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# THE GOLD NUGGET

November 2013

# The Prez Sez by Jim Long



I recently read an outdoor column that struck to the heart of us miners. Even though the writer was discussing the impact on hunters/fisherman primarily, his remarks included the small scale mining community as well. I have chosen to simply quote him as I could not have said it any better. Scott Willoughby, a Denver Post Outdoor Columnist wrote that the 'Recent Government Shutdown Could Lead to Worse in Long Run.' On 10-16-13, Scott wrote: Quote, "Although conspiracy theory has never been my strong suit, I can't seem to shake the notion that our federal government's recent agreement to allow states to fund national park operations during the latest round of government closures just doesn't pass the smell test. The so called Sagebrush Rebellion once again appears to be raising its

ugly head. I won't go so far as to call the reopening of Rocky Mountain National Park a bad thing, given the double whammy of colossal flooding and political gridlock resulting in a month of closures during the peak season, I'm as appreciative as anyone to see this Colorado gem and established economic driver once again open for business at the bargain rate of \$362,700 paid for by the state for just 10 days of operation. But I will give credit to Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval and Wyoming Gov. Mat Mead for opting out of the state payment plan designed to open public parks to the public. Whether motivated by money or politics, those decisions help to undermine the systematic scheming by a small group of politicians to get rid of our public lands. Kooky and conspiratorial as it all may sound, many of those at the root of the shutdown can be heard declaring states of emergency and offering to fund the parks. Upon closer review, they can also be seen furthering the agenda to eradicate our public parks. In Utah, where the state spent \$1.67 million to reopen five national parks last weekend, Rep. Jason Chaffetz has been pushing a bill titled The Disposal of Excess Federal Lands Act of 2013 (House Bill 2657) that would sell off 3.3 million acres of public lands in 10 western stated, including Colorado. In 2012, Utah Gov. Gary Herbert signed into law the Transfer of Public Lands Act (House Bill 148) which awaits a Supreme Court ruling on its demand that the federal government returns more than 20 million acres to the state. Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and Rep. Rob Bishop, R-Utah, have long supported giving as much as 30 million acres of our federal lands to the state of Utah for management, and Rep. Ted Poe, R-Texas, introduced his American Land Act (HR 1017) in March, also mandating the sale of public lands. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell has said the government will not surrender control of national parks or monuments to the states. Like the rest of us, Jewell called on Congress to act swiftly to end the government shutdown so all parks can reopen. In the meantime, the situation appears just a bit too contrived to overlook. At minimum, those with a voice in the federal budget showdown have either created or been granted an opportunity to further a flawed political agenda. If the state rescue of national parks sounds like reason to support state ownership of other federally managed public lands such as national forests, wildlife refuges and Bureau of Land Management properties, just pause for a moment to consider the lengthy queue already in place for those seeking federal disaster aid. States simply lack the fiscal resources to manage these lands, placing them a wildfire or flood away from imminent sell off in the face of financial hardship. Crazy as that may sound; the privatization of public lands has already been proposed in bills presented to the Colorado state legislature and those of four other Western states as recently as 2012. It should go without saying that such privatization would effectively lock out the general public from millions of acres of currently federally managed public lands used for outdoor recreation. Wildlife habitat, grazing and forestry, among other things (like small scale mining as they have recently done in Wyoming...JJ). In the face of our current lockout, I can't decide if the devious irony of that outcome is politically brilliant or just plain twisted." End

Wow, as I said, I couldn't have stated it any plainer. We must be on our toes at all times if we want to continue to preserve the cultural heritage of small scale mining in Colorado and protect our right to access of our public lands..!! Make no mistake about it, mining is under attack, and our sacred public lands in this great country of ours are under attack and in dire danger as well. Apathy will only result in the meek truly inheriting the earth....six feet deep of it!!! 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 <a href="mailto:jnslong945@msn.com">jnslong945@msn.com</a> Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!



# The V.P. Corner by "Klondike" Mike

Colorado History # 19

Well fellow prospectors we had a great outing at the 17 Mile House. I would like to thank all the folks that helped out that day.

As I left off in September, wagon trains were a daily occurrence in Colorado and those settling in Denver City and Auraria were bringing new businesses. The cattle business was a bustling one in this new frontier among many others. So much westbound traffic was bound to give birth too many a new necessity and this in turn traditionally mothered a profitable new invention.

Fording was a very risky sometimes disastrous business. Only a foot bridge had been spanned across Cherry Creek, and there was not yet a way to transport heavy wagons and teams across the dangerous waters of the South Platte River. The river was not sapped by irrigation ditches or pinched in by this pimple of civilization as of yet. The Platte of '59 was a cold, swift river at least fifty to seventy feet wide, swollen by melting snows from the mountains. Shifting sands, steep banks and the gushing current became a formidable barrier to stampeding gold seekers.

Half a dozen men had received charters to operate a ferry across the Platte, but it was businessman Thomas Warren, a thirty year old Kentuckian who actually accomplished the feat. Ferry Street ended at the river bank and this is where Warren stretched his heavy rope over the river between two huge cottonwoods. By fitting the ferry with ropes and pulleys at either end it could be connected to the guide rope. When one rope was lengthened and the other was shortened Warren could tack his flat barge into the current using the river's own force to propel it from one bank to the other.

Warren began charging a dollar to ferry a team and wagon but with so many eager prospectors he raised his fee to two dollars and fifty cents hired another crew and worked fourteen hour days. The daily take for Warren could be as much as two hundred dollars. Although his invention was making him money the stampede was starting to take its toll on the prospectors.

Stay tuned for more, if you have any questions please contact me at 720-443-9545.

Klondike

# From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Linda Luchtenburg



For the month of November, we will be giving away a total of 6.5 grams of gold with the largest being 2.4 grams...! We would like to give a special 'Thank You' to Jim Long, Gary Hawley and the Clear Creek Water Festival folks for donating items to the October general drawings. Also, we have the 'Members Only Special Nugget' and are selling tickets for that. It is a beautiful 13.7 gram nugget in quartz matrix from Arizona that was found with a metal detector by the well-known Detectorist, Chris Ghoulson. Remember, your odds of winning in this raffle are far better than the Lottery or Power Ball. So buy lots of tickets.

# **Membership Committee**

Please start bringing or mailing in your membership dues for 2014. They are all due no matter when you joined by January meeting. No later please. Renewals are \$30.00.

Many of you have paid already. It is greatly appreciated because then JJ can make a more accurate budget for the year. Thanks, Pam and George

# **This Month GPR Meeting Program:**

This month's Meeting Program will feature a power point picture show by Joe Fortunato of his 2013 Alaskan prospecting trip. Joe always takes great pictures and he even found some gold to show off. We hope to see you all there!

# **ELECTION TIME for 2014 Board**

by Joe Shubert

Hello GPR Club Members

November is election time for more that politicians. The GPR is holding its annual elections.



- 1. The list of nominees will be compiled on a ballot form for the November meeting. Only Club Member will receive a ballot when they sign in at the meeting. A sealed ballot box will be present for all completed ballots to be placed into.
- 2. ) The ballots will be counted and the results printed in the December newsletter.

# **Board Meeting Minutes from Oct 2013**

X James Long	X	Joe Shubert	X	Joe Fortunato	X	Roger Biri
X Mike Hurtado	X	Joe Johnston	X	Terry Weatherly	X	Brandon Luchtenburg
X Linda Luchtenburg		Janine Ballentine	X	Andy Doll		Gary Hawley

**Quorum present?** Yes

**Call to Order:** By JJ at 6:04 pm

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Yes Corrections: None Approved as

read/corrected: Yes

**Treasurer's Report:** Questions: None .Approved: yes

<u>Correspondence:</u> 4 phone calls, 7 e-mails, 7 mailings <u>Committee Reports:</u> No CR's pending at this time. **Webmaster:** Total Hits 131836 Hits for last month 403.

**Unfinished Business**: None at this time.

<u>New Business:</u> The Board has selected 3 candidates for the Ken Barker. Award and bios will be dist. to the membership for voting in Nov. Nominations forms for elections will be dist. tonight. All Current Board members are rerunning. A proposal to do a Toys for Tots donation instead of Gold Elephant Gift Exchange at Xmas dinner was discussed. Board unanimously elects to leave things as they are at present.

<u>Planned Outings for 2013:</u> Refer to Outings Calendar/Schedule in Newsletter for details of existing schedule.

### From the Board:

- Pres Long discussed the cancellation of the last Clear Creek Outing due to high water
- Still need a volunteer for the Arapahoe Co. Fall Festival Panning Demo.
- Pres. Long discussed the TV spots we recently did with CBS National Morning News, Fox 31 local, as well as Dish CH 215 local Current Channel of Al Jazeera where the Club was featured and stories were run on prospecting. All turned out well.
- Pres. Long returned early from a successful hunting trip.
- A Coors security officer confronted a member on Youngfield and we will take care of that issue.
- Joe Johnston asked that members checking out library materials please return them.
- Terry W and Pres. Long will organize and prepare for the metal detecting outing on Nov. 9.
- Joe F. is ready to do his program for Nov. meeting

<u>Announcements:</u> Next Board Meeting October 16, 2013 at 6:00pm. Next General Meeting October 16, 2013 at 7:00pm <u>Tonight's general meeting program:</u> A 30 minute video on 'Black Sands' by the GPAA. Preethi Burkholder had to cancel due to her house being damaged by the floods.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:36 pm.

# **General Meeting Minutes from Oct 2013**

1. Meeting was opened at 7:04 pm by **Pres. Long** with the Pledge of Allegiance.

# QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What country ranked 20<sup>th</sup> in world gold production in **2010**?

2013 GPR Board of Directors Members

### **President**

James Long

### Vice President

Mike Hurtado

### Secretary/Treasurer

Linda Luchtenburg

### 2 Year Board Members

Joe Johnston (2010) Joe Shubert (2011)

### 1 Year Board Members

Joe Fortunato

Terry Weatherly

Andy Doll

Don Luchtenburg

Roger Biri

Janine Ballentine



- 2. **Pres. Long** gave the Metals Report with gold at \$1282.30 an ounce, silver at \$21.39, platinum at \$1430.00 and palladium at \$718.00.
- 3. Web hits for last month reflected 403 hits for the last 30 days.
- 4. **Pres. Long** announced that tonight's program will be a 30 minute video on "Black Sands" from the GPAA.
- 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 now selling tickets for the 'Members Only' drawing and it is a very large nugget displayed at her desk for all to see. Remember, your chances of winning this nugget are better than winning the Lottery.
- 6. **Pam and George Schmitt** reported from the Membership Table that approx. 85 members were in attendance. There were 4 guests and 1 new members who were in attendance. The meeting attendance was 90.
- 7. **Pres. Long** read the 'Question of the Month', which was 'What currently available gold bullion coin contains the most gold?'
- **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 during the break. Reminder to all past winners to bring your winning find to the November meeting to be judged for the Annual Find of the Year.
- 9. **John Johnson** presented the 2013 Cache Clue #10 to the membership in attendance.
- 10. **Pres. Long** informed the membership that a Coors Security Officer ran one of our members out of the Youngfield stretch. We are working with both Wheatridge and the Coors Security Division to remedy this issue. Pres. Long commented on the successful Panning Demo in Idaho Springs as well as the cancelled Outing on Clear Creek due to the Sept. Flood Event. Pres. Long reminded everyone that we had a metal detecting Outing scheduled for Nov. 9 at Majestic Park in Arvada. Maps were made available. Pres. Long advised that the Board had selected 3 nominees for the Annual Ken Barker Award and bios would be available for the memberships voting in Nov. Nominations were solicited for the Board of Directors. All current Board members are returning. Voting will be held in Nov. Submissions for the Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest were on a back table and members were encouraged to vote for the top 3 at the break. There are new products in the Club Store and everyone is encouraged to look them over and support your Club by purchasing products with the Club Logo on them.
- 11. **Pres. Long** announced the <u>break at 810pm.</u> Meeting was called back to order at 8:35pm.
- 12. **Pres. Long** announced that there were 29 winners of the 'Question of the Month' and quite a few got it wrong. The answer was 'The Australian Kangaroo Coin' which weighs in at 32.15 ounces or 2.2 pounds. The winning tickets were passed out to the lucky winners.
- 13. **Pres. Long** announced that there were only two submitted entries for the 'Finds of the Month'. The winner of the 'Artifact' category was John Johnson with a spoon and fork, circa 1875. We encourage folks to bring in and share your finds with the Club at each meeting. The winners of past months will need to bring your winning items back in November so we can vote on the 'Best Finds of the Year', so don't forget.
- 14. **Pres. Long** announced the winners of the Pumpkin Carving Contest. John Johnson, Barbara Barrow and Melanie Chavez were the lucky winners.
- 15. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for numerous door prizes followed by drawings for the gold nuggets. 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 Cown** and **Linda Luchtenburg**.
- 16. **Pres. Long** thanked **Kris 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.
- 17. The scheduled **Program for November will be** our own Joe Fortunato who will present a power point photo presentation on his 2013 trip to Alaska. Joe always takes great photos so this should be pretty good and Joe always finds gold!
- 18. Until next time, prospect safely, live long and be grateful for that golden bounty from the stars, that gleaming magical miracle called 'gold'!



19. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:59pm.

# **Pumpkin Carving Contest Winners**

The Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest drew a number of interesting entries this year. The theme being one of 'Mining', the entries were judged by the attending members at the October Meeting. The following entries were judged to be the winners: John Johnson !!! took first place and received a nice little .2 gram nugget for his efforts. Barbara Barrow took second place with her entry and received a nice little .1 gram nugget for her efforts. Third place was captured by who received a vial containing .05 grams of gold. Well done guys!!!



1st Place by John Johnson III



2<sup>nd</sup> Place by Barbara Barrow



3<sup>rd</sup> Place by Melanie Chavez

# **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.

8-4 Sun Beginners Panning/sluicing Class at 6811 N Washington, 9am-12noon, bring pan, boots \* Newly Added \*

8-17 Sat Club Picnic at Lions Park in Golden 11a-2p, East Pavilion

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 Prospecting Outing, Lower Clear Creek, 9a at 6811 Washington.

10-16 Wed Pumpkin Carving Contest, regular meeting night, compete for prizes

10-19 Sat Panning Demo for Arapahoe County Fall Festival, 8181 S. Parker Rd, 10a-3p

11-9 Sat Metal Detecting Outing, Majestic View Park, Arvada, 9a-5p



12-18 Wed Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner, no regular meeting Additional dates/outings are also under consideration.

## Findings of the Month

There were a few submitted Finds for the Month for October. Remember, submitting your finds is easy and fun. It isn't so much about winning anything as it is showing off some of the stuff that we find when we are out there playing. So don't be bashful, bring your stuff in and show it off. The winners are announced each month and in November, we will vote on which monthly finds are the finds of the year and the winners will get a nice certificate to hang on the wall. So, come on folks, let's bring some of your stuff in and show it off. If you were a previous winner, BRING YOUR PAST WINNING ITEMS TO THE NOVEMBER MTG. TO BE VOTED ON FOR FIND OF THE YEAR.



October submissions were both old artifacts. Rich Beesely submitted an 1870 era Morgan horseshoe and a remnant of an old wagon wheel axel, both found in Gilpin County. The monthly winner in the Artifact Category was John Johnson III who submitted an old spoon and a fork, the spoon was circa 1871 from the Simpson Nickel and Silver Co. and the fork was also very old but had markings that were unreadable. Congratulations John..!!! There were no other submitted categories for the month.

### **November Birthstone**

Two gems are appropriate for November birthdays - Topaz and Citrine.

### **TOPAZ**

*Topaz* is a gemstone available in a rich rainbow of colors. Prized for several thousand years in antiquity, all yellow gems in antiquity were called topaz. Often confused with citrine quartz (yellow) and smoky quartz (brown), quartz and topaz are separate and unrelated mineral species. The most prized color of topaz is called *Imperial topaz* after the Russian Czars of the 1800s and features a magnificent orange body color with pinkish undertones. Topaz also comes in yellow, pink, purple, orange, and the many popular blue tones.



### CITRINE



Citrine, the other birthstone for November is known as the "healing quartz". This golden gemstone is said to support vitality and health while encouraging and guiding hope, energy and warmth within the wearer. Citrine can be found in a variety of shades ranging from pastel yellow to dark brownish orange. It is one of the most affordable of gemstones and plentiful in nature. Citrine is found most frequently in Brazil, Bolivia, and Spain.

(Taken from the AmericanGemSociety.Org web site)

# **A Miner's Laugh**

A traveling minister stopped by the mining camp to do a little soul saving and temperance work as it appeared to be a pretty rowdy place. The miners all gathered around to listen to the ministers words of wisdom. With great emphasis the preacher said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river!"



Then with ever greater emphasis the preacher said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it all and pour it into the river!" And finally, with his fist shaking in the air, he roared, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and pour every last drop of it in the river as well!!"

Then, breathing quite heavily, he sat down and said, "Let us all rise and sing a hymn.

An old miner sitting up front, slowly rose, turned to all his fellow miners and said in a quiet voice, but with a huge grin on his face, announced, "For our closing hymn, we will all sing Hymn 365. 'Shall we Gather at the River'!!"

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



**Prospecting/Mining Notes** (mostly from the Denver Post, Internet and other wire services)

The Western Museum of Mining and Industry in Colorado Springs has an upcoming event we would like to invite you all to!

### Saturday, November 30, 2013, 10am to 1pm:

The Gold Assay Process: Magic or Chemistry?

Gold Assay Seminar! Gold does not come out of the ground ready to wear. Join us to discover how ore is processed to extract gold. Hands-on learners of all ages will crush and classify ore as they learn the basics of gold ore assayingdetermining the value of gold in the rock. This fast moving, interactive assay demonstration will overview the math, mechanics, and chemistry of this exciting process; in addition this event has become a detailed educational program with the support of experts from the Gold Prospectors of Colorado and Pilot Mining. Explore Colorado's rich mining heritage from the gold rush days to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Find out what's happening in mining today!

### Arapahoe County Fall Festival Panning Demo

Club members put on a gold panning demonstration for attendees at the Arapahoe County Fall Festival which was held at the old historical 17 Mile House at 8181 S. Parker Rd on Octob3er 19. The Festival drew some 2000 people in attendance. The Panning Booth was set up just inside the entrance so folks arriving saw us first. This resulted in a lot of interest in what we do and we stayed pretty busy for the day. VP Mike Hurtado oversaw this event and managed to take a few pictures of all the fun. Our sincere thanks to Pam and George Schmidt, Ken Wells, Jim Blankenship and Steve Bustamante for all their help in making this a successful event for the Club.



George, Jim, Ken and Pam getting



Doesn't take long for folks to start staking up to try their hand



Lots and lots of folks

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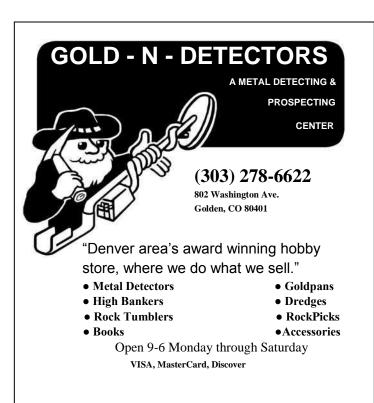
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(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)

### Coming Announcements and Special Events for Dec 2013

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

(WMINIT Western Wascum of Winning & Hudstry, 223 World Gate Bivd. Colorado Springs, CO 00721 (www.winnin.org))											
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT					
1	2	3	4 Newsletter Advert/Article Conv Deadline	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Day					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14					
15	Battle of the Bulge	17 P	18  GPR Club  Meeting  OT LUCK DINNER	19	20	Winter Begins					
22	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS								
29	30	End of WWII  New Year's Eve									