



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

President's October Message



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

Hello Miners,

Mining Trips: October's mining trip will be at six Quartzite claims. We will meet at the McDonalds on West Main Street at 9:00am Friday, October 15, 2021, or at 9:00am Saturday, October 16, 2021. From there you will be guided to the claims. When we arrive, we will tour the six claims. Remember we are on Arizona time in Quartzite. The recent heavy rain should wash out more gold into the riverbeds. Bring a metal detector and a drywasher.

November's Thanksgiving mining expedition instructions are as follows: We will meet at the Imperial Date Garden on 1517 York Road at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 24, 2021. From there we will tour the five claims.

December's mining outing will be at the Araz 1 and Araz 2 claims. Here are the details for the trip.

For December's Araz prospecting expedition, we'll meet at the Chevron gas station on Sidewinder Road and Interstate 8 at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 17, 2021, or at 9:00 a.m. Or on Saturday, December 18, 2021. When we arrive, members will be directed to the best spots for mining gold. At last year's Araz outing a two gram nugget was found with a metal detector.

Last month's outing to the Red Mountain claim was a success. Everyone who drywashed got gold. There was not anything found with a metal detector. The weather was a dry 75 to 90 degree with a low of 55 at night.

Future Events: General meeting on Tuesday, October 19, 2021. The Treasure Seekers will have their first meeting at a new location. They will meet at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 515 West Valley Parkway, Escondido, CA 92025. Their meeting is on October 6, 2021 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

There is a GPAA gold show at the Pomona Fairplex on February 5th and 6th 2022. Don't check the GPAA website, it has not been updated. **Continues page 2**

October 2021

Upcoming Events

Board of Directors Meeting, October 11th at 6:30pm, At the Gem and Mineral Building in Balboa Park

Quartzite Trip
October 15th

General Meeting
October 19th at the North Clairemont Community Center

Inside this issue:

Meeting Speaker
Field trips
Ways & Means
Metal Detecting
Volunteers Needed
Calendars

Price of Gold
\$1,769.50 / oz.
Oct. 1, 2021

President's Message Continued...

Oregon Beach Placers: One of the more interesting concentrations of placer gold can be found along the southern coast of Oregon, where very fine particles of gold and platinum can be found amongst in the beach sands. These gold deposits were first discovered in 1852, not long after the discovery of a very significant gold district in Southwest Oregon. For a few years after their initial discovery, the beaches were highly productive, and small recovery has occurred since that time. The source of this gold is somewhat due to these inland deposits, as well as the ground that has been eroded by wave action directly adjacent to the beach.

The beach placers of Oregon are similar to the famous beach gold deposits of Nome, Alaska. Like all placer gold deposits, the concentrations of gold are not evenly distributed. Some stretches of beach were exceptionally productive, while others hold only trace amounts of fine gold. The majority of the richest beaches are found adjacent to the Klamath Mountains, just south of Coos Bay. The gold recovered is almost always very finely textured, and found in relation to black sand deposits.

Wave action has a huge influence on locations of black sand deposits, and due to the extremely fine texture they are easily transported by the action of the tides. Successful prospectors look for stringers of black sand that can range from a few feet to several hundred feet in length. New deposits can be quickly transported, and a pay streak can easily disappear with the action of the waves.

Ancient beaches adjacent to the current seashore at approximately 170 feet elevation were also quite productive when originally discovered a few decades after the initial beach placers were found. The gold and black sand pay streaks are generally found at 20 to 60 foot depths, covered with sand overburden.

Many of these placers have been mined, with several commercial operations working along the Southern Oregon Coast for many years during the 1800's, and again with renewed interest during the depression years of the 1930's. It is mostly believed that the richer deposits have been exploited.

Profitability of working these ancient bench deposits is highly dependent on the amount of sand overburden and richness of the pay streak. Because of this, most recreational beach prospectors seek out gold deposits closer to the current seashore. Inconsistency of gold deposits limits the size of most current prospecting endeavors, but certain areas are still more consistent producers than others. The beaches near Whiskey Run, Cape Blanco, Port Oxford, south to the mouth of the Rogue River are all areas that will still produce gold and platinum.

Prospecting the beaches of Southern Oregon can be especially challenging, and using methods of fine gold recovery are critical to retaining the extra fine particles of gold and platinum. The largest particle size a prospector will typically encounter is less than 1 millimeter, but the vast majority is much smaller ranging down to micron particles nearly invisible the human eye.

The placer gold deposits along the beaches of Southern Oregon have not been productive enough to warrant much attention on any commercial scale for nearly 100 years, but small scale prospectors still explore the area every year in search of gold. The sporadic deposition and fine particle size make an exceptional challenge that many local prospectors enjoy. Occasionally, rich pockets of black sands are uncovered and good gold concentrations can still be found today. The beach placers of Southern Oregon provide a fun and unique gold prospecting opportunity. Be sure to give it a try if you are ever in the area.

Brian Turner,
SPMA President

Day Trip Outing to Cajon Pass

Cajon Pass, Blue Cut Trip - October 23, 2021

We will meet at the Jack-in-the-box Parking Lot at Exit #119 (Sierra Avenue Exit) off of I-15 at **9:00 AM**. This is approximately 100 miles from San Diego.

From this point we will take I-15 North and get in the Truckers Lane and exit Kenwood Avenue Exit, #124. Make left turn and go under I-15 to the stop sign, at stop sign make right turn and go about 5 miles. The Blue Cut Monument parking area will be on your left (9 miles north of Sierra Ave).

If you miss the Kenwood Ave Exit continue on I-15 and get off at the Cleghorn Fire Road Exit (#129). Make a left turn and go under I-15, then make a left turn and drive about 5 miles south. The Blue Cut Monument will on your right. Not sure of the parking rules since the COVID outbreak and the fire fires. Usually there is some running water in the stream for sluicing.

Any questions, please call Brian Winter at (619) 787-8458 (cell)

Mining Equipment for Sale

A long time SPMA member, Ray Roark, moved to Kansas and wants to sell:

Used Keene 151 Drywasher with Honda engine
Minelab Eureka Detector

Call Brian Winter (619) 787-8458 for Prices
The photos below are examples, not the actual items for sale.



Searching the Beaches...

By Frank M. Trutta

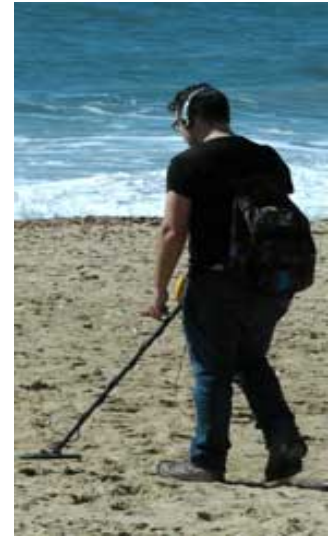
Cooler weather is now with us and the beach traffic will be way down. This makes beach hunting more challenging with fewer items being lost. Now is the time to tune up your hunting procedures by reading your manual on the capabilities of your machine. I think we are all excited and go hunting without getting the full potential out of our amazing machines. The machine is just a tool for us to use and it is up to us to develop our skills to use this tool. So break out your manuals and read between the lines for those hidden hints you missed.

I will start resuming club hunts after the first of the year when there are low tides in the morning hours.

Should you have any questions on metal detectors, call me at my shop, **Columbia Metal Detectors**, 760 743-8516 or on my cell 760 291-7900.

Hunt smart!

METAL DETECTING



Frank M. Trutta
760.743.8516
Cell 760.291.7900

Columbia Metal Detectors

760 E. Valley Pkwy.
Escondido, CA 92025

www.columbiametaldetectors.com
sales@columbiametaldetectors.com

A collection of gold jewelry including rings, bracelets, and necklaces, arranged in a circular pattern.

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.

Jr. Director of the Board: Participates in board meeting and assists the board.

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.

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	brian@brianturner.com	858-864-0465
Vice President	Richard Martin	dickm21066@yahoo.com	619-792-5464
Secretary	Pat Regan	mompar@cox.net	
Jr. Director	Greg Terrones	gregnterrones@cox.net	619-948-8613
Past President	Joe Johaneck	joe4409@aol.com	858-273-5987

Committee Members & Volunteers

Membership	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Refreshments	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Photographer	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Assay Editor	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Yuma Coordinator	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Legislative Rep.	Open –	Volunteer needed	
Metal Detecting	Frank Trutta	scthfrank@yahoo.com	760-743-8516
Website Manager	Tom Heffernan	tomh.svm@gmail.com	619-697-8187
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	Greg Terrones	gregnterrones@cox.net	619-948-8613
Trip Coordinator	Brian Turner	brian@brianturner.com	858-864-0465
Fair Committee	Joe Johaneck	joe4409@aol.com	858-273-5987
Information Table	Pam Clements		619-208-8414

MEETING PRESENTATION or GUEST SPEAKER

Surprise Speaker... Come to the meeting to find out.

FIELD TRIP & EVENT SCHEDULE

October 15th – 17th to our Quartzite Claims
October 23rd – Day Trip to Cajon Pass, Blue Cut
November 24th – 28th to our Potholes Claims
December 17th – 18th to our Araz Claims

WAYS & MEANS RAFFLE REPORT

Door Prize (\$10 worth of raffle tickets) Calvin Hastings

Nugget Raffle Winners

8.9 gram Nugget	Eric Neptune
9.26 gram Nugget	Tad Van Allen
10.65 gram Nugget	Ronald Smith

October 2021

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

November 2021

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	20
21	22	23	24	25 O	26 O	27 O
28 O	29	30				



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: _____