Okay, guys and gals. I continue to hear about folks who simply get caught up in all of the black sand dilemma and controversy. Trust me when I tell you that most of what you hear is probably wrong. I have talked about this topic before and will do so again, and probably not for the last time. Where black sand is concerned, the following adage is true. “Black sands are very often associated with gold **BUT** Gold is not always associated with black sands.” Now repeat that to yourself until you have it memorized.

Where do black sands come from? The simple answer is that they consist of fine granules of hematite and magnetite that has been eroded down to fine granules. On the beaches of Nome, Alaska, you can encounter layers of red sands. That layer is often gold bearing as well and is mostly made up of eroded garnets and a little ferrous oxide thrown in. Here in Colorado, we encounter primarily black sands. Now I am going to share another little secret with you. That is that 95% of all that black sand you have been keeping….has no gold in it..! Gasp…! That is right, no gold in it. So why do you keep it? The simple answer is that 90% of us lack confidence in our panning skills. And we can’t get the gold out easily so we save it all for a rainy day or for somebody that does have the skills to come along and save us, often for a cut, of course.

Remember that I have said many times that to be a good prospector, you have to become a good panner. It is a basic skill that you just have to develop. You can spend thousands of dollars on equipment that the sellers will tell you will shortcut your need for panning for you. Don’t believe it. You are probably still going to need to pan before you ultimately put the final product in that vial.

I have also said many times, that you simply must **classify, classify, and classify**. It is like a golden rule. Classifying gets rid of a lot of the non-gold bearing material. When you dig in the creek, you need to classify the material right away. Most of us start with a ½ inch screen. If I plan to sluice, I will screen it down to at least a number 8 screen. This permits me to run fairly small material through my sluice box without the danger of large objects interfering and or disrupting the water flow or the capture of gold in my sluice. If I plan to high bank, I personally will classify only down to ½ inch. A high banker is designed to run faster and steeper than a sluice box and the slightly larger material does not pose any danger of interfering with the capture of gold. If I wanted to, I could simply shovel my material directly into my high banker with no problem. After I clean up my sluice or my high banker, I rough pan all my concentrates right there in the creek. That considerably reduces the amount of concentrates I take home even more. If I run 12 five gallon buckets of material screened to a ½ inch through the high banker, I have already reduced my material 30% by screening before running it. The high banker reduces my concentrates even more, down to about a gallon jar worth. By rough panning it right then, I reduce my concentrates down to about 1 or 2 ounces of black sands. That is the amount that has the gold in it. All the rest of the bulk material, including about 90 to 95% of my black sands, had no gold in it and I leave all that stuff right where it belongs, in the creek.!

Some folks will screen clear down to 100 mesh. And that is ok as well. There are many different ways to get there, but having patience and having a fairly good panning skill will get you there quicker, and will be a lot easier on your pocket book. And you don’t have to enter all the panning contests to develop that skill either. Those contests are all flash anyway. Wait until you have become a really good panner before you try that stuff. So stop keeping all that non-gold bearing material. Get rid of it through the classifying process. And just keep the stuff with the gold in it. If you can get me at the creek and get me to stop digging for a few minutes, I will be happy to show you how it is done. Just ask me….I won’t bite you..! I promise!

Well, that is about all I have from here for now. So until we meet again, keep your sunny sides up and may the bottoms of your pans turn bright with that treasured ‘Yaller Gold’!

You may contact me at 303-452-6087 or at jnslong945@msn.com

Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!
only a sheeting of canvas overhead to keep the weather out. There wasn't a pane of glass in the whole territory, so pieces
of canvas substituted in the holes. Canvas partitions separated bed chambers from the saloon.
In the saloon, the sideboard of an immigrant wagon was mounted on boxes to serve as a bar. Candles and Lanterns made
small punctures in the gloom. But with a stock of liquor in readiness, the partners put up a sign to advise the populace
that the Denver House was open for business. Thirsty folks lapped up the liquor as fast as it could be served. The
sleeping rooms of the hotel enjoyed a heavy patronage, too. Up to fifty guests paid fifty cents a night for a blanket to
spread on the ground.
The affluent customers paid more for the privilege of sleeping on straw. Guests supplied their water needs from a barrel
in the center of the building, then dumped the dirty water on the floor to settle the dust. Since few of the guests were
pretty-smelling, there was never any danger of a mud hole in the hotel. As the town grew there were plenty of shady folks
including the founders and politicians as well. Well fellow prospectors I hope I am keeping with the history of Colorado
and the (The Gold Fields).
Again if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 720-443-9545. Klondike Mike

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger By Linda Luchtenburg
For the month of July, we will be giving away a total of 7.4 grams of gold with the largest being 2.4 grams. We would
like to give a special 'Thank You' to the GPAA, Jim Long, Mike Hurtado, Paul Nagy, Bill Duncanson and the Aurora
Water Festival folks for donating items to the June general drawings.

The Club Now Accepting Credit Cards
The Board of Directors have approved accepting credit cards from members for certain purchases. Starting in March,
2013, the Club will accept credit cards for the payment of dues, member badges, and any products from the Club Store.
The Club will not accept credit cards for the purchase of any drawing tickets as those must be made in cash only. A
service fee of $0.50 will be attached to each $15.00 of payment made. Cards accepted will be Visa, MasterCard, and
Discover.

Membership Committee
We are well on our way to getting the name badges changed over to the new numbering. If possible, could you
ask that everyone bring their badges to the next meeting to get the rest of them changed over? There are still a
few that don't think they need their badges for the meetings. Oh well. We didn't collect any this month because
we didn't know who would need their badges prior to the next meeting.
See ya at the meeting.
Pam

GPR June Meeting Program:
The July meeting will feature a 2 part 60 minute video on ‘Finding Gold with Sluicebox Sam’ and we will show the first
30 minute part at this meeting with part 2 to be shown in August. We hope to see you all there!

Board Meeting Minutes From June 2013

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Quorum Present: Yes
Call to Order: By JJ at 6:05 pm
Reading and Approval of Minutes: Yes Corrections: None Approved as read/corrected: Yes

QUESTION OF THE MONTH
What country is the second largest African gold producer and the eighth largest globally?
Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 3

Treasurer’s Report: Questions: None .Approved: yes

Correspondence: 4 phone calls, 4 e-mails, 4 mailings

Committee Reports: CR on new products is tabled pending finding new vendors. CR on m/d outing not available. No other CR’s at this time.

Webmaster: Total Hits 130201 Hits for last month 627.

Unfinished business: Life Membership discussion continued.

New Business: Discussed providing lunch at each outing. Will address membership for input. B was favorable.

Planned Outings for 2013: JJ added a new date of 7-13 for another trash cleanup/prospecting outing on lower Clear Creek. Refer to Outings Calendar/Schedule in Newsletter for details.

From the Board:
- Pres Long advised he had fliers for all of the outings until the next meeting prepared for membership. Also, that he had only one person show interest in replacing board member Don Luchtenburg. That member is Brandon Luchtenburg. He will be presented to the membership for acclamation tonight.
- J also mentioned that he and Mike H will settle a date in early July to take our elderly members on a prospecting trip.
- JB and JJ advised that they have tables and a stove for use on the Twin Lakes Outing.
- There was no other business discussed.

Announcements: Next Board Meeting July 17, 2013 at 6:00pm. Next General Meeting July 17, 2013 at 7:00pm

Tonight’s general meeting program: A power point presentation by Christie Wright on Park County Mining History.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:48pm.

General Meeting Minutes From June 2013

1. Meeting was opened at 7:05 pm by Pres. Long with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Pres. Long gave the Metals Report with gold at $1351.30 an ounce, silver at $21.35, platinum at $1411.00 and palladium at $695.50.
3. Web hits for last month reflected 627 hits for the last 30 days.
4. Pres. Long announced that tonight’s program will be a 30 minute power point presentation by Christie Wright on Park County Mining History.
5. Treasurer Linda Luchtenburg reported that the Club remains in the black. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it. Also, we are still selling tickets for the new ‘Members Only’ drawing for a large 14 gram nugget through the break and it will be given away after the break.
6. Pam and George Schmit reported from the Membership Table that approx. 82 members were in attendance. There were 8 guests and 2 new members in attendance as well. The meeting attendance was 92.
7. Pres. Long read the ‘Question of the Month’, which was ‘A one ounce gold nugget is more rare than what other naturally occurring object?’
8. Pres. Long advised that there was time to enter items at the break for the ‘Finds of the Month’ table and everyone was encouraged to check them out and vote accordingly.
9. John Johnson presented the 2013 Cache Clue #6 to the membership in attendance.
10. Pres. Long informed the membership that we were still looking for a vendor to purchase new products for the store.
11. Flyers were announced for the next 3 Outings which are the Nederland Glass Contest Outing on 6-22, a newly organized outing on Lower Clear Creek for July 13 and the 3 day outing at Twin Lakes on July 26, 27, and 28.
12. The water continues to be high but is gradually dropping. Please be careful. The run off has been a good one and it should help considerably to reclaim the Youngfield stretch of Clear Creek.
13. The Club is actively seeking agreements with Jefferson County to adopt a large section of upper Clear Creek along Hwy 6 and with Adams County to adopt the section of Clear Creek downstream from Broadway. We will ask that signage be installed to advertise the Club’s commitment to maintaining and protecting the streamside environment of those areas.

14. Pres Long advised that only one member had shown interest in replacing Don Luchtenburg on the Board and that member was Brandon Luchtenburg. A request for additional nominees was asked and when none offered, a vote was held and Brandon was unanimously elected to fill Don’s seat for the balance of the year.

15. Pres. Long asked if they would support providing a meal at future outings and if so, would they be willing to donate to the cost. A vote showed a strong majority was favorable and it was determined that a $5.00 fee would be collected at the outings designated for lunches. The July 13 Outing was determined to be the first outing as a trial run to see how this works out.

16. It was announced that Dirk Larsen and Dash Weeks had set up an operable ‘gold jig’ in the parking lot for viewing at the break.

17. Pres. Long announced the **break at 8:05pm**. Meeting was called back to order at 8:35pm.

18. Sue Clover announced that there were 37 winners of the ‘Question of the Month’ and that the answer was ‘a 5 carat diamond’. Thanks to John Sawchuck and John Johnson for distributing the winning tickets for the evening’s gold drawings.

19. The evening was concluded with drawings for numerous door prizes followed by drawings for the gold nuggets. We then had a representative from the Clements Center draw the winning ticket for the 14 gram ‘Special Nugget Drawing’. The happy and ecstatic winner was Kris Kafka. A reminder that holders of drawing tickets for the regular gold drawings who did not win and want to redeem those tickets may present them at the end of the Meeting and they will be reimbursed at .01 cents on the dollar, or they can choose to donate the tickets back to the Club. Those assisting Pres. Long in the drawings were Chuck Cohn and Linda Luchtenburg.

20. Pres. Long thanked Chris and Joe Kafka and all those who contributed to the Refreshment Table. Any member is encouraged to chip in and add to the spread each month. With the number of attendees skyrocketing recently, this really helps the folks who run the table and those who volunteer up front each month. The Club appreciates the efforts that each and every one of you to make the refreshment table enjoyable.

21. The scheduled **Program for June will be** a video on ‘Finding Gold’ by Sluicebox Sam. This video will be run in 2 parts, each running 30 minutes. We will watch Part 1 in July.

22. We hope to see all of you there..! Until next time, prospect safely, live long and be grateful for that golden bounty from the stars, the gleaming magical miracle called ‘gold’!

23. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm.

**Congratulations Chris Kafka**

Winner of the 14 gram Special Nugget Drawing.
Schedule of 2013 Planned Outings:

3-6 Sat Panning Demo at Western Coliseum for Rky Mtn Horse Expl 2-4 pm
4-27 Sat Trash cleanup/lunch/prospecting Outing on lower Clear Creek. Meet behind Tymkovich’s 6811 Washington 9am – dark. Remember, no motorized equipment is allowed in Adams County.
5-11 Sat Beginners Panning/Sluicing Class at Tymkovich Meats, 6811 N. Washington, 9am.
5-16 Thur Panning Demo, Aurora Water Festival, 9a-3p.
5-18 Sat Prospecting Outing, Lake Gulch, Blackhawk, 9am. (Clay County Mine)
6-1 Sat Tour of Leadville Mining Museum and Matchless Mine, 10am, $5.00 @ person.
6-15 Sat Rescheduled Tour of the Western Mining Museum in Colo. Sprgs. At 10am. Cancelled due to forest fire.
6-22 Sat Prospecting Outing in Nederland at 9a. Glass cleanup contest.
7-13 Sat Trash cleanup/Prospecting Outing on lower Clear Creek. Meet behind Tymkovich’s 6811 Washington 9am – dark. Remember, no motorized equipment allowed. We will provide lunch of dogs, chips and drinks at 11:30.
7-26, 27, 28 Prospecting Outing on Lake Creek, Leadville w/the Illinois Gold Seekers Club, $5.00 @ day @ person, bbq Saturday night.
8-1 Sat Panning Demo for Japanese Exch Students, Idaho Spgs, 1p-4p.
8-17 Sat Club Picnic at Lions Park in Golden 11a-2p, East Pavillion.
8-24 Sat Prospecting Outing Lake Gulch, Blackhawk, 9a. (Clay County Mine)
9-5, 6, 7 Highlands Ranch Festival Panning Dem, will be a sign up sheet.
9-21 Sat Idaho Springs Festival Panning Demo, will be a sign up sheet.
9-28 Sat Trash Cleanup/prospecting Outing, Lower Clear Creek, 9a at 6811 Washington.

Additional dates/outings are also under consideration.

Findings of the Month

For June, the only entry in the established six (6) categories was Kevin Single for the most raw gold in which he submitted a total weight of 0.9 grams of pretty yellow gold. Well done Kevin! Kevin will be entered into the running for the Annual Award which will be awarded at the Christmas Meeting/Dinner.

Nederlan Prospecting Outing

On June 22, 18 hardy souls of the GPR traveled up to Nederland for a little prospecting. The water was running just a little high at about 240cfs which made it just a little tenuous, but manageable. We were able to work a gravel bar about 100 feet from the Barker Reservoir entrance where Middle Boulder Creek dumps into the reservoir. Though a little tricky, we were able to get quite a few sluice boxes set up and running pretty decently at that spot. Several folks chose to work along the edges but it was difficult getting a good set in some of those places. We missed the good water level by about a week as it dropped 2 inches while we were there.

All in all, it was a good outing and we had a lot of fun and everybody got a little gold. Because of the high water, we didn’t do as good on the glass contest as we had hoped for but a number of entries were submitted. The winners of the glass contest, after weighing, were: Third place with 2 ounces was Mike Smith, Second place with a total of 5 ounces was Abel and Fran Espinosa, and First place with a whopping 3.43 pounds was Paul Murch. There were a total of 9 entries entered and we removed 4 pounds of glass from a stream under difficult conditions to say the least. Well done everybody..! First place gets a .1 gram nugget, Second pays a .5 gram vial of gold, and Third paid 5 gold dollars. In addition, we picked up about 3 bags of trash total and removed a very large couch from the creek.
It is a privilege that the City of Nederland allows us to prospect in the Creek and we certainly appreciate it. I also managed to get a couple of photos during the fun and frolic.

Prospecting/Mining Notes: From the Denver Post

Outside Equipment Operations! Friday, July 26, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Western Museum of Mining and Industry

Hear the shrill whistle of the mining museum's 1928 Osgood Steam Shovel! Learn how compressed air locomotives replaced the poor donkey in hauling mountains of ore and then see one rumble out of the past and down the track! Afterward, pet our donkeys, Nugget & Chism. Machinery operates at 10 a.m. and 1p.m. Admission is $8-$4. Call the museum at 719-488-0880 for further information.

See your GPR Newsletter Calendar for additional dates and events and if you go, always take your membership badge with you.

6-13-13 Newmont trims workforce in Colorado. Softening gold prices are behind the loss of one-third staff. Newmont currently employs 750 people statewide, the vast majority at its Greenwood Village headquarters location. The employment reductions are due to rising costs in the rare earth industry and the falling gold prices. Newmont, founded in 1921, owns many claims in the Leadville area and other locations throughout the US as well as having mining interests in Peru, Australia, Indonesia, Ghana, Mexico and New Zealand. Newmont has land holdings of 29,000 square miles and 99.2 million ounces of proven and probable gold reserves at the end of 2012, making it the largest US based gold mining firm.

6-25-13 Mystic Eagle Quarry ordered closed by USFS. Mining is an industry that garners support in the modern day Roaring Fork Valley. And the owners of the Mystic Eagle Quarry, 9 miles west of Carbondale, are trying to swing public sentiment their way. Work in the mine has stopped while a legal dispute between the owners and the US Forest Service winds its way through the courts. The mine features some of the best alabaster around and local artists are creating wonderful objects of art out of it. But the USFS doesn’t care about alabaster. They care about marble and want mine owners to prove they have viable veins of marble. The USFS thinks alabaster is just a class of gravel.

6-29-13 Colo State Officials seize gold mill believed to be contaminated. State authorities have taken control of a gold mill just south of Mancos that has been operating illegally without knowledge of mining regulators. The Red Arrow gold mine and mill was inspected in May 2012. The Red Arrow was then taken over by receivers who discovered the illegal mill site in early June and notified State Regulators who then responded to conduct an investigation. The illegal mill was hidden on the property about 10 miles from the mine and evidence indicates that a large quantity of mercury may have contaminated the area. This mine had operated off and on since 1988 on a historic site on the flank of Parrot Mountain and had recently resumed operations in 2006.

6-29-13 Gold Prices drop dramatically. A record drop in gold prices has hammered mining stocks in the State during the second quarter of 2013, erasing billions of dollars in market value. Among Colorado companies, Vista Gold, Solitario Exploration, Golden Minerals, Royal Gold, Gold Resource Group, and Newmont Mining were among the big losers. Gold prices fell a staggering 22% so far this year.

July Birthstone

The July birthstone is Ruby. There is no better way to demonstrate your love than by giving a ruby in celebration of a July birthday. Rubies arouse the senses, stir the imagination, and are said to guarantee health, wisdom, wealth and success in love. The ruby is a variety of the gem species corundum. It is
Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 7

harder than any natural gemstone except diamond, which means a ruby is durable enough for everyday wear. Fine quality ruby is extremely rare, and the color of the gem is most important to its value. The most prized color is a medium or medium dark vivid red or slightly purplish red. If the gem is too light or has too much purple or orange, it will be called a fancy colored sapphire.

This popular gemstone is primarily found in Burma, Thailand, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Tanzania, Cambodia, Afghanistan and India.

(Reprinted from Internet Google site of Gemstone.com)

A Miner’s Laugh

An old prospector was walking to his mine one morning when a frog called out to him and said, “If you kiss me, I’ll turn into a beautiful princess.” He bent over, picked up the frog and put it in his pocket and continued on toward his mine.

The frog spoke up again and repeated, “If you kiss me, I’ll turn back into a beautiful princess. And I will stay with you for one week!” The old prospector stopped and removed the frog from his pocket, smiled warmly at it and promptly returned it back to his pocket.

The frog suddenly cried out, “If you kiss me and turn me back Into a princess, I will stay with you and do ANYTHING you want.” But Again, the old prospector took the frog out of his pocket, smiled at it and returned it to his pocket.

Finally in exasperation, the frog asked, “What is the matter with you? I have told you that I am a beautiful princess and that I will stay with you for a whole week and do anything you want. Why won’t you kiss me?”

The old prospector replied, “Look, I’m a miner. I don’t have time for a girlfriend…..but a talking frog, now that is pretty dang cool!”

(Taken from the internet and revised just for us miners)

Earthquakes Turn Water Into Gold  By Becky Oskin, OurAmazingPlanet

Earthquakes have the Midas touch, a new study claims.

Water in faults vaporizes during an earthquake, depositing gold, according to a model published in the March 17 issue of the journal Nature Geoscience. The model provides a quantitative mechanism for the link between gold and quartz seen in many of the world's gold deposits, said Dion Weatherley, a geophysicist at the University of Queensland in Australia and lead author of the study.

When an earthquake strikes, it moves along a rupture in the ground — a fracture called a fault. Big faults can have many small fractures along their length, connected by jogs that appear as rectangular voids. Water often lubricates faults, filling in fractures and jogs.

About 6 miles (10 kilometers) below the surface, under incredible temperatures and pressures, the water carries high concentrations of carbon dioxide, silica and economically attractive elements like gold.

Shake, rattle and gold During an earthquake, the fault jog suddenly opens wider. It's like pulling the lid off a pressure cooker: The water inside the void instantly vaporizes, flashing to steam and forcing silica, which forms the mineral quartz, and gold out of the fluids and onto nearby surfaces, suggest Weatherley and co-author Richard Henley, of the Australian National University in Canberra.

While scientists have long suspected that sudden pressure drops could account for the link between giant gold deposits and ancient faults, the study takes this idea to the extreme, said Jamie Wilkinson, a geochemist at Imperial College London in the United Kingdom, who was not involved in the study.

"To me, it seems pretty plausible. It's something that people would probably want to model either experimentally or numerically in a bit more detail to see if it would actually work," Wilkinson told OurAmazingPlanet.

Previously, scientists suspected fluids would effervesce, bubbling like an opened soda bottle, during earthquakes or other pressure changes. This would line underground pockets with gold. Others suggested minerals would simply accumulate slowly over time.
Weatherley said the amount of gold left behind after an earthquake is tiny, because underground fluids carry at most only one part per million of the precious element. But an earthquake zone like New Zealand's Alpine Fault, one of the world's fastest, could build a mineable deposit in 100,000 years, he said.

Surprisingly, the quartz doesn't even have time to crystallize, the study indicates. Instead, the mineral comes out of the fluid in the form of nanoparticles, perhaps even making a gel-like substance on the fracture walls. The quartz nanoparticles then crystallize over time.

Even earthquakes smaller than magnitude 4.0, which may rattle nerves but rarely cause damage, can trigger flash vaporization, the study finds.

"Given that small-magnitude earthquakes are exceptionally frequent in fault systems, this process may be the primary driver for the formation of economic gold deposits," Weatherley told OurAmazingPlanet.

The hills have gold

Quartz-linked gold has sourced some famous deposits, such as the placer gold that sparked the 19th-century California and Klondike gold rushes. Both deposits had eroded from quartz veins upstream. Placer gold consists of particles, flakes and nuggets mixed in with sand and gravel in stream and river beds. Prospectors traced the gravels back to their sources, where hard-rock mining continues today.

But earthquakes aren't the only cataclysmic source of gold. Volcanoes and their underground plumbing are just as prolific, if not more so, at producing the precious metal. While Weatherley and Henley suggest that a similar process could take place under volcanoes, Wilkinson, who studies volcano-linked gold, said that's not the case.

"Beneath volcanoes, most of the gold is not precipitated in faults that are active during earthquakes," Wilkinson said. "It's a very different mechanism."

Understanding how gold forms helps companies prospect for new mines. "This new knowledge on gold-deposit formation mechanisms may assist future gold exploration efforts," Weatherley said.

In their quest for gold, humans have pulled more than 188,000 tons (171,000 metric tons) of the metal from the ground, exhausting easily accessed sources, according to the World Gold Council, an industry group.

The tyrannosaur of the minerals, this gold nugget in quartz weighs more than 70 ounces (2 kilograms).
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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.

Contact the GPR President
(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)

Coming Announcements and Special Events for Aug 2013

(WMMI - Western Museum of Mining & Industry, 225 North Gate Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80921 (www.wmmi.org))

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