



The Keystone Chronicle



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

April 28, 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Meeting: 3 May 2011,
7 PM, American Legion Post
6

May 14-15: Gem & Mineral
Show, American Legion Post
6

Club Meeting: 7 June 2011,
7 PM, American Legion Post
6

Old West Museum Demo

Wy State Museum Demo

CFD Wild Horse Gulch
Demo

Websites of Interest

BLM online mining claims:
geocommunicator.gov

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

Wyoming State Geological
Survey: wsgs.uwyo.edu

Legends of America:
legendsofamerica.com

Wyoming Tales & Trails:
wyomingtalesandtrails.com

Public Lands for the People:
www.plp2.org

Cheyenne GPAA website:
www.cheyennegpaa.com

GPAA website:
www.goldprospectors.org

Wyoming State Museum
wyomuseum.state.wy.us

April Minutes

Ken Siders called the meeting to order April 5, 2011 at 7:10 pm. All club officers and Board Members were in attendance at the meeting. There were a total of 60 in attendance. The sixteen Visitors & Guests were introduced and welcomed. They were Tom Florich; Cassidy Kern; Brandon Balzer; Tess Potts; Juanita and Richard Benson; Nate Bettey; Rachel Bettey; Grant Christiansen; and Aaron and Joan Slutzky. The March meeting minutes and Treasurer's Report were voted on and approved. The quarterly audit was done. Correspondence from Arizona was a "Thank You" to our President for donations that he made.

Tom Florich & Cassidy Kern from the US Forest Service attended our meeting and gave a presentation on the Medicine Bow – Routt National Forest pertaining to the area where our GPAA claim is located.

A question about the dredge measurement was asked and clarified by Tom. The dredge measure is at the intake nozzle, as specified in Guideline 19.

The group asked if panning could be done before or after the closure dates of the area, which opens July 1 and closes September 10. The concern was for safety at the time of flushing of Rob Roy Reservoir when the flow could be 300 cubic feet/second and would not be predictable on the Douglas Creek. The fish were an additional issue before and after the dates. Hand panning is allowed anytime; however, suction dredging does cause a significant disturbance.

Tom was asked about the patented claim from Lake Creek cabins to the road. It had been sold back to the government in 1935, in 1950 opened from original patent, and then last year closed and will not be open again. There was some discussion that one of the members still had open claim to it. Ken will get with the claimholder and will make sure what is available to work.

Metal Detecting was discussed. No digging can be done. Any artifact is owned by the government and they do not want the ground around it disturbed. They would have an archeological excavation done. Any means of discovery needs to have clearance to disturb ground. Executive orders and laws need to be followed, we might not agree with them but we do need to abide by them. If we find an artifact we need to let them know and handle it. If anyone wants to metal detect, notification needs to be made to the Forest Service, and so they could clear it. FYI: Big Nose Kate and Yella Fever have been cleared

already.

User created roads have had an environmental analysis done and some of them have been closed. Online is a map that shows open roads. Reasonable access to a claim doesn't always mean that it can be driven to. The forest service does not have a guideline for recreational mining and Tom says that it has been an area that he has tried to work with the public on and has the desire to continue that relationship. Communications with him is greatly appreciated and needed to be able to make this continue to work. The Forest Service has asked that we do a letter of intent, because of the number of people going out prospecting. The group thanked them for coming and answering our questions and concerns.

At this time we asked for nominations for officers and none were made. Ken asked if it would be alright with the members to have the current officers sign the next years form so that it could be taken to the April Gold Show in Las Vegas and given to the GPAA. Members attending were alright with doing that as long as the voting on the officers still would take place in May as our By-Laws stated.

We were reminded of the Gem & Mineral Show May 14 -15 and that we have raffle tickets that can be sold prior to the event.

The PLP donation pan was passed around and the donations totaled \$53.00.

A thank you was given to Paul Gregg for donating three books to the library. The books are: "The Weekend Gold Miner"; "Dry Washing for Gold"; and "Where to find Gold in the Desert"

Please see the article on page three concerning the outing location we need your input. Members were asked to get questions and statements about the outing to Ken Siders, and that we could further discuss this at the next meeting.

End

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

Raffle Winners

Outdoor gear – Lyle Shingleton
 Copper ore – B B Rhodes
 Bucket savers – BB Rhodes
 Rope – Pam Gibson
 Water container – Shari Baird
 Gold nugget – Dixie Bruce
 Blue Topaz – Mike Wilkins
 Nome Gold – B B Rhodes
 Turquoise – Mike Wilkins
 Picker – Jon Stillwell
 Pocket Knife – Don Ashley
 Snappy grips – Pam Gibson

Attendance Raffle:

Silver – Paul Gregg
 Zippo – Ray McGehee
 Binoculars – Rick Benninghoven

50/50 Raffle:

Brandon Balzer took home \$87.50.

May Guests

BLM representatives presenting at May 3rd meeting. Pam Stiles will be talking about mining claims and Pete Sokolosky will be talking about operating on a claim. They will not have a formal presentation and will answer any questions the group might have. They will be bringing some of the regulations on surface management, use and occupancy and the Wy Dept. Environmental Quality-Land relationship regulation. They will have handouts. Bring all of your claim questions with you to the meeting.

Thank you. Shari Baird

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ken Siders
 Phone: 307-514-0033
Vice President: Ken Wilcox
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Treasurer: Don Ashley
 Phone: 307-220-8751
Secretary: Denise Hubbard
 Phone: 307-631-5453
Board Members: Peter Somontes
 Phone: 307-529-0266
 George Stumpf
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Claims Director: Mark Bolenbaugh
 Phone: 307-638-7152
Store: George & Peggy Stumpf
 Phone: 307-632-9945
Newsletter: Peter Somontes
 Email: psomontes@Yahoo.com
Prizes/Raffles: Eldeana Van Kirk
 Phone: 307-421-7398
Activity Chairman: Shari Baird

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.1dgoldme@Charter.net
1-877-666-3465

For Sale: 2007 Polaris Sportsman, 800 EFI,
 4x4, loaded. \$7,500/ OBO
Contact Jim Motto (307) 638-7929

 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.

"Chuck's Gold Trapper" is now \$100

Shirley Marketing Co. AND F & R Firearms

SPECIALIZING IN LADIES PERSONAL PROTECTION, STUN GUNS, PEPPER SPRAY, HAND GUNS, TASERS
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David Fortney
 Gold Plating Specialist
 307-638-3162
 (HOME)

USFS Requests Input
 On Feb14, 2011 the USFS released a notice asking for input from the public on adopting a new Forest Management Plan for the entire USFS system. The document was too large to include in this newsletter. I have asked Darryl to put it up on the Club's website. **The dateline for comments is May 16, 2011.**

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July Outing Location

Those of you that were at the April meeting heard from the USFS reps about what is happening in the Snowy Range. For those that were unable to make the meeting I'll do a recap.

The USFS has let contracts for logging beetle killed trees along FSR512 and FSR543, the logging to take place this summer. The flats where we normally camp will be the staging area for the logging company and the bridge will be rebuilt to handle heavier vehicles. FSR512 from Foxpark north to the Platte Access Road will be logged beginning as soon as the snow clears with the road being closed at undetermined times. These closures will be temporary but we can expect heavy truck traffic. FSR543 is scheduled for logging to start in August, again with temporary closures and heavy truck traffic. These dates are flexible and may be advanced or delayed as circumstances require.

The route from Albany on FSR500 to FSR542 to FSR543 is NOT suitable for large rigs. So access to the claim and camping will be impacted. Members can call the Laramie Office of the Forest Service at (307)745-2300 and ask for a list of road closures and it will be mailed to them, or members could check the website.

The USFS has offered us the use of the Bobby Thompson Campground at NO cost for our activities. Bobby Thompson has been clear cut so we would not have to worry about falling trees. However, there are only 12 sites at Bobby Thompson and it's simply not large enough for our group.

A possible site is a field just north of Foxpark, it is large enough to handle our group and access is good, the downside is we would still have to travel on at least part of FSR512 and the hassles that would entail.

Another possibility is at Rob Roy, the USFS has a campground there, much larger than Bobby Thompson, which could handle our group, there is a fee of \$10 per night. There are also other free areas around the reservoir that we could use. FSR500 from Albany goes around the north end of Rob Roy and connects to FSR543 Northwest of the reservoir. We can then follow FSR543 south to the claim. I have not driven this route but the maps indicate a good road with no hairpin turns, so large rigs should have no trouble. I will check it out as soon as the roads clear.

If anybody has any other suggestions please let us know, we would love to hear them.

Peter Somontes

Election Time

May is when we hold our elections for club officers. All the present officers have agreed to stay on in their present capacities. There were no nominations at the April meeting. Prior to the vote we will ask for any nominations. If you are interested in any of the positions please speak up.

Sell your gold to us!

If you are thinking of selling your gold nuggets talk to Don Ashley first. The club is always buying nuggets so why not yours?

Fire Safety

With the beetle killed trees falling all over the Snowy Range the danger of a catastrophic forest fire increases each year.

NOW is the time to check your equipment. Are the spark arrestors functional on your generators, dredges and chain saws? Better to replace them now and not have to worry about them.