

TREASURE SEEKERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

FINDERS KEEPERS

October, 2012

Editor: Michael Michalski



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Still no new word on the court battle about dredging. This is beginning to worry me some. I also heard some rumors of land closing up in the Virginia Dale area. We have three claims up in there. There is a movement to enclose much more area into the Joshua Tree National Park. The 29 Palms City council is in on this. Rumor has it that there is a lot of desire to put in more solar energy structures so the Council wants to expand the national park to include the Virginia Dale Mining District which will include our claims. With all the liberal thinking and environmental groups trying to close off everything and frowning on alternative energy projects, it looks like it may be an easy slam-dunk.

Our monthly outing was not as great as it should have been. One, because it was still hot weather and two, because of the lack of a Wagon Master who knows the area. We did have someone to volunteer and it was one our newer members. We thank you for taking on that project. That is one of our downfalls, Wagon Master. We will work on that.

Our next speaker will be talking about the area where our next outing will be. This is a way we can help our newer members get a feel for those mineral areas. We also would like to hear from the members of those areas they think would be great to visit.

Bates Nut Farm setup starts Friday and they are chomping at the bit to have us come up and participate. It's their Farm Education Days with lots of old time events going on. When you read this, the event will be over, but hope you all got to come and see. We will sure have a lot of stories to share at our meeting. Lots of Scouts and lots of kids.

We are coming to an end of this year with just two outings and the Christmas party left. Also, we are working on next year's outings and events. Let us know what you want.

Like I said last month, there is always something new and exciting going on, but you have to come to the meetings to find out. If you don't see it happening here and you want it, you'll just have to let us know or jump in and volunteer to help. - Sourdough Chet



A Scribble from the Editor

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6, 2012 the day before our next meeting.

I'm asking every one of you to get out and Vote! This is probably the most important election of a generation. It shapes the direction of my Country. I'm not going to tell you who I think you should vote for, that's between you and the booth. Me? I'm a Conservative, a Marine, a Businessman, a Capitalist and a member of the NRA. I believe in the Constitution of the United States of America, my Family, my Friends and my God. You can probably guess who earned my vote. Semper Fidelis

Thank You!

Western Mining Alliance

Our new partner and friend in maintaining our Mining Rights

www.westernminingalliance.org

To both our speakers at September's Meeting.

Dwight did an excellent presentation on his Metal Detecting/artifact trip to the UK.
And Loren on his adventures in Alaska on the Cripple River; what beautiful gold.

Last Month

125 people signed in. Nine new guests.

Winners

Finds of the Month:

Gold - 1st: Dan McGuigan, 2nd: John Howe

Metal Detecting - 1st: Dwight Reed

Gems & Minerals - 1st: Ed Husting, 2nd: Matt East

Door Prize: #55 - Dennis James

50/50 split: \$70.00 - Craig Donovan

Gold Nugget Drawings: Dennis James, David Hale, Michael Michalski and Sue Conner

Grand Prize: Dry Vac - Rick and Pat Koontz

Holcomb Valley Outing and Bates Nut Farm Event: looking for great feedback at the meeting.

EVENTS & INFO

Need New Pix

We are bringing new life to our WebPages with photos. Please, take some digital photos at our outings and send me the good ones; the ones that make somebody **smile**. TSSDnewsletter@hotmail.com
Jpeg format (.jpg) is the easiest for me to manipulate. Thanks - Michael

Our Outing for October is the Freedom Claim near Randsburg.

It is hot, dry and dirty; everything a good desert claim should be and there is gold there. I found some. I believe we actually have three claims in the neighborhood. Enjoy the shark.

Nearby is the crash site of an X-15 Rocket Plane from 1967. A brave test pilot, Major Michael Adams, lost his life in that plane. Pieces of the wreckage can still be found. The frame was solid Titanium.

<http://www.xb-70.com/wmaa/x15/>

<http://www.friends-partners.org/partners/mwade/craft/x15a.htm>

<http://www.aircraftwrecks.com/monuments/x15.htm>

http://www.check-six.com/Crash_Sites/X-15A_crash_site.htm

The last time I went to Freedom, Jim Mears took a bunch of us on a night excursion with rock hammers and UV lights. So many interesting things fluoresce from UV light; including scorpions.

There are multiple levels of UV Radiation. Different stuff glows under different wave lengths.

We usually talk about UVA (Long Wave) and UVB (Short Wave).

Exposure to some UV Radiation can be harmful. Educate yourself and take precautions.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ultraviolet>

<http://www.americanairandwater.com/uv-facts/uv-light.htm>

ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS REPORT

By: Jim "Jim Bo" Mears

BLM Meetings Attendance

All of the current legislative actions pending before this session of Congress relating to public land use restrictions are in committee and have not been acted upon. With this being a major election year and with critical economic issues facing congress, recreational land use issues are a lower priority. It looks like not much is going to happen to the pending legislative that has been introduced until the November 2012 to January 2013 time frames, if then. Our collecting (prospecting) areas may be safe from additional federal legislation for the time being.

That cannot be said for existing restrictions and regulations already in place for Public Land Access. As mandated by congress several years ago Public Land Managers are required to inventory the public lands under their control for Roads, Trails, Recreational and Commercial Values and environmental, historical and cultural importance. This inventory also includes any public land containing wilderness characteristics which may lead to legislative designations at a later date. This process, as mandated by congress, requires input from stakeholders and is open to comments and suggestion from the public. This is accomplished, for BLM Land, through the **Resource Advisory Council (RAC)**. Without continued input from the user community of rock, gem and mineral hunters there will only be one conclusion and that will be the closure of access roads and trails to vehicular travel to the collecting areas. This will happen because the environmental activists will have spoken with a louder voice than the gem and mineral hunters.

Rock, Gem and Mineral hunters must make their wants and needs be known to the Public Land Managers and the only way to accomplish this is to be proactive in the BLM Process. Attend meetings of the BLM, write letters to the BLM Managers and elected officials voicing your concerns and the need to keep access to the various sites open to all public land users. Let them know that we are also stewards of our public lands and are responsible users of our natural resources.

Contact: Bureau of Land Management of Southern California

El Centro Field Office

1661 S. 4th Street El Centro CA 92243 Phone: (760) 337-4400 Fax: (760) 337-4490

Ridgecrest Field Office

300 S. Richmond Rd. Ridgecrest, CA 93555 Phone: (760) 384-5400 Fax: (760) 384-5499

Palm Springs - South Coast Field Office

1201 Bird Center Drive Palm Springs, California 92262 Phone: (760) 833-7100 Fax: (760) 833-7199

Needles Field Office

1303 S. Hwy 95 Needles, CA 92363 Phone: (760) 326-7000 Fax: (760) 326-7099

California Desert District

22835 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos Moreno Valley, CA 92553 Phone: (951) 697-5200 Fax: (951) 697-5299

Bishop Field Office

351 Pacu Lane, Suite 100 Bishop, CA 93514 Phone: (760) 872-5000 Fax: (760) 872-5050

Barstow Field Office

2601 Barstow Road Barstow, CA 92311 Phone: (760) 252-6000 Fax: (760) 252-6098

We will have a **Q & A** session as our speaker event for the meeting. Starting with info on the claim.

Email

Please, update your email address if you are not getting the Newsletter or our other updates on your personal computer. Send an update to John Howe lgolfer@aol.com

Claims Work Assessment aka Maintenance Fee Waiver Certification aka Proof of Labor

On July 27, 2012, the Bureau of Land Management published regulatory changes in the Federal Register requiring additional fees for many mining claim holders.

In April 2012, the Omnibus Spending Bill (HR 2055) was passed by Congress and subsequently signed by President Obama on December 23, 2011. Hidden within this bill, titled "House Report 112-331: Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012," was a change in mining claim fees from \$140 per claim to \$140 "for each 20 acres of the placer claim or portion thereof."

Those who own ten or fewer mining claims are still eligible for the Small Miner's Waiver for completing qualifying maintenance and submitting a Proof of Labor form. However, for a miner who holds in excess of ten mining claims, the fee for a 160-acre association claim jumps from \$140 to \$1,120! There is no change in fees for lode claims, mill sites or tunnel sites.

www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/iac/miningfacts.html

We are looking for a new Librarian Assistant.

If you have a little time to share with the club, Contact Donna Brock at 760-724-8276 or brock.d@sbcglobal.net

Metal Detecting

Boy Scouts

Anyone connected with a Boy Scout Troup, we are looking to do some Metal Detecting instruction and hands on demonstrations with scouts at their meeting. This relates directly to a Merit Badge in Geology; both the tool and the mineral specimens. Contact Dwight Reed at 760-727-7213 or Dwightreed@cox.net

Developing a successful attitude for metal detecting.

How many times have you noticed that there is always one person detecting who has great finds almost all the time? You know them; they are the 'lucky' ones. You probably noticed that he or she does not have any special detector or piece of equipment, or may not have been detecting any longer than the others, or may not spend any more time detecting. They seem to always be up and excited. This is the person with the successful attitude.

A successful attitude is proven to work in all endeavors. Why should it be any different for detecting?

If you want to be successful at detecting you are going to have to "metal detect" and maintain a 'successful attitude'.

I don't claim to understand all the reasons why a successful attitude works when metal detecting but I sure do know it does work. I have proven it over and over again to myself. This is another one of those things that you are just going to have to trust me on until you learn for yourself.

I am not sure if part of the power comes from successful attitude or in the perseverance that is developed with it or if you just start tuning into things in a different manner or a little of both. Maybe it also has to do with listening better to your detector. Maybe it comes from looking at the land with a different eye.

Good Luck and Happy Hunting! By: **V.P. Dwight Reed**

Thirteen brave hunters showed up at Coronado Beach on Sunday. Cool early morning and warming, not a lot of people on the beach and a perfect day to detect!

Attendees and their finds are listed in order of accomplishment: Brian Kinnear - \$2.96; working Smartphone & earring, Steve & Mary Ellen Rebik - handsome man's tungsten ring, Jack Stangle - \$2.13 & earring, John Howe - \$1.98, Dan McGuigan - \$.79 & costume necklace & 2 earrings (not matched), Gerry Kaplan - \$.55 & another pouchful o'puns, Roz Laffon - \$.27, Bob & Becky Adimari - \$.25 & 1946 wheatie, Mike Mahr - not much \$\$ but lots of bobbie pins, Paul Oakes ??? And Bill Laffoon - \$0 and the new owner of the SKUNK! He found a nickel on the road, but that doesn't count.

The October metal detecting outing will be Sunday, Oct 7, 8:00 am at **Ocean Beach** (probably Dog Beach). I'll send a map with my reminder. The Oceanside beaches seem to be really sparse, so I'll be going south. The beaches are bigger, more people and FREE parking. - John Howe

Great weather at the Oceanside pier and we had a great turn out. John Howe found \$1.95 & a smart phone, Steve & Mary Ellen Rebik found at last check 26¢ and Big"C" found 6¢ and my way home. Better luck next month.

Great detecting this month will be at Bonita Cove across from Mission beach. October 5th, Friday at 8am-ish. Please bring your detector and batteries. See you all there. Big"C"

Chapter Support

We don't charge dues, there is no cost to check out prospecting equipment, outings are free, prospecting our claims is free, the library is free, the education and companionship are priceless/free.

All the work to maintain the claims, equipment, storage, federal/state/local bureaucracy, taxes, maps, guides, kitchen, library, website, newsletter and so much more is ALL volunteers.

Your club still has rent to pay, many claims with annual fees, equipment to buy/maintain, storage fees, website fees, gold & prizes cost, printing fees and numerous other monthly costs.

We sell a few quality items and some raffle tickets for some really good prizes.

***Here is how you support your club. Participate. Buy some tickets. Win!
And Thanks for being part of a fine organization.***

Items available for purchase at the meeting

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

Dowsing Rods - \$20.00 as available

Treasure Seekers Pins & Decals

Bags of Gold Pay Dirt - \$10.00/Bag

One in every 10 bags will have a 'little' something extra! One in 50 has a picker.

Drawings at this meeting

Door Prize

50/50

Gold Nuggets

Raffle Table

Special Ticket for '**Super Prize**' drawing at the end of the year with every \$20 tickets purchased.

Quarterly Grand Prize drawing for December:



A Beautiful - Quarter Ounce - Solid Gold Nugget

See Jerry For your WINNING Ticket!!!

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

MINER'S COOKBOOK

By Judy Carpenter

Ghoulish and Spooktacular



No Tricks - All Treats

Halloween Chex Mix

8 oz. white baking chocolate bars, coarsely chopped

4 cups Honey Nut Chex, Corn Chex or Rice Chex cereal or mix them up 2 cups bite-size pretzels, any flavor or style

1/2 cup raisins or dried cranberries

1 cup candy corn or candy Harvest mix

1/4 cup orange and black candy decors (sprinkles), optional

• In large microwavable bowl, microwave chopped baking bars uncovered on High 1 minute 30 seconds to 2 minutes 30 seconds, stirring every 30 seconds, until melted and smooth.

• Gently stir in cereal, pretzels and raisins until evenly coated. Stir in candy corn and decors.

• Spread on waxed paper or foil until cool and chocolate is set, about 30 minutes, break into chunks or spoon into Halloween cup cake papers. Store loosely covered.

FOR SALE

Send your Ads to TSSDnewsletter@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Membership is free. All we ask is that you attend the meetings and participate.

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 TSS's Claim Guides.

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

Active military will not be removed from membership list.

Claims Etiquette

You have to be a current member, have your Claims Guide and a current membership card with you when prospecting on our claims.

It is fair and proper for someone prospecting to ask one another to see their current membership card and claims guide while on any of our claims.

All guests must sign TSS's liability form before prospecting on our claims.

If your membership is not current and you are prospecting on our claims, you are prospecting illegally and will be dealt with accordingly to existing law.

FILL IN YOUR HOLES WHEN YOU ARE DONE PROSPECTING.

Claims Work Assessment Form

For some bureaucratic reason (saves us money), we need to do and track work on our claims that improves the locale.

When you visit our claims, write down: Your Name, Address, phone, claim name, date, work done and time spent.

Get this information to our Claims Manager, Robert Cook. rmjcc@cox.net He will fill in the correct paperwork and track it.

LIBRARY

Treasure Seekers has a tremendous library for members usage. Donna Brock, our Librarian and 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. Checking out the material is easy.

EQUIPMENT FOR MEMBER’S USE

Treasure Seekers has a storage unit at Diablo Mini Storage in Escondido. Earl Sterrett 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 Magnetic Sweeper on rollers

All that we ask, not much, is that, anything checked out, is to be returned in the same or better condition than when it was borrowed. It’s understandable, with the nature of our interest, 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.

Give Earl Sterrett at 858-922-4547 a call, if you would like to use “our equipment.” He asks that you give him a couple of days notice when you might need something, and when items are returned they are CLEAN. All equipment must be returned by the meeting following when it was checked out. This will allow you any where from one week to three weeks usage.

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. Whenever possible there is a treasure map that corresponds to the article. He sells these books on e-bay for \$20 each or 3/\$50. Frank Trutta at Columbia Metal Detectors also sells them for \$20 each. Blake also sets up his books for purchase at the TSS Chapter meetings.

Orange Challenge Card Info

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

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.

Name:

Badge# and Position:

Agency:

District represented:

Date & Time:

Location Details:

PLP - PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE - www.PLP2.org - Jerry Hobbs (909) 889-3039

MISSION STATEMENT

Treasure Seekers of San Diego County (TSS) 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 Park Avenue Community Center
210 Park Avenue, Escondido, CA 92025
On the first Wednesday of each month, 6:30-9:00PM

See the treasurer and/or the secretary to review their respective reports from the previous month's meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS

President:	Chester Nowicki	760-747-1165	candhnow@cox.net
Vice President:	Dwight Reed	760-727-7213	Dwightreed@cox.net
Scribe & Membership:	Sharon Crnkovic	760-519-9899	slgacrnk@aol.com
Treasurer:	Jerry Goldstein	760-317-1819	Auprospector101@aol.com
Newsletter:	Michael Michalski	858-254-6025	TSSDnewsletter@hotmail.com
Activity Communicator:	John Howe	760-621-0550	lgolfer@aol.com
Ways & Means:	Yoko Weidman-Riggs	619-470-3138	aulover88@aol.com
Librarian:	Donna Brock	760-724-8276	brock.d@sbcglobal.net
Claims:	Robert Cook	760-741-6547	rmjcc@cox.net
Claims Guide:	Lee Crnkovic	760-519-7757	slgacrnk@aol.com
Equipment Manager:	Earl Sterrett	858-922-4547	Earls@awproperties.net
Finds of the Month:	Trish and Terry King	858-705-2453	landsharking@hotmail.com
Director At Large:	Ray Wilkerson	760-598-6441	bwilkerson9@cox.net
Director At Large:	Loren Raddatz	760-726-7397	Laraddatz@cox.net
Director At Large:	Jim Mears	760-746-9698	JandCMears@cox.net
Director At Large:	Charlie Freeman	760-789-0063	char-carm@sbcglobal.net
Director At Large:	Jerry Kaplan	858-453-6447	JERRYK23A@gmail.com
Director At Large:	Keith Browning		keithbro2001@yahoo.com
Director At Large:	Ron Gonsalves & Sue Conner	760-480-5638	Goldbusters@sbcglobal.net

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

Columbia Metal Detectors
760 East Valley Parkway
Escondido, CA. 92025
760-743-8516
Frank M. Trutta

We are...

www.treasureseekersofsandiego.org