

The Gold Nugget

The Prez Sez by, Gary Hawley



The weather was warm enough during the last week of March that I got out on Clear Creek for a few hours. Thanks to **Chuck Cown** for the invitation to get out there.

It won't be long before the spring runoff starts so be careful and keep watch for rising streams and plan an escape route; just in case the water rises quickly.

Thanks to **Jim Long** who volunteered to be our first sergeant-at-arms. I heard from several members who appreciated the back room silence during the meeting.

Thanks to **John Weir** for clearing up the no prospecting issue in Westminster. As it stands now, non-motorized prospecting is allowed.

Jeff Mosteller will have the first clue to the newest GPR Cache at the April meeting. You will want to follow this one.

Mark Grayson won the 12.3 gram Siberian nugget at the March meeting. Special thanks to all members who participated in the "Special Members Only" drawing. **Kathy Hawley** tells me she has selected another "clinker" for the next drawing but she will not tell me anything about it. She says I have to wait until the April meeting just like everyone else. (So much for being president)

Speaking of the April meeting, we will not have a speaker. Instead we will be doing a **Members Show & Tell**. Tables will be set up for you to display your collection of anything that has to do with gold prospecting. Have you done a special modification on a gold pan, metal detector, sluice box or other prospecting equipment? If so, bring it in and share the idea with other members. Detectorists - bring in those bottle collections or special coins. As long as it has to do with our hobby it's OK. Each presenter will be responsible for the protection of his/her own display.

Thanks to all members who helped decide on the direction we will take with the gold drawings. Your decision, by majority vote, was to keep the nuggets at the sizes we have had in the past and reduce the number of nuggets given at the drawing. Kathy's newsletter article will still announce what the largest nugget will be. She and I will confer on the other nuggets based upon the spot price of gold a few days before the meeting.

At the April meeting, we will have maps, information and a sign up sheet for the Point Bar outing on May 9, 10 & 11. This outing is held in conjunction with the Gold Prospectors Association of Colorado's "Let's Go Gold Panning" weekend and gives us access to the Woody #1 Claim also. You will need a BLM permit if you plan to use motorized equipment on the Arkansas River.

Make plans to attend the May 21 meeting. Authors Beth and Bill Sagstetter will present a program based on their wonderful book "The Mining Camps Speak." This will be a "must attend" meeting. More on this program in our May newsletter.

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

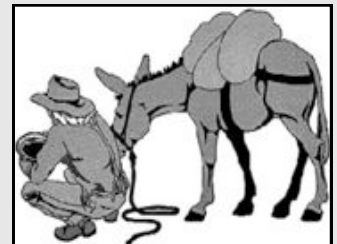
GPOR Website

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.



Inside This Issue

Program for the Meeting	2
Board Meeting Minutes	2
Your Write	3
General Meeting Minutes	4
From the Ledger	5
Question of the Month	5
Find of the Month	6



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 Deshambault,

(Elected 2007)

Joe Johnston,

(Elected 2007)

Joe Shubert

(Elected 2008)

1 Year Board Members

Paul Nagy

Sue Lemeux

Mike Barker

Arron Ingalls

Jeff Mosteller

Andy Doll

Henry Chambless

**Program for the
April 2008 Meeting**



MEMBERS'

SHOW & TELL

**Bring Your Collection For
Presentation At The
April Meeting.**

Board Meeting Minutes, for March 19, 2008

Roll call

Those in attendance:

Gary Hawley

Allen Mershon

Kathy Hawley

Joe Johnston

Joe Shubert

Paul Nagy

Aaron Ingalls

Mike Barker

Jeff Mosteller

Andy Doll

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

Membership renewals and
newsletters from other
clubs.

Committee Reports

No reports.

Unfinished Business

Coin hunt – August 23. Joe
Johnston, Henry Cham-
bless, Gary Hawley. Any
follow-up? Nothing to
report.

Email newsletters – Gary
Hawley. Editor will prepare
a sign up “coupon” for the
April newsletter.

Andy Doll – “Kids to Work”
program – date??? April 24
1:00 – 2:30

New Business

New discussion on possibly
selling the club trailer. Gary
Hawley will do some follow-
up on this.

Planned Outings

May 10 & 11 – Point Bar
prospecting outing.

June 21 – Hydee Mine tour.

September 20 – Club
picnic.

Announcements

Next board meeting April
16, 2008, at 6:00 P.M.

Next general meeting April
16, 2008, at 7:00 P.M.

Newsletter articles due
April 2, 2008

**Tonight's general meet-
ing program**

Gary Hawley – How gold
prices affect the club.

Adjournment

Meeting stands adjourned
at 6:45 P.M.

**Join Us on the
Third Wednesday
of each month**

Lloyd G. Clements
Community Center

1580 Yarrow Street
Lakewood, CO.

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

7 p.m. Meeting

**6 p.m. Board
Meeting**

Information:

303/933.1147
ghawley1@msn.com

Website:

[www.goldprospectors
oftherockies.com](http://www.goldprospectors
oftherockies.com)



Your Write

**Breckenridge Area
Dredge Boats**

By,
Steve DiSciullo

Dredge boats mined placer gold deposits on the Swan and Blue Rivers in Summit County from 1898 until 1942. Early boats moved 1,000 cubic yards of gravel each every 24 hours. The boats were 96 feet by 30 feet and had engines with 100 horsepower. A bucket line moved material to the rear of the dredge, dumping it on a revolving "grizzly" and Trommel screen. Larger stones went into a stacker with 25 pockets about 2 feet square. The stacker piled the stones behind the boat, creating the long piles along the river. The fines washed out through holes in the side of the grizzly into riffles on both sides.

Larger boats were soon built as the first boats were deemed too small. The hull of the fourth dredge, which operated from about 1900-1905, still floats in its' last pond on the Swan River near Galena Gulch. Now the trout in the pond use the remains for shade. This boat chewed through the stream day and night, no doubt to the detriment of those trying to sleep nearby. Known as the Risdon, the dredge produced \$20,000 worth of gold in

the 1904 season, while moving 2,500 cubic yards of gravel a day.

By 1905, a very large boat was operating in French Gulch, with a capacity of 3,000 cubic yards every 24 hours. In 1906 a boat known as Reliance claimed production of \$50,000 in gold in seven months. In 1908 it was converted from steam to electric power. In 1909, Reliance hit a "hot spot" in French Gulch. \$40,000 in gold was cleaned from an area less than half an acre in size. Two dredges were operating in French Gulch now, and they produced 21,902 ounces of gold in 1909, and 17,839 ounces in 1910.

The town of Valdora was the service center for the dredge operations. I've been to the site but there is virtually nothing left indicating habitation. Valdora was on the east bank of the Swan, just upstream from its' confluence with the Blue River. The town site was destroyed by a dredge boat after the inhabitants moved away.

Nine different boats mined the Breckenridge area. The last dredge worked the Blue River off and on from 1926 until 1942. Then Order L-203 of the War Production Board stopped all mining in Colorado, as war production took precedence over gold production.

Point Bar

**Recreational
Gold Panning Area**

Directions to the Point Bar outing May 9, 10 & 11.

On Highway 50 about 4 miles below Salida, following the Arkansas River, turn at the Wellsville Road.

There is a sign along the highway indicating "Wellsville".

Cross the river and follow the road over the railroad tracks.

This is a good gravel road that follows the railroad tracks.

After about 2 3/4 miles the road will start to get rough.

Slow down, you will have to go under the railroad tracks and make a sharp left immediately after the tracks.

Follow the dirt road and you will come to Point Bar.

You will need a BLM permit to use mechanized equipment.

**Your Write
(Instructions)**

GPR members, guests and visitors are welcome to submit articles of interest, topic ideas and even creative artwork for consideration to appear in the GPR monthly newsletter.

Submit your article, idea and/or your artwork (*pictures or hand illustrations*) by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of the month for appearance in the coming issue(s) of The Gold Nugget!

(All submissions are subject to approval and editing by the GPR board president and the editor).

Please respond to:

Keith R. Hawley
Editor,
GPR Newsletter
daotter@msn.com



General Meeting Minutes, for March 19, 2008

By, Paul Nagy, General Meeting Recorder

7:16 Meeting called to order by club president Gary Hawley. Pledge of allegiance.

7:17 Jim Long introduced as the club's first sergeant-at-arms.

7:18 Treasurer's report by Gary Hawley for Kathy Hawley. Despite the recent gold price hikes, we are in the black.

7:19 Membership report by Jackie Barker. Individual and family memberships: 130 including three new memberships this evening. A golden welcome to new members Sonny Land, Daniel Michael, and Duane Staton! Also to guests Sue Clover, Jocelyn McComb, and Mike Miller.

7:20 VP's report by Allen Mershon. Soon the streams will be rising with the spring runoff. Watch out. Safety first always. Pick an escape route.

7:22 Prez Hawley concurs that this year's snowpack is way above average. Storms + snowmelt = Big Trouble! Check the weather forecast, but remember that it's not always accurate. Notes on upcoming Civil War era symposium. Who's been prospecting and where? Discussion of metal prices, one word - volatile! The

metal thieves are out. Watch your stuff.

7:28 Ian Duncanson with the question of the month. Later, prizes to winners.

7:29 The Point Bar-Arkansas River outing is scheduled for 10-11 May with the Colo Spgs club. Check with the BLM for permits for motorized equipment and also camping permits. An outing at Cache Creek is also in the works.

7:42 there have been inquiries about the club from the media including Public Radio.

7:45 John Weir announces that he has been in contact with Westminster authorities and that there is no prohibition on non-motorized prospecting, such as hand panning. Previously it had been reported that Westminster had banned all prospecting. Applause for John in getting this cleared up for us. That is what we are all about!

7:48 Prez Hawley explains our gold purchase economics for drawings. We can 1.) Reduce the size of the nuggets or, 2.) Reduce the number of nuggets in the draw. Motion and vote passes to reduce the number of nuggets.

8:02 Recess.

8:20 new uses for gold, such as a medical use as toxin eliminator.

8:25 Prize drawings. The winner of the 12.3 gram Siberian nugget is Mark Grayson! Congrats! Other prize drawings then adjourn.

Westminster Prospecting Information

The following is an edited summary of emails between Jon Weir, GPR member, and Heather Cronenberg, Open Space Administrator.

Jon Weir: "My original question was whether one can legally pan in Westminster waters and if permission is required prior to any such activity."

Heather Cronenberg: "After talking with Rich Dahl in Parks, (Rich Dahl is Parks & Recreation Administrator) we do not see any reason why someone could not pan for gold - as long as it is for private and not commercial uses.

The open space police have also been informed about this possible use and they do not see any issues with this".

Planning Calendar 2008

April

16th. Club Meeting Show & Tell

May

10th. & 11th. Point Bar Outing

21st. Club Meeting "Mining Camps Speak"

June

18th. Club Meeting 21st. Hyde Mine Tour

July

16th. Club Meeting

August

20th. Club Meeting 23rd. Coin Hunt

September

17th. Club Meeting 20th. Club Picnic

October

15th. Club Meeting

November

19th. Club Meeting

December

17th. Annual Potluck Dinner

2009

January

21st. Club Meeting

February

18th. Club Meeting

March

18th. Club Meeting



From the Ledger of,
Kathy Hawley,
Treasurer/Secretary

Thanks to Joe Johnston and Leroy Lamgo for the donations to the member's only drawing.

This month we will give away 10 nuggets. The largest will be **2.0 grams**.

We are also going to try something different this month. One of our members suggested we do an experiment with the regular nugget drawings just for fun. So...for the April meeting, we will have a "Gold Pan" drawing. Not for a gold pan but we will be drawing from a "Gold Pan". Here's how it will work:

1. You will buy your tickets like you usually do.
2. We will give you both halves of the tickets.
3. You choose the nugget or nuggets you would like to win. You will be able to see them when you buy your tickets.
4. On a separate table you will find "Gold Pans" with numbers on them that correspond to the nugget numbers.
5. Keep the "Keep this coupon" portion of a ticket and place the "ticket" portion into the slot on one of the "Gold Pans," the one that represents the nugget you want to win.
6. You get to choose. All of your tickets on one nugget, or divide them up anyway you choose.
7. When we get to the drawings portion of the meeting, we will draw one winning ticket from each "Gold Pan".

We will begin selling tickets for a "Special Nugget" at the April meeting. My plan is to give it away at the December meeting. Someone will receive a very nice Christmas gift at that meeting. I am not sharing the size and location until the April meeting. You need not be present to win.

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

"The Question of the Month"

By, Ian & Susan Duncanson

At 12,300 feet, this Colorado mining camp had the highest post office in the in the United States.

Want To Receive The Gold Nugget Via Email?

We are pleased to announce a new service for the remaining 2008 calendar year: The Gold Nugget is now available for you to receive via email!

For the rest of 2008, you may choose to receive the monthly newsletter, The Gold Nugget from Gold Prospectors of the Rockies, as an attachment in PDF format and have it sent directly to your own email address. The advantage of receiving The Gold Nugget electronically is receiving current news and event information faster than by U.S Postal Mail.

To receive The Gold Nugget electronically each month instead of receiving it by US Postal Mail, send an email titled, "The Gold Nugget Email Subscription" in the subject line to Keith R. Hawley, Editor GPR Newsletter at daotter@msn.com, or fill out the form below and return it to the address listed.

You will begin receiving your monthly newsletter starting in May 2008.

Gold Prospectors of the Rockies
Attn: "The Gold Nugget Email Subscription"
PO Box 621988
Littleton, CO 80162-1988
Phone: 303/933.1147

Your Name (First, Last) _____

Your Email Address _____

Gold's chemical symbol, Au; comes from the Latin word for gold:
Aurum



Find of the Month (FOM) March, 2008

By, Joe Johnston, Finds Program Coordinator

March 2008 FOM Winners in Bold:

Best Bottle

No entries

Best Jewelry

Susan Duncanson - silver ring

Joe Johnston - Sterling wire earring with quartz stone

Largest Raw Gold

Susan Duncanson - gold picker found in garnet vial

Most Raw Gold

Joe Fortunato - Clear Creek gold flakes < 0.1 g

Most Valuable U.S. Coin

Joe DeHerrera - 1944-D Winged Liberty dime

Brandon Luchtenburg - 1776-1976 Bicentennial Dollar

Oldest Coin

Ian Duncanson - 1964-D penny

Brandon Luchtenburg - 1946 wheat penny

Joe Fortunato - 1935 wheat penny

Joe DeHerrera - 1897 Indian head penny

Most Unique (Non-Excavated)

Joe Johnston - "diamond in the rough" hard coal sample

Robert Larson - damaged penny

Les Smith - Magicians two headed coin

Leslie Schomer - crystal specimens from Creede, CO

Don Dixon - three Turkish bi-metal coins

Most Unique (Excavated)

Joe Johnston - zinc bar

Joe DeHerrera - 5¢ Trade token, Scotchman - Denver

Way to go everyone, keep up the good hunting!

Congratulations to this months winners, be sure to save your FOM winning items for entry in the Find Of the Year (FOY) competition in December.

NOTE: Finds made from the end of the March meeting to the time of the April meeting are eligible for entry in the April FOM program. Keep those finds handy and bring them then.

Bring your best finds, 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: While prospecting season is upon us be sure to bring a second IDENTICAL 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 an IDENTICAL 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.

SPECIAL THANKS

Robert & Leanne would like to thank everyone for their help and assistance in the evening refreshments. And just a reminder: if you have a special treat you enjoy, but don't want those calories in your home singing their siren song...the next meeting would be a perfect place to share the love..and calories.

Thank you!

"What have you been doing?"

Where did you prospect last summer?

What did you find?

What kind of equipment did/do you use?

How did/do you research your location?

Did you file any claims?

What would you have done/do differently?

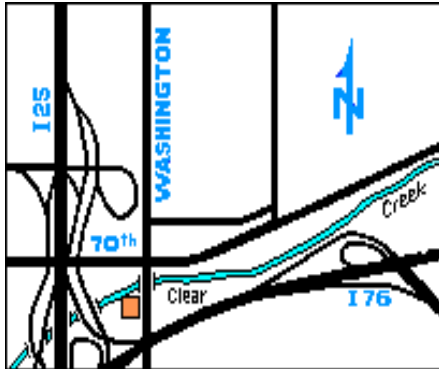
Did you take any pictures?

Answer any or all of these questions in an article about your prospecting related experiences from recent times and send it to:

Keith R. Hawley Editor, GPR Newsletter daotter@msn.com



TYMKOVICH MEATS



Established 1952
 6911 N.
 Washington St.,
 Denver, CO 80229
 (303) 288-8655
 Open Wed-Sat
 9:30 to 5:30
 (Closed Sun-Tue)

GOLD-N-DETECTORS

A METAL DETECTING &
 PROSPECTING
 CENTER



(303) 278-6622

802 Washington Ave.
 Golden, CO 80401

“Denver area’s award winning hobby store, where we do what we sell.”

- Metal Detectors
- High Bankers
- Rock Tumblers
- Books
- Goldpans
- Dredges
- Rock Picks
- Accessories

Open 9-6 Monday through Saturday
 VISA, MasterCard, Discover



Terry Weatherly
 Independent Software Agent

303 748 7288 Office
 303 420 8548 Fax

<http://usavemoney1st.designingfutures.tv>
 Pay off your mortgage in 1/2 the time

Arvada, Co

tweatherly07@comcast.net
<http://www.u1stfinancial.net/terryweatherly>

Grubstakers Mining Supply

Show your GPOR newsletter or membership card or Pic-n-Pan newsletter and receive a 5% discount on your purchases.

Authorized Keene Engineering Dealer

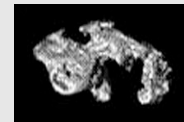
Randy Burks, Owner

720-635-6992

121 Main St, Central City Colorado 80427

Colorado Nuggets

Gold Nuggets from Around the World



P.O. Box 964—Evergreen, CO 80437-0964
 (303) 679-0475

E-mail: sales@coloradonuggets.com
www.coloradonuggets.com

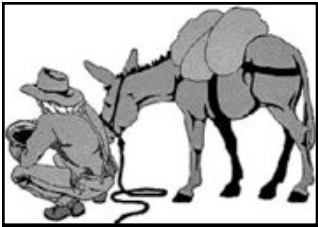
For Sale

Proline 3” Highbanker/Dredge Combo 4HP Honda motor with 175 GPM pump. Complete unit with extras, tools, all hoses and everything shipped from the dealer. Has less than 100 total hours in the water. We paid \$1,400 new. New models are selling for \$2,600. Asking \$1,000 cash (firm). (This is the same machine we were displaying at the panning demos). Call Jeff Mosteller at 303.202.9302.

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



The Gold Nugget

Gold Prospectors of the Rockies
 PO Box 621988
 Littleton, CO 80162-1988

Place
 Postage
 Here

ADVERTISING in the GOLD NUGGET

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 month's issue of the newsletter.

Keith R. Hawley, Editor GPR Newsletter
daotter@msn.com

(Layout Design Subject to Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events May 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Submission Deadline for Newsletter	8	9 Point Bar Outing	10 Point Bar Outing
11 Point Bar Outing Mother's Day	12	13	14	15	16	17 Armed Forces Day
18	19	20	21 Club Meeting "Mining Camps Speaks"	22	23	24
25 COPY DEADLINE	26 Memorial Day Observed	27	28	29	30	31