

## The Gold Nugget

Vol. 10, No. 6

June 2005

### 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 knowledgeable 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

GPR Events Calendar .....	2
Gold is Where You Find It.....	2
Meeting Notes.....	3
What's In a Phrase.....	3
So You Think You Know Everything? ...	3
Drawing Winners.....	4
Q&A .....	4
Quotes.....	4
Food for Thought.....	4
Another Thought.....	4
From the Ledger .....	5
Another Quote .....	5
Good Advice From an Old Prospector.....	5
Classifieds and Advertising .....	6, 7, 8
Sites for Mining Tours.....	8

**GPR Events Calendar**

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

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 upward 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 Ogdan
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 <b>The Club</b> )	

### Members Only Drawings

Vial of gold.....	Shirley Weilnau
(Donated by <b>Allen Mershon</b> )	
"Gold" bar.....	Jay Nunn
(Donated by <b>LeRoy Lamgo</b> )	
Pocket Watch.....	Unreadable
(Donated by <b>LeRoy Lamgo</b> )	
Lawn chair.....	Terry Weatherly
(Donated by <b>Wayne &amp; Diane McCarroll</b> )	

## 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



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 starting 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>

### 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?

### The Gold Nugget

This copyrighted newsletter is the official publication of the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies (GPR), PO Box 621988, Littleton, Colorado 80162-1988, a non-profit organization of families dedicated to gold prospecting. Membership in the GPR is \$40 the first year and \$30 each subsequent year for an individual or family and includes a one-year subscription to *The Gold Nugget*, one name tag, and membership cards for all family members. Additional badges may be purchased. We meet at the Lloyd G. Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood, Colorado, on the third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. sharp to educate members about gold prospecting and gold prospecting rules, review old and new products, coordinate outings, participate in drawings for door prizes and nuggets, socialize with like-minded friendly folks, and promote the pursuit of gold. Final deadline for all article submissions is five days before the month of publication. Single issues are \$3.00 per copy (postpaid).

*(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 Lango** 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



### GPR GOLD PANNING DEMONSTRATIONS

Know an organization that might want us to set up a gold panning demonstration booth? Contact

**Jeff Mosteller**

(303) 202-9302 <> [jefndona@comcast.net](mailto:jefndona@comcast.net)

For additional information and photos, see

<http://www.GoldProspectorsOfTheRockies.com/>

*(Continued from VPs Corner, page 1)*

on TV now and then and you can even find mention of us in newspapers and magazines. These events also give us a platform to educate the general public as well as the political people that make decisions that affect what we do on the streams. It was through this type of activity and education that we were able to work with Jefferson County Open Space and Gilpin County Commissioners so we can still run our dredges and high-bankers in their areas with their blessings.

Teaching someone how to pan for gold is fun and easy. If you don't know for sure how to do it, there is no better place to get the experience for yourself. As we have stated before in the meetings, you do not have to wear a costume to get involved. What I need is YOU!

Last year we gave out gold concentrates to all who attended the demos. This year I have a surprise for all that get involved. Give me a call (303-202-9302) or e-mail me at [jefndona@comcast.net](mailto:jefndona@comcast.net) and volunteer some time.

At our May meeting I set out five sign up sheets for the June events. I only got 13 signatures on the sheets and I need several more members to help fulfill the commitments that have been planned. I am asking for more members to get involved with the panning demos.

I guarantee you will enjoy the experience. Below I have listed the lineup for June.

#### June 4

"The Castle," Bellview Ministry, 80th & Federal, 10:00a-3:00p

#### June 11 & 12

Arvada Gold Strike Street Festival, on Grandview, 10:00a-6:00p

#### June 18 & 19

Lou Bunch / Shady Ladies, Central City Main Street, 10:00a-4:00p



### 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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**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**

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**2 FAIRPLAY GOLD MINING CLAIMS FOR SALE**

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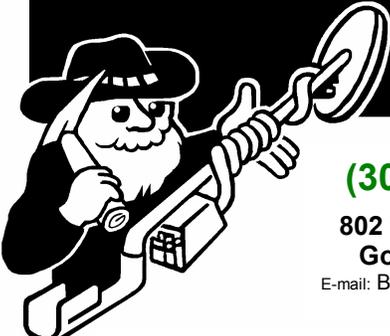
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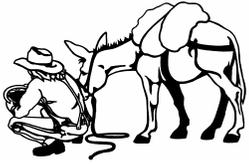
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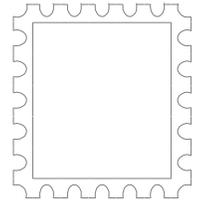
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Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window? The average dog is a nicer person than the average person. We give dogs time we can spare, space we can spare, and love we can spare, and in return, dogs give us their all.



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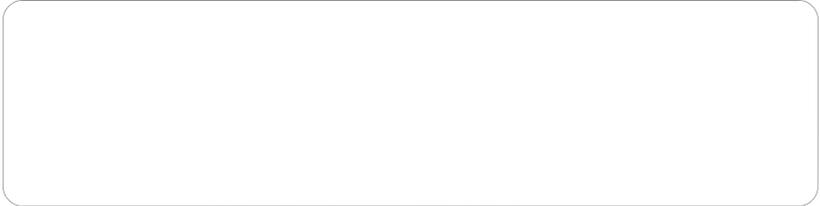


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**FIRST CLASS**



### Sites for Mining Tours And Some Mining Terms

By Jim Jarnutowski

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[www.historicargotours.com/](http://www.historicargotours.com/)

**Bachelor Syracuse Mine**  
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 Ouray  
 970-325-0220 (summer)  
 800-932-6337 (winter)  
[www.ouraycolorado.com/bachelor](http://www.ouraycolorado.com/bachelor)

**Colorado School of Mines**  
 16th and Maple  
 Golden  
 303-273-3823  
[www.mines.edu/academic/geology/museum](http://www.mines.edu/academic/geology/museum)

**Country Boy Mine**  
 542 French Gulch Road  
 Breckenridge  
 970-453-4405  
[www.countryboymine.com/](http://www.countryboymine.com/)

**Creede Underground Mining**  
 Forest Service Road #9  
 Creede  
 719-658-0811  
[www.museumtrail.org/creedeUndergroundMiningMuseum.asp](http://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.

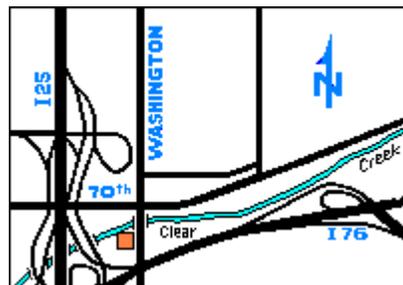
#### Drift

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.

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