

Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

A Nonprofit Organization

The Public is Invited to Attend our Meetings

SVDB Newsletter

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

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Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

Elected Officers

President: John Duffy

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Vice President: Peter Johnson

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Secretary: Bob Harrison

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Treasurer: Allan Woltman

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Volunteer Positions

Hospitality: Al Ezell

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Hunt Master: Rick Costello

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Librarian: Tom Schweppe

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Membership: George Magann

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Web-Page Editor: Gary Zang

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Minutes from Meeting of September 4, 2008

President: John Duffy

• John called the meeting to order and welcomed 5 new visitors to tonight's meeting: **Daniel Smith/DFX, Dan Gibbs/Exp2, Arlen Morgan/Ace 150, Ralph Myers/Exp XS, Jay Whitney /Exp&Excal.** The names that are underlined joined SVDB tonight. Welcome to all newcomers!

- We had 53 people in attendance tonight.

Vice President's Report: Peter Johnson

• Peter joined us tonight and mentioned that his non-paying job at a local winery (he does get free wine) was taking up a great deal of his time and had to miss a few meetings. Peter later assisted in tonight's monthly raffle.

Secretary's Report: Bob Harrison

• Bob asked for volunteers to help Rick Costello and himself to be on a nominating committee for the 2009 SVDB Officer positions.

Membership Report: George Magann

• George reported that we now have 137 SVDB members in good standing. Gene Fuerstenberger (Mean Gene) was the winner of Morgan Silver Dollar in tonight's membership drawing.

Treasurer's Report: Allan Woltman

- Allan gave this August treasurer's report:

Beginning Balance	\$3,588.24
Expenses	\$213.95
Income	\$1,278.50
Ending Balance	\$4,652.79

Picture of all SVDB Elected Officers plus George



Hospitality: Al Ezell

Thanks Al, for the good selection of munchies and drinks!

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SVDBers at San Juan Park - Hunters are chopping at the bit to start



Hunt Master Report: *Rick Costello*

- Rick discussed the September 13th planted hunt at San Juan Park in Citrus Hts. Rick, Ann and a some club members roped off the field and planted a few silver coins, (10) one dollar coins and about 700 clad coins.

- There were 25 hunters that found "most" of the coins and we all had a great time in near perfect weather. We all thank Rick for putting this fun hunt together!

Librarian Report: *Tom Schweppe*

- Tom was off cruising (again) and James Neeley sat in for Tom. James also donated a book on grading coins to our library. Thanks James!

SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING!!

- SVDB Meetings are held at the North County Corporate Yard (Formerly SMUD Building) 5026 Don Julio Blvd. North Highlands - at the intersection of Elkhorn and Don Julio. The meeting is held on the first Thursday of each month and starts at 7:30 pm.

Old Business:

- **Do 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 – one picture is allowed.

You can also bring items to our meetings and sell them on the “for sale” table.

- ***SVDB Club Patches and Decals***

Lee had our SVDB club logo put on a patch and is selling these patches at our meetings for \$5 each.

Patches are still available—profits support SVDB

SVDB September, 2008 Raffle & Auction:

We received \$570 from this month’s raffle. Thanks to **James Neeley, Mary Ann Mejia** and **Don Ivers** for selling the many tickets for tonight’s raffle. We had a 2nd drawing for a gold nugget donated by **Paul Giese** and won by **Linda Woltman**. Thanks again Paul for your generous donation!

September gold coin winner - Mr. Lucky, Pres John Duffy



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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 the meeting place:

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

Last months SVDB hunt results and winners:

August 3rd at Mesa Verde HS, 5 members found 126 coins. Oldest coin was found by **David Sturdivant**.

August 17th at Cordova Park, 9 members found 278 coins. Oldest coin was found by **Don Compton**.

VP Peter Johnson holding a coin he almost won in the raffle



SVDB Finds of the Month (FOM):

- Photos of these finds are on our website under FOM on the left side of the web page. There were lots of great September finds (including a diamond platinum ring). Winner of this month's FOM show and tell finds was **John Hainlen**.

Minelab E-Trac Demo by Larry Manger of BVMD

Larry, our club's local supporting MD dealer gave us a quick demo of the just released coin/relic metal detector from Minelab - the E-Trac.

Larry told us the E-Trac is NOT just another Explorer although there are lots of similarities. According to Larry, the E-Trac is quieter, smoother, includes a USB PC (not Mac) interface port and has a quicker response time than the Explorer SE Pro.

Minelab E-TRAC has PC Hookup via USB port



After Larry finished his demo he donated several MD hats and shirts to our raffle - Thanks Larry for the impromptu demo and for the raffle donations!

Incident on August 7, 2008 @ New Brighton Beach by SVDB Club Female Member *What would you do?*

I finished metal detecting on the beach and was in the parking lot going to my car. A man came running up the stairs from the beach and said I took his stuff (i.e. fishing knife and something else, I don't remember). I told him I did not have his stuff and he was not going to check my pouch. He came closer and I was getting very concerned since he was very agitated. I told him that I did not take his stuff and "this better be good or I was going to sue him". I told him to call the Police. He said that he already had done that.

I had asked a female park ranger, who came to my aid when I flagged her down because I was concerned about my safety, to check me out. She responded that I had to wait until the Police arrived. When they came, she left. I'm not sure if she wore an uniform, but she was in an official park vehicle.

A man with whom I had spoken earlier on the beach came over when he saw the commotion.

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He had talked to me earlier and said that he wanted to do metal detecting one of these days. He also suggested I search close to the fire pits to which I responded that the coals would be too hot for the metal detector. I did proceed in the direction of fire pits, but instead I went to the steep end of the beach. I thought this person came over to assist me, but he left, going down the stairs to the beach again.

The police then arrived and a male state park ranger also arrived. The ranger stayed with me while the police officer spoke with the accuser.

While the police officer spoke with the accuser the ranger asked me for identification. I told him that I had that in the trunk of my car and for him to come with me. I also told him that the VW was my car to which he somehow responded "That is your car?". I don't know what he meant by that, but I do have a car and it is in good shape, a blue VW Golf 2002. I opened the trunk and gave him my DL which I hid on the inside of the trunk in my fanny pack.

The police officer then came back and told me that policy dictated that I had to be subjected to a pat-down. He asked me if I had anything that could hurt/stick him and I responded "No". I had car keys, comb, Chap Stick and 2 nail polished nickels in my pants pockets. He also searched my treasure pouch with my morning finds.

I was searched by male police officer with the park ranger present. I had given permission since I just wanted to get it over with. He wanted to do the pat-down in the parking lot in full view of the public being present everywhere. I asked to go behind the police truck and for both the policeman and park ranger to be present. **Nothing was found and I was let go.**

*On 8-13-08 at 12:33pm, I called the State Park Ranger and left a phone message. The State Park Ranger called me back soon afterwards. He said that the accuser had called him (State Park Ranger) and said that **he had found his stuff**. The Ranger also said that he had wanted to apologize to me but since I was so upset he decided not to call me.*

The Ranger then said that perhaps something had warned the thief and that this person then buried the loot in the sand with the intent of coming back later to retrieve them. I responded that I was off the hook for stealing, but it was insinuated that I buried the stolen items to come back later to get them. I told the State Park Ranger that this was outrageous.

What would you do?

How To Clean Clad, Copper and Zinc Coins

I have been asked once again to put a coin cleaning method in the newsletter. Here is an outstanding and inexpensive recipe for cleaning clad, copper and zinc coins.....DD

Items needed:

1. Rock Tumbler
2. Vegetable colander or strainer
3. River rock, 1/4 inch size (White Aquarium rock is also OK) ... I bought my river rock in a packaged paper sack for \$3.95 at the pet store next to Nathan's pool supply near Greenback & Fair Oaks
4. Salt
5. White Vinegar (I buy it by the gallon)
6. Sudsing ammonia

Keep the clad coins (nickels, dimes, quarters, halves & dollar coins) separate from the copper/zinc coins. This is very important because silver clad coins turn brown when mixed with pennies!

Step 1



1. Fill the tumbler about 2/3 full with rocks and mix your coins in the rocks.
2. Pour white vinegar into the tumbler until it just covers the rocks and coins and add a teaspoon of table salt. Put the lid on the tumbler very tightly and hand shake it a couple of times to mix everything up.
3. Let the mixture tumble for about 45 minutes. Caution, the mixture produces a little gas and expands slightly and may cause the liquid to leak

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out. You may have to take the lid off to let the gas escape.

4. Put the vegetable colander into a sink and pour the contents of the tumbler into it. Run tap water over the contents in the colander to remove the vinegar mixture. Rinse out the tumbler and put the coins & rocks back into it. Then rinse the colander to remove all of the vinegar and salt.

At this point your clad coins have gone from brown/black to a dull slightly spotted silver color.

Step 2

5. Pour the contents of the colander back into the tumbler and pour enough sudsing ammonia to just cover the rocks and coins.

6. Let the mixture tumble for about an hour. This mixture does not produce any gases and won't expand.

7. Pour the contents back into the colander and rinse with warm water.

At this point the clad coins are as clean as the ones in your pockets. Do not use this method for cleaning valuable silver coins.

Use the same method for cleaning copper and zinc pennies, but just remember keep them separate from the clad coins.

Other commercial cleaning methods include:



e*Z*est is a liquid tarnish remover for gold, silver, and copper coins in a jar. This is the preferred cleaning solution and "dip" for collectors and dealers.

Available in 5oz and 1 gallon sizes. One of the most popular coin cleaners on the market.



Nic-A-Lene cleans nickels, cents & clad coins. Brings dirty and corroded coins back to near original brilliance and desirability.



MS-70 Industrial strength coin brightener for gold, silver, copper, nickel, brass or bronze. Contains no acid and will not give your coins a "dipped" look. 8oz plastic container.

Review of New Electronic Pin Pointer by Garrett (Called Pro-Pointer)



by Don Dunn

My Detector Pro Pocket Uniprobe electronic pin pointer was acting up again so I decided to call Larry at Big Valley Metal Detectors for advice.

Larry told me that Garrett just released a new type of a pinpointer called the Pro-Pointer that I should consider.

After trying it out at Larry's place I decided to buy one. (list price \$150 - Larry gives club members a good discount)

Included in the Garrett Pinpointer kit:

- Garret Pro-Pointer and Belt Carry Case
- Garrett Coin Digging Kit (Treasure Pouch, Coin Probe & Digger)
- The Sport Of Coin Hunting Field Guide
- How to Find Lost Treasure Field Guide

Here are my pros and cons (mostly pros)

Pros:

- Simple to use - push in switch to turn on/off
- IDs targets by both beep and vibration (P&C)
- Gets good distance to target - 2 to 3 inches
- Frequency didn't interfere with my detector
- Has a "drop in" 9 volt battery - gets 30 hours
- The belt carry case is handy - Velcro & snap
- Comfortable to hold in your hand
- LED light helps locate targets
- Solidly built - can take some abuse
- Almost entirely waterproof - has small speaker opening which can be covered with tape

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Saying of the month

"Tis better to be silent and be thought a fool, than to speak and remove all doubt." -- Mark Twain

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions or articles for this newsletter contact your editor, Don Dunn at dadunn02@yahoo.com

Pros Continued:

- You don't have to re-tune the pin pointer with any knobs because of ground balancing or battery power levels - it's all automatic
- **Perhaps the best feature about the Pro-Pointer is that it's a pinpointer within a pinpointer.** As you get closer to the target the beeps and vibrations are closer together letting you know exactly where the target is located

Cons:

- I preferred the vibrate mode by itself - but you can't turn off the beep mode because both modes are always on. I ended up putting electrician's tape over the speaker to muffle the beep
- The entire length of the pin pointer shaft is sensitive to metal (not just the point) - takes a little getting used to

I believe that Garrett has another hit on it's hands similar to the Ace 250. This pinpointer will be on many "must have" lists.....DD

