

# FINDERS KEEPERS

WWW.TREASURESEEKERSOFSANDIEGO.COM

EDITOR: CHARLENE MYERS

MAY 2009

## NOT ALL PROSPECTORS/MINERS WERE SMART

*The below article is taken from the Goldfield Daily Tribune in 1910.*

Dynamite containing nitroglycerine was the explosive of choice for the western miner. There are many grades and uses for dynamite depending on the desired result. A 40% explosive was used to life rock just enough to break it into smaller pieces. Higher percentages were preferred when a larger sharper explosion was required.

Many mines and prospect holes were in the hills or mountains and weather became a problem when the temperature dropped as nitroglycerine looses much of its explosive force when chilled or frozen. The DuPont Powder Company release a report on how to safely thaw dynamite and cited 98 accidents that had recently occurred when miners tried to heat frozen dynamite. (Eureka Sentinel 1908)

- 38 explosions from heating dynamite over a fire
- 11 from reheating water in which dynamite has been placed to thaw
- 10 placing explosives in water then heating over a fire
- 8 placing dynamite cartridges in ovens
- 7 thawing cartridges in the hands over a lighted lamp or candle
- 7 thawing dynamite in the hot ash of a fire
- 5 warming on a shovel over a fire
- 5 placing cartridges on top of a heated stove
- 4 placing dynamite on a hot iron
- 2 placing dynamite on a steam pipe
- 1 rubbing cartridges together to warm them by friction.

In 1905 the Las Vegas Age contained an article entitled: Death May Come at Any Time, But He does Not Fear It.

“Some day I guess “twill get me. We never know.”

J. B. Boone, professional powder man, dynamite and nitroglycerin handler, moved cautiously about a fire as he talked. At his feet lay fifty pounds of dynamite - frozen. Three feet away was a roaring fire. He was at a stone quarry at Courtney, Mo. Where the night before 500 pounds of his material had exploded. And he had built the fire to thaw out more.

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### MARK YOUR

### CALENDAR ~

- *Metal Detecting*  
*Sunday, May 10th*  
*8:00 AM*  
*La Jolla Shores Beach*

- *Outing*  
*Saturday & Sunday*  
*May 16th & 17th*  
*To be announced*

- *Meeting*  
*Wednesday*  
*June 3rd*  
*6:30 PM*  
*Joslyn Senior Center*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Here we go again. We had another great month. I know I say that all the time. You take the Treasure Seekers on an outing or an event and they are going to do it up fine. It makes it all worth while to go with these members. What a great bunch of people. I'm glad they let me go with them. They all step up to have fun and they make it enjoyable for the rest of us.

I know the beach metal detecting was good. They always find more coins and jewelry than we find gold. Plus the weather at the beach is more cooler than the weather out in the desert. The sand is much cooler on your feet at the beach. I don't recommend going barefoot out in the desert.

But those who went to the Freedom Common Dig did have a great time. There was plenty of drywasher so everyone got to find some gold. The diehards brought their heavy equipment. I heard the soil was still a bit damp. The potluck and entertainment was also great. I hear we are finally seeing some Mojave Greens and Tarantulas out there too.

I did get to go to the PRIMM Gold Show. That's a drive and a half, but we never miss PRIMM. That is where you get to make deals with the venders on those prospecting supplies you need. Everywhere Lee and I went, we got some price cuts for the TSS organization.

Our members were commenting on how the other chapters are copying the things we do to raise chapter funds. That's all right. We still seem to do it better. You should have seen all our members having fun.

We did very well on our nugget drawing, gold panning sand and dowsing rods too. Thanks to Mike Mahr, Jerry Farris, Ray and others, we ran out of dowsing rods the first day. Thanks to Richard Gravel, Loren, Frank Huberts, Mike Michalski and other for making the gold panning go smooth. Thanks to Mike Michalski for making the gold nugget drawing a success. Thanks to all the wives and ladies for taking over and keeping everything going on the right track.

*Continued to Page 4*

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### **Thursday, May 7th:**

1:00 PM

Board Meeting

1401 El Norte Parkway

Madrid Manor Mobile Home  
Park, San Marcos

### **Sunday, May 10th:**

#### **Metal Detecting**

8:00 AM

La Jolla Shore Beaches

### **Saturday and Sunday,**

**May 16th and 17th -**

#### **Outing**

Location to be announced

### **Wednesday, June 3rd**

6:30 P.M.

Joslyn Senior Center

Escondido

### **T.S.S.**

#### **Mining Claims Guide**

**Available for**

**Purchase**

**\$20.00 per guide**

**Must show TSS Member-  
ship card to purchase.**

**Please see:**

**Lee Crnkovic**

## UP COMING OUTING

## LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

We were scheduled for the Wiley Well Road Area just west of Blythe - but the news of extreme heat and the high activity of bees in the area - we are canceling this outing location until a cooler time.

So we are hunting for a cooler place to hold the monthly outing.

At tonight's meeting we will decide if this month's outing should take place at Lytle Creek off of Highway 5 or at San Gabriel Mountain - East Fork area.

You will also decide if you would like a day trip or an over nighter to either of the above locations.

## TSS MEMBERSHIP AND CLAIMS GUIDE

Membership to Treasure Seekers of San Diego is free. We do not charge an annual dues. All we ask is that you attend the meetings and participate with the group.

A membership application must be completed. Please see Charlene Myers at the back sign in table for an application. This should be done at your first meeting.

By the second meeting that you attend, you will be given a membership card, at which time you are able to purchase one of TSS's Claim Guides.

## APRIL'S ATTENDANCE REPORT

### Wednesday, April 1st:

#### Chapter Meeting

81 people in attendance.

6 new members

### Sunday, April 4th:

#### Metal Detecting - So. Of Oceanside Pier

7 Members in attendance

Ed Husting, Dwight Reed, Robert Cook, John and Diane Howe, Frank and Zee Trutta.

### Saturday and Sunday, April 17th and 18th:

#### Freedom Claim Outing

Jim & Carolyn Mears, Jerry Kaplan, Yoko Weideman-Riggs, Lee & Sharon Crnkovic, mark Redding, Randy Oyler, Robert & Lori Otto, Frank & Gay Huberts, Andy Collier and Jon Collier, Jeff, Maris, Ginny & Eva Redding, Kenn Anderson, Andy Anderson Richard Anderson, Dale Boettcher, John & Betty Perry, Brian Robinson, Ed Bush and Steve Stiples, Julie Schalow and Karol Rauch, Dain, Chris & Devin Blackburn, Brad Redding and Dan Stiens.

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## APRIL'S MEETING WINNERS

Gold Nugget Raffle Winners: Colette Preston, John Howe, Mike Mahr and Marty Neal

Door Prize Winner: Big "C" Charlie Freeman

50/50 Winner: Frank Huberts

Finds of the Month Winner - Gold/Prospecting: Yoko Weidemann-Riggs

Finds of the Month Winner - Metal Detecting: Dwight Reed

Finds of the Month Winner - Minerals: Dale Bottchener

Grand Prize Winner - Portable Recirculating Sluice - We find out at the June meeting.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

This is our summer of fun time. We're going out to Wiley Well Road area for our outing. Gems and minerals .Maybe you could even find a meteorite. Metal detecting should be great. Then comes our speaker on dowsing and an outing at the Crystal claim. Top that off with the beach metal detecting and that should peg your fun meter.

And thank you Mike Michalski and Mike Mahr for setting us up with some fine speakers. If you don't have fun at the Treasure Seeker meetings, outings or events, you just ain't living right.

*~Sourdough Chet~*

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## TSS LIBRARY

Treasure Seekers of San Diego has a tremendous library for it's members usage. Donna Brock, the Librarian and Robert Otto, the Librarian Assistant, are there to assist you. The library ranges from VHS/DVD "How To" shows, magazines, books of history, gold locations, gem locations, treasure hunting and some maps. The process for checking out the material is easy.

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## TSS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

In January of this year, TSS has developed a Membership Directory to share with the members who are interested in sharing their contact information with other members willing to do the same.

If you would like to be included in the Membership Directory, please see Charlene at the Membership/Sign In table for the form to fill out.

The directory is up-dated once a month and shared via e-mail. Hard printed copies are for those members who do not have internet access.

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## GRAND PRIZE

Tickets can be purchased for the Grand Prize of a portable recirculating mini sluice with motor and pump. Drawing will take place at the June meeting. Have you gotten your tickets?

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If you were born in the month of May -

Your flower is: Lily of the Valley, Hawthorne

Your stone is: Emerald, Sapphire, Agate, Beryl

Your meaning is: Success in Love

Your colors are: Yellow, Red and Green

Emerald: Most valuable color is deep green with a velvety appearance: sometimes oiled to improve color and durability. Chips and cracks easily: sensitive to heat and sudden temperature changes: leaving oiled gems in sunlight can dry up oil and potentially harm gem color.

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## MINER'S COOKBOOK CORNER

BY JUDY CARPENTER

**Two Side Dishes for Garden Vegetables:****Marinade Tomatoes**

- 4 large, firm, ripe tomatoes, sliced
- 2 gloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1/2 tsp. Kosher salt
- 1/4 cup Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- 2 TBS Balsamic or Wine Vinegar
- 1 tsp Oregano or basil
- 1/2 tsp ground pepper

Arrange sliced tomatoes in a glass dish. Combine remaining ingredients, mix well and pour over the tomatoes. Cover & Chill for several hours before serving.

**Sour Cream Cucumbers**

- 2 - 3 medium cucumbers, thinly sliced
- 3/4 tsp Kosher salt
- 2/3 cup vinegar
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 tsp dill weed
- 1 TBS Sugar or Sugar Twin
- Dash of Salt and Pepper

Arrange sliced cucumbers in a shallow glass dish, sprinkle with Salt, add vinegar to cover, let stand 30 minutes. Drain. Combine Sour Cream, Sugar, Dill and Pepper. Toss dressing with the cucumbers. Chill at least 1 hour before serving.

## SEARCHING THE BEACHES

BY: FRANK TRUTTA

Low tide hunting is still slow. It looks like we will not be getting storms for awhile and all that nice sand will stay up onto the beaches. I went out a couple of days ago to see if I could detect any deep targets 10 to 12 inches deep. After 45 minutes of going super slow with a 15" coil, a quarter inch off of the ground, I got a faint hit. Almost missed it. I recovered a quarter at twelve inches (I measured).

Moving up the beach, sort of on the slope I received another super faint signal. I dug a narrow hole a foot deep checked it with the coil and did not get a signal. I enlarged the hole enough to drop in the coil and got a nice signal. Digging more I finally saw a nice gold colored bracelet the size and shape of a piston ring. Filled my hole and got another signal, dug and got another bracelet. All in all I got five bracelets in an area 2 by 12 feet all about 18 inches deep. I never dug so many deep holes in a row before.

I checked them out at the car and found no markings on them. These are the nicest gold plated bracelets I recovered at one time. We really go for the exercise anyway, and being out treasure hunting it is always a win win situation. How lucky we are.



Hunt Smart!

## APRIL'S ATTENDANCE REPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

### Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 24th, 25th & 26th:

#### GPAA Primm Gold Show -

Chester & Harriett Nowicki, Lee & Sharon Crnkovic, Ray Wilkerson, Jerry & Kay Farris, Richard Gravel, Loren Raddatz, Mike & Rosalie Mahr, Michael Michalski, Ed Bush, Diane & John Howe, Jim & Michelle Hall.

\*\*\* Sat. April 25th we sold 308 raffle tickets for the gold nugget drawing and 32 pair of dowsing rods, plus gold bags for panning and GPAA pins.

\*\*\* Sun. April 26th we sold 363 raffle tickets for the gold nugget drawing and gold bags for panning.

## HELPING OUT AT GPAA OFFICE

As you read in the President's message, GPAA is sometimes in need of volunteers to help with various items at different times. This is mostly done on a weekday (Wednesdays are the preferred day).

If you would like to be placed on a 'call list' to help when needed, please sign up at the back table.

Some of the work involves stuffing envelopes, putting mining equipment together, inventorying magazines, getting information and items ready for the gold shows.

They will feed you lunch and you get to see what the back room of the GPAA office is all about.

Please place your name, telephone number and e-mail address on the sign up sheet if you are interested.

## NOT ALL PROSPECTORS/MINERS WERE SMART CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“This is a dangerous part of the work,” he said. “The jar of a cinder popping from the fire striking this dynamite would make it explode. A twig snapped against it or some object dropped upon it would bring the end. Dynamite is not exploded by heat. It requires some jar - some friction. When it is frozen - - and it freezes sooner than water - - it is fairly safe to handle. But in thawing the warmer it gets the more sensitive it is. When these sticks are warm a dime dropped upon them will make them explode. It’s dangerous business.”

No screen was between the dynamite and the fire where “the powder man” worked. If he feared that fatal cinder popping from the dry stick in the fire he did not show it. In a methodical, careful way this grave, quiet man worked swiftly and silently by the fire.

“I began it with my father when I was 15 years old.” He said. “More than twenty years now I’ve been a powder man and - - well, I’m here today, anyhow.”

But he would venture no prediction for the morrow.

Gus Williams, a well-known prospector from Searchlight was a little careless when transporting kegs of black powder by burro and paid the price. During August 1910, Williams was returning to his mining property when the cinch loosened and the pack shifted on the burro carrying his supplies.

Stopping to adjust the load Williams noticed the top of one of the powder cans had come off. While trying to replace the top of the powder can William’s pipe dropped from between his teeth and fell directly into the open can.

“Instinctively, the miner fell backward, the explosion occurring at the same time. The force hurled a rock through the air so it struck Williams on the left ankle and shattered the bone. The burro ran away and Williams was left severely injured on the desert unable to walk.”

After the explosion Williams crawled two miles over the fiery sand to Siam, a station on the Salt Lake Railroad, where he was taken about a train the brought him to the San Bernardino hospital for treatment.

*Again, this article was taken from the Goldfield Daily Tribune of 1910*

*All grammar and spelling and structure is as how it was written.*

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## DONATIONS TO TSS LIBRARY

Two members have made generous donations to the TSS Library.

Laura Dougherty has given a monetary donation, which has helped us purchase a VHS to DVD converter machine.

Ed Husting has donated some of his own library books to our library, which include: Stratigraphy and Life History (hardback); The Earth and Its Resources (hardback); An Introduction to the Methods of Optical Crystallography (hardback); The Study of Rocks in Thin Section (hardback); Mineralogy Concepts Descriptions Determinations (hardback); Principles of Physical Geology (hardback); Rocks and Minerals - A guide to minerals, gems and rocks (small paperback) and Ed-U-Cards of Nature “Rocks and Minerals” which are 54 full color photo-cards and description.

Your donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you.

## TSS EQUIPMENT FOR MEMBER'S USE

Treasure Seekers of San Diego has a storage unit at Diablo Mini Storage in Escondido. Kent Donalson is the Equipment Manager.

We have:

- 2 Sluice Boxes - 3 feet long
- 1 Sluice Box - 4 feet long
- 1 Mini Recirculating 9 inch Sluice with pump and motor and tub.
- 1 Mini Recirculating sluice with pump and motor (no tub)
- 1 Highbanker with motor and pump
- 1 Gold Grabber (box type high banker with motor and pump)
- 1 Small Dry Washer (no leaf blower)
- 1 Large Dry Washer (Keene 151 with leaf blower)
- 1 Dry Vac (5 gallon size) with motor
- 1 Dredge 3 inch (with motor, pump, hooka air, misc. hoses, end nozzles and accessories)
- 1 Magnetic Sweeper on rollers

All that we ask (and it's not much) is that, anything that is checked out, is to be returned in the same or better condition than when it is borrowed. It's understandable that with the nature of our hobby the equipment will get some bumps and bruises, which is acceptable, but if parts are lost or broke, it is the responsibility of the "borrower" to repair or replace missing or broken parts. To go a little more in depth - - if a motor is on it's last leg and you are using it and it poops out, we understand that it's not your fault and don't expect you to replace it. On the other hand, if you have been using the motor for an extended period of time and forget to check and see if oil is needed, and the motor burns up, that would be a different story.

Feel free to give Kent a call if you would like to use "your equipment", his phone number is on the back page of the newsletter. All he asks, is that you give him a couple of days notice when you might need something, and when items are returned that they be in a CLEAN condition. This is to be respectful to the next person checking out the item. All equipment must be returned by the next meeting from when it was checked out. This will allow you any where from one week to three weeks usage.

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## Books by Blakey

Blakey Stanford, a TSS member, is the proud publisher of many interesting books. His books are compilations and re-prints of old magazine articles from the 30s, 40s, 50s and later. Many are first hand accounts of what it was like when there were real prospectors. There is nothing being printed today that compares to these articles. Often whenever possible there is a treasure map that corresponds too the article. He sells these books on e-bay for \$20 each or three for \$50. Frank Trutta at Columbia Metal Detectors also sells them for \$20 each. All have no shipping - no sales tax. Blake also sets up his books for purchase at the TSS Chapter meetings.

Available compilations and re-prints are:

Basement Chemistry for Prospectors	Lost Arch Gold Mine
Duke's Short Course in Prospecting and Mineral Identification	
Peg Leg's Lost Gold	Randsburg Gold
Twenty-nine Palms Gold	Yuma Gold

MEMBER'S PHOTO'S:

APRIL'S CHAPTER MEETING



MEMBER'S PHOTO'S:

FREEDOM CLAIM



## POSSIBLE BANNER GRADE ROAD CLAIM

TSS is scouting a possible new claim for the club off of Banner Grade Road.

It was first scouted on August 9th, 2006 by Chester Nowicki, Ray Wilkerson, Lee Crnkovic, Jim Mears and Charlene Myers.

Then on April 22nd, 2009 another group of members went out to work the area. They were: Big "C" Charlie Freeman, Jerry Goldstein, Robert Cook, Colette Preston and Charlene Myers.

Flecks of gold was found with every bucket. We did not work any one area very hard, but did a lot of spot testing.

On Monday, May 4th, Chester Nowicki, Lee Crnkovic and Jim Mears went back out to try to establish where the center post and four corner posts would be best.

There is still lots to do to file for the actual claiming rights - so stay tuned.

A little look at the terrain:



Saved for Cartoon.

# COLUMBIA METAL DETECTORS

## MAY SPECIAL

### Snake Guardz

The Original ultra light weight snake gaiter, with metalarsal protection, featuring a unique design which allows air circulation between the leg, the wearer and the Snake Guardz.

\$59.95

Columbia Metal Detectors

760 E. Valley Parkway

Escondido, CA.

760-743-8516

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TSS Member

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Carlsbad, CA. 92008

760-729-0246

[sberdan@americanbus.com](mailto:sberdan@americanbus.com)

**CLASSIFIEDS FOR MEMBERS:**

**For Sale -**

Minelab Explorer SE with ultra-light & ultra tough 11" DD coil. Purchased from Frank Trutta in June 2008 for \$1400.00. Used 3 times. Sell for \$950.00 OBO

Contact: Jake Stortz 760-723-1280 or 951-553-5213 (cell)

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**For Sale -**

Large Gold Buddy Drywasher. Has Craftsman blower, hoses, vacuum adapter and bucket, included are extras to support drywasher (spare parts). Everything has been serviced and works great. Selling for \$250.00

Contact: Mark Gartland garster88@yahoo.com

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**For Sale -**

Wetsuits. 1 X-Large, 2 large and 1 small. And 2 full size bib style wetsuits.

All are in great shape, if not like new. \$75.00 each.

Contact: Lee Crnokvic 760-519-7757 or slgacrnk@aol.com

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**For Sale -**

Garrett Ace 250 Metal Detector \$150.00

White's Beach Hunter ID Metal Detector \$400.00

Contact: Frank Trutta 760-743-8516 or scthfrank@yahoo.com

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**For Sale -**

Gold Duster Drywasher in fair condition. I used this unit for a couple of years until I bought a new one. It's well used but great for finding your nuggets and gold flakes. Fan works great, small hole in hose, but is repaired. Gas or electric blower is needed. Sells new for \$450.00. Selling for \$150.00

Contact: Brad Redding 760-716-0699 or bradfordredding@mac.com

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**Member Looking For -**

A 2' backpack dredge, preferably a Keene. If anyone has one for sale - please contact: John or Betty Perry at 707-799-4694 or 707-696-6887

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**For Sale -**

Minelab GP3000. Includes both an AC charger and a DC charger, an 11" coil that is switchable between a mono coil and a DD coil, a 6x9 Coil Teck Nugget coil that is also DD and earphones.

Contact: Lee Crnokvic 760-519-7757 or slgacrnk@aol.com

Treasure Seekers of San Diego welcomes the opportunity for it's members to run free ad's in the newsletter.

This is just a reminder that Treasure Seekers of San Diego does not endorse or guarantee any product sold or purchased through these ads.

That is strictly the buyers and sellers responsibility.

**Gold Bags**

**\$6.00 per bag**

*Or*

**Summer Special Of**

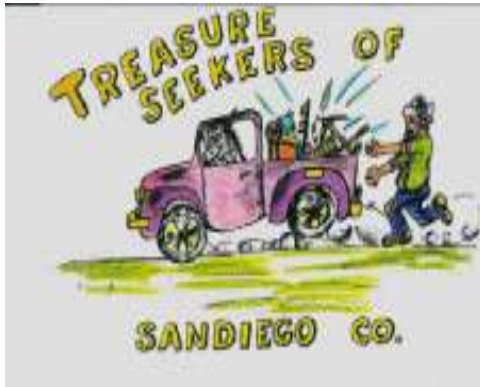
**4 bags for \$20.00**

**1 in every 10 bags has a little 'extra' something in it.**

**But we will never tell which bags they are!**

T.S.S. sells bags of gold concentrates. This is a great way to practice your panning skills plus save on gas money!

**Get yours today!**



TREASURE SEEKERS OF SAN  
DIEGO COUNTY

TREASURE SEEKERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

MISSION STATEMENT:

Treasure Seekers Of San Diego County (T.S.S.) was officially organized on May 21, 2003 when the election of officers was held. We are a GPAA chapter. Non GPAA members may attend meetings and participate in the raffle, but are not eligible to vote, hold office, be on the claims committee, or utilize GPAA claims. The purpose of this organization is to provide an environment to increase public awareness, with education and training, of locating, identification and legal removal of minerals, caches and treasures while keeping in mind the preservation of the environment and wild habitat.

Meetings are held at the Joslyn Senior Center

210 Park Avenue, Escondido.

On the first Wednesday of each month, 6:30—9:00 PM.

**Board Members:**

President:	Chester Nowicki	760-747-1165	candhnow@cox.net
Vice President:	Ray Wilkerson	760-598-6441	bwilkerson9@cox.net
Recording Secretary:	Sharon Crnkovic	760-519-9899	slgacrnk@aol.com
Treasurer:	Lee Crnkovic	760-519-7757	slgacrnk@aol.com
Membership:	Charlene Myers	760-439-8521	charlenemyers@cox.net
Ways & Means:	Harriett Nowicki	760-747-1165	HANowicki@cox.net
Librarian	Donna Brock	760-724-8276	brock.d@sbcglobal.net
Claims:	Harriett Nowicki	760-747-1165	HANowicki@cox.net
Refreshments:	Sue Conner	760-480-5638	Goldbusters@sbcglobal.net
	Ron Gonsalves	760-480-5638	Goldbusters@sbcglobal.net
Metal Detecting:	Frank Trutta	760-743-8516	scthfrank@yahoo.com
Newsletter:	Charlene Myers	760-439-8521	charlenemyers@cox.net
Claims Guide:	Lee Crnkovic	760-519-7757	slgacrnk@aol.com
Equipment Manager:	Kent Donalson	760-415-3515	kentsride@yahoo.com
Director At Large:	Loren Raddatz	760-726-7397	Laraddatz@cox.net
Past President:	Jim Hall		

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