



# The Keystone Chronicle



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

April 2, 2010

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Club Meeting:** 6 April 2010,  
The Cloud 9, 7 pm.

**May 15-16** – Cheyenne Gem &  
Mineral Club's Gem Show

**June 12** – Kid's Day at the Old  
West Museum

**July 10-11** Cheyenne GPAA's  
Annual Outing, Douglas Creek

**October 23** – Ghost of the  
West at the Old West Museum

## Websites of Interest

BLM online mining claims:  
[geocommunicator.gov](http://geocommunicator.gov)

U.S. Forest Service, Medicine  
Bow: [fs.fed.us/r2/mbr](http://fs.fed.us/r2/mbr)

Denver Museum of Nature &  
Science: [dmns.org](http://dmns.org)

Wyoming State Geological  
Survey: [wsgs.uwyo.edu](http://wsgs.uwyo.edu)

Legends of America:  
[legendsofamerica.com](http://legendsofamerica.com)

Wyoming Tales & Trails:  
[wyomingtalesandtrails.com](http://wyomingtalesandtrails.com)

Public Lands for the People:  
[www.plp2.org](http://www.plp2.org)

## March Minutes

Ken Siders called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. All club officers and Board members were present except George Stumpf. There were a total of 39 in attendance. The February meeting minutes were approved, and Treasurer's Report given (\$4,677.50 in club account). Visitors /Guests were introduced and welcomed.

Ken Siders and Don Ashley are back from their trip to Phoenix and Stanton. They haven't had time to go through all their notes and prepare a presentation yet, so that will be forthcoming. They did share some general info, and Don purchased raffle tickets from the PLP at the Phoenix Gold Show with money donated by our club to the PLP. As a result, the club has won a Mountain Goat trommel...valued at \$695.00!

Another thing Ken brought back from the meetings in Stanton was the importance of having emergency health information available when prospecting. Members are encouraged to have this information either on their person or in their vehicle at all times when out in the field. Any medical conditions, allergies, prescriptions being taken, and any other pertinent health information should be included. In addition, emergency contact information should be provided. Keeping this information in your wallet, purse, or glove box could save your life!

The folks who make the Gold Grabber were also at Stanton, and they donated several of their new Gold Grabber Gold Pans to the club. Ken showed one and gave a brief talk about how to use it. We will be raffling some of these off at future meetings.

Speaking of health, Carl Filter was back at the meeting after having a round of problems as reported in the last newsletter. He was very thankful for the donation, and he gave the club a nice thank you card. Good to have you back

Carl!

Kristen Ruck from the Old West Museum will be at the April Meeting to talk about the events that are held at the museum. The club traditionally sets up a booth and provides gold panning demos at 2 of these events.

A collection was taken for PLP, \$46.00 was collected.

There being no further business to discuss, the business meeting was adjourned.

*End*

## Raffle Winners

2.14 gram nugget – Rich Richerson

.55 gram nugget – Ken Siders

.2 gram nugget – Eldie VanKirk

Flashlight – David Bray

Bucket Savers – John Eggleston

Gloves – Jessie Parker

Bucket Grips – Dave Vitley

Gemstone – Don Ashley

Gemstone – Cort Schaible

Felix paydirt – Justyn Knutson

50/50 Drawing:

\$63.00 – Jim Oisten

Doorprize Drawing:

Gold Grabber Pan – Jim Motto

## Carl Filter Custom Knives

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## CLUB OFFICERS

**President:** Ken Siders

**Treasurer:** Don Ashley

**Board Members:** Peter Somontes, George Stumpf

**Newsletter:** Peter Somontes  
psomontes@Yahoo.com

**Ast. Claims Director:** Larry Duvall

**Activity Chairman:** Bear Gibson

**Vice President:** Darryl Adams

**Secretary:** Don Wegner

**Claims Director:** Lyle Shingleton  
307-742-5038

**Prizes/Raffles:** Bob Bruce & John  
Eggleston

**Store:** George & Peggy Stumpf

## CLUB STORE

Classifiers #20	\$23.00
Classifiers #4	\$23.00
Classifiers #1/2	\$10.00
1 1/2" gem jars w/tray	\$10.00
1 1/4" gem jars w/tray	\$10.00
1 3/4" gem jars w/tray	\$10.00
1 1/4" gem jars	\$ 0.75
1 oz plastic vials	\$ 0.50
1 oz glass vials	\$ 0.40
1/2 oz plastic vials	\$ 0.50
1/2 oz glass vials	\$ 0.40
Colorado Gold Concentrates	\$ 7.00
Gold & Quartz Concentrates	\$11.00
Mesh Baseball Caps	\$ 7.50
Clay Gone	\$10.00
Coffee Mug	\$ 5.00
Crevice Tool	\$10.00
Small Funnel	\$ 1.00
Gold Concentrates	\$10.00
Chuck's Gold Trapper	\$75.00
GPAA Donkey	\$10.00
Magnets	\$11.00
Tom & Perry Mini Sluice	\$20.00
14" Green Pans	\$10.00
Picks	\$ 1.00
Scoops	\$ 7.00
Single plastic loupe	\$ 2.00
Snuffer Bottle	\$ 3.00
Snuffer/vial/Tweezers	\$ 8.00
Suction Tweezers	\$ 0.25
T-Shirt (adult)	\$12.00
T-Shirt (kids)	\$10.50
Tweezers	\$ 5.00

## PROSPECTORS CACHE

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Felix Paydirt Gourmet Gold.** 2 LB bag of Felix Paydirt \$70 ea.  
**Contact John Eggleston at 635-0229**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**Wanted:** 1 1/2" Proline High banker/Dredge combo. **FOR SALE:** 852 Sluice:\$60.  
**Call Dallas Lake at 307-421-4507.**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**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.  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**Nome Gold!** Marvin & Mel Terry at [www.oldgoldme@Charter.net](http://www.oldgoldme@Charter.net)  
**1-877-666-3465**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**For Sale:** Carlisle ATV tires. Near new condition, Fronts 25x8x12; Rears 25x11x12 \$300.00  
**Jim and Shirley Motto 638-7929**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**For Sale:** 4" Keen Dredge. Triple Sluice. No Hooka. Asking \$1600.  
**Gary Shinneman 307-631-0433**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 To have your ad placed here Email Peter Somontes at [psomontes@Yahoo.com](mailto:psomontes@Yahoo.com) or see me at the meeting. Your ad will also be on the Chapter website.


## Public Lands for the People, Inc. PLP Legal Fund Spring 2010 Raffle June 17, 2010

Prize	Donor	Value
1. 160 ac AZ Mining Claim	PLP	\$ 7500.00
2. 4" Ultra Mini 6.5 HP Honda Dredge w/Compressor	Keene	\$3150.00
3. 1 oz Placer Gold	Roger Plata	\$ 950.00
4. Whites GMZ Metal Detector	Jimmy Sierra, CA	\$ 800.00
5. Custom Gold Pendant	Natural Gold Jewelry	\$ 400.00
6. Deluxe Blue Bowl Kit	Pioneer Mining Supplies	\$ 250.00
7. 1 Yr. Membership Golden Caribou Mining Assn	Gordon Burton	\$ 225.00
8. Gold Nugget Pendant	Scott Warner	\$ 200.00
9. 4.4 grs Alaska Placer	Ed Romine	\$ 160.00
10. Badger Pick	Apex Picks	\$ 150.00
11. Crystalline Gold Tie Tac	Scott Warner	\$ 100.00
12. Hystware Mines & Minerals CD	Arizona Outback	\$ 100.00

TICKET INFORMATION: \$ 1.00 each ticket or a book of 12 tickets for \$ 10.00  
 CONTACT Jim Lewis  
 655 E. La Loma Ave  
 Somis, CA 93066

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 Cheyenne, WY 82009

**David Fortney**  
 Gold Panning Specialist  
 307-638-3162  
 (HOME)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Bill Bird

March 23, 2010

(916) 651-4004

## Key Policy Committee Approves Refunds for Gold Miners

Aanestad Legislation Provides Fairness for Suction Dredge Mining Industry

SACRAMENTO: Refund legislation authored by Senator Sam Aanestad (R-Grass Valley) passed its first key committee test today in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water. SB 889 will allow Suction Dredge Miners to request a refund of suction dredge mining permits that were purchased from the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) in 2009.

Senator Aanestad says the refund legislation represents an issue of fairness. Thousands of miners followed the letter of the law by purchasing permits in 2009 that would allow them to practice suction dredge mining – a practice that was later banned during the same year by the State Legislature.

"The miners requesting these refunds should not be blamed for the legislative action that essentially pulled the rug out from underneath their industry," said Senator Aanestad following today's committee hearing. "I'd like to thank committee members for understanding that these miners paid for a full year of mining activities and they didn't get it. They deserve a full refund. SB 889 clears the path toward a full refund."

According to statistics from the DFG website, nearly 4,000 suction dredge mining permits were purchased in 2009. More than 3,000 of the permits were purchased by California residents alone. The cost of a permit for California residents is \$47.50, and for out of state miners the permit fee is \$186.75. In 2009, the Department collected about \$250,000 from miners who were subsequently denied the right to mine.

The ban on suction dredge mining took place in early August, following the successful passage of SB 670. It had an immediate impact on Senator Aanestad's Northern California District.

"The busy season for suction dredge mining in California runs between the key months of May through October," said Senator Aanestad. "When the State Legislature banned this activity, the miners vanished. They didn't buy fuel in Northern California. They didn't buy food. They didn't stay in local hotels. They didn't rent equipment. The loss of this one industry represented a \$60 million hit to the Northern California economy and lost jobs."

The Senate Natural Resources Committee also took action today to pass a related measure authored by Senator Aanestad – SB 1103. This measure addresses the fee inequity that exists between surface mining operations that are classified as "active" and others classified as "idle."

"All 'active' and 'idle' mines in California are charged an annual fee that ranges from \$3400 to \$4700," said Senator Aanestad. "However, current law states that active mines that produce less than \$100,000 can apply for a 'low gross exemption' from this fee, but idle mines cannot. SB 1103 corrects this inequity."

RADIO STATIONS: .mp3 format sound bites are available from today's testimony during the Senate Natural Resources Committee hearing. Sound and scripts to follow.

TV & PRINT MEDIA: If you also desire .mp3 format sound from today's hearing, please contact me at the number above or via email. I will be happy to forward them to you.

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