



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 August 2024



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

There is no mining trip this month. This month's program will be the annual mining swap meet. Bring money and stuff to sell. It doesn't have to be mining equipment.

September's mining outing will be at the Starlight claim. Here are the details for the Starlight prospecting outing. We will meet at the Buckman Springs Safety Rest Area at 8:00a.m. Saturday, September 28, 2024. From there you will be guided to the Starlight claim. The gold is too fine for a metal detector, so bring a drywasher. This claim will be dry. There is water we can use.

October's mining trip will be at the two Araz claims. We will meet at the Chevron gas station on Sidewinder Road and

Interstate 8 at 9:00 a.m. on Friday October 25, 2024, or at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, October 26, 2024. When we arrive at the claim you will be directed to the best spots for mining gold.

In 2021 six nuggets were found at the Nugget Patch with a metal detector. In 2020, a two gram nugget was found with a metal detector. This is a dry claim. Bring a metal detector and drywasher.

November's mining will be at the Potholes claims. We will have a turkey and ham potluck dinner on the weekend before Thanksgiving, on the claim where the old white home used to be. There are five claims in this area.

We will meet at the Cloud Museum on S24 at 9:00 a.m. Friday, November 22, 2024, or 9:00 a.m. Saturday November 23, 2024. From there we will go to the claims. Bring a drywasher and a metal detector.

SPMA President,
Brian Turner

August 2024 Upcoming Events

Board of Directors Meeting, Aug. 12th at 6:30pm, At the Gem and Mineral Building, Balboa Park. (2nd Monday of the month)

No Outing
Swap Meet Aug.20th

General Meeting
August 20th at the North Clairemont Community Center (3rd Tues. each month)

Inside this issue:

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Stargazing Video
Ways & Means
Metal Detecting
Volunteers Needed
Calendars
Tide Chart

GOLD
PRICE

\$2,465 / oz
Aug 4, 2024

Annual SPMA Swap Meet THIS Month!

On August 20th our Annual Swap Meet will be held in the main parking lot of the Park & Recreation Hall Building.

The Swap Meet will start at 6:00 PM and run until dark.

You are welcome to sell any item that is related to Gold Prospecting, Metal Detecting, or Rock-hounding.

This is a good time to clean out your garage and sell your seldom used items. It's also a great way to pick up good equipment at a bargain price. We invite members of other San Diego area clubs to join in by selling or by shopping.

The main Park/Recreation Hall building is located at 4421 Bannock Street, San Diego, California. If you have any questions, please call Joseph Johanek at 858-273-5987

Raffle Winners From July's Meeting

Gold Winners

15.4 Grn Nugget	Tim Graham	13.7 Grn Nugget	Barillas Mauricio
6.7 Grn Nugget	Dave Partin	4.7 Grn Gold Picker	Barillas Mauricio
4.9 Grn Gold Picker	Chuck Gehart	4.0 Grn Gold Picker	Barillas Mauricio

Silver Winners

Silver US Dollar	Ivan Katsarov	Silver 1 oz Bar	Kevin Gehart
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Starlight Claim Lock Change

We are having some issues with our NEW SPMA Gate off of Old Buckman Springs Road. For now, we will use the OLD GATE ¼ mile down Old Buckman Springs Road. This gate has a new electronic lock and a NEW code.

Paid SPMA members who wish to use the claim should contact Calvin Hastings for membership verification and to receive the new entry code. Please use this gate until advised otherwise.

Calvin Hastings, Membership Committee Chair.
Call 951-231-4479 or email manta42mkii@outlook.com

SPMA Gold Claim # 1 is OPEN!

Claim #1 is once again OPEN to prospecting for Gold in the stream bed ONLY.

It was closed for the breeding season of the Arroyo Toad. Now that the horny little toads are done mating we can go back in the water.

Slim Pickens Claim Closure Notice...

As of August 31,2024 the Slim Pickens Claim will no longer be part of the SPMA Claim inventory and it will become a private mining claim again. Joe Johaneck, Claim Committee Chair.

More than gold at the Potholes Claim



Another of SPMA member, Claudia Heinrich, found a nice size piece of Thulite at the Potholes Claim. She worked long and hard to shape it into a beautiful sphere. She's holding it in the picture on the left. That's a big sphere, and heavy I'm sure. Nice work Claudia!



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. Use Google for more info.

SPMA BOARD of DIRECTORS

President	Brian Turner	brian@brianturner.com	858-864-0465
Vice President	Robert Sepulveda	goodguys619@gmail.com	619-519-4805
Treasurer	Neil Alexander	neilAlexander@scenetronics.com	619-994-3207
Secretary	Open		
Senior Director	Calvin Hastings	manta42mkii@outlook.com	951-231-4479
Junior Director	Ronald Doiron	rdoitron57@gmail.com	619-701-4134
Past President	Joe Johaneck	joe4409@aol.com	858-273-5987

Committee Members & Volunteers

Membership	Calvin Hastings	manta42mkii@outlook.com	951-231-4479
Assay Editor	Tom Heffernan	tomh.svm@gmail.com	619-756-9103
Yuma Coordinator	Ron Doiron	rdoitron57@gmail.com	619-701-4134
Metal Detecting	Frank Trutta	scthfrank@yahoo.com	760-743-8516
Website Manager	Tom Heffernan	tomh.svm@gmail.com	619-756-9103
Mining Demos	Richard Seany	dustydick1@cox.net	619-460-2736
Claims Committee	Joe Johaneck	joe4409@aol.com	858-273-5987
Gold Committee	Joe Johaneck	joe4409@aol.com	858-273-5987
Library	Joe Johaneck	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

Used Keene Drywasher For Sale



Used Keene DW212V. Good condition. Motorized with speed control / handcrank option with extra belt. In storage 4 years \$750 (casters not included) They drywasher is in the Yuma area right now, but Ron travels between Yuma and San Diego frequently for SPMA board meetings but he will not be able to attend the swap meet next month. Text or call **Ron at 619-701-4134**. Here's link with a video demo on the page:

https://www.keene.store/?Screen=PROD&Product_Code=DW212V

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

August 20th
 September 28th
 October 25th – 26th

Swap Meet at the Rec Center
 Starlight Claim, 1-day outing
 Araz Claims, Imperial Valley

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

August 2024

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

September 2024

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