



Cheyenne Chapter GPAA

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



September 2, 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Meeting: 7 pm, Perkins,
Tuesday, 2 Sep.

Club Meeting: 7 pm, Perkins,
Tuesday 7 Oct.

Websites of Interest

BLM online mining claims:
www.geocommunicator.gov

U.S. Forest Service, Medicine
Bow; www.fs.fed.us/r2/mbr

Denver Museum of Nature &
Science: www.dmns.org

Wyoming State Geological
Survey
www.wsgs.uwyo.edu

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.

July Minutes

Joe Still opened the meeting at
approx. 7:00 p.m. with 54 in attendance
including 48 members/family members
and 6 guests.

Joe reminded everyone that digging into
the banks is not allowed. There are several
areas along Douglas Creek where this has
been done, and the Forest Service has
asked for our cooperation.

The GPAA is recommending some
changes in the structure of the chapter
clubs, which may affect us if adopted. An
example is that they want to have an
officer-level position for coordinating
activities like our outings. Discussion is
ongoing and any changes that are finalized
will be brought up at future meetings.

Joe offered to provide on-the-job training
to anyone who wanted to learn about
dredging. He had the club's dredge set up
and ready to work.

Peter Somontes spoke to the group about
some of the proposed changes to the
Federal Mining Laws that are being
considered by the Forest Service. He made
available some printed info that was
included in last month's newsletter for
those who hadn't received it. *End*

August Minutes

Joe Still opened the meeting at approx.
7:25 p.m. with 19 members and 1 guest in
attendance.

There have been some instances of theft
up at the Douglas Creek claim. Members
were reminded not to leave their
equipment unattended, and to keep an eye
on who is around. A member evidently had
some hoses stolen.

Bob Bruce is now keeping the club
dredge and the checkout sheet, so if you
are interested in using it, please contact
Bob.

Special thanks to Dennis Renison for
providing the main course at the potluck
dinner at the July outing.

Treasurer's Report from Don Ashley, the
club has \$3,514.00 in the account.

The club dredge is equipped with a
hooka but we don't have an air hose (pump
to regulator). It was suggested that one be
purchased. The motion was made and
passed unanimously. *End*

July Raffle Winners

Beginners Kit - Rich Richersen
Little Leatherman - Jamie Milam
Seafood Sampler - Carl Filter
Garnets - Carolyn Bruce
B & D Screwdriver - Bear Gibson
Walking Stick - Carolyn Bruce
1945 Liberty Half Dollar - Earl Leighan
1 Troy Oz. Silver - Carolyn Bruce
Knee Protectors - Joe Still
1.7 gram Gold Nugget - Dixie Bruce

50/50 Drawing - Jim Oisten - \$83.00

Nametag Drawing - Camera Bag - Don
Ashley

Annual Drawing

Engraved Knife - Bob Bruce
\$150 Gift Card from GoldNTattoo - Ron
McKee
5 Oz. Silver Bar - Don Ashley
2.4 gram Gold Nugget - Ron McKee

August Raffle Winners

Compass - Jim Wilcox
7.88 gram pyrite - MaryAnn Bolenbaugh
Mitre Saw - Bill Rhodes
Decorative Tree - Bear Gibson
Silver 50 cent piece - Peggy Stumpf
1.52 gr nugget - Jim Wilcox

50/50 Drawing - \$31.50 - Jeff Turvey

Nametag Drawing - Coin Set - Carl Filter

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Joseph Still
Treasurer: Don Ashley
Newsletter: Peter Somontes
psomontes@Yahoo.com
Ast. Claims Director: Larry Duvall

Activity Chairman: Bear Gibson

Vice President: Ken Siders
Secretary: Don Wagner
Claims Director: Lyle Shingleton
307-742-5038
Prizes/Raffles: Bob Bruce & John
Eggleston
Store: George & Peggy Stumpf

NY Stock Exchange Closing prices as of 26 August 2008.
(For future sale)

Metal	Price	Change	%Change
<u>Gold</u> DEC-2008	828.10	+2.40	+0.29%
<u>Silver</u> DEC-2008	13.68	+0.20	+1.48%

New Website for WSGS

The Wyoming State Geological Survey has a new updated website. The new site is easy on the eye and slick. Unfortunately the WSGS is no longer conducting the field trips that they once did.

USFS REGS

Just a reminder that the USFS has ruled that ALL dredging, sluicing and panning must cease on 10 September.

We could maybe argue the sluicing and panning part but the dredges must be removed.

Ryan Park Area

This is a caution for anyone going up to Douglas Creek and staying at Ryan Park. Some black bears have been seen nearby and a cougar was heard last week. Also a cow moose and her two calves are in the area. Let's try not to run them over.

Christmas

I thought that a little reminder early might help us this year. We need to decide what we are going to do this year and where our charity money will go.

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 \$70 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

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

Richard Medlock 632-0668

For Sale: 2007 Polaris 500 HO EFI Limited 4X4. Has only 270 miles. In excellent condition with some accessories.

Transferable warranty

Jim Motto 307-638-7929

For Sale: Whites MXT Metal Detector; Whites DD Gold Coil/MXT; Whites 12011 Pinpoint; Whites Headphones E Series. New in Box. Paid over \$1000, Sell all for \$850.

Lou Lopez 778-8434

Visit Yesterdays on Foxfarm Rd, Cheyenne.

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.

Headlamp Field Test

Headlamps are becoming increasingly popular for outdoor activities. The main advantage of a headlamp is they leave your hands free to do other things. With the advent of LEDs these lights have become lite weight and reliable. Most headlamps now use AA or AAA batteries.

LED stands for **Light Emitting Diode**, a solid state device that cannot burn out since, unlike an incandescent bulb, nothing burns. The material contained in the diode emits light when an electric current passes through it. The composition of the material determines the color of the light. LEDs are very energy efficient, drawing only about 1 to 4 volts and 10 to 40 milli-amperes, much less than a standard bulb. With a life span measured in 10's of thousands of hours their reliability is unmatched.

When LED lights were first introduced they were not very bright, headlamp manufacturers compensated for this by producing combination lights. Typically these lights would have an incandescent bulb of krypton, halogen, or xenon for long distance work and one or two LEDs for close-up work. The good news is that the latest generation of LEDs rivals the incandescent bulbs for brightness and the costs have dropped substantially.

The first item we must consider is the power supply. There are three types of batteries used in headlamps;

Alkaline batteries are comparatively inexpensive and last a long time. Their weak point is cold temperatures, as the mercury drops, so does their available power.

Lithium batteries are not affected by low temperatures and they last much longer than alkaline batteries. The main disadvantage of lithium batteries is their high cost. Lithium batteries produce more heat and are slightly larger in diameter than a similar sized alkaline. This means that the battery may not fit in the headlamp. If the headlamp has electronics, as many of them do now, it has to be able to resist the increased heat generated by the lithium batteries. The headlamp manufacturer can tell you what batteries you can use in your lamp.

Rechargeable batteries, usually Nickel-Cadmium, have the advantage of being reusable thus off-setting their initial high cost. However, Ni-Cad batteries also develop a 'memory'; if the battery is placed in the charger at half charge again and again then after a time it will consider the half charge state to be a full charge. The easy way around this is to completely discharge the battery before placing it in the charger.

In this field test are three headlamps from different manufacturers.

1. The first headlamp is from Rayovac. This is a combination headlamp with 1 krypton bulb, 1 white LED and 2 red LEDs. The light uses 3 AAA batteries, alkaline or lithium. The rotary switch is mounted on the right side of the lamp assembly. Position 1 is the 2 red LEDs. If you ever need to get up at 3 AM and reach for a flashlight you will appreciate the red LEDs as they are very easy on the eyes. The red LEDs provide enough light so that you can find your tree stand in the dark.

Position 2 is the white LED and it provides plenty of light for camp set-up or cooking.

Position 3 is the krypton bulb, this provides you with a longer range light than the LEDs allowing you to see at a greater distance.

The entire lamp assembly tilts so you can direct the light where you need it. Cost: \$13 at Lowes or \$8 at Big Lots.

Pluses: The rotary switch is easy to use with gloves on.

Low cost.

First light is the red LEDs.

Can use any AAA battery.

A real bargain compared to most other headlamps.

Cons: Difficult to find a spare krypton bulb.

Heavy compared to other lights.

The krypton bulb has a noticeable shadow in the center of the beam.

More bulky than the other lamps tested.

2. The second headlamp is the PRINCETON TEC QUAD. This lamp uses four white LEDs and is powered by three AAA batteries located behind the lamp. The switch is a push-button located on top of the lamp. The lamp functions are controlled by a small circuit board. By repeatedly pushing the button you cycle through the four power modes, High, Medium, Low and Flashing. The lamp is equipped with a Battery Power LED which begins flashing when the batteries need replacement. Also, after the lamp has been on for a few seconds you can shut it off without needing to cycle through all the modes.

In HIGH mode this lamp gives an enormous amount of light, you can easily see out to 60 feet. The various output levels allow you to conserve battery power while providing enough light to perform camp chores or find a trail in the dark. The entire lamp assembly tilts to point the beam where you need it. This headlamp is very light, weighing only about 6 oz. and can use any AAA battery. Cost is about \$30 and it is available from REI, Jax or Campmor.

Pluses: Very light weight.

Can use any 'AAA' battery.

Multiple output levels conserve power.

Battery Power LED

Cons: Push-button switch is difficult to use with gloves.

Most expensive of the lamps tested.

3. The third headlamp is from Petzl. The Tikka uses three white LEDs and is the simplest of the tested lights. The top mounted switch has two modes On and Off. The Tikka uses 3 AAA batteries but lithium batteries will not fit in the compartment. The lamp provides enough light for camp chores but only shines about 15 feet. About \$28 at Campmor.

Pluses: Very light weight.

Cons: Push-button switch is difficult to use with gloves.

Cannot use lithium batteries.

Any of the above headlamps would be fine for hiking, camping, or gold panning. My personal choice is the Rayovac, I like the rotary switch and the fact that the red LEDs are the first ones on. The red light also does not attract insects and animals cannot see it. The headlamp can be used during hunting season to find your stand without alerting your quarry. The fact that it is also the least expensive of the three tested is just an added bonus.