



# 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)

## SPMA President's Message For March 2024



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

March's outing 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 22, 2024 or at 9:00 a.m. Saturday March 23, 2024. 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. If you want to learn more, look up the Dale Mining District.

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.

May's outing will be at the Starlight claim. June's outing will be at Big Bear. The details will be revealed in the next Assay.

Brian Turner  
SPMA President

### March 2024 Upcoming Events

**Board of Directors Meeting**, March. 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm, At the Gem and Mineral Building, Balboa Park. (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month)

**29 Palms Outing**  
March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>

**General Meeting**  
March 19<sup>th</sup> at the North Clairemont Community Center (3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. each month)

### Inside this issue:

President's Article  
Field trips  
Stargazing Video  
Ways & Means  
Metal Detecting  
Volunteers Needed  
Calendars  
Membership Form

### Congratulations Last Month's Raffle Winners

15 grn Nugget	Mr. Brewer
14 grn Nugget	Kevin Gehrice
10.6 grn Picker	Anton Silberhagen
8.5 grn Picker	Neil Alexander
8.5 grn Picker	Bruce Madsen
8.3 grn Picker	Kim Graham
1oz Silver Bar	Mr. Brewer
1oz Silver Dollar	Neil Alexander



# News from the Potholes Claims



Hi all, February went by quickly. The ground is slowly drying on the benches and hillsides. The bulk of the washes are still pretty wet. The weather has been sunny with temperatures averaging in the mid 70's. Most days have had a nice breeze in the afternoons. This should help keep things drying out for a while.

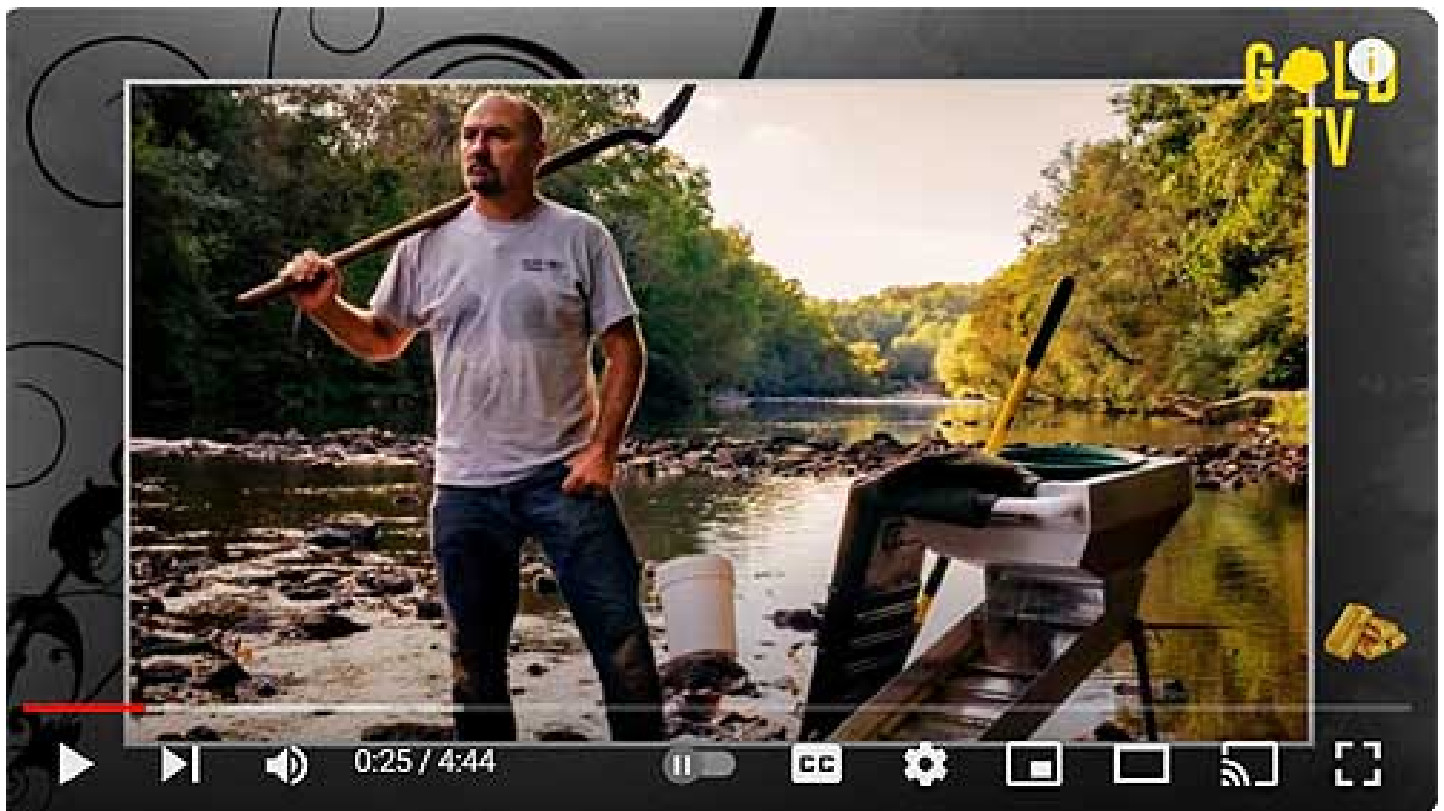
Despite the wet ground, most members who are drywashing are content with their finds. It just takes a bit longer to dry dirt before running it. The backside of my spot has finally gone from a swimming hole to a mud hole which my dogs love to play in. Not so great for the RV though. Mosquitos have been fairly ferocious. At dusk they are everywhere. Several of the winter regulars are heading back home. I look forward to seeing all of them again next year.

As usual if you need something and don't catch me at my normal spot or the rv, text me at 619-701-4134. **Keep an eye out for scorpions and snakes as the weather warms up.**

Stay safe,  
Ron Doiron



Speaking of scorpions, they're fun to hunt: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZM96828jmQk>



Gold Rush Star Dozer Dave has a new show on the Discovery Channel called “America’s Back Yard Gold” about small scale gold mining. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DMkAh6Wdkml>



Here's what the night skies have in store. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRIZlw1xw3A>

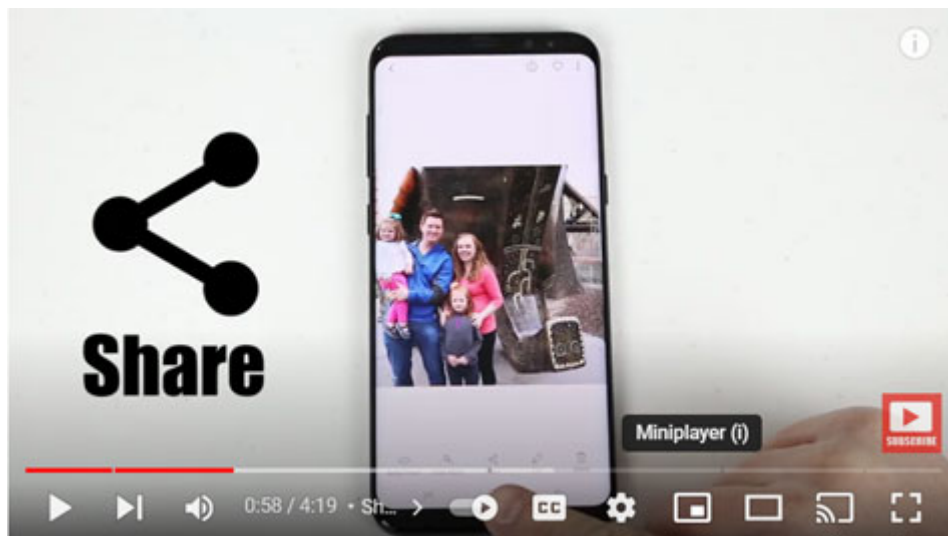


## Please take some photos for the Assay!

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](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>

# 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.

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	<a href="mailto:brian@brianturner.com">brian@brianturner.com</a>	858-864-0465
Vice President	Robert Sepulveda		
Treasurer	Neil Alexander	<a href="mailto:neilAlexander@scenetronics.com">neilAlexander@scenetronics.com</a>	619-994-3207
Secretary	Open		
Senior Director	Calvin Hastings		
Junior Director	Ronald Doiron	<a href="mailto:rdoitron57@gmail.com">rdoitron57@gmail.com</a>	619-701-4134
Past President	Joe JohaneK	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987

## Committee Members & Volunteers

Membership	Calvin Hastings		
Assay Editor	Tom Heffernan	<a href="mailto:tomh.svm@gmail.com">tomh.svm@gmail.com</a>	619-756-9103
Yuma Coordinator	Ron Doiron	<a href="mailto:rdoitron57@gmail.com">rdoitron57@gmail.com</a>	619-701-4134
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 JohaneK	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987
Gold Committee	Joe JohaneK	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987
Library	Joe JohaneK	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987
Ways and Means	Brian Turner	<a href="mailto:brian@brianturner.com">brian@brianturner.com</a>	858-864-0465
Trip Coordinator	Brian Turner	<a href="mailto:brian@brianturner.com">brian@brianturner.com</a>	858-864-0465
Fair Committee	Joe JohaneK	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	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

March	22 <sup>nd</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Twenty-nine Palms Claims
April	19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>	Red Mountain Claim
May		Starlight Claim, San Diego

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

### March 2024

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

### April 2024

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



# **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: \_\_\_\_\_