



## NUGGETS

- Old Colorado City, formerly Colorado City, is a national historic district in the city of Colorado Springs.
- Colorado City was founded on May 22, 1859, when the Colorado Town Company, a group mainly from Denver and Auraria, laid claim to two square miles of land.
- It was hoped that Colorado City would be a major supply hub through Ute Pass for the new gold mines in South Park and the Blue River. Sadly—this never happened.
- Colorado City was incorporated into Colorado Springs in 1917.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

May Events	2
GPOC Board & Contact Info	2
** New GPOC emails **	2
Upcoming Area Activities	3
Territory Days in Old Colorado City	4
Motors Running	5
My First Gold!	6
The Rock Doc	7

# The Prospector's Quill

VOLUME XLII, ISSUE V

MAY 2016

## GPOC to Train New Prospectors at 2016 Territory Days

by  
Andrew C. Hawkins

On Memorial Day weekend, the GPOC will participate in the 41st annual Old Colorado City Territory Days.

GPOC Members and Volunteers will staff the panning troughs at the festival. We will teach folks who drop by the troughs the seminal prospecting skill of panning for gold! Come out and join us. Look for the GPOC troughs close to 26th and Colorado Ave.

Old Colorado City Territory Days have a rich and parallel history to the GPOC. We are both 41 years old—and celebrate the heritage of mining and

prosperity in Colorado.

The Old Colorado City Associates, merchants of the West Side—provide a great history on their web site. That history is excerpted here. See more at:

<http://shopoldcoloradocity.com/events/event/territory-days/>

In 1859, the small settlement of El Dorado, located at the eastern entrance to the pass, that went thru the mountains to the west, was renamed Colorado City, by its founders, and became the first permanent town in the Pikes Peak region. Early settlers included farmers, ranchers, freighter and outfitters for the people who were rushing to the western minefields. By 1886, the Col-

orado Midland Railroad was one of the city's largest employers, with headquarter offices, terminal, and repair yards located here.

A Glass Works was established in 1887, where bottles were made for Manitou Mineral Water, liquor, and wine, by Bohemian glass blowers. Anheuser Busch, Mayor Charles Stockbridge, and others, also bottled beer here at the turn of the century. When Gold was discovered in 1891 at Cripple Creek, prosperity came from the four gold ore reduction mills, operating in Colorado City.

The town soon became more  
>>>> Page 4



**SHOP. DINE. DISCOVER.**  
HISTORIC OCC, THE PLACE TO BE.

## New GPOC Column: My First Gold!

by Howard and Marilyn Divelbiss  
Howard, Colorado (May 2010)

As we crossed the Arkansas River bridge at Wells-ville, anticipation increased along with the speed of the vehicle I was driving. Along with my wife, Marilyn, we crossed under the railroad trestle and turned right towards Woody's Claims. A few campers were lined up in the trees with no one around. We parked and followed the path down to the river where a few people were hanging out. A bright blue piece of equipment, which looked

like a strange little raft was floating in the river, along with two frogmen. Another gentleman in fishing waders throwing rocks out of the river and stacking them to hold back the water. A woman was keeping a close eye on the little blue raft.

This was our first view of a gold dredge operation. On the bank we met Big Ben and his son, Benny. Big Ben told us a bit about the ancient river pattern and the whereabouts of the gold in the area. As we watched the two dredgers dig deeper into the river with the suction hose, The women was keep-

## Schedule of Events

\*\*\*Official GPOC Events/Outings are preceded with "GPOC"\*\*\*

- } **5th — GPOC Board Meeting**, Gold Hill Police Station, 955 Moreno Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO, **7 pm** (access from W. Moreno Ave.)
- } **7th & 8th — A GPOC Tradition Let's Go Panning!** Annual Mother's Day Weekend Outing—Woody's GPOC Claim, 9am-dusk. Bring your Ma, Pa, or your friends—this is the one-time of year we open our claim to all. Sign up on the Forum to bring a side dish for a picnic meal.
- } **9th — Denver Museum of Nature and Science (DMNS) FREE Day!** SCFD-sponsored. Minerals rock in the Coors Mineral Hall!
- } **11th — GPOC Gen Membership meeting**, Starting at **7 pm**, Elks Lodge, 3400 N. Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs, CO (Public Welcome).
- } **28th—30th — GPOC Event Old Colorado City Territory Days**. Bancroft Park. 10am-7pm (Sat & Sun); 10am-6pm (Mon)

## MAY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 <b>GPOC Board Meeting</b>	6	7 <b>GPOC Let's Go Panning @ Woody's</b>
8 <b>GPOC Let's Go Panning @ Woody's</b>	9 <b>DMNS Free Day</b>	10	11 <b>GPOC Gen. Member Meeting</b>	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 <b>Territory Days</b>
29 <b>Territory Days</b>	30 <b>Memorial Day Territory Days</b>	31				

## GPOC Board & Committee Chairs

### GPOC BOARD

#### President

Ben "Big Ben" Higley  
[gpocpresident@gmail.com](mailto:gpocpresident@gmail.com)

#### Vice President

Marty Allen  
[gpocvicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:gpocvicepresident@gmail.com)

#### Secretary

Lynn Murphy  
[gpocsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:gpocsecretary@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer

Wayne Wittkopp  
[gpoctreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:gpoctreasurer@gmail.com)

#### One Year Trustee

Calvin Johnson  
[gpoctrustee1yr@gmail.com](mailto:gpoctrustee1yr@gmail.com)

#### Two Year Trustee

Dick Margeson  
[gpoctrustee2yr@gmail.com](mailto:gpoctrustee2yr@gmail.com)

#### Three year Trustee

Linda Jent  
[gpoctrustee3yr@gmail.com](mailto:gpoctrustee3yr@gmail.com)

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### Memberships

Elise Pearce  
[membershipgpoc@gmail.com](mailto:membershipgpoc@gmail.com)

#### Raffle

Wayne Wittkopp  
[gpocraffle@gmail.com](mailto:gpocraffle@gmail.com)

#### Claims Committee

Richard Cook  
[gpocclaims@gmail.com](mailto:gpocclaims@gmail.com)

#### Championship Committee

Gary Baderstradt  
[gpocchampionship@gmail.com](mailto:gpocchampionship@gmail.com)

#### The Quill

##### Editor

Dr. Andrew C. Hawkins  
[gpocquilleeditor@gmail.com](mailto:gpocquilleeditor@gmail.com)

##### Associate Editor

Steven Wade Veatch  
[gpocquilleeditor@gmail.com](mailto:gpocquilleeditor@gmail.com)



The Gold Prospectors of Colorado (GPOC) was founded around 1974 as a non-profit organization for recreational gold prospectors in the Colorado area. Our membership at any given time has grown to over 600 members and continues to grow across the Front Range, the nation, and even the world!

## From the Quill Archives:

# Petrology: The study of the structure and the origin of rock.

As it appeared in the September 1978 issue of the Prospector's Quill, here's a story from our Archives.

The entire crust of the earth is composed of rocks classified into three types.

**IGNEOUS**, which are broken into four separate categories:

Equigranular, (granite) when the grains of the minerals are equal in size and interlocked.

Porphyritic, (rhyolite) when the grains of one material are present in a mass of smaller grains of another mineral.

Aphanitic, (felsite) when separate grains are not apparent.

Glassy, (obsidian) when there is no crystal structure.

All igneous rocks are formed by the solidification of material melted by the heat of the interior of the earth.

**SEDIMENTARY**, produced by the consolidation and hardening of sediments like silt or sand. These rocks are built up from rock fragments carried away from their parent formations by wind or water and deposited in lakes, streams etc.

The most common types of sedimentary rocks are conglomerate, a mixture of sand, gravel, and large rock fragments cemented together with clay, silica, or iron oxide. Sandstone, which is like a conglomerate, except is finer grained and consist-



ing of all sand particles cemented together. Siltstone and shale are extremely fine in texture and are mostly composed of solidified silt and clay. The particles of shale are less than 1/1000 of an inch in diameter. Limestone,

characterized by its composition, is almost all calcite (calcium carbonate), is soft, and ranges in texture from fine grain to coarse rocks.

**METAMORPHIC** rocks are produced by the alteration of sedimentary and igneous rocks by pressure and or heat after their original formation. One characteristic of metamorphic rocks is

when the minerals of the rock are oriented in parallel planes. These rocks will have a tendency to split into parallel plates. This characteristic is called foliation and is a result of their formation under tremendous pressure that buckled or folded pre-existing layers of rock.

Another example of metamorphism is when molten magma flows upward into the earth's crust and cools or solidifies into an igneous rock and intrudes during the cooling period into beds of pre-existing rock. In this area the existing rocks become altered by the heat.

A well-known example of this is called marble, which is formed from limestone. Other examples are various copper, gold, iron, and silver ores.

### FROM THE ANNALS OF THE HIGH COUNTRY PROSPECTOR

Petrology; The study of the structure and the origin of rocks.

The entire crust of the earth is composed of rocks classified into 3 types. IGNEOUS, which are broken into 4 separate categories ,  
(1) Equigranular, (granite) when the grains of the minerals are equal in size and interlocked.

(2) Porphyritic, (rhyolite) when the grains of one material are present in a mass of smaller grains of another mineral.

(3) Aphanitic, (felsite) when separate grains are not apparent.

(4) Glassy, (obsidian) when there is no crystal structure.

All igneous rocks are formed by the solidification of material melted by the heat of the interior of the earth.

SEDIMENTARY, produced by the consolidation and hardening of sediments like silt or sand. These rocks are built up from rock fragments carried away from their parent formations by wind or water and deposited in lakes , streams etc. The most common types of sedimentary rocks are conglomerate, a mixture of sand, gravel, and large rock fragments cemented together with clay, silica or iron oxide. Sandstone, which is like a conglomerate except is finer grained and consisting of all sand particles cemented together. Siltstone and shale are extremely fine in texture and are mostly composed of solidified silt and clay. The particles of shale are less than 1/1000 of an inch in diameter. Limestone , characterized by its composition is almost all calcite (calcium carbonate), is soft and range in texture from fine grain to coarse rocks.

Metamorphic rocks are produced by the alteration of sedimentary and igneous rocks by pressure and or heat after their original formation. One characteristic of metamorphic rocks is when the minerals of the rock are oriented in parallel planes. These rocks will have a tendency to split into parallel plates, this characteristic is called foliation and is a result of their formation, under tremendous pressure that buckled or folded pre-existing layers of rock. Another example of metamorphism is when molten magma flows upward into the earth's crust and cools or solidifies into an igneous rock and intrudes during the cooling period into beds of pre-existing rock. In this area the existing rocks become altered by the heat. A well known example of this is called marble, which is formed from limestone, also various copper gold iron and silver ores.

The original article as it appeared in the September 1978 issue of the Prospector's Quill. This issue was hand-typed and printed on a mimeograph in the traditional indigo ink. My how times have changed!





## GPOC to Train New Prospectors at 2016 Territory Days, *continued*

>>>> Page 1

famous for its many Saloons and Brothels, while the hard working residents were much more proud of their schools, The Carnegie Public Library, and the churches. As time went on, change was inevitable for Colorado City, and in 1917, it was annexed by Colorado Springs.

**TODAY** – With over 100 Fine Galleries, Specialty Shops, Boutiques, Museums, Restaurants, and services available, Historic Old Colorado City, has it all. The tree lined streets beckon you to stroll and enjoy the largest concentration of independent retail establishments in Colorado Springs. Enjoy turn of the century architecture and rich history from Colorado's Gold Rush Days. Enjoy the fun this weekend, remember our fallen brethren, and please do come back to Old Colorado City often. Shop, Dine, Discover – Historic Old Colorado City!

To contact the OCCA please call (719) 577-4112

### HISTORY OF TERRITORY DAYS

Territory Days began in 1975 as the "Rampart Range Sertoma Territory Days Parade and Buffalo Barbecue". In 1976 the name was changed to Territory Days to commemorate "Colorado City" (now known as Old Colorado City) as the first capitol of the Colorado Territory in 1861. Territory Days began as a merchant organized barbecue and parade and has grown into a three-day street festival which now hosts 200 craft, commercial and food booths. Between 80,000 and 140,000 guests, (depending on the weather), enjoy this event every Memorial weekend.

The historic district on Colorado Avenue between 23rd Street and 27th Street will come alive with live music, food, fun and entertainment for the entire family. One of the state's largest craft vendor fairs is highlighted with features including pony rides, kids play area, petting zoo, mechanical bull, Cowboy Church Service, toy train rides,

gold panning, wild west gunfight re-enactments, live blacksmithing, period costumed characters, live birds of prey, native American dancers, and two beer gardens with live music running all three days.

### MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

In observance of the "National Moment of Remembrance", please join us in Bancroft Park on Monday, May 30th at 3 p.m. as we gather to remember our nation's fallen Heroes, and pay respect to those who have sacrificed their Freedom and their Lives so that we may enjoy our own as citizens of the GREATEST



**41ST ANNUAL**  
**TERRITORY DAYS** OLD COLORADO CITY 1859  
 Presented by: **Mortgage Solutions Financial**  
**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
**MAY 28-30**  
**Old Colorado City**  
**Colorado Springs**

**★ FREE ADMISSION! ★**  
**★ Food ★ 2 Beer Gardens ★**  
**★ Vendors ★ Demos ★**  
**★ Wild West Gunfighters ★**  
**★ Kids Zone ★ Kids Train Rides ★**  
**★ Petting Zoo ★ Live Music ★**  
**★ Native American Displays ★**  
**★ Mechanical Bull ★**  
**★ Gold Panning ★ Pony Rides ★**  
**★ Old West Traditions ★**  
**★ Cowboy Church ★**  
**★ FREE Entertainment! ★**

Avoid Parking Hassles...  
**RIDE THE FREE SHUTTLE FROM**  
**CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL**  
**AND ROCK LEDGE RANCH!**

**FREE ENTERTAINMENT!**  
 NASH COUNTRY FREE CONCERT SERIES FEATURING:  
**Brulé ★ Matt Gary ★ Donovan Lee**  
**Jacob Christopher Band**  
**Trent Hughes Band**

**ALSO APPEARING LIVE:**  
**101<sup>st</sup> Army Winds ★ 6035**  
**A.J. Silverberg ★ Black Rose Band**  
**Bonnie & The Bills ★ Double Bills**  
**Exit West ★ The Family Elephant**  
**Gathering of Spirits ★ Gus Meza**  
**Justus League ★ Kris Seiba**  
**The Legacy Band ★ Mojo Dose**  
**Plain As Day ★ Rhythm Ratz**  
**Ryan Chrys & The Rough Cuts**  
**The Suspects ★ The Verdict**  
**The Voodoo Hawks ★ White Bison**

**NO Dogs Please!**

Sponsored by: **DIRECTV**, **pepsi**, **USAA**, **The Gazette**, **Colorado Drives PHIL LONG**

Produced by: **Pro Promotions**, **NASH**, **98.9 MAGIC FM**, **92.9 PEAK**, **XTRA**, **740 KVR**, **98.1 KKEH**

**For more information: (719) 487-8005 Pro-Promotions.com**

CELEBRATE THE WILD WEST

**The Quill wants your feedback! Send us your story ideas, photos, artwork, summary of your prospecting trips, stories, and stuff you want to see published in the Quill. Got a great campsite that you want to share with your fellow GPOC prospectors? Know a nugget of Club history? Found your first nugget? Email us!**

[gpoquilleditor@gmail.com](mailto:gpoquilleditor@gmail.com)



# Motorized Season Began on April 1 on the Arkansas River

By

Andrew C. Hawkins

April 1st was the start of the motorized season in the Arkansas Headwaters Recreational Area and at the GPOC claims on the Arkansas River. And that's no joke! GPOC members celebrated by taking advantage of the gorgeous early Spring weather for an impromptu outing. GPOC member Darin Griffin kindly provided the images below from the outing at the Woody's claim.

Over 10 GPOC members joined in the fun with dredges, high bankers, and sluices in tow.



Photos of the first GPOC impromptu outing on the Arkansas River—Woody's—on April 2, 2016.



## My First Gold! *continued*

ing the sluice box cleared from being plugged by rocks. Big Ben then asked if we wanted to try dredging ourselves. We carried his dredge and sluice box combo down to the river and proceeded to hook up all types of hoses. Benny helped my wife clear rocks from the river, while I used the long suction pole to dredge up the black sand which hopefully contained ounces and ounces of gold.

Without the kindness of Big Ben and his son, Benny, we would have been contented to watch the proceedings for awhile and then head home. A couple, along with sixteen year old Benny had a lot of patience trying to teach a sixty year old how to pan. With actually doing our own dredging and panning, we learned a lot about friendship and want to thank everyone for offering their assistance.

Although, we did not find the mother lode, we did find enough to put in a vial borrowed from Big Ben to take home with us.



The Old Church in Howard. © Andrew C. Hawkins

## Mining the Web for Nuggets of Information!

### Colorado State Government Portal

<https://www.colorado.gov/>

### Cripple Creek

<http://www.cripplecreekrailroads.com/04library/scanned.php>

A place to find old brochures, postcards, pictures, tidbits/info related to Cripple Creek and it's neighbor area.

### Metal Detector and Metal Detecting Field Test Reports

<http://www.losttreasure.com/Home/Archives>

### Blue Bowl Adaptor

[http://s805.photobucket.com/albums/yy332/bourne2hunt\\_photos/MY%20MINI%20BOWL/?albumview=slideshow](http://s805.photobucket.com/albums/yy332/bourne2hunt_photos/MY%20MINI%20BOWL/?albumview=slideshow)

### Liberating Gold from Black Sands Using a Gold Wheel: by Don Padgett

<http://www.goldgold.com/liberating-gold-from-black-sand-using-a-gold-wheel.html>

### Jigsaw Puzzle Ajax Mine

<http://www.museumsyndicate.com/item.php?item=47474&tag=2>

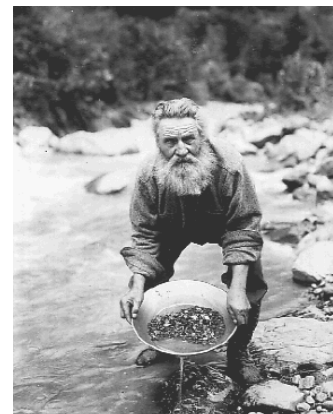
### USGS Water Data

With the late spring snowfalls this year, please be careful of the water levels in the rivers and streams because they can change quickly! This site will give you up-to-date information on the water conditions in Colorado. Note for Woody's and Prospector's Claims – check the gauge near Wellsville.

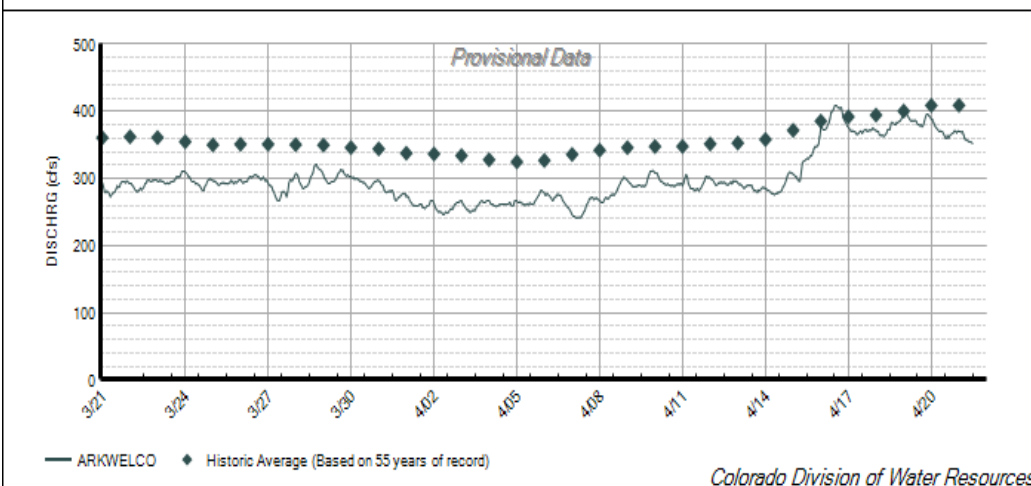
[http://www.dwr.state.co.us/Surfacewater/data/detail\\_graph.aspx?ID=ARKWELCO&MTYPE=DISCHRG](http://www.dwr.state.co.us/Surfacewater/data/detail_graph.aspx?ID=ARKWELCO&MTYPE=DISCHRG)

<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/co/nwis>  
<http://www.dwr.state.co.us/Surfacewater/data/division.aspx?div=2>

Here's the last month of water flows on the Arkansas at Wellsville area:



ARKANSAS RIVER NEAR WELLSVILLE (ARKWELCO)  
Data Source: Co. Division of Water Resources





### Gold Prospectors of Colorado

PO Box 1593  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

Phone: 719-651-7930

E-mail: [membershipgpoc@gmail.com](mailto:membershipgpoc@gmail.com)

Web: [www.gpoc.club](http://www.gpoc.club)

Prospecting Colorado since 1974.



## Springtime in the Rockies

Get  
ready  
to ROLL  
(and ROCK)



Come see our new **FACE LIFT**  
Like us on Facebook  
to see what's happening



The Rock Doc  
at Prospectors Village



719.539.2019

between Buena Vista and Salida

Join our email list at ["therockdoc.net"](http://therockdoc.net)

## GPOC Members Get FREE ADMISSION to WMMI!

by Andrew C Hawkins

Did you know that all current GPOC members get free admission to the Western Museum of Mining and Industry in Colorado Springs, CO? If you have not yet visited the museum—here's a little history from the WMMI that might pique your interest.



Western Museum of  
Mining & Industry



Excerpt from <http://www.wmmi.org>

In 1970, the Museum of the West was incorporated as a private non-profit with a mission to preserve and interpret the rich mining history of Colorado and the American West. The nucleus of the collection was a group of mining artifacts contributed to the museum by Mr. Frederick McMenemy Farrar (pictured at left) and Mrs. Katherine Thatcher Farrar. In 1972 the name was changed to the Western Museum of Mining & Industry to better define the museum focus. The museum received its full accreditation by the American Association of Museum in 1979 and, in acknowledgment of its high standards and successes, was re-accredited in 1980 and 2000. Over 4,000 artifacts are on display at the 27-acre indoor/outdoor exhibit site; which includes a ten-stamp ore mill, a multi-purpose center with exhibits, a theater and a 5,000-volume research library. The entire exhibit complex is an exciting and exceptional tool for learning about Colorado history, mining and industrial technology, geology, and the environment.





# *The Prospector's Quill Spring Edition*

VOLUME XLII, ISSUE V

MAY 2016

Gold Prospectors of Colorado  
PO Box 1593  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

