

# THE NUGGETEER



November 2025

Vol.5 No.10

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

Hello members and prospectors when out and about around a mine site take the time to look through the tailing piles to see what they left behind.

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
2024	\$2,681.35	\$31.47	\$1,012.28	\$1,078.09	\$4,975.00
2025	\$3,995.70	\$48.33	\$1,589,.70	\$1,467.25	\$8,200.00

# 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>
Secretary	Pat Oakes	719-339-0486	<a href="mailto:patoakes@centurylink.net">patoakes@centurylink.net</a>
Membership Chairperson	Lorraine Sirois	719 391-8545	<a href="mailto:grainmax@msn.com">grainmax@msn.com</a>
Claims Chairman	Alton Oakes	719-439-3590.	<a href="mailto:aoakessprint1@earthlink.net">aoakessprint1@earthlink.net</a>
Nuggeteer Editor	Del Cox	719-591-1282	<a href="mailto:coxd@mac.com">coxd@mac.com</a>
Outings Chairman	Alton Oakes	719-439-3590.	<a href="mailto:aoakessprint1@earthlink.net">aoakessprint1@earthlink.net</a>
Webmaster	Paul Covington	719-310-7542	<a href="mailto:Paul@covingtoncomputers.com">Paul@covingtoncomputers.com</a>
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



November 5, 2025, COSGPAA Meeting Minutes

Attendees: 20 in person; 166 by e-mail

The November monthly meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM by Chapter President Tim Pitney and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Tim welcomed guest Jason Jackson and several members reported on local panning trips during October.

Chapter Treasurer Alton Oakes gave the financial report and commented on the current pull-back in the spot prices of gold and silver and the potential for the prices to continue rising. As the Christmas Party coordinator, Alton also reminded attendees that this was the last meeting before the party on December 6<sup>th</sup> and that those planning to attend but not yet signed up could still RSVP by December 4<sup>th</sup>. The Event Notice for the party has been posted on our website and disseminated by e-mail. RSVP details are in the Event Notice, which will also be included in this month's Nuggeteer.

Alton provided an update on next year's August outing to Skookum Gold Camp in Alaska. Four members from this year's trip, all present at this meeting, had signed up to return. When asked about appointing an outing coordinator for the trip, the four responded that it would not be necessary. Although the deadline has passed for the discounted pricing offered by the camp, there are likely still slots available. For current pricing and availability, contact Blake at Skookum Gold Camp at 888-SKOOKUM, or 907-520-5432.

Alton reported on a recent e-mail notice he received from Lost Dutchman's Mining Assn (LDMA) advertising reduced membership

# MEETING MINUTES



November 5, 2025, COSGPAA Meeting Minutes Continued

pricing. A follow-up phone call to LDMA disclosed that they have completely revised their membership options which allow new members to customize their membership and only pay for the benefits they want and to add benefits later. They also have a month-to-month option for those who want to experience their prospecting sites before committing to a full membership. If interested, please visit [www.myldma.com](http://www.myldma.com) and visit the membership tab.

Chapter VP Joel Swisher conducted the nominations for next year's Chapter Officers and the subsequent voting. The election results are: President Tim Pitney, VP Joel Swisher, Secretary Teresa Bailey, Treasurer Lorraine Sirois, Membership and Hospitality Committee Chairs Richard Logue, Claims and Outings Chairman John King, Nuggeteer Editor and Facebook Administrator Del Cox.

After the door prize drawing, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. Thank you, Lorraine Sirois and Pat Oakes, for bringing baked treats and thanks to those who helped with meeting setup and tear down. There is no scheduled outing before the December 6th Chapter meeting.

## DOOR PRIZE WINNERS October 2, 2024

Gold: Jon Ray, Lorraine Sirois, Tom Braidwood, Steven Sprague, Joel Swisher, John King.

Silver: Richard Logue, Tim Pitney, Steven Sprague, Jim Fairclough, Richard Logue, Tim Pitney.

Paydirt: Del Cox

## **EVENT NOTICE: December Meeting and Chapter Christmas Party**

**When: Saturday, December 6, 2025, 12:00 – 4:00 PM**

**Where:** Airplane Restaurant, 1665 N. Newport Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80916.

Directions: From the intersection of South Powers Blvd and East Fountain Blvd, drive East on Fountain one block to the first left turn, which is N. Newport Road. You will see the “airplane” that is part of the restaurant in the NE corner of that intersection. Turn left onto Newport and take the first right turn into the parking lot which is shared by the restaurant and the Radisson Hotel. The main entrance to the restaurant faces this parking lot.

**Details:** The event set up and sign-in begins at 11:30 am followed by a short Chapter Meeting starting at 12:00 pm. The Party will begin immediately following the meeting with dinner orders taken by the restaurant waitstaff. During sign-in, attendees will pay their cost share and receive a copy of the party menu. Adults (age 15+) \$10 each; Children (age 10 – 14) \$5 each, and Children (age 9 and under) are free. The Chapter will pay for the difference and gratuity. Based on requests from several of our members, the restaurant has given us permission to bring our own desserts. Except for the Christmas drawing tickets, the Chapter store will be closed. Entertainment follows the meal and includes:

**White Elephant Exchange.** If you want to participate, please bring a **wrapped item**, and tag it “white elephant”. The item can be a regift, an item you already own that someone else can treasure for a while, something funny, something weird, or something nice.

**Member to Member Gift Exchange.** If you want to participate, please bring a **wrapped item**, and label it “Gift Exchange Man” or “Gift Exchange Woman”. Usually, a man will bring a gift for a man and a woman will bring a gift for a woman. If an odd number of members participate, you may end up with your own gift – so bring something you wouldn’t mind taking back home with you. Please limit purchases to \$20. Re-Gifting is also acceptable.

**Salvation Army Angel Tree Gift Donation.** If you wish to participate, please bring a new, **unwrapped toy** to donate. If you have questions, please contact the Fountain Valley Salvation Army at 719-382-1182.

**Christmas Party RSVP.** Those who did not sign-up at the October or November meetings can pay during sign-in at the restaurant but are asked to make a reservation by Thursday December 4th. For reservations after the November meeting, please call or text Chapter Treasurer Alton Oakes at 719-439-3590, or e-mail him at [agoakes@earthlink.net](mailto:agoakes@earthlink.net). When using text or e-mail, please include the name of the person making the reservation, contact phone number, and the number of attendees by age group.

**Door Prize Drawing.** Prizes will consist of silver coins, rounds and bars and gold nuggets/pickers. Quantity and size of individual prizes will be based upon participation and availability.

## Colorado Springs Chapter, GPAA Outing/Event Notices (Update 10/6/2025)

**When: The Week of August 18-25, 2026**

**Skookum Gold Camp, Central, Alaska**

**Where:** Participants will rendezvous at Fairbanks Airport by 2:30 pm on Tuesday, Aug 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026, for pickup by a Skookum shuttle for travel to the camp in Central, AK (est a 3-hour drive).

**Details:** On arrival at the camp, participants are assigned a room in the bunkhouse, provided dinner and scheduled for a tour of the prospecting/mining areas available. The camp provides equipment for panning, sluicing, metal detecting, high banking and dredging (4" & 6"). All meals are included, as are laundry machines and supplies. As August is the rainy season, boots and a rainsuit should be included in your packing. Transportation between the camp and prospecting/mining sites is also provided (single & multi-seat ATVs). With water temperatures in the low 40's, participants interested in dredging should contact the camp about required diving equipment. At 10:00 am on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Skookum will provide shuttle transportation back to Fairbanks Airport. Have Questions – Call or text Alton at 719-439-3590; or visit <https://www.skookumgoldcamp.com/>.

**Costs:** In 2024 when we booked this year's trip, our Chapter received a group discount for our 13 members. We paid \$2,000.00 per person instead of the \$2,500 regular rate. The regular rate for 2026 will increase by \$300 to \$2,800 per person. **However, we have been invited back for 2026, at the same rate (\$2k per person) regardless of group size, provided we make a commitment and pay a 50% deposit by October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.** The balance will be due in March 2026. After October 15<sup>th</sup>, they will take reservations from other people to fill the total of 14 available spaces. Airfare to and from Fairbanks is not included (est \$800).

**Reservations:** At the regular Chapter meeting on Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, six members from this year's trip indicated their intentions to return. All reservations will be taken on a "first come/first serve" basis and must be made directly with Skookum Gold Camp. When calling Skookum to make your reservation and pay the deposit please identify yourself as a member of the "Colorado Springs Chapter, GPAA. Formal membership in GPAA/LDMA is not required. This Outing Notice will be updated as necessary.

# 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

December 6 2025 Christmas Party Airplane Restaurant 12 noon until 4 PM.

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