

TREASURE SEEKERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

FINDERS KEEPERS

March, 2013

Editor: Michael Michalski



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Busy month again. As of right now, some of us are meeting with board members of a Vista organization to close a deal on having some of our events at their events. Some of us also scouted out a potential new claim within an hour and a half drive. Some of us are also planning on the April GPAA gold show in Las Vegas.

The hearing was held in court to settle the dredging debacle. There were at least 50 miners showing up at the hearing. The most important date is now July 24, 2013. That is when attorneys for the miners will seek summary judgment and an injunction to get dredging back on track. There are four other hearings in between, leading to this injunction.

David Rice held another successful Painted Gorge trip. Twenty two people from TSS, Imperial Valley and guests showed up. Various mineral deposits and petrified wood was found. Thank you David and Charlene for making it a fun outing.

We had another twenty some out on the Freedom claim as well. Didn't hear how much gold or other items were found, but I do know that Sharon and Lee always make it a fun and interesting trip.

This month, we are going out to the Lucerne Dry Lake Beds and this is always a great place to explore and metal detect. This is a one day event and Charlene will lead a tour. It's important to hook up with her or lead your own tour.

We have an invite with the Southwestern Prospectors and Miners Association (SPMA) to join them at the Potholes Claim. This is a great place for nuggets, old relics and fine gold. Maps will be available at the meeting for only those who plan to go.

Let's all get ready for the warmer weather where the beaches make for good pickins' along with the parks. Have fun with other organizations. Spend some quality time with other TSS members and learn, but be ready to teach, better techniques to search for gems, minerals, relics and caches.

- Sourdough Chet



Mining claims west of the Colorado River (circa 1890s)

... a coyote hole of ore would be cause for celebration and an excursion to the saloons and Bordellos of Mohave City, Ehrenberg, or Las Vegas.

In these dusty outposts of civilization, a man's poke could be lost to the frock-coated card sharps, the come-hithers of *doves du prarie*, and the attraction and depredation of strong drink.

Then it would be back to the desert and dogged trudging and hammering in the burning sun, with no one to talk to excepting a jackass.

Gold and Silver in the Mojave -Nicholas Clapp

Thank You

MEL VROOMAN	480-399-5806
OWNER/INSTRUCTOR	
FRONTIER GOLD PROSPECTING	
PROSPECTING	
GOLD & METEORITE HUNTING	
MINERAL CLAIM SERVICES	
DESERT ADVENTURES	
PRIVATE CLAIMS	
	info@frontiergoldprospecting.com www.frontiergoldprospecting.com

Last Month

130 people signed in for the General meeting.

We had another good turn out for the **Freedom Claim outing**. We had 20 members & 1 guest attend. A potluck on Saturday night which as usual was very good and the weather cooperated.

Painted Gorge Outing - Another excellent field trip lead by David Rice. 22 people in attendance. Weather was perfect in the lower desert, many great finds were found

50/50 Winner - \$110.00 - Jeff Wark

Gold Nuggets - 4 winners - Kent Ramsey, John Jett, Roz Laffoon, Chris Jones.

Annual Special Prize Winner - Dry Washer -  **Jerry Goldstein** <- who is donating it back for another raffle.

Upcoming Events & Information

We are looking for someone for the Secretary position. Any suggestions or volunteers, contact any Board Member. **GPAA is giving Board Members two years free membership.**

March 16th Outing: Lucerne Dry Lake - Meteorite Detecting
What's the difference between a meteor and a meteorite?

March speaker: Professor James Day from Scripps. Topic = Meteorites

Joint Outing with SPMA, March 23rd & 24th. This is a one time outing to the SPMA Potholes claim.

California Suction Gold Dredging Update

The latest hearing on the suction gold dredging moratorium in California took place February 14 in front of Judge Gilbert Ochoa in Rancho Cucamonga. Nearly 50 miners showed up to lend their support. Judge Ochoa set up a calendar for the case, with the most important date being July 24, 2013. This is when attorneys representing the miners will seek summary judgment and an injunction to get California suction gold dredgers back in the water immediately. Let's send some bodies for support!

Dental Gold

"It's gold, you paid for it, it's yours. So if we ever need to take it out, you'd get it back". - The Dentist

Over the years, I've had a number of gold crowns and fillings replaced with more modern technology ceramics. I've had some dental offices not so forthcoming with 'my' gold. One time I asked about the gold crown, sitting on the tray, just removed from my mouth; the technician distracted me and when I looked back to the tray the gold crown was gone. Another dental office gave me back the gold crown (without my asking), cleaned, in an envelope with the address and instructions of a reputable gold recycler. If memory serves, I got a check in the mail for about \$60 for my troubles. I remember, I whapped that gold crown with a hammer to flatten it and make it easy to mail.

Yellow dental gold normally consists of a high-grade alloy with the following composition

- 50% to 90% gold
- 1% to 30% silver
- 0% to 20% palladium
- 0% to 12% platinum

White dental gold can consist of alloys of varying value:

- A high-grade gold-platinum alloy
- A slightly less valuable silver-palladium alloy
- An almost worthless Mo/Cr/Co steel alloy or titanium

<http://www.precious-metal-refining.info/what-is-my-dental-scrap-worth/>

http://www.ehow.com/how_4420842_sell-dental-gold-california.html

http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/money/topstories/2008-04-23-2557070074_x.htm

ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS REPORT

By: Jim "Jim Bo" Mears

Land Closure and Asbestos Emissions from Mining:

The Bureau of Land Management in a news release on August 27, 2012, has withdrawn about 29,000 acres of public land in Central California from public access. The withdrawal is in the portion of Clear Creek Management Area designated as the Serpentine Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in southern San Benito County and western Fresno County. In the news release the BLM stated "The BLM ordered the temporary closure of the public lands in the Clear Creek Serpentine ACEC on May 1, 2008, in response to a human health risk assessment by the United States Environmental Protection Agency." "Public Land Order 7795, approved on August 1, 2012 withdraws 28,953 acres, more or less, of the public lands from location and entry under the United States mining laws to minimize impacts to human health and the environment from asbestos emissions from mining operations in the Clear Creek Management Area's Serpentine ACEC," said Rick Cooper, BLM Hollister Field Office manager. The area was temporarily withdrawn in 2010 while various studies and analyses were made

to support a final decision. This withdrawal extends the temporary withdrawal to 20 years. This means Rock hounding in the Clear Creek area of Central California is off limits for another generation of Rock hounds.

Endangered Species: Sage Grouse or Rock hounds/Miners?

Sage-grouse habitat covers millions of acres of Public Lands in 11 western states and portions of southern Canada. The habitat area under study covers parts of Northern California and large portions of Nevada. The U.S. Department of the Interior has given the western states the option of developing a plan to preserve the sage grouse or the federal agencies would make the decisions. There is a fear the sage grouse might be listed as endangered and result in further restrictions on the public lands, including uses such as mining, grazing and rock hounding.

In Nevada, a legislative committee has endorsed a plan to preserve the habitats for the declining sage grouse population, but millions of acres of public lands continue to be open to grazing, mining development and energy projects. Debra Struhsacker of the Nevada Mineral Resources Alliance told the legislative committee the proposal of the Bureau of Land Management would prevent mining development on 14.6 million acres of public lands. [This Nevada proposal may affect our amateur mineral collecting and rock hounding in large amounts of Nevada's Public Lands.](#)

The legislative committee agreed to send letters to federal officials, and a resolution will be introduced in the 2013 Legislature. They will emphasize the steps being taken by Nevada to preclude the listing of the sage grouse as an endangered species. [The federal officials need to hear from Rock Hounds and Miners who collect rock and minerals in Northern California, Nevada and the other 9 Western States where the Sage Grouse Habitat covers collecting sites.](#) The fate of the collecting/mining areas is up to you as the stake holders in your Public Lands. If Miners and Rock Hounds do not make their concerns known millions of acres of America's Public Lands may become off limits in favor of the sage-grouse.

Aluminum pull-tabs for Ronald McDonald House

Please bring your aluminum pull-tabs to the TSS General Meeting each month.

TSS member Sue Jeffrey will collect and donate them
<http://www.rmhc.com/how-you-can-help/pop-tab-collections/>

We have a “**Suggestion Bucket**” in back by the kitchen windows.

Please, leave us any constructive suggestions for TSS. We review all of them at the Board meeting the next day.

Metal Detecting

Here's the results from the Feb metal detecting 2/10/13 @ South Mission Beach..... -John Howe
It was a chilly start but turned out to be perfect weather for detecting. We had 10 attendees including 2 members who came to watch & learn (hopefully). No spectacular finds, but most everybody found "something". The best part was the "brag & whine" bull session after the hunt.

The March hunt on 3/10 will be at La Jolla Shores.

This is one of Don Barthel's (last meeting's speaker & writer) favorite locations; he gives it a top rating!

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.



Jerry Goldstein won the drywasher last meeting from the Annual Special Prize drawing. He is donating it back to TSSD for an additional raffle at the March meeting.

Quarterly Grand Prize drawing for March



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

This was donated by Ed Husting. (Value = \$638.00)

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

See Jerry Goldstein 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

Root Beer Float Cake

1 box of White or French Vanilla cake mix (with pudding mix is fine)

1 1/4 cups (12 oz.) Root Beer, (such as A & W or Dad's) do not use diet soda

3 eggs

1/4 cup vegetable oil

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Grease and flour a 10" bundt pan (I use Pam spray)

In a large bowl mix together the dry cake mix, 12 oz. root beer, eggs and oil until smooth. Bake for 35-40 minutes or until done. While cake is cooling make the Root Beer glaze. After 10 -15 minutes turn cake out onto serving platter and pour the glaze over the cake while it is still warm. If you do not have a bundt pan, use a 9" x 13" cake pan and make the root beer frosting instead. It's better the second day so make it a day ahead of time and let it sit. Keep in refrigerator

Root Beer Glaze

1 cup Powdered Sugar

3 Tablespoons Root Beer

Tip: use a zip lock bag to mix the powdered sugar and root beer, after it's mixed snip off the corner of the bag and drizzle the glaze over the cake.

Root Beer Frosting

1/4 cup Root Beer

1 envelope whipping mix, such as Dream Whip

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.

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.

FILL IN YOUR HOLES WHEN YOU ARE DONE PROSPECTING.

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.

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.

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 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 - 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 (interim):	Ray Wilkerson	760-598-6441	bwilkerson@cox.net
Secretary:			
Membership:	Sharon Crnkovic	760-519-9899	slgacrnk@aol.com
	Sue Jeffery	951-676-2555	info@aptsgold.com
Treasurer:	Jerry Goldstein	760-317-1819	Auprospector101@aol.com
Ways & Means:	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
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:	Steve Thacker		thackersc@aol.com
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
Director At Large:	John & Mary Troseth	619-820-8676	jtroseth@yahoo.com

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