

THE GOLD NUGGET

The Prez Sez by, Aaron Ingalls

Last I heard we have only gotten 16" of snow here in the Denver area so far this winter. Keep in mind that March and April can be very snowy months and they are just around the corner. Let's hope that the high country continues to make up for what we don't get down here so that the yellow flakes we crave come down into our streams.

I'll have the next Cache Clue at the February 18th meeting. The clues are getting more and more interesting aren't they?... hmmm.

I would like to extend a huge **THANK YOU** to **Kathy Hawley** for being our club Treasurer all these years and helping with the transition.

We also have some new volunteers! **Sue Lemieux** and **Rob Deschambault** have volunteered to run the Club Store. They have some new items coming soon so please take a look at the upcoming meetings. **THANK YOU** to **Donna Mosteller** for her fine efforts at running the club store the past several years.

We need someone to take over the Refreshment Table. This is an important social function of the club and only requires a couple hours per month. No volunteers will mean no refreshment table. If you don't feel you could handle it by yourself you could always team up with somebody else and work as a team! As a club we need to step up and help to make the club the success I know it can be.

A Newsletter Editor is needed NOW! The March newsletter will be the final issue that Keith Hawley can be involved with. He is willing to assist with some training but someone needs to step up now.

I had a Tommy-Knocker tell me that **Robert Larson** is working on something really interesting for the "Special Nugget" drawing. Be sure to check this out at the February 18th meeting.

A "Note" from the Treasurer

As the newly elected secretary/treasurer of the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies, it grieves me to have to start my first report with bad news. With a heavy heart I must announce that there will be no bail-out from the Federal Government for the club. But after consultation with Kathy and pouring over the past years books, there is no need. The finances of the club are running a like a well-cared for, and well-oiled dredge. Thanks to your generous contributions for the monthly drawings and the refreshments, the club continues to see a positive cash flow. Many thanks for your continuing support in these trying financial times.

(Continued on Page 5)

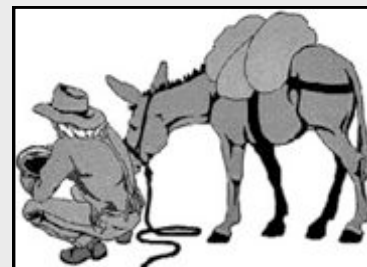
GPOR Website

If you have updates for, comments about, or anything else regarding the club website; contact the webmaster at:



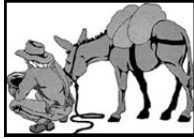
prospector@phantomranch.net

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



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Board Meeting Minutes for January 21, 2009

**Gold Prospectors
of the Rockies**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Aaron Ingalls

Vice President

Allen Mershon

Secretary / Treasurer

Robert Larson

2 Year Board Members

Robert Deshambault

(Elected 2009)

Joe Johnson

(Elected 2009)

Joe Shubert

(Elected 2008)

1 Year Board Members

Sue Lemieux

James Long

Jon Weir

Leanne Larson

Terry Weatherly

Joe Fortunato

**Immediate
Past President**

(New Position)

Gary Hawley

Roll Call

Those in Attendance

Aaron Ingalls

Allen Mershon

Robert Larson (Absent and
Excused)

Rob Deshambault

Joe Shubert

Sue Lemieux

James Long

John Weir

Leanne Larson

Terry Weatherly

Joe Fortunato

Gary Hawley

Quorum Present?

YES

Call to Order

6:15

**Reading approval of
minutes**

Read by Aaron Ingalls

Corrections

None

**Approved as read/
corrected?**

Yes

Treasurer's Report

Read by Aaron Ingalls

Questions

None

Accepted?

Yes

Correspondence

Memberships

Committee Reports:

Change to Aaron on

Web site

Unfinished Business:

Cache Creek-Gary Hawley, Revisit Club directive generated at the Aug 20, 2008 Board Meeting & presented at General Membership Meeting "August 20, 2008, If a member observes a problem in that area, report to the proper authority. Do not confront anyone. This will be revisited again at the November Board Meeting. Joe has info on cards. BLM improving parking lot, adding port-a-potty, looking for "host".

New Business:

Club Trailer sitting idle, no insurance, store pro bono. Ft Collins club might be interested. Approval to sell.

Newsletter ads, free for Gold items only.

Need new newsletter editor, Randy Archer for consideration

Store: Sue has new item.

Planned Outings:

Considering

Announcements

Next board Meeting Feb 18, 2009

Tonight's General Meeting Program:

No discussion

Board members encouraged to-write newsletter articles

Adjournment:

6:55 pm

**JOIN US
ON THE THIRD
WEDNESDAY OF
EACH MONTH**

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1580 Yarrow Street
Lakewood, CO.

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Wadsworth; then
one block north of
Colfax)*

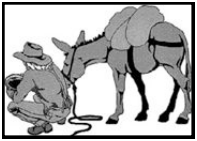
6 PM Board Mtg.

7 PM Club Mtg.

INFORMATION

**Contact the GPR
President**

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



General Meeting Minutes for January 21, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:12

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Pres. Aaron Ingalls

Treasure's Report: We're in the black. Memberships are due this month. Longtime member Arthur Achtemeier, who passed away in 2007, remembered GPR in his will. This stipend is greatly appreciated and will be used in a manner that reflects his appreciation of gold prospecting.

Membership Report: 130 members 1 Visitor: Mr. Don Johnson. The new Membership Cards will be issued upon payment of Membership dues. Need to have all members sign "Hold Harmless Agreement". Please see Jackie at break.

President Ingalls introduced the new Board Members.

Show and Tell: Joe Johnson displayed a WWII Map and a Colliers World Atlas 1935-1936. **Brandon** found petrified wood and bullet shell near Riverdale Road. Alan Merston - gold found near I-70 & Youngfield.

Volunteers needed for Refreshment table, wonderful way to get to know the members. Con-

tact **Aaron** or **Robert and Leanne Larson**.

After March GPR will be in need of a new newsletter editor. Please contact any board member. We also need Articles for the newsletter pertaining to Gold Prospecting.

Caution was strongly recommended if you decided to use the temporary warmer weather for prospecting. Water levels can change quickly, and so can the weather.

Special Note: The Mining Museum in Colorado Springs is free to badge wearing GPR members. We are looking into a group tour of their Stamp Mill. Also, the Museum will be presenting a 2-day prospecting class. Check the February newsletter for more on this.

Sue Lemieux announced up-coming trips: Saturday **Feb 7** 10am National Renewable Energy Resource, interactive exhibits, kits, guides, she has brochures. **March 21** Colorado School of Mines Museum tour.

Question of the Month didn't make it into the January Newsletter. Catch it next month.

During break please discuss where you want the club to go.

From Treasurer Robert Larson: tonight's Nugget Report, 1.6 grams is the largest for drawing, 3 mystery envelopes and a new book- donated by Alan Merston.

Break

Resume at 8:20

Open Floor Discussion "what Members would like to see": Lots of Trips such as Cache Creek; Wyoming Crazy 8; Metal Detecting outings; Leadville Ore Dump; Workshops i.e. building sluices boxes; Want to see more information on Roscoe Rock area; Trips or tours of mines and real ghost towns; not tourist traps.

Presentations Pending: Trying to get Ben Parker Jr.

Drawing: Members first.

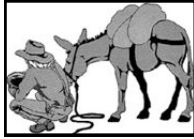
Gary Hawley announced Indian Market at Denver Merchandise Mart this weekend. Gave a short farewell speech. Gave Kudos to Aaron for first meeting.

Next meeting: February 18th at 7PM.

"The Question of the Month"

By, Ian & Susan Duncanson

What is "Cripple Creek Ferry"?



“Death of the First California Gold Miner”

*Submitted by,
Beth Simmons*

Reading old newspapers sometimes reaps rich rewards in dispelling myths and legends. Here is the story of the gold miner who developed the placer at Sutter’s Mill in California.

From *Colorado Transcript*, January 15, 1868, p. 2 (nineteen years after the discovery in California)

The death of Isaac Humphreys, the first California gold miner, at Victoria, on the first of December is announced. A San Francisco paper gave the following account of his mining in California:

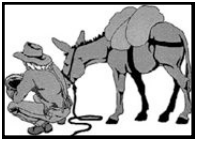
He was a Georgian in birth, and had worked in the placers of that State before coming to this coast. When Marshall discovered gold at Sutter’s Mill, now Colonia, on the 19th January, 1849, he declared that the metal was gold, but he could not prove it, his associates did not believe him, and his discovery had no influence. The men in the neighborhood knew nothing about

gold mining, and all, including Marshall, continued their labors on the mill and mill face, an ordinary work, just as though there had been no gold in the neighborhood. Nevertheless they would occasionally pick up bits of yellow metal in the race, and as these stood the tests of Mrs. Weimer’s soap-kettle – the only test known at Sutter’s Mill – the men began to feel uneasy, and two months and a half after the discovery one of them named Bennett, came down to San Francisco with some specimens to post himself. He showed the little nuggets to some acquaintances, and one of them happened to know that Humphrey had been a gold miner, so Bennett was taken to him. A look satisfied the Georgian, and when he was told that these lumps were picked up by men who were not miners, he declared that though there had been some rich diggings in his native State, there was no place there as rich as the race at Sutter’s Mill.

He determined to go thither at once, and tried to persuade some friends to accompany him, but failed, so he went along.

The morning after his arrival at the mill, in the first week of April, he went out with a shovel and pan and got several dollars in his first panful, and after trying a number of places and finding the gold everywhere, he made a rocker and sat down to work regularly, washing out the gold rapidly, Marshall and his friends saw how it was done, and in three days after Humphrey’s arrival every occupation save gold mining was abandoned in that neighborhood, and men who had been glad to work a week before for a dollar a day were not content unless they were making thirty or forty dollars. The news spread, and California became famous and great, and \$1,000,000,000 have flowed from the mountain that was discovered by Marshall and opened by Humphrey.

Planning Calendar 2009
FEBRUARY 18 th Club Meeting
MARCH 18 th Club Meeting
APRIL 15 th Club Meeting
MAY 20 th Club Meeting
JUNE 17 th Club Meeting
JULY 15 th Club Meeting
AUGUST 19 th Club Meeting
SEPTEMBER 16 th Club Meeting
OCTOBER 21 st Club Meeting
NOVEMBER 18 th Club Meeting
DECEMBER 16 th Club Meeting
2010
JANUARY 20 th Club Meeting



Country Boy Mine Breckenridge, CO. [Your Write]

By, Leanne & Robert Larson

The weekend of January 16 and 17 Robert and I took opportunity to spend a weekend in Breckenridge fulfilling a long time wish to get properly trained on cross country skiing. The Breckenridge Nordic center has a wonderful instructor that got us comfortably on ski in a beautiful wilderness area for nearly 2 hours without a single spill - Some kind of record for us.

The next morning we took a lovely, but short drive up into the mountains above Breckenridge to the Country Boy Mine. The mine was purchased a few years ago, not to continue the mining operation, but to mine for tourists. They host a wonderful tour 1000 feet into the mine.

Life of a gold miner was dangerous and deadly and our tour guide had no trouble pointing out just how bad of a life these early miners lived. The current owners have placed a solid board walk between the rails of the track for easy walking for us "tourists", but you could see the water running down the mine between the boards and the knowledge that those early miners worked in a year round 45 degree temp with wet, muddy feet put a chill right down

our collective backs. The resident ghost are quite friendly and seeing those massive spruce timber supports up close left quite an impression on all of us.

After the tour, we were lead to the former blacksmith shop with a wonderfully warm stove and an orange tabby cat with the warmest coat of fur around. They have arranged 2 large stock tanks and filled them with good rich dirt from the nearby creek that flows out of the mine. Lots of metal pans lay around the tanks and with a quick show of how it's done our tour guide left us to play in the dirt. Robert and I spent most of our time there helping a couple from the Czech Republic and 2 couples from Florida get a better idea on how to find that elusive glitter at the bottom of the pans, but after just an hour's time we too had 5 or 6 good size pieces of that glittery lovely stuff inside a glass vial for the trip home.

The County Boy Mine has a good website and a few other amenities to offer, we'd like to find out if they have a group rate and maybe a bunch of us could make a summer time trip. We want to find out how soon panning in the creek is allowed, for if those stock tanks are any indicators, "there's gold in them thar hills"

Treasurer

(Continued from Page 1)

A special thank you goes out to Jim Long and Alan Mershon for their contributions to the Member Drawing. In addition to Jim's three envelopes and Alan's book, we gave out .1 gram of gold. The 12 nuggets for the Nugget Drawing equaled up to 10.6 grams. I'd sure like to get a pan or two of that caliber.

Just a reminder, most memberships expire at the first of the year and 2009 membership dues are now being collected. Please see Jackie Barker.

Speaking of refreshments, with the elections of new officers we now are in great need of someone new to take on the responsibilities of overseeing the refreshment table. A most pleasant way to meet and get to know our members. Please see Robert or Leanne Larson or contact any board member.

As Kathy always used to say, come prepared to buy some extra tickets and Good Luck!!

Thanks for your support. Robert W. Larson

Your Write (Instructions)

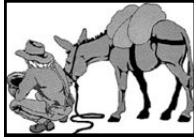
GPR members, guests and visitors are welcome to submit articles of interest, topic ideas and even creative artwork for consideration to appear in the GPR monthly newsletter.

Submit your article and / or your artwork (pictures, illustrations and text) by the close of business 5 PM 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

Contact the GPR President



**IMMEDIATE
OPENING!**

**NOTICE OF
OPEN POSITION**

**Newsletter
Editor**

Contact the
Club President
if you are
interested

BEGINS

APRIL

2009

ISSUE

THE

GOLD

NUGGET

**IMMEDIATE
OPENING!**

**Western Museum of Mining & Industry
Mineral Exploration Seminar**

Colorado School of Mines Mineral Exploration Seminar

Dates: **Saturday May 16 & Sunday May 17**

Time: **8:30 am – 5:30 pm (both days)**

Course Description – **Mineral deposits supply many of the raw materials that sustain and enable the development of societies. Also the study of mineral deposits is one of the most fascinating fields in geology. Through sessions on the formation of mineral deposits, mineral exploration and identification, GPS, metal detecting, claim establishment and others, the Mineral Exploration Seminar will provide attendees with an overview of the geologic processes and economic nature of minerals.**

Instruction:

Steven Veatch – Geologist

David Futey – Director of Education WMMI

Course Location: The Western Museum of Mining & Industry

WMMI is off I-25 at the Gleneagle exit, #156A across from the north entrance to the United States Air Force Academy.

Course Fees: \$15 – includes entrance to Museum and materials for both days.

For additional information about this course contact:

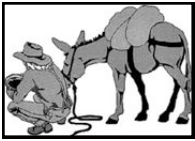
David Futey

Director of Education

Western Museum of Mining & Industry

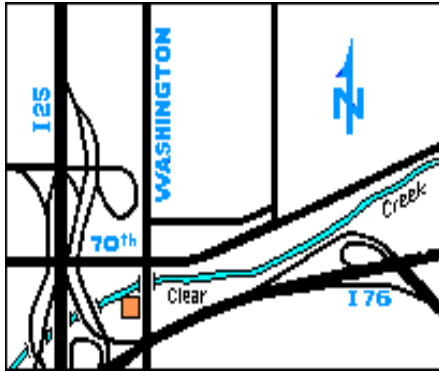
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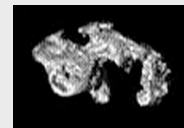
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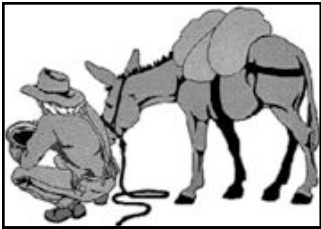
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The Gold Nugget

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

PLACE
 STAMP
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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 months' issue of the Newsletter.

Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)



Coming Announcements and Special Events March 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 Submission Deadline to the Editor	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Club Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Copy Deadline for The Gold Nugget	26	27	28
29	30	31				