

THE GOLD NUGGET

July 2026

The Prez Sez..! by Kevin Singel



Tis the season for digging! Are you getting out there any time soon? It's a weird year of course. The drought leaves us with no water at all at Cache Creek and low water on the Blue River near my house. Meanwhile, Clear Creek in town has been running somewhat high as the last of the snow melted off of Loveland Ski Area...except when most of the water was been run thru an irrigation canal to Sloan Lake, etc. All of this means lots of access for us prospectors. Take advantage of it! Our June outing was to a creek in southern Westminster just upstream of where it meets Clear Creek. Water levels were ideal and gold was found, along with camaraderie and conversation. Make plans now to join the club at Big Bend for the July outing when we hold "high banker fest". If you have an electric powered high banker of any sort, be sure to bring it. This outing should be an excellent chance to try out high bankers and to see several varieties of equipment.

At our last club meeting we had our prospector's yard sale where quite a few folks found bargains and several of us cleared stuff out of our garages! I also did a short presentation about my April trip to Rye Patch Recreation Area in Nevada to metal detect for gold which included two friends successfully using their new GM2000 detectors. The highlight for many of us was the beginning of the "blue ticket drawing" for a Minelab Gold Monster 2000. We sold about 1/4 of the tickets needed already, so this one may go quickly! If you'd like a detector that can actually find gold in Colorado, come to the next meeting and buy some tickets! Here are a couple little nuggets found with a GM2000 just two weeks ago by a friend of mine. **Our July meeting will be a presentation from member John Olson.** He's an expert at gold plating and jewelry making so it should be fascinating! Later in July a small group of club members will be running a gold panning booth at the Arapahoe County Fair. This is a significant fundraiser for the club and a great way to make us visible in the community too. If you'd like to volunteer to do this in future, we will have one more of these events in September down in Douglas County; look for the sign-up sheet at the July and August meetings.



PS Your club is thriving...we have added more than 10 new members so far this year. Invite a friend to the next meeting and add to our momentum!!

Meanwhile, don't wait for the club events to occur, get out there with your detector or gold pan and Find Your GOLD!

Vice President's Corner..! by Gary Hamilton



What a great season for Prospecting, detecting and mining, most creeks have low water making good accessibility, good weather for detecting and I have also been mining info about the importance of gold in Colorado history.

Colorado celebrates its 150th anniversary (sesquicentennial) of statehood alongside the 250th anniversary of the United States' independence.

The discovery of gold near Cherry Creek and the South Platte River in 1858 sparked the Pikes Peak Gold Rush, drawing over 100,000 prospectors. This sudden population surge established foundational towns, supply lines, and economies, which ultimately pushed the territory to official statehood on August 1, 1876.

The June meeting was fun and interesting, a miner's garage sale where many found some new to them equipment. The speaker was also very informative and I am looking into the next Rye Patch class which I have found will be in November. We also had several new members sign up and now half way thru the year, we reached our board goal of 10 new members! Now let's shoot for 20. Be sure to invite your interested friends.

For me I am on the mend and was able to go prospecting to the June club outing here in town and happy to say the first gold in my pan in over a year. We had a good turnout and I was able to meet 3 of the new members that signed up the Wednesday before. Be sure to take a look at the outing calendar and get them on your calendar. There are some awesome things coming up. I also did a little detecting in my daughter's back yard in Utah, and in 2 minutes, I found a 1945 Wheat penny!

I hope to encourage everyone to do a little reading about the importance of Gold in Colorado's history and that it may encourage you to seek out some new places to prospect. See you all at the July meeting!!



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From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledge..! by Bill Chapman



Last month I reported that things seemed a bit subdued in the back of the room. This month though, it was quite the opposite as “exciting” was the word for the evening. There had been some difficulty in acquiring our drawing prize, the Minelab™ Gold Monster 2000, so there were no blue ticket sales in May. In a stroke of good fortune, our Energizer Bunny club president Kevin, managed to come up with one on the western slope while he was on a book selling promotional tour. The detector is still sealed in its original box and was on display in the back of the room for all to drool over. Blue ticket sales were very strong. The detector will be drawn for once 2,000 tickets have been sold, so buy early and buy often. Kevin and yours truly were first in line for blue tickets that evening. As

expected, Kevin’s presentation was about his previous month’s prospecting adventure to the Rye Patch in Nevada. While there, he hunted with two fellows each using the Gold Monster 2000 for the first time. Both were very successful with the number of nuggets they recovered. The Gold Monster gets the gold!

The club finances, including the purchase of the Gold Monster, remain sound with both savings and checking accounts well in the black. I have the printed reports on the back table at each meeting for any and all members who want to see the particulars.

The gold nugget drawing (red ticket) sales was brisk as was the 50/50 (green ticket) sales. I appreciate Cindy Olson for filling in for Yam this month. Just a final reminder, the membership annual dues renewal is now \$45.00. Thanks to all the members who support our club through ticket sales.



Board Meeting Minutes from June 11, 2026 via Zoom

x	Kevin Singel (P)	x	Gordon Smith (Sec)	x	Robert Ahr		Ron Yamioloski
x	Gary Hamilton (VP)	x	Andy Doll	x	Shelly Zornes	x	Joe Johnston
x	Bill Chapman (T)		Erik Von Halle	x	Mitchell Ross	x	Bobby Manning

Quorum Present: Yes

Call to Order at: 7:36 pm.

Reading and Approval of Minutes:

Corrections: wrong email for new president gmail account and last name missing from 50/50 winner

Approved as read/corrected: B. Manning moved; J. Johnston seconded. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Questions: Several questions were clarified by Treasurer Chapman to the Board’s satisfaction Approved as read/corrected: B. Manning moved; J.

Johnston seconded and approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Bylaws: Action still needed on updated Board member/Director procedural notebooks. Tabled until next meeting.

Outreach: next gold panning demo is July 26th at the Arapahoe County Fair. A signup sheet will be out during the meeting next week. Another panning demo is scheduled at Sanderson Ranch near Monument. There was a question as to whether enough volunteers could be assembled since the location is so far from metro Denver.

Unfinished Business:

The position of Club Librarian still needs to be filled. Member Yvonne Smith is temporarily keeping this going. Some suggestions were to digitize the list of available materials so interested members could make a selection and it would be brought to the next meeting or to only bring the library to meetings on a quarterly basis and another was to disperse the library to potential entities such as the Denver Mining Club, School of Mines, Club members, etc. and wind it down. A new librarian may have other ideas as

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, what is the name of the world’s largest gold coin?

2026 GPR Board of Directors Members

President

Kevin Singel

Vice President

Gary Hamilton

Treasurer

Bill Chapman

Secretary

Gordon Smith

2 Year Board Members

Robert Ahr (2026)

Andy Doll (2026)

Erik Von Halle (2026)

Joe Johnston (2026)

1 Year Board Members

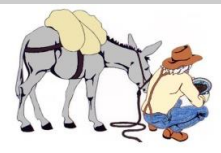
Shellie Zornes

Ron Yamiolkoski

Mitchell Ross

Past President/At Large

Bobby Manning



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well. It will be brought before the membership again. It was announced to the Board that the gold recently purchased from a private seller at a discount from spot price, should carry the Club through next year's drawings.

New Business:

The Club now has a Gold Monster 2000 to raffle in the blue ticket drawings! They are extremely hard to come by in the U.S. as Minelab cannot keep up with worldwide demand. Our illustrious leader was in the neighborhood of Ouray and finagled one from a shop proprietor he knows that happened to have two of them. Blue ticket sales will commence at the meeting next week. President Singel discussed giving a free year of Club membership to the owners of Sidewinder Sluice in Florence, CO. They joined the Club for 2025 and promote our Club in their store even though they live too far away to attend meetings. They reached out to President Singel regarding never receiving badges they had paid for. The Board was in agreement that President Singel should extend that offer.

Tabled the discussion on planning an event in November that may combine the annual metal detecting hunt for prizes with a Club picnic. Some felt an October date may be a better choice because of the uncertainty of fall weather. Director Zornes announced she purchased additional blank Club badges as the Club was running low.

Speakers lined up for the rest of the year are: member John Olson demonstrating gold plating techniques, a geologist at the August meeting, hunting relics at September's meeting, member Jack Meineke at October's meeting discussing dry washing, Club elections in November and the annual Christmas party in December.

Planned Outings:

For June, the location is on Little Dry Creek in the Arvada area. Location A-22 in Kevin's book.

For July, the Highbanker Fest at Big Bend will give members a chance to use their equipment. All club members are also invited to prospect. Location is the Steele Street Open Space Park, 78th & Steele.

For August, all metal detectorists are invited to head for Caribou ghost town. The Caribou mine owners have given the Club permission for this. Date in August still TBD.

For October, a friend of President Singel has offered his private claim on the Dolores River near Grand Junction.

Board Members Items of Discussion:

Director Hamilton – requests time at the meeting next week to discuss his idea for the Club picnic and combining it with the annual metal detecting contest. He would lead a committee; however, volunteers are needed to help with the planning and execution.

This month's General Meeting Program:

President Singel will give a short presentation on his recent Rye Patch, NV trip with his new Minelab Gold Monster 1000. After the presentation we will break so attendees can peruse the equipment and gear brought for the annual swap meet.

Announcements: Next Board Meeting July 9 at 7:30 pm via Zoom Next General Meeting: July 15 at 7:00 pm

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Secretary Smith, seconded by Director Ross. Meeting stands adjourned at 8:43 pm.

General Meeting Minutes from June 17, 2026

1. Meeting was opened at 7:05 pm by Pres. Singel with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Pres. Singel then announced this evening Program which is a short presentation on Rye Patch Metal Detecting and our Prospector's Yard Sale
3. Pres. Singel then gave the Metals Report: Gold 4,325 down over \$200/month Silver 70.25, down about \$6, Platinum 1,787 down about 75 Palladium 1,345, down 25, Rhodium 8,125 down 1,700!!
4. Web hits for last month was life to date for our website of 171,449, up 150 this month
5. Treasurer Bill Chapman reports that the Club remains in the black. Last month the red ticket drawing changes worked great and we will keep them up. We have some great nuggets in the back so be sure to grab those raffle tix! And of course, the BIG news: we got our hands on a Gold Monster 2000, get your blue tix now!!!
6. Robert Ahr and Shelly Zornes from the Membership Table reported that we had 37 members in attendance. There were 4 Guests present tonight and 6 New members! The total meeting attendance was 41.



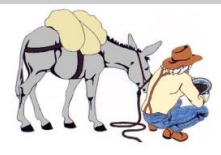
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7. Pres. Singel read the 'Question of the Month', In what year was the only robbery of Fort Knox and how much bullion was taken? ANSWER: 1933, no gold taken!
8. Additional items to be discussed include.
 - The club is looking for a new librarian. Chat with Joe J. about it or catch Kevin to discuss.
 - Outing this weekend on Little Dry Creek (flyers and email)
 - The Monthly "Pirates" Hunt on the last Wed. of the month should be Sunny with a high of 76 degrees, a far cry from the 49 degrees last time!
 - The Prospector's garage sale!
 - Volunteers needed for the panning demo in July at the Arapahoe County Fair
 - Director Hamilton addressed the attendees regarding plans for a combined Club picnic with the annual metal detecting contest. He asked for input as well as volunteers to assist him once plans finalize.
9. **SPEAKER OF THE MONTH INTRODUCTION**

President Singel will give a short presentation on his trip to Rye Patch, NV to metal detect.
10. Pres. Singel thanked Greg and Nancy Knerl and all those who contributed to the Refreshment Table. Each member is encouraged to chip in and add to the spread each month. Don't forget the 'tip jar' also, which helps to defray costs. 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.
11. Pres. Singel informed the membership that the Outings and Speakers are being booked now for 2027. Please share any requests or suggestions with him or another board member.
12. Pres. Singel mentioned the back table (Gold bags, 50/50 & special drawing tickets and red tickets)

There was a reminder to be sure to vote on the Finds of the Month and to answer the Question of the Month during the break. Pres. Singel advised that there was time to enter items at the break for the 'Finds of the Month' table and that the monthly winners from tonight will be photographed for the Finds of the Year. A reminder to all that their gold submissions need to be weighed dry and only one submission per person per category. Be sure to fill out the entry cards completely. Only finds found within the last 30 days may be submitted.
13. Pres. Singel announced the break at pm. 7:40. Meeting was called back to order at 8:05 pm.
14. Pres. Singel announced the winners of the 'Question of the Month' and coordinated distribution of free red tickets to the 6 winners. The winner of the 50/50 Green Ticket drawing was Shellie Zornes. She takes home \$35 and the Club receives the other half.
15. Pres. Singel announced the winners for the 'Finds of the Month'. Those were:
 - Best Coin - Nancy Knerl
 - Best Jewelry - Bobby Manning
 - Best Mineral – Joe Johnston
 - Best Artifact – John Olson
 - Best Costume Jewelry – Joe_Kafka
 - Best GOLD - Kevin Singel
16. Pres. Singel concluded the evening with drawings for numerous door prizes donated by club members, followed by the drawings for the gold nuggets. Pres. Singel also wants to remind holders of drawing tickets for the regular gold drawings who did not win and want to redeem those tickets that they may present them at the end of the Meeting and they will be reimbursed at .01 cents on the dollar, or they shall be considered to have been donated back to the Club. Those assisting in the drawings were John Olson & Joe Kafka.
17. Pres. Singel reminds the members that sometimes during the meetings, his time is overwhelmingly taken up. It is not his intent to be inaccessible and he encourages anyone with questions to contact him by e-mail **gporpresident@gmail.com** or phone at 720 934 1428 outside the meetings at any time.
18. The July meeting will be member John Olson demonstrating his gold plating equipment.

Having nothing further at this time, remember to prospect safely and often!



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19. The next Meeting is on July 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

20. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Volunteer Needed

Attention fellow club members, we are looking for a volunteer to run the club library. This includes helping folks check out books and return them at club meetings. It also includes transporting these three bins (could probably be thinned out) back and forth to meetings. To learn more, see our prior guardian of the sacred tomes, Joe Johnston, Yvonne Smith who is our current, interim, volunteer, or your President, Kevin Singel.



A Miner's Laugh

Walter, an old retired miner, took his wife Ethel to the State fair every year, and every time he would say to her, "Ethel, you know that I'd love to go for a ride in that helicopter." But Ethel would always reply, "I know that Walter, but that helicopter ride is 50 dollars and 50 dollars is 50 dollars."

Finally, they went to the fair, and Walter said to Ethel, "Ethel, you know I'm 87 years old now. If I don't ride that helicopter this year, I may never get another chance." Once again Ethel replied, "Walter, you know that helicopter is 50 dollars and 50 dollars is 50 dollars."

This time the helicopter pilot overheard the couple's conversation and said, "Listen folks, I'll make a deal with you. I'll take both of you for a ride; if you can both stay quiet for the entire ride and not say a word, I won't charge you! But if you say just one word, it's 50 dollars."

Walter and Ethel agreed and up they went in the helicopter. The pilot performed all kinds of fancy moves and tricks, but not a word was said by either Walter or Ethel.

The pilot did his death-defying tricks over and over again, but still there wasn't so much as one word said.

When they finally landed, the pilot turned to Walter and said, "Wow! I've got to hand it to you. I did everything I could to get you to scream or shout out, but you didn't. I'm really impressed!"

Walter replied, "Well to be honest I almost said something when Ethel fell out but, you know, 50 dollars is 50 dollars!"

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



Finds of the Month for June 2026

- Best Coin - Nancy Knerl
- Best Jewelry - Bobby Manning
- Best Mineral - Joe Johnston
- Best Artifact - John Olson
- Best Costume Jewelry - Joe Kafka
- Best GOLD - Kevin Singel

(There were no photos submitted for publication this month)



The June GPR Program Notes

The June Program featured President K. Singel who spoke of his recent trip to the Rye Patch in Nevada back in April of this year. Kevin had attended the Instructional Class that he found was actually being held in Nevada at the Rye Patch and he and a dozen other prospectors learned how to use their MineLab 2000 detectors. The proof in the pudding was to actually get into the field and put to use all that they had learned. And as he relayed it, everyone was able to find a little gold. Kevin brought in a couple of his nuggets to show off to the Club members demonstrating that it was easy to find small nuggets with that Gold Monster 2000. You can see those nuggets if you check President Singel's column at the front of the Newsletter.

Well done Mr. President.....!!!!



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The Pirate's March Hunt (June 2026) by Robert 'The Pirate' Ahr

Well, Well it's the 24th of June and the weather is beautiful, we started out with 6 for breakfast and ended up with 8 for the hunt. We decided to go to Argo Park which ended up being a pretty Shi__y Park. So Joe F. was the #1 Pirate for the day with 1.69 followed by Shellie Z. 1.65, next was Robert A. at a 1.56 then came Chris and Joe K. 1.12 and pulling up the end was Carrie and Adam with .54 cents for a total of \$6.56 in change. Not one of our finest hours but we all got some fresh air. So remember all you G.P.O.R. folks that are general meeting is July 15th @ 1900hrs. hope to see you all there. any questions give me a call at 720-532-5210.



Prospecting Outing on Little Dry Creek June 20, 2026

It was a great day to be out digging for gold. The Club ventured out to Little Dry Creek around 66th and Zuni street in north Denver to try their hand at a little shiny getting. The weather was just a tad to the warm side but not unmanageable and plenty of folks got to get their hands and feet wet as well as dig a bunch of dirt in search of gold. There was an opportunity to explore the Adams County Open Space portion of the creek from the area above 68th Ave, all the way south to around 64th. The gold there has had time to work its way downward to the shallow hard clay bedrock so our guys and gals had to be sure to dig down to it. Otherwise, they would go home with a little gold but leave the good stuff for the next prospector! There were some cautions digging at this location. No digging into the bank of the creek, only digging downward into the creek bed, and avoiding disturbing any rip rap rocks as they have been placed to prevent erosion. As evidenced by the pictures, everybody had fun and there was gold to be found indeed.

(Photos by Pres. K. Singel)



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Colorado's Gold & Silver Mining History JANUARY 17, 2025 BY PATRICK MCGUIRE (Part 2of 2)

1859-1864- The first discoveries of silver are recorded in Colorado



Silver vein ore found in the late 1800s at Sweet Home Mine near Alma, CO. Photo: James St. John

Deep in the mountains of Summit County, there was a significant amount of silver with a high lead found in 1864. While that important discovery led to others in the area, some believe that the first silver discovery recorded in Colorado happened five years earlier during the Pikes Peak Gold Rush when veins of silver were discovered in the Central City-Idaho Springs district.

But while miners in Colorado were well aware that there was silver to be found in the area, most didn't attempt to mine it until smelters were built in the late 1860s.

1873 – Yule marble is discovered in the Crystal River Valley

Marble blocks awaiting transport

from Marble, CO. Photo: Jeffrey Beall

You may not know the name Yule Marble, but you've seen it. In Denver, the Cheesman Memorial Pavilion and Colorado State Capitol are comprised of the iconic metamorphic white rock. In the Arlington National Cemetery and Washington D.C., it was used in the construction of the Tomb of the Unknowns and the outer facade, upper steps, and columns of the Lincoln Memorial.

This important natural material was discovered in what is now the town of Marble, in southwestern Colorado in 1873.



1879 – The Colorado Silver Boom begins

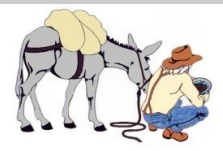
Originally owned by Horace Tabor in 1879, the Matchless Mine in Leadville, Colo.

Photo: Jeffrey Beall

In 1879, a silver discovery in the town of Leadville led to a rapid expansion of silver mining activity in the state of Colorado. With over \$82 million in silver being mined during the boom, the event came almost exactly 20 years after the Pikes Peak Gold Rush.

But while the gold rush was driven by the tireless work and ambitions of countless individual prospectors, this one was fueled by massive purchases of silver from the US government. They intended to use the mineral as currency.





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From the start of the boom until 1893, Colorado's population exploded. This precipitated the expansion of mountainous narrow gauge railway networks that connected Aspen, Leadville, South Park, and other mountain communities with Denver and the rest of the nation.

The silver boom also resurrected the fledgling town of Aspen in the late 1880s. The mining of silver ore there funneled desperately needed money into the area.

1893 – The Sherman Silver Purchase Act is repealed causing widespread economic devastation in Colorado

Aspen, CO silver mines, circa 1898-1905.

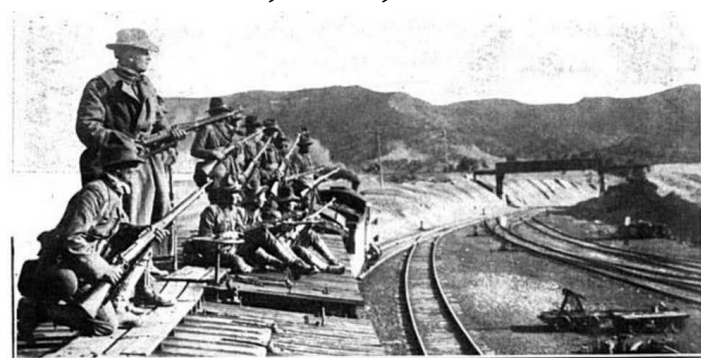
A struggle between east coast bankers and rural farmers and miners in Colorado and the rest of the West resulted in one of the worst economic disasters the state has ever seen. With silver being used as currency, many in the US complained that gold-based money was being devalued.

When President Grover Cleveland intervened by repealing the Sherman Silver Purchase Act in 1893, silver prices plummeted, and Colorado was thrown into a deep recession. Out of work, throngs of miners traveled to Denver in search of employment. Banks collapsed, real estate values in Colorado saw steep declines, and rescue missions are reported to have seen such great numbers of people in need that they could only serve women and children. The downturn swallowed the fortunes of the rich and left many powerful Colorado figures destitute.

Horace Brown, owner of the Brown Palace Hotel, spent the last few years of his life trying to stave off creditors who were intent on taking over his hotel. Horace Tabor, a prominent Colorado senator and mining tycoon known as the "Silver King" lost his entire fortune during the crash and was forced to become a Postmaster before the end of his life.



1914 – Coal miners, women, and children are massacred in the Ludlow Massacre



MEMBERS OF THE COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD ENTERING THE STRIKE DISTRICT

Colorado National Guard soldiers enter the Ludlow strike zone, circa 1914.

In the spring of 1914, the Colorado National Guard and security forces from the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company fired machine guns into a tent camp filled with striking miners and their families. Accounts vary, but 21 miners, women, and children are thought to have perished during the massacre either by being gunned down or burned alive after the camp was set ablaze.

You can visit the Ludlow Memorial located by the ghost town of Ludlow between Walsenburg and Trinidad in southern Colorado. John D. Rockefeller Jr, the owner of the

mine, was widely criticized, and the event is widely credited for improving work conditions in the United States. Rockefeller, who was initially resistant to compromising and meeting miners' demands, spoke with socialite and philanthropist Molly Brown and eventually softened his stance. He later worked with labor relations expert and future Canadian Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King to develop reforms for miners and the working towns they depended on.



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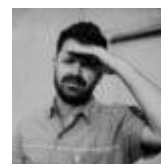
THE COLORADO TENT COLONY SHOT UP BY THE MILITIA

Ludlow, a canvas community of 900 souls, was riddled with machine guns shooting 400 bullets a minute. Then the tents were burned. The site is private property leased by the miners' union, which has supported the colony seven months.

Mining isn't a part of most Coloradans' lives in 2021 but virtually no part of the state has been untouched by its legacy. From prominent buildings, labor rights laws, transportation, and the capital city of Denver, Colorado wouldn't be the place it is today were it not for the messy business of mining.

About Patrick McGuire

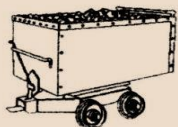
Patrick McGuire is a freelance writer and musician living in the Mountain West.



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CHRIS STONE

Owner / Operator



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Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)

Upcoming Announcements and Special Events for Aug 2026 (GPR Events)						
Western Museum of Mining & Industry, 225 North Gate Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80921 (https://www.wmmi.org/)						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Detecting at Caribou Date TBD				1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				Zoom Board Meeting 7:30pm		
15	17	18	19	20	21	22
			GPoR Club Meeting			
2330	24/31	25	26	27	28	29
			Pirate's Hunt (Weather permitting)			