



THE ASSAY

SOUTHWESTERN PROSPECTORS & MINERS ASSOCIATION

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of Each Month at 6:30 PM
North Clairemont Community Center, Building #2, Room #2
44211 Bannock Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117

Website: www.spma-gold.org

SPMA President's Message For April 2024



Welcome prospectors and miners. I'm your SPMA President
Brian Turner

April's mining trip will be at the Red Mountain claim. Here are the details for the Red Mountain outing in April. We will meet at the intersection of Hwy 395 and Osdick Road at 9:00 a.m. Friday, April 19, 2024, or at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, April 20, 2024. From there we will tour the claim. This is a dry claim, bring a drywasher and a metal detector. The weather should be dry with the temperature in the seventies to low eighties.

May's mining day trip will be at the Starlight Claim. We will meet at the Buckman Springs Safety Rest Area at 8:00a.m. Saturday, May 25, 2024. From there you will be guided to the Starlight claim. The gold is too fine for a metal detector, bring a drywasher. This claim will be dry. There is water we can use.

June's prospecting trip will be at the Big Bear claim. We will meet at Wyatt's Grill & Saloon at 42900 Big Bear Blvd, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315 at 9:00a.m. on Friday, June 21, 2024 and 9:00a.m. Saturday, June 22, 2024. We will go to the Big Bear claim. Bring a drywasher and metal detector.

July's mining trip will be at John Bull Flat in the Big Bear area. We will meet at Wyatt's Grill & Saloon at 42900 Big Bear Blvd, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315 at 9:00a.m. on Friday, July 19, 2024 and 9:00a.m. Saturday, July 20, 2024. From there we will go to the new prospecting area. Bring a drywasher and metal detector. There is much less metal trash for metal detectors.

Programs: This month Don Star will talk about fighting for mining rights.

May's program will be fixing tires and starting a car or truck with a dead battery.

SPMA President,
Brian Turner

April 2024 Upcoming Events

Board of Directors Meeting, April 8th at 6:30pm, At the Gem and Mineral Building, Balboa Park. (2nd Monday of the month)

Red Mountain Outing
April 19th - 21st

General Meeting
April 16th at the North Clairemont Community Center
(3rd Tues. each month)

Inside this issue:

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Field trips
Stargazing Video
Ways & Means
Metal Detecting
Volunteers Needed
Calendars
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GOLD
PRICE

\$2,386 / oz
April 15, 2024

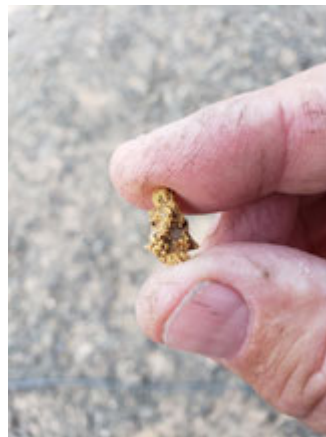
News from the Potholes Claims



Hi all, Another month down. I hope everyone had a good holiday. March ended with some high winds and heavy rain. The ground is pretty soaked just as our winter members are wrapping up to return home. It's definitely been a wet weather season. I'm looking forward to doing a little more detecting. I tend to procrastinate until rain forces me into it.

On a good note, a member exchanged promises with his girlfriend using necklaces he made containing nuggets from Potholes claims. Thank you to those who helped me move a couple of the more annoying rocks from the road and some pipe hazards. Also to those who sent me pics to forward. As always anyone locally that needs info or membership assistance can contact me by email or text. I'm around the area more often than not. Stay safe. Ron Doiron

Some pictures from the Potholes Claim





Ever wondered how to polish rocks affordably? Here's a video that could help you get started. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQx1CzjvPgY>



Here's what the night sky has in store for April. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hm_8GGxJpA

A trip to the old mine above the Twenty-nine Palms claim



Photos by Earl Steier. The SPMA does not endorse exploring abandoned mines as there can be many hidden dangers. Those dangers include collapse, gas pockets and venomous snakes.

LAST MONTH'S SPMA MEETING RAFFLE WINNERS

15.4 Grn Nugget
5.1 Grn Gold Picker
4.9 Grn Gold Picker
1oz Silver Bar

Charlene Brady
Robert Sepulveda
Julie Biggs
Tad Van Allen

8.0 Grn Nugget
5.0 Grn Gold Picker
4.8 Grn Gold Picker
2023 US Silver Dollar

Tim Graham
Robert Sepulveda
Art Biggs
Anton Silbernagel

Reminder: Claim Jumping is a real crime. It's stealing. Avoid trouble by keeping your membership up to date.

See Someone Claim Jumping:

By Charlene Myers

If you see someone that you think or know for a fact is claim jumping one of our claims –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.

If the offender becomes agitated while you are doing this, it is recommended to contact the local law enforcement and tell the officer of the Penal Codes for reference:

California Penal Codes for Claim Jumpers:

By Charlene Myers

California Penal Code – “THEFT”; “GRAND THEFT”
Title 13 – “OF CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY”
Chapter 5 – “LARCENY” (Section 484-502.9)

Section 486:

Theft is divided into two degrees, the first of which is termed grand theft; the second, petty theft.

Section 487:

Grand theft is theft committed in any of the following cases:

- (a) When the money, labor or real or personal property taken is of a value exceeding nine hundred fifty dollars (\$950), except as provided in subdivision (b).
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), grand theft is committed in any of the following cases:
 - 3(c) When the property is taken from the person of another.

Section 487d – Grand Theft; gold dust, amalgam, or quicksilver:

Every person who feloniously steals, takes, and carries away, or attempts to take, steal, and carry from any mining claim, tunnel, sluice, undercurrent, riffle box, or sulfurate machine, another's gold dust, amalgam, or quicksilver is guilty of grand theft and is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170.

Section 1170. (h)(1):

Except as provided in paragraph (3), a felony punishable pursuant to this subdivision where the term is not specified in the underlying offense shall be punishable by a term of imprisonment in the county jail for 16 months, or two or three years. Fine authorized in addition to prescribed imprisonment, see Section 672.

California Penal Code §672:

Upon a conviction for any crime punishable by imprisonment in any jail or prison, in relation to which no fine is herein prescribed, the court may impose a fine on the offender not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in cases of misdemeanors or ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in cases of felonies, in addition to the imprisonment prescribed.

Support the PLP by taking part in their Raffle



PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE www.PublicLandsforthePeople.org

A 501(c) (3) non-profit organization whose mission is:

"TO REPRESENT AND ASSIST OUTDOOR USER GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN KEEPING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDS OPEN TO PROSPECTING, MINING, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION THROUGH PUBLIC EDUCATION, SCIENTIFIC DATA, AND LEGAL MEANS."

The PLP Annual Grand Raffle!!!

ORDER YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS TODAY, SUPPORT PLP, AND BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN ONE (OR MORE!) OF THE PRIZES BELOW! MORE PRIZES WILL BE ADDED

HUGE RAFFLE!!! **2024 FUNDRAISING RAFFLE**
Drawing to be held **August 4th 2024**

<u>LIST OF PRIZES AND DONORS</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
- Gold Quartz Specimen donated by Meeting of the Mines/Goldstrike Corp.....	\$2,500
- 20 Acre placer claim donated by Ron Kliewer.....	\$6,000
- 34 Silver Rounds (one ounce each) 34 prizes! PLP	\$35 each
- 1/4"x24"x48" Rock Harness... www.MoveItCableSystems.com	\$85
- Lifetime PLP Membership www.publiclandsforthepeople.org	\$1,500
- 2 Year ICMJ Subscription www.icmj.com	\$75
- (2 prizes) 1 Year Membership to www.ReinkeGoldMining.com	\$160 Each
- Paid admission for 2 to 2024 FallFest	\$150
- Nearly new Minelab Gold Monster Metal Detector...By PLP.....	\$900
- Thompson II Puffer Drywasher manuf. by Mad Mining.....	\$1,395
- PLP Paydirt Bag	\$250
- Roaring Camp 4 days/ 3 nights donated by www.roaringcampgold.com	\$450
- Gold Cube 4-Stack donated by www.goldcube.com	\$ 480
- 1 Week Alaska Mining donated by www.SkookumGoldCamp.com	\$2,500
- 1 Yr MineOperator PureAu Membership www.youtube.com/@mineoperator	\$300

*Winners are responsible for taxes due on prizes.

Don't miss out on our **2024 GRAND RAFFLE**, which includes MANY great prizes -- Mining Equipment, Alaska Trip, Gold & Silver, a Mining Claim & MORE!

3 WAYS TO ORDER:

1. Phone: (844) 757-1990 Toll Free
or (844) PLP-1990

Leave a message and we will call you back.

Last day to order by phone is **August 11, 2024**

2. Buy Tickets in Person at the Downieville Gold Rush Days show **August 2, 3, and 4th**

3. Mail a check to: PO Box 1660 InyoKern, CA 93527

Still only \$10
for a Book of
12 Tickets!
HURRY!
Drawing Aug. 4th!

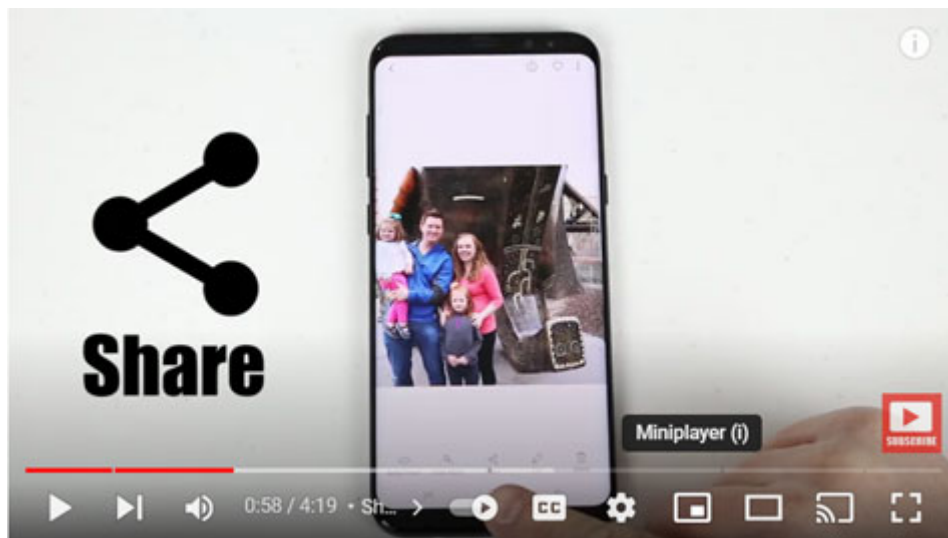


Please take some photos for the Assay!

Hi, I'm Tom Heffernan, the Assay Editor. Please remember to use your cell phones to snap a few pictures at SPMA events. Then just email them to me at Tomh.svm@gmail.com or text them to me at 619-756-9103.

The easiest way to send them is to **use the share feature on your phone**. On iPhones, the share icon looks like a square with an arrow pointing up. On Androids it's a less-than symbol with dots. Please watch the videos below.

How to SHARE photos from your phone



Here's how to do share photos using an Android phone.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J7sSFk0GNEE>



Here's how to share photos using an iPhone.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKaYUbr3GWA>

Pre-Owned White's GMT Metal Detector For Sale



Hi All,

I have a White's metal detector GMT E Series for sale. I have a lot of extras for it.

If purchased new would cost \$1200. It barely used and I'd like to get \$550 or best offer. PRICE REDUCED to \$450.

Please call John Angeli 951-679-3451 or 530-613-3613. When you call I will tell you what comes with the detector.

SPMA BOARD of DIRECTORS

President	Brian Turner	brian@brianturner.com	858-864-0465
Vice President	Robert Sepulveda		
Treasurer	Neil Alexander	neilAlexander@scenetronics.com	619-994-3207
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Past President	Joe JohaneK	joe4409@aol.com	858-273-5987

Committee Members & Volunteers

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Library	Joe JohaneK	joe4409@aol.com	858-273-5987
Ways and Means	Brian Turner	brian@brianturner.com	858-864-0465
Trip Coordinator	Brian Turner	brian@brianturner.com	858-864-0465
Fair Committee	Joe JohaneK	joe4409@aol.com	858-273-5987

ASSAY Submission Deadlines: If you wish to submit an article, photos, for sale items, or any other announcement, please do so by **the last day of the previous month** for the new month's issue. Please email your submissions to the [Assay Editor](#).

Photos can be sent from your cell phone to my cell phone as a text message attachment. Send pictures of your prospecting adventures, metal detecting finds, or your gold pans sparkling with gold. Pictures of happy, smiling people having fun are much appreciated. All submissions are subject to approval.

Thank you for contributing to the Assay and the SPMA experience.

FIELD TRIP & EVENT SCHEDULE

April	19 th – 20 th	Red Mountain Claim
May	25 th (1 day)	Starlight Claim, San Diego
June	21 st – 22 nd	Big Bear Claim

Raffle drawings for nuggets and camping equipment are held at the our General Meeting to help offset costs. Participation in these fundraising raffles is greatly appreciated.

Calendar Letters: **B** = Board Meeting, **G** = General Meeting, **O** = Outing, and **A** = Assay Articles

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 B	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 G	17	18	19 O	20 O
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 A				

May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 B	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 G	22	23	24	25 O
26	27	28	29	30	31 A	



SOUTHWESTERN PROSPECTORS AND MINERS ASSOCIATION

PRINT & MAIL MEMBERSHIP FORM

NEW MEMBERS: ONE-YEAR PER FAMILY \$55.00

RENEWING MEMBERS: ONE-YEAR PER FAMILY \$45.00

Renewals must be received within 60 days of expiration date.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Home Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

Spouses Name: _____

Children's Names: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

New Member \$55.00 Payment \$ _____ Cash
 Renewal \$45 Rec'd by _____ Check # _____

Please make your check payable to the S.P.M.A. and mail it to:

P.O. BOX 904, La Mesa, CA 91944-0904

Please sign up for emails and our **ASSAY** Newsletter at www.spma-gold.org

REQUIRED ACCIDENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT

I HEREBY ASSUME, FOR MYSELF AND MY FAMILY, ALL OF THE RISKS OF PARTICIPATING IN ANY/ALL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE S.P.M.A, including, by way of example and not limitation, any risks that may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities being released, from dangerous or defective equipment or property owned, maintained, or controlled by them, or because of their possible liability without fault. I hereby consent to receive medical treatment, which may be deemed advisable in the event of injury, accident, and/or illness during this activity. I further acknowledge that the collection of precious minerals is not guaranteed by the S.P.M.A. I further understand that all activities are at my own risk.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Signature: _____ Date: _____