THE GOLD NUGGET

February 2014



2014 Dues are now Due

<u>The Prez Sez by Jim Long</u>



Winter in Colorado is fickle in nature. We have such a diverse ecology and terrain in this state. While winters can be fairly mild on the eastern slope at 5000 feet, but it can be quite intimidating at the higher elevations that soar up to 14,000 feet. And sometimes the weather leaves you with too much time on your hands and you can get to contemplating things that might cause your friends and family to wonder what is wrong with you. But sometimes 'cogitating', as I often call it, can be interesting.

I have been doing some of that 'cogitating' lately. Somebody once said that having too much free time on one's hands leads to too much thinking and reading. It is also said that too much reading can lead one to do too much thinking. Hummm..? Well, maybe so. I have been thinking about a whole lot of things lately.

I was thinking about how, not too many years ago, I really didn't know very many people who were prospectors and I didn't really know a lot of places to go to find gold. I was just too busy with a professional career and taking care of my family. And then I retired and wound up with too much free time on my hands and decided to fix that. And I did.! Now, I find myself leading the largest prospecting Club in the Denver area. I have met hundreds of old prospectors and new prospectors. My life has been much enriched through the experience. I now have lots of places to go find gold and a lot of good friends to do it with. I swore long ago that when I retired, I would spend my time doing the things I truly enjoyed but had no time to do. And that was to do plenty of hunting, fishing, gold, and prospecting. At long last, I have achieved my goal. I do all the fishing I want and pretty much when I want. I have fished both the Atlantic and the Pacific as well as the Caribbean, Mexico and Alaska and the Great Lakes and all over the west. I hunt a lot and have hunted four different states. I play golf once a week from April to November, handicap about 8. And I prospect a lot. Oh, and did I mention that I bowl on 3 different leagues, with an average of about 175? So bored, I am not.

I think about how to provide good opportunities for our Club members to get out and experience a little prospecting. How to take all the skills and knowledge I have learned over the years and pass it on to others who are willing to learn. Finding public places to prospect that are adequate enough to offer to the membership. And I think about finding private claims that are accessible for our membership. I think about the constant attack in recent years on our mining rights and I wonder what the future will hold in another 20 years for small scale mining. I think about my health and wonder if I will still be able to do the things that mean so much to me in another 20 years as well. I think about whom will carry on in my shoes after I step aside and will the Club continue to prosper. I think about what message to give to the membership each month and if it is appropriate in timing and content.

See what I mean? Thinking can give you a lot of headaches. That is why winter can be a difficult time of the year. Just imagine that if you lived in Alaska and had all that time to think of stuff. And since winter in Alaska is dark for the most part, 24 hours day, and add to that the stress of not being able to stay busy, and you can easily see why depression is a big danger. So just get yourself busy..! That is the best way to avoid all these problems and you won't have to worry about thinking about stuff you probably have no control over anyway. Prospecting is a real good way to stay busy and avoid the pitfalls of too much 'cogitating'. Besides, the even greater danger of not being busy is that the wife may think of things to keep you busy. I don't know about you but my personal experience is such that when my wife begins to 'cogitate', my life suddenly gets a little more difficult. You know, the old 'honey do' lists? And that definitely is going to cut seriously into my fishing, hunting, golfing, bowling, and my prospecting time...! Hummmm....maybe I better head out to the creek now before it's' too late!

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 jnslong945@msn.com Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!



<u>The V.P. Corner by "Klondike" Mike</u>



Thank You

Hello Everyone!!! I may not be 100% but I am here and god willing I will be at the February meeting. I would like to thank all of you that have called, sent cards, and have come to see me. During the last bad wind storm, the wind blew a section of my fence down and these four friends took 2 hours on a Saturday to fix and replace my fence. <u>A BIG THANK YOU and GOD BLESS YOU to JIM LONG, ROGER BIRI, JIM BLANKENSHIP</u>, and last but not least <u>CHUCK COWN</u>.

I wanted to let everyone know that God gave me another chance and that we can never take life for granted. We all need to take care of ourselves so no one else has to suffer these same or other health issues. Please take care. I am very lucky to belong to GPOR. Thank you to all in the GPOR and I promise I will continue my history column next month. Thank You All for Your Thoughts and Prayers!!!!!!!

Mike Hurtado (Klondike)

<u>From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Linda Luchtenburg</u>



The February Meeting will feature 7.0 grams of gold nuggets for the give away with the largest nugget being 1.8 grams. We continue to sell raffle tickets for the 'Special Nugget Drawing' and members are encouraged to purchase plenty of tickets as your chances of winning this beautiful 13.0 gram nugget are far better than winning the Lotto. Special thanks go to **Pres. Long**, **Joe Johnston**, **and to the Board** for contributing items for the 'Members Only' drawings held at the January Meeting.

Membership Committee

Please bring or mailing in your membership dues for 2014. They are all due in January no matter when you joined. 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

This Month GPR Meeting Program:

At the February meeting, the Program will feature local speaker and author, **Christie Wright**. Christie has spoken to the Club before and puts on a great program. This month, she will speak of **Colorado's Mining History** and some of our colorful characters of the past. She may be bringing some of her books to sell as well. She is the author of 'South Park Perils: Short Ropes & True Tales'. She is a historian on South Park and is a member of the South Park Historical Society as well as the South Park Mining Association. Her program should be both entertaining and exciting. Don't miss it!

Board Meeting Minutes from Jan 2013

X James Long		Х	Joe Shubert		Joe Fortunato		Roger Biri		
Mi	ike Hurtado	Turtado X Joe Johnston X Terry Weatherly		X	Brandon Luchtenburg				
X Linda Luchtenburg			Janine Ballentine	Х	Andy Doll		Gary Hawley		
Quoru	Quorum present? Yes								
Call to	Call to Order:By JJ at 6:04 pmQUESTION OF THE					THE			
Reading and Approval of Minutes: Yes Corrections: None Approved as						as MONTH			
read/c	read/corrected: Yes						What percentage of	What percentage of the total of	
Treas	Treasurer's Report: Questions: None . Approved: yes					6 6	above ground gold is lost to		
Corre	Correspondence: 8 phone calls, 11 e-mails, 21 mailings.						industrial uses eac	h year?	



Webmaster: Total Hits 133269 Hits for last month 436.

Committee Reports: Committee Assignments for 2014 will remain unchanged.

Unfinished business: None at this time.

New Business:

• We will be re-doing the Treasurer's Report to a line specific item reporting process to account clearly for all income and expenses as the current format has items such as Misc. which does not clearly state what the expenses are for.

• Pres. L. provided the 2014/15 gold Buy budget which will run approx. \$7750.00 total.

Planned Outings for 2014: Refer to Outings Calendar/Schedule in Newsletter for details of existing schedule.

- Jan 25 Sat Tour of West. Mining Museum in Colo Spgs 1pm sign up sheet at meeting.
- Feb Tour to be determined
- Mar Tour to be determined

From the Board:

- Pres Long discussed the Christmas Dinner and Program which was a success.
- Discussed VP Mike's recovery from Bypass surgery. He is home and doing well.
- Discussed the gold buys for 2014/15 and how the amount of gold given away will increase in weight by 40%. Roger B. suggested letting membership know this.
- Joe Johnston gave us a lead on a possible Speaker.
- Andy D. advised he would send out an e-mail about the upcoming Tour.

Announcements: Next Board Meeting January 15, 2013 at 6:00pm. Next General Meeting January 15, 2013 at 7:00pm Tonight's general meeting program: A 30 minute presentation by Joe Fortunato on his 2013 Alaskan trip.

Adjournment: Meeting stands adjourned at 6:41 pm.

General Meeting Minutes from Jan 2013

- 1. Meeting was <u>opened at 7:10 pm</u> by **Pres. Long** with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2. **Pres. Long** gave the Metals Report with gold at \$1242.00 an ounce, silver at \$20.20, platinum at \$1425.00 and palladium at \$741.00.
- 3. <u>Web hits</u> for last month reflected 406 hits for the last 30 days.
- 4. **Pres. Long** presented the evening program which was a short 20 minute power point program called 'America's Gold Working for you'.
- 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 chance of winning this nugget is far better than trying to win the Lottery.
- 6. **John Johnson** reported from the Membership Table that we had approx. 60 members in attendance. There were 7 guests and 2 new members who were also in attendance. The meeting attendance was 69.
- 7. Sue Clover read the 'Question of the Month', which was 'What is the only stable isotope of 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.
- 9. Pres. Long announced that the Cache had been hidden anew. Barbara Barrow gave Clue #1.
- **10. Pam and George Schmitt** informed the group to be sure to check the new items in the Club Store and to support your Club by buying Club products with the Club Logo on them.
- 11. **Pres. Long** informed the membership that a Tour of the Western Museum of Mining and History in Colo Sprgs had been scheduled for Jan 25 at 1pm and that there was a sign up sheet at the front for those who were interested in attending. Additional Tours are being planned for February and March. See the 2014 Schedule of Outings/Events for additional planned events for the coming year. **VP Mike Hurtado** suffered a heart attack on

2014 GPR Board of **Directors Members President** James Long Vice President Mike Hurtado Secretary/Treasurer Linda Luchtenburg 2 Year Board Members Joe Johnston (2013) Joe Shubert (2011) **1 Year Board Members** Joe Fortunato Terry Weatherly Andy Doll Brandon Luchtenburg Roger Biri Janine Ballentine



Christmas Day, underwent Bypass surgery and is on the mend and at home. He appreciates everyone's' support, thoughts and prayers and hopes to be back soon. **Pres. Long** discussed the situation at Cache Creek and will continue to keep the membership informed of the progress on its future. There will be more of the Western Museum of Mining scheduled events for the coming year in our Newsletter Calendar each month, so be sure to keep an eye on those events as well. Your membership badge gets you free entry to the Museum any time you go, just wear your badge. Tonight featured a Buy/sell/swap/trade your old or otherwise equipment in the back of the room during the upcoming break.

- 12. **Pres. Long** announced the <u>break at 800pm.</u> Meeting was called back to order at 8:35pm.
- 13. **Pres. Long** announced that there were 39 winners of the 'Question of the Month' and only a couple of folks missed it. The answer was 'au197 or gold 197'. The winning tickets were passed out to the lucky winners.
- 14. Pres. Long announced that there were several submitted entries for the 'Finds of the Month'. The winner of the 'Best Artifact' category was Dennis White with an old boat anchor (or crucible0 found in Clear Creek. 'Most Raw Gold' winner was Kevin Singel with 0.40g of gold that he found in Clear Creek. "Best Jewelry' was Brandon Luchtenburg with a 14k sterling silver ring found in north Commerce City. Congratulations to each of our January Monthly winners. Be sure to show off your finds each month at the meeting. Each monthly winner will need to save his/her finds for next November to be entered into the Finds of the Year competition.
- 15. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR**, **Pres. Long and**, and 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 February will be** a presentation by Christie Wright on Colorado History. Christie is a great speaker and her programs are always informative and entertaining, so you won't want to miss this one.
- 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.

Schedule of 2014 Planned Outings:

We are starting a new year and are in process of scheduling speakers and programs, outings, tours and other events for the year. If anyone has any suggestions, please contact a Board Member with your ideas and information. We want to try to provide the things you are interested in. We tentatively have 20 events planned for 2014.

Jan 25 Sat	Tour of the Western Museum of Mining and History, Colo. Sprgs, 1pm. Bring your members badge.
Feb 22 Sat	Tour of the National Mining Museum, Leadville, 1pm, signup sheet at meeting.
Mar 22 Sat	Tour of the School of Mines Geology Museum, 1pm, signup sheet at meeting.
Mar 29 Sat	Beginners Panning/sluicing Class at 6811 N Washington, 9am-12noon, bring pan, boots, snuffer bottle
& vial	
Apr 19 Sat	Prospecting Outing, Clear Creek, 6811 N. Washington St., Adams County, 9am-5pm, bbq at noon.
May 15 Thur	Panning Demo, Aurora Water Festival, 9a-2p. Will need 8 volunteers.
May 24 Sat	Prospecting Outing, in Nederland, Glass Cleanup Contest, 9am-5pm, in City Limits.
Jun 7 Sat	Prospecting Outing, Lake Gulch, Blackhawk, 9am (Clay County Mine). This is a dry claim.
July 25, 26, 27	F,S,Su Prospecting Outing, on Lake Creek, Leadville, 5.00 @ day @ person, bbq sat. Night @ 5.00 @
person. Some c	camping on property, \$3.00 @ day. This is Fri, Sat, Sun.
Aug 2 Sat	Panning Demo for Japanese Exchange Students, Idaho Spgs, 1p-4p.
Aug 3 Sun	Beginners Panning/sluicing Class at 6811 N Washington, 9am-12noon, will be a signup sheet.



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Aug 23 Sat	Prospecting Outing, Lake Gulch, Blackhawk, 9am. (Clay County Mine). Is a dry claim.
Aug 30 Sat	Club Picnic at new location to be announced, Pot Luck, 12 noon-3pm.
Sept 4,5,6 T,F,	S Panning Demo , Highlands Ranch Festival, 9a-2p each day, there will be a sign up sheet.
Sept 20 Sat	Panning Demo, Idaho Springs Festival, 10a-3pm, there will be a sign up sheet.
Sept 27 Sat	Prospecting Outing, Lower Clear Creek, 9a until dark at 6811 N. Washington. Bbq at noon.
Oct 15 Wed	Pumpkin Carving Contest, regular meeting night, compete for prizes
Oct 18 Sat	Panning Demo for Arapahoe County Fall Festival, 8181 S. Parker Rd, 10a-3p
Nov 9 Sat	Metal Detecting Outing, Majestic View Park, Arvada, 10a-1p. Prizes to be won.
Dec 17 Wed	Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner, members only, no regular meeting, arrive at 6pm, eat at 6:30

Findings of the Month

Be sure and bring your treasures and finds in to share with the rest of the Club. Winners each month will have their name published each month in the Newsletter. There are six (6) categories to choose from when entering. The winners in January were:

Best Artifact: Winner is **Dennis White** with a boat anchor (or crucible) found in Clear Creek.

<u>Best Jewelry:</u> Winner is **Brandon Luchtenburg** with a Sterling Silver ring he found in north Commerce City. <u>Most Raw Gold:</u> Winner is **Kevin Singel** who submitted 0.4 grams of gold he found in Park County and in Clear Creek. Monthly winners will need to save your find and present it next November for the <u>Find of the Year</u> competition and for the chance to be recognized as Best Find of the Year.

Western Museum of Mining and Industry Tour

On Saturday, Jan. 25, Club members toured the Western Museum of Mining and Industry in Colo. Springs. The tour is a really good one and included a 20 minute video on Mining in the West followed by a historical tour of a number of display areas demonstrating placer and hard rock mining. The members got to try their hand at a panning trough for a little extra fun and got to see a number of historical mining equipment in actual operation.

The Museum has some excellent examples of actual equipment that has been restored to operating condition and most of it operates off of compressed air and old electrical generators that have also been restored. The tour took about 2 hours total and was very informative. If you haven't been down there to take it all in, you need to add this one to your bucket list. Since your Club has a Silver Club Membership at the Museum, your admittance is always free as long as you wear your membership badge when there.

I think that everyone who attended had a pretty good time and found the event to be pretty informative. Pres. Long managed to get a few pictures.







<u>Birthstone</u> The World of Birthstones

In the ancient world, precious gems were prized just as highly as they are today. Gemstones continue to shatter record prices at auction houses around the world. For 2014, rather than just the monthly birthstones, we will offer a little more of the ageless secrets of birthstones by tying them to the lunar calendar. We will give you a little extra courtesy of the National Jewelers Society. This means that the birthstones you would normally associate with your birth month are actually tied a little closer to your Zodiac Calendar. So, let's check it out a little bit.



There are a total of 12 Lunar Months in all. This period of time right now runs from December 21 to January 19. There are also 12 Zodiac Signs in all. The Zodiac sign now is Capricorn and your planet would be Saturn. Since there are not 12 planets but actually only 9 and the Earth is not considered as one, the Sun and the Moon as well as Pluto are listed. Each Zodiac Sign is associated with a specific House. This time period for now occurs in the 10th House of the Zodiac. Birthstones were established centuries before a lunar calendar and now we relate those stones to the star signs they truly occupy by using the lunar houses that the ancient cultures used that astrologers use, that still half of the modern population of today's world uses. Keeping that in mind, let us take a look at the lunar calendar and the gemstones that relate to each of us in a whole new way. A chart established by the National Jewelers Association list, the Modern Alchemist, The Old Testament of the Bible (Torah), and the New Testament of the Bible, will give you a little latitude in picking your own personal birthstones. These stones represent the 12 months, the 12 tribes, the 12 hours, the 12 apostles of Jesus and the 12 astrological signs. This is based on historical fact and is not meant to proselytize any religious belief.



(Taken from the National Jewelers Association and the AmericanGemSociety.Org web site)

<mark>A Miner's Laugh</mark>

On a bitterly cold winter morning an old miner and his wife In Dublin were listening to the radio during breakfast. They heard the announcer say, "We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through." So the good wife went out and moved her car.



A week later while they are eating breakfast again, the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through." So the good wife went out and moved her car again.

The next week they are again having breakfast, when the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You must park...." Then the electric power went out. The good wife was very upset, and with a worried look on her face she said, "I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the snow ploughs can get through?"

Then with the love and understanding in his voice that all miners' who are married to blonde's exhibit, the old miner replied, "Why don't you just leave the bloody car in the garage this time?" (*Taken from the internet and revised just for all us 'old miners'*) 02/14

Prospecting/Mining Notes

(mostly from the Denver Post, Internet and other wire services)

2-2-14 Legal dispute clouds future of pair of historic mines: The Caribou and the Cross Mine near Nederland are in trouble. Tom Hendricks, known as "Miner Tom" has been a miner for 40 years and is known for his civic mindedness in and around Boulder County. He has owned and operated the Cross mine and has recently become embroiled in a nasty lawsuit challenging his ownership. The dispute is between Tom and a former State Senator, Tom Wiens in which Wiens claims that Hendricks defaulted on a \$15 million dollar loan. Hendricks maintains that Wiens and his people are trying to steal his mine. Hendricks stated 'I've encountered countless obstacles trying to run this mine, though perhaps none bigger



than someone who presented themselves as a partner turning out to be a predator intent on snatching it up"! At stake is a trove of gold that Hendricks estimates could be as much as 15 million ounces worth nearly \$19 billion at today's current The Caribou and Cross mines, operated by Calais Resources, which is Hendricks and his current partner David Young, are prime examples of the gap between eye-popping potential and capital-constrained reality. The Cross mine's last major production was in 1988 and it was operating until 2012, when the financial crisis developed causing Hendricks to temporarily close it pending additional investment revitalization.

(Tom graciously conducted a tour of the Cross mine for our Club in late 2012 and it was a fantastic tour. Personally, I am pulling for Tom to win this battle as I consider him to be a friend and supporter of the Gold Prospectors of the RockiesPres. Long)

Where I would go if I could and Why

The Northeastern Plains of Colorado is an interesting area. Occupying the eastern two fifths of the State are the Great Plains. On the whole, less spectacular than other parts of the state to be sure, they nevertheless have an attractiveness of their own, though of a different kind. Scenically, they are in dramatic contrast to the grandeur of the mountains. Historically, they are rich in interest, presenting a pageant of greatness that reaches down the centuries from Indian to frontiersman to pioneer.

"Grass, sunshine and solitude" characterize the High Plains division of the Great Plains, which forms a fringe around the northern and eastern plains of Colorado, extending in places farther into the interior. Having few stream valleys and wide areas between them, the High Plains constitute an extremely flat region mantled with sand, gravel, and silt brought down from the higher Rocky Mountains on the west. West of the Great Plains is the Colorado Piedmont, which has much greater differences in elevation, indicating the effect of streams near the mountains in removing a apart of the material that had previously been deposited, leaving mesas, buttes, and other landforms on an irregular surface.

Standing like ships or fortresses above the plains of northern Weld County are the twin Pawnee Buttes. With the badlands around them they are widely noted for their rich deposits of fossil bones of prehistoric vertebrates. The evolution of horses and camels was traced through remains taken from this locality, which is most conveniently reached from New Raymer (22 miles), as well as from other towns in the area.

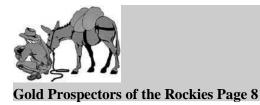
The world famous locality for blue barite crystals, usually referred to as coming from Sterling, is 5 miles northeast of Stoneham, which is 26 miles west of sterling on Colo. Hwy. 14. Collecting there has been described by Guy B. Ellermeier in the book *Rocks and Minerals, vol. 23, 1948, pg 21*. The transparent sea-blue color of the best specimens enhances the beauty of the sharp tabular crystals.

Colorado's finest jasper is found associated with agate and petrified wood near Kalouse in northeastern Weld County. Kalouse is situated on Colo. Hwy. 52 and is 12 miles north of New Raymer, 40 miles north of Fort Morgan, and about 10 miles southeast of Pawnee Buttes. Specimens are found scattered in both directions from the right-angled road intersection in Kalouse. Especially favored places are about ½ mile east of the intersection and about 1 mile west.

Some of the material in these and other nearby location resembles the renowned Fairburn agates of South Dakota and is likewise found in Tertiary rocks, although it has weathered out onto the surface and may be picked up quite easily. Brown jasper of remarkable uniformity is found in abundance here.

I highly recommend this trip to anyone who wants to collect good specimens for their collection and keep your eye peeled for arrowheads and such....Pres. Long

(Taken from 'Colorado Gem Trails' by Richard M. Pearl, 1951)



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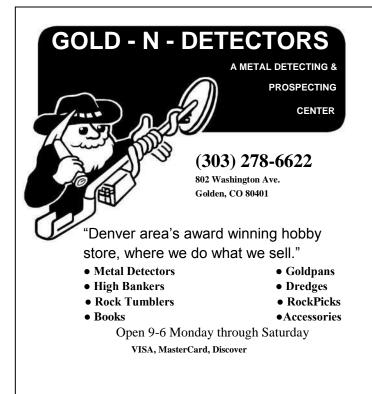
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For information to publish your "Ad" in The Gold Nugget,
please contact the Editor. COPY DEADLINE is due to the
editor by the 25th of the month for publication in the following
months' issue of the Newsletter.

Contact the GPR President

(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)

	J

Coming Announcements and Special Events for <i>Mar</i> 2014 (WMMI - Western Museum of Mining & Industry, 225 North Gate Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80921 (<u>www.wmmi.org</u>))						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5 Ash Wednesdav	б	7 Newsletter Advert/Article Copy Deadline	8
9 Day Light Savings Time Begins	10	11	12	13	14	15 WMMI Family Exploration Day! Science!
16	17 St Patrick's Day	18	19 GPR Club Meeting	20 Spring Begins	21	22
23/30	24/31 25 26 27 28 WMMI Spring Break with Bricks-4-Kidz!					29
	WMMI Spring break with the Burros					