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<http://cosgpaa.org>

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/733783243720768/members/>
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<https://www.facebook.com/cosgpaa>

The Nuggeteer



5 August 2020

Tonight's precious metals spot prices per Troy ounce were:
Gold \$2057.09, Silver \$27.78, Platinum \$989.10, Palladium
\$2265.86, Rhodium \$7050.00.

A message from the Chapter President
Tim's Tidbits
Greetings Fellow Prospectors

We hope to go out as a group very soon hang in there and we
will see you guys soon.

Tim

Colorado Springs Chapter GPAA Officers:

President: Tim T. Pitney

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Treasurer: Alton Oakes (aoakessprint1@earthlink.net) 719-439-3590

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Hospitality Chairperson: Position Open

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Member profile for August is Scott Leidenberger

So my adventure into mining / prospecting began when I was about 10 years old. We were living in Pennsylvania at the time and went on a class trip at school to an underground coal mine up in the coal regions of PA. I thought that was so fascinating being underground and seeing water coming out of the rock wall. After the tour we could dig in the clum pile {waste rock} for fossils. Found some really cool dragon flies, fern and shells.

After I finished school I enlisted in the army and became a tank gunner during the cold war in Germany. Upon returning home I worked with my father doing residential construction for fifteen years. During that time we had moved to Ontario, Canada and continued the construction business. In the summer of 84 I went on vacation to Colorado for two weeks. That was an amazing trip so much so that I said some day I am going to live here. That day came eight years later when I moved to Colorado in 92.

I found work here with a construction company that did repairs to large commercial projects here in the west. It was not long before I was promoted to foreman then some years later to superintendent. This job let me into many areas that the general public would never see. Some not so good, but the repair had to be done.

In the early 90's I was watching a prospecting show on the Denver PBS channel. I can't remember the name of the show, but I was starting to get the fever. Later I was at the WMMI and got myself a gold pan kit with a bag of gold. So now I'm a greenhorn. I did not find all the gold at first but kept working on it until I did.

Then around 2012 I found the Gold Fever show on TV with Tom Massey. Now I had the fever for sure. Got a sluice for Christmas that year, joined the GPOC & the GPAA in 2014. Unfortunately I was not able to attend any meetings for about nine months because of working out of town or nights. My first outing was to the public area at Fairplay. I found a little gold that day as well !

At one of the GPOC outings I met Gary M. and John M. they told me to come on out to a chapter meeting. So I did. Great group by the way.

So now I'm finding all the flour gold the old timers left behind. Still no Mother Load yet but since I retired in 2017 after twenty five years with the same company I have plenty of opportunities to poke around in the dirt to find it with you guys.

August 5th, 2020 COSGPAA Chapter Update

The August 5th, 2020, monthly meeting was cancelled due to the continuing restrictions on our meeting room venue because of the COVID 19 Pandemic. **We have rescheduled the August meeting to Saturday, the 15th , from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.** To overcome the "indoor limits", we will meet outside, behind the building in the picnic area (playground). We will have canopies set up for shade and use folding chairs from inside. Please bring your own chairs if you want something more comfortable. The restrooms will be available. Because of food service restrictions (see the following paragraph) we cannot provide coffee, donuts, or bottled water. If you would like to have a snack and beverage, you may bring your own; but you cannot share with anyone outside of your family group.

Unfortunately, our summer picnic scheduled for this weekend (Aug 8) is also cancelled. Since both our meetings and the picnic are held at the Salvation Army building, we must comply with the restrictions placed on them by the state and county health departments. They cannot have pot-luck meals, and the only food that can be served must be catered and individually pre-packaged and personally delivered to each person. These restrictions would not apply if we moved the picnic to a public park. We will discuss that option at the meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting, and have a suggestion, please call or e-mail Alton (719-439-3590, agoakes@earthlink.net)

Outing Update. **Day-outing to Alma August 23d, 2020, cancelled.** The claim owner called today, Wednesday, and said that Park County and the City of Alma are under a renewed COVID 19 lockdown and all group gatherings are prohibited until further notice. The owner said that she would call us to re-schedule when the restrictions are lifted.

Outing Update. The hard rock and placer outings to Georgetown are still in the planning stage and we are waiting for final details from the mine owner.

Colorado Gold Panning Championship. The panning matches are this weekend, Friday thru Sunday, August 7,8 & 9. They will be held at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry, 225 North Gate Blvd, Colorado Springs. The first competition is for "Old Timers" and begins at 11:00 AM on Friday. At 1:00 PM is the competition for "Juniors". The full schedule is available on the museum's website at www.wmmi.org. Registration for each event begins 15-30 minutes before hand. Although there is no admission fee, some events have a registration fee of \$5 or \$10. The Mining Museum will be open normal hours all three days with standard admission rates.

The Public Lands for the People (PLP) 2020 Raffle drawing was held on July 28. When our Chapter renewed our annual membership in February, we received 100 tickets for the drawing. At the March Chapter meeting, the membership voted to submit the tickets for the Chapter and use the prizes for our meeting door prizes. On August 1st, we received an e-mail from PLP listing the 35 winners. We were not listed.

Gold closed today over \$2,000 an ounce and Silver was over \$27 per ounce. The last time prices were near this high, we saw a lot of interest in prospecting by people hoping to make a living with a gold pan. With high unemployment and peoples' desperation, we can expect similar interest. Please be aware of your surroundings. An unattended vehicle with a Gold Prospector bumper sticker may attract unwanted attention and a break-in. We are still in the "thunderstorm season" and susceptible to flash floods, so always keep an eye on the weather. Good luck with your prospecting and stay safe.

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.

COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER GPAA 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

Meeting Dates:

Future meeting dates are dependant on the COVID-19 pandemic.

August 2020

August 8 2020 Club Picnic (CANCELED)

August 5 meeting postponed to

Saturday, August 15, 2020, starts 1:00 PM

This is an outdoor meeting in the picnic area behind the building at our regular location.

Please wear a mask and bring your own snacks and drinks as none may be provided.

September 2 2020

October 7 2020

November 4 2020

December 2 2020

December 5 2020 "Christmas Party"

**"Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all."
Helen Keller**

NEWS RELEASE, FROM THE GOLD PROSPECTORS MAGAZINE, FROM AROUND THE WEB

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

Found at last: Forrest Fenn's Treasure (UPDATE)

by NATHAN DENNIS

A news update from the July/August Gold Prospectors Magazine



A news update from the upcoming July/August Gold Prospectors Magazine

By Nathan Dennis

At last! After a decade of searching, The Treasure of Forrest Fenn has been found.

Worth an estimated \$1-2 million dollars, Forrest Fenn's treasure chest filled with gold coins, jewels, and pre-Columbian artifacts was confirmed by Mr. Fenn himself to finally being unearthed somewhere in the Rocky Mountains.

UPDATE:

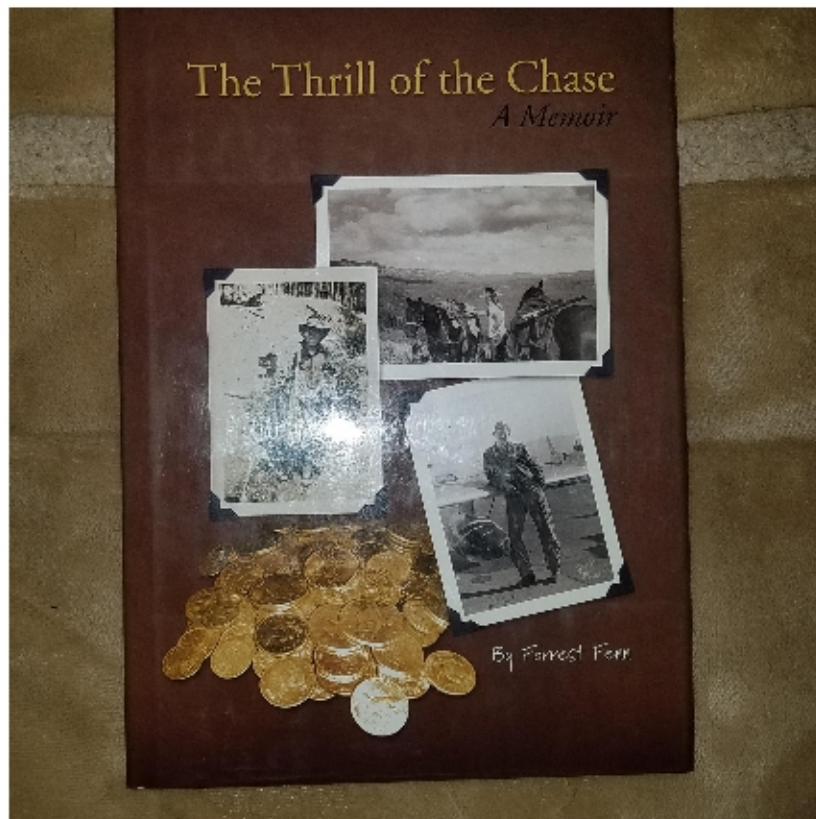
Quelling any rumors that the treasure itself was a hoax, Fenn released photographs of the treasure after the find. Three photographs show the treasure in various capacities. The first is simply the box itself, opened and unearthed on the ground. The second shows Fenn himself rifling through the box, while the final photo has Fenn wearing a silver bracelet, which had been tarnished with time.



Farrest Fe

As to the specific location of the find?

"It was under a canopy of stars in the lush, forested vegetation of the Rocky Mountains and had not moved from the spot where I hid it more than 10 years ago," was all Fenn would say, as posted on his website.



(The first few lines, clues from his book "The Thrill of the Chase")

But who is Forrest Fenn, the mysterious benefactor of The Fenn Treasure, and why did he hide a million dollar treasure chest in the Rocky Mountains?

The Art Collector from New Mexico

Prior to creating a world-famous treasure hunt, Forrest Fenn was a Silver Star Major in the United States Air Force, flying hundreds of combat missions during the Vietnam War.

After retiring from the Air Force, he became an Art Dealer and ran an Art Gallery with his wife Peggy in Sante Fe, New Mexico. In 1988, he was diagnosed with Kidney Cancer which was determined to likely be terminal.

Not to be let down by the life changing event, he decided to amass a considerable treasure, bury it, and kickoff a worldwide treasure hunt as his final curtain call. He originally intended to inter his remains with the treasure, however his health prevailed and he's been able to quietly shepherd the hunt from his home in New Mexico.

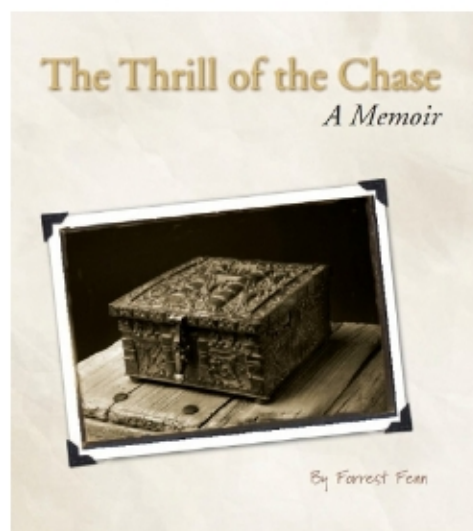
But why did his cancer diagnosis spur him to start a worldwide treasure hunt? According to Fenn, it was out of a desire to get people "off their couches."

And why treasure? Well, Forrest has been an avid collector of art and artifacts since he discovered an arrowhead at the age of nine - "It was a thrill that started me on a life-long journey of adventure and discovery," he's admitted.

It was this desire to energize Americans and adventurers worldwide, combined with a love of collecting, that spurred him to compile and stow this massive treasure somewhere in the Rocky Mountains -- a landscape near and dear to his heart.

The Thrill of The Chase

In 2010, the adventuring world, quickly caught "treasure fever" with the publication of his self-authored book, *The Thrill of The Chase*. Which chronicled Fenn's life and his love of adventures and collecting.



it was so much more than that, however.

Inside the book was a poem that promised to reveal the location of a spot in the Rocky Mountains where a multi-million dollar treasure was buried. The poem went as follows:

As I have gone alone in there

And with my treasures bold,

I can keep my secret where,

And hint of riches new and old.

Begin it where warm waters halt

And take it in the canyon down,

Not far, but too far to walk.

Put in below the home of Brown.

From there it's no place for the meek,

The end is ever drawing nigh;

There'll be no paddle up your creek,

Just heavy loads and water high.

If you've been wise and found the blaze,

Look quickly down, your quest to cease,

But tarry scant with marvel gaze,

Just take the chest and go in peace.

So why is it that I must go

And leave my trove for all to seek?

The answers I already know,

I've done it tired, and now I'm weak.

So hear me all and listen good,

Your effort will be worth the cold.

If you are brave and in the wood

I give you title to the gold.

This poem set off a worldwide frenzy for the search for the treasure. Fenn promised that the poem had 9 clues that worked together as a map, leading the traveler from the "beginning" to finally arriving at the treasure.

If you want to read more you can wait until next month where I will finish the story or you can go to the GPAA magazine July/August edition.



**Sunny Mountain Prospectors LLC
3007 North El Paso Street
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Lets support our local prospecting business.

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up."

Thomas A. Edison

OUTING INFORMATION

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GPOC will host the Colorado Gold Panning Championships at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry August 7, 8 & 9, 2020. This was originally scheduled for June in Breckenridge, but was cancelled due to COVID 19 restrictions.

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**"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."
Abraham Lincoln**