

THE GOLD NUGGET

October 2009

The Prez Pro-Tem Sez by Gary

Thanks to Aaron Ingalls and the general membership for allowing me to run the board meetings and the regular meetings for the remainder of this year. Please remember Aaron is still our club president and is still in the loop concerning club business.

The club picnic at Lions Park was a great success! About 35 members attended. Great food, great fellowship, and even a little gold panning made for a great day in the park.

Joe Schubert is busy running the Nominating Committee and getting things ready for club elections. He collected nominations at our September meeting and is ready for the next step. To clarify a few questions about the elections, here is what the bylaws state:

1. "...shall present a tentative slate of candidates for office at the October regular Membership Meeting;
2. "...shall present a final slate of candidates at the November regular Members Meeting.
3. Voting for board members and officers will occur at the November meeting.

Robert Larson and I have decided to give away the large nugget from Chile at the October meeting. Thanks to everyone who has supported this member only drawing.

Sue Lemieux is again promoting our annual Pumpkin Carving contest! Get a pumpkin, get creative and bringing your art work to the October meeting.

Hope to see you and your pumpkin October 21.

Contact Information: (720) 242-8283 aaron_ingalls@hotmail.com or Gary Hawley ghawley1@msn.com

OCTOBER GUEST SPEAKER

We have a great speaker lined up for our October 21 club meeting!

Geologist Ed Raines will speak on "Fakes and Hoaxes" in the mining business. Ed is Co-Manager of (specimen) Collections for the School of Mines Museum, a newly created position. He asked to be first on our meeting agenda so be sure to get there early.

GPOR Website

If you have updates for, comments about, or anything else regarding the club website contact the webmaster at: prospector@phantomranch.net



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



Board Meeting Minutes for Sept 2009 Meeting

Roll Call Attending

	Aaron Ingalls	x	Rob Deschambault	x	James Long	x	Terry Weatherly
x	Allen Mershon		Sue Lemieux		John Weir	x	Joe Fortunato
x	Robert Larson	x	Joe Shubert	x	Leanne Larson		Joe Johnston
x	Gary Hawley						

Quorum Present? yes

Call to Order 6:13

Reading approval of minutes

Corrections

Approved as read/corrected?

Treasurer’s Report: Handed out

Questions NO

Accepted? yes

Correspondence

2 returned news letters. 3 application/payments

Committee Reports:

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Elections starting this month.

November will be elections, December is new officer inductions

Planned Outings: Club Picnic

1300 West 10th Golden Sept 27th 11am Every body brings their own chair and beverage. Jeff Cooking, Easy-Ups needed, gold panning allowed past camp park and below ball courts. Don’t stake Easy-Ups.

Oct 3rd, Saturday, Jefferson CO open space Breakfast for volunteers, we’ve been asked to demo, need volunteers. You’ll get breakfast. We only need 4 or 5 volunteers. Evergreen Lake House.

Oct 8th we will be presenting a demo to the Jeff Co rangers so they can see how panning is done right.

Announcements

Gary will be standing “pro-tem”.

Tonight’s General Meeting Program:

Elections by Joe Schubert

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:50 P.M

QUESTION OF THE MONTH
 In 1861 who forced Green Russell and his brother Levi to leave Colorado?

NOVEMBER CLUB ELECTIONS

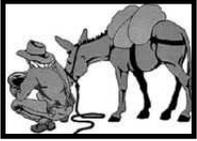
Greetings fellow prospectors, it is that time of the year again for elections. I am asking you to start thinking about who you would like to nominate or if you would like to run for a position as officer or a board member. If you would like to run, put you name in. Some new blood as an officer or a board member would be great. New people and new ideas are what help make a good club.

The rules for being an officer or a board member are as follows:

- 1) A person nominated for an office must be a Club Member in good standing.
- 2) The candidates for President and Vice-President shall be persons who have been active committee person, or Officer, or Director during the previous year.
- 3) The candidates for being a board member must be a Club Member in good standing.

Thanks

Joe Shubert



General Meeting Minutes for Sept 2009 Meeting

Gary Hawley conducting as pro-tem president for Aaron Ingalls.

Called to Order: 7:11pm.

Pledge of Allegiance lead by: Chuck Harris.

Thanks and applause to Phil Huff for the snack table.

We have a club picnic September 26 at Lions Park in Golden. Panning in Clear Creek away from kayakers or upstream past the RV park. 1300 10th Street, West on 10th and go up 7 blocks. Bring your own chair and non-alcoholic beverage. Club providing meat, condiments; bring a potluck pot to share.

Panning Demo at Highlands Ranch, for a Kids fair. We were able to help Friday and Saturday.

Jim Long headed up a panning demo/instruction class at TYMKOVICH. 15 total folks came out. Good time had by all, and gold was found by all. The water is real low; Betsy and Jim were having a good time.. Betsy is 82 years young, and finding it all the time.

41 In attendance

6 guests. Louise Smith, Nick Peto, Robert R, John Schnoot, Paul Regis, and John Adams who joined to day. Bill Chapman from Golden Detectors as a special guest. Gold Detectors is an excellent source of supplies and knowledge in our favorite activity

Mr. Bill informed us all the panning in Wheatridge area is forbidden

Break

As a member of the club you have free membership and entrance to the Colorado Springs Mining Museum, just wear your badge when you arrive.

Joe Schubert. Election time. All election paperwork, nomination forms, e-mails and election forms are all kept in club archives. All nominations need to be given to nomination foreman before October. Forms can be e-mailed, or mailed. Paper ballots for clarity and precision are used in all elections. Not sure at this time what positions are open, but that will be settled once nominations are secure. Forms are available at front table. Five positions are up for election this year.

Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum!

By Gary Hawley

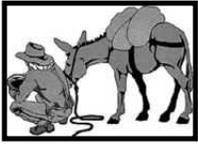
The Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum has undergone many changes in the last year.

Several of the changes are: a self-guided tour brochure; a redesigned website and new labels for displayed specimens. They also have a portable x-ray fluorescence unit for chemical analysis.

The Museum has several new exhibits: the Climax mining district, highlights from John Marshall's pyromorphite collection, a celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Colorado Gold Rush, an explanation of the Colorado mineral belt, and cave formations from the Clear Creek Cave which was discovered in 1988.

The museum plans to soon have a 2010 mineral calendar that will feature specimens from their Allison-Boettcher gold collection.

If you'd like more information on the museum, contact Bruce Geller, Museum Director at 303-273-3823



**Sue's
Sluice
Box**



3rd Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest

It's that time of year to be creative!
Bring in your carved Pumpkins, for the
October Meeting, and let the club
Members vote on your creations!

**The more creative, the better chance of
Winning a Prize & ribbon!**

All ages are encouraged to participate



A Brief History of Creede, Colorado By Jim Long

I was born and raised in the San Luis Valley in southern Colorado. My father was a part-time prospector in the hills and mountains above Creede, Lake City, and north of Del Norte for silver, gold, and for uranium using a small Geiger counter. My brother and I would accompany him but we were too young to really know what he was doing. I still have his old relic Geiger counter, along with several of his old books on lost gold mines and ghost towns of Colorado. Oddly, I found no 'old' samples of those minerals or gems in his possessions after his death, though he did have some samples of opals and turquoise. By the time I thought to ask him about that period of his life, it was too late. Life can often be disappointing in the things we should have done, could have done, and often failed to do. But it does go on.

I know that he had numerous claims that he filed above Creede and they have all been lost or given back due to passage of time and lack of work, after all, that was over 60 years ago. But his old handwritten notes are pretty cool to read through.

Why Creede? Simple. He knew the old timers had been there long ago and that Creede continues to be somewhat of a mining mecca, even today. Trappers and mountain men first arrived in the early 1800's and Tom Boggs, a brother in law of the famed **Kit Carson**, farmed at Wagon Wheel Gap in 1840. In 1869, the first silver discovery was made at the Alpha Mine, but it was too costly to mine it and not much happened until 1889 when rich deposits were found in Willow Creek Canyon. This produced the town of Willow Creek until **Nicholas C. Creede** discovered the **Holy Moses Mine**. It was so rich that Willow Creek was renamed **Creede**. Other towns in the vicinity were named Stringtown, Jimtown, and Amythest. They are all ghost towns today and little remains of any of them.

Creede was the last silver boom town in Colorado in the 1800's. The Creede mines continued to operate from 1889 to 1985.

'**Soapy**' **Smith** was the boss of the Creede underworld, opening the famous Orleans Club. **Robert Ford** became famous for killing the notorious outlaw **Jesse James** (apparently a shirt-tail relative of mine on my mother's side), and even **Bat Masterson** who operated a bar at one time. The first Deputy Sheriff of Creede was the famed **William 'Cap' Light**, a brother in law to Soapy. By 1893, the silver boom went bust as the Silver Panic hit all of the Colorado mining communities. Most of the mines closed shortly thereafter. Today, there are a couple of mines that have reopened under new ownership with new money. Its population is about 2000 and sustaining. As with many of our mining towns, the town survived on lead and zinc recoveries from 1900 to present. Interestingly, by 1966, total production for this area was some 58 million troy ounces (870 metric tons) of silver, 150 thousand ounces (407 metric tons) of gold, 112 thousand metric tons of lead, 34 thousand metric tons of zinc, and 2 million metric tons of copper. Not too bad at all.

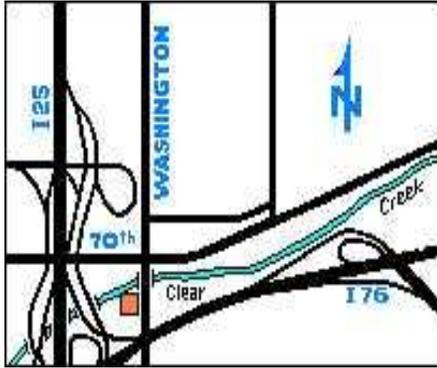
Today, Creede is sustained by ranching and some farming, as well as a great deal of recreation in the form of fishing, hunting, and hiking. Both, my father's and my mother's ashes were spread by me at their final request, at the headwaters of the Rio Grande river that runs above Creede.

My family has always had a strong attachment to Creede and the surrounding area. It is a beautiful place to visit full of the usual rock and gem shops and other art galleries and such.



Advertising in the Gold Nugget

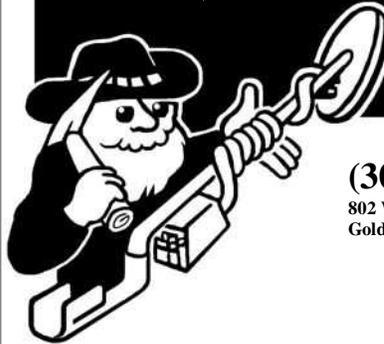
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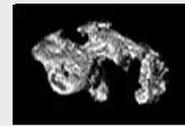
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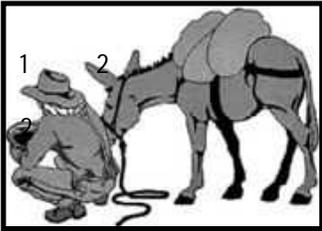
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Commercial Ads

- 3.6" x 2.0" Two Column Inches (Business Card Size)..... \$6
- 3.6" x 4.3" Four Column Inches..... \$12
- 7.5" x 4.3" Eight Column Inches (Horizontal)..... \$24
- 3.6" x 9.3" Nine Column Inches (Vertical)..... \$24
- 7.5" x 9.3" Eighteen Column Inches (Full Page)..... \$48

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.

Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events November 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 National Election Day	4	5	6 Advert/Article Copy Deadline	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 GPR Club Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					