

Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

A Nonprofit Organization
The Public is Invited to Attend
SVDB Newsletter
Issue Date August 2005



Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

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Vice President

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Secretary

Rick Costello
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Treasurer

Chuck Klein
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Hunt Master

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916-988-9169

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Tom Schweppe
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Newsletter

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Day-in-the-Park

Volunteer

Secretary's Minutes for Meeting of July 7, 2005

- Ron Swenson opened the meeting and introduced the Board.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Klein

- New Balance: \$3149.55

Secretary's Report: Rick Costello

- Everything is cool

Librarian Report: Tom Schweppe

- On Vacation – looking for more great stuff.

AMDA Report:

- The Laughlin Hunt: October 28th – October 30th.
See you there

New Business:

- **The Club Fund Raiser** – Thank you Lee for all the organization and work putting together the Roseville Mineral show fundraiser. Also thank you to the 26 other members who contributed time and effort to the cause. We grossed \$655.50 and netted the club \$403.00. And Lee's efforts with the website have netted over 3100 hits. Thank you, Lee!
- **Again - John's phone number is no longer in service!**
Don't use it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Calling all Day in the Park Hunters—Let's do it. It's fun and you don't know what you'll find.
- Chuck is going to retire at the end of the year. Which brings us to the fact that elections for club officers will be coming up. Nominations and elections in November. Think of who you want to be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and newsletter person.

- **Sad News – Joy Hutchins passed away recently. Joy was an original member and**

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let the club use her property for mini club hunts. The club also voted her a lifetime membership prior to her passing. The plaque will be completed and given to her family Joy, we'll miss you!

- Check out www.plp2.org and join – it is an organization that is fighting for us.

SEE YOU A THE NEXT MEETING!!

SVDB Day-In-The-Park

There are two day-in-the park hunts per month. The hunts are on the first Sunday and the third Sunday of each month. Breakfast at 8:00am with the hunt starting at 9:00 am. See the following for meeting place:

- ❑ 1st Sunday Hunt: Meet at Denny's at Watt and Auburn
- ❑ 3rd Sunday Hunts: Meet at Pancake House at 21st and Broadway

SVDB Finds of the Month:

The Show and Tell feature is quit popular. It gives everyone who hunted successfully during the month a chance to brag. It also shows those of us that are new to the hobby what can be found. There have been some great finds.

Thank you to everyone for his or her participation! It fun to see and hear about everyone finds!!

Congrats to all the hunters for their nice finds!!

Web Sites:

Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

FYI-- in case you want to add to newsletter

Greetings from ClassRingFinder.com!

ClassRingFinder.com is a brand new lost and found directory for class rings!

If you've found a class ring and want to return it to it's owner then this will be a great place to start. You can easily add multiple choice ring details and a photo to provide the best results possible. And if you've ever lost a class ring you know you need as much exposure as possible internet and otherwise if you ever hope to get it back so please take a moment today to register your lost ring information.

Are you a Treasure Hunter? Then here's your chance to become one of our "Ring Detectives". After registering we'll notify you whenever a ring is reported lost in your area.

Advertise on the web? We have free banner advertising space available for certain types of websites! Please click on the "Advertising" link on the main page for more details.

Please visit us today:

<http://www.ClassRingFinder.com>

University of Nevada Press - Old Heart of Nevada :Ghost Towns and ...

... Old Heart of Nevada :**Ghost Towns** and Mining Camps of Elko County

Shawn Hall. Elko County, in the old heart of Nevada , is rich in ...

www.nvbooks.nevada.edu/o/old.html

Nevada Ghost Towns - Over 600 Ghost Towns ' Sites in Nevada .

ghosttowns, ghosttowns, **ghost towns** of Nevada

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Nevada Ghosttowns, Nevada

Ghost Towns photos, ... Nevada Ghost Towns

Directory & Guide -. ...

Description: Boasts over 600 sites with photos.

Category:

Regional > North America > ... > Society and Culture

> History

www.calneva.com/ghosts/ghosts.htm

Ghost Towns of Nevada

... Magazine. **NEVADA BOOKS. NEVADA LINKS.**

NEVADA THINGS TO DO. GHOST TOWNS .

[List Alphabeticaly | List By County]. **BACK TO GHOSTTOWNS.COM.**

www.ghosttowns.com/states/nv/nv.html

Nevada State Maps

Nevada Ghost Towns Map. Go to: **Historic Mining**

Towns . [HOME] [PLANNING]

[ACCOMMODATIONS] [ACTIVITIES]

[GENERAL] [STUDENT] [NEWS]

[ACCOMMODATIONS ...

www.travelnevada.com/map_ghost_town.asp

FREE DIRT!!!!

I am running this again. Did Anyone Do This?

For some FREE PAYDIRT, log onto:

www.felixpaydirt.com or write

Felix Paydirt's Gourmet Gold

1890 Steese Highway

Fairbanks, Alaska 99712.

Enclose 2 37cent stamps. You may also win a one ounce nugget!

The Legend of the Mojave Desert's Lost Ship

Spanish doubloons, sunken ships, the Lost Dutchman mine. For as long as recorded history Kings and common folk, rich and poor, have been infatuated with the dream of finding lost treasure.

Tales, lore and legends are numerous. Scuba divers the world over flock to the coasts of Mexico to scour the depths for sunken Spanish galleons, and many tales have been told of solitary desert prospectors who made their discoveries, spent lavishly, and died with the secret location of their treasure going with them to the grave.

Seldom, however, are there reports or legends of both desert treasure and sunken ships together. There is one place in the desert southwest where this phenomenon exists because of a combination of naturally occurring geologic features and a series of historical events.

The Sultan Sea lies in a depression in the earth's crust 227 feet below sea level. Marine fossils have been found that indicate the Sea was once a continuation of the Sea of Cortez (Gulf of California) extending through the Imperial Valley as far north as Palm Springs.

As the Colorado River, quite different now than it was hundreds of years ago, carved out the Grand Canyon, tons of silt and sediment were deposited at the mouth forming an enormous delta, which continued to increase in size until it separated the Imperial Valley from the Sea of Cortez. But, prior to closing off this sea route, it was possible for ships to sail north beyond where the Salton Sea is now.

Reports by emigrants, prospectors, and other travelers of an ancient ship lying in the desert sands, subsequently buried and uncovered by the blowing, shifting sands have persisted for many years. A story appeared in the *Los Angeles Star* in its November 12, 1870 edition that "Charley Clusker and a party started out again this morning to find the mythical ship upon the desert this side of Dos Palmas. Charley made the trip three or four weeks ago, but made the wrong

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chute and mired his wagon fifteen miles from Dos Palmas. He is satisfied from information he has received from the Indians that the ship is no myth.... He is prepared with a good wagon, pack saddles, and planks to cross the sandy ground."

The *Star* printed another story on December 1 that "Charley Clusker and party returned from the desert yesterday, just as we were going to press. They had a hard time of it, but they have succeeded in their effort. The ship has been found! Charley returns to the desert today, to reap the fruition of his labors. He was without food or water, under a hot broiling sun for over twenty-four hours, and came near perishing."

Charley set out again for what he claimed was an ornately carved Spanish galleon, complete with crosses and broken masts, mostly buried in the sand several miles from the nearest water. He was never heard from again.

Is it really possible for a Spanish Galleon to be lost in the desert near the Salton Sea? Early history suggests that the formerly nomadic, native American stone-age hunters had probably settled into an agrarian life-style, and inter-tribal trading and commerce had become commonplace. When the Spaniards arrived, well-known trade routes already existed and the natives served as guides for the early explorers.

One of the earliest explorers, Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca, may have been the first European to see Arizona and New Mexico in his expedition in 1536. Nunez's tales, as well as stories told by the friendly Indians, of far-off peoples living in magnificent cities, the "Seven Cities of Cibola", sparked continued Spanish exploration of the upper Sea of Cortez, or Vermillion Sea, as it was called then.

Another early tale was told by Antonio de Fierro Blanco in his historical book, *The Journey of the Flame*. He relates Juan Colorado's story, told on his 104th birthday, of once being in the camp of Don Firmin Sanhudo where "all of our men had spent their lives as guards or packers for Spanish explorers".

One of the men, Tiburcio Manquerna, took Colorado aside and related the tale of Iturbe, the great coastal pilot, sailing along the California Gulf Coast in 1615 exploring for the king and fishing for pearls on his own account.

After filling his 50-ton ship with a sufficiently large fortune in pearls, Iturbe sailed on past San Felipe in search of the Colorado River mouth. Instead he found a "vast sea extending far inland" (presumably the Imperial Valley). Assuming he had found the long sought Straits of Anian, the fabled passage between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, he sailed on and eventually went aground on a sandbar in a vain attempt to locate a continuation of the Straits. From the highest mountain he saw a vast body of water winding toward the northeast (the Colorado River), but he could not find the entrance.

On his return voyage to the south he could not find the narrow opening to the Vermillion Sea and again went aground. "They left their ship and its vast treasure of pearls upright as though sailing, but with its keel buried in sand", reports Fierro Blanco.

Manquerna then told of working as a mule driver for Juan Baptista de Anza who was searching for a land route from Sonora to Alta California. After much difficulty, Manquerna "was sent to the right of the course, seeking a road to the ocean". He continues, "Traveling by night because of the heat, I stumbled upon an ancient ship, and in its hold so many pearls as is beyond imagination. Fevered by this wealth, I abandoned my comrades, and, riding toward the ocean as far as my mule could carry me, I climbed the precipitous western mountains on foot. Fed by Indians, I at last reached San Luis Rey Mission.

Since then I have spent my life searching for this ship".

As a cryptic conclusion, Fierro Blanco states, "I have known, as a boy, natives from every tribe on the Peninsula, and they taught me much of great value but never did one lie to me. Some of their stories I did not then believe, but each as tested proved to be

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true in all parts".

Are there lost ships in the desert? The great tidal bore of the upper Sea of Cortez and the Colorado River is a dangerous navigational hazard and an unsuspecting sailing ship, without aid of charts or navigational aids may have been carried through a narrow opening into an inland sea and deposited on the shallow bars. Explorers, traders, pirates, and even pearling ships that do not return can tell no tales. The persistence of such legends in both Native American and frontier lore makes it hard to completely discount.

When the right conditions of wind and shifting sands combine, will a mast or ornately carved hull emerge from the grave? And will it just as quickly disappear again? Only the one who is in the right place at the right time--and sees it-- will know for sure. And they may not tell. Would you?!

US Mint History Since 1792

Four US Mint facilities are presently striking coins for circulation in the United States-- The Philadelphia Mint, the Denver Mint, the San Francisco Mint, and the newest US Mint in West Point, New York.

Four other historic US Mint facilities are long-closed and almost forgotten except by serious US coin

collectors who highly prize these official mints located in the Old South before the Civil War.

The first Southern branch mint opened in New Orleans in 1838. Later, as gold was discovered in Georgia, official branches of the US Mint were opened in Charlotte, North Carolina and Dahlonega, Georgia.

US Mint Marks

A small letter on the coins called "mint marks" identifies the coins of each branch of the US Mint. These marks date back to ancient Greece and Rome. Through the Act of March 3, 1835, the Director of the Mint set regulations to identify the coins issued from each US Mint branch. This central control made exact standards of production and responsibility for coinage possible.

Most rare coins stayed close to the US Mint where they were minted. San Francisco and Carson City coins circulated on Western Frontiers and seldom appeared back East, while Philadelphia and New Orleans coins stayed to the east. Collectors soon realized that it was a rare occasion when they found coins "out of region."

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<p>January 2005 Birthstone: Garnet 02. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 06. Thursday 7:30 pm SVDB Meeting 16. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>	<p>July 2005 Birthstone: Ruby 03. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 07 Thursday 7:30 SVDB Meeting 17. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>
<p>February 2005 Birthstone: Amethyst 06 Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 03. Thursday 7:30 pm SVDB Meeting 20. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>	<p>August 2005 Birthstone: Peridot 07. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 04 Thursday 7:30 pm SVDB Meeting 21. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>
<p>March 2005 Birthstone: Aquamarine 06. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 03 Thursday 7:30 pm SVDB Meeting 20. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>	<p>September 2005 Birthstone: Blue Sapphire 04. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 01. Thursday 7:30pm SVDB Meeting 18. Sunday 8:am Day in the Park Hunt</p>
<p>April 2005 Birthstone: Diamond 03. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 07 Thursday 7:30 pm SVDB Meeting 17. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>	<p>October 2005 Birthstone: Tourmaline (Pink) 02. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 06 Thursday 7:30 pm SVDB Meeting 16 Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>
<p>May 2005 Birthstone: Emerald 01 Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 05 Thursday 7:30pm SVDB Meeting 15 Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>	<p>November 2005 Birthstone: Citrine or Topaz (Golden) 06. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 03. Thursday 7:30pm SVDB Meeting 20. Sunday 8:00am day in the Park Hunt</p>
<p>June 2005 Birthstone: Alexandrite or Pearl 05. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 02 Thursday 7:30 pm SVDB Meeting 19. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>	<p>December 2005 Birthstone: Zircon or Tourmaline (Blue) 04. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt 01. Thursday 7:30 pm SVDB Meeting & Christmas Party 18. Sunday 8:00 am Day-in-the Park Hunt</p>

<p>Ron Swenson, President Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs 5313 Quane Ct Rocklin, CA 95765</p>
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