



Cheyenne Chapter GPAA

P.O Box 234
Cheyenne, WY 82003
www.cheyenneGPAA.com



October 10, 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chapter Meeting: Tuesday 4 December, 7 pm at Perkins Nugget Drawing this evening

Christmas Dinner: Sunday, 16 December at Perkins at 6 PM.

CR&M Dinner 8 December at the Orchard Valley Community Center.

Chapter Meeting: Tuesday 1 January (tentative) 7 pm at Perkins.

CLUB STORE

Coffee mugs \$ 5.00
Green Embroidered T-shirt \$16.00
Screen Printed T-shirts \$10.00
Mesh caps \$ 7.50
Embroidered caps \$12.00
Green gold pan \$10.00
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
Snuffer bottle \$ 3.00
KITS
Black pan, sand, vial, snuffer \$15.00
Green pan, sand, vial, snuffer \$17.00

The Store will be open at the next meeting. See George or Peggy Stumpf.

November Minutes

Bob started the meeting at 1911, with 29 members present. The October minutes were not read. The financial status of the club is good. It is sitting just above \$3,000.

The club has decided to take donations for Christmas charity this year. We will split all donations between Platte County and Laramie County this year due to our members residing in both counties. Lyle made a motion to help Andrew Rios who is having serious health problems with his young daughter, by collecting money for him to help with the medical bills. Mary Ann made a motion that all of the donations for Laramie County, go to Andrew. Both motions were passed.

Next month we will have our normal meeting, and then we will have a Christmas Dinner at Perkins on Sunday, December 16th, at 6pm. This will be a gathering of members to just say hi and share a little Holiday Spirit among each other.

The annual Rock and Gem show will be held at the American Legion Post 6 this year. John will get us more details at the December meeting. The Cheyenne Rock and Mineral Club is hosting a "walk in dinner" on the second Saturday of December. You must bring a meal to add to the table. John did not have specifics.

The club is on the look out for more fine gold to salt our concentrates. Due to all of the panning done by the kids this year, we are very low.

Lyle still needs power of attorneys from the members, the more names he has the more acreage our Chapter can Claim

Pete Somontes wants everyone to remember about the upcoming issues in the legal world on mining. We should all be writing our Congressman about the new bills they want to pass that will hamper the small scale prospector. He sent everyone information on the Forest Service and the

area of land in Arizona they want to close for all minerals, if we don't voice our opinions then we will lose a lot of our freedoms out in the field. The proposed bill, which pretty much revokes the 1872 Mining Law, has already passed the House and is headed for the Senate.

Dennis knows a guy in Casper who is giving away gold ore. If you want it, you will have to go get it.

Don and Ken helped out at the museum again. On Halloween night they helped teach a group of little kids about prospecting again. Thanks Guys.

Don Ashley was in the Atlantic City /South Pass area recently. They asked him if any of us would be interested in helping out for Miners Day in July.

Earl Leighan got an award for being an outstanding employee. Congrats Earl.

Just a reminder, the big nugget will be raffled at the December meeting.

Bob wanted to remind everyone that the club has equipment for rent. If you are thinking about buying something, check to see if you could rent it first. It will save you money in the long run.

We had a guest speaker this month. Pam and Joyce from the BLM came and talked about Master plats, Geo-communicator, Claims and more. She reminded us that the Forest Service is trying to pass a law that would give them royalties from all claims. Our lovely Senator Brasso is trying to have a large area of land near Jacksonhole closed to mineral collection. We also covered assessment work and other claim related items such as dead lines, a lot of good info.

Pete has information on a LDMA membership for sale.

End

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Bob Morrison 307- 632-7895

Treasurer: Don Ashley

Newsletter: Peter Somontes psomontes@Yahoo.com

Ast. Claims Director: Larry Duvall

Prizes/Raffles: Bob Bruce & John Eggleston

Activity Chairman: VACANT

Vice President: Ken Siders

Secretary: Joseph Still

Claims Director: Lyle Shingleton
307-742-5038

Store: George & Peggy Stumpf

Cash & Treasure Show

The new season of the Travel Channel's Cash and Treasure program begins on Tuesday December 4th at 9 pm ET.

There is a new hostess this season. Kirsten Gum replaces Becky Worley as the host on this hit program.

According to the Travel Channel's website Becky is expecting twins and decided to pass on this season.

You can expect new episodes each Tuesday at the same time.

Agates

Joe Still is now selling agates from Gold "n" Ink Tattoo Studio, 1919 House Avenue.

Some are in the 30 to 40 pound range but he can get some that weigh in the hundreds of pounds.

If anyone is interested in agates or other stones they can call Joe at 307-640-2529.

End

RAFFLE WINNERS!

Monthly Raffle-

- Outdoor Channel Key Chain- Dennis Rennison
- Wire Saw- Dennis Rennison
- 1927 Liberty 50 cent piece- Jim Motto
- Winchester Pocket knife set- Bear Gibson
- Pewter Miner- Joseph, Jackie, and Maria Still
- 1.5 Gram Nugget- Mike Shepard
- Pewter figurine- Mike Shepard
- Butane Lighter- Don Ashley

50/50 - \$40.00 - Carolyn Bruce

Nametag- Proof set- Mike Shepard (I may be wrong on this, sorry if I am)

End

Gold	\$804.00	\$805.00	▲ 3.70
Silver	\$14.40	\$14.45	▲ 0.10
Platinum	\$1,422.00	\$1,432.00	▼ 3.31
Palladium	\$340.00	\$345.00	▼ 4.31

Updated: 11/28/2007 6:04:52 PM CST

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 \$55 (\$50+\$5 Shipping) If you would like to order a 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

Wanted: 1 1/2" Proline Highbanker/Dredge combo .

FOR SALE: 852 Sluice, \$60.

Call Dallas Lake at 307-421-4507.

For Sale: 1850 Coleman generator, runs good. \$200

Dennis Renison at 307-632-8056

For Sale: Keene 3 inch suction dredge with hooka for sale- like new - only used 3 times. Has a 6.5 HP Honda motor that is quiet and easy to start. It will punch a hole to bedrock very quickly and is a real gold getter. Paid \$1800, will take \$1500.

Call Rick Lesquier 970-481-0157, 970-225-2896

For Sale: LDMA membership, paid up, I can't work it anymore. \$2000 or best offer, you pay transfer fee.

Richard Medlock 632-0668

To have your ad placed here Email Peter Somontes at psomontes@Yahoo.com or see me at the meeting.

Your ad will also be on the Chapter website.

Unbeatable Pecan Brownies

- Butter for greasing pan
- 4 oz. unsweetened chocolate
- 1/4 cup plus 3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons unsalted butter; softened
- 1 3/4 cups sugar
- 3 Large eggs
- 1 cup chopped pecans, lightly toasted
- 2 1/2 tablespoons sour cream
- 1 tablespoon dark rum
- pinch ground cinnamon
- 1 cup unbleached all-purpose flour; sifted

Butter a 9"x 13" pan.

Melt chocolate and 1/4 cup butter over low heat, stirring until smooth.

Let cool completely.

Cream remaining butter and sugar; beat until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each. Beat in chocolate-butter mixture. Stir in pecans, sour cream, rum, cinnamon, and flour. Pour batter into pan, smoothing the top with a spatula or knife.

Bake at 350 degs. F. for 30 to 40 minutes or until batter pulls away from the sides of the pan slightly and a wooden toothpick inserted in the center comes out with crumbs clinging to it. Let cake cool before cutting.

Yield: 24 brownies.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

***CLAIM ASSESSMENT FORMS
MUST be completed, paid for, and
submitted by;***

30 DECEMBER!

Failure to submit an Assessment Form will result in the loss of the claim!

*Tuesday, November 6, 2007

*Last modified Friday, November 2, 2007 8:55 AM PDT

Bill would withdraw mining claims in Coronado Forest

By Dick Kamp

A bill drafted by U.S. Reps. Raul Grijalva and Gabrielle Giffords, both Democrats, is intended to withdraw all lands from new mining claims in the Coronado National Forest in Pima and Santa Cruz counties, as well as in a tiny fraction of the Patagonia Mountains in Cochise County.

The proposed legislation would cease to allow new mining under the 1872 Mining Act. The bill will be introduced "hopefully as early as this week, should all the BLM maps arrive in time," Grijalva said.

Substantial claims

In addition to Forest Service lands, the bill will include Pima County preserve lands that have substantial mining claims underneath. Grijalva is Chairman of the House Natural Resource Committee's Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, which would hear the bill.

Nicole Fyffe, Pima County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry's spokeswoman, said that the areas that had been requested to be included in the bill are Tucson Mountain Park, Tortolita Mountain Park, Colossal Cave Mountain Park, Sweetwater Preserve, Cienega Creek Natural Preserve, Lords Ranch within the Ironwood Forest National Monument, Rancho Seco (Arivaca), Six-Bar Ranch (San Pedro River), A-7 Ranch (San Pedro River).

Although most of the above land is private property that the county purchased for preservation purposes, U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) mining claims either have been filed, or can be filed, unless the land is withdrawn. "There has been a rush in mining claims over the past two years in southeastern Arizona and that's why Pima County has asked us to include some of their lands," said Grijalva.

The bill is modeled after the Cave Creek Withdrawal bill of 1993 in the Portal area of Cochise County and will contain "just a couple of paragraphs accompanied by a map." Grijalva said the bill, "doesn't deal in absolutes. Representative Giffords and I are open to ways to structure it and there will never be unanimity of opinion, but this should have a great deal of popular support that has already been expressed by many local governmental bodies."

Pima County and Santa Cruz County supervisors requested mining withdrawal of Coronado land in their counties early this year as did Tucson and Patagonia as part of opposition to the proposed Augusta Resources Rosemont mine. State Republicans representing the area, including Arizona State Senate President Tim Bee and Reps. Jonathan Paton and Marian McClure also announced opposition to Rosemont.

Grijalva had earlier favored one bill to withdraw land surrounding the Rosemont mine property, and a separate bill to withdraw other lands of concern in the Coronado. "No bill is perfect, however having one piece of legislation will draw up a clear boundary to allow us to address any red flags that are raised in an efficient manner".

Rosemont owner Augusta Resource Corp. had not returned requests for comment on the bill at the time this story was filed. Their proposed mine would include about six square miles of land including a 505 acre pit - 90 percent on private land, but with the remainder of the pit, tailings and processing facilities on 3,155 acres (five square miles) of the Coronado National Forest Nogales Ranger District. The land is in Rep. Giffords' district and she opposes the mine.

Freeport-McMoran (FMM, formerly Phelps Dodge) has 4,900 acres of Forest Service claims in and around the San Rafael Valley. FMM vice-president of communications Peter Faur said, "Until I can read something, I don't want to comment. Legislation can change in a few weeks." In September, Faur said we're open to talking about San Rafael claims if anyone wants to bring it up."

Coronado geologist Beverly Everson commented, "Withdrawal from mineral entry does not affect existing 'unpatented' claims directly. What it does do, however, is prompt a valid existing-rights determination for claims where there is proposed activity, such as mining." Patented claims were purchasable until 1994 under the 1872 Mining Law for \$5 an acre and were considered private land. There is a moratorium currently on them and proposed 1872 Mining law reforms would end patenting permanently.

Validation of claims could prove to be an obstacle either to Rosemont or other companies with existing claims that are exploring on affected Coronado land. If some of the claims prove to not be valid - that is they do not have sufficient mineral content to be economically mined after being assayed and validated by the BLM or Forest Service - then they cannot be mined. If a mine claimholder had 5,000 acres of claims and just 4,500 acres were valid, this could prove very problematic.

A Phoenix BLM official, Al Burch, estimated in January that the costs of validating 854 Rosemont claims could cost roughly \$250,000. Federal lands can be withdrawn from new mining permanently through legislation by Congress signed into law by the president, or by the president himself, and for a period of 20 years, by the secretary of the interior.

Some Santa Cruz County residents were supportive of the proposed legislation. Ranch manager Zay Hartigan of the San Rafael Valley Protective Association said that Giffords had visited with residents and was supportive.

"We're generally pleased with how things are going," said Hartigan. Save the Scenic Santa Ritas President Jonathan Lunine added, "It's the right stuff at the right time. These fragile areas need protection as quickly as possible."

Giffords spokesman C.J. Karamargin said that there had been no communication from Cochise County residents or officials on mining withdrawal within the county.

Grijalva said that successful withdrawal "is one useful tool in addressing the threat of Rosemont mining and joins others including HR 2262" the 1872 Mining Act reform bill that is expected to be voted on by the House within a couple of weeks.

(Editor's Note: Kamp is Wick Communications Environmental Liaison.)

NOTE: HR 2262 HAS BEEN PASSED BY THE U.S. HOUSE AND IS AWAITING ACTION IN THE U.S. SENATE.

P. Somontes