



The Prospector

Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.

GPAA Portland, Oregon Chapter



There's Gold in Switzerland's Sewage

Also, a whole lot of silver.

by Sarah Laskow October 11, 2017

Switzerland has so much gold that the country is flushing it down the drain. According to a new analysis by Eawag, the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, every year 95 pounds of gold, worth nearly \$2 million, passes through Swiss wastewater treatment plants.

The gold, the researchers believe, comes from "tiny flecks of gold"—residue from the country's watchmaking industry and gold refineries. As Bloomberg points out, refineries in this small European country deal with 70 percent of the world's gold.

In most of the 64 wastewater treatment plants studied—and let's take a moment to recognize the work of the researchers who had the job of studying "elements

discharged in effluents or disposed of in sewage sludge"—the concentrations of gold were small enough that it's not economically worthwhile to extract it from the rest of the waste. In southern Switzerland, though, where gold refineries are concentrated, enough gold is being wasted that it could be worth recovering from the sewage stream.

The researchers also found that gold isn't the only precious metal in Switzerland's wastewater. The sewage plants were also streaming with rare earth elements used in high-tech and medical industries and with silver—6,600 pounds per year, in total, worth \$1.7 million. It must be good to be a country so rich that your garbage is gold and silver.

from AtlasObscura.com via GPAA

This is NOT how you offer her an engagement ring!



November, 2017

Come join us at our next meeting.

November 19th at 1:30pm.
Milwaukie Grange hall
12015 SE 22nd, Milwaukie, OR

The Portland Gold Prospectors meetings are the third Sunday of every month beginning at 1:30pm. All interested parties are invited to attend the monthly meetings. Become a member of the Portland Gold prospectors, Inc a chapter of the Gold Prospectors Association of America.

For info contact Jerry Johns,
jerryjohns@gmail.com or visit www.portlandgoldprospectors.org.



Just some more crystalline gold.

Presidents Blog October 2017

Elections will be in November. Nominations were opened up in October meeting and will remain open through the 1st half of our November meeting at which time we will vote. We are a volunteer organization and we cannot operate without your help.

Happy Prospecting,

Jerry Johns

President

Portland Gold Prospectors Inc.

**2017 Portland Gold Prospectors
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Webmaster

Aaron Jurgens 360-402-0771
aaron@ajcreative.net

Chapter Minutes – October 15th

Start time: 1:30pm

Members in attendance: 28

Visitors: 0

The president led the group in
“The pledge of Allegiance”

The minutes were from the
Previous meeting was posted in
the newsletter. A motion was made
to approve the minutes as written
and 2nd. The motion was approved

The Treasurer read the monthly
treasurer’s report. A motion was
made to approve them as read. It
was seconded and approved.

Correspondences: None

Membership: There are three
levels of membership for the
chapter.

Level 1: is to be a chapter member.
To do this you must attend at least
3 meetings, outings or functions in
a given year. At least one of these
must be a business meeting. There
is no additional cost beyond the 3
attendances to be a member.

Level 2: GPAA – We are a chapter
of the GPAA and as such, all
officers must be members of the
GPAA. All chapter members are
encouraged to join the GPAA, but
that is not a requirement.

Level 3: LDMA – The LDMA is an
Elite level within the GPAA and
allows special access and discounts
to functions and mining claims.

GPAA state director: Steve Lewin
shared with the chapter that Kevin
Hoglan (from Corporate) is now
stepping into the role of working
with the chapters.

Newsletter: continues to edited by
Tim Snyder and looks great. Tim
shared that if anyone has a story
or photos they want to share, he
would be glad to put them in the
next issue.

To get the newsletter mailed to
you, please add your e-mail to our
sign in roster. If you are still not
getting it, please verify the address
on the roster is accurate. We can
also mail it via US Postal service to
members for \$15 a year. That price
covers the cost of postage.

Library: Joe Weber shared that the
library is open for all member.

Chapter outings for 2017: Outings
are done for the year. However
volunteer opportunities still exist.
We have elections coming up in
November, we have the annual
potluck to plan for and the Gold
and Treasure show is coming up
in Spring.

Education: John Richmond from
Albany came in and demonstrated
a prototype of a new mining tool. If
interested in purchasing the rights
to build the tool, please contact
the president for information on
reaching John

Elections: Nominations were
opened for November Elections.
Nominations will remain open
through the middle of the
November meeting at which time a
vote will take place.

President: Open

Treasurer:Bev Parker

Secretary: Open

Claims Directors: Jerry Johns

Board of Directors: Mike Lewis,
.....Ken Burns,
..... Richard Ruth,
..... Elaine Ruth

Raffle started at 3:15pm and the
meeting closed at 3:30pm.



The largest gold nugget ever found in Alaska is named the Alaska Centennial Nugget

It weighs a whopping 294.10 troy ounces (9.14 Kilograms, 20.16 pound), and was found near the town of Ruby, Alaska in 1998. Barry Clay was placer mining an area along Swift Creek that was known for producing large nuggets. He was pushing dirt with his bulldozer when something unusual caught his eye. He jumped out of the dozer and picked up the object.



He immediately knew by the weight that he had unearthed a huge gold nugget. He immediately buried the nugget under a nearby tree until he could figure out what to do with it. When he finally took it into town for further examination, it was determined that he had found the largest nugget ever found in Alaska, and the second largest nugget ever found in the Western Hemisphere behind the Boot of Cortez found in Mexico.

It was named the Centennial nugget because it was found on the 100th anniversary of the Klondike Gold Rush, which brought thousands of men north to Alaska in search of gold. Its discovery in 1998 shows that there is without a doubt lots of huge gold nuggets left to be discovered. They haven't all been discovered, not by a long shot! With the record high gold prices in recent years and the renewed interest in gold mining, there is a very good chance that more big gold nuggets will be found in the very near future.

Many other large nuggets have been found in the Ruby Mining District as well, including numerous nuggets that weighed over a pound. Alaska has by far the most commercial mining operations compared to other states, mainly due to its miner friendly regulations in comparison to other states. Alaska has a reputation for large nuggets as well. Overall gold produced here is not as high as other states like California and Nevada, but if you want to find a huge gold nugget in the United States, Alaska is the best place to look.

Read more at GeologyIN.com

2017 Events Calendar

November 19th:

PGPI monthly meeting 1:30pm -
ELECTIONS

December 17th:

PGPI monthly meeting 1:30pm

From Land Matters:

BLM LR2000 Gets a Face Lift and a New Location

"The BLM LR2000 (Legacy Rehost System) provides reports on BLM land and mineral use authorizations for oil, gas and geothermal leasing, rights of way, coal and other mineral development, land and mineral title, mining claims, withdrawals, classifications and more on federal lands or on federal mineral estate." *from the BLM website*

This is a very important database. I imagine that most of you have used it at some point. It provides public access to the records of actions on our public lands. Land Matters currently links to this database on our Mining Claims Maps to provide access to detailed mining claims records.

The LR2000 website has been revised and it has moved. You can visit the updated website and see its new black label design using the link below.

<https://reports.blm.gov/reports.cfm?application=LR2000>

The functionality is basically the same. Be sure to enter all required fields (*) into the form. The dropdown search box is handy when you don't know the code, but it is somewhat clumsy. I suggest that you walk through the tutorial provided.

Land Matters is working to increase our geospatial (map-based) access to the data in the LR2000. We can help you avoid the data entry forms by allowing you to access the data in the LR2000 via a Land Matters Map. You will see some of these features being released this fall.



Step 6 Exploring YouTube

This YouTube stuff is pretty cool.

I can find instructional videos on just about any topic imaginable.

And a few my imagination could never come up with.

Lately I've been building Cigar Box Guitars. (I'll learn the Gold Fever theme song soon.) I've found lots of videos on making and playing them.

So I wasn't surprised that there are dozens? Hundreds? Thousands? of videos about prospecting, panning, mining and building equipment.

Some of my favorite channels:

[Gold Hog](#)

[Dan Hurd](#)

[Liz Create](#)

[Garrett w/ Freddy Dodge](#)

[Utah Avalanch](#)

The Spell of the Yukon

By Robert W. Service

I wanted the gold, and I sought it;
I scrabbled and mucked like a slave.

Was it famine or scurvy—I fought it;
I hurled my youth into a grave.

I wanted the gold, and I got it—
Came out with a fortune last fall,—
Yet somehow life's not what I thought it,
And somehow the gold isn't all.

No! There's the land. (Have you seen it?)
It's the cussedest land that I know,
From the big, dizzy mountains that screen it
To the deep, deathlike valleys below.

Some say God was tired when He made it;
Some say it's a fine land to shun;
Maybe; but there's some as would trade it
For no land on earth—and I'm one.

You come to get rich (damned good reason);
You feel like an exile at first;

You hate it like hell for a season,
And then you are worse than the worst.

It grips you like some kinds of sinning;
It twists you from foe to a friend;

It seems it's been since the beginning;
It seems it will be to the end.

I've stood in some mighty-mouthed hollow
That's plumb-full of hush to the brim;

I've watched the big, husky sun wallow
In crimson and gold, and grow dim,

Till the moon set the pearly peaks gleaming,
And the stars tumbled out, neck and crop;

And I've thought that I surely was dreaming,
With the peace o' the world piled on top.

The summer—no sweeter was ever;
The sunshiny woods all athrill;

The grayling aleap in the river,
The bighorn asleep on the hill.

The strong life that never knows harness;
The wilds where the caribou call;

The freshness, the freedom, the farness—
O God! how I'm stuck on it all.

The winter! the brightness that blinds you,
The white land locked tight as a drum,

The cold fear that follows and finds you,
The silence that bludgeons you dumb.

The snows that are older than history,
The woods where the weird shadows slant;

The stillness, the moonlight, the mystery,
I've bade 'em good-by—but I can't.

There's a land where the mountains are nameless,
And the rivers all run God knows where;

There are lives that are erring and aimless,
And deaths that just hang by a hair;

There are hardships that nobody reckons;
There are valleys unpeopled and still;

There's a land—oh, it beckons and beckons,
And I want to go back—and I will.

They're making my money diminish;
I'm sick of the taste of champagne.

Thank God! when I'm skinned to a finish
I'll pike to the Yukon again.

I'll fight—and you bet it's no sham-fight;
It's hell!—but I've been there before;

And it's better than this by a damsite—
So me for the Yukon once more.

There's gold, and it's haunting and haunting;
It's luring me on as of old;

Yet it isn't the gold that I'm wanting
So much as just finding the gold.

It's the great, big, broad land 'way up yonder,
It's the forests where silence has lease;

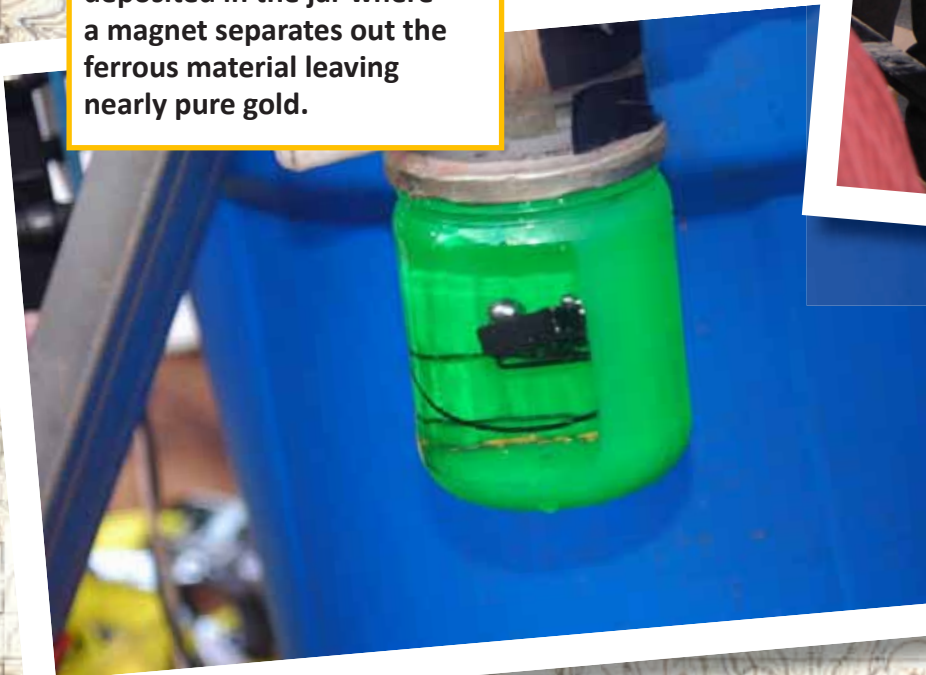
It's the beauty that thrills me with wonder,
It's the stillness that fills me with peace.



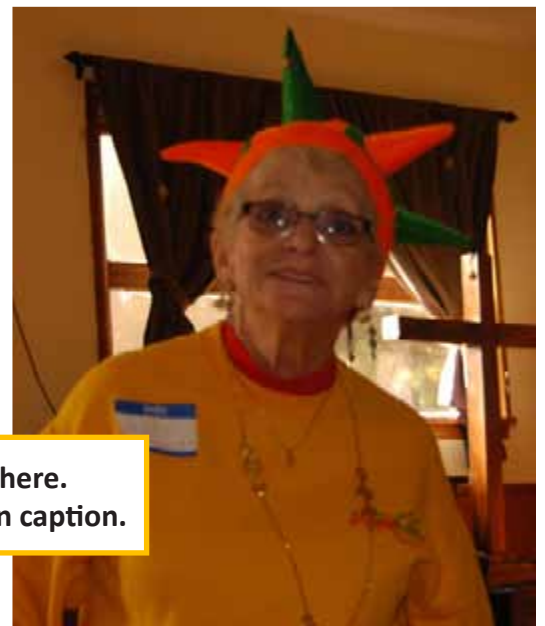
John Richmond demonstrates his gold separation device.

The concentrates go in the top of the vertical fluid bed and the heavies drop down.

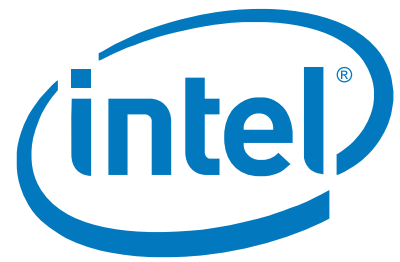
The heaviest particles are deposited in the jar where a magnet separates out the ferrous material leaving nearly pure gold.



I'll just leave this right here.
You can write your own caption.



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