



The Keystone Chronicle

A monthly newsletter published by the Cheyenne, Wyoming Chapter of the Gold Prospectors Association of America



DECEMBER 2014 ISSUE

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Minutes of December Meeting

7:00pm December 2, 2014

American Legion Post 6
2001 E. Lincolnway
Cheyenne, Wyoming

Meeting open by President Eldeana VanKirk at 7:00pm. There were 29 members and 1 visitor in attendance. The visitor was introduced and welcomed. Reading of last month's minutes was waived. The Treasurer's Report and Correspondence Reports were given.

Members who own private claims were reminded that the deadline for submitting your Affidavit of Labor and Improvements is December 30th.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to change the meeting location to the Laramie County Fair Community Center, located at the Archer Complex east of Cheyenne. This will be effective immediately, as we had paid for the current location through December.

Last month, the membership voted to give the Christmas Fund money to the Make a Wish Foundation. There is an international, national, and regional program. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to send the money to the regional program, which is based in Casper, Wyoming.

An online subscription to the Laramie Boomerang has been purchased in the name of Board Member Darryl Adams. The Boomerang is the official "newspaper of record" for Medicine Bow National Forest, so any notices pertaining to the MBNF are published there. Darryl has volunteered to keep an eye open for any and all notices of interest to the club.

The following local businesses sponsored our Christmas Party / Meeting this month; Eileen's Cookies, Murdoch's, Spooner's Frozen Yogurts, and Sportsman's Warehouse. We thank these businesses for their help, and encourage members to patronize these businesses!

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned. Santa and Mrs. Clause (Ken & Nora) arrived with goodies, and the Potluck Dinner and raffle followed.

The next meeting will be Tuesday January 6th at the Laramie County Fairgrounds Community Center at 7:00pm.

Donald J. Wegner
Secretary

**LDMA/GPAA
OUTINGS:**

Scott Bar, CA
April 1—5

Burnt River, OR
April 15—19

Stanton, AZ
April 29—May 3

Duisenberg, CA
May 6—10

Vein Mountain, NC
June 3—7

Loud Mine, GA
June 10—14

Italian Bar, CA
June 24—28

Gold Shows:

Pamona, CA
Feb 7 & 8

Mesa, AZ
Feb 28 & Mar 1

Stockton, CA
Mar 7 & 8

Portland, OR
Mar 28 & 29

Boise, ID
Apr 11 & 12

Diggin' It

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Websites of Interest

Medicine Bow National Forest:
fs.fed.us/r2/mbr

Wyoming State Geological Survey:
wsgs.uwyo.edu

Wyoming Tails & 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

PROSPECTORS CACHE

Felix Paydirt Gourmet Gold. 2 LB bag of Felix Paydirt \$70 ea. **Contact John Eggleston at 635-0229**

For Sale: 2" Proline Dredge/HighBanker Combo with Honda pump. Exc. Cond. \$950. Will consider trade for guns or dirt bike. Men's wet suit—6', 160lbs. Never used. \$100. **Steve 851-2931**

For Sale: Whites MXT Metal Detector; Whites DD Gold Coil/MXT; Whites 12011 Pinpoint; Whites Head-phones E Series. New in Box. Paid over \$1000, Sell all for \$850. **Lou Lopez 778-8434**

For Sale: MAX II 800T 6 Wheel ATV, Kohler 624CC 20 HP, T20 Skid steer trans, WT 700lbs, Asking: \$2,000, Originally \$8,500. NADA \$2,180-\$2,870. **Don Ashley 307-220-8751**

Wanted: 3" or 4" dredge in good condition for less than new price. **John Bryant - jobaryant@nebnet.net**



RAFFLE WINNERS

Gold Nugget - Darryl A
Club T-Shirt - David F
Knife & Flashlight - Don A
GPAA Coffee Mug - Carl F
Ratchet Straps - Darryl A
3 jars of jelly - Larry D
Cleanup Pan - Laura L
Pay Dirt - Martin B
Gold Sucker - Dixie B
Battery Pack - Mary Ann

50/50 DRAWING

\$77.00 - Norman D

DOOR PRIZES

Sean S
Larry D
Jessie P

Cache Creek Prospecting

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages a public prospecting area in Colorado on and around Cache Creek. Several members have expressed an interest in going down there, and I'm pretty sure that at least a couple of our members have indeed been there before. I was poking around the internet doing some research on the area, and discovered that some changes have been made recently to the rules down there, so I thought I would let you all know about these changes before you go down there and find out the hard way.

Now before you start calling or e-mailing me with quotations from the 1872 Mining Law, let me begin by saying that this land is not subject to said law. This 2,160 acre property was acquired by the BLM in January of 2000 from the Colorado Conservation Fund. Their intent was, and still is, to manage it for both elk habitat and recreational prospecting. Heavy use and irresponsible activity has had a devastating effect on the area, which is now full of coyote holes, rock piles, and damaged vegetation. Digging under trees has killed them and created serious hazards waiting to happen. In fact, water from a pond located on adjacent privately owned property was diverted into Cache Creek to add more water flow to accommodate high-banking operations!

Predictably, the BLM has been working on more restrictive regulations. To their credit, they have been working with prospecting groups in Colorado as well as other stakeholders to come up with some reasonable solutions. Be advised that the situation is fluid, and is being closely monitored. As such, the rules may change frequently, depending on the circumstances. If you intend to go to Cache Creek, my advice to you is to google it and then go check out the links to various clubs, businesses, and others who will have the most up to date information.

What I can tell you with a very high degree of confidence is that you will need to purchase a Special Use Permit to prospect there. There has been discussion about issuing both daily permits (probably around \$5 per day) and annual permits (probably around \$25 for the season). The area is NOT open year round...but the season is longer on both ends than what we have in Medicine Bow (Memorial Day weekend through Nov. 30). Use of battery operated recirculation systems will be allowed but no more motorized high-banking. Work in the active stream bed will be limited to panning only. You must park in a designated area, the 14 day camping rule is enforced, and there will only be certain areas open to prospecting.

Make sure you have the latest information before packing up and heading south. I have read very good reports from the area, it has a long history of producing gold, and it may well be worth the trip even with these additional restrictions. At least the BLM is working with prospectors on this problem and didn't haul off and shut it down completely. You can read the EA [here](#).

Don W.