

THE NUGGETEER



July 2022

Vol.2 No.7

A Message from the President Tim's Tidbits

Hello members and Prospectors. Be mindful to keep an eye on the skies and Water Rising in the creeks and rivers when panning.

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
2021	\$1,804.96	\$25.99	\$1,092.27	\$2,870.50	\$17,000.00
2022	\$1,759.71	\$19.51	\$912.50	\$2,223.00	\$12,500.00

7/11/22

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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
Secretary	Pat Oakes 719-339-0486 patoakes@centurylink.net
Membership Chairperson	Lorraine Sirois 719 391-8545 grainmax@msn.com
Claims Chairman	Alton Oakes 719-439-3590. aoakessprint1@earthlink.net
Nuggeteer Editor	Del Cox 719-591-1282 coxd@mac.com
Outings Chairman	Position Open
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



July 6, 2022

Attendees: 16 in person; 129 by e-mail



The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, on Wednesday, July 6, 2022, by Chapter President Tim Pitney and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Tim talked about Chapter activities and outings. There were no scheduled Chapter outings during June due to Spring runoff and high water and no one present reported any prospecting since the last meeting. Tim commented on the high fuel prices and polled attendees on their interest in outings for July. With no membership interest expressed, no outings will be scheduled this month. The next scheduled activity for the Chapter is the Summer Picnic, on Saturday, August 13, 2022. The regular August Chapter Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 3rd will be postponed till the 13th and held in conjunction with the picnic.

The Picnic will be held at the Salvation Army building (regular meeting location), with setup beginning at 10:00 am. A short meeting will start at noon with lunch immediately following (estimate 12:30 pm). The Chapter will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, condiments (catsup, mustard, pickle relish, lettuce & onions), bottled water, paper plates, napkins, and plastic utensils. Attendees should bring a side dish or dessert large enough to share. Bring your own chairs or use the metal folding chairs provided. Panning tubs will be setup for practice, training, or friendly competition – paydirt provided. Lawn games will also be available. In case of bad weather, the activities will move indoors as appropriate.

Treasurer Alton Oakes gave the Chapter financial report and discussed

MEETING MINUTES



July 6, 2022 Continued

the drop in gold and silver prices and the Chapter's inventory of precious metals. Members present voted to purchase additional silver coins/bars during the drop. Alton provided a last-minute reminder of the Public Lands for the People (PLP) raffle. Tickets (12 for \$10) are still available by phone (844-757-1990) until the 11th, with the drawing on the 14th. The PLP challenge cards discussed at the May meeting were handed out to those interested. Del Cox, Nuggeteer Editor, also provided some laminated cards. Thanks Del. Alton reviewed the July calendar for the Western Museum of Mining and Industry (WMMI). Family Day with outdoor demonstrations will be on Saturday, July 9th, with no charge for outdoor activities. Farmers' Markets are every Monday and Wednesday, from 9ish am to 5ish pm. Farmers' hours???

After a mid-meeting break, Tim demonstrated dowsing techniques; and Chapter VP Joel Swisher demonstrated use of metal detectors. After the presentations the door prize drawing was held, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The next Chapter meeting will be held Saturday, August 13th, 2022, beginning at 12:00 pm (noon), at the Salvation Army building, 208 Cunningham Drive, Security, CO.

FYI. The next monthly meeting for Gold Prospectors of Colorado (GPOC) is Wednesday July 13th, 7-8:45 pm, American Legion Post 38, 6685 Southmoor Dr, Fountain, CO.

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS July 6, 2022

Silver: Richard Logue, Erla Cloer, Richard Cook

Gold: Tim Pitney, Lorraine Sirois, Jon Ray, "Bear" Daryl Barnett, Del Cox

PLP T-shirt: Tim Pitney Under water view tube: Tim Pitney

Suction Tube: Leonard Cloer

Crisson Gold Mine Robbery: Reward Increased

by [GPAA ADMIN](#)



It was nearing the end of a dreary day of heavy rain in Dahlonega, Georgia. At the Crisson Gold Mine gift shop on the outskirts of town, Brianna Weaver was behind the lapidary counter, cutting gemstones. An employee was manning the main counter. The last thing either expected was the man who walked in the front door, brandishing a handgun. Minutes later, he left with a bag bulging with about \$100,000 in cash, gold and jewelry.

More than a month after the Feb. 3 armed robbery, the Lumpkin County Sheriff's Office continues to look for the suspect, a white male in his in 30s, maybe early 40s, indicated by his hands, the only part of him that was uncovered. A reward offered by Crisson was boosted to \$10,000 with community donations.

According to Weaver, investigators followed up on two small leads, with one resulting in a local drug bust unrelated to the robbery. Now, their hopes the thief will be caught lie mainly with the slim chance that he attempts to sell their natural gold nuggets or gemstone jewelry, and it's recognized.

Crisson Gold Mine Robbery: Reward Increased

The jewelry is fairly distinctive within the general vicinity. The only area pawn shop is about five minutes away, and the thief would have been crazy to go there. Weaver, a manager and part owner (fourth generation), in business with her parents, Tammy and Tony Ray, said they have been checking sites such as eBay and Facebook Marketplace with no luck.

About 70 miles north of Atlanta, in the North Georgia Mountains foothills, the open-pit mine was established in 1847, was worked into the early 1980s, and has been open to the public for panning since 1969. It has yielded a wide variety of gemstones, but its most valuable treasure is its gold — more than 23KT — making it the purest in the world.

“I think it was planned,” Weaver said, describing how the thief was captured on many of their 14 security cameras, first walking through the gift shop, coming up behind the panning area and peeking in windows and checking out a storage shop before striding in the main entrance.

“He locked the door behind him. He had the gun out the whole time and was yelling. He didn’t say, ‘Hey, give me your money!’ He went right to the counter where all the nuggets were and told them ‘Start here,’ demanding the pair fill his bag with five trays of nuggets, each holding about 50 pieces. He went for the unique gold and quartz jewelry next, then told them to empty the cash register, before directing them to another gold display.

“It probably took less than two minutes,” Weaver recalled. “The bag was really full. He asked for our phones and threatened us, saying he had a buddy with him who would kill us if we called the police.”

The thief went out the back door and fled on foot. He was estimated at 5’7” to 5’10” and 225 pounds. He wore light-blue jeans and a black mask and boots, as well as a black Cincinnati Bengals jacket, with a hood he pulled over his head. While he did not wear gloves, Weaver said he used his jacket to touch the doorknob, and touched nothing else.

With the robber’s gun pointed at them the entire time, Weaver made what was likely a wise decision not to pull out the shop’s gun, or to hit a panic alarm, but waited only about 20 seconds after he was gone to grab the gun and call for help. The pair hid in a back room until police arrived. Weaver believes there is a good chance the thief plans to melt the gold down, which will greatly diminish its value, but make it untraceable. One nugget, weighing exactly two ounces, is worth about \$6,000. Its spot value would be about two-thirds of that on the current market. All told, the haul is worth close to \$50,000 melted down.

The business was closed for only a day, but the family spent a week pulling invoices for all the stolen items.

“Nothing like this has ever happened before,” Weaver said. “I’m trying not to make two minutes of my life have a big impact, but it makes you look at people differently.”

Anyone with information should call 706-482-2622 or email Sterling.Cole@LumpkinCounty.gov.

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COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER

OUTINGS & EVENTS

There are no prospecting outings scheduled for July.

COSGPAA Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 13th, 2022; 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
See details in the July meeting minutes on page 3

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

Saturday, August 13 2022 Meeting & Picnic

September 7 2022

October 5 2022

November 2 2022

December 7 2022 Christmas Party

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.

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Colorado Springs Chapter Links

Sunny Mountain Prospectors

Golden

802 N. Washington St.

Golden, CO 80401

(303) 529-0060

Hours:

Thursday - Saturday: 11 am to 5 pm

Closed Sunday - Wednesday

<https://sunnymountain.net>

Colorado Springs (temporarily closed)

3007 N. El Paso Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80907

(719) 722-3998

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