



# 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](http://www.spma-gold.org)

## President's January Message



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

Welcome to a new Year of Mining, January's mining trip will be at the six Quartzite claims.

We will meet at the McDonalds on West Main Street at 9:00am Friday, January 20, 2023, or at 9:00am Saturday, January 21, 2023. (Remember, we operate on Arizona time in Quartzite.)

From the McDonalds you will be guided to the claims. When we arrive, we'll tour the six claims.

Bring a metal detector and drywasher. The last time we where there small nuggets where found with a metal detector.

The weather will be cool in the daytime and cold at night at Quartzite so be sure and bring warm clothes.

February's outing will be to the Potholes claims, over Presidents day weekend.

We will meet at the Imperial Date Garden on 1304 York Road at 9:00 a.m. Friday, February 17, 2023, or 9:00 a.m. Saturday February 18, 2023. From there we will go to the claims. Bring a drywasher and a metal detector. The Imperial Date Garden moved to a geodesic dome building.

March's mining trip will be at TwentyNine Palms claim. We meet at the intersection of Highway 62 and Gold Crown Road at 9:00 a.m. Friday, March 24, 2023 or at 9:00 a.m. Saturday March 25, 2023. From there you will be guided to the claim. The best gold will be on the banks of the riverbed. Bring a drywasher or metal detector.

The Araz outing had twenty two attendees. Everyone who drywashed got gold. I saw one member get 4 small nuggets with a metal detector in the nugget patch. The weather was in the high sixty's in the daytime and forty's at night.

SPMA President,  
Brian Turner

### January 2023 Upcoming Events

**Board of Directors Meeting**, Jan 9<sup>th</sup>  
at 6:30pm, At the Gem and Mineral Building, Balboa Park. (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month)

**Quartzite Claims**  
January 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>

**General Meeting**  
January 17<sup>th</sup> at the North Clairemont Community Center (3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. each month)

### Inside this issue:

President's Article  
Field trips  
RECENT PICS!  
Ways & Means  
Metal Detecting  
Volunteers Needed  
Calendars  
Tide Chart

GOLD  
PRICE

\$1839 /oz  
Jan. 4, 2023

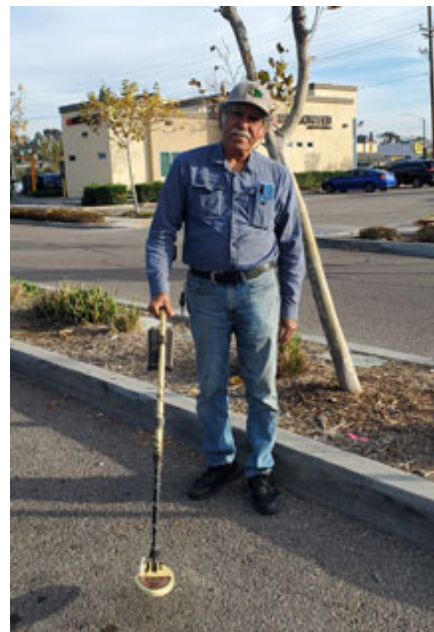
# Photos from SPMA Members



Campsite at the Araz Claim in December by Robert Sulpulveda



Gold found by Duane Hentges



Jose Ayala Tesoro raffle winner

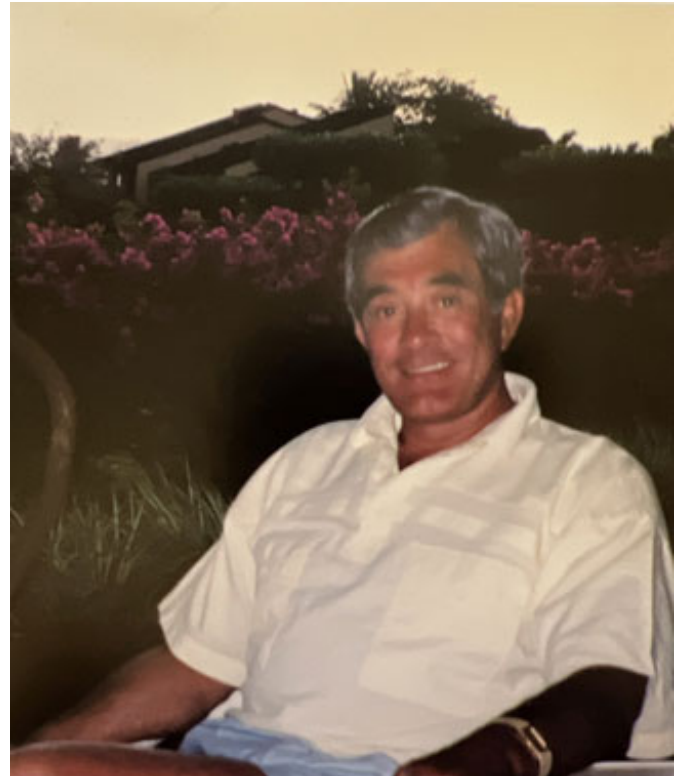
# ***In Memoriam... You will be missed***

## **William Atwood** March 11, 1933-November 17, 2022

William Atwood and his wife Marge became interested in gold prospecting in the early 1990's when they saw the GPAA gold shows on Television, while living in the Detroit area.

They joined the GPAA after watching the shows, not realizing that they would be living the San Diego area after William retired from Ford Motor (Millwright) in 1993.

In San Diego, they learned that the GPAA was headquartered in Temecula. William and Marge drove up to GPAA and talked to them about local Gold Clubs and were told about the SPMA in San Diego. They joined in 1995.



During these many years since, they had many adventures looking for Gold on the SPMA Claims, attending the Annual Potholes outing at Thanksgiving. They started out using tents and then RV's on the outings.

Their favorite SPMA claims were 29 Palms and the Big Bar claim on the Trinity River. William helped with the Annual XMAS Party decorations, food, and Cleanup. For many years William and Marge helped with the Booth at the San Diego County Fair, working the booth, making Gold Bags, and even serving as Chairman of the Booth Committee.

William passed away from COPD and heart problems. A funeral Mass will be celebrated for him at Good Shepard Catholic Church, 8200 Gold Coast Drive on January 14, 2023 at 10:00 AM. All are welcomed to attend.



# Star Gazing Video From NASA / JPL



## SPMA Raffle Winners for November 2022

**Two silver bars won by Chris Collins**

**Nugget winners:**

**Amber Smith 12.19 grains**

**Jim Jupena 12.8 grains**

**Amber Smith 14.19 grains**

**Tesoro Metal Detector Winner: Jose Alvarez**

There was no raffle held at the December meeting / Christmas Party.

# Searching the Beaches...

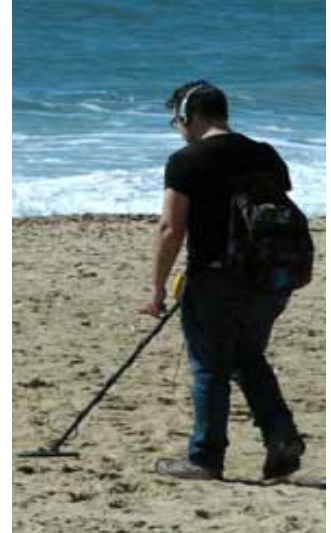
By Frank M. Trutta

I have been searching the low tide areas of a few beaches and have found very little. The beaches are still sanded in and finding any target is rare. With the winter storms coming up hopefully we will get high surf and low tides that make a combination to erode the sand off of the beaches, We love erosion.

For January we will go back to Mission Beach. Hopefully by then some erosion will take place and get us down to a lower layer where the heavy items are. It will be Sunday January 22. Come around 1:00 in the afternoon as the low tide is -1.97 at 3:00. That is about as low as the tides get giving us plenty of area to search. We will meet at 4:00 at one of the tables to check out our treasures.

Please call if you have any questions on metal detecting. I will be running Columbia Metal Detectors out of my house for the time being. My cell is 760 291-7900 or 760 743-8516.

Hunt smart!



## Columbia Metal Detectors January Sale!

**Garrett ACE 400 with pin pointer \$408.00**

**Minelab Equinox 600 \$599.00**

**Minelab Equinox 800 \$899.00**

**CTX 3030 \$2499.00 with 17" x 13" coil**

**Many other items on sale - just call  
10% off on all other detectors with current club card**

**Columbia Metal Detectors 760 291-7900**

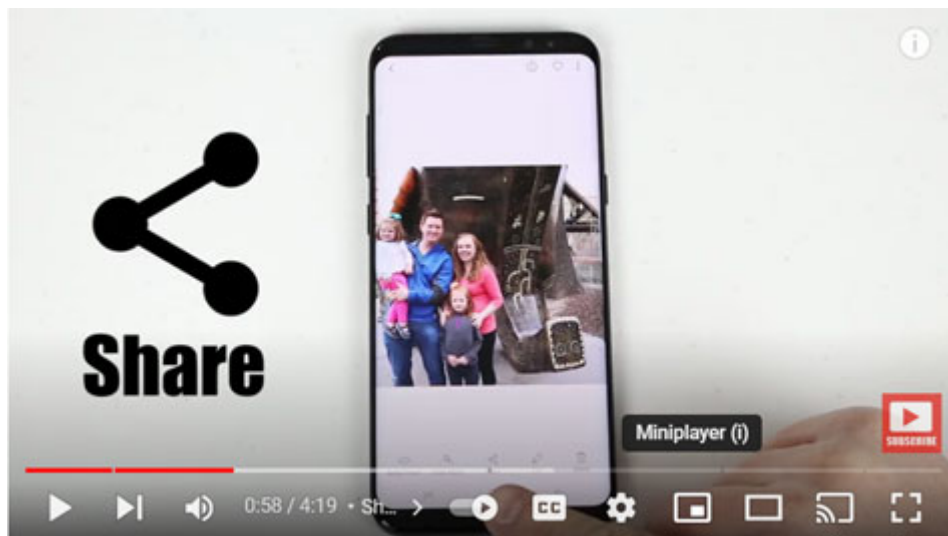


Please take some pictures for the Assay!

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](mailto: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>

# Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to fill vacant seats on the SPMA Board and committees. Please consider serving in one of the following positions:

**Board Secretary:** Takes board meetings notes and maintains documents.

**Treasurer:** Attends board meetings, votes, and keeps financials records.

**Membership Chair:** Maintains membership lists and mails membership packets.

**Director of the Board:** The board has two open seats. One senior, one junior.

**Photographer(s):** Attends general meeting to take pictures of raffle winners and speakers for the Assay newsletter and website. Provides brief captions to identify the people in each picture. Also, takes pictures of members having fun at other functions like outings and picnics, etc. Anyone can contribute photos to the Assay.

**Food Concession Manager:** Operates the food and drink table at our meetings.

**Assay Editor:** Lays out the monthly newsletter in Word or a similar program. Gathers pictures and articles from other SPMA members. Must meet deadlines.

## SPMA BOARD of DIRECTORS

President	Brian Turner	<a href="mailto:brian@brianturner.com">brian@brianturner.com</a>	858-864-0465
Vice President	Richard Martin	<a href="mailto:dickm21066@yahoo.com">dickm21066@yahoo.com</a>	619-792-5464
Secretary	Pat Regan	<a href="mailto:mompar@cox.net">mompar@cox.net</a>	
Director	Greg Terrones	<a href="mailto:gregnterrones@cox.net">gregnterrones@cox.net</a>	619-948-8613
Past President	Joe Johaneck	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987

## Committee Members & Volunteers

Membership	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Refreshments	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Photographer	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Assay Editor	Tom Heffernan	<a href="mailto:tomh.svm@gmail.com">tomh.svm@gmail.com</a>	619-756-9103
Yuma Coordinator	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Legislative Rep.	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Metal Detecting	Frank Trutta	<a href="mailto:scthfrank@yahoo.com">scthfrank@yahoo.com</a>	760-743-8516
Website Manager	Tom Heffernan	<a href="mailto:tomh.svm@gmail.com">tomh.svm@gmail.com</a>	619-756-9103
Mining Demos	Richard Seany	<a href="mailto:dustydick1@cox.net">dustydick1@cox.net</a>	619-460-2736
Claims Committee	Joe Johaneck	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987
Gold Committee	Joe Johaneck	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987
Library	Joe Johaneck	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987
Ways and Means	Greg Terrones	<a href="mailto:gregnterrones@cox.net">gregnterrones@cox.net</a>	619-948-8613
Trip Coordinator	Brian Turner	<a href="mailto:brian@brianturner.com">brian@brianturner.com</a>	858-864-0465
Fair Committee	Joe Johaneck	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987
Information Table	Pam Clements		619-208-8414

**ASSAY Submission Deadlines:** If you wish to submit an article, photos, for sale items, or any other announcement, please do so by **the last Sunday of the month** for the next 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. Instructions for this are outlined above. 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**

January 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>      Quartzsite Claims  
 February 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>      Potholes Claims  
 March 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>      Twenty-nine Palms

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 **S** = Assay Submissions

**January 2023**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	<b>B</b>	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	<b>G</b>	18	19	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>
<b>O</b>	23	24	25	26	27	28
<b>S</b>	30	31				

**February 2023**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	<b>B</b>	14	15	16	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>
<b>O</b>	20	<b>G</b>	22	23	24	25
<b>S</b>	27	28				





# **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](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_

## San Diego, CA - Jan 2023

Date		High				Low						
		AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft	Rise	Set	Moon
1	Sun	5:05	5.7	6:30	3.4	12:26P	0.4	11:11	2.0	6:49	4:55	
2	Mon	5:47	6.0	7:33	3.5	1:13P	-0.1	11:57	2.3	6:49	4:55	
3	Tue	6:25	6.1	8:19	3.6			1:52	-0.5	6:49	4:56	
4	Wed	7:01	6.2	8:55	3.7	12:40	2.4	2:27	-0.7	6:50	4:57	
5	Thu	7:36	6.3	9:27	3.7	1:19	2.4	2:58	-0.8	6:50	4:58	
6	Fri	8:09	6.3	9:58	3.8	1:55	2.4	3:29	-0.8	6:50	4:58	
7	Sat	8:42	6.2	10:29	3.8	2:29	2.4	4:00	-0.7	6:50	4:59	
8	Sun	9:13	6.1	11:02	3.8	3:02	2.3	4:31	-0.5	6:50	5:00	
9	Mon	9:45	5.8	11:36	3.8	3:36	2.3	5:02	-0.3	6:50	5:01	
10	Tue	10:17	5.5			4:14	2.4	5:33	-0.1	6:50	5:02	
11	Wed	12:12	3.9	10:51A	5.0	4:58	2.5	6:03	0.3	6:50	5:03	
12	Thu	12:49	4.0	11:31A	4.5	5:54	2.5	6:33	0.7	6:50	5:03	
13	Fri	1:30	4.1	12:24	3.8	7:09	2.5	7:05	1.1	6:49	5:04	
14	Sat	2:16	4.4	1:50	3.2	8:50	2.2	7:44	1.6	6:49	5:05	
15	Sun	3:07	4.7	3:56	2.8	10:27	1.6	8:40	2.0	6:49	5:06	
16	Mon	3:59	5.1	5:41	2.9	11:35	0.8	9:53	2.3	6:49	5:07	
17	Tue	4:51	5.6	6:54	3.2	12:28P	-0.1	11:02	2.4	6:49	5:08	
18	Wed	5:42	6.2	7:44	3.6			1:16	-0.9	6:48	5:09	
19	Thu	6:32	6.7	8:26	3.9	12:03	2.3	2:00	-1.5	6:48	5:10	
20	Fri	7:21	7.1	9:06	4.1	12:59	2.1	2:42	-1.9	6:48	5:11	
21	Sat	8:09	7.4	9:45	4.3	1:51	1.9	3:24	-2.1	6:47	5:12	
22	Sun	8:55	7.4	10:26	4.5	2:41	1.6	4:05	-2.0	6:47	5:13	
23	Mon	9:42	7.0	11:08	4.7	3:31	1.4	4:46	-1.6	6:47	5:14	
24	Tue	10:30	6.4	11:51	4.8	4:24	1.4	5:26	-1.1	6:46	5:15	
25	Wed	11:21	5.6			5:22	1.4	6:05	-0.4	6:46	5:15	
26	Thu	12:36	4.9	12:18	4.6	6:28	1.5	6:43	0.4	6:45	5:16	
27	Fri	1:25	5.0	1:28	3.6	7:49	1.6	7:25	1.2	6:45	5:17	
28	Sat	2:21	5.0	3:13	2.9	9:34	1.3	8:15	1.9	6:44	5:18	
29	Sun	3:23	5.1	5:35	2.8	11:13	0.8	9:29	2.4	6:43	5:19	
30	Mon	4:26	5.2	7:13	3.2	12:20P	0.3	10:49	2.7	6:43	5:20	
31	Tue	5:22	5.4	7:57	3.4	1:08P	-0.2	11:54	2.7	6:42	5:21	