

TREASURE SEEKERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

# FINDERS KEEPERS

February, 2013

Editor: Michael Michalski



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last month, we had an outing at our Cargo Muchachos claims, out by Yuma. There were twenty-some signed up for that one. From what Lee and Sharon said, they all had a great time. They were glad to see some of the board members attend the outing.

David Rice led another successful Painted Gorge Trip. Charlene sent a whole mess of photos via email to Robert Cook to share at our meeting. I didn't hear how many attended the outing.

We also worked a GPAA gold show. Three of us worked at the show for the GPAA. We made some "points" by working and also helped tear down. The points will help us purchase some prospecting gear. The number of vendors and those who came to purchase equipment seemed very small there in Pomona. There seemed to be more isle space than booth space. Not too many chapters showed. We are definitely planning on having a booth at the April 27-28 Gold Show in Las Vegas, so plan on it. We have a number of items to sell and we will also have the gold panning as well.

We are working on some outings where we will set up a booth. We figure we will have at least three gold panning/metal detecting events this year. We can add to the events if you know some venues we should venture into. We will let everyone know what and where, soon.

Ray is attending the *Rendezvous* in Arizona the first week in February. This is the event where GPAA Chapters have met to discuss better ways to organize and run their chapters. In the past, Ray, Jerry, Robert and I have given others a whole lot of information on bettering their chapters.

This year, the whole program has changed. The new organization is called WWATS, World Wide Association of Treasure Seekers. It not only takes in the GPAA Chapters, but other outdoor clubs or associations. We'll see what news Ray brings back.

An important court hearing is scheduled for this month. On Feb. 13, 8:30 AM at the Rancho Cucamonga, CA Court House, 8303 Haven Ave., Dept. R8, a new judge will hear the six coordinated cases on suction dredge mining. It would be great to have many members at this hearing.

I entertained this wild idea that we could rent a 15 passenger van, have this many people meet at a designated park and ride, leave at 6:00 AM and represent the TSS at the court hearing. Is that wild or what do you think?

This month, we are scheduled for an outing at the Freedom claim. We scheduled these outings last year and we can never tell if the weather is going to cooperate or not. This is the upper desert and is known to be wet and cold in the winter. We'll see. We do the best we know how to do. If you have any good ideas, please share them with the Board Members or our 'Suggestion' box. It will only make our outings that much better.

That's it for now. Stay safe and healthy and get ready for some great speakers at our meetings.

Sourdough Chet



**Thank You**

**Frontier Gold Prospecting**  
**GOLD AND METEORITE HUNTING**



The 'Ape' Nugget - found March 23, 2012

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|--|---|
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Arley Chugon for the new Dowsing Rods we've added to our inventory.

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# Last Month

**General Meeting:** 123 signed the attendance sheet and four new members

**Door Prize:** Jerry Goldstein

**Finds of Month:** Gold--Mike Mahr 2nd--Jason Evans Metal--John Davis 2nd-- Dwight Reed Gems-Mark Krier

**Gold Nuggets:** Jerry Kaplan, Bill Laffoon, Don LaFollette & Jerry Duke 50/50-- \$94. -- John Howe

## Monthly Outing at Cargo Muchachos Claims, January 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

22 members & guests. Steve Thacker used his Mt. Goat Small trommel, just won at the Pomona Gold Show. Every day Steve found some small gold. Steve showed Cindy, Cassie & Lori where to dig. They brought the material back to camp for panning. They did find some small gold as did Jason Evans. Lee, Yoko and I metal detected but just cleaned up the claim we were on. Pot luck on Saturday night was great as always. Most pulled out on Sunday. Lee & I, Steve & Jody and Cindy, Cassie & Lori stayed till Monday and of course Sunday night we got to have a campfire something we couldn't do before because of the winds. The weather was just great. We did get to burn up all the firewood that night. -Sharon Crnkovic

## Painted Gorge Outing with David Rice, January 12th

Even though it had been snowing and frosty in San Diego County, by the time we all meet at the Painted Gorge turn off, the weather was beautiful, mid 60's. Approximately one hour was spent at each location and a longer stay at the petrified wood area. I believe everyone found a little of something at each location. -Charlene Myers

## Upcoming Events & Information

**We are looking for someone for the Secretary position. Any suggestions or volunteers, contact any Board Member from the list at the end of this Newsletter.**

### **New PLP Dredge Court Hearing - February 13, 2013 8:30 AM**

Rancho Cucamonga Court - Judge Gilbert G. Ochoa - Dept. R8

8303 Haven Ave. Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

<http://www.sb-court.org/Locations/RanchoCucamonga.aspx>

### **Monthly Outing**

Freedom Claim (16th & 17th)

David Rice One day outing at Plaster City (10<sup>th</sup>)

**Clearance Sale:** We are selling our old style dowsing rods for \$15, 'till they are gone. Then we start selling the new sets for \$25. They are both quality products. We have a new supplier.

World Wide Association of Treasurer Seekers (not associated with TSS) <http://www.wwats.org>

They have FREE membership for 3 years (Limited) or Charter Membership (soon) 3 years for \$36.00

### **Hauser Geode Beds**

In the May, 1947 issue of the Desert Magazine, Mr. Joel Hauser wrote an interesting letter to the editor.

This is most of what he wrote: I started collecting in the Black Hills (Chocolate Mountains, Chuckawallas or Little Mules, take your pick) back in 1935. At this time, it was quite a feat to find the turnoff to Wiley Wells. And then, it was a miracle if you could make it through the sand and washes, without getting stuck. The wind would frequently obliterate the single track road across the dunes.

I was born in Blythe in 1915. My father came there in 1909 and drove a freight wagon from Blythe to Glamis 60 miles away. When I got interested in rock collecting, particularly in agate nodules, my father urged me to hunt along the Blythe, Niland Road. He had noticed these items there in his travels.

I bought a Model A Ford for \$37.50 and started gathering material near the roads. After gathering material from several beds, it became necessary to travel farther into the hills. It became necessary to make my own roads, moving rocks and dodging deep washes. I would drive as far as possible, then hike over the area to find new beds, then figure a way to make a road and drive my vehicle to the new found nodules. Sometimes, I would have to drive 10 miles out of the way to find a safe

way to travel by vehicle.

Many of the nodules did not produce the quality of fine agate beds. Other rockhounds were now looking for the same. It became necessary to be the first in the area. I would beat a road farther back into the hills. The next time I visited the area, the road was well defined because other rockhounds had now traveled over it.

No one seriously considered digging in the early days. One would gather the nodules along the surface and then move on to new areas. In 1937, I decided to go completely around the Black Hills and work the area from the back. One day while scouting the hills, the Hauser beds were discovered. There were three of us in the party and we had stopped to camp for the night at the edge of the wash which drains the canyon holding the Hauser beds. It was late, we made supper, then scouted around a bit. Some nodules were found lying in the volcanic ash at the edge of the wash. A few scratches in the ash, with a pick, uncovered more nodules. We dug until dark and found an unbelievable quantity.

Next day, we dug so many nodules, we couldn't haul them all home. Here was the mother lode of the Black Hills agate nodules and geodes. Rockhounds are still digging out all they want ten years later. I never did finish skirting the Black Hills. The rush to the Hauser bed started soon after my brother Howard and I met Dr. Warren Fox and Sam Payson on the way back to the diggings. Sam and Dr. Fox spread the word and the rush was on. -From Chet

## Metal Detecting

Outing at Coronado, Jan 6<sup>th</sup>: For all those who were afraid of getting rained on, you missed a great day for detecting (weather-wise). As soon as our feet touched the sand, the light misting stopped and the sun came out.

Results: Brian Kinnear \$3.52 and a copper ring, John Howe \$1.17 and junk, Rich Hegyi \$1.09 and a carabiner, Joe Morin \$0.37, Jerry Steffler \$0.36 and an Angry Bird pendant, George Lusk \$0.27 3 shovels and a car key & Rich Hall \$0.15 and a pair of sparkly earrings

After the beach, four of us went to a park up the road and found a few more coins.

Another month that Brian gravitated to the "right spot".

Good group, good weather and ok detecting. 2 out of 3 'aint' bad!

Right now I'm thinking that the Feb 10th outing will be at Mission Beach. -John Howe

Big 'C' is on sabbatical.

### **12-Pound Gold Nugget Found In Ballarat, Australia, Could Be Worth More Than \$500,000**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/01/17/gold-nugget-australia-ballarat-found\\_n\\_2496663.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=business&am](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/01/17/gold-nugget-australia-ballarat-found_n_2496663.html?utm_hp_ref=business&am)



Challenge to John & Big 'C' - Beat this!

## 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 with your TSS membership card.

**Dowsing Rods** - \$25.00

**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 March



Two-Day weekend outing for two at **Frontier Gold Prospecting** in Arizona.

This was donated by **Frontier Gold Prospecting**. (Value = \$638.00)

<http://www.frontiergoldprospecting.com/>

**See Yoko or Jerry For your WINNING Ticket!!!**

## Finds of the Month

Show off what you have done in the **last month!**

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize winners for each category.  
**Gold - Gems and Minerals - Metal Detecting**

### MINER'S COOKBOOK

This is a pizza I sometimes make when out on the claim (or at mountain man rendezvous) serves about eight as a snack. (Or just me for dinner) I only cook with BBQ charcoal because it is very predictable. Also I use a 12" Dutch oven. Double recipe and use a 14" oven to feed more holes!

3/4 cup warm water  
2 tbsp oil  
2 cup flour  
1/2 tsp sugar  
1/2 tsp salt  
2 tsp yeast

Tomato sauce , toppings, and about 2 cups mozzarella cheese.

In a bowl mix water, oil, sugar, salt and yeast. Cover and let rise 20 min. (I use the 1 gal zip lock I used to store the dry ingredients for this part)

Place dough in a greased Dutch oven and flatten to the edges and a little up the sides for the crust.

Spread some tomato sauce, then pizza toppings and cheese.

Bake 20-25 min at 425 by using 10 coals under and 18 on top. Double, 12 coals under and 20 on the lid.

Hope you try Dutch oven cooking! -Tom Hale

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dutch\\_oven](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dutch_oven)

<http://www.dutchovendude.com/camp-cooking.shtml>

<http://www.backwoodshome.com/articles/beattie47.html>

<http://whatscookingamerica.net/Information/DutchOven/DutchOvenCooking.htm>

## FOR SALE

### Minelab Xterra 705 metal detector

- \* 9-inch Concentric 7.5 kHz Coil (waterproof- ideal for beach detecting)
- \* 5x10-inch Double-D 18.75 kHz Coil (best for locating gold nuggets)
- \* Minelab Carry Bag
- \* Minelab Tool Pouch
- \* Pro Deluxe Hi-Fi Headphones
- \* 50 States Treasure Guide CD

This detector is in perfect working order. Only used 4 times. It has a 1" scratch on control box screen; otherwise looks brand new. Both coils have protective cover. Retail value of this package is \$900+.

You can take this one home for \$550. Call Jim at 619-405-8106. No text messages please.

## 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.

## 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.

*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.*

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.

### 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 you 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](http://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 | <a href="mailto:candhnow@cox.net">candhnow@cox.net</a>                     |
| Vice President (interim): | Ray Wilkerson              | 760-598-6441 | <a href="mailto:bwilkerson@cox.net">bwilkerson@cox.net</a>                 |
| Secretary:                |                            |              |  |
| Membership:               | Sharon Crnkovic            | 760-519-9899 | <a href="mailto:slgacrnk@aol.com">slgacrnk@aol.com</a>                     |
|                           | Sue Jeffery                | 951-676-2555 | <a href="mailto:info@aptsgold.com">info@aptsgold.com</a>                   |
| Treasurer:                | Jerry Goldstein            | 760-317-1819 | <a href="mailto:Auprospector101@aol.com">Auprospector101@aol.com</a>       |
| Newsletter:               | Michael Michalski          | 858-254-6025 | <a href="mailto:TSSDnewsletter@hotmail.com">TSSDnewsletter@hotmail.com</a> |
| Activity Communicator:    | John Howe                  | 760-621-0550 | <a href="mailto:lgolfer@aol.com">lgolfer@aol.com</a>                       |
| Ways & Means:             | Yoko Weidman-Riggs         | 619-470-3138 | <a href="mailto:auloover88@aol.com">auloover88@aol.com</a>                 |
| Librarian:                | Donna Brock                | 760-724-8276 | <a href="mailto:brock.d@sbcglobal.net">brock.d@sbcglobal.net</a>           |
| Claims:                   | Robert Cook                | 760-741-6547 | <a href="mailto:rmjcc@cox.net">rmjcc@cox.net</a>                           |
| Claims Guide:             | Lee Crnkovic               | 760-519-7757 | <a href="mailto:slgacrnk@aol.com">slgacrnk@aol.com</a>                     |
| Equipment Manager:        | Earl Sterrett              | 858-922-4547 | <a href="mailto:Earls@awproperties.net">Earls@awproperties.net</a>         |
| Finds of the Month:       | Steve Thacker              |              | <a href="mailto:thackersc@aol.com">thackersc@aol.com</a>                   |
| Director At Large:        | Loren Raddatz              | 760-726-7397 | <a href="mailto:Laraddatz@cox.net">Laraddatz@cox.net</a>                   |
| Director At Large:        | Jim Mears                  | 760-746-9698 | <a href="mailto:JandCMears@cox.net">JandCMears@cox.net</a>                 |
| Director At Large:        | Charlie Freeman            | 760-789-0063 | <a href="mailto:char-carm@sbcglobal.net">char-carm@sbcglobal.net</a>       |
| Director At Large:        | Jerry Kaplan               | 858-453-6447 | <a href="mailto:JERRYK23A@gmail.com">JERRYK23A@gmail.com</a>               |
| Director At Large:        | Keith Browning             |              | <a href="mailto:keithbro2001@yahoo.com">keithbro2001@yahoo.com</a>         |
| Director At Large:        | Ron Gonsalves & Sue Conner | 760-480-5638 | <a href="mailto:Goldbusters@sbcglobal.net">Goldbusters@sbcglobal.net</a>   |
| Director At Large:        | John & Mary Troseth        | 619-820-8676 | <a href="mailto:jtroseth@yahoo.com">jtroseth@yahoo.com</a>                 |

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