

# THE NUGGETEER



June 2024

Vol.4 No.6

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

Spring rain and snowmelt have rivers and streams running at dangerous levels with thunderstorms adding flash flooding. Prospectors are already reporting ticks are active in foliage along banks. Please wear appropriate clothing and be especially mindful for the safety of both younger and older family members while out prospecting.

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	\$1,939.94	\$23.05	\$1,400.00	\$1,023.43	\$5,904.55
2024	\$2,367.80	\$30.23	\$1,010.95	\$990.95	\$4,825.00

6/11/24

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# GPAA

## COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER



### GPAA OFFICERS Colorado Springs Chapter

President	Tim Pitney		
Vice President	Joel Swisher	719-622-8693	<a href="mailto:joelswisher1@gmail.com">joelswisher1@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Alton Oakes	719-439-3590	<a href="mailto:aoakessprint1@earthlink.net">aoakessprint1@earthlink.net</a>
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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



June 5, 2024, COSGPAA Meeting Minutes

Attendees: 17 in person; 154 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 congratulated member Stephen Kanatzar on becoming a GPAA Life Member. Tim discussed the May outing to the Railroad Bridge Claims and the historic Arrastre in Buena Vista, and the May Poker Run sponsored by the Gold Prospectors of Colorado (GPOC). Recent rains and early snowmelt had the water in the Arkansas River higher than expected, but access to areas in the riverbed below the high-water mark was still possible. But setting a sluice was a challenge. The treasure hunt around the Arrastre for Aztec gold and silver only found more questions than answers. The Spanish Monuments indicating the presence of a treasure still hold their secrets. Future trips may be planned. Participants in the Poker Run enjoyed socializing with those of like mind even though the weather (rain & snow) and high water made prospecting “uncomfortable”. The pot-luck dinner and poker prizes were “icing on the cake”. Thank you GPOC for inviting us. The trip home was also exciting with multiple rockslides partially blocking Highway 50.

# MEETING MINUTES



June 5, 2024, COSGPAA Meeting Minutes (continued)

Chapter VP Joel Swisher updated us on the Alaska trip the week of August 18-25, 2025. We have 10 people signed up with up to 5 spaces remaining. Individuals or couples interested in the trip should contact Joel for a reservation and those with a reservation are encouraged to make their 50% deposit (\$1,000 per person) as soon as possible directly with Skookum Gold Camp, at 1-888-SKOOKUM or 907-520-5432, credit cards accepted. The balance is due by March 15, 2025. Your reservation is not confirmed until Skookum receives your deposit. We will publish an outing notice when the trip is fully booked, or Skookum closes reservations. Remember, no cash refunds, but 100% credit is transferable.

The Chapter meeting for July has been cancelled due to conflicts with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday weekend. The August meeting and Chapter Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 3, 2024, at 12:00 PM. Setup begins at 10:00 AM. Details are in the Outing/Event Notice, available in the Newsletter, by e-mail, and on the website. A sign-up sheet was provided at the meeting. If you were unable to attend this meeting and plan to attend the picnic, please notify Alton Oakes, Chapter Treasurer, no later than August 1<sup>st</sup>, so that we can prepare for the number of adults and children (age 14 & under) who will attend. Call or Text to 719-439-3590; e-mail to [agoakes@earthlink.net](mailto:agoakes@earthlink.net).

# MEETING MINUTES



June 5, 2024, COSGPAA Meeting Minutes (continued)

Alton provided the monthly financial report and advised that the PLP Raffle Prizes, to be drawn on August 4<sup>th</sup>, now include a \$6k placer claim, a \$4k Garrett Axiom detector, a \$2.5k Quarts/Gold nugget, and a \$2.5k Skookum Gold Camp trip. See the Newsletter for more information. Going through your change? A US Washington Quarter minted in 1964 or earlier is worth \$5.44, based on its' silver content. This month's newsletter contains a chart showing the melt values of US silver coins.

After a mid-meeting break, Tim introduced guest speaker Lizabeth Duckworth who gave a costumed presentation on historical Colorado mining figure "Poker Alice" Tubbs. Interested in the history but couldn't make the meeting? Visit [www.PokerAliceHistory.com](http://www.PokerAliceHistory.com).

After the door prize drawing, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM. Thank you to Chapter Chair Lorraine Sirois, Secretary Pat Oakes, and Member Teresa Bailey for donating baked goods for the meeting.

## DOOR PRIZE WINNERS June 5, 2024

Gold: John Mischner, Joel Swisher, Teresa Bailey, Jon Ray, Tim Pitney;  
Silver: Jon Ray, John Wood, Joel Swisher, Steven Sprague; Red Ticket: Scott Leidenberger, Felix gold pay dirt.; Name Tag: Pat Oakes, Bag of gold pay dirt.

Buena Vista Outing 18-19 May 2024



6/11/24

Thanks to Richard Cook for these pictures



Buena Vista Outing 18-19 May 2024





Buena Vista Outing 18-19 May 2024



Thanks to Theresa Bailey for these pictures

**Outing/Event Notice**  
**2024- August Meeting and Annual Club Potluck Picnic**

**When:** Saturday, August 3,

**Where:** Salvation Army Headquarters, 208 Cunningham Drive, Security, CO 80911. This is the same location as our monthly meetings.

**Details:** The picnic set up begins at 10:00 am with the regular Chapter Meeting starting at 12:00 pm. The Picnic will begin immediately after the meeting with food served between 1 and 2 pm. The Chapter provides hamburgers, sausages, hot dogs, bottled water, drink ice, buns, paper plates/napkins/drink cups/ plastic utensils, and condiments (catsup, mustard, pickle relish, lettuce & onions). Attendees should bring a side dish or dessert that is large enough to share. Electric will be available for your crock pots and food warmers if you bring a heated side dish. Members and guests who prefer other beverages should bring their own. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted. The club will have several sunshades set up, so please bring your lawn chairs, (The metal folding chairs we use at the meetings will be available if you prefer).

Panning tubs will be set up for practice, demonstration, training, or friendly competition – paydirt provided. Gold pans, collection bottles and pipettes will be provided, (Please, use of personal equipment or snuffer bottles for demonstration only – catch and release). Lawn games will also be available. In case of bad weather, dining will move indoors.

A head count was taken at the June meeting. If you didn't make the meeting but plan to be at the picnic, please call, text, or e-mail Alton by Thursday, Aug 1st, so that we can plan for the number of adults and children who will attend. (Call or text 719-439-3590, email: [agoakes@earthlink.net](mailto:agoakes@earthlink.net)). There is no charge for members or guests to attend; but we do need a head count to ensure we have adequate food available.



## PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE

[www.PublicLandsforthePeople.org](http://www.PublicLandsforthePeople.org)

A 501(c) (3) non-profit organization whose mission is:

"TO REPRESENT AND ASSIST OUTDOOR USER GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN KEEPING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDS OPEN TO PROSPECTING, MINING, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION THROUGH PUBLIC EDUCATION, SCIENTIFIC DATA, AND LEGAL MEANS."

### The PLP Annual Grand Raffle!!!

ORDER YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS TODAY, SUPPORT PLP, AND BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN ONE (OR MORE!) OF THE PRIZES BELOW! MORE PRIZES WILL BE ADDED

**HUGE RAFFLE!!!** **2024 FUNDRAISING RAFFLE**  
Drawing to be held **August 4th 2024**

#### LIST OF PRIZES AND DONORS

#### VALUE

- Gold Quartz Specimen donated by Meeting of the Mines/Goldstrike Corp.....\$2,500
- 20 Acre placer claim donated by Ron Kliewer..... \$6,000
- 34 Silver Rounds (one ounce each) 34 prizes! PLP ..... \$30 each
- 1/4"x24"x48" Rock Harness... [www.MoveitCableSystems.com](http://www.MoveitCableSystems.com) ..... \$85
- Lifetime PLP Membership [www.publiclandsforthepeople.org](http://www.publiclandsforthepeople.org) ..... \$1,500
- 2 Year ICMJ Subscription [www.icmj.com](http://www.icmj.com) ..... \$75
- (2 prizes) 1 Year Membership to [www.ReinkeGoldMining.com](http://www.ReinkeGoldMining.com) .....\$160 Each
- Paid admission for 2 to 2024 FallFest ..... \$150
- Nearly new Minelab Gold Monster Metal Detector...By PLP..... \$900
- Thompson II Puffer Drywasher manuf. by Mad Mining.....\$1,395
- PLP Paydirt Bag ..... \$250
- Roaring Camp 4 days/ 3 nights donated by [www.roaringcampgold.com](http://www.roaringcampgold.com) ..... \$450
- Gold Cube 4-Stack donated by [www.goldcube.com](http://www.goldcube.com) ..... \$ 480
- 1 Week Alaska Mining donated by [www.SkookumGoldCamp.com](http://www.SkookumGoldCamp.com) ..... \$2,500
- 1 Yr MineOperator PureAu Membership [www.youtube.com/@mineoperator](http://www.youtube.com/@mineoperator) ..... \$300

*\*Winners are responsible for taxes due on prizes.*

Don't miss out on our **2024 GRAND RAFFLE**, which includes MANY great prizes -- Mining Equipment, Alaska Trip, Gold & Silver, a Mining Claim & MORE!

#### 3 WAYS TO ORDER:

1. Phone: (844) 757-1990 Toll Free  
or (844) PLP-1990

*Leave a message and we will call you back.*

*Last day to order by phone is August 1<sup>st</sup> 2024*

2. Buy Tickets in Person at the Downieville Gold Rush Days show **August 2, 3, and 4th**

3. Mail a check to: PO Box 1660 InyoKern, CA 93527

**Still only \$10  
for a Book of  
12 Tickets!**  
**HURRY!**  
**Drawing Aug. 4th!**

[US Silver](#)[US Gold](#)[US Platinum](#)[World Silver](#)[World Gold](#)[World Platinum](#)[World Palladium](#)**Melt Values of U.S. Silver Coins**

Images	Coin	Composition	Weight (g)	ASW (oz.)	MELT VALUE <small>Updated 6/5/2024</small>
	<a href="#">Jefferson Nickel, Warime Silver Alloy (1942-1945)</a>	56% Copper, 35% Silver, 9% Manganese	5	0.0563	<b>\$1.69</b>
	<a href="#">Barber Dime (1892-1916)</a>	90% Silver	2.5	0.0723	<b>\$2.17</b>
	<a href="#">Mercury Dime (1916-1945)</a>	90% Silver	2.5	0.0723	<b>\$2.17</b>
	<a href="#">Roosevelt Dime (1946-1964)</a>	90% Silver	2.5	0.0723	<b>\$2.17</b>
	<a href="#">Barber Quarter (1892-1916)</a>	90% Silver	6.25	0.1808	<b>\$5.44</b>
	<a href="#">Standing Liberty Quarter (1916-1930)</a>	90% Silver	6.25	0.1808	<b>\$5.44</b>
	<a href="#">Washington Quarter (1932-1964)</a>	90% Silver	6.25	0.1808	<b>\$5.44</b>
	<a href="#">Barber Half Dollar (1892-1915)</a>	90% Silver	12.5	0.36169	<b>\$10.88</b>
	<a href="#">Walking Liberty Half Dollar (1916-1947)</a>	90% Silver	12.5	0.36169	<b>\$10.88</b>
	<a href="#">Franklin Half Dollar (1948-1963)</a>	90% Silver	12.5	0.36169	<b>\$10.88</b>

	<a href="#">Kennedy Half Dollar (1964)</a>	90% Silver	12.5	0.36169	<b>\$10.88</b>
	<a href="#">Kennedy Half Dollar (1965-1970)</a>	60% Copper, 40% Silver	11.5	0.1479	<b>\$4.45</b>
	<a href="#">Morgan Dollar (1878-1921)</a>	90% Silver	26.73	0.7734	<b>\$23.26</b>
	<a href="#">Peace Dollar (1921-1935)</a>	90% Silver	26.73	0.7734	<b>\$23.26</b>
	<a href="#">Eisenhower Silver (1971-1976)</a>	60% Copper, 40% Silver	24.59	0.3161	<b>\$9.51</b>
	<a href="#">American Silver Eagle \$1 (1986-Date)</a>	99.93% Silver	31.101	1	<b>\$30.08</b>
	<a href="#">America the Beautiful 5 Ounce Silver (2010-Date)</a>	99.93% Silver	155.55	5	<b>\$150.40</b>

# 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

No Outing/Event schedules prior to August 3d Meeting

**July 3 2024 Meeting cancelled**

August 2024 meeting will be the picnic on 3 August 12 noon.

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).

## THE MINING EQUIPMENT CHAIN

REPRINTED FROM THE GPAA NUGGET

GREG MILLER

May 17, 2024

### A GOLDEN LIFETIME DREAM COME TRUE

by Greg Miller

Hello! Aaron Woodward, lifetime member here. I just wanted to share this photo with you and thank you for the inspiration to chase my gold dreams. It all started with a lifetime membership and a free Minelab Gold Monster 1000. Since then, pretty much all my gold dreams have come true. (not without some serious effort though).



While not all of this gold is from GPAA claims, the GPAA claims are where I started, how I learned to read topo maps, use coordinates, understand mineral claims, understand the geology of many areas and eventually that all lead me to “see what else is out there” on other ground. Somewhere along the way, I managed to find a pretty rich area. I will forever tell people about the GPAA and I ALWAYS recommend it as a starting point to anyone new to the hobby. Thanks again, from this fella who had some wild dreams and high hopes, but never actually thought he’d do this well.

Pictured is just some of the best gold I have found metal detecting, but not all of it as I've had to part with some to keep the dream alive. Total weight in that fancy GPAA copper lifetime pan is around 8 troy ounces. The largest nugget is 78.4 grams, or 2.52 troy ounces. The dream for me was to find a nugget over an ounce and this winter season in western Arizona, that dream came true when I found that nugget. I felt it only right to share my success story.



Here are the ten people that I have going so far:

**Joel and Cindi Swisher**  
**John Mischler**  
**Stephen Kanatzar**  
**Lorraine Siros plus Ray**  
**Teresa Bailey**  
**Alton Oakes**  
**Jim Fairlough**  
**Jon Ray**

Joel

**Joel V. Swisher**  
**[joelswisher1@gmail.com](mailto:joelswisher1@gmail.com)**  
**719-622-8693**



# 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