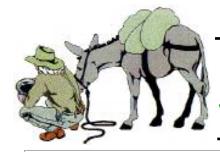
GOLD PROSPECTORS OF THE ROCKIES



The Gold Nugget

Vol. 11, No. 5 May 2006

The Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology

The evening's speaker was Allen Sorenson of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Minerals and Geology. The agency is charged with the following duties: 1.) review mine plans; 2.) set reclamation bonds; 3.) perform mine inspections; 4.) enforce rules and regulations. For those who believed that mining in Colorado is dead, Allen's office, during the past year, has reviewed requests for 2500 mining permits on more than 2000 prospects. That is some kind of busy!

For our purposes, Allen reminds us that a total surface disturbance of 1600 square feet or less is regarded as "recreational use" and requires no written authorization. (Naturally, you are required to reclaim your diggings no matter how small.) For anything larger than this, you are required to file a Notice of Intent. The state is quite fair about this and we certainly would want to obey the letter of the law.

The DNR also has publications for sale, including the bible of Colorado placerers, the work by Ben Parker entitled "Gold Placers of Colorado." Other publications on mining and geology are also available at reasonable prices. As examples of current placer mines, Allen showed slides of the Snowstorm and Alma placers in Park County. (I did an evaluation of the Snowstorm about twenty-five years ago and I was startled by the size of the excavation.)

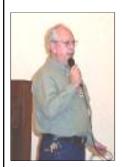
Mr. Sorenson pointed out that artisanal placer miners worldwide still use mercury to maximize gold recovery. (Artisanal miners are small scale operators who actually feed themselves and their families by their efforts.) Unless you are faced with starvation or really know what you are doing, it is not wise to use mercury. It is very toxic to you and to the environment. Much better to be safe and leave just a bit of the gold to nature. Ditto for cyanide. If you're into leaching, there are other leachates available which are much safer. Fool with mercury or cyanide and

The Prez Sez

By Gary Hawley, President

Here we are in May, already! A third of the year is over but the best time for prospecting is yet to come. Days are longer and the weather is warming. We have to be careful of afternoon thunderstorms and spring runoff...other than that it's prospecting time!

There are always questions about where to prospect. As far as I know, we



are still allowed on Clear Creek from tunnel #1 to Highway 119. Remember that is Jefferson County Open Space land and we must respect Open Space rules: dig in the streambed; don't undercut trees or large boulders; fill in holes; take out trash. If you are contacted

by any enforcement officers, be polite, explain what you are doing and follow their directives. Please contact myself or Jeff Mosteller to advise us of any enforcement contacts. We want to continue

Continued on page 2

Continued on page 4

VP's Corner

By Jeff Mosteller, Vice President

Greetings to all,

I ran out of stuff to write about this month which was a big surprise to my wife so I decided to dig back into our vast library of past newsletters and came up with this jewel. It is a recopy of an article from Gary Turk, President of "The Gold Prospectors of Colorado" printed in our newsletter on July 2001.



Because we have picked up so many newcomers to the club we'll go with this. We have covered where to sell your gold now lets delve into the types of placer gold you may find and what's it's worth.

You may hear people talking about their gold in terms like flakes and flour. Some will tell you that a nugget they

Continued on page 5



GPOR Website

If you have updates for, comments about, or anything else regarding the club website, you can contact the club webmaster at:

prospector@phantomranch.net

Dick will be happy to review any suggestions or comments you may have.



(continued from The Prez Says on page 1)

the positive relationship we have with Open Space and I expect our members to be cooperative and respectful.

Please contact Cindy Douthard if you have a change of address or phone number.

Sue Lemieux arranged for an exceptional tour of the Western Museum of Mining & Industry in Colorado Springs on April 29. Eight members met at the museum and were given a special tour of the museum and the 1890's Yellow Jacket II stamp mill. The museum will be hosting a **Model Engineering & Innovation Show** June 9, 10 & 11. There will be hand-crafted scale models of turbines, airplane engines, trains and more! On June 11 they will operate the stamp mill.

Speaking of the Western Museum of Mining & Industry, I will have some special information about a relationship between this wonderful organization and our club at our May meeting!

Jeff Mosteller has a full calendar of panning demos lined up and he will need your help to fulfill our commitments. If you have not attended a demo before I encourage you to give it a try. This is a great way for our club to keep prospecting alive in this modern age.

We have a new removable window decal available for \$4.00. Be proud of your club and display this decal, especially at any group event.

Thanks to Allen Mershon for the wonderful and informative speakers he gets for our meetings. Great job, Allen!

Joe Johnston has been charged with running a metal detecting hunt this summer. If metal detecting is your thing, please give Joe some help in setting this up. We have had successful hunts in the past and I am looking forward to this one.

I gave GPR Cache clue #7 at the April meeting. So far no one has called me about finding the cache so it is still out there!

Kathy has another 13.0 grams of gold for the May drawings. It is the member's support of this program that allows for this much gold to be given away.

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

(continued from Minerals and Geology on page 1)

you won't even save enough for your own coffin!
Concluding, Allen mentioned that the current gold operation at
Victor-Cripple Creek has requested a permit increase to mine two
million ounces per year. That is big league! Reports of the death of
gold mining in Colorado are definitely premature!

CONCENTRATES

This is the name given to the material that remains in the gold pan, rocker, sluice, etc., after washing. Concentrates are usually composed of black sands, gold and silver, but particles of platinum and a variety of other minerals could be included.

Sue's Sluice Box

WHAT: A "Golden" Afternoon at the Golden Pioneer Museum

WHEN: Saturday, May 13th

WHERE: Golden, 923 Tenth Street, (Coming from Highway 58 Westbound, Washington Ave. Exit, take left on Washington Ave, then a right on 10th Street)

MTG. TIME & PLACE: 10:45am, at the Museum. Scheduled Tour at 11:00 am. (Parking in the museum lot on the corner of 10th & Cheyenne)

ADMISSION: Walk-Ins: Seniors \$2.00, Adult \$3.00 * Guided Tours-\$1.00 Each *

Golden is rich with History. This museum tells the story on how the West was won and how its people lived, focusing primarily on the years 1859 through 1945. Pioneer artifacts from Golden and other parts of Jefferson County are featured throughout the exhibits.

If you would like to bring a picnic lunch, there's a deck, at the museum, which overlooks the Clear Creek. For the adventurous, Golden has a great selection of sandwich shoppes and restaurants, all in a short walking distance.

Also, for those interested in seeing what's new in prospecting equipment or would like to replenish their supplies, there's a short walk to the Gold-n-Detector store at 802 Washington Ave. (Just 2 blocks North of the museum)

Any Questions: Call Sue Lemieux (413) 668-6008

2006 Newsletter Article Submission Deadlines

Please submit your newsletter articles to Rick Miska at:

Goldhunter@Ricksthings.com

January 4th February 6th March 3rd

April 7th

May 2nd

June 4th

June 4th

July 4th

August 4th

September 8th

October 6th

November 3rd

December 8th

Exceptions to these dates can only be made by Gary Hawley and/or Rick Miska.

Notes from Last Month's GPR Meetings

GPR Events Calendar

Colorado Mineral & Fossil Show

Holiday Inn – Denver Central 4849 Bannock St. (Retail & Wholesale)

APRIL 21, 22, 23, 2006

(Fri. & Sat. 10-6 * Sun. 10-5) Free Admission & Free Parking

Arvada Gold Strike Fest

June 10, 11

UNCONFERMED!!!

Central City

July 1, 2

10:00 a to 4:30p

Central City

July 15, 16

10:00 a to 4:30p

ClearCreek History Park

July 29, 30 (30th not confermed as of yet)

BB Days

9:00a 4:30p

ClearCreek History Park

Aug 19 & 20

Arts Fair

9:00a 4:30p

Central City

Sept. 2, 3

10:00 a to 4:30p

Mother Load Rodeo

Gilpin County

Aug 26, 27

(times to be set later)

HYDRAULIC MINING

In hydraulic mining, water under great pressure was discharged through monitors against a gold-bearing hillside. The force of the water would wash away the hillside, flushing the silt and gravel through sluices where it could be separated and the gold recovered. Hydraulicking could-and often did-completely ruin the landscape.

POORMAN'S DIGGINGS

This term did not mean that the area being worked was low grade or yielding small quantities of gold, but rather that it could be worked by a miner with a rocker or sluice with very little capital. Hence, it could be worked by a poor man.

WING-DAM

This was a dam that divided a riverbed miners wanted to work, lengthwise, allowing water to flow through sluice boxes and other devices set up to wash the gravel. These were put effective use on the Fraser River.

Gold Prospectors of the Rockies

Board meeting of April 19 2006

Roll call. Those in attendance: Gary Hawley, Hank Innerfeld, Mike Barker, Jeff Mosteller, Joe Johnston, Cindy Douthard, Donna Mosteller, Kathy Hawley, Joe Shubert, Paul Nagy, Terry Weatherly, Sue Lemieux

Quorum present? Yes.

Call to order. Meeting was called to order at 6:18 p.m. by Gary Hawley.

Reading and approval of minutes. Read by Gary Hawley.

Corrections: None.

Approved as read/corrected? Yes.

Treasurer's Report. Read by Gary Hawley.

Questions: None.

Accepted? Yes.

Correspondence. Newsletters from other clubs, membership renewal, advertisement.

Committee Reports: Accepted as read.

Unfinished Business:

Club trammel – Gary Hawley and/or Allen Mershon. – On going.

Volunteer Recognition – Jeff Mosteller. On going.

Calendars – Donna Mosteller. After discussion on pricing, requirements as to minimum order needed and other pertinent information, the Board determined to not go forward with the calendars. The Board has decided that a club cookbook may be more in order. Donna Mosteller will gather information about this venue.

Jefferson County Open Space and CDOT – Jeff Mosteller. Nothing further on this matter. Jeff will report on any developments in the future.

Speakers Form – Allen Mershon. On going.

New Business: Kathy Hawley renewed our annual Post Office Box rental at a cost of 72.00.

Planned Outings: Sue Lemieux – update on outings. Several possibilities were discussed and Sue will finalize dates. See GPR Events Calendar in The Gold Nugget.

Announcements: Next board meeting: May 17, 2006, at 6:00 P.M. Next general meeting: May 17, 2006, at 7:00 P.M.

Tonight's general meeting program: Allen Sorenson of Colorado Division on Minerals and Geology.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:57 P.M.

GPR Genl Mtg Notes Clements Center Lakewood, CO 19 Apr 2006

7:10 President Gary Hawley calls the meeting to order. Pledge of allegiance led by Rick Miska.

7:12 Cindy Douthard gives membership report: 97 individual and family memberships; 9 guests present: Keith Dotson, James Vaughn, Allen Sorenson, Jim Wolfe, Hunts Kretsch, William Martinez, Mike Gonzales, Steve Yoder, Christine Torrant. Welcome to all! Hope you'll join the club!

7:14 Review of precious metal prices. Happy days are here again, as gold and silver soar some more!

7:19 Crack prospectors Larry and Shirley Weilnau show the latest of their many finds: a bottle of liquid gold--Jose Cuervo Tequila! Yes, full! Seal not broken! (Beware. All yellow liquid is not gold.) They didn't mention where they found it, so they can go back undisturbed and look for more. Neither did they say how they adjusted their metal detector to find it. Could be a rich lode. Just don't drive afterward.

7:22 VP's report by Jeff Mosteller. The ground above Route 119 in Clear Creek Canyon is private property and is now posted "no trespassing." Please obey such signs, even if they are new in areas where you have placered before. Ownership is still nine-tenths of the law and property owners have the right to change their minds. The best way for us to preserve our mining priviledges anywhere is to show respect for the property by following the club rules. Especially, fill in holes and do not undercut stream banks. Also, remind all others that even small-scale mining is only a priviledge and that it can be revoked at any time without notice. Most people are glad to be educated about proper and safe procedures if it is tactfully done.

A question from the floor: is panning permitted in the metro area? Answer: Yes, except for Boulder County which is strictly against ANY digging in stream beds or elsewhere. Other jurisdictions generally permit panning and sluicing, but by hand only. Motorized equipment of any sort is usually discouraged. Remember that all the laws, rules, and regulations are changeable without notice and that enforcement is often at the discretion of the individual law officer. If confronted, your best defense is to identify yourself as a GPR member and show a copy of our Prospectors' Code of Ethics. Also inform the officer that not only do you obey the Code, but help enforce it by educating others.

7:33 Sue Lemieux announces that the trip to the Colorado Springs mining museum is planned for the 29th of April. She gave the details. Sue is doing stellar work as the club's events director.

7:40 Prez Hawley gives the clue for the hidden cache.

7:41 Treasurer Kathy Hawley announces that the top prize for the night's drawing is a 2.75 gram nugget.

7:42 Joe Johnston presents the awards, silver eagle coins, for the finds of the year. Thanks to Joe for setting up this popular activity.

7:46 Shirley Weilnau asks the question of the month. Later, she awards drawing tickets to the winners.

7:48 Recess.

8:04 Evening's program: Allen Sorenson of the Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology gives an excellent talk on the hows, whys, and wherefores of his agency.

8:37 Prize drawings.

8:55 Adjourn meeting.



By Shirley Weilnau Q&A Coordinator

May 2006

How many elements are there that combine chemically with gold and name them.

Cheers! Shirley www.hookedongold.com

Find of the Year

By Joe Johnston, Find of the Month/Year Coordinator

Best Bottle R. Deschambault, Signet Medicine bottle

Best Jewelry Joe Johnston, 1940's-50's airplane brooch

Largest Raw Gold Leroy Lamgo

Most Raw Gold -(no entries)

Most Unique (Excavated) -Sue Lemieux, garnet rock from Vermont

Most Unique (Non-Excavated) no entries

Most Valuable U.S Coin - Joe Johnston, 1945-D silver quarter

Oldest U.S. Coin -Joe Johnston - Leroy Lamgo, 1853 3cent piece

Congratulations to this months winners, be sure to save your FOM winning items for entry in the Find Of the Year (FOY) competition in December. Finds made from the end of the February meeting to the time of the March meeting are eligible for entry in the March FOM program. Bring your best finds, and we'll see you at the next meeting.

Joe Johnston, Finds Program Coordinator.

From the Ledger of Kathy Hawley, Treasurer

Thanks to Joe Johnston for donating the members only drawing prize.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone that volunteers to carry the tubs in out of the center each month, and a special thanks to Chuck for his help every meeting. I really appreciate every one of you

At the May meeting we will give away 13.0 grams of gold with 5 nuggets being 1.0 grams or larger. The largest nugget will be 2.9 grams.

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

Food for Thought

Big thanks to LeRoy Lamgo for the donuts, they are always a favorite, and a gigantic thank you to Hank Innerfeld for the return of the ever popular banana bread. Hope everyone's enjoying the nice spring weather. Here's a few thoughts regarding smiles - remember a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks and everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile. See you at the next meeting and keep SMILING.

Jackie and Michael

2006 GPR Officers and Board Members

	Gary Hawley
	. Jeff Mosteller
	Kathy Hawley
. Hank Innerfled	(elected 2005)
Joe Johnston	(elected 2005)
Joe Shubert	(elected 2006)
	Mike Barker
	Cindy Douthard
	Jim Intriglia
	Allen Mershon
D	onna Mosteller
	Paul Nagy
T	erry Weatherly
	. Hank Innerfled Joe Johnston Joe Shubert



(Continued from VP's Corner, page 1)

found weighs a pennyweight. When you are new at this, these terms may sound foreign. So just what do all these things mean?

What to call that gold you found.

FLOUR -- This should be obvious. The gold you found looks like baking flour, only it's gold. Sometimes it is even microscopic in size and people wonder how you found it without a magnifying glass.

SPECK -- This is going to be just a bit bigger than FLOUR, but still very small.

FLECK -- This is similar to a SPECK, but it's flatter in shape and still very small.

FLAKE -- Now we're getting somewhere! A FLAKE is going to be larger in size. You will begin to get excited when the gold you are finding reaches FLAKE size. A FLAKE is still to small to pick up with your fingers but you can get it with a tweezer.

PICKER -- Yahoo! This is a piece of gold big enough to pick up with your finger and thumb. If you have to fumble around to get it, it is a SMALL PICKER. If you can pick it out rather easily, it qualifys as a NICE PICKER. If it is real easy to pick up, it is probably a BIG PICKER.

When you actually hear a piece of gold hitting and sliding around the bottom of your pan, or the bottom of your sluice, you may get real excited, some people call these PLINKER, but for the most part they are called SMALL NUGGETS. If one dents your pan or sluice, no doubt about it, you got a NUGGET!

This is the way you compute the actual value of the gold you have. Please note the value used in the following computations (\$650.00) is for demonstration purposes only and may not reflect the current price of an ounce of gold.

GRAINS: Take the value of gold and divide it by 480, this will give you the value of a grain. EXAMPLE -- \$650divided by 480 = 1.35. So each GRAIN of gold you have would be worth \$1.35

PENNYWEIGHT: Take the value of gold and divide it by 20. This will give you the value of a pennyweight (DWT). EXAMPLE -- \$650 divided by 20 = 32.50 So each pennyweight of gold you have would worth \$32.50

BUT WAIT!! THERES MORE!!

If you have a nugget that is large enough to make into a piece of jewelry it's value increases, and if your nugget has CHARACTER, that is it looks like something or someone in particular it's value goes up again. The value of a Nugget can go 10 times the currant market value, remember less than one tenth of 1 percent of all gold found in Placer is in in nugget form.

These are Scientific Measurements of Gold.

1 Ounce = 20 Pennyweights 31.10 Grams or 480 Grains 1 Pennyweight (dwt) = 1.56 Grams or 24 Grains

1 Gram - 15.43 Grains

Let me confuse you some more, if you find a picker that weighs 48 Grains, it also weighs 2 dwt (pennyweights) and it also weighs 1/10th of an Ounce. To add to the confusion this measurement system is called TROY OUNCES. These are not the same Ounces as we normally use to weigh and measure anything else. TROY

is used to measure precious metals only. You see a POUND in TROY is only 12 ounces !!!When you measure an ounce of flour you are using the AVOIRDUPOIS weight system. That is 16 ounces to a pound. WHY? Who knows it's a French thing. Just remember when you have a POUND of Gold it is 12 TROY OUNCES

Got it? good.

THANKS, GARY

Jeff

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Shuttle Personal Transport System, 3-wheel mobility scooter, good condition, \$950. Contact Rose Ann or Jon Knight, (303) 450-0580 or (303) 252-1759

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in The Gold Nugget

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3.6" x 4.3"	- "Four" Column Inches	\$12						
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3.6" x 9.3"	- "Nine" Column Inches (Vertical)	\$24						
7.5" x 9.3"	- "Eighteen Column Inches (Full Page)	\$48						
Pay for 12 months, get the 13th month free!								
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Send ad copy to (or request an Ad Sheet (ad deadline is 15 days before the month of publication) to the Editor.

For further info, see the GPR website

WANTED: 3- OR 4-WHEEL ATV

Three- or four-wheeler ATV wanted (cheap). "Needs work" is fine with me. Call me at (303) 404 2897 or e-mail me at goldhunter@ricksthings.com

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?

For Sale - Goldmaster 3 Detector \$275

Goldmaster 3 gold detector with standard coil, new battery holder. Works great. Call me at (303) 404 2897 or e-mail me at goldhunter@ricksthings.com **Sale Pending**

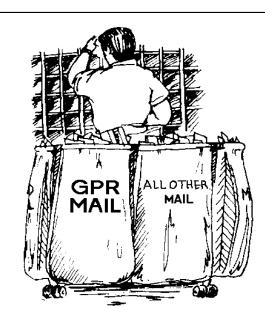
What have you been doing?

Where did you prospect last summer? What did you find? What kind of equipment do you use? How did you research your location? Did you file any claims?

What would you have done differently? Did you take any pictures?

Answer all of these questions with an article about your prospecting related experiences from recent times. Please send it to:

Goldhunter@ricksthings.com



Send in your comments, letters, articles, concerns, and suggestions for publication in this newsletter. Please try to keep the subject in line with things related to what our club is about. Articles should be submitted to Rick Miska at the meeting or goldhunter@ricksthings.com

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. Single issues are \$3.00 per copy (postpaid).



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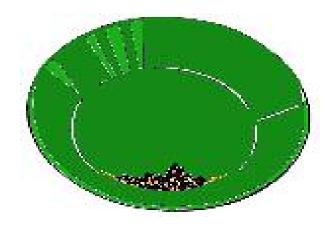
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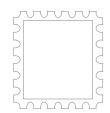
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