The Prez Sez by, Gary Hawley

Temperature changes alert us that autumn is only a few weeks away. Time to do some prospecting and start stockpiling black sand so you have something to work on when winter gets here.

Thanks to Joe Johnston for the great metal detecting clinic. About a dozen members spent the afternoon learning about the operations of a metal detector. Targets were located and prizes awarded.

Thanks to Beth Simmons for the Roscoe Placer tour. Beth has completed some major research of the Roscoe and her excellent tour explained many interesting details of that operation. Several who attended mentioned they were going to return to the area and do some panning, now that they know about this placer.

Hopefully, the “President's Day Out” at Cache Creek will fill the find-of-the-month table with vials full of gold. (We can dream, can’t we?)

At the August meeting, Leanne Larson announced the 1st Annual Cookie Baking Contest to be held at the September 17th meeting. Everyone is to bring two dozen of their favorite, home-made cookies (no store bought). Leanne will fill us in on the contest procedure. The winner will receive the “Coveted Golden Spoon”.

Joe Shubert will have nomination forms at the September meeting. This is the beginning of the election process for club Board Members. The club is run by volunteers and it is essential to have involved leaders so we can continue to grow. Step up and put your name on the nomination form!

The GPR Cache has been found! Jeff Mosteller will explain the clues and identify the winner at the September meeting.

Kathy Hawley has been preparing gold nuggets for the September drawings. She has taken on that “tight-lip” posture about the nuggets so I am not sure what she has in mind. The last time this occurred there was a fairly large nugget in the box. I might have to buy a couple tickets this time.

The club picnic will be at Tymkovich Meats, 6911 N. Washington St., southwest corner of their parking lot, on Saturday, September 20. Begin setup at 10:30 a.m.. Food at 11:30 a.m. The club will supply hamburgers and hot dogs, condiments, paper plates and plastic ware. You bring a side dish…enough for yourself and 2 others, and whatever you want to drink. (sorry, no alcohol). Clear Creek runs next to the parking lot and we will be able to pan & sluice. No motorized equipment allowed. If you have some prospecting equipment to sell/trade bring it along.

Until next time: May the gold in your pan be worth the effort you put into finding it.
Board Meeting Minutes for August 20, 2008

GPR Board Members
Gold Prospectors of the Rockies

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
President
Gary Hawley
Vice President
Allen Mershon
Treasurer
Kathy Hawley

2 Year Board Members
Robert Deschambault (Elected 2007)
Joe Johnston (Elected 2007)
Joe Shubert (Elected 2008)

1 Year Board Members
Paul Nagy
Sue Lemieux
Mike Barker
Arron Ingalls
Jeff Mosteller
Andy Doll
Henry Chambless

Quorum present?
Yes.

Call to order.
Meeting was called to order at 6:15 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.

Returned newsletter – insufficient address.
Newsletters from other clubs.

Committee Reports:
Web master reports more than 85,810 hits since January 1996.

Unfinished Business:
Metal Detecting Clinic – August 23. Details to be announced by Joe. Advertisement was in the newsletter.

Membership Cards – Gary Hawley. Open for discussion. Gary will check on styles and attempt to add our “small scale mining” codes on the back. See samples.

Trade Mark – Jeff Mosteller. Should we officially register our name and logo as a Trade Mark? Further discussion needed.

New Business:
Location for Club Picnic – input please?

Roscoe Placer Tour with Beth Simmons – information.

November Elections – Start Thinking. Joe Shubert will have nomination ballots at the September meeting.

Cache Creek problems – Henry Chambless. Henry reports persons have been observed diverting the stream. Henry will prepare emergency phone number cards that will have

(Continued Page 4)
**General Meeting Minutes for August 20, 2008**

Paul Nagy,  
*General Meeting Recorder*

7:05 President Gary Hawley calls the meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance led by Leroy Lamgo on his birthday.

7:06 Metal prices.

7:07 Treasurer’s report by Kathy Hawley. The drawing for the 18.5 gram (whew!) "special nugget" will probably be in December or so.

7:08 Prez Hawley reviews meeting procedures and find-of-the-month rules. Also, drawing sales rules and rules for vendors. The club’s board meetings are open for observation to club members.

7:13 Membership report by Jackie Barker. New member: Glenn Roberts. Good move, Glenn! Guests: Randy Basham, John Castle, Tom and Judy Dehring, Brad Edwards, Bill Hamilton, and Dean Harmon. Come back and sign up!

7:15 Volunteers needed to teach new members how to pan for gold.

7:16 "President’s Outing" at Cache Creek Sept 9-11.

7:17 Question of the month by Ian Duncanson. Later the answer and prize tickets to winners.


7:21 Donna Mosteller with the clue for the Hidden Cache.

7:22 Joe Johnston and details of the metal detector workshop at Lowrey.

7:27 Evening’s program: Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA) video "Gold Fever."

8:00 Recess.

8:20 Leanne Larson announces cookie contest for the September meeting. Minimum entry two dozen. Must bake, no buy!

8:22 Prez Hawley and details of the Roscoe Placer historical tour, Aug 20, by historian Beth Simmons. Also, the club picnic is planned for 20 Sept.

8:28 Warning that there were some unruly people at Cache Creek (not club members!). Beware of unruly or strange-behaving persons. It is better to leave and call the law. Confrontations can escalate very, very fast.

8:37 Joe Johnston and the finds-of-the-month.

8:40 Prize drawings. Late word: the hidden cache has been found! Details next meeting. Adjourn.

**GPAA Video,**
"Gold Fever, Recovering Gold from Black Sands"

Transcribed by,  
Paul Nagy  
(Continued Page 4)

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**From the Ledger of, Kathy Hawley**  
*Treasurer / Secretary*

I want to thank Leroy Lamgo, and Jim Long for their donations for the Members Only drawing. I think someone else donated something also but unfortunately I don’t recall who. Sorry to that person for my forgetfulness.

We will give away 10 nuggets at the September meeting, with the largest being 5.6 grams.

We will continue to sell tickets for a “Special Nugget” at the September meeting. The Australian nugget weighs 18.5 grams. Tickets will be sold to members only. If you haven’t seen the nugget, stop by the table to see this beauty.

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

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**“The Question of the Month”**

By, Ian & Susan Duncanson

Who was the Highland Mary gold mine, east of Silverton, discovered by?
numbers to BLM and local law enforcement.

**Planned Outings:**

- **August 15** – Cresson Mine Tour at Victor, CO.
- **August 23** – Metal Detecting Clinic at Lowery AFB.
- **August 30** – Roscoe Placer Tour with Beth Simmons.
- **September 9, 10, 11** – President’s Day Out at Cache Creek.
- **September 20** – Club Picnic.

**Announcements:**

- Next board meeting: September 17, 2008, at 6:00 P.M.
- Next general meeting: September 17, 2008, at 7:00 P.M.

**Tonight’s general meeting program:**

- GPAA video.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting stands adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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**GPAA Video (Continued from Page 3)**

This video, one in a fine series by GPAA, gives pointers in recovering gold from black sands. The demonstrator and narrator, Ralph Yager, is an ace gold-getter, but wisely does not reveal where he got his feedstock except to say that it is from an alluvial fan in the San Gabriel Mountains.

Your first move, says Yager, is to classify your material to -1/4".

Anything larger than 1/4" and you will see the gold. Indeed you will. An idea of his flow chart is: rough sluice to rain gutter sluice to 5" corrugated pipe (nugget trap). He constantly uses a rod magnet to clean magnetics from the top four sluice riffles. We would be leery of this in Colorado where the black sands are not so copious and we would be afraid of losing gold with the magnetics, but in Yager’s case if he did not do this he would be swamped in black sands. His sluice riffles are aluminum so that he does not magnetize them. (I bet he learned this the hard way.)

The sluice savings are placed in stainless steel pans and sun dried. Yager does all the rough work on site and all the cleanup at home. That way he optimizes his field time. His area yields mostly fine gold with the occasional nugget, pretty much like us. After drying, he again uses a magnet to remove any remaining magnetics. After this he still has a lot of black sand, mostly specular hematite. The next step is to pan out the gold. He uses soap to break the surface tension of the water since the fine gold and some of the black sands will float.

For the sluice rejects he has devised a motorized rotary drum to which he adds mercury to amalgamate the remaining gold. He does not retort the gold amalgam but simply sells it as is. This is safer than retorting, but using mercury in any way is still dangerous and we don’t advise it. In this case we wouldn’t much need it anyway because Yager’s magnetic-free black sands are mostly hematite which is more dense than our local black sands which are mostly pyroxenes, amphiboles, garnets, and others. The effect is that our black sands are easier to separate from the gold during panning. We wouldn’t much improve our gold recovery using mercury or anything else. Apart from safety (which shouldn’t be parted with in any case), mercury is expensive and seldom pays for itself.

Again the lesson is to use your ingenuity and resourcefulness, as Ralph Yager has, and devise your own equipment and methods to maximize your efforts. That is the attraction of gold prospecting and indeed accounts for all the success of humanity!

- End
Advertising In The Gold Nugget

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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 for items they want to sell, or for items they may be looking to buy. Place your ad in the Gold Nugget. If you are interested, please contact the newsletter editor. “Deadline” for submission is on the 25th of the month for publication in the next month’s issue of the newsletter.
Keith Hawley, daotter@msn.com
**ADVERTISING IN THE GOLD NUGGET**

**Commercial Ads**

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For information to publish your “Ad” in The Gold Nugget, please contact the Editor. **COPY DEADLINE** is due to the editor by the 25th of the month for publication in the following months’ issue of the Newsletter.

Keith Hawley, Editor GPR Newsletter

daotter@msn.com

*(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)*

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### Coming Announcements and *Special Events* October 2008

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1 Submission Deadline for the Newsletter

15 Club Meeting

25 COPY DEADLINE for the Gold Nugget

United Nations Day

Halloween