

# THE NUGGETEER



March 2024

Vol.4 No.3

## *A Message from the President Tim's Tidbits*

Hello there to all members and Prospectors. When you see a gold nugget in the sluice wait until clean up to get your gold nugget out.

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
2023	\$1,845.75	\$21.23	\$972.54	\$1,484.51	\$8,100.00
2024	\$2,159.60	\$24.39	\$917.35	\$1,082.00	\$4,600.00

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# GPAA

## COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER



### GPAA OFFICERS Colorado Springs Chapter

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Facebook editor	Cindy Swisher	719-661-7542	<a href="mailto:cslactrn@gmail.com">cslactrn@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality Committee	Position Open		

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

# MEETING MINUTES



March 6 2024, COSGPAA Meeting Minutes

Attendees: 23 in person; 154 by e-mail

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chapter President Tim Pitney and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Tim welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced new attendee LDMA Member Dale Lee.

Tim advised that Calvin Johnson would be a guest speaker at the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting and continue his presentation on Spanish Monuments in preparation for the April outing to Buena Vista and metal detecting at the historic *Arrastra*. Tim presented Member Gary Mueller with an autographed copy of the book *"Finding Gold in Colorado"*, 2d Edition, in appreciation for his contributions to the Chapter. Chapter Treasurer Alton Oakes gave the financial report and briefly discussed the increasing spot prices for gold and silver.

Member John Mischler chaired the Show & Tell activity for the evening which included eight members displaying, explaining and demonstrating their modified prospecting equipment. Attendees were able to visit each display and ask questions and then vote on their top three modifications. The item receiving the most votes was a battery-operated suction jar for collecting fine gold from a water table or blue bowl and was awarded a gold picker.

# MEETING MINUTES



March 6 2024, COSGPAA Meeting Minutes (continued)

After the door prize drawing, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. The Chapter provided pizza and drinks during the Show & Tell. Also, a thank you to Member Teresa Bailey for providing cookies. We also appreciate all the help members provided in break down of the demonstrations and cleanup. There are no outings or events scheduled prior to the April 3rd meeting.

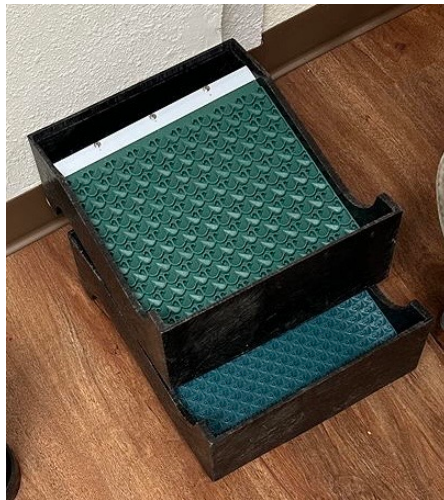
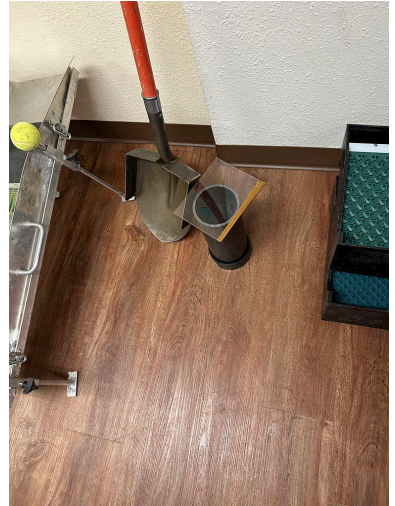
## DOOR PRIZE WINNERS March 6, 2024

Gold: Teresa Bailey, John Mischler x2, Lorraine Sirois x2. Tom Burke Jim Fairclough,

Silver: Scott Leidenberger, Pat Oakes, Daryl Barnett, Del Cox

Show & Tell First Place Alton Oakes, Second place Tom Braidwood and Third Place John King.

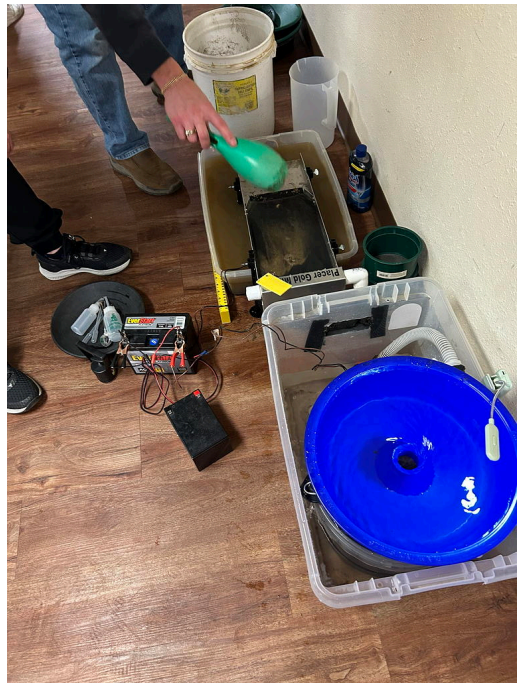
PICTURES OF EQUIPMENT MODIFICATIONS



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# PICTURES OF EQUIPMENT MODIFICATIONS



# PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE

## Suction Dredger Saves Threatened Fish Species Habitat (January 2024)



About 3 years ago Disney Ron was on the East Fork of the San Gabriel River up in the narrows, taking lunch with 3 others performing suction dredge reclamation, when a large group of people showed up from upriver. It was several Forest Service ranger biologists, people from CA Fish & Wildlife and numerous forestry volunteers conducting a fish count on the Santa Ana sucker fish, which is listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. I asked them what they were doing and if it was successful. A young lady said they weren't finding many fish and it looked bad. I told her that there were thousands of Santa Ana suckers in my dredge holes and invited her to use my mask and snorkel to see and make a count if she'd like. She went in and came out about 15-30 minutes later and said there definitely were a couple thousand of them in our hole and was surprised. Saying that they hadn't seen that many from the north fork down, until now. I said the river is full of them and that they are looking for them wrong, and that they should have a mask, snorkel and a shovel. You can dig a small hole a foot deep, and the baby suckers will come to it and when you investigate the deeper pools and use the mask you see the larger ones. They thanked us and left. Not one person told us we couldn't dredge. They appreciated it when I explained that the fish love it! By dredging, we are feeding the fish and creating a nest for them in the gravel beds. The Fish and Wildlife personnel agreed.

### **Public Lands for the People's note:**

The Forest Service biologist and CA Fish and Wildlife were very pleased to see so many Santa Ana suckers flourishing in Ron's dredge holes and beds, when the Biologists were previously hard pressed to find Santa Ana suckers elsewhere on the river. Since the river is shallow now it is especially helpful to the species because it gives them a better chance at survival and provides them with a safe resting place. If the State of California were to advocate suction dredging as a best management practice, more species in California's waterways just might flourish as well.

# 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 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month from 7pm to 9:00pm*

#### MEETING DATES

April 3 2024

Next outing April 27 and 28

May 1 2024

June 5 2024

July 3 2024

August 7 2024

September 4 2024

October 2 2024

November 6 2024

December 4, 2024

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](mailto:cosgpaahospitalitycommittee@gmail.com). To add an article please submit it to the editor at [cosgpaahospitalitycommittee@gmail.com](mailto: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