

FINDERS KEEPERS

Editor: Charlene Myers

Presidents Message

Here we go again. Another January Presidents Message. Another great year has passed. I haven't heard any complaints. I would like to personally thank all those who have put in their time and volunteered this past year. Without you, we wouldn't have had such a great year. Even more have stepped up to volunteer this new year. This is not just a club where you see someone get up, say some words, then have a raffle. Since we have some great educational speakers, go out and teach others, including scouts and schools, about geology, mining, gemstones and metal detecting, it takes volunteers like we have to do these tasks.

Our new outings calendar is out for the new 2015 year. It's just as good or better than last year. We are going to start off with David Rice giving us a tour of the Plaster City area.

You must know that we have the "presale tickets" for the February GPAA gold show in Pomona. You must know that the "at the door" price will be \$10.00 and our presale tickets are only \$5.00. We have a block of tickets and GPAA will split the proceeds with us. Get extra tickets for all those who you know that will want to come see the show. GPAA has said that they are going to double the number of prize giveaways.

Still haven't heard from GPAA if we will be doing any "hosting" at the Pomona show. Also, if you know anyone who would like to be a vender and have a booth, if we sign them up, we get "mega points".

You may have heard that Jerry Hobbs passed away December 28. He has had a long battle with a number of physical ailments. He was certainly a fighter while in the hospital and he was still fighting for our rights. Now we must continue the fight to keep our public lands and waters open for our use.

I'm gonna close this for now. Just wishing you all a Happy New Year and may we all get out there and enjoy our outdoors.

Sourdough Chet

\$5.00 pre-sale GPAA Gold Show tickets tonight at the meeting!

Tribute to Jerry Hobbs

It is with extreme sadness and regret that Public Lands for the People announced the passing of one of its founders, Jerry Hobbs. Jerry passed away peacefully in his sleep Dec. 28th, 2014, after six weeks of struggling with heart issues. He will be missed terribly by Public Lands for the People, the mining community and especially by his family and friends. The Board of Directors for Public Lands for the People pledged to continue to carry the torch in the fight for public lands and mining rights. They have always been committed to doing this, but they are now even more determined to do so in Jerry's honor. In lieu of flowers, it was Jerry's wish that people would join PLP; not only donating funds, but getting involved, volunteering to link arms in the cause that he gave his life represented.

Some men seem larger than life by their size, others by what they accomplish in life. Jerry was definitely the latter. He accomplished so much in his life for small scale miners, and especially for property rights and for freedom granted us by the Constitution, that any one tribute could not cover it all. Jerry was a mountain of a man when it came to fighting to keep our Public Lands rights, and he stood up to everyone no matter the odds, fighting for what he knew to be right, fair and just.

He was a visionary, seeing the onslaught of the environmentalist groups and government regulations long before anyone else hardly had an inkling of the threat to our freedom. He was rare in that he not only identified the threats, but acted proactively to thwart those threats by forming what is now known as Public Lands for the People, a 501-c3 non-profit organization that has been spearheading the fight to restore dredging rights in California over the last 5 years, as well as many other, lesser known battles (with many victories!).

Even while lying in his hospital bed, Jerry was more concerned about the affairs of PLP and the legal battles that are underway than his own welfare. Those of us that have known and worked with him over the years were not at all surprised with his dedication to his life's work, right to the end. You see, these past many years he has dedicated his entire life, morning till night, to helping others. He would often do legal research for anyone that requested answers to public lands/ mining rights/ roads issues. When he wasn't doing that, he was working on fundraising to keep PLP able to stay in the legal fights.

He always had a good sense of humor, except if you were on the wrong side of the issues, then, well, you just don't cross a man on a mission!

Jerry Hobbs, we will miss you. Your legacy will continue in the capable hands and leadership of PLP. We will continue to build on the solid foundation you have laid. We will never give up my friend; for you, for our kids, and for their kids. We will continue to carry the freedom torch in your honor, the one you inspired to be lit in each one of us. You were a rare leader, a man among men; and in many ways, larger than life. We were blessed to be counted among your friends. You are missed. Good bye friend.

Ron Kliewer,
On behalf of the Board of Directors,
Public Lands for the People

Searching The Beaches:

By Frank Trutta

On Dec. 21th I ended up on the very south side of La Jolla Shores looking in front on the Tennis Club. With the -1.3 tide I thought this was a good opportunity to find that killer piece of jewelry. The only thing I found was a junk ring and no coins there but ended up with a few coins further north. A few other people were detecting but got to the north part of the beach too late to get their names.

Saturday my wife and I went to Oceanside Harbor. We both found about a dollar and a half and I did manage to find three junk rings. Pickings seem to be getting slim. We need some good storms to erode the beaches to expose the deeper treasures. We had a chance to do some beach hunting the last couple of weeks. We went to Oceanside Harbor when there was a small low tide. I gridded out three different areas on the hard packed sand and came up with a junk ring in each of them and about \$3.00 in change. Seems like the percentage of junk rings is increasing, maybe it is the bad economy and people are not spending money on gold and platinum.

Had a chance to go to Oceanside Beach and found a small cut and worked that for two hours and recovered 55 coins for \$3.65 and I did find a 14k gold ring with three small diamonds forming a heart shape.

On Dec. 28th was our trip to La Jolla Shores. There was a slight minus tide, low enough to work the wet sand. Gridding out the low tide area for over 250 yards and three hours I did recover \$4.08 in coins and a mans' gold 14k band, made my day. All of the targets were 9 plus inches down. That is when going slow on your sweeps pays off plus you get plenty of exercise for free. My wife Zee came up with over three dollars in change Brian and Keith each got about one dollar each. I will be going back and continue where I left off an grid inch by inch and see if my theory pays off by doing a slow methodical grid. Seems like most detectorists are in a grass chopping mode and trying to cover as much distance as they can in the least amount of time. What is their rush? – whatever is there is not going anywhere.

Next month on January 25th we will go to Mission Beach out from the Roller Coaster at 7:00 am. Any questions, call Frank on his cell phone 760 291-7900.

Hunt smart!

Results from 11/9/14 Metal Detecting outing @ Mission Beach:

By John Howe

Well, we had our beach detecting outing at Oceanside Harbor and there was nothing spectacular to report. Weather was brisk early, turning wonderful later in the morning. I wish I could say the same for the finds. Maybe you can see why I'm going the the southern beaches more. More people, more finds, more of the time

.
Here's the results. We had 4 detectorists sorted by \$\$ found...

Brian Kinnear 17 coins @ \$1.10 - toy car- Disney pendant - garden trowel - 3 sand dollars

John Howe 10 coins @ \$0.97 - toy car - 2 sand dollars

Dave Grimshaw 5 coins @ \$0.18 - miscellaneous junk

Kent Cibas 0 coins @ \$0.00 and the **WINNER OF THE SKUNK!**

The January outing will be at Coronado Beach on Jan 11, 2015 in the hopes of finding post-holidays losings. Reminders will be sent.

Thank you – You Make a Difference!

To Sue Conner and Ron Gonsalves for hosting and cooking TSSD's fabulous Christmas Party and Dinner.

To all the members who helped cook, serve and clean up from the Christmas Party – THANK YOU.

To Kalina Caltagirone and Jon Cunningham on their presentation regarding the PLP Octoberfest at Sleepy Bear Mine and surrounding areas.

To Jerry Goldstein for all his dedicated work on the ways and means committee. Raffle prizes and ticket sales are all on Jerry!

To each and every volunteer that it takes to run a meeting and all the behind the scene actions. You are appreciated.

Miner's Cookbook Corner:

By Judy Carpenter

Happy New Year 2015
January Is National Soup Month

Rise up your spoons and celebrate with a delicious bowl of soup. Homemade or your favorite store bought; share a bowl or two with family, friends or neighbors. It's a warming experience. One of my favorites is Broccoli Cheese.

Cheesy Broccoli Soup

INGREDIENTS:

1 small onion, chopped	3 cups chicken or vegetable broth
6 tablespoons margarine or butter	1 large carrot, shredded
1/3 cup all-purpose flour	1- 1 1/2 cup broccoli florets
salt and pepper to taste	1/2 cup chopped celery
4 cups milk or 1/2 milk 1/2 heavy cream	1 pound processed cheese food (eg. Velveeta), cubed
	dash of Tabasco, Optional

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large saucepan on medium high heat, sauté the onions in the butter or margarine until tender. Add the flour and salt and pepper to taste. Mix until smooth. Add the milk slowly, until mixture is thick and bubbling.
2. In a smaller saucepan, bring the chicken broth to a boil. Add the carrot, celery, and broccoli. Cook about 5 minutes, or until tender. Combine the broth mixture with the milk mixture and stir until fully blended.
3. Add the cheese. Allow soup to heat over medium heat until cheese is melted. Important: DO NOT let the soup boil because the cheese will separate and curdle the soup. Serve hot and enjoy! Make about 7 serving

GPAA Pomona Gold Show Vendor:

Fairplex Pomona, 1101 W McKinley Ave., Pomona, CA 91768

February 7th and 8th, 2015, Saturday and Sunday 10 am to 4 pm.

If you would like to be a vendor at this event, sign up with Chester, as TSSD will receive points.

Mark your calendar and let Chester know if you are interested in helping.

GPAA Pomona Gold Show TICKETS \$5.00 each:

See Mary Troseth at the back table for your \$5.00 GPAA Pomona Gold Show tickets!

TSSD receives a commission for selling these tickets in advance.

Good for either day of the show and at a discount!

If you purchase them at the gold show – you will be paying \$10.00 per person.

GPAA Membership Kits:

Available at the TSSD meetings.

Cost is \$70.00 for a one year membership; start up kit and claims guide through TSSD only.

Please see Chester.

Save the dates!

Frank Trutta has announced the dates of his 2015 metal detecting outings and they will be on Sundays!

January 25th

February 22nd

March 22nd

April 26th

May 24th

June 21st

June 26th

August 23rd

September 20th

October 25th

November 22nd

December 20th

Locations and times will be announced for each month.

Finds of the Month:

3 categories to enter: Gold, Gems and Minerals, Metal Detecting Finds

Bring in your best finds from last month. *Remember, it is **quality**, not quantity.*

Prizes for 1st and 2nd place in all 3 categories.

PAINTED GORGE TRIP

SATURDAY– January 10th, 2015

LEAVE MEETING POINT AT **9AM**

Directions: (Coming from San Diego)-

I-8 south to OCOTILLO

Exit “Imperial Hwy” – turn LEFT and go under the freeway.

Turn RIGHT on “Co. Hwy. S80”(Evan Hewes Hwy.) - (frontage road that runs parallel to the freeway)

Travel approximately 4.2 miles

Turn LEFT on ‘Painted Gorge Road’

Pull over to the side of the road and wait for the others.

Tour Guide:

David Rice

Vehicles:

Most vehicles can travel this road, but a high clearance vehicle is suggested. (Ford Escape made it with no problems.)

What to bring:

Food, Water, Hat, Gloves, Walking/hiking boots

Collecting bags and tools, Newspaper to wrap your finds in and a Full tank of fuel

Agenda:

We are hoping to spend at least one hour at each location.

One location looking for natural copper infused rocks.

One location looking for petrified sea shells, selenite, agate, jasper & chalcedony.

Another location looking for petrified wood along with agate, jasper & chalcedony, spherical concretions.

All areas are within a short (30 minutes or less) drive of each other.



Hall of Fame Outing:

Saturday and Sunday, January 17th and 18th, TSSD will hold its monthly outing to TSSD's Hall of Fame Claim.

Directions: Take Hwy. 1-15 to I-10 East to the Cottonwood Springs & Mecca Road Exit (this is approximately 50 miles east of Palm Springs). Go North on Cottonwood Springs road. The rest of the directions are in your claims guide.

This claim is located in a very remote area. It is recommended for tent or vehicle camping. Trailers or RVs are NOT recommended. The last 20 miles to the claim can be very rocky or washed out, depending on the rain for the season. A high clearance vehicle is suggested and, at times, a 4x4 might be needed.

There is NO services, NO water, NO nothing in the area. The nearest help and water is at the Cottonwood Springs Ranger Station and Campground, which you pass 6 miles north of I-10.

The last fuel and ice stop before this claim is at the Chiraco Summit located on I-10. It has a Chevron gas station, café and gift shop, Foster Freeze. The exit for Chiraco Summit is #173.

You will need enough fuel to get in and out of the claim. So plan ahead.

Hall of Fame claim is a 20 acre claim. TSSD has 2 other claims in the area: Golden View and West Channel. Fine gold to nice nuggets have been found here. Good for drywashing, metal detecting and dowsing. Gold seems to be no more than 3 feet deep.

Remember to dismantle your metal detector while traveling through Joshua Tree National Park.

The area has many abandon mines and trails. Be safe.

December Meeting Summary:

113 people in attendance.

Door Prize Winner – Vanessa DeRosa

50/50 Drawing – Mary Troseth

Finds of the Month:

Metal Detecting – Jim Mears and John Davis

Gems & Minerals – Kalina Caltagirone and Joe Corriher

Gold – Jason Evans

Gold Nuggets – Keith Browning, Steve McGovern, Brian Kinnear, David Hale and William Stedman as a 2 time winner

Sluice Box – Mark Johnston

Pin Pointer – did not get name of winner

And the Quarterly Grand Prize – those beautiful gold nuggets – Dan McGuigan

12/13/2014

**Significant progress made in court for California suction gold dredgers;
still more work to be done**

by [Ron Kliewer](#)

Senior Writer

ICMJ's Prospecting and Mining Journal

The DREDGE REPORT

Today was a milestone day in the battle to maintain the rights of miners to dredge on federal mining claims in California. As a plaintiff in this case, I was in the courtroom on Friday, December 12, 2014, along with fifteen miners who gathered to show their support in the ongoing fight with the various parties arrayed against them, trying to extinguish their way of life, their way of supporting their families and their way of boosting the local rural economies. It has been an upstream fight and we got to rest a bit today in a pool of tranquility. Judge Ochoa, after months of reading endless briefs and supporting cases that were cited by both sides, told us plainly where he stood on several aspects of the combined cases and what he intended to rule in the coming weeks. First I'll get into the tall grass with some details of the court proceedings so you get a taste of how things work; then I'll spread out the paydirt in the gold pan for you.

Judge Ochoa opened the proceedings by asking the six lawyers arrayed in the front of the courtroom if they had anything they wished to air in oral arguments before the court before he made his announcement of his intended rulings. James Buchal, who is representing the New '49ers and others in these cases, stood up and made a very clear, articulate case for enjoining the State Water Resources Control Board in the Mandatory Settlement Conference that Judge Ochoa has ordered. He reasoned that by enjoining the Water Board at this time, future litigation could be avoided. Since the Water Board is on record against allowing dredging in California, Mr. Buchal's argument to include them in Settlement discussions made perfect sense. All of us want to avoid having the Water Board place additional roadblocks in front of dredgers as soon as they get the all clear to get back in the water. He also argued that the miners have a valid takings claim against the Water Board. The Agency took away our rights in 2000 by neglecting to notify us of their actions.

Bradley Solomon, counsel for the State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, argued to continue the Settlement Conference without any rulings from the Court. He requested the judge not rule on the Motion for Summary Judgment (MSJ) until the California State Supreme Court had the opportunity to rule on the Rinehart case.

In the Rinehart case, the California Third Court of Appeals ruled that a lower court should have considered Rinehart's argument that federal mining law preempts state mining law.

The Dept. of Fish and Wildlife has petitioned the Supreme Court to review the Rinehart case, but the judge made it clear that indeed this has not yet occurred, and may not. I might add that even if they do take the case, it will not be a slam dunk to drown the dredgers by any means—we are standing on solid

ground on the issue of federal preemption.

David Young, counsel for Public Lands for the People, requested a two –tier track. He laid out a plan to continue the Mandatory Settlement Conference on one track (which is hammering out a compromise on the revised suction dredge regulations), asked the judge to go ahead and make his ruling on the Motion for Summary Judgment (federal preemption), and to lift the Stay, implemented by an order signed by the Court on May 21, 2014.

Lynn Saxton, counsel for the Karuk Tribe, asked that there be more discussion with additional briefings submitted to the Court. Judge Ochoa responded to this request by mentioning he had read stacks of briefings and we had discussed them ad nauseum. The judge denied Ms. Saxton’s request by referencing the landmark cases of Granite Rock and South Dakota Mining and how they relate to the issue of a moratorium on mining.

When the Judge had completed his response to the counsel for the Karuk Tribe, Mr. Buchal made one more attempt to persuade the judge to enjoin the Water Board. He contended that the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife is going to amend the dredge rules (AKA “Regulations”), requiring the Water Board to require the dredgers to obtain an additional water permit before being allowed to dredge.

Judge Ochoa responded that he intends to use the Rinehart case, now that it has been published by the Third Court of Appeals, to give the court direction. He declared he will be ruling and, “Let the chips fall where they may.” He also agreed with Mr. Young that two tracks are a good idea and his rulings will be made the first week of January, 2015. Judge Ochoa gave clear indication of what he will rule in his statements about the Rinehart case. Since the Rinehart case has been published, he is free to reference it in his decision even though the State Supreme Court may hear Fish and Wildlife’s appeal to have it “unpublished” sometime in the future. He wants the case to go forward and right now there is clarity of direction. This is tremendous news for the miners!

I looked over at Walt Wegner, vice president of PLP, and he was trying to hide his obvious delight with Judge Ochoa’s statements. This has been a long, hard, expensive fight, and though it is far from over, we are making some serious, long-term legal wins for miners not only in California, but across the country!

This is what he ruled on today:

We did not get the Judge to agree with us on enjoining the Water Board in the Mandatory Settlement Conference. The judge actually wanted to grant this request, but stated he was barred from doing so on technical issues.

We did get Judge Ochoa to rule in the miner’s favor on the Motion to lift the Stay on ruling on the Motion for Summary Judgment. This will allow the Judge to make his ruling on federal preemption based on the legal precedent of the Rinehart case, which was published by the request of hundreds of miners who wrote letters to the Third Appellate Court!

The Judge made it known he will make his ruling without further oral argument the first week of January. He set the date to continue the Mandatory Settlement Conference on January 23, 2015 at 10am in his courtroom in San Bernardino. The courtroom itself is open to the public, but only parties to

the litigation are allowed to participate in the discussions, typically held in the judge's chambers or a conference room.

A special thank you goes out to Jerry Hobbs, president of Public Lands for the People, who has been in this fight over 20 years. We would have lost this fight before it even began had it not been for his expertise in dealing with these issues. We all owe a great debt of gratitude to Jerry for his unwavering dedication to keeping miners free to pursue their federal protected right to mine.

Editor's Note:

I'm probably sounding like a broken record, but Public Lands for the People (PLP) is in need of continuing donations in order to keep us in the fight. These prolonged court battles -- in San Bernardino and at the California Supreme Court level -- cost money. Attorney's are not cheap, but the work they do is essential.

PLP is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization staffed by volunteers -- the staff, including the president, work for free. If you are not a member of PLP, you need to be if you want to maintain your right to mine and prospect for gold. What happens in California will undoubtedly carry over to other states.

Over the past several years *ICMJ's Prospecting and Mining Journal* has donated tens of thousands of dollars to PLP, but we cannot afford to do it alone -- we need the support of individuals like you. In order to encourage you to join or renew your membership with PLP, we are again going to offer up a \$10 incentive. A one-year PLP individual membership is normally \$35. You can get a one-year subscription to our monthly publication for \$27.95 and include \$25 for a PLP membership and we'll add the additional \$10 for your one-year PLP membership. If you already have a subscription you can certainly choose to add another year to your subscription to take advantage of this offer.

[This offer is available online](#) or you can give us a call at 831 479-1500 if you prefer.

We will publish a list of contributors in our February 2015 issue.

Random Facts about Gold:

In 1933, Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 6102 which outlawed U.S. citizens from hoarding gold. Owning gold (except for jewelers, dentists, electricians, and other industry workers) was punishable by fine up to \$10,000 and/or ten years in prison.

The first recorded gold ever discovered in the United States was was a 17-pound nugget found in Cabarrus, North Carolina. When more gold was discovered in Little Meadow Creek, North Carolina, in 1803, the first U.S. gold rush began.

Supporting the Chapter:

“The Desert Magazine” on Disk – 1937 to 1983 - \$5.00 for the set. Limit two per family.

Membership Card Holders with clip or pin style – \$2.00 each at Membership table.

Treasure Seekers Pins & Decals - \$6.00 each

Bags of Gold Pay Dirt - \$10.00, \$25.00, \$50.00 and \$100.00 bags available for purchase (with limits).

Claims Guides - \$20.00 with your TSSD membership card.

Opportunity Drawings:

Door Prize – taken off the meeting sign in sheet

50/50 Split Drawing

Gold Nugget Drawing

Raffle Table Drawing

See Jerry Goldstein for your winning tickets!

TSSD does not charge dues. There is no cost to check out prospecting equipment, outings are free, prospecting our claims is free, the library is free, and the education and companionship are priceless and free.

Yet TSSD still has to pay rent, pay the mining claim fees, pay the storage bill for the equipment for you to use, gold and raffle item costs, printing fees and numerous other monthly costs.

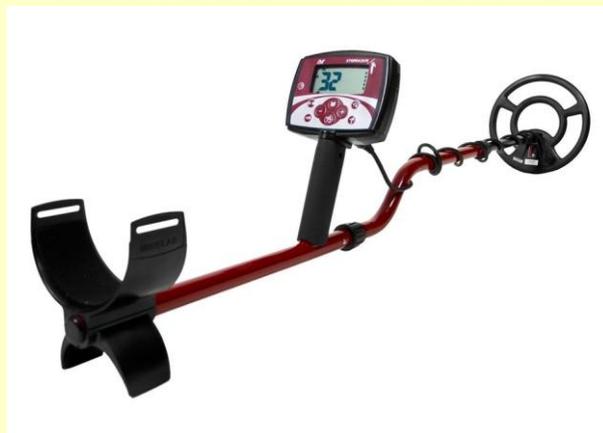
Please support “your” club!

Participate!

Buy some tickets!

Win!

A special ‘ticket’ is given to you for every \$20.00 spent at a meeting. This ticket is for a “Super Prize” that will be drawn at the February 2015 meeting.

March “Quarterly Prize”:**Minelab X-Terra 305 Metal Detector**

Outings and Events:

January 7th – Wednesday:

TSSD General Meeting @ 210 Park Ave., Escondido
6:30pm

January 10th – Saturday:

Gem and Fossil hunt with David Rice
Painted Gorge/Plaster City area
9:00am

January 11th – Sunday:

Metal Detecting with John Howe
Coronado Beach
7:00am’ish
10:00 am meet up to share finds

January 17th and 18th – Saturday and Sunday:

Hall of Fame Claim outing

January 25th – Sunday:

Metal Detecting with Frank Trutta
Mission Beach out from the Roller Coaster
7:00 am.

February 4th – Wednesday:

TSSD General Meeting @ 210 Park Ave., Escondido
6:30pm

January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 M L King Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

CLASSIFIEDS:

For Sale:

Older Keene 151. Baffle type, no offset fan. Whole unit including motor and blower. No hose. Minor repair project but motor needs repair/replace. 3 ½ horse Briggs & Stratton, vertical throw. \$100.00 takes all. Funds go to TSS. Contact Chester 760-747-1165.

For Sale:

1996 Ford F250 3/4 ton utility truck
 Dual gas tanks, Heavy duty bumper, Lumber rack, all lockable compartments, Good tires, runs great
 Passes smog, ac & heater work great, clean title, Mileage 208,746.
 \$5,500 OBO Located in LEMON GROVE
 Michele Silva 951.729.9839



For Sale:

Keene Puffer Drywasher DW212V
 Includes 12 volt electric motor, hand crank assembly and a brand new 12 volt battery from Kragen
 Can run 2 ½ gallons of material in feed hopper at a time and approximately ¾ cubic yards per hour.
 Sells new at \$849.00 plus cost of battery.
 Asking \$650.00
 Contact: Charlene Myers 760.439.8521 – no calls after 8pm.



On Facebook? There is a group on Facebook “San Diego Prospectors and Gold Miners”
https://www.facebook.com/?ref=tn_tnmn#!/groups/248992371925760/

It is a closed group and you must ask to join. This is for anyone who is interested in the great outdoors. Many SPMA, TSSD members, and others, are on this page.

TSSD Equipment for Member’s Use:

- 2 Sluice Boxes – 3 feet long
- 1 Sluice Box – 4 feet long
- 1 Mini Recirculating 9 inch sluice with pump, 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

TSSD has equipment that it loans to its members. All we ask is that anything that is checked out is returned in the same or better condition than when it was borrowed. It is understandable that 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 missing or broken parts. Further details of the equipment check out policy is on the form which you will sign when receiving the item.

Earl Sterrett, 858-922-4547, will be able to assist you with the equipment checkout. He asks that you give him a couple of days’ notice when you might need something, and when items are returned that they are CLEAN. All equipment must be returned by the meeting following when it was checked out. Equipment is located at Diablo Mini Storage in Escondido.

TSSD Library:

Treasure Seekers of San Diego has a tremendous library for its members’ usage. Librarian, Roz Laffoon, will gladly assist you in checking out books, magazines, VHS/DVD’s that show you gold locations and history, treasure hunting, maps and knowledge of what to look for. Anything that is related to gold, gems and treasure hunting is available.

TSSD Membership:

Membership to Treasure Seekers of San Diego is free. We do not charge an annual dues. All that is asked is that you attend meetings, participate and support the group through its opportunity drawings and events. To maintain membership, you MUST attend one meeting every four months.

- 1st meeting: Complete and turn in a membership application.
- 2nd meeting: You will be given your TSSD membership card.
- 3rd meeting: You will be able to purchase a TSSD Claims Guide with proof of your membership card.

TSSD Claims Guides:

TSSD Claims Guides are available for purchase for \$20.00 (Twenty Dollars).

Inside each guide you will find:

1. List of Officers
2. Current year calendar of events
3. Claim Rules and Regulations
4. Chapter Support and Claims Etiquette
5. Equipment for members to check out and use
6. Claim do's and don'ts
7. What to expect at an TSSD outing
8. Using Dowsing Rods
9. Detailed maps and information pertaining to the 15 claims of TSSD.
10. And several pages of useful information pertaining to mining and detecting.

Claims Assessment Work Form:

Each and every time you are at one of TSSD's claims, you should be completing a Claims Assessment Work Form (located in the front of the claims guides, or at the meetings from the Claims Guide Seller). This form needs to be turned into Robert Cook, TSSD Claims Manager, at the meetings or e-mailing it to him at: rmjcc@cox.net or surface mail to: 1941 Rockhoff Road, Escondido, CA 92026-1113.

Needed information required: Claim used, Members name, Date used, Total people prospecting and time on the claim, Type of work done (clean up, maintain, filling in holes, etc.), Members signature, Claims access, Vehicle access, Claim Markers, Claims Guide Directions, Type of equipment used, Type of gold found.

It sounds like a lot, but it really is not. This information is needed to prove that our claims are being worked. If BLM questions us as to the use of our claims or wants to close one of our areas to prospecting we want to be able to produce records that show that our claims are being used.

G.P.A.A.:

Treasure Seekers of San Diego is a chapter of G.P.A.A.. This does not require you to become a member of G.P.A.A. but if you are, please advise them that you are also a member of TSSD, so that we are eligible for 'points' from your membership. TSSD uses those 'points' to obtain opportunity raffle items.

Treasure Seekers of San Diego County Mission Statement

Treasure Seekers of San Diego County (T.S.S.D.) was officially organized on May 21, 2003 when the election of officers was held. We are a G.P.A.A. chapter. Non G.P.A.A. members may attend meetings and participate in the raffle, but are not eligible to vote, hold office, be on the claims committee, or utilize G.P.A.A. 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 (formerly Joslyn Senior Center)
210 Park Avenue, Escondido CA

On the first Wednesday of each month, 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Board Members

President:	Chester Nowicki	760-747-1165	candhnow@cox.net
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