nugget without interruption. Thanks, and happy prospecting!

☐ Renew today  ☐ Last newsletter

Sites for Mining Tours
And Some Mining Terms
By Jim Jarnutowski

Argo Gold Mine and Mill
Clear Creek Mining and Milling Museum
2317 Riverside Drive
Idaho Springs
303 567-2421
www.historicargotours.com/

Bachelor Syracuse Mine
122 CR 14
Ouray
970-325-0220 (summer)
800-932-6337 (winter)
www.ouraycolorado.com/bachelor

Colorado School of Mines
16th and Maple
Golden
303-273-3823
www.mines.edu/academic/geology/museum

Country Boy Mine
542 French Gulch Road
Breckenridge
970-453-4405
www.countryboymine.com/

Creede Underground Mining
Forest Service Road #9
Creede
719-658-0811
www.museumtrail.org/creedeUndergroundMiningMuseum.asp

Alluvial or Bench Deposits
Alluvial deposit is an ancient river-washed rock and gravel bar that may be thousands of feet from the nearest stream, creek, or river. Alluvial (or bench) deposits contain untapped potential for finding gold because such areas have never been worked before.

Coyote
The process of digging in river-borne gravels by tunneling until bedrock is hit. The tunnel is dug in hopes of finding a rich bedrock deposit deep in the gravel bar.

Drift
In mining, a drift is defined as a horizontal passageway that is excavated along a rich vein of ore. Hard rock mines usually use drifts to obtain the rich ore, though some hard rock mines are open.

Hard Rock Mine
A hard rock mine is a tunnel that is dug into solid rock for the sole purpose of finding valuable or precious rocks, minerals, or metals.

Tymkovich Meats
Established 1952
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(303) 288-8655
Open Wed-Sat
9:30 to 5:30
(Closed Sun-Tue)