



SAFETY NUGGETS

- Safety is a **PRIORITY** in the GPOC.
- With Summer in full swing, the rivers have hit their peak flows and started dropping. But 500-700 CFPS is still enough to wash you away!
- Even with the best waders and gear—you are **NO MATCH** for the force of the river or stream.
- Use caution and sound judgement when panning, sluicing, dredging, or digging in or near the water.
- If you are on the Arkansas, also watch out for rafters!
- Remember—water can rise and fall, even in the same day. So be cautious, be alert, and stay alive!

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The Prospector's Quill

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AUGUST 2016

GPOC Pays Homage to Old-Timers @ 2016 Colorado Gold Panning Championships

by
Andrew C. Hawkins

This years Gold Panning Colorado Championships were held June 17th, 18th, and 19th 2016 in beautiful downtown Breckenridge, Colorado.

The Gold Panning Championships were hosted by the city of Breckenridge, Colorado and the Breckenridge Chamber of Commerce. In annual tradition, the Championships were presented by Gold Prospectors of Colorado.

The championships were held in the Blue River Plaza, located on South Main Street. The three-day event was an excellent opportunity to see a variety of panning techniques and learn from some of the best. Eight different categories were available for panners, young and old. GPOC and the Town of Breckenridge

congratulate the 2016 champions!

Friday, June 17, 2016

Old Timers:

- Linda Jent
- Stan Gurley
- Marilyn Divelbiss
- Nancy Gurley

National Comps:

- Ben Higley
- Jeff Irwin
- Patty Gallghan
- Marilyn Divelbiss

Juniors:

- Tony Knobloch
- Ben Mowrey
- Thomas Ryan IV

Saturday, June 18, 2016

Team Comps:

- Team 1
- Marty Allen
 - Lisa Koretoff

- Connie Bundrick

Team 2

- Nancy Gurley
- Ben Higley
- Patty Gallghan

Team 3

- Craig Koretoff
- Stan Gurley
- Linda Jent

Team 4

- Tina Allen
- Jeff Irwin
- Polli Higley

Men's:

- Ben Higley
- Ted Westcott
- Marty Allen
- Jeff Irwin

Women's:

- Tina Allen
- Nancy Gurley
- Marilyn Divelbiss
- Connie Bundrick

Sunday, June 19, 2016

Colorado State Comps:

- Wayne Wittkopp
- Gary Baderstadt
- Ben Higley

World's Dry:

- Gary Baderstdt
- Jeff Irwi
- Wayne Wittkopp
- Marty Allen



GPOC club members pay homage to the old timers who prospected and panned for gold in the Blue River in the 1800's.



Schedule of Events

Official GPOC Events/Outings are preceded with "GPOC"

- } **4th— GPOC** Board Meeting, Gold Hill Police Station, 955 Moreno Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO, **7 pm** (access from W. Moreno Ave.)
- } **10th — GPOC** Gen Membership meeting, Starting at **7 pm**, Elks Lodge, 3400 N. Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs, CO (Public Welcome).
- } **13th — GPOC** New Member Orientation— 10 am, WMMI
- } **14th — GPOC Outing:** Clear Creek in Denver 9am meet @ Cabella's Parking Lot Ridgeway Exit on I-25
- } **20th — GPOC Outing:** Long Tom @ Private Reserves (check forum for time)
- } **24th — GPOC** Planning Committee Meeting. **7 pm** at Denny's on Academy Blvd. in CO Springs.

AUGUST 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 GPOC Board Meeting	5	6
7	8	9	10 GPOC Gen. Member Meeting	11	12	13 GPOC New Member Orientation
14 GPOC Outing: Clear Creek	15	16	17	18	19	20 GPOC Long Tom Outing
21	22	23	24 GPOC Planning Comm Mtg	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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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!



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Become a Prospecting Pro: Sampling is Key to Identifying Gold-Bearing Earth

By Calvin Johnson & Andrew C. Hawkins

When panning for gold you are usually doing one of two things. You are either prospecting along a stream or other potential gold-bearing area, trying to establish a presence of gold. Or, you may be finishing your cons or super cons by panning the gold out of the concentrated material. Either way classification is vital. If you are prospecting you want to recover every little bit of gold to obtain a grasp on how much gold is in that spot. Although it is quite possible to pull a nugget out of a pan, you will most likely be praying for a small picker or flake. This shows you there is gold in that area then you can go to town pulling it out.

Sometimes, you may drive by an ancient riverbed or bank that is hundreds of feet away from the current water. One great example from central Colorado is shown below. This material contained river cobble – and most obviously some rusty soil that had been weathered over many years. It was part of a road cut. There was a tell-tale sign of heavy minerals, more specifically, iron minerals like magnetite and hematite. That's great

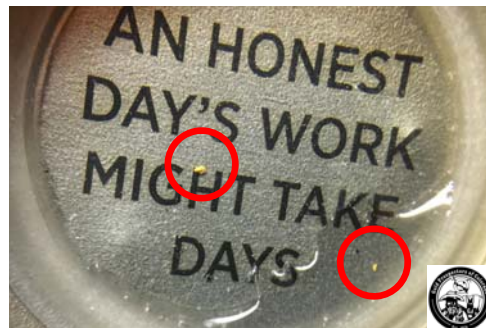


That's the spot. Andrew took a 1-gallon zipper bag full of material from right there.

for the prospector—because gold is usually found with other heavy minerals in deposits in the stream. The same is true for ancient stream or river material.

In this case, Andrew sampled the spot—taking only about a 1-gallon zipper bag full (keep these in your car along with a small trowel for just these instances). The material was then labeled—bring your Sharpie—so you can remember where the sample came from and go back if you get lucky. Classify the material—I used a #4 screen and a #8 screen. Then pan. Here, I did get lucky and found some yellor GOLD!

Yeller GOLD! Two tiny flecks in the cap of a celebratory ale. Tiny, but definitive.





Going for the Gold: Olympians Crave the Shiny Yellow Metal Like Prospectors

by
Andrew C. Hawkins

The Rio Olympics 2016 are quickly approaching and as the World watches, athletes will show their skills in various events and go for the gold. However, like prospectors have discovered, it's harder to find gold than you think.

I've never had the honor of winning or even seeing an actual Olympic medal. But this year's versions, while artistically sporting the goddess Nike, only sport a tiny amount of the shiny yellow metal.

The medals, each weigh a little over a pound (500g in metric measurement), and are mostly

made of silver. The gold medal, for example, contains of 494g of silver and just 6g of the gold. At current prices, athletes will receive

an award worth about \$600. That's just a little over 1% by weight of gold. Good odds for a prospector, since the abundance in the Earth's crust is 3 parts in a billion—or about 0.0000003%.

Those who win a second place will, in turn, receive one made of 92.5% pure silver. Still—I'm sure we'll see a lot of proud and smiling faces on those athletes when that medal is placed around their neck.

Go Team USA! Go for the GOLD!



The 2016 Rio Olympic Gold Medal produced by Casa de Moeda, Brazil. The medal is mostly silver, and only 1.2% gold

