



**MERRY CHRISTMAS
 AND
 MAY YOU ALL
 HAVE A
 RICH 2006!**

DECEMBER MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by President Bob Morrison with 17 members present. Due to the bad weather and the lack of members at the meeting, everything was kept short so everyone could get home early and safely.

Bob mentioned that the club needed to find a supplier for the raffle nuggets. The suppliers that were being used in Colorado don't have anything available at this time. Bob proposed that the club buy a case of Felix Gold and pan out the gold for use in the raffles.

The Christmas for CASA Kids was concluded at the meeting, with a few last minute donations, the club raised \$300 to sponsor 3 CASA Kids. The winners of the CASA Donation Raffle were Annabelle Lang for the cape and Ron & Beth Hartz won the nugget.

Congratulations to Annabelle, Ron and Beth.

And a special "Thank You!" goes out to everyone that bought tickets and/or donated money. Our club helped to make Christmas a little happier for 3 little children. We had Hailey age 6, Christopher age 1 and Morgan age 4. Once again Pat Gochnour and Peggy Stumpf went on a shopping spree and purchased everything the kids had on their wish lists. The gifts were all wrapped and delivered to the CASA Volunteer luncheon on December 16th at the Community Center. From there, the CASA volunteers took the presents and will make sure they all get delivered to each child.

GOLD TOPS \$500

On December 1, 2005 the price of gold topped \$500 per troy oz. By Dec 12 gold had passed \$537.50 per troy oz. At closing on Dec 16 gold had fallen to \$502.90 per troy oz.

FLAT IRON MINERAL CLUB

Flat Iron Mineral Club held their annual Rock and Gem Show at Boulder County Fairgrounds in Longmont, CO 9-11 Dec.

Bob Morrison, Dennis Renison, and Pete Somontes were present to demonstrate panning techniques. Interest was high and through attendance was low on Friday the show was well attended on Saturday and Sunday. The displays included a very impressive fossil display along with various rocks and minerals.

RAFFLE WINNERS

Due to the small member turnout the regular raffles were not conducted.

**FETTERMAN MASSACRED!
NO SURVIVORS OF INDIAN ATTACK!**

December 21, 1866- Brevet-Colonel William Judd Fetterman, 2 other officers, 76 enlisted men and 2 civilians were killed while engaging hostile Sioux, Arapaho and Cheyenne near Ft. Phil Kearney, Dakota Territory. Col. Fetterman and his men were ambushed by at least 2000 hostiles while rescuing a wood cutting party from attack.

After crossing over Long Trail Ridge and dropping into the valley below the unit was surrounded and cut-off from escape. The battle lasted for about one hour and ended with every man cut down. A relief party sent from the fort found the bodies of the infantrymen naked and mutilated on the frozen ground and brought them back to the fort. The next day Col. Carrington, Commander Ft. Phil Kearney, recovered the bodies of the cavalrymen.

The Army promises a quick investigation.

The above headline may be what you would have read if you had been alive in 1866. The results of this event would have far reaching consequences not only in the Army but in Washington politics. Before the investigation was even started the Commissioner of Indian Affairs Lewis V. Bogy stated that the Indians around Fort Kearney had been provoked into the attack as a result of starvation.

Col. Carrington was blamed for the tragedy in spite of the fact that he had issued strict orders to Brevet-Colonel Fetterman not to take his unit beyond the Long Trail Ridge.

The fact is that Fort Phil Kearney along with Fort C.F. Smith and Fort Reno were built on lands that had been ceded to the Indians during peace talks. The local tribes wanted them removed and they were willing to fight for the removal.

By August 1868 all three forts and the Montana Trail that they were built to protect were closed.

PROSPECTORS CACHE

Felix Paydirt Gourmet Gold. Club member John Eggleston is taking orders for the 2 LB bag of Felix Paydirt. John orders a case of 10 bags at a time and receives one free bag which the club uses as a raffle item. The bags are \$45 (\$40+\$5 Shipping).

If you would like to order a bag or two,

Contact John at 635-0229

Quartz epidote crystals hand dug from the Fox Park area. Each crystal has been hand dug, polished and mounted in either a

pair of earrings or as a necklace. Buy separately or
buy them as an earring/necklace set.
Assorted styles available. \$10-15.
Call Louise Morrison 632-7895,
Lmrr3964@aol.com

For Sale: White's Metal Detector w/power
pack and case.

Call Bob or Louise Morrison, 307-632-7895

Center latch louvered tailgate. Fits late
model Chevy or GMC, cost \$313, sell for
\$150. Front mount receiver hitch. Fits most
late model trucks & SUV's, half price, \$50.00
Call Francis Oline, 307-634-1133.

2" Proline Floating Dredge, \$750.

Call Dallas Lake 307-649-2321

LDMA Membership - sells for \$3500 at the gold
shows - all that's needed is to get it transferred to
your name \$2000(buyer pays \$400 transfer fee) or \$2400(Mike pays the fee).

Call Mike Hayes (307) 640-4378

If you have items for sale, contact Peggy
Stumpf at 307-632-9945 or email her at circlestar@Yahoo.com OR email Peter Somontes at
psomontes@Yahoo.com to have your ad placed here.
Your ad will also be on the Chapter website.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Bob Morrison

Vice President: Lee Beatty

Treasurer: Stan Lang

Secretary: Peggy Stumpf

Newsletter Editor: Peter Somontes

Claims Director: Lyle Shingleton

Prizes/Raffles: Bob Bruce & John Eggleston

Store: Ann Lang

Activity Chairman: Pat Gochnour

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Chapter Meeting: Tuesday Jan.3, 2006: 7 p.m. Sandalwood's Restaurant, Holliday Inn.

Chapter Meeting: Tuesday Feb 7, 7 p.m. Sandalwood's Restaurant, Holliday Inn.

Chapter Meeting: Tuesday Mar 7, 7 p.m. Sandalwood's Restaurant, Holliday Inn.

Geology of Wyoming's Gemstone Deposits—W. Dan Hausel: Arvada Gem & Mineral Society, Arvada Senior Center, Arvada, Colorado, March 11, 2006, 7:30 pm

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Wyoming Geological Survey

www.wsgs.uwyo.edu

The Perth Mint of Australia

www.perthmint.com

Click on 'Natural Gold Nuggets'
then click on 'About Nuggets and
Gold' for some interesting facts.

Garmin GPS products go to

www.garmin.com

Magellan GPS products go to www.magellangps.com

My website www.geocities.com/psomontes/

Smoky Mountain Knife Works

www.smokymountainknifeworks.com

www.KnifeForASoldier.com

Rocky Mountain National Park www.nps.gov/romo/index.htm

CLUB STORE

Coffee mugs \$ 5.00

Green pocket T-shirt \$16.00

Other color pocket T-shirts \$10.00

No pocket T-shirt \$ 9.00

GPAA mesh caps \$ 7.50

Chapter caps \$12.00

Green gold pan \$10.00

Black gold pan \$ 8.00

Classifier \$10.00

Scoop \$ 7.00

1/2 oz. vial \$.35 ea. or 3/\$1.00

1 oz. vial \$.40 ea. or 3/\$1.00

Suction tweezers \$.40

Snuffer bottle \$ 3.00

KITS

Black pan, sand, vial, snuffer \$15.00

Green pan, sand, vial, snuffer \$17.00

