

# THE GOLD NUGGET

July 2018

## Obituary James Peterson



It is with profound sadness and regret that we announce the passing of member Jim Peterson. Jim joined the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies back in May of 2012 and really enjoyed the prospecting outings. He most frequently was to found in the company of his good friends Steve and Karen and Jack with whom he was a great partner. He traveled to Arizona a few times to dig down there as well. He also loved to travel up to Georgetown to help the club to pan for the tourists at the Loop Railroad. He was active in this Club as well as the Foothills Chapter of the GPAA. He was still working and was employed at the Denver International Airport where he worked with their many computer systems. Jim fought the good fight against the evil of cancer but lost his battle on June 20. RIP my friend!!



## The Prez Sez by Jim Long



Runoff is done. The creek is starting to come down and we can now get back into the water safely but I would recommend you continue to exercise caution for the next week or so if you are not very experienced in what you are doing. There are a good many folk getting back into the water now but caution should always be your watchword.

Not only is there still gold in them thar hills, but there's gold in them thar trees. Eucalyptus trees, that is. Australian researchers have found that microscopic gold particles from underground ore deposits are present in tree leaves. Eucalyptus tree roots can delve more than 130 feet deep underground in a thirsty search for water. The *Nature Communications* journal results, reported by a team led by Melvyn Lintern of Australia's CSIRO Earth Science and Resource Evaluation science agency, settle a long-running dispute. Researchers had disagreed over whether gold particles seen in eucalyptus leaves were merely wind-blown or truly represented ore traces transported by roots. With gold costing more than \$1,300 an ounce, miners might want to look hard at these eucalyptus tree findings, the team suggests. Gold discoveries have declined roughly 45 percent over the last decade. "Despite the decline in discoveries, falling ore grades and increasing demand for gold, new exploration technologies for gold deposits, incorporating the deep penetrating ability of certain trees, have been seldom reported," the study says. The researchers compared eucalyptus tree leaves at gold prospecting sites in Western Australia with leaves from trees 2,625 feet away. They also grew eucalyptus trees in greenhouses with potting soil dosed with gold particles, as well as in normal potting soil without gold. Leaves preferentially stored microscopic gold particles about eight micrometers wide on average. Study authors speculate the particles came from underground, seemingly taken up by the root system of the trees. About 20 leaves need to be sampled to statistically reveal the presence of gold underneath the trees. "Gold is probably toxic to plants and is moved to its extremities such as leaves or in preferential zones within cells in order to reduce deleterious biochemical reaction," the authors conclude. Don't start stuffing eucalyptus leaves in your wallet, however. The average concentration of gold in the leaves was only about 46 parts per billion, less than 0.000005 percent of each leaf by weight. For would-be gold miners, however, eucalyptus trees might offer cheaper, and better, clues to gold deposits, especially smaller ones that wide-area drilling tests might overlook. "Mineral exploration will benefit by embracing and understanding" how leaves might reveal secrets hidden under ground, the study authors conclude.



This news was all reported some a few years ago in the *National Geographic* and really isn't that big a news splash anymore, but it sure is interesting to think about. I have reported a few other interesting facts concerning gold within this newsletter this month so be sure and read it all. One concerns China and the other goes back to Australia again. It seems that those Aussies are just a bit overly interested in the yaller stuff as are we. And with gold prices continuing to run at 1300 an ounce, there is good enough reason for all the interest. Most of this keen interest began about 10 years back when gold was knocking the door at 2000 an ounce. But it sure makes you wonder each fall when you look at our Aspen trees and see the beautiful yellow colors. Makes you want to burn some Aspen and pan out the ashes. Now wouldn't that be something??



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Anyway, that is the view from here and I wish you all Good Luck in your endeavors, no matter what they may be! And 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](mailto:jnslong945@msn.com) . Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!

## The V.P. Corner by "Joe Fortunato"



Hello again folks, another month just flew by!! This time it went so quickly, that I nearly forgot to write this month's V.P. Corner piece. I was sitting at my desk this afternoon when I realized that it was 5 July and I had not written a word for the club newsletter. The good news for me is, I was able to come up with several topics that may be of interest. The first one comes from this month's Mining Journal magazine. By now you are probably thinking, he was back at that restaurant again, having breakfast and reading about gold, and you would be right!! There is a terrific article about the SS Central America, and the storm that sent this ship, and 425 of her passengers, 7000 feet to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean in 1857. Along with those people went a fortune in gold and silver, worth hundreds of millions of dollars in today's money. I believe the Central America is considered Americas most valuable treasure ship, but I will leave that up to you to discover for yourself. I am sure that there is a great deal of information on the internet about this subject, so enjoy your trip through time!! My next topic is a story that is much closer to home and much more recent than the first one. By recent, I mean June 27, 2018. After six long months, I finally took the metal detector that I got for Christmas, out of the box and put it together. Along with fellow club member Bob Neumayer, I hit the trail in search of Colorado gold. This was my first gold detecting outing in eight months, and I was really looking forward to getting out of town for the day and trying out my newest detector. It was quite a warm day for the high country, but we managed to get in a good five to six hours of detecting. Bob had not found anything of interest. I had three small targets that needed further investigation at home, along with a small tin container that I could not identify. One of the three small targets was a piece of rock about the size of a plum pit. It just didn't look good to me, but my detector just screamed going over it. I felt it was a long shot, but when in doubt, don't toss it until you know for sure. Well, it's a good thing that I held on to that piece of rock. When I got home and cleaned it up a bit, there was gold showing!! What a great way to break in a new detector, gold on the first day!! Oh, and the tin container turned out to be for blasting caps (thankfully it was empty)!! The last topic is more for those that are electronic prospectors. I just read that Whites Electronics has a new gold detector ready to hit the market. It's called the GM24K or GM24Karat. I have read a little about it and watched a short video on one of the detecting forums. It seems to be a well thought out machine with some nice features, it's a VLF machine so it won't break the bank price wise. I guess that is it for now.....MAY ALL YOUR ADVENTURES BE ...GOLDEN!!! Questions or comments... call or text me...303-263 7204 Joe Fortunato

## From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger by Roger Schlenger



The July Meeting will feature a drawing for nine (9) gold nuggets of which the largest will be a 2.8-gram nugget. We now have a new 'Special Nugget' for give away, so be sure to purchase drawing tickets for it as well. Be sure to support your Club by buying as many nugget drawing and raffle tickets as you can afford. Remember, your odds of winning a nugget here are far better than your chances of winning the lottery.

## Planned 2018 GPR Meeting Programs:

- July 18 To be determined
- Aug 15 To be determined\
- Sept 19 To be announced

## Board Meeting Minutes From Jun 2018

X	James Long	X	Joe Shubert	X	Joe Fortunato	X	John Johnson
X	Mike Hurtado	X	Joe Johnston	X	Chris Kafka	X	Brandon Luchtenburg
X	Roger Schlenger	X	Bobby Manning	X	Andy Doll		Gary Hawley



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**Quorum Present:** Yes.

**Call to Order by:** VP Joe F. at 6:05 pm.

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Corrections: none Approved as read/corrected: yes.

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

**Correspondence:** 2 phone calls, 12 e-mails, 6 mailings.

**Webmaster:** Total Hits 151620 Hits for last 2 month 314.

**Committee Reports:** None at this time.

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

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

### Planned Outings for 2018:

- June 23 Sat Prospecting Outing #3, Lake Gulch, 9a
- June 30/July 1 Sat/Sun
- Panning at Georgetown Loop RR 9a. July 21 Sat
- Prospecting Outing #3 to Lake Gulch near Black Hawk, 9am.

### From the Board:

- Pres. Long missed the meeting but was able to make it back for general meeting.
- Round Table did not produce anything of note
- Several members headed for Alaska.
- Clear Creek continues high run-off so beware all who venture out. Stay safe further from the Board.

**Additional Announcements:** Next Board Meeting: July 18, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

**Next General Meeting:** July 18, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

**Tonight's general meeting program:** We will show another Gold Trails video by Kevin Hoagland of the GPAA

**Adjournment:** Meeting stands adjourned at 6:25 pm.

### QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Find the Question of the Month question asked in the **JUL 2010 NEWSLETTER** and answer it. (Hint: webpage)

#### 2018 GPR Board of Directors Members

##### President

James Long

##### Vice President

Joe Fortunato

##### Secretary/Treasurer

Roger Schlenger

##### 2 Year Board Members

Joe Johnston (2016)

Joe Shubert (2015)

##### 1 Year Board Members

Chris Kafka

Andy Doll

Brandon Luchtenburg

John Johnson

Bobby Manning

Mike Hurtado

##### Past President

Garv Hawlev

## General Meeting Minutes From Jun 2018

1. Meeting was opened at 7:01 pm by **Pres. Long** with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Pres. Long** then announced that the evening Program would feature a video of 'Gold Trails' hosted by Kevin Hoagland of the GPAA.
3. **Pres. Long** gave the Metals Report: Gold 1267.60, Silver 16.25, Platinum 869.00, Palladium 960.00, Rhodium 2105.00.
4. **Web hits** for last month were approx. 314.
5. **Treasurer Roger Schlenger** reports that the Club remains in the black. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it. We now have another 'Special Nugget' to raffle off so don't forget to buy these tickets as well. Also, be sure to buy tickets for tonight's nine nuggets drawing, the largest being 2.8 grams.
6. **Dan McConnell** who over-see's the Membership Table reported that we had 70 members in attendance. There were five guests present. The total meeting attendance was 75.
7. **Pres. Long** read the 'Question of the Month', which was **"In 1969, Lee Marvin and Clint Eastwood starred in a movie set in the California gold rush. What is the name of the movie?? AND What is the name of the Mining Camp??"**
8. **Pres. Long** advised that there was time to enter items at the break for the 'Finds of the Month' table and that the monthly winners from tonight will need to save for the Finds of the Year competition in November 2018. A reminder to all that gold submissions need to be weighed dry and only one submission per person per category. Be sure to fill out the entry cards completely.
9. **John Johnson** announced the 'Cache Clue # 4'.
10. **Pres. Long** advised that there are still lots of items in the back at the **Club Store** so be sure to stop by during the break and see if there is anything there that you need. And we still have gold bags for sale. Many thanks to **Mike Hurtado** for filling in as we have no volunteer to run this section yet.



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11. **Pres. Long** informed the membership that:
  - The Outing on May 26 at Lake Gulch had a real good turnout. Many thanks go to Jack Meineke for leading that Outing.
  - The Mineral Field Trip of June 16 was also a great turnout and a huge thanks goes to Don Bray for leading that event.
  - The next Outing will be on June 23 up to Lake Gulch again in search of gold.
  - We will also be at the Georgetown Loop RR in Georgetown to assist the staff there in panning for the tourists.
  - And in late July on the 21<sup>st</sup>, we will return to Lake Gulch near Black Hawk again.
  - The water is still up in Clear Creek and in full run off at this time so beware when you are going out. There are places and ways to get it done but caution is the key word here. The search for gold is not worth your life.
  - Members were encouraged to support the Store during the Break and to return any materials checked out from the Library as soon as possible, and to vote on the Finds of the Month, purchase their gold drawing tickets and submit their answers to the Question of the Month.
  - Kevin Singel was present with his new book, "Finding Gold in Colorado". He sold out in the first 30 minutes and signed everyone's books. . There was nothing additional of note added from the Floor.
12. **Pres. Long** announced the break at 8:20 pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:36 pm.
13. **Pres. Long** announced the winners of the '**Question of the Month**'. The answer was, "**Paint Your Wagon**" and "**No Name City**"!! There were 43 winners who received their extra drawing ticket for the gold drawing.
14. **Pres. Long** announced the winners for the '**Finds of the Month**'. Those were:
  - **Best Coin** – **Joe Johnston** with a 1917 penny he found in Denver.
  - **Best Jewelry** – **Con Ogden** with a zirconium diamond he found at a pay screening site in Arizona.
  - **Best Mineral** – **Bill and Kris Wobbe** with some blue barite they found on the Field Trip to Hartsel, Colo.
  - **Best Artifact** – **Ray Vigil** with an old miners shovel handle he found in the Santiago Mine debris field.
  - **Best Bottle** – **Joe Johnston** with an old soda bottle he found in Denver.
  - **Most Raw Gold** – **Roger Schlenger** with .13grams of gold he got from the lat Lake Gulch Outing.
  - **Largest Raw Gold** – There was no entry for this category this month.
15. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for the numerous door prizes donated by the **GPR, Andy Doll, Hank Innerfeld, Kevin Singel, Dick Oakes, and Pres. Long**, followed by drawings for the 9 gold nuggets. Pres. Long also wants to remind 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 shall be considered to have been donated back to the Club. Those assisting in the drawings were **Chuck Cown** and **Roger Schlenger**.
16. **Pres. Long** reminds the members that sometimes during the meetings, The President's time is overwhelmingly taken up by the many who wish to speak to him and he apologizes if anyone ever feels like he is unavailable. It is not his intent to be inaccessible and he encourages anyone with questions to contact him by e-mail or phone outside the meetings at any time. His e-mail and phone number are on the web site.
17. **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. Don't forget the 'tip jar' also, which helps to defray costs. 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.
18. The **July Meeting Program** will be a video. Until next time, remember to 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 9:00 pm.

## **Finds of the Month Jun 2018**

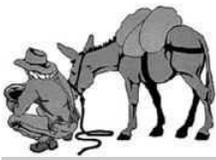
The finds of the Month for June were as follows:

**Best Coin** – **Joe Johnston** with a 1917 penny he found while metal detecting in Denver.

**Best Jewelry** – **Con Ogden** with a zirconium diamond he found at an Arizona dig site.

**Best Mineral** – **Bill and Kris Wobbe** with a sample of Blue Barite they found in Hartsel, Colorado.

**Best Artifact** – **Ray Vigil** with an old miner's shovel handle he found at the Santiago Mine.

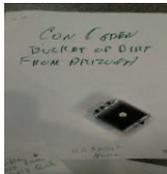


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**Best Bottle** – Joe Johnston with an old soda bottle he found in Denver.

**Most Raw Gold** – Roger Schlenger with .13 grams of gold he found in Lake Gulch, Black Hawk.

**Largest Raw Gold** – There was no entry for this category this month.



Be sure and bring your treasures and finds in to share with the rest of the Club. We would all like to know what everyone else is finding out there so don't be bashful. Winners each month will have their name published in the Newsletter. There are six (6) categories to choose from when entering. Monthly winners will need to save their finds to bring back to the November 2017 meeting to compete for the Find of the Year 2017. Thanks to all those who also submitted, additional finds that were not judged winners.

## A Miner's Laugh

A man goes into a bar with his dog. He goes up to the bar and asks for a drink. The bartender says "You can't bring that dog in here!" The guy, without missing a beat, says "This is my seeing-eye dog." "Oh man," the bartender says, "I'm sorry, here, the first one's on me." The man takes his drink and goes to a table near the door.



An old miner then walks into the bar with a little Chihuahua. The first guys sees him, stops him and says "You can't bring that dog in here unless you tell him it's a seeing-eye dog." The old miner graciously thanks the first man and continues to the bar. He asks for a drink. The bartender says "Hey, you can't bring that dog in here!" The old miner replies "This is my seeing-eye dog." The bartender says, "No, I don't think so. They do not have Chihuahuas as seeing-eye dogs."

The old miner pauses for a half-second and indignantly replies "What??! They gave me a Chihuahua??!"

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

## Mining Concerns from Around the Country

*(In my attempt to keep our members aware of what is happening involving mining from around the country, I will run this little section each month and see how it goes. I am apt to put a little passion and some direct finger pointing in my reporting, for which I will offer no apology to anyone who may feel offended. I support responsible mining and responsible miners, period. It is what it is, and it is strictly my opinion, and that is that, like it or not.....jj)*

**Watch Out, World's Largest Country has Growing Appetite for Gold Jewelry:** (Kitco News) According to the World Gold Council (WGC), China's improving wealth is expected to renew growth in jewelry demand, creating long-term support for global gold demand and performance. The WGC says that China in undergoing a renaissance as a result of a painful period reinvention that saw the industry evolve to meet a rapidly changing middle class. In recent years, the profile of China's jewelry consumers has changed. Gold still faces challenges in the world's largest consumer market, but there are two important trends that have been noted since 2016. First, consumer preferences differ by region and, two, tastes differ across age groups. In large metropolitan areas, called 'tier 1 cities', gold jewelry faces a millennial demographic that focus more on technology and fashion with their disposable income. When asked what they would do with RMB 5,000 (Chinese yuan), only 9% between ages 18-25 favored gold jewelry, compared with 31% who chose technology such as smartphones or wearable technology. Consumers in Tier 1 cities contribute around 40% of total national spending. Successfully engaging with these consumers is the key to the future health of China's gold jewelry market. China has addressed these trends with two strategies by first, diversifying the scope of the production, and two, integrating on line and off line retail experience. Fresh product offerings in 22ct and 18ct gold in addition to the traditional 24ct gold in jewelry has sprung up to meet the demands of the younger audience. Lower budgets among millennials have prompted the jewelry industry to shift to thrift with 3D hard gold technology. A special chemical process makes 3D gold four times harder than 24ct gold. Yet it uses only one third of the gold that traditional jewelry uses to produce the same size piece, making it much more affordable. Interestingly, research shows that only 4% of those



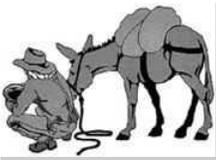
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who start an on line purchase actually completes the transaction. This indicates a preference for ‘touching’ the product before buying, as well as concerns around on-line security. The WGC projects that by offering lighter weight pieces below RMB 2,000 (US\$300) in the short to medium term, online shops are unlikely to take more than a small share of the market. Long term drivers of gold jewelry demand are explained not only by the current price of gold, but more importantly, by consumers income. It is expected that this shift by China should bode well for coming years. Gold jewelry demand in the country has more than tripled in the past 15 years, placing china amongst the largest gold jewelry markets in the world, accounting for some 30% of global demand.

### **News from the Public Lands for the People Board of Directors:**

Public Lands for the People have had a long history of fighting legal battles in court and providing educational help to the mining community as well as all public land users. Much of this important history did not get transferred to the new website 3 years ago when we brought [www.publiclandsforthepeople.org](http://www.publiclandsforthepeople.org) live on line. Also, within the last couple of years, PLP won a landmark Federal case we affectionately call “The Cheerios Decision”, the importance of which is explained in the accomplishments list below. Very early in the 1990’s, PLP and some individual miners worked together in good faith with the state of California to craft the 1994 Suction Dredge Regulations and permit process. PLP made concessions to help facilitate the process. Jerry Hobbs explained later that we found out the hard way that because we compromised when working with government agencies, we could never get back what we compromised on, even though it was a right, not a privilege. Because we had submitted ourselves to regulatory agencies that didn’t have authority to materially interfere, only to reasonably regulate. If you think the CA 1994 regs were good, what we had before that were much closer to the intent of the 1872 Mining Act. Without going into the many details; the fact that we gave up some ground in the process of the 1994 EIR and Suction Dredge Regulations, we realized we made a mistake, and we would never repeat it again. Take a piece of paper in your hand. That paper represents your mining rights. Fold it in half because you compromised to get along and “play nice” so you could get through the process and “get back in the water”. Several years later they come back and want more. You now have a half sheet of paper to start with. Fold it in half again because you compromised on something else, but this time you started with half a sheet and you have a quarter of a sheet. It’s to the point where there isn’t much left. You see the same process play out with “Gun Control” advocates. They take a little bit at a time. They are content with small takings, because they are cumulative. It’s the same with our mining rights and we must not give up an inch of ground! After experiencing this hard lesson with the 1994 Suction Dredge Regulations, PLP became the ‘**NO COMPROMISE**’ mining rights advocacy group, and that principle has guided us through many, many battles in the quarter century since. Many folks within the mining community don’t understand why we take such a hard line, but we must not compromise our rights away if we are going to maintain our Federally granted rights. Because just like freedom, mining rights once lost, are nearly impossible to get back. We shouldn’t have to compromise, because the law is on our side, whether or not the judges in judiciary system recognize those laws. That’s why we often say, “**Let’s take it back and keep it!**” We must remain ever vigilant and pro-active! The following lists the PLP efforts continuing:

- PLP authors the “Small Miner Amendment to S. 145” and has presented it to Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) and several other members of the Natural Resource Committees on both the House and Senate side. These minor amendments solve most of the regulatory problems small miners face regarding RS- 2477 access, MSHA, Forest Service, BLM, and EPA with regulatory certainty as its goal. Much of the amendment reverses poor case law from the 9th Circuit that deviates from the congressional intent of the Mining Law or reasonable application of applicable implementing regulations. Work is ongoing with legislative council, and co-sponsors. [Small Miner Amendment to S. 145](#)
- PLP’s legal researchers are working in DC to provide improvements to existing regulations with the emphasis on regulatory certainty at the EPA, DOI (BLM), USDA (Forest Service), and MSHA for small miners.
- PLP supported Brandon Rinehart in his defense of being cited in CA for suction dredging. PLP supported Brandon both with legal research which we provide to his attorney, and financially directly paying a portion of his legal bills, with a combined investment of over \$10,000 we helped get him all the way to the California Supreme Court. Unfortunately, that court produced a terrible decision, ignoring over a hundred years of case law! That is one of the main reasons we need to work to remove burdensome regulations at the Federal level and eliminate prohibitive State law using the “Small Miner Amendment” (Act of Congress overriding the State on federally managed lands). Once the Small Miner Amendment is law, the next time there is a Rinehart case, the outcome will be 180 degrees the opposite of last time and our Federally granted Mining Rights will be upheld.
- PLP has taken the lead position in the litigation with the State of California for over 9 years in the effort to overturn State laws that have banned motorized suction dredging for gold.



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- PLP has been compiling science and research materials (educational materials) showing the benefits of suction dredging in order to educate the public in the court of public opinion in the Western States.
- PLP supported member John Godfrey in federal court regarding a charge of polluting while placer mining. The decision is instructive to give miners the argument that they do not require a waste discharge permit from the Federal or State EPA regarding NPDES permitting. Count 5 was reversed in the favor of John Godfrey and for the mining community as a whole. [Godfrey District Court Decision.](#)
- PLP supported member Don Smith with local suction dredge permitting in Idaho and carried his federal concerns directly to the Washington DC office of the EPA under Administrator Scott Pruitt.
- PLP supported member Steve Hicks in Montana federal court by providing him the winning cases and legal arguments for his controversy with the Forest Service. Steve Hicks won his case in that the Forest Service lacked the authority to deem his placer mining unlawful in violation of the 36 CFR 261 regulations. [U.S. v. Hicks \(miner not a special use permittee\).](#)
- PLP supported member Steve Hicks in Montana federal court by providing him the winning cases and legal arguments for his controversy with the Forest Service. Steve Hicks won his case in that the Forest Service lacked the authority to stop the road access use to the mining claims he was administering. [U.S. v. Hicks \(mining claimant is a landowner\).](#)
- PLP supported member Walt Wegner when he administratively appealed the requirement for a CA suction dredge permit in connection with his approved Forest Service Plan of Operation and prevailed. This demonstration of federal preemption was judicially noticed in the Rinehart and San Bernardino suction dredge cases and unfortunately was ignored by the CA Supreme court.
- PLP supported member Ernie Peachay in order to prevent the destruction of historic mining structures by the Forest Service in Tahoe National Forest.
- PLP supported miner Ronald Lex on appeal from his conviction in federal court. PLP provided the winning legal arguments to his attorney that lead to the limitations of the Forest Service regarding mine occupancy and the trigger on when a NOI or PO was required. [U.S. v. Lex \(miner not a special use permittee\).](#) A watershed case that lead to the Forest Service attempting to overturn the decision by promulgating new regulations that failed to have a real legal effect. The decision still stands that a miner is not a special use permittee within the total discretionary control of the Forest Service.
- PLP provided the winning argument for the mining attorney for Mr. McClure affirming the previous precedent ruling in U.S v. Lex despite the regulatory change in 2005. [U.S. v. McClure \(364 F.Supp.2d.1183\).](#) PLP's vagueness argument that was not fully briefed in U.S. v. Lex was given to a miner's attorney in Arizona (for miner Tierney) where he won his case against the Forest Service regarding the vagueness of the Forest Service mineral regulations and the real regulatory trigger when a NOI or PO is required. [U.S. v. Tierney \(miner wins vagueness & due process\).](#)
- PLP supports member Clark Pearson in federal court defending his placer mining operation and won. [US v. Pearson.](#) Clark Pearson sued the federal agents personally in federal court which eventually lead to the agents being transferred and the Forest Service employing competent minerals administrators in the Plumas National Forest.
- PLP supported member miner Stanford in his citations from the Forest Service. PLP's research provided for the citations to be dropped against Mr. Stanford after the Forest Service was shown to have no subject matter jurisdiction.

These investments in Miner's Rights could not be possible without the many, many individual financial and other volunteer contributions from folks all across the country. PLP has no huge corporate donors. It's all individuals, small businesses, clubs and mining districts giving sacrificially to help fight the fight. We can't do what we do without you giving to keep us running. Let's keep working together to **"Take it Back and Keep It!"**

## **News from the CSM Geology Museum**

The CSM Geology Museum has now on display one of the world's best collections of minerals from Colorado's Gilman District, home of the state's greatest zinc mine. The Colorado School of Mines Arthur Lakes Library is now showcasing Geology Museum mineral specimens from Gilman in a new digital collection. Viewers can read about the area's history, mineral deposits, and view some of the best minerals from Gilman in the Museum's collections. To see the full collection, visit "Gilman Minerals, Colorado", in the Mines Geology Museum's digital Mineral Specimens community at the following link: <http://libguides.mines.edu/Geology.../digitalcollectionsGilman> .



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Located in the Gore Range, the Gilman Mining District was mined for gold, silver, lead and zinc, beginning in the second half of the nineteenth century and includes the famous Eagle Mine and the town of Gilman, Colorado. It is located in Eagle County, in the Inner Zone of the Colorado Mineral Belt (COMB). The content for this new digital collection has been developed by Ed Raines, Museum Collections Manager and noted expert on Colorado minerals and mining history, and Lisa Dunn, Special Research Collections Manager at the CSM Library. Please check it out because it's great stuff!



## Geologists Discover Bacteria that Turns small bits of Gold into Solid Nuggets

Geologists have discovered bacteria on a patch of earth in regional Queensland, Australia, that takes natural traces of gold and turns them into nuggets. Special 'nugget producing' bacteria may hold the key to more efficient processing of gold ore, mine tailings and recycled electronics, as well as aid in exploration for new deposits. Researchers have spent 10 years investigating the role that microorganisms play in gold transformation. Within the earth's gold can be dissolved, dispersed and reconstructed into gold nuggets. This epic 'journey' is called the biogeochemical cycle of gold. The researchers have now for the first time, shown how long this biogeochemical cycle takes place and they hope to make it even faster in the future. Primary gold is produced under high pressure and temperatures deep below the Earth's surface and is mined today from large primary deposits. In the natural environment, primary gold makes its way into soils, sediments and waterways through biogeochemical weathering and eventually ends up in the ocean. On the way, bacterial can dissolve and re-concentrate the gold. This process removes most of the silver and forms gold nuggets. This fact has been known for some time but now we can show that this transformation takes place in only a few years to decades rather than the immense passage of time that was previously thought. The results are surprising and lead the way for other applications such as the optimizing of processes for gold extraction from ore and re-processing old tailings or recycled electronics, which isn't really economically viable. The researchers say that this new understanding of the gold biogeochemical process and transformation may also help verify the authenticity of archaeological gold artifacts and distinguish them from fraudulent copies. *(This story is reprinted from material provided by the University of Adelaide, Australia JJ)*

## Mineral Field Trip Huge Success

The Field Trip to Hartsel, Colorado, on Saturday, June 16, turned out to be a fantastic trip in terms of turnout, mineral gathering, and even good weather. Over 30 members traveled to this private claim in South Park to search for samples of the mineral blue barite. This local mineral is a collectors dream as it has such unusual properties. When unearthed, it is usually in a white color phase but once it has been exposed to sunlight, it turns to various shades of blue, usually in lighter hues, but blue none the less. The trip was led by Don Bray, one of the Clubs leading geology specialists. Don has a wonderful expertise in geology and is also a member of the Colorado Mineral Club. He has led the Club on previous mineral outings and this trip was really a good one. The trip was scheduled for our many rock hounds who like to find things that are not just yellow in color. Colorado has a rich history in minerals other than gold and silver and blue barite is just one of many, many examples. The South Park area is a mineral rich environment and contains more than its share of gold as well. Don managed to get a few photos of the fun as well.



## Prospecting Outing #4 to Lake Gulch

This was the June trip for the Club up to Lake Gulch near Black Hawk for the purpose of finding some of that yellow gold. We had the usual numbers of folk show up to capture more of that yellow gold. We had great weather and a good turnout. Most everybody found gold and some newer members were introduced to the learning curve that involves prospecting, but they learned a lot and will do even better next time. As usual, after digging all morning, the group retired

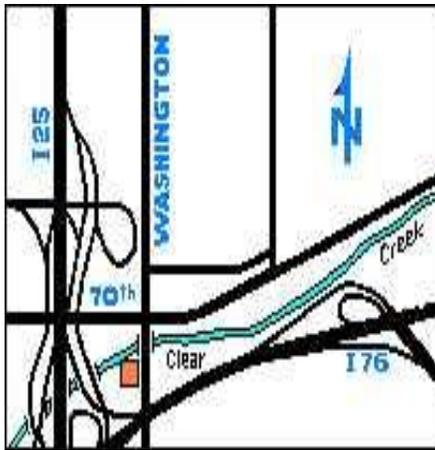


### Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 9

down to the lower Clear Creek Canyon and high banked everyone's material and they took their concentrates home to pan out. Some of the material held some pretty decent gold but no large pickers or small nuggets that I noted this time. Pres. Long and Steve Pott managed to get a few photos of the fun.



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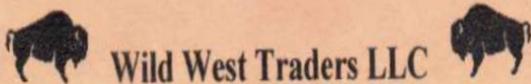
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**Contact the GPR President**

*(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)*



**Coming Announcements and Special Events for Aug 2018**

(**WMMI** - Western Museum of Mining & Industry, 225 North Gate Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80921 ([www.wmmi.org](http://www.wmmi.org)))

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 <u>Coast Guard Birthday</u>
5	6	7 <u>Purple Heart Day</u>	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 <u>GPR Club Meeting</u>	16	17	18
19	20	21 <u>Senior Citizens Day</u>	22	23	24	25
26 <u>Women's Equality Day</u>	27	28	29	30	31	