



# 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)

## Upcoming Prospecting Trips For October and November

October's prospecting trip will be to the Cargo Six claim. We are to meet on Ogilby Road at the intersection of Ogilby Rd and Sidewinder Road at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 27, 2023 or 9:00 a.m. Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. From there you will be guided to the claim.

When we arrive, we'll tour the claim. Bring a drywasher and metal detector. Trip leader Brian Truner says he knows some good places to dig.

November's mining outing will be at the Potholes claims. We will meet at Imperial Date Gardens - 1304 York Rd, Winterhaven, CA 92283, United States 9:00am on Friday November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 or 9:00am on Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

From there we will go to the five claims. These are dry claims. Bring a drywasher and metal detector. Last year a one ounce nugget was found.

## Yuma News from the Potholes Claim



Hi all, September was a slow month at the Potholes. The temperatures stayed above 100° most of the month keeping people away.

The main road to the claim is still pretty beat up from the last big rain. Low profile vehicles should be careful driving in. The few members who have come out have managed to get some color from their favorite spots. We had one new member join. Hopefully temperatures will cool and more people will be coming out. Looking forward to next month. See ya all soon.  
Ron Doiron

### October 2023 Upcoming Events

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

**Cargo Six Outing**  
October 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

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

### Inside this issue:

Field trips  
Stargazing Video  
Ways & Means  
Metal Detecting  
For Sale Items  
Volunteers Needed  
Calendars

**GOLD  
PRICE**

\$1,890/oz  
Oct. 11, 2023

# Raffle Winners - September

2023 Silver Dollar	Ron Smith
2023 Silver Dollar	Mr. Gehake
1 oz. Silver Bar	Joel Stilwagen
8.8 Grn Nugget	Robert Sepulveda
12.5 Grn Nugget	Anton Silbernagel
15.1 Grn Nugget	Sean Bush

## Star Gazing Video From NASA / JPL



If clicking the image fails use this link, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mO9FejoO\\_dE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mO9FejoO_dE)

# *In Memoriam... We Will Miss You!*

## **Marge Atwood**

August 30, 1942 - October 4, 2023



Marge was a long time member of the SPMA, GPAA and LDMA. She was chairman of the Annual SPMA Picnic, the San Diego Fair Gold Panning Booth, Christmas Party, and other events.

Marge and her husband, Bill, went on gold prospecting trips to Northern California where Marge used her Highbanker with a dredge attachment. She also went to the Potholes and 29 Palms claims to use her Keene 151 drywasher.

She loved taking part in our potluck get-togethers on field trips. She had many friends in the SPMA who prospected with her and her husband Bill. Marge loved to pan Gold from stream bed concentrates, the finer the better. Bill passed away last November. Marge recently moved to Michigan to be near her eldest Son.

## **For Sale**

LDMA MEMBERSHIP (paid up)  
Transfer fee not included in price

**\$1000.00**

If interested, call Joan Perkins 1-858-945-6152

# Sixth-Century Gold Discovered



First-time treasure hunter Ole Ginnerup Schytz had only been out with his new metal detector for a few hours when he stumbled onto an astounding discovery: a stash of 1,500-year-old gold artifacts dated to the Iron Age. Now, experts have deemed the find—made in a field near the town of Jelling in southwestern Denmark last December—one of the largest and most important in Danish history. Read more here: Smithsonian <https://tinyurl.com/3j25femj>



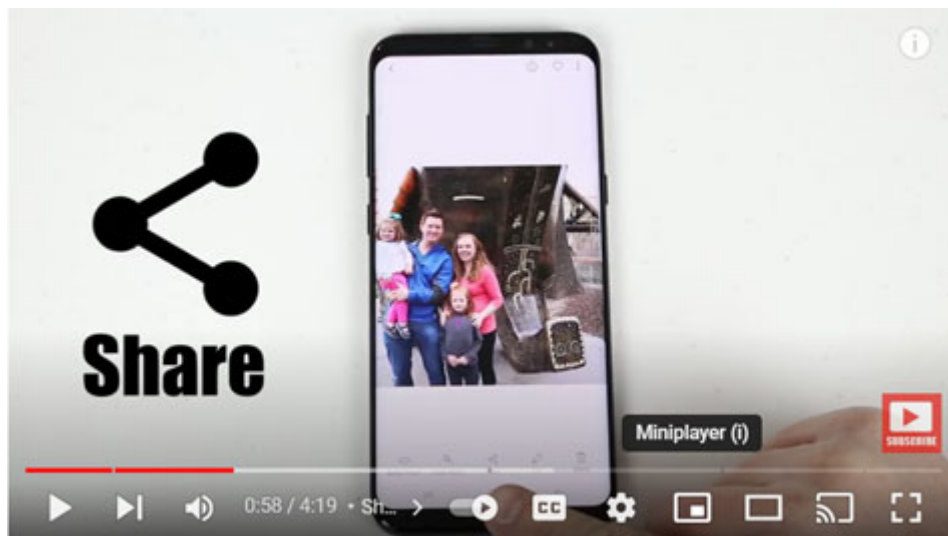


## Please take some photos for the Assay!

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>

# Gold Prices Are Falling. Why?

Spot gold price in USD per oz



Published October 6, 2023 at 4:21 PM GMT  
Source: LSEG

As you may have guessed, economists don't seem to have any clear answers. Some blame interest rate hikes, others blame Treasury Bond Yields. I even saw one article that blamed the weather in India. If they don't get a good monsoon farmers don't buy gold. You can read about some of the theories in this Reuter's Article. Hold your gold. It will rise again, it's a question of when?

<https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/gold-pauses-decline-investors-hold-breath-us-payrolls-report-2023-10-06/>

## 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
Treasurer	Neil Alexander	<a href="mailto:neilAlexander@scenetronics.com">neilAlexander@scenetronics.com</a>	619-994-3207
Secretary	Pat Regan	<a href="mailto:mompar@cox.net">mompar@cox.net</a>	
Senior Director	Calvin Hastings		
Past President	Joe JohaneK	<a href="mailto:joe4409@aol.com">joe4409@aol.com</a>	858-273-5987

## Committee Members & Volunteers

Membership	Calvin Hastings		
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	Ron Doiron	<a href="mailto:rdoitron57@gmail.com">rdoitron57@gmail.com</a>	619-701-4134
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 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

October 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>  
 November 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>  
 December meeting

Cargo Six Claim, Imperial Valley  
 Potholes Claims, Imperial Valley  
 Annual Christmas Party

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

### October 2023

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

### November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 <b>B</b>	14	15	16	17 <b>O</b>	18 <b>O</b>
19 <b>O</b>	20	21 <b>G</b>	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: \_\_\_\_\_