

# *Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs*

A Nonprofit Organization  
The Public is Invited to Attend  
*SVDB Newsletter*

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

Issue Date April, 2007



## **Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs**

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[looking4au@hotmail.com](mailto:looking4au@hotmail.com)

### **Appointment or Volunteer**

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### **Secretary's Minutes for Meeting of March 1, 2007**

#### **President: John Duffy**

- John Duffy opened the meeting at 7:30 pm and welcomed guests and visitors. There was a joke about a cat-scan from an anonymous giver. There were 5 Guests, and of them 2 are past members. Lee, Jay, Donna, Barbara and Kathy - Welcome and welcome back!

#### **Vice President's Report: Peter Johnson**

- It was good to have Peter Johnson back with us tonight!

#### **Treasurer's Report: Allan Woltman**

- Allan's Treasurer's Report: Current balance \$2959.46: expense was \$63.30: income was \$721.00: plus the fiver in Allan's pocket. Total \$3622.16.

#### **Hospitality: Al Ezell**

- We all thanked Al for his diligent work in buying and setting up all our munchies and drinks for the meeting!

#### **Hunt Master Report: Rick Costello**

- Rick has scheduled the following 3 metal detecting hunts listed below. Rick also asked for the members to help out with the hunts.

1. April 14, 2007 (Sat) - **San Juan Park** in Citrus Heights at 11 am. This hunt will cost \$5 and will be a rain/shine event. Some silver will be planted.

2. May 12, 2007 (Sat) - **Wilton Gun Club** at 11 am. This is our annual pot luck event and hunt. The cost will be \$20 and will also be a rain/shine event.

3. July 14, & 15, 2007 (Sat & Sun) - **SVDB Beach**



**Hunt:** The SVDB Santa Cruz, CA beach hunt will be put on by Lee Wiese. A flyer is on the SVDB web-site

[www.sacramentovalleydetectingbuffs.com](http://www.sacramentovalleydetectingbuffs.com) under the Club News Tab.

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### **Librarian Report: Tom Scheppe**

- Tom reported that the library was in good shape and that overdue books were being returned.

### **Membership Report: George Magann**

- George reported that we have 144 members so far this year. See George for your 2007 badge or to renew your membership. The membership drawing winner was **Fred Walden**.

### **SVDB Web-site:**

- If you have metal detecting related equipment taking up space and not being used. Why not place it on the SVDB web-site classified section for sale? Just send an e-mail to SVDB with your ad and you can one picture per ad. Space is also available in the monthly newsletter.

### **Random or Systematic Searching? By John Duffy**

- When I approach an area that I want to hunt I am often faced with a choice to hunt in a systematic grid-like pattern or to just “wander” randomly through the area I am hunting. My choice is strongly guided by information or knowledge about the area (or purpose) of the hunt.



*John's 90-minute systematic hunt earlier this month yielded these coins: 1962 Roosevelt dime, nickels are '62 and '47; pennies are '35, '41, '44, '52 and 58.*

For example, when I am searching for a known lost item or object I set up a grid or boundary and begin searching systematically from one point to other specific points so I can be reasonably assured that I have covered all of the area in question. I have used this technique successfully in finding a friend's lost wedding ring, a set of car keys and a treasured Swiss Army knife. I have been unsuccessful in finding evidence for the Davis Police Department and in an underwater search for a wedding ring. The more knowledge you have about where the item was lost the more this kind of search tends to be successful.

At other times and places, when I have little or no knowledge about the area in question I may just wander randomly, looking for tell-tale clues about what kinds of human behavior take place here. At a park, for example, I may look for open fields where rough house play or sports may be pursued, thinking that people are more likely to lose coins or jewelry there than where they sit and eat their lunch. If there was a week-end rally or event at the park I ask where the food and beverage sales stands were located, as this might be a better place to spend my time.

At a beach area on the coast prime areas may shift with the tidal cycles – moving further or closer to the back side of the beach as the tide levels come closer to or further away from the shore. Annual beach cycles also exist, where large volumes of sand are



either deposited to or removed from the shore. What was once buried two feet down may come to lie just a few inches below the surface and vice-versa.

I have also marked out similar sized (about 25 x 25 feet) areas in a local park and hunted them both ways to see what differences I might find in recovered treasure. One added element in this is time: in a systematic hunt I am committed to covering the entire area while in a random hunt I am usually limited by how much time I want to spend. With enough time it's possible to completely cover an area in a random hunt.

The only point I am making is for you to simply consider these as options the next time you head out to do some metal detecting. I would be delighted to hear any stories of your experiences about these aspects of metal detecting at our meeting next week.....SVDB President John Duffy

### **Old Business:**

- **SVDB Club Patches and Decals**

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

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### *AMDA Hunt in Redding*

Redding, CA hosted the GPAA Gold Show on March 24 -25, 2007. It was a great event and was only second in attendance to the Primm,

NV GPAA Show.

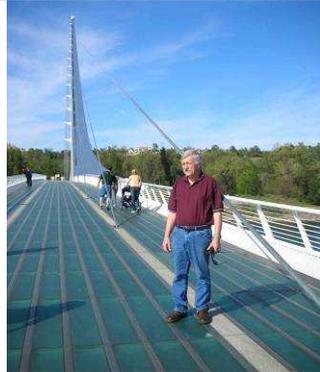
AMDA's Bernard Grabowski and Carolyn Garrett sponsored 4 metal detecting hunts over 2 days.

11 SVDB members participated in these events.

Sunday's Silver Shootout had 43 hunters looking for 1500 silver dimes (at \$.93

each) and 28 tokens for some really nice prizes.

That's Hal Carlile in the top photo getting ready for Sunday's hunt. Hal won a gold coin in Saturday's hunt. The bottom photo is of me, Don Dunn, on the scenic Sundial Bridge overlooking the Sacramento River – I didn't win any hunt prizes and was contemplating taking a dip. It was 92 degrees on Friday, but cooled down over the weekend.



Banquet speaker will be: Bob Schoose, part owner of Goldfield Ghost Town and the world famous Mammoth Mine. He is a long time treasure hunter who has worked on the Lost Dutchman, Lost Adams and the Knights of the Golden Circle Treasures and has appeared on national television shows.

### **FMDAC Western Chapter Foresthill 2 Hunts Labor Day Weekend Sept. 1, 2007**

Flyer available at meeting or at:

web-site <http://www.fmdac.org/hunts/2007-09-wchunt/WC%20HUNT%20SEPT-2007-.pdf>

### **Legislation**

**Arkansas Bill 1068** passed.

**Texas Bill 1016** trying to get states parks open for metal detecting.

**Washington Bill 5205** trying to get parks open for metal detecting.

**Kentucky Bill 117** Trying to close private lands without permits. **See much more at [www.fmdac.org](http://www.fmdac.org)**

**Take the time to read the bills**

***SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING on April 5<sup>th</sup>***

- **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:

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

Day in the park March drawing winners: **Ivan Miller, Roy Evans and Chris**

### ***FMDAC Vice President: Lee Wiese***

Visit the FMDAC site @ [www.fmdac.org](http://www.fmdac.org)

Give some consideration to joining FMDAC to support the hobby for only \$5.00 per year.

### ***FMDAC Spring Convention May 4- 6 at Mesa, AZ***

#### ***3 Major Hunts, Free Hunt and a Kids Hunt.***

#### **Speakers for Saturday seminars will be:**

Jake Cruzen, Spanish Sign Interpreter. He will be talking about Spanish treasure signs and symbols of the southwest. Jack San Felice, part owner of the world famous Silver King Mine will discuss the mine and bring some displays.

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### *SVDB Finds of the Month (FOM):*

Photos of these finds are on our website under FOM on the left side of the web page. **Nancy Foster** won the drawing for Find of the Month.

### *SVDB March Raffle*

Mary Ann Mejia and James Neely sold raffle tickets of \$401. The big winner of the gold coin was **Justin Holmes**.

### *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.



### *Hey Mister, What are you doing?*

Has a kid or an adult ever asked you that question when you were detecting? Bob Maytum the Ring King, has been asked that question many times. Bob has compiled a

list of some of his favorite questions (plus a couple of mine).

- How much did you pay for that thing?
- What is that, a Geiger counter?
- Did you ever find anything?
- What's the best thing you ever found?
- What's the most expensive thing that you found?
- Does that really work?
- Who told you to do that?
- Do you need a permit to do that?
- Can I do that?
- Can I help you dig?
- Can I hold all the stuff you found?
- Are you looking for Gold?
- What's the oldest thing that you found?
- Can I have some of the stuff you found?
- It's about time someone fixed those sprinklers
- Are you looking for gas leaks?
- How does that thing work, does it suck the coins out of the ground like a magnet?

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**Q:** What are you fixing there?

**A:** I'm not fixing anything I'm digging up a coin.

**Reply:** Oh, I thought that was a Weedeater, and you were repairing the grass.

### *Steve's Nugget Detector Guide Updated 12/1/2006*

*Steve Herschbach owns the largest metal detecting and outfitters store in Anchorage. It's called Alaska Mining & Diving Supply. He pulls no punches in evaluating the following gold detectors.*



**Minelab GPX-4000** (List \$4500, Pulse) – This



detector's review and Steve's concluding remarks are a carryover from last months commentary by Steve concerning

his review of gold detectors.

“The big gun for big nugget hunting! This Pulse Induction (PI) unit essentially ignores ground mineralization and most hot rocks. The GPX-4000 is designed specifically for nugget detecting, unlike other PI units on the market, and so it has many adjustments for mineralized ground not available on other PI detectors. The GPX-4000 has made a break from previous Minelab models in the series by going to a digital tuning system that allows for even more ability to tune the machine for varying conditions. The extra large accessory coils will penetrate deeper on large nuggets than any other nugget detector currently available. This is the detector for the serious nugget hunter. If maximum depth of detection on large gold nuggets is your goal, the GPX-4000 is for you. Minelab has also enhanced the small gold ability of the GP series to the point that the GPX-4000 will

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rival some VLF detectors for small gold ability, especially in the hottest mineralized ground where VLF detectors suffer performance problems. Over 60 accessory coils are available for the GPX-4000 (Minelab, Coiltek, Nuggetfinder). More coils are being released every year.

Minelab continues to produce three predecessors to the GPX-4000. The Minelab SD 2100v2 (List \$1995.95) is a manual tune version without many of the extra features of the GP 3500. The Minelab SD 2200v2 (List \$2499.95) adds automatic ground balancing and iron discrimination features for just a few hundred dollars more than the SD 2100v2. These two models tend to be overlooked but are very powerful alternatives for those on a budget. Many professionals are still using these older models to find gold today. The immediate predecessor to the GPX-4000, the Minelab GP 3500, is still available, but may become unavailable soon as a factory new unit.

**Steve's Opinion** - It is simple. If getting the most possible depth on multi-ounce gold nuggets is what you want, then the Minelab SD/GP detectors are still the standard to beat. The immense coil selection available for the Minelab's means they can be customized to get both smaller gold, and deeper gold, than the Garrett Infinium. This is the detector of choice for professional nugget hunters, and many recreational hunters worldwide. In many Alaska gold fields, with low mineralization, high trash, and small gold, a good VLF detector may actually do as well or better than a PI unit for far less money. For this reason you will not see as many of these units in South Central Alaska as you might elsewhere in the world. However, with the new GPX-4000 that might begin to change. The enhanced small gold ability of the GP series means that I will be using my GPX-4000 more often to hunt for gold on the Kenai Peninsula. Minelab detectors have found the bulk of my gold in the last few years. So what am I personally using for nugget detecting? My new property at Moore Creek has some very tough hot rocks, and so my Minelab GP is my main detector. For places like Ganes Creek, where huge amounts of

junk must be dealt with, I use the White's MXT. And for areas where the bread and butter is small nuggets, like around Anchorage, I like the Fisher Gold Bug 2. These three detectors will cover virtually every nugget detecting need I have. Put them all together and I can hit the smallest nuggets, the biggest nuggets down deep, and nuggets where the trash is thick. Each one has paid for itself many times over.

So there you are. Hopefully this helps some people out there. Email me at [coldminer@akmining.com](mailto:coldminer@akmining.com) if you have any specific questions I can help with."

Sincerely, Steve Herschbach [Steve's Mining Journal](#)

**As Will Rogers said "Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else."**

**Did you know that there is scientific evidence to support that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage?**



**If you have any questions, comments or suggestions on this newsletter contact the editor, Don Dunn at [dadunn02@yahoo.com](mailto:dadunn02@yahoo.com)**



## Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

### SVDB Classified:

#### Minelab Excalibur for Sale (Used )

*Two coils with Water Proof Connectors*

Coil 1) 10 inch Minelab Tornado Coil with cover  
Coil 2) Minelab 8 inch Seasearch Coil no cover but little wear



*Two Battery Packs*

Pack 1) Standard rechargeable with AC Charger  
Pack 2) Alkaline Pack

Std Minelab Excalibur  
Headphones  
Copy of Minelab's Excalibur manual

*Mods to this Excalibur are:*

- 1) Waterproof Connectors
- 2) Coil Cable Shorten
- 3) Upper Arm Handle Shorten
- 4) White's Heavy Duty Arm Cup
- 5) Label have been trimmed

**Price: \$625 Shipped & Insured**

Contact:

Lee Wiese [leewiese@excite.com](mailto:leewiese@excite.com) or  
916-780-7365

#### Detector Pro Headhunter Wader for Sale (Used)

This is a Water Proof detector to six feet and the electronics and battery are in the headset. The detector is a very light has an eight inch coil no cover. Purchased in May 2002.

**Manual Available – No Mods**

Price: **\$345**

Lee Wiese [leewiese@excite.com](mailto:leewiese@excite.com) or  
916-780-7365



### SVDB Classified Continued:

#### John's Custom Made Silent Running Power Sluice For Sale: 1 ½ Years old

Includes:

- John's Custom Made Power Sluice
- 35 feet of Bilge Pump Hose
- 1250 Atwood Bilge Pump 12v
- Bucket (for Bilge pump) and 35 feet of wire

All you need is a small 12v battery to use with this compact silent running power sluice. You can then put the power sluice anywhere within 35 feet of your



water supply and begin finding **GOLD**.

Contact Don Dunn [dadunn02@yahoo.com](mailto:dadunn02@yahoo.com) or  
916 987-9336 **Cost \$625 Sell \$325**