

THE NUGGETEER



September 2023

Vol.3 No.9

A Message from the President Tim's Tidbits

Hello members and Prospectors when out on the river be looking where the water slows down for the pools to find the gold

Tim Pitney
President COSGPAA

Web address: <http://cosgpaa.org>

Facebook address closed <https://www.facebook.com/groups/733783243720768/members/>

Facebook address open <https://www.facebook.com/cosgpaa>

Tonight's precious metals spot prices per Troy ounce

Year	Gold	Silver	Platinum	Palladium	Rhodium
2022	\$1,722.56	\$18.69	\$878.51	\$2,087.38	\$13,100.00
2023	\$1,931.00	\$23.15	\$921.43	\$1,256.55	\$3,450.00

9/9/23

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GPAA

COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER



GPAA OFFICERS Colorado Springs Chapter

President	Tim Pitney		
Vice President	Joel Swisher	719-622-8693	joelswisher1@gmail.com
Treasurer	Alton Oakes	719-439-3590	aoakessprint1@earthlink.net
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Membership Chairperson	Lorraine Sirois	719 391-8545	grainmax@msn.com
Claims Chairman	Alton Oakes	719-439-3590.	aoakessprint1@earthlink.net
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Webmaster	Paul Covington	719-310-7542	Paul@covingtoncomputers.com
Facebook editor	Cindy Swisher	719-661-7542	cslactrn@gmail.com
Hospitality Committee	Position Open		

Renewals, multi-year discounts and life memberships available on-line at www.Goldprospectors.org , or call 800-551-9707 , and Please mention that you want to be part of the COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER.

MEETING MINUTES



September 6, 2023, COSGPAA Meeting Minutes

Attendees: 24 in person; 146 by e-mail

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chapter President Tim Pitney and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Tim welcomed everyone to the meeting and in response to a member's question he reported that he had prospected 11-mile canyon and found gold. Member John King had also been there and brought a sample of what he found. Tim provided an update on his continuing efforts to get a tour at Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mine.

Chapter Treasurer Alton Oakes gave the financial report and talked about metals price fluctuations with gold and silver down from last month. Alton solicited membership input on future gold and silver acquisitions for Chapter activities. The consensus was to continue with a mining, prospecting, and historical coinage theme. Alton also reported that the PLP annual drawing on August 13th didn't include our Chapter or members as prize winners this year.

Our next outing will be to the GPAA Arkansas Group Claims in Buena Vista in conjunction with the GPAA *Gold Trails* at those claims on Thursday and Friday, September 14th & 15th. The *Gold Trails* activities run from 9 am to 5 pm each day. Instruction on metal detectors will be from 9-10:30 am on day two for those who are interested. The Chapter outing will continue through Saturday and Sunday, hopefully benefiting from the *Gold Trails* instruction. The *Gold Trails* itinerary is included in the Chapter Outing Notice, sent separately. *Gold Trails* is a free event for GPAA members and their guests. Rendezvous for both events will be at the Railroad Bridge Campground, see the outing notice for directions.

Tim led a discussion on planning for the Chapter Christmas Party. Last year's party was held at the Airplane Restaurant with members ordering from the menu and paying \$10 a person with the Chapter covering the balance and gratuity. We were allowed to bring our own desserts and use the dining area for Chapter activities.

MEETING MINUTES



September 6, 2023, COSGPAA Meeting Minutes Continued

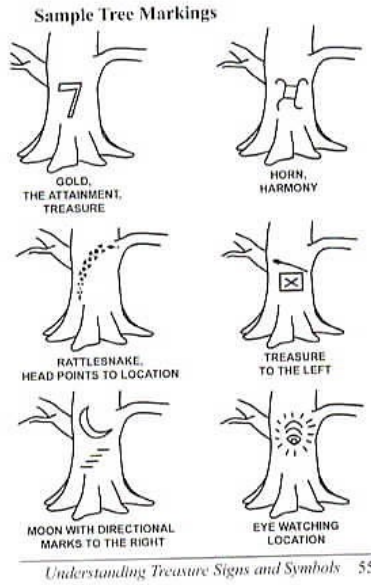
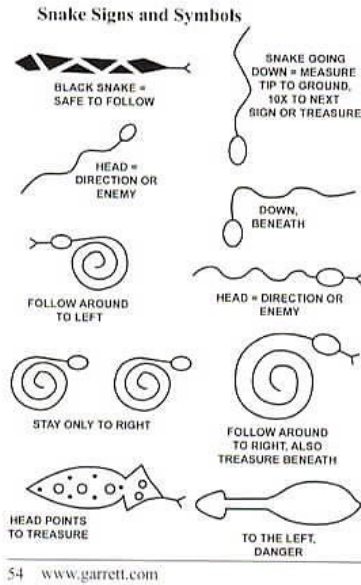
The previous year we were similarly hosted at Daniel's Mexican Restaurant, where with a less expensive menu the Chapter covered the entire cost. Member Richard Cook suggested we consider The Golden Coral Restaurant, where another group he belongs to held their dinner previously. Although consensus on a venue could not be reached, the date for the event was set as Saturday, December 2d, with setup beginning at 11:00 am and activities completed by 4:00 pm. Member Stephen Kanatzer, a manager at the Airport Restaurant, advised that his restaurant was currently available on the selected date and would accommodate us as before. Alton will contact Golden Coral and Daniel's before the October Chapter meeting at which the membership in attendance will decide on the venue.

Tim announced that he was scheduling guest speakers for the next two meetings. In October the subject will be "Spanish Monuments", and in November "Cripple Creek Crystals." After the door prize drawing, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Thank you to Members Stephen Kanatzer, Pat Oakes, Lorraine Sirois, and Nancy Wood for providing an assortment of baked goods for the meeting. Also, a thank you to member John King for donating a pair of diving gloves for the name tag door prize.

The next Chapter meeting will be Wednesday October 4th, 2023, at the Salvation Army building, beginning at 7 PM.

I have purchased a small book called "Treasure Signs and Symbols". I intend to share some of it with you over the next months. Most of what I am sharing is the pages with the symbols to look for when treasure hunting.



DOOR PRIZE WINNERS June 7, 2023

Gold: Jim Fairclough, Jon Ray, Joel Swisher, John King, Steven Sprague, Richard Logue, Steven Sprague, Steven Kanatzar, John King

Silver: Steven Kanatzar, Del Cox, John King, Del Cox

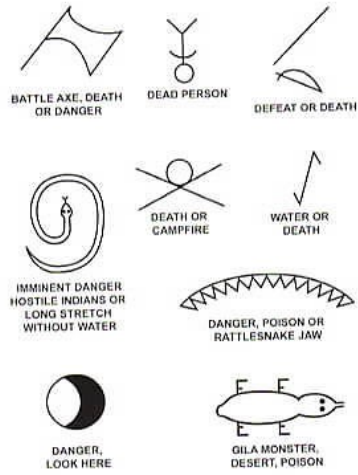
Garrett Pointer Tim Pitney

Name Badge drawing winner Thomas Burke, A pair of water proof gloves

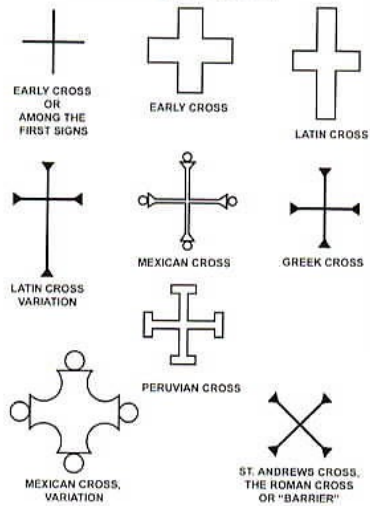
Danger Symbols



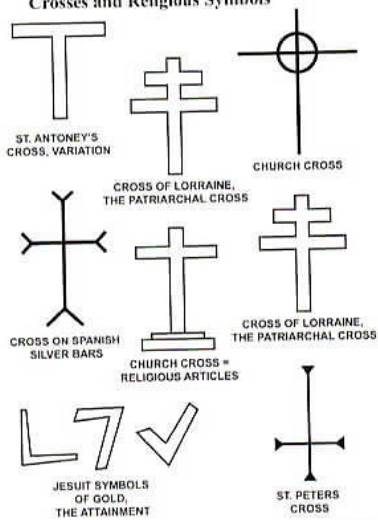
Danger Symbols



Crosses and Religious Symbols



Crosses and Religious Symbols



SPANISH TREASURE TERMS

Treasure hunters who have studied old maps or written notes regarding a treasure often encounter the Spanish language. As Spain expanded into the New World, many words from its language made their way into other cultures and will be found during your research of land grants, waybills or field surveys.

The way a Spanish word is interpreted today might be quite different from its meaning hundreds of years ago. Along the same lines, a unit of measure might be slightly different in different cultures or in different countries.

One such troubling treasure word is *vara*, a word commonly used by Spaniards, Mexicans, Indians and even early Texas settlers to measure distance. The length of one *vara*, however, has varied over time from 30 inches up to 35.9 inches and was once inconsistent even between the different provinces within Spain. In general a *vara* was approximately 32 or 33 inches in length, or about the normal stride of an average

Spanish soldier. Fortunately, Spain accepted the metric system in the late 1860s but treasure terminology prior to that time frame will often involve *varas*. Treasure symbols for *vara* can indicate how many paces or sets of these 33-inch lengths must be stepped off to reach a particular point.

In North America, the *vara* had slightly different measurement lengths. In Mexico, the *vara*'s equivalent in inches was 32.99. This was later rounded to 33 inches in California while Texas used a 33.33-inch *vara* for early land measurements.

Many other words of Spanish origin will likely be encountered in your research of old documents. Although I recommend adding a Spanish to English dictionary to your treasure-hunting arsenal, it is worth considering a few other significant treasure words that are of Spanish origin. For example, the terms *braza* and *estado* were also used to measure distances.

Pirates and sailors used the term *braza* as a measuring distance of 5 feet 7 inches. Each "pace" or *vara* distance given on a map was

thus walked off in lengths of 5 feet 7 inches. The term *estado*, used by Spanish Jesuits or Catholic priests, was also measured as 5 feet 7 inches. One *estado* was the minimum depth measurement that items of importance were to be buried.

The term *league* is another important word in determining distances to treasures. The statute (land) league was a distance that varied between 2.12 and 2.18 miles while a nautical league varied between 3.18 and 3.27 miles.

There are far too many words to cover in this book but the treasure hunter should be aware of at least some common terms of measurement that can be quite troublesome.

The following brief list includes translations of common Spanish words that could be encountered on treasure-related documents:

<i>alhaja</i>	jewel
<i>cajón</i>	large box, chest
<i>cavar</i>	dig, excavate
<i>cobre</i>	copper
<i>codo</i>	half of a <i>vara</i> (16")

<i>entierro</i>	hidden treasure
<i>escondida</i>	hidden
<i>este</i>	east
<i>harqueta</i>	fork in trail or stream
<i>iglesia</i>	church
<i>joya</i>	jewels
<i>llano</i>	plain
<i>loma</i>	small hill
<i>marca</i>	mark, sign
<i>moneda</i>	money or coin
<i>norte</i>	north
<i>oeste</i>	west
<i>oro</i>	gold
<i>pasada</i>	passage
<i>patacón</i>	silver coin
<i>plata</i>	silver
<i>quilate</i>	carat (24 carat gold)
<i>sur, sud</i>	south
<i>tesoro</i>	treasure
<i>tiro</i>	mine shaft
<i>vena</i>	vein of ore

If you would like your own free digital copy you can go to this web site and download your own copy of this book.

<https://seriousdetecting.com/products/garretts-understanding-treasure-signs-and-symbols-book-digital>

GPAA

COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER

COLORADO SPRINGS GPAA CHAPTER MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the First Wednesday of each month

From 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM at:

The Salvation Army building:

208 Cunningham Drive

Security, CO 80911

All General Meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month from 7pm to 9:00pm

MEETING DATES

October 4, 2023

November 1, 2023

December 2 , 2023 Christmas Party (Saturday) (Place TBD)

The Nuggeteer is published monthly following the regularly scheduled chapter meetings. It will be distributed by email and posted to the Chapter web site. To be added to or removed from our email list, please send your request to cosgpaahospitalitycommittee@gmail.com. To add an article please submit it to the editor at cosgpaahospitalitycommittee@gmail.com.

GPAA

Colorado Springs Chapter Links

Gold Prospectors of Colorado

<https://gpoc.club>

[\(20+\) Gold Prospectors of Colorado | Groups | Facebook](#)

- American Legion Post 38
- 6685 Southmoor Dr,
Fountain, CO 80817

The Rock Doc

17897 US Hwy. 285
Nathrop, Colorado 81236

(between Buena Vista & Salida, 5 miles south of Nathrop)

<http://www.therockdoc.net>

Public Lands for the People

<https://www.publiclandsforthepeople.org>

- Public Lands For The People
- PO Box 1660
- Inyokern, CA 93527
- 1-844-757-1990