## **Whippoorwill E-Comment**



Number 25

October, 2004

\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Montrose Convention Report #3

EST I give you the wrong impression about the geology of western Colorado, that all the rocks are igneous and metamorphic, many are sedimentary. During the last Ice Age, over two **miles** of ice covered the entire region as enormous mountain glaciers formed. After the warm-up starting at about 25,000 years ago, the mountains were heavily glaciated creating characteristic U-shaped gullies and valleys. The entire Montrose valley is a glacial train feature. Apparently even today, Silverton is virtually snow-bound during the winter. Before the railroad was built from Durango, and the highway constructed in the 1920's from Montrose and Ouray, the town eagerly awaited spring when the trails opened again, and groceries and other supplies could be brought in.



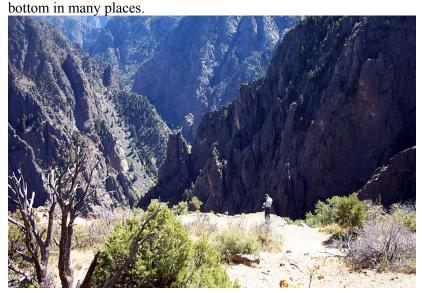
I had not seen Jim and Helen Doolittle in over eight years, It was good to see them again. They stopped and visited us in Kentucky on their way back from a Tampa, Florida, convention. Irrepressible Len Carrick tried to add a new bird to Johanna Shipley's life list – the Red Jungle Fowl, which is well known as the

common chicken. There were a few in a pen in Silverton, and I suspect he tried to get her to list the critter. This is Len and Glenn Simpson. Do you think



he could be as nefarious as that? In a word, Yes!

Some of the conventioneers took advantage of the nearness of visiting the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, just 15 miles north of Montrose. Glenn and Shirley gave me a saturation tour of this fantastic gorge on Monday, after the convention. I was blown away by the sheer depth of the canyon, cut deep by the Gunnison River into igneous rocks in only a few million years. In some places it was deeper than it was wide. It was called the Black Canyon because it was so deep that light didn't penetrate to the



Yes, if you missed the Montrose convention, you missed many great treats.



Whippoorwill E-Comment is the work of J. Hill Hamon, 1515 Evergreen Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Few of the vaunted mountains of eastern Kentucky are over 800 feet in elevation. I could never have produced this journal in handset type and printed on my press.