



## The Gold Nugget

Vol. 11, No. 12

December 2006

### Holiday Potluck

Meeting Starts at 6:30

Potluck Starts at 6:45

Get the food before the editor does!

### The Prez Sez

By Gary Hawley, President

The snow was OK but the -5 degrees temperature was a little too cold for me. I have decided to wait until spring to do any serious prospecting. However, metal detecting some local parks will give me some exercise and perhaps a coin or two.

I appreciate the turnout we had at the November meeting. It is important that all members be involved in the selection of club officers. My personal thanks to the members for voting me in as president. I am happy to have Jeff Mosteller as my vice-president along with the other officers who were voted in. There will be some new Board members to meet at the December meeting. I welcome the excitement of the new officers and will have some projects for them to tackle right away.



I am planning several prospecting outings for next year and will advise you when and where to meet and dig!

Kathy and I have something different in mind for the Christmas gifts this year. I am sure no

one will be disappointed.

*Continued on page 2*

### VP's Corner

By Jeff Mosteller, Vice President

Greetings to all,

I want to personally thank all 31 members of the club that helped to complete the 2006 Gold Panning Demonstrations calendar. "Santa Jeff" has something for your stockings this month.

We had 19 Shows for 2006. The demo traveled 1334 miles this year. We had over 3151 people visit the demo booth. Leroy, Kathy and Donna put gold on over 3000 cards that were passed out to the crowds who visited with us. We were featured on Denver's news 9 twice this year. We were featured in the Idaho Springs "Currant" the local news paper. The club was exposed to Legislatures from all of the western United States. And finally a Photo Journalist student from Denver University is in the process of making a documentary about the Gold Rush to Colorado featuring the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies that will be submitted to PBS for Broadcast some time next year. Not a bad year I guess.

Over the past 3 years of coordinating the Gold Panning Demos I have been exposed to so many things I couldn't begin to put it all to paper. It's been a blast, I wouldn't trade a thing. Thank you all for letting me do this labor of love on behalf of my mentor, Mr. Ken Barker. With out all of you this wouldn't have happened. To see what we have has cooked up for the club members that helped us, and to see what the final tally was on the money we took in this past year you should be at the Pot luck.

Finally, My self and Donna Mosteller want to wish all of you a (politically incorrect) MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR. May all your pans have lots of gold in them this next year.

Thank you,  
Jeff and Donna Mosteller



### 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.



**Join Us on the Third Wednesday!**

**Lloyd G. Clements Community Center**

**1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood, Colorado**

**(One block west of Wadsworth, then one block north of Colfax)**

**7:00 p.m. (Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.)**

**Information: (303) 933-1147 <> ghawley1@juno.com**

**Website: <http://www.GoldProspectorsOfTheRockies.com/>**

### Elections Joe Shubert

#### New GPR Officers for 2007

- President.....Gary Hawley
- Vice President.....Jeff Mosteller
- Treasurer.....Kathy Hawley
- 2-year Boardmember.....Rob Deschambault (Elected 2007)
- 2-year Boardmember.....Joe Johnston (Elected 2007)
- 2-year Boardmember.....Joe Shubert (Elected 2006)
- 1-year Boardmember.....Allen Mershon
- 1-year Boardmember.....Paul Nagy
- 1-year Boardmember.....Sue Lemieux
- 1-year Boardmember.....Mike Barker
- 1-year Boardmember.....Donna Mosteller
- 1-year Boardmember.....Terry Weatherly
- 1-year Boardmember.....Arron Ingalls

*Continued from page 1*

I am making one little change for our December meeting / pot luck. The "meeting" will be called to order at 6:30 pm. A brief business report will be presented and the potluck will start at 6:45 pm. There are several awards and recognitions to be presented after the feast.

Remember to bring a potluck dish and spoon/fork for serving. The club will supply paper plates, napkins, plastic ware, cups, sodas and coffee.

Very important: wear your ID badge for this meeting.

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

Gary

### "A Gold Placer Odyssey," Lou Cope, Placer Engineer

Transcribed by Paul Nagy

A native of Houston, Texas, although he looks and sounds more like Brooklyn, Lou Cope joined the army in 1942. After the war, he took advantage of his GI Bill benefits and studied mining in college. By 1950 he had married and moved to Latin America, where they spent the next nine years. Both he and his wife found that they had the curiosity and adventurous spirit for remote foreign living. Assignments to Canada and north Africa were next on the itinerary. In muslim north Africa, Mrs. Cope made quite an impression with her uncovered head, automobile driving, and cigarette smoking. The impression was not necessarily good, at least among the men. For the women it may have been the first step in liberation.

In 1966, the Copes moved to Denver to afford their two young sons an American education. Lou hired on with Hack and Associates, consulting engineers who specialized in placer and gravel plant design. After four years he decided to become self-employed. Although based in Denver, Lou still relished foreign assignments and gained a reputation as the one to call, sometimes in the middle of the night, for emergency trips to far off places. That remains true today.

Among his list of memorable places--perhaps to be avoided--is the legendary Timbuktu. Mr. Cope warns that every social pleasantry there must be regarded as part of a designed rip-off. The friendly camel ride into the desert turns out to be a one-way trip unless an extortionate return-fare is paid.

Behind the former Iron Curtain, Lou found that the Eastern Bloc engineers, as advertised, had no profit motive. This was exemplified by antiquated equipment, extreme environmental degradation, and financial problems "solved" by simply printing more "money" on an old mimeograph machine. It reinforces the old joke of the communist government dictum: "You pretend to work and we pretend to pay you."

Lou found that placer miners world-wide are the most independent and single-minded of people. Each knows the "best way." (We might have guessed as much from our own experiences in gold panning.) They are not quick to accept advisement and are best approached obliquely. In southeast Asia, the gold pan equivalent is the "batea," a large wooden oblong bowl. Trying it for himself, he found its use perplexing but had to concede that these people must know what they were doing because, after all, they used it for their very existence, not just for weekend kicks.

A true man of the world, Lou Cope is not just admired throughout the mining community for his superior technical knowledge and wide experience, but for his quiet congeniality and good humor which he has brought to every continent. He truly deserves the title of Ambassador of Good Will!

Thank you to all members who donated canned goods, dry goods, and cash, to support the food drive for the Denver Rescue Mission. I bought over 200 cans of food with the cash that same night, and dropped them off at the radio station **KBPI** pickup point. I believe they filled two long semi trailers full of food .

Rick Miska





### Where Do Reindeer Come From?

Reindeer and caribou share the same species name, *Rangifer tarandus*.

Reindeer are a semi-domesticated subspecies of *Rangifer*.

They were probably domesticated along the Russia-Mongolian border five to seven thousand years ago, and might have been first used as decoys to help hunters catch wild game.

Once domesticated by the nomadic tribes of this region, they pulled sleds and supplied meat, clothing, and milk.

Their domestication spread throughout Russia and Scandinavia, where raising and herding reindeer is still a way of life today.

Reindeer did not arrive in North America until the 1890's.

### History Of Reindeer In Alaska

In the late 1880s, there were reports of starving Alaska Native populations in western Alaska due to the decimation of marine mammals from the whaling industry and scarce numbers of caribou.

Dr. Sheldon Jackson, a U.S. general agent for education and Presbyterian missionary lobbied for federal monies to assist Alaska Natives. He built mission schools and in the late 1880s introduced reindeer into Alaska from Russia, as a source of protein and revenue.

Reindeer were brought to Alaska on Captain Healy's U.S. Revenue Cutter, the *Bear*.

Siberian herders and then Saami herders were brought to western Alaska to teach Alaska Natives how to herd reindeer.

The reindeer industry grew until there were over 600,000 reindeer in the 1930s. Mismanagement and losses to wolves and caribou caused the reindeer population to drop to only 50,000 reindeer by the 1950s.

The Reindeer Act of 1937 allows only Alaska Natives to own reindeer.

Today there are 30,000 reindeer in Alaska, with 20,000 of them living in western Alaska, mainly on the Seward peninsula and in island herds.

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**GPR Genl Mtg Notes Clements Center  
Lakewood, CO 15 November 2006  
Recorder: Paul Nagy**

7:07 Meeting called to order by President Gary Hawley. Pledge of Allegiance led by Hawley and Don Tiglas.

7:08 Discussion of metal prices. Members describe where they have been prospecting/panning in the past few weeks.

7:10 Joe Shubert, election chairman, announces that all current officers and board members have been re-elected in last months polls.

7:15 Sue Lemieux, activities chair, announces upcoming activities (see elsewhere in this newsletter). Includes club visit to the Colorado History Museum.

7:19 VP's report by Jeff Mosteller. We received a nice photo op in the Idaho Springs Current. In 2006, from January to October, the club gave gold panning demonstrations at nineteen separate events during which no less than 3151 people learned this fascinating part of our national heritage. Thirty-seven club members gave of their time for the panning demos. (Thanks to them, but most of all to Jeff and Donna Mosteller who led each and every demo each and every day!) The club has had a film segment produced and cleared for an upcoming Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) TV special. Details forthcoming.

7:23 Membership report by MaryAnn McCrea: 118 individual and family memberships. Three guests: Darrell Keller, Phillip Haberkorn, and Lou Cope (tonight's speaker). New member: Kurtis Adkinson. Welcome, Kurtis! Dig in!

7:30 Prez Hawley announces that tonight's drawings will include all Colorado gold.

7:32 Shirley Weilnau asks the question of the month. Later, the correct answer and drawing tickets to those who got it right.

7:33 Recess.

7:48 Joe Johnston announces the winners of the finds-of-the-month.

7:52 Evening's speaker, Lou Cope, placer and process engineer, "A Gold Placer Odyssey."

8:26 Prize drawings, then adjourn meeting.

**2006 Newsletter Article  
Submission Deadlines**

Please submit your newsletter articles to Rick Miska at :

**Goldhunter@Ricksthings.com**

**All articles will be due by the 4th of each month.**

**Find of the Month November Winners**

By Joe Johnston, Find of the Month/Year Coordinator

**Best Bottle** - no entries

**Best Jewelry** -

**Joe Fortunato - Silver ring with Opal (in Denver park)**  
Don Dixon - Scarf Tie with stones (in Sloans Lake)

**Largest Raw Gold** - no entries

**Most Raw Gold** -

**Jay Nunn - cleaned and partially cleaned gold samples**

**Most Unique (Excavated)** -

**Don Dixon - cap gun (in Sloans Lake)**

Jay Nunn - pyrite sample

**Most Unique (Non-Excavated)** -

**Wolf Stumpf - penny found in parking lot**

**Most Valuable U.S Coin** -

**Bill Duncanson - 1943-S nickel**

**Oldest U.S. Coin** -

**Joe Fortunato - 1897 Barber dime (Westminster)**

Way to go everyone, keep up the good hunting.

Note: there is no FOM in December as this is when we hold the Find Of The Year. Congratulations to this months winners, be sure to bring your FOM winning items for entry in the Find Of the Year (FOY) competition in December. Finds made from the end of the November meeting to the time of the January meeting are eligible for entry in the January FOM program. Bring your best finds then, and we'll see you at the next meeting. Don't forget to bring your bottles, jewelry, coins, gold or other finds. Remember those entries get you drawing tickets and those tickets WIN! Just ask Sue, Marlin and others that have held tickets for FOM entries and WON! Note: Be sure to bring a second container with your gold sample entries for weigh in comparison. We will weigh the container with the gold and subtract the weight of the container without the gold to determine the weight of the sample, so have a container filled with the same liquid for comparison weigh in. Each member is allowed one entry per category each month. Additional finds may be displayed as 'show & tell' items. All FOM winners are eligible for entry in the FOY for that current year.

Wishing you all a safe and happy holliday season. Joe Johnston, Finds Program Coordinator.

I would also like to Thank Marlin Wiedeman for his assistance with the Club Library and Finds Program at the meetings. A Big Examino to you Marlin!

Also, my guest Nelson Brown was so enthused with his visit to our meeting in November that he is wanting to get a Metal Detector and gold equipment. I plan to visit him on his Navajo Reservation in New Mexico this comming year if at all possible.

**From the Ledger**

of Kathy Hawley, Treasurer

Thanks to Joe Johnston, Leroy Lamgo, and Allen Mershon for their donations to the members only drawing prizes.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has donated items for the members only drawing prizes this year. I also want to thank Chuck Cown for his help. He is a lifesaver at every meeting and I really appreciate him.

We will not be having a drawing for the December meeting. It is our annual potluck dinner, so come and enjoy the good food and fun.

Thanks for your vote of confidence for the upcoming year. I am preparing the gold, for the 2007 drawings, we will have a "special nugget" soon after the New Year.

**Merry Christmas to All!!**

**Food for Thought**

Now its your turn to bring me food!!!! Michael and I are looking forward to seeing everybody at the Holiday Potluck

Jackie and Michael

**2006 GPR Officers and Board Members**

- President..... Gary Hawley
- Vice-President..... Jeff Mosteller
- Treasurer ..... Kathy Hawley
- 2-Year Board Member..... Hank Innerfeld (elected 2005)
- 2-Year Board Member..... Joe Johnston (elected 2005)
- 2-Year Board Member..... Joe Shubert (elected 2006)
- 1-Year Board Member..... Mike Barker
- 1-Year Board Member ..... Cindy Douthard
- 1-Year Board Member..... Sue Lemieux
- 1-Year Board Member..... Allen Mershon
- 1-Year Board Member..... Donna Mosteller
- 1-Year Board Member..... Paul Nagy
- 1-Year Board Member..... Terry Weatherly

**Gold Prospectors of the Rockies**

Board meeting of November 2006

- Gary Hawley      Mike Barker      Jeff Mosteller
- Donna Mosteller      Kathy Hawley      Joe Shubert
- Paul Nagy      Terry Weatherly      Sue Lemieux
- Hank Innerfeld      Joe Johnston      Allen Mershon

**Quorum present? Yes.**

**Call to order.** . Meeting was called to order at 6:20 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.

**Committee Reports:** Read as presented.

**Unfinished Business:**

- Donna Mosteller – Club Cookbook. *On going.*
- Sue Lemieux – Club Cookbook cover design contest. *On going.*
- Hank Innerfeld – Club clothing table. *Tabled until further notice.*

**New Business:** Some discussion about mine restoration and the governmental agencies that are directing it.

**Planned Outings:** ; Planned event: Club Christmas party/potluck – December 20 at 7:00 P.M.

**Announcements:**

Next board meeting December 20, 2006 at 6:00 P.M.  
Next general meeting December 20, 2006at 7:00 P.M.

**Tonight's general meeting program:** .  
Mr. Lou Cope, a placer and process engineer.

**Adjournment:** Meeting stands adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

**GPR GOLD PANNING DEMONSTRATIONS**

Know an organization that might want us to set up a gold panning demonstration booth? Contact

**Jeff Mosteller**

(303) 202-9302 <> [jefndona@comcast.net](mailto:jefndona@comcast.net)

For additional information and photos, see <http://www.GoldProspectorsOfTheRockies.com/>



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New Speedaire Compressor, 3PH-5HP, 80-gal tank, upright. Current model price is \$1,788; will sell now for \$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 2.0" - Two Column Inches (Business Card Size) .....	\$ 6
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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

**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?

Your ad could have been here!

**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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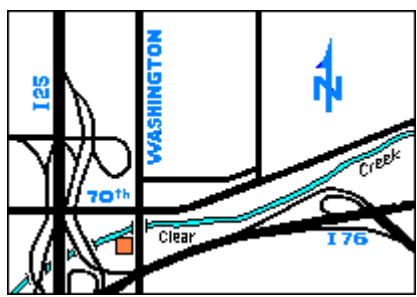
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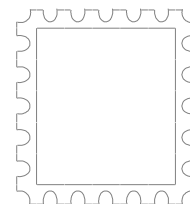
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### **DATED MATERIAL**

Please check the **date** on your label to see the last month you may renew your GPR membership and continue your subscription to *The Gold Nugget* without interruption. Thanks, and happy prospecting!

- Renew today**       **Last newsletter**

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