



# 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 September Message



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

Prospecting Trips: September's outing will be a Saturday day trip to the Banner Grade claim. We will meet at the Julian High School parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, September 24, 2022. Bring a drywasher. Metal detecting will be hard because there is a lot of lead. Last year a member found a better place to find gold on this claim. I will show where he found gold.

October's mining excursion will be at the new Cargo Six Claim. We are to meet on Ogilby Road at the intersection of Ogilby Rd and Sidewinder Road at 9:00a.m. Friday, October 21, 2022 or at 9:00a.m. Saturday, October 22, 2022. From there you will be guided to the claim. When we arrive, we will tour the claim. Bring a drywasher and metal detector. I used to work this claim 10 years ago, I can show where I got the most gold.

There are nuggets, pickers and flakes to be found on this claim.

November's will be at the five Potholes claims. We will meet at the Imperial Date Garden on 1517 York Road at 9:00 a.m. Friday, November 18, 2022, or 9:00 a.m. Saturday, November 19, 2022. From there we will go to the claims. Bring a drywasher and a metal detector.

December's outing will be at the two Araz claims. Here are the details for the December's Araz prospecting expedition. We will meet at the Chevron gas station on Sidewinder Road and Interstate 8 at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 16, 2022, or at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, December 17, 2022. When we arrive, you will be directed to the best spots for mining gold. Last years outing six nuggets where found with a metal detector. In 2020, a two gram nugget was found with a metal detector.

January's outing will be at the six Quartzite claims, February outing will be at the Potholes claims on Presidents day weekend.

### September 2022 Upcoming Events

**Board of Directors Meeting**, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>  
at 6:30pm, At the Gem and Mineral Building, Balboa Park. (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month)

**Banner Grade Claim**  
September 24<sup>th</sup>

**General Meeting**  
September 20<sup>th</sup> at the North Clairemont Community Center (3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. each month)

### Inside this issue:

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Field trips  
SWAP MEET!  
Ways & Means  
Metal Detecting  
Volunteers Needed  
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**GOLD  
PRICE**  
\$1722 /oz  
Sept. 10, 2022

**NOTICE NOTICE**

**ANNUAL SPMA SWAP MEET**

**Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
6:00PM to 8:00PM**

**The Swap Meet will be at the Senior Senior Center Building ( East Side) located at 4425 Bannock Street San Diego, Cal.. Our Meeting Hall building is next door.**

**A chance to sell/buy USED Prospecting equipment, Rock hound items and Metal detecting items. NO FEE to sell your items.**

**Star Gazing Video From NASA / JPL**



Check out what's in the night sky this month in this NASA video.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xS3gwXeJFGc>

# Gold Prospecting in San Diego County

A considerable amount of gold has been mined in San Diego County, with the height of mining activity taking place from 1869 through 1940. Several hundred thousand ounces in gold have been reportedly discovered, although much of the gold mined during the early days went unreported.

Most of these production numbers are from lode gold occurrences while minor amounts of placer deposits were also found. There are still gold prospectors in the San Diego area who are finding gold nuggets successfully using metal detectors and drywashers. This dry desert hides good amounts of gold if you know where to look for it. Pine Valley district is located in south-central San Diego County and lies about 35 miles to the east of San Diego. It also includes the Descanso area.

A number of small lode gold mines existing in the area were first worked around 1900. A few of these have been prospected since. The deposits usually consist of parallel quartz veins which contain native gold. Deposits found here are found at shallow depths, few at depths greater than 150 feet. Scanning old lode piles with a metal detector can sometimes be productive.

About 50 miles northeast of San Diego is the Boulder Creek mining district. The first discoveries of gold in this area occurred in 1885, and continued on and off for many years. Gold veins running through quartz rock can be found in this area. Trace amounts of placer gold can sometimes be panned from the San Diego River.

The San Ysidro Mountains have some small placer gold deposits in some of the washes and gulleys. The main mining activity took place in the Dulzura mining district. The largest mines were between the towns of Julian and Banner. There are still gold deposits in the Cuyamaca District, Deer Park and Pine Valley districts.

Julian has become fairly well-known recently as a weekend getaway where recreational panners can pan for gold. The area is easily accessible and is a short 30-45 minute drive from San Diego. This is a great place to start prospecting if you live in San Diego County.

San Diego County offers a variety of different locations to start prospecting. Lesser known locations in this region for gold prospecting are the Cuyamoca Mountains, Deer Park, Escondido and the Laguna Mountains.

Happy Prospecting!  
Brian Turner  
SPMA President

# Searching the Beaches...

By Frank M. Trutta

We had a perfect day for metal detecting at Mission Beach. The temperature was in the 70's and overcast. The tide was off of the slope giving me plenty of area to hunt. I did manage to find a sterling silver ring and a junk ring and \$1.96 in change. My wife Zee was working the dry sand and found 3 cars, a junk chrome ring, a one dollar bill, and \$2.95. Bruce Maden came up with \$1.14, a can opener, and a whole pouch of trash items. Tom Alaniz found a nice heavy sterling silver ring and \$2.14 in change.

Mission Beach is big and gets a lot of beachgoers. It seems you can always find something there. Pacific Beach is also big, but due to its limited parking it does not get the traffic like Mission Beach. As a result, it has fewer targets to find. It does have the chance of better targets due to the hotel and motels filled with the tourists.

With such big beaches I've noticed most people detecting tend to rush around and not slow down and grid. If you watch these weed whackers you rarely see them dig any targets. You must go low and slow to give your detector time to process the information it is generating. This is a must if you use a Minelab machine. The faster you go the more depth you lose.

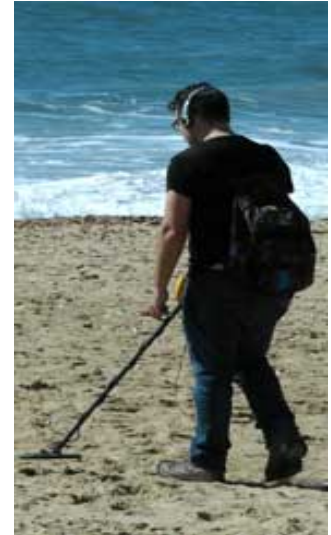
The low tides are coming up in the afternoons in the next few months. I am going to skip a September hunt and do an afternoon hunt on the 23rd of October. The weather should be cooler and there should be few if anybody on the beaches and hopefully some storms to strip the sand off of the beaches.

Should you have any questions on the equipment I have for sale just give me a call. Columbia Metal Detectors 760 743-8516 or my cell 760 291-7900,

Hunt smart!

(Please see the last page for this month's Tide Chart.)

## METAL DETECTING





# 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**  
**September 20<sup>th</sup>** Swap Meet at our montly meeting  
**September 24<sup>th</sup>** Banner Grade Claim, single day  
**October 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>** Cargo Six Claim, 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 **S** = Assay Submissions

### September 2022

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

### October 2022

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



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

# ATTENTION MINERS

**HANDS & PANS  
ONLY!**



The State is trying to stop funding  
to the county to keep **OPEN**  
**BEAR RIVER CAMPGROUND**

◆————◆  
**WE NEED EVERYONE WE CAN GET AT  
THIS TOWN HALL!**

or we will loose another public use area.

## TOWN HALL

**DATE: MONDAY. SEPTEMBER 12TH. 2022**

**TIME: 6 :00PM · 8 :00PM**

**LOCATION: SIERRA VISTA**

**COMMUNITY CENTER**

**(SS SCHOOL ST. COLFAX. CA 95713 )**

**ZOOM: <https://placer-ca>**

**·gov.zoom.us/j/93144062737**

**OR TELEPHONE: 1 888.788.0099 or 877.853.5247**

**WEBINAR ID: 931 4406 2737**



## San Diego, CA - Sep 2022

Date	High				Low							
	AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft	Rise	Set	Moon	
1	Thu	12:32	4.3	12:51	5.5	6:15	1.6	7:49	1.4	6:22	7:14	
2	Fri	1:42	3.6	1:40	5.5	6:41	2.2	9:20	1.2	6:23	7:13	
3	Sat	3:43	3.1	2:51	5.5	7:17	2.7	11:01	0.8	6:23	7:12	
4	Sun	6:27	3.3	4:21	5.6	9:10	3.2			6:24	7:10	
5	Mon	7:29	3.8	5:42	6.0	12:19	0.2	11:19A	3.2	6:24	7:09	
6	Tue	8:02	4.2	6:47	6.5	1:15	-0.4	12:36	2.7	6:25	7:08	
7	Wed	8:33	4.7	7:41	6.9	2:01	-0.8	1:33	2.2	6:26	7:06	
8	Thu	9:04	5.1	8:30	7.1	2:41	-1.0	2:21	1.6	6:26	7:05	
9	Fri	9:35	5.4	9:15	7.0	3:17	-1.0	3:06	1.1	6:27	7:04	
10	Sat	10:06	5.7	9:58	6.7	3:52	-0.8	3:50	0.8	6:28	7:02	
11	Sun	10:37	5.9	10:41	6.1	4:25	-0.4	4:34	0.6	6:28	7:01	
12	Mon	11:09	5.9	11:25	5.4	4:56	0.2	5:19	0.6	6:29	7:00	
13	Tue	11:40	5.9			5:26	0.9	6:07	0.7	6:30	6:58	
14	Wed	12:12	4.6	12:13	5.7	5:54	1.6	7:01	1.0	6:30	6:57	
15	Thu	1:10	3.9	12:49	5.4	6:19	2.3	8:08	1.2	6:31	6:56	
16	Fri	2:38	3.3	1:34	5.1	6:37	2.9	9:41	1.4	6:32	6:54	
17	Sat			2:47	4.8			11:26	1.2	6:32	6:53	
18	Sun	7:50	3.8	4:26	4.7	10:22	3.7			6:33	6:52	
19	Mon	8:00	4.1	5:45	5.0	12:33	0.9	12:05	3.4	6:33	6:50	
20	Tue	8:12	4.3	6:39	5.3	1:15	0.6	12:53	3.0	6:34	6:49	
21	Wed	8:25	4.5	7:21	5.7	1:47	0.3	1:28	2.5	6:35	6:48	
22	Thu	8:40	4.8	7:57	5.9	2:14	0.1	1:59	2.0	6:35	6:46	
23	Fri	8:58	5.0	8:30	6.1	2:39	0.0	2:30	1.6	6:36	6:45	
24	Sat	9:18	5.3	9:04	6.1	3:03	0.0	3:02	1.2	6:37	6:44	
25	Sun	9:40	5.6	9:39	5.9	3:27	0.1	3:36	0.8	6:37	6:42	
26	Mon	10:04	5.9	10:15	5.6	3:51	0.3	4:12	0.6	6:38	6:41	
27	Tue	10:29	6.1	10:56	5.1	4:16	0.7	4:52	0.4	6:39	6:40	
28	Wed	10:56	6.2	11:42	4.5	4:40	1.2	5:37	0.4	6:39	6:38	
29	Thu	11:28	6.2			5:04	1.7	6:30	0.4	6:40	6:37	
30	Fri	12:42	3.9	12:06	6.0	5:29	2.2	7:39	0.6	6:41	6:36	