

TREASURE SEEKERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

FINDERS KEEPERS

April, 2013

Editor: Michael Michalski



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We had two outings this month. One at the Lucerne Dry Lake Beds and one at the Potholes. There were signups for both events. At both events, you could look for meteorites and old relics and at the Potholes you had the opportunity to detect or drywash for gold.

This month, we have the GPAA Gold Show in Las Vegas and an outing in the Warner Springs area. We have a few members who have wandered through the Warner Springs area and may help guide us around here. We haven't participated in a gold show event for some years because it hasn't profited our organization much and it certainly doesn't bring in new members from the Las Vegas area. We have some new items to sell and we will see if we can bring back some profit to us.

We are coming up with some meeting time changes and a little change in the chairs and tables. We find that we need more time for the meeting, so we will be starting a half hour earlier. What this means time wise is that the members setting up will get there at 5:30. We don't want general membership floating in and bothering those setting up. Our meeting will start at 6:00 PM. There will also be a slight change in the table arrangement too. Probably some more chairs also. We are just getting too big.

We will hold our elections this month. Up for election are the positions of Vice President and Secretary. These positions must be filled by GPAA members and GPAA will give a two year free membership to these elected officers.

Other than I am still recouping from a knee injury from metal detecting, everything is good. No workman's comp for this event. You just have to be careful while getting up and down while digging targets. My doctor said it will take a few months to heal. I told him that I would purchase a good brace and be careful. The places I go don't have need for a handicap sign, so I'll just still hike in.....

Be good, be careful and have fun.

Sourdough Chet



Goldfield - Queen of the Camps

The day was bone-chilling cold. A sandstorm raged. And their outfit was pitiful: ". . . An old lame black horse, an old black mule, a \$10 wagon, a side of bacon, and plenty of mustard and sorry looking baking powder." But down-and-out partners Harry Stimler and Billy Marsh couldn't have cared less as they examined a rock in the vicinity of Rabbit Springs, south of Tonopah, a rock glittering with gold. "Jewelry ore!"

In seven months the pair's Sandstorm claim would bring in **seven million dollars**, and be proclaimed the "Richest Gold Discovery Made Anywhere in the World."

A rush was on--drawing a crowd ever in need of "the next big thing' in the Mojave. The same names would surface in camp after camp. Not only of prospectors and miners, but of tradesmen and women ranging from the Porter Brothers (general merchandise) to Diamond Tooth 'Lil, Fay, and Little Fay (horizontal refreshment).

Fortune seekers, it was reported, could leap from a stagecoach and pan nuggets in the street. Indeed, in the summer of 1904, a correspondent for the London Financial News fretted that a pending overproduction of gold could devalue the metal as a standard of international trade.

Gold and Silver in the Mojave -Nicholas Clapp

The price of gold in 1904 was \$18.96 per Troy ounce. Divide \$7 million by that.

That's a cube of gold 2 feet 9 1/4 inches tall. It weighs almost 13 tons.

At today's prices, that would be worth **\$602,974,325**.

At the rate the US government spends our money, it would be gone in 10 minutes and three seconds.

Last Month

170 signed attendance sheet with 15 new members

Door Prize: Keith Browning 50/50: \$116.00-Jesse Ammon

Finds of Month: Gold-Mike Mahr Metal-Dwight Reed Gems-Dan McGuigan

Gold Nuggets: Holly De La Fuente, Rich Hegyi, Steve Thacker, & Jerry Kaplan

Grand Prize: Three day trip to Frontier Gold Prospecting in Arizona - Rich Hall

Upcoming Events & Information

Elections for new secretary and vice-president this meeting. Bring your candidate.

April outing scheduled for Warner Springs. Details to follow via email.

GPAA Gold Show in Las Vegas set-up will be Friday April 26th, for the weekend. We have a booth.

<http://www.goldprospectors.org/Events/GoldTreasureShows/GoldshowArticles/tabid/124/EntryId/553/Catch-the-fever-in-Las-Vegas-April-21-22.aspx>

Julian 'Gold Rush Days' will be on June 1st. We have a booth.

<http://www.jma.memberlodge.org/goldrush>

Gem and Mineral Show at Vista Antique Steam Engine Museum on June 15th & 16th. We have a booth.

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

ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS REPORT

By: Jim "Jim Bo" Mears

Land Closures by Management Decisions

With the slowdown in legislative action during the elections in November, many of the Public Land Use (Restriction) bills that were before congress were placed on the backburner. For the bills that had been introduced and referred to various committees many will have died in committee and will need to be reintroduced during the next congressional session.

There is one 'unless', and that 'unless' is, if the Land Use Bills before congress are consolidated into one large piece of legislation and attached to some other bill, like what happened in 2008 with the "Omnibus Land Bill Act of 2008", which made it a federal felony to collect vertebrate fossils on Federal Public Lands, then there would be cause for concern.

This does not mean that all is well for Rock, Gem, Mineral and Fossil collecting on BLM and USFS managed Lands.

These Federal Agencies, through Congressional Mandate several years ago, must provide to congress a Land Management Plan for all managed land under their jurisdiction. The creation of these plans has been in the development cycle for several years. They have been labeled Resource Management Plans (RMP) and Travel Management Plans (TMP) and through congressional mandate are required to have open public hearings and input from all stakeholders. Included in these management plans are the allowable activities and the designated roads and trails within the managed areas. All roads and trails within the managed areas must be identified and publicized. These roads and trails may lead prospectors and rock hunters into collecting sites. If the road to the collecting site is not on the list of approved open roads the only way to get to the collecting site is by foot. This access battle for open roads has been waged for several years now and some process is being made thanks to a few concerned miners and rock hounds.

There are more dangers to mining and rock hounding in some of these RMP's and TMP's than roads. One example is the Bakersfield Field Office Resource Management Plan Revision.

http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bakersfield/Programs/planning/caliente_rmp_revision.htm

This plan is in its final stage of review and is close to approval and implementation. As an example, when this plan goes into effect, it will close the collecting area known as Horse Canyon, near Tehachapi, California. The Horse Canyon Agate is unique. This is the only green tubercular agate in North America. Under this RMP access to this collecting site will be closed and so will collecting of any kind within the area of the canyon under BLM control. This type of language is appearing in many of the Land Management Plans being released for public review and comment before presentation to congress for final approval.

Even though congressional action has slowed, Mining and Rock Collecting sites are in greater jeopardy of loss through internal Public Land Management review and decisions. With a stroke of the management pen mining and collecting areas and access to such may be closed in the name of resource protection.

It is up to the miners and rock hounds to make their voices heard so sites such as these on public lands remain a viable hobby now and for future generations to enjoy.

Mike's Trommel - Mike Laine - El Centro

We will try to get this inventor to be our Guest Speaker in the near future.



<http://mlaine.homeip.net/Trom/Trom>
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7yJ6k_6pJs

Metal Detecting

March 10 at La Jolla Shores: 6 attendees. A great day to detect, but nothing spectacular to report. Bill Laffoon wanted to pass on the "skunk" to someone else, but I guess he'll have to wait till next time!

Here are the detectorists listed finds in order of cash: John Howe -- \$0.62, Brian Kinnear -- \$0.44, Jerry Steffler -- \$0.25, Roz Laffoon -- \$0.25, Jerry Kaplan -- \$0.11 & a copper ring and Bill Laffoon -- a toy VW which he seemed to have fun with. Needless to say, we all did our part in cleaning some junk from the beach.

The April outing will be on the 7th at Mission Beach. This is after Easter and Spring Break so tons of people will have been at the beach and maybe pickins will start getting better.

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.***

FOR SALE

Metal detector - like new - White's Gold Master GMT and all accessories from the original purchase on 7/29/11 for \$1335.00 including the standard coil plus a small coil for tight areas and small gold and a large coil for larger and deeper coverage, Gray Ghost headphones. Automatic and manual ground balance, easy to learn and use. Used only a few times and still under 2 year transferable warranty. Price: \$550. Contact Jon Cunningham at (619) 222-9356.

Send your Ads to TSSDnewsletter@hotmail.com

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 (limit four bags per member)

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 June The Gold Cube



http://www.goldrushtradingpost.com/gold_cube_

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

Homemade Breakfast Sausage

Basic Seasoning Ingredients: Adjust to suit your own taste

2 teaspoons dried sage

2 teaspoons kosher salt

1 teaspoon ground black pepper

1/4 teaspoon dried marjoram

1 tablespoon light brown sugar

1/8 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

1 pinch ground cloves

2 pounds ground pork or ground venison

Makes 6 servings

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.

What to expect at a TSSD Outing:

1. Come prepared for "you". You are camping on your own.
2. That means your own food and your own water. You need to make sure that you have enough food and water for your intended stay.
3. Your own lodging and transportation. Make sure that you have enough fuel (gas) to get to and from the location.
4. There are no public restrooms available – you need to come prepared, i.e. a port-a-potty.
5. Bring your own mining equipment, spare parts and necessities.
6. TSS invites you to the area; there is no 'guide' to show you around. You explore the desert on your own. Members will answer some questions if they are able to do so of the area.
7. If you are new to gold hunting – many members will let you share their equipment so that you get to know what you are really wanting to purchase.
8. Potluck – if this is a weekend trip – TSS members like to have a potluck dinner on Saturday night. This means you bring your own eating utensils, plates and drinks. We ask that each person participating bring a dish to share for 6 to 8 people. All food is welcome. There is nothing furnished by the chapter, unless otherwise stated. Please sample a little from each dish, but leave some for others. You do not have to participate in the potluck – the choice is yours.
9. Firewood – there is normally an evening fire after the potluck; where we share our experiences. If you have some extra firewood, it is appreciated.
10. Most areas are wide open desert – do not feel that you need to camp right next to someone, everyone enjoys their own space.
11. Animals are welcome as long as they are leashed.
12. You will be asked to sign in for attendance and for the Hold Harmless Agreement (same as on the membership application).

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.

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/>

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