

FINDERS KEEPERS

Editor: Charlene Myers

Tonights Speaker:

Rudy Haluza on Radiation Meter, aka Geiger Counters

The question of Radiation Meter, aka Geiger Counter(s) came up at last months general meeting. Rudy has a GMC-320 "Nuclear Radiation Detector". It is an inexpensive unit (was about \$130 on Amazon) and detects gamma, beta and x-rays. It will not detect alpha particles and that is a limitation in some cases. More expensive units with a special Geiger tube can detect the short-lived alpha particles.

Here is some of what he has learned with this radiation detector:

- The average background count at my house in Escondido is about 20 counts per minute. This is probably caused mostly by gamma rays from the high atmosphere
- Putting the detector near a reddish native granite usually pushes the count to near 30/minute.
- I bought a piece of uranium ore from a mine in Utah to be sure the unit was basically working. Sold though Amazon - amazing. Put this near the detector and it rapidly goes to hundreds of counts per minute. The unit alarms at 100 counts per minute by default.
- All the samples collected at the various TSSD claims that I have brought home have not shown any particular activity. This includes a greenish rock from the Freedom claim. I had originally thought it was some kind of copper ore. Not likely, others have said it might be chromium chlorite (hydrate). (Mineral identification can be hard!)
- A Coleman lantern mantel contains Thorium and is slightly radio active. It is not detected because thorium is an alpha-particle emitter.

After his presentation and during the break he is asking members to bring any rocks, minerals or objects suspected of being radioactive. To know is a matter of safety. Not that we are looking for uranium! Rudy will bring the detector and uranium sample to the May TSSD meeting to show and tell. He will also expand his talk on radiation to include geology and safety with some feedback.

I learned a lot from this page: [The Cosmic Origins of Uranium](http://www.world-nuclear.org/information-library/nuclear-fuel-cycle/uranium-resources/the-cosmic-origins-of-uranium.aspx)
(<http://www.world-nuclear.org/information-library/nuclear-fuel-cycle/uranium-resources/the-cosmic-origins-of-uranium.aspx> November 2016)

Also of interest is rock and mineral identification. "What is this rock?" This short article summarizes the difficulty of doing that:

[The Most Difficult Rocks to Identify](#)

Searching the Beaches:

By Frank Trutta

The last Sunday hunt turned out at Pacific Beach very well. The weather was nice and cool with a nice breeze. Everyone had some finds John Howe had 24 coins for \$2.75 and a Singapore coin, Paul Mullins found 23 coins for \$1.42 a Bic lighter and a car, Cliff Vaughan had 30 coins for \$2.35 an e-cigarette and a pair of sun glasses, Brian Kinnear had 8 coins and a cell phone, Jerry had a number of coins, I had 30 coins for \$2.03 a car, four pieces of junk jewelry my wife Zee had 17 coins and a chain with a cross.

The hunt for May will be on the 21st at Pacific Beach again to sun-up or when you want to come and we will meet at 10:00 to show our finds. Should you have any questions call me at my shop, Columbia Metal Detectors [760 743-8516](tel:7607438516) or on my cell [760 291-7900](tel:7602917900).

Hunt Smart!

Metal Detecting with John:

By John Howe

We had the April hunt at Mission Beach. Unfortunately, I was spending my time across the street at the Coinshooter hunt. Only 2 TSSD hunters participated, but it kinda looks like the beaches are becoming more productive. The 2 hunters found a total of 87 coins for \$9.30! things are looking up.

Here's the summary:

Cliff Vaughn 68 coins @ \$6.61; junk necklace; souvenir penny

Paul Mullins 19 coins @ \$2.69

Looks like I need to get back to the beach.

The May hunt tentatively will be at Ocean Beach on May 7th.

All 'blue' colored membership cards have expired.

You will need to fill out a new membership application to receive 2017/2018 membership card at the back sign-in table during the break.

Miner's Cookbook Corner:

By Judy Carpenter

Mother's Day Strawberry Spinach Salad

Ingredients:

6 cups baby spinach, washed
1 pint fresh strawberries, sliced
1/2 cup sliced almonds, lightly toasted
1 small sweet white or Vidalia onion, sliced or finely diced
3 tablespoons shredded Parmesan cheese or favorite
1 bottle store-bought poppy-seed dressing
Whole strawberries, for garnish (optional)

Directions:

Fill large bowl with spinach, then layer on white onions. Add the slivered almonds around the outside. Add a layer of sliced strawberries to the top of the spinach salad. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and top with whole strawberries. Serve with poppy-seed dressing on the side.

Know the Difference:

TSSD is not a 'club' nor are we 'recreational miners'.
We are a 'Association' which ties us to the 1872 mining laws and we are "small miners".
Use these terms when approached by any law enforcement official while out mining.
And **ALWAYS** have your claims guide and current membership card with you.

TSSD has a Post Office Box:

Treasure Seekers of San Diego now has a Post Office Box for all its correspondence.

**Treasure Seekers of San Diego
P. O. Box 300941
Escondido, CA 92030**

Interested in Joining Us?

Please come to the sign in table at the beginning of break and fill out an application.

Thank you – You Make a Difference!

To Jeffery Wark for his donation of 50 Treasure Magazines for our library.

To Jerry Kaplan for his excellent presentation on the Freedom Claim and area.

To Mike Mahr for his presentation on the GPAA Gold Show and Summit Meeting in Vegas.

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

June's Quarterly Prize:

“Gold, Silver and the tools to find them”

This gift basket contains:

A Cyclone Mining Kit, A Wireless Garrett Headphone for a metal detector, 2 Silver Rounds, 1 Gorgeous Gold Nugget and A Digital Pocket Scale!



Outings and Events:

May 3rd – Wednesday: TSSD General Meeting
210 Park Avenue, Escondido
6:30pm

May 7th - Sunday: Metal Detecting with John Howe
Ocean Beach
Time to be Announced

May 20th & 21st - Saturday & Sunday:
TSSD “Hall of Fame” Claim
Details in the newsletter

May 21st – Sunday: Metal Detecting with Frank Trutta
Pacific Beach
7:00am

June 7th – Wednesday: TSSD General Meeting
210 Park Avenue, Escondido
6:30pm

May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <small>May Day</small>	2	3	4	5 <small> Cinco de Mayo</small>	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 <small> Mother's Day</small>	15	16	17	18	19	20 <small> Cinco de Mayo Day</small>
21	22 <small> Victoria Day</small>	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 <small> Memorial Day</small>	30	31			

May Outing:

TSSD's "Hall of Fame" Claim

Saturday and Sunday, May 20th & 21st, 2017, 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 Chiriaco Summit located on I-10. It has a Chevron gas station, café and gift shop, Foster Freeze. The exit for Chiriaco 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.

Please enjoy yourselves..... find lots of gold.....

Know what claim you are on by the GPS readings, many claims are right adjacent to TSSD's.

Websites to stay informed with:

BLM NewsBytes – a weekly publication - <http://www.blm.gov/ca/caso/getnewsbytes.html>

Western Mining Alliance – www.westernminingalliance.org

Public Lands for the People (PLP) - <http://www.publiclandsforthepeople.org/>

American Mining Rights Association (AMRA) – <http://americanminingrights.com/>

Minerals and Mining Advisory Council (MMAC) - <http://www.mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org/>

April Meeting Summary:

161 people in attendance

152 New Applications Received – yearly renewal

Door Prize: Scott McGrosso

50/50 Winner: Roz Laffoon

Finds of the Month Winners:

Metal Detecting: Paul Mullins and Brian Kinnear

Gems & Minerals: Jeanny Pierce and Frank Huberts

Gold: Jeanny Pierce

Gold Nugget Winners:

Martin Trotter, Klaus Golhke, Jerry Rady, David Reeve, Jerry Duke, Dan McGuigan and Greg Terrones.

Garrett Pinpointer: Bradd Barmettler

Sluice Box: Garrick Dries

Finds of the Month:

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

Bring in your best finds from last month. Prizes for 1st and 2nd place in all 3 categories.

*** Limit your finds of the month to your ten (10) best finds ***

*Remember, it is **quality**, not quantity!*

GPAA update . . .

by Frank M. Trutta

GPAA is no longer selling their Membership Kits to clubs. I will be carrying the kits at my shop Columbia Metal Detectors. You can pick up new kits to become a member of GPAA or you can come in and renew your current membership. The points are still available for the clubs, just designate which club you want the points to go to and they will give the club credit. This way the club can receive merchandise from GPAA for the club members.

Should you have any questions give me a call at [760 743-8516](tel:7607438516) or [760 291-7900](tel:7602917900).

Supporting the Chapter:

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

Dowsing Rods - \$35.00 per set. Limit one per family.

Drywasher/Gold Panning Test Kit (B.B.'s) - \$1.00 per bag.

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

Engraved Name Tags - \$12.00 each

Bags of Gold Pay Dirt - \$5.00, \$10.00, \$15.00, \$25.00, \$50.00 and \$100.00 bags available for purchase.

Claims Guides - \$30.00 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” Association!

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 2017 meeting.

Attendance Year:

Treasure Seekers of San Diego has an unusual attendance year. We were founded in May and our elections are held in April. Thus, our yearly attendance requirement runs from May to April. You are required to attend a meeting every three (3) months in order to maintain your membership status.

Membership Cards are to be worn:

Your “beige” colored Membership cards are to be worn at the meetings and while at the claims.

This way we know that you are already a member.

Not to be stored in your claims guide or in a drawer or your vehicle.

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 due. 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 quarter.

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

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.

Conduct and Code of Ethics:

Members shall conduct themselves in the highest ethical standards and reflect no discredit upon this association. This standard shall be one of the qualifications for membership in this association. Any violation of these standards shall be deemed grounds for expulsion.

Termination/Suspension of Membership:

The Board of Directors, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the Board, may suspend or expel a member of the Corporation for cause after an appropriate hearing before the Board. The term "for cause" shall include (a) the member's conviction of a felony, acts of reckless endangerment, failure to perform commitments made to the Corporation, conduct on the part of the member that would render him/her ineligible for indemnification if required by the Board and member conduct which constitutes a conflict of interest with TSSD.

See someone Claim Jumping:

If you see someone that you think is claim jumping one of our claims – you need to do the following: Photograph the person, vehicles, equipment and whatever else you can and send the information to the Board including the date, time and location of the possible offense.

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 Small Dry Washer (no leaf blower)
- 1 Large Dry Washer (Keene 151 with leaf blower)
- 1 Magnetic Sweeper on rollers
- Numerous Metal Detectors – Pioneer, Torrsso Bandido, Torrsso Lobo and others

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 before the return date. 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 from when it was checked out.** Equipment is located at Valley Rose Self Storage, 1566 E. Valley Parkway in Escondido.

Those people who borrow equipment, and do not bring it back in the same condition or better, or do not bring it back in a timely manner, will be restricted from future access to the equipment.

TSSD Claims Guides:

TSSD Claims Guides are available for purchase for \$30.00 (Thirty 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.

See Steve Balbo at the sign in table at break to purchase at Break Time.

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 Al Ockert, TSSD Claims Manager, at the meetings. 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.

Claim Assessment Work forms are available at the sign in table. Please return to Al Ockert or to Charlene Myers at the sign in table.

CLASSIFIEDS:

For Sale:

Rock Crusher 14" x 16" drum with 27 1x1 steel hammers used only on 40 buckets \$ 800.00, new price was \$1600.00.

Small Rock Crusher 14" drum x 6" with 8 1x1" steel Hammers used for demonstration only wet or dry

Like Keen Dry Washer 30"x 10"new, blower not included \$600.00

Used Bucket vacuum with 10' 3" hose \$ 150.00, was new 345.00

New Retort \$79.00

Used Blue bowl \$50.00

Contact: Klaus Golhke @ 619-300-9704

If you wish to place a classified ad ~ please submit to charlenemyers@cox.net before the 20th of each month

Mining Laws:

USFS/FSM (Forest Service Manual) 2800 – Minerals and Geology, Chapter 2810 – Mining Laws:
www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsm/2800/2810.doc *This is a PDF file well worth the read.*

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. A Non-Profit 501(c)4.

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:	Klaus Gohlke	619-300-9704	kande1234@yahoo.com
1 st Vice President:	Jerry Kaplan	858-232-0670	jerryk23A@gmail.com
2 nd Vice President:	Jason Evans	760-525-1189	min-arch@hotmail.com
Secretary:	Michele Silva	951-729-9839	silva.grandma@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Jerry Goldstein	760-317-1819	aupropector101@aol.com
Activity Communicator:	John Howe	760-621-0550	jhowe3@gmail.com
Claims Manager:	Al Ockert	760-712-7800	aockert@sbcglobal.net
Claims Guides:	Steven Balbo	408-438-3850	steven.balbo@cox.net
Engraved Name Tags:	Mary Troseth	619-820-8676	jtroseth@yahoo.com
Equipment Manager:	Earl Sterrett	858-922-4547	earls@awproperties.net
Finds of the Month:	Ken Maltby	951-522-7710	keyguy57@roadrunner.com
Gold Bags:	Ron Gonsalves *	760-480-5638	goldbusters@sbcglobal.net
Librarian:	Rozalynn Laffoon	619-423-6426	rozalynnlaffoon@att.net
Membership:	Charlene Myers *	760-439-8521	charlenemyers@cox.net
Metal Detecting:	John Howe	760-621-0550	jhowe3@gmail.com
	Frank Trutta	760-743-8516	scthfrank@yahoo.com
Newsletter:	Charlene Myers	760-439-8521	charlenemyers@cox.net
Political Action	Jerry Kaplan *	858-232-0670	jerryk23A@gmail.com
Printing:	Frank Trutta	760-743-8681	scthfrank@yahoo.com
Refreshments:	Sue Conner * & Ron Gonsalves *	760-480-5638	goldbusters@sbcglobal.net
Sgt. At Arms:	Keith Browning *	760-751-3072	keithbro2001@yahoo.com
TSSD Apparel:	John Troseth *	619-820-8676	jtroseth@yahoo.com
Ways & Means	Jerry Goldstein	760-317-1819	aupropector101@aol.com
Director at Large:	Robert Cook *	760-741-6547	rmjcc@cox.net
Director at Large:	Loren Raddatz *	760-726-7397	Laraddatz@cox.net
Director at Large:	Jim Mears *	760-746-9698	jandcmears@cox.net
Director at Large:	Bill Myers *	760-500-2266	billmyers1729@gmail.com

* Denotes Director at Large

Find us at:

www.treasureseekersofsandiego.org