

TREASURE SEEKERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

FINDERS KEEPERS

December, 2011

Editor: Michael Michalski



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We had the best Thanksgiving outing ever. There was well over 50 members including those from the Imperial Valley Prospector group. We all got to prospect, metal detect and explore on the five 160 acre claims. Off and on throughout out the week, we conducted tours to all of the claims. We had many positive comments on the outing and on our meetings.

Thanks to Earl and his volunteers, they were able to post the paper documents and plant most of the corner markers. Thanks to many of our members familiar with the area, we were able to lead groups to the claims. Thanks to many of our members, we were able to share prospecting equipment and help others set up their own items. Thanks to many of our members who helped prepare and set up our wonderful potluck dinner.

The weather was perfect, day and night. When we were not kicking back and sharing stories, we were out individually trying our luck in finding those gold locations, hiking, metal detecting, walking our dogs, or exploring old mine locations. This is a new training location for us, and we can come here for many years. All in all, I believe it was the best outing we have had for years.

Like I have previously said, we are planning our next years outings and if you know of some place we should include, please let us know. These are educational events and we want to cover as much as we can. While we do a lot of prospecting and mineral identification, we want to cover a lot in metal detecting.

Went to a last minute BLM Resource Management meeting. Anytime a government entity says that they are going to enhance my quality of life on my public lands, I get nervous and want to hear what they are up to. In short, the BLM is working on "management plans" to change how they will manage plots of BLM lands from Pomdale, down to the Mexican border. The claims they are sticking with is that they have been working on this for some time and as of August, they have been looking for input from concerned citizens. We have a 90 day input time and it is up on December 21. Wow!, where have we been and why do we seem to have just found out about this?

These management plans cover four different "Alternatives" (A, B, C, D). some good for some citizens and bad for others. Open up some areas while closing or restricting other areas. A "for instance" is while keep open some mining areas, it will restrict some access to these areas. While opening grazing, you will not have roads or paths. I may have made some distortion to the "Alternatives", but wanted you to get the picture. It appears it is a lose-lose situation. Where we may get to save some options, we will lose on others. When we asked when the final decision will be made, we were given the statement that they hope to be done in a year.....

We will complete this year with our annual Christmas party. This will be at the Madrid Manor Mobil Home Park. December 10, from 2:00 on. Don't forget the gift if you want to participate in the exchange. Gift price from 15.00 to 20.00.

Have a very merry Christmas you all and I hope Santa brings you the prospecting supplies, metal detecting machines and mineral identification items you have put on your wish list.

Sourdough Chet

Thank You

CLAIMS CORNER

Earl Sterrett

A big round of thanks from the claims committee to those club members who helped out at the Cargo claims Nov 17th – Nov 20th. To Chris Nead for his help re-setting the center post of Cargo #4, and the NW #3 corner post. To Dave Wade on his quad, running posts out to the claims, and always having a cooler full of water. Especially for Mike Jordan's help to locate the spot where 4 corners of #1, #2, #3 and #5 meet, and climbed up the hill to pound them in. Finally, to big-horn sheep Mike Mahr, who climbed Cargo Peak to set the center post of #3. From the top, all 5 claims can be seen, with a spectacular view of the entire Cargo Muchaco Mountains. When you are out at the claims, be sure to look up and find the white center post that marks the center of claim #3.

All but the corner posts for claim #4 were set during the last two trips. I will be looking for someone with a 2-man quad, and about a day to help set the final markers. Please contact me to coordinate a trip out during December to finish the task. An updated Cargo claims map with actual coordinates for the claims guide will be handed out soon.

When out working along the east boundary of #3, remember to stay off the "Patented Claims" that overlap our claim.

The Imperial Valley Gold Club was able to secure a claim along the western edge of TSS #2 and #5. The claim name is IVGC Cargo #6.

During 2012, all of the TSS claims will hopefully be inspected, cleaned-up and GPS coordinates confirmed. Look for separate e-mails, with most of the work in conjunction with planned outings.

Jim and Sue reported lots of trash and debris out at the Hall of Fame. Please bring extra trash bags and haul out a load. Remember to report your outings.

The committee is also working with the BLM to correct filing discrepancies with regard to the Smoken claim up at the Freedom claims. Anyone with photos or older maps of the claim markers please step forward.

And Thanks Earl for all your work and resources!

Last Month

Had 130 in attendance with 10 new members and guests

We had a great turn out for the midweek outing(best yet). All of the best stuff was found as always. Those that showed up were. Al Freeman, Janice Davies, Randy Wann, John Howe, John & James Ptaszek. Big"C"

Metal Detecting - Mission Beach Attendees: John Howe, John Ptaszek & Yoko

Kind of a brisk morning. No rain. Almost an empty beach. Not a lot of targets.

I found \$1.71 not including a 1964 silver Rosie. I didn't notice it till I got home.

John P. found \$.71 the last I saw him. But I'm impressed that he found that much without headphones and a SAND SCOOP! As I was leaving, I watched him with a cup of coffee in his left hand swinging his detector with his right! Now that's a relaxed beach hunter!

Yoko found a few coins, keys and a toy motorcycle.

It was still fun.

Door Prize- James Ptaszek

50/50- \$115.00 John Howe

Gold Nuggets: Joe Torres, Rich Nead, Steve LePage and Charlie Freeman.

Finds of the month -

Gold- 1st "Crazy" John

Metal- 1st Jim Varonfakis

Gem- 1st Jim Mears

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 10th is the TSS Christmas Party at the Madrid Manor main clubhouse. Time will be 2-8 PM. Bring a dish for the potluck that will serve 6-8 people. There will be a gift exchange for those wanting to participate. The gift should be \$15-\$20. "No open alcohol" at the party. This is a clubhouse rule that we need to follow.

Future Speakers 2012:

January—Cory Rudolph

February—Dr. Meldahl - New book - ROUGH-HEWN LAND

March—Gary Eckert will talk about metal detecting for meteorites.

April—Jim Mears

May—Jerry Hobbs from PLP

Outing Schedule 2012:

January 21-22 - Cargo's

February 18-19 - Gold Basin (tentative)

March 17-18 Lucerne Dry Lake

April 21 - Crystal Claims 1 day outing

May 19-20 Freedom

June 16 - San Gabriel

July 14 - TSS Picnic

There will be no general meeting in July due to the 4th falling on the first Wednesday of the month.

Finds of the Month

Show off what you have done in the **last month!**
1st and 2nd Prize winners for each category.

Gold
Gems and Minerals
Metal Detecting

Items available for purchase at the meeting

Claim Guides - \$20.00 per guide with your TSSD membership card.

Dowsing Rods - \$20.00 as available

Bags of Gold Pay Dirt - \$10.00/Bag

Save on the cost of gasoline and still get some practice time in!

One in every 10 bags will have a 'little' something extra!

Drawings at this meeting

Door Prize
50/50 Drawing
Gold Nuggets
Table Drawing

Quarterly Grand Prize drawing for December:

BIG BEAUTIFUL GOLD NUGGET

New gold - Not worn smooth with quartz inclusions



See Yoko For your WINNING Ticket!!!

MINER'S COOKBOOK

By Judy Carpenter

Hanukkah Sugar Cookies

1 pkg. (8 oz.) PHILADELPHIA Cream Cheese, softened
1 cup butter, softened
1/3 cup granulated sugar
1/4 tsp. Almond extract
2 cups flour
Colored sugar or decorating icings

BEAT first 4 ingredients in large bowl with mixer until well blended. Add flour; mix well. Cover. Refrigerate several hours or overnight.

HEAT oven to 350°F. Roll out dough to 1/8-inch-thickness on lightly floured surface. Cut into shapes with 2-inch cookie cutters; sprinkle with colored sugar. Or, leave plain to frost later with decorating icing (after cookies are baked and cooled). Place on baking sheets.

BAKE 12 to 15 min. or until edges are lightly browned. Remove to wire racks. Cool completely.

Almond Biscotti

Ingredients:

4 cups all-purpose flour
2 cups sugar
1 cup almonds, toasted, chopped
1 ½ teaspoons baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
4 eggs
2 egg whites
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ teaspoon almond extract

Directions:

Preheat: oven to 350°F.

Mix: in a large bowl, flour, sugar, almonds, baking soda, and salt. In a separate large mixing bowl, mix together eggs, egg whites, vanilla, and almond extract. Pour egg mixture into flour mixture; mix well.

Turn: mixture onto lightly floured surface; knead 10 times. Shape into a long roll, flattened to 1-inch thickness.

Place: on baking sheet; bake 35 minutes. Remove from oven; cool on a wire rack 10 minutes. Cut into ½-inch diagonal slices; replace onto baking sheet.

Bake: 10 minutes, turn over, and bake another 10 minutes. Remove and cool on a wire rack. Dip or coat in melted chocolate if desired. Give as a gift.

FOR SALE

Send your Ads to TSSDnewsletter@hotmail.com

35 editions of the GPAA Magazine plus 2 spares for a total of 37 magazines.

From March 2005 through December 2011.

\$30.00 takes them all. See Charlene at the meeting or call 760-439-8521

TSSD MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Membership to Treasure Seekers of San Diego is free. All we ask is that you attend the meetings and participate with the group.

First Meeting: A membership application must be completed.

Second Meeting: You will be given a membership card and sign the TSS claims rules.

Third Meeting: You are able to purchase one of TSSD's Claim Guides.

To maintain membership, you must attend one meeting every four months.

Active military will not be removed from membership list.

TSSD 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, treasure hunting and some maps. The process for checking out the material is easy.

TSSD EQUIPMENT FOR MEMBER'S USE

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

Inventory:

- 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, with the nature of our hobby, the equipment will get some bumps and bruises; which is acceptable. But if parts are lost or broken, it is the responsibility of the "borrower" to repair or replace. *i.e. If a motor is on it's last leg, 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, forget to check if oil is needed and the motor burns up that would be a different story.*

Feel free to give Earl Sterrett at 858-922-4547 a call, if you would like to use "our equipment." 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.

Books by Blakey

Blakey Stanford, a TSSD 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 to 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. No shipping – No sales tax. Blake also sets up his books for purchase at the TSSD 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

PLP - PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE - www.PLP2.org

Orange Challenge Card Info

While pursuing your outdoor endeavor of work, play, recreation or sport and you are challenged by a representative of a governmental agency or public servant, regarding the legality of your activity in their area, you should do the following:

- It is wise to politely ask if you are breaking any law. If you are informed that you are breaking the law, then ask for an explanation of the law and any municipal code that may pertain to the law.
- You should do as the governmental representative asks you, then ask for their name, badge number, position, and the agency and district they represent. Record this information along with the Date, time, and location of the area where you are located.
- If you do have a pleasant response from any of the representatives, such as being informative, cooperative, or helpful, we would like to hear about them also.
- Give this information to your local PLP office or representative and they will advise you of the appropriate procedure to follow.

Use this form to guide you when you are challenged and most of all be polite.

Name:

Badge or ID # Position:

Agency:

District represented:

Date & Time:

Location Details:

Forward to: Barret Wetherby - Secretary-Treasurer

818-957-1455

BHWetherby@aol.com

National Office 3700 Santa Carlotta St, La Crescenta, CA. 91214

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.

WWW.TREASURESEEKERSOFSANDIEGO.ORG
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TreasureSeekersofSD/>

Meetings are held at the Joslyn Senior Center
210 Park Avenue, Escondido, CA 92025
On the first Wednesday of each month, 6:30-9:00PM

BOARD MEMBERS

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Newsletter Publication:
Inkwell Printing Co.
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Escondido, CA. 92025
760-743-8681 760-747-8182 (Fax)