

Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

A Nonprofit Organization
The Public is Invited to Attend
SVDB Newsletter

Web Site <http://www.sacramentovalleydetectingbuffs.com/>

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Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

Officers

President: John Duffy

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Vice President: Peter C. Johnson

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Secretary: *Open Position*

Treasurer: Allan Woltman

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Appointment or Volunteer

Hunt Master: Rick Costello

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Librarian: Tom Schweppe

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Hospitality: Al Ezell

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Membership: George Magann

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Day-in-the-Park: *Open Position*

Web-site: Lee Wiese

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Web-pages: Gary Zang

zangranch@gzang.cnc.net

Secretary's Minutes for Meeting of December 7, 2006

Vice President: John Duffy

- John opened the meeting at 7:30 pm and welcomed members, guests and visitors. We had a full house of over 100 members, visitors and family members. Everyone that was here brought lots of potluck food, some donated raffle items and everyone brought extra money for the outstanding raffle prizes.

Treasurer's Report: Allan Woltman

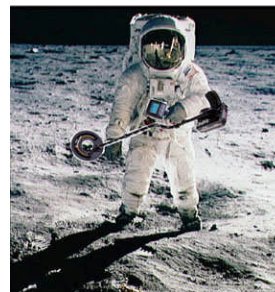
- Al said there was a balance of \$3,588 from last month. This month's income was \$745 and expenses of \$432.81 leaving a December balance of \$3,900.19.

Secretary's Report: Peter Johnson

- Peter said he wrote a thank you letter to the person that donated the 60 plus books and magazines to our library.

Hospitality: Al Ezell and John Hainlen

- We had our annual Christmas pot luck dinner tonight. The food was fantastic and we appreciated John Hainlen for helping out behind the food table. Pictures of Al and John are shown below.



Hunt Master Report: Rick Costello

I have a few ideas for club hunts the coming year, but have very few definite dates for their implementation. I know that the first hunt will be on Saturday, February 18th. Bring your \$5 to the January or February

meeting. I will try to schedule five hunts between now and

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December 2007. Two additional hunts will be traditional...the hunt at the gun club and a beach hunt. Speaking of the beach hunt, I heard rave comments about the beach hunt which Lee Weise put together and headed. I will assist Lee this year, and hope to learn a thing or two from him. I have never participated in a successful beach hunt, so I am eagerly looking forward to this one. Lee will schedule the hunt according to the best low tide.

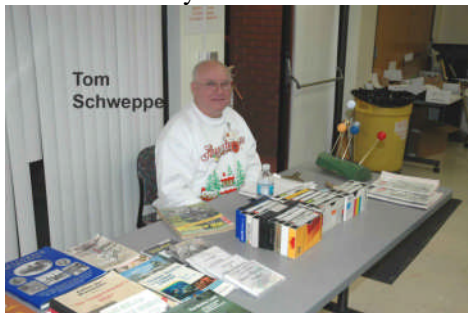
I want as many members as possible to read a book which we have in our club library or to check one out at a public library. "Meadow Lake" is the book. If there is interest in detecting around Meadow Lake, we can plan a trip to the lake. There is excellent fishing there and Lake Fordyce is close by. There is also a campground there.

At the last hunt which we had a couple of members donate ten silver rings to the hunt. Thanks to Bob Maytum and Don Dunn for their generosity. There's an idea which should inspire other members to enrich the hunt pot.

To those members who have never participated in one of our club hunts, please come hunt with us. Some hunts are designed to be ability-grouped; that is beginners with beginners and advanced detectorists with advanced. No one should feel intimidated by some of our top detectorists. The top guys and ladies are always very generous with their time and have always, to my knowledge, shared their expertise with beginners.

Librarian Report: Tom Schweppe

- Tom reported that everything in the library was in great shape. Here is a picture of tireless Tom behind the library table.



Membership Report: George Magann

- George mentioned that he was accepting membership dues for calendar year 2007 beginning tonight.

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Web-Site Report: Lee Wiese

- The web-site needs your input what can I add or change? I also need you to provide to me or George, our membership chairman with your e-mail addresses so that you can get the e-mail SVDB Update once a month.

New Business:

Vice President John Duffy asked for a vote on 2007 SVDB club officers. The following were elected:

President – John Duffy
Vice President – Peter Johnson,
Treasurer – Allan Woltman

Congratulations to our newly elected 2007 officers and to the many volunteers who help make our club operate!

Old Business:

Club Patches and Decals

Lee had our SVDB club logo on a patch and sold several of these patches at the meeting for \$5 each. There are still some patches left.

From our Vice President:

John Duffy directed our attention to the outstanding plaque that club member Chip Swenson made and donated to our SVDB club. The following picture shows John Duffy (new Pres.), Chip Swenson with his donated plaque and Peter Johnson (new VP).

Way to go Chip and thanks from all of us!



John then thanked everyone tonight for their assistance in making our December meeting such a great event. John then asked Don Dunn to auction the White's Prism IV detector that included a 2 year warranty and a pair of Garrett headphones. After a spirited auction, George Magann won the Prism IV for the great price of \$245. John then announced that since we had raffle ticket sales

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of well over \$575 he would raffle off 3 gold coins in addition to the already outstanding list of raffle prizes. The 3rd gold coin will be raffled off during the January meeting because the winner didn't claim the prize before most people left the meeting. Pictures of the major raffle prize winners and their prizes are shown below.

FMDAC Update by Lee Wiese

- I had the opportunity to visit and join in the Myrtle Beach, SC FMDAC Convention. I found the people friendly and the event fun there were three major hunts, one free hunt and kids hunt. You can see who the winners were, what were the prices, and a photo slide show of the convention & hunts at <http://www.fmdac.org>

- The Spring FMDAC Convention** is scheduled for May 4th to May 7th at Mesa, Arizona. A flyer and information is available at <http://www.fmdac.org>

- There is a **FMDAC Western Chapter Hunt** taking place at *GPAA Gold Show, Mesa Convention Center, 201 Center Street, Mesa, AZ* on February 4, 2007. Flyer @: <http://www.fmdac.org/hunts/2007-WC-Spring-Hunt/FMDAC=WC=Spring-07-HUNT-Pkage.pdf>

Mesa is not that far away - so give it some consideration maybe a group could get together and drive over for the event.

- The FMDAC Western Chapter (Mike Smith, President & Lee Wiese, VP) are planning a HUNT for September during Heritage Days at Foresthill, CA. This is in the planning stages and we are working with the Motherload Goldhounds in Auburn to finalize the hunt location. Put this on your schedule we will make it happen. The hunt will be on Sept. 1th or 2nd.

SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING!!

- SVDB Meetings are held at the SMUD Building located at the intersection of Elkhorn and Don Julio in North Highlands. The meeting is held on the first Thursday of each month and starts at 7:30 pm.**

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 is at 8:00 am with the hunt starting at 9:00 am. See the following for meeting place:

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- 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 (FOM):

The Show and Tell for December was another great event. There were many finds that were worthy of viewing. Photos of these finds are on our website under FOM on the left side of the web page.

SVDB December Raffle

Mary Ann Mejia and James Neeley worked overtime with tonight's raffle sales. They sold a record breaking \$1,096 in raffle tickets! **WOW**, thanks goes to Mary Ann and James for their outstanding effort tonight in keeping up with the overwhelming demand for tickets. A picture of this dynamic duo behind the raffle table is shown below.



The BIG Winners of the December 2006 Raffle



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A Reminder

If you plan on hunting in **RENO** and/or **OREGON**, make sure you get a permit.

Roseville requires a permit to hunt. Get it at the Park and Recreation Office

San Jose Parks also require permits.

More Authentic(?) Buried Treasure in California

This is the 2nd installment of a 3 part description of *secret?* lost California Treasures and little known Ghost Towns. They are listed by CA counties.

Los Angeles County:

Lost Treasure - There is a treasure of sixty five thousand dollars in gold buried close to the peak of the Santa

Susanna Pass in Los Angeles County. It was put there by a bandit who had robbed a stagecoach.

Lost Treasure - Three miles east of the old Rincon Stage Station in an oak grove there is thirty thousand in gold that was robbed from Wells Fargo in 1853 and buried. It is located southeast of the junction of the East Fort and San Gabriel Rivers, just north of Azusa.

Mendocino County:

Lost Treasure - Sixty five thousand dollars in gold coins are buried in a safe in the Russian Gulch which is just north of Mendocino on State 1.

Mono County:

Ghost Town - The ghost town of Bodie was considered to be one of the toughest and rowdiest boom towns in the West. It is located twenty miles east of State 395 and twenty miles north of Mono Lake. Today the saloon and the assayers shop are about the only remains of this town.

Orange County:

Lost Treasure - On the old Irvine Ranch there is thirty thousand dollars in gold bullion. The ranch is located off of US 5 freeway and is near the present city of Irvine.

Placer County:

Lost Treasure - At the Mountaineer Roadhouse on Folsom Road, three miles from Auburn there are several treasures buried. This was a famous outlaw hideout in the mid nineteenth century. We will see if Bob M can find these treasures.

Ghost Town - The semi-ghost town of Iowa Hill was surrounded by the largest gold producing mines in the area. There are many other mining camps near Iowa Hill. This is located fifteen miles east of Colfax.

San Benito County:

Lost Treasure - Tiburcio Vasquez, the Mexican bandit buried over five hundred thousand dollars in gold somewhere in the Pinnacles National Monument by the Monterey-San Benito County line.

Lost Treasure - A Chinese merchant named Tom Sing was robbed of \$780,000 in gold that was taken from his iron safe in Monterey. The robbers buried the loot along the

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banks of the Salinas River halfway between Chualar and Gonzales.

The 3rd and final installment of this interesting Lost Treasure and Ghost Towns of California will be published next month.



A Word of Thanks to Those Who Donated Prizes for Tonight's Auction & Raffle

Our December meeting had many outstanding prizes for auction and raffle. We need to support these businesses who donated them. Those who donated these prizes and the **winner**s were:

1. **White's Electronics** donated a Prism IV detector with a 2 year warranty. **George Magann**
2. **Minelab USA** donated cups, pens, pins and hats.
3. **First Texas** donated a new Bounty Hunter Tracker IV detector with Pouch and Digger Combo. **Gene Fuerstenberger**
4. **Garrett Electronics** donated a **Treasure Ace 150** detector **Bob Vyvlecte**, 3 headphones **George Magann, Rudy Rodreguez, John Duffy** and 3 bags **John Duffy, Lawry Yerby, A Grant**.
5. **Pioneer Mining** in Auburn donated a new White's Bullseye 140mm pinpointter. **Bob Harrison**
6. **The Gold Mine** on Fulton Ave donated a Wizard pinpointter. **Bob Harrison**
7. **Lost Treasure Magazine** donated (2) 1 year subscriptions to Lost Treasure. **Lawry Yerby & Tony McNamara**
8. **Big Valley Detectors** in Citrus Heights donated an All Pro 300 digging tool. **Sean Kent**

A special thanks to those club members who also donated items for tonight's raffle. An additional **BIG** thanks goes to the SVDB club members for making our December 2006 pot luck, auction and raffle a successful event!



As Will Rogers said, "If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging"

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I am new to the hobby.

What Metal Detector should I purchase?

By Lee Wiese, FMDAC VP Western Chapter

This is a question that most of us have asked ourselves and continue to be asked by others interested in joining the hobby. I like many of you have been metal detecting for a while but still find it hard to come up with the best detector for certain types of detecting (coins, jewelry, relics, water, prospecting) in part because new detectors are constantly becoming available from manufactures.

So again, why is it so hard to answer this question? The detector companies have not made this question easily answered take a look at **TABLE ONE** on the next page. There are 68 detectors in the table from six detector companies listed in the top row of the table. On the left side of the table a range of detector pricing in \$100 dollar increments is shown for three groups of detectors: *General Purpose*, *Water* and *Prospecting*. Placed under each company and in a price range is a detector type or model. Also on the left side of the table next to the price range is a RED ARROW pointing downward with the words PRICE, FEATURES, and TECHNOLOGY. Keep in mind: **FEATURES** plus **TECHNOLOGY** equal **PRICE**. This is not a complete list of detectors in the market place but a good representation.

Why it is so hard to answer the question: "What metal detector should I purchase?"

By looking at **TABLE ONE** you can see there are **many** *General Purpose* detectors available per given price range and in most cases they will have similar features and capabilities. Also there is a good deal of price variance per detector company - as the price goes up for a given company's detectors so do the number of features and usually performance capability. Features certainly can add to overall performance but also can make the detector much more complex to setup, operate, and learn for the average person. *General Purpose* detector enhancements come in the form of adding a display, more software and hardware switches to turn on features, and the ability to change to different size or different functional coils. (Note: *General / Multi Purpose* detectors can be any combination of coin, jewelry, relic & prospecting detectors.)

The criteria used to select your first *General Purpose* detector may follow along this line of reasoning. You should first decide how frequent you will use the detector; don't spend big bucks and have an expensive detector in the closet.

a) If you are going to use the detector for vacation and a occasional weekend keep your decision focused on a price range of \$300 or lower and compare the feature sets between manufactures to find the best detector for you.

b) If you are going to get into the hobby and use the detector more frequently you might place your attention on detectors in the \$500-\$700+ price ranges. More research on your part must take place by comparing features between detectors and companies to identify a match for your detecting needs.

c) If you are very serious about the hobby you may want to look at detectors in the \$700 - \$1,300 ranges. You will find a large number of technological driven detecting features. These detectors tend to be more complex, the learning curve much longer but over time the quality of targets recovered can be very good to excellent.

Water detectors are driven more by TECHNOLOGY (See RED ARROW) than features. There are features but they tend to be limited to a certain feature set among the detector companies. The decision to purchase a *Water* detector is a bit easier since there are fewer available choices. The major decision factors for a *Water* detector are price, company, and whether you want a Pulse Induction (PI), Very Low Frequency (VLF) or a Multi-frequency technology detector.

Prospecting detectors are design specifically to look for Gold, but can be used for other types of detecting.

The decision to purchase a *Prospecting* detector will hinge on the performance required, frequency of use and price. Usually Gold *Prospecting* is the major and only reason to purchase this type of detector.

In summary, give consideration to the following before laying out cash for your first detector. How frequently am I going to use the detector? What type of detecting (coins, jewelry, relics, water, prospecting) am I going to use the detector for? How much money should I plan to spend?

Once you have answered these questions move forward with your research. Compare detector specifications between companies, seek out a metal detecting club in your area and ask questions, ask a friend in the hobby, visit metal detecting forums on the web and ask questions, visit your local metal detector dealer and seek out their advice.

Remember everyone you ask will be bias toward their specific detector and company.

I hope this provides some insight into the complexity of answering the question: "What metal detector should I purchase?"

For questions or comments contact me at: leewiese@excite.com

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Table One:

Hobby Metal Detectors

General / Multi Purpose *	Bounty Hunter	Fisher	Garrett	MineLab	Tesoro	White's
Price Range						
0\$ - \$99.99	Junior VLF Gold Digger					
\$100 - \$199.99	Fast Tracker Quick Silver Tracker II Tracker IV	1212-X	ACE 150		Compadre	
\$200 - \$299.99	Lone Star Quick Draw II	1225-X	ACE 250			Prizm II
\$300 - \$399.99	Sharp Shooter II	1236-X2		Musketeer Advantage	Silverumax	Prizm III
\$400 - \$499.99	Land Star Camo LS		GTax 550	X-Terra 30	Cibola	Prizm IV
\$500 - \$599.99	Land Ranger	ID Excel	CX Plus		De Leon Goldenumax Vaquero	Prizm V
\$600 - \$699.99	Time Ranger	1270	GTP 1350			Matix M6
\$700 - \$799.99			GTI 1300	Sovereign GT	Tejon	MXT
\$800 - \$899.99				X-Terra 50 X-Terra 70	Cortez	XLT
\$900 - \$999.99		CZ-3D		Quattro MP		
\$1,000 - \$1,099.99		Coin Strike	GTI 2300			DFX
\$1,300 - \$1,399.99				Explorer II Explorer SE		
Water						
Price Range						
\$600 - \$699.99					Sand Shark PI	Surf PI Pro
\$700 - \$799.99		1280-X	Sea Hunter Mark II		Tiger Shark	BeachHunter ID
\$1,200 - \$1,299.99			Infinium LS	Excalibur		
Prospecting						
Price Range						
\$500 - \$599.99			Gold S finger			
\$700 - \$799.99					Lobo	GMT
\$800 - \$899.99		Gold Bug II				
\$900 - \$999.99				Eureka Gold		
\$1,900 - \$1,999.99				SD 2100v2		
\$2,400 - \$2,499.99				SD 2200v2		
\$3,900 - \$3,999.99				GP 3300		

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Due to space limitation not all detector-manufacturing companies have been listed in the above table. Data for this table came from manufacturers web sites and select retailers.

* General / Multi Purpose detectors can be any combination of (coin, jewelry, prospecting and relic detectors)