



# Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

A Nonprofit Organization  
The Public is Invited to Attend our Meetings

**SVDB Newsletter**

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

Issue Date April 2009

## Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

### 2009 Elected Officers

**President:** John Duffy

[pres\\_svdb@att.net](mailto:pres_svdb@att.net)

**Vice President:** Peter Johnson

[esteponapj@surewest.net](mailto:esteponapj@surewest.net)

**Secretary:** Bob Harrison

[nubblelight@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nubblelight@sbcglobal.net)

**Treasurer:** Allan Woltman

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

### 2009 Volunteer Positions

**Hospitality:** Al Ezell

[ezell777@comcast.net](mailto:ezell777@comcast.net)

**Hunt Masters:** Paul Giese & Bob Morris

[ppgiese4au@comcast.net](mailto:ppgiese4au@comcast.net)

**Librarian:** Tom Schweppe

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## March 5, 2009 Meeting Minutes

**President:** John Duffy

- John introduced and welcomed Betty Wallace, Paul Bennett and Dale as 1st time visitors to SVDB.
- John also said he wrote a letter to the City of Sacto. He volunteered SVDB members to assist the city with our metal detectors in any way we can.

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

- Peter mentioned he is back into detecting again and is looking forward to our BIG April Hunt.

**Secretary's Report:** Bob Harrison

- Bob was back and helped your editor by taking excellent meeting notes.
- We had another great crowd of 77 people at tonight's meeting! Nearly standing room only.

**Membership Report:** George Magann

- George reported that we now have 160 SVDB members. He also said about 3/4 have paid their 2009 dues and said you can't participate in any club hunts unless you are a paid up member. **George Miskovsky** won tonight's member drawing.

**Treasurer's Report:** Allan Woltman

- Allan gave this months treasurer's report:
 

Beginning Balance	\$5,034.94
Expenses	\$2,128.74
Income	\$ 988.50
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$3,844.67</b>

**Hospitality:** Al Ezell

- As usual, Al supplied us with terrific snacks and drinks for tonight's meeting. There is a voluntary offering can to help pay for these goodies.

**Hunt Master Report:** Paul Giese



*Kids Hunt at Strizek Park on February 28th*

## Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

# 2009 SVDB Hunts

Paul Giese and Bob Morris have announced the following 2009 planted hunt dates for SVDB members:

- **April 11th** Annual Wilton GC Hunt 11:00am-12:00
- **May 16th** Madera Park - Citrus Hts. 9:00am -10:00
- **June 27th** - Ace 250 (1st Prize) - **Place TBD**
- **August 8th** **Place TBD**
- **September 19th** **Place TBD**
- **October 24th** **Place TBD**
- **December 12th** **Place TBD**



2008 SVDB Hunt at Wilton Gun Club - The Line Up



2008 SVDB Hunt at Wilton Gun Club - The Hunt is Underway

## April 11, 2009 SVDB Annual Hunt

Paul and Bob said that our annual Wilton Gun Club Hunt/Pot Luck Lunch is scheduled for Saturday, **April 11th at 11 am sharp**. The cost will be \$20 to members for this rain/shine event – **you have to be a member in good standing to hunt**.

What **FOOD** to Bring for the Pot Luck:

*Last Name A - M Rolls, Dessert or Salad*  
*Last Name N - Z Hot Main Dish*

Drinks, paper plates and plastic eating utensils will be supplied by SVDB.

## 2009 Wilton GC Annual Hunt Token prizes

- Grand prize** - Fisher ID Excel Metal Detector  
**5 First place prizes** - ( 5) 1/10 ounce Gold Coins  
**16 Second place** " - (16) 1 ounce Silver Rounds  
**16 Third place** " - (16) US Silver Dollars  
**31 Fourth place** " - (31) US Silver Half Dollars  
**31 Fifth place** " - (31) US Silver Quarters

*99 Token Prizes Approximate Value \$1,745 (includes Detector)*



## Planted Prizes

*(Coins subject to availability – adjustments as needed)*

- 200** Silver dimes
- 300** Clad Dollars (mix of types)
- 400** Clad Half Dollars
- 800** Clad quarters
- 2000** Clad dimes
- 405** Nickels
- 100** Mixed Wheat / Indian Head pennies

*4205 Planted Prizes Approximate Value \$1,124*

Total of **4304** Planted Tokens/Coins

**Approximate Total Value \$2,500 in Coins**  
**Plus Fisher ID Excel Detector**

**Directions to Wilton Gun Club from Sacramento:**

- Take **CA-99 SOUTH** toward **FRESNO** go **17.8** miles  
(2) Take exit **#281 DILLARD RD (East)** go **3.8** miles  
(3) Turn **RIGHT** on **WALMORT RD** go **3.2** miles  
(4) Turn **LEFT** on **REIGL RD** go **0.6** miles  
(5) Arrive at **10100 REIGL RD, WILTON**

**Arrive in plenty of time for the 11 am hunt start. Be late - Be sorry**

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### Librarian Report: Tom Schweppe

• Tom reported that the library has plenty of books, magazines and videos to lend out. He also said that we have several new magazines that members would enjoy reading.

### SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING!!

- **April 2nd** is the date of our 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 in a large room facing Elkhorn 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 & sell them on the “**for sale**” table up front on the left.
- **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 March, 2009 Raffle:

We received **\$784** from this month's raffle. Thanks to Mary Ann Mejia, Don Ivers with help from James Neeley in selling tonight's raffle tickets! We raffled off a 1/10 oz. gold coin and a gold nugget donated by **Paul Giese**. The nugget was won by **Linda Woltman** and **Dick Sturdivant** won tonight's 1/10 ounce gold coin.



*Dick Sturdivant hanging on to the winning gold coin*

### 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:

- 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

### SVDB previous hunt results and winners:

January 4th at Greer Elementary School, 9 members found 247 coins. Oldest coin found by **Marvin Wiese**  
January 18th at Land Park, 12 members found 300 coins. Oldest coin found by **John Felt**  
February 1st at American River College, 8 members found 293 coins. Oldest coin found by **Marvin Wiese**

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

• Photos of these finds are on our website under FOM on the left side of the web page. The January finds were up from last month and included several really nice rings and other interesting things. Winner of this month's FOM show and tell finds was **Sharon Anderson**.

## Choosing A Metal Detecting Site

by R.W. Benjamin

Some folks think, 'heck! I don't know of any places where I live that I could or would go metal detecting'. Below are a few of the sites you can metal detect.



**Old Schools** - These are HOT areas for metal detecting, most towns or even rural areas have a school and some have multiple ones. Schools that are currently open during school season are a great place to find modern coins and even a few clads, also numerous trinkets, die cast cars, and cheaper jewelry items can easily be found on modern school grounds.

## Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

If you are as lucky as I am, then you live in a rural or country area that keeps a lot of their **old buildings**. I know where there are two old buildings that served as one room school houses; these places were open in the late 1800's to the early 1940's. Just imagine the wonderful finds these old grounds may be hiding. The old one room school houses also served as churches, social halls, farm grange buildings, and as meeting places for scouts, ladies aid societies and more.



Some of these old buildings also had their own treasure chests, that's right. Many churches and old one room school houses when they were built, the local kids or adults would bury a chest on the grounds or under a corner stone of the building. The chest was a sort of time capsule containing coins, newspapers and other unique items from the times when the building was erected.

**Woods** - The woods can be awesome for metal detecting if one knows what to look for. Look for old paths; those are great places to detect along. Old paths in the woods served as shortcuts to open fields for farmers to get their equipment through, or for cattle to follow and more. In a wooded area not far from when I grew up as a child I know where there is an old path, now grown up with trees and bushes, most folks would overlook it or not know its history. My grandfather and dad built the road by blasting tree stumps with dynamite and by hand cutting. They used the path to quickly get tractors, and other farm machinery to another open field below the woods. Just imagine the number of times my own dad and grandfather probably sat along this old road, eating their lunch or sipping some cool lemonade. Any time someone sat along a road eating lunch, they would often pull an old cloth hanky from their pocket to blow their nose or even wipe their mouth, often losing some pocket change at the same time.



Another rare but great metal detecting site can often be found in the woods, these are old stone foundations and **old stone chimneys**, each has the potential for a rare gold coin or a jar of old silver dollars. Remember at one time this old stone foundation or fireplace was part of a family's home, with kids playing, parties and numerous outdoor activities.



**Riverbanks** - This is a huge area that a lot of folks don't even think about for metal detecting. River banks were used as ferry crossings some had covered bridges with toll stations. The local old timers may be able to



tell you where the local fishing and old swimming spots were. Remember many of the old fishing spots were also drinking and partying spots, and at the swimming holes a lot of people took off their outer clothes, losing change as they did. And going back even earlier in the years, folks would take their clothes to the riverbanks to wash them in the water.

### *Some other great Metal Detecting sites are:*

Parks, Beaches, Old Ball Fields, Playgrounds, Old Amusement Parks, Fairgrounds, Camping Sites, Camps, Ghost Towns, Battlefields, Old Picnic Spots, around the shores of ponds and lakes.....R.W.

### **Metal Detecting Research Techniques** *by Larry E. Smith*

Many metal detector hobbyist waste a lot of time and money **driving around** to other communities looking for new sites to treasure hunt. I am convinced that this "grass is greener" philosophy is counter productive. There are many senior adults in your community who have a great deal of information about how things were back in the "good old days" and they are happy to share this info.



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They are the people of history who can provide you with an understanding of how things happened in your town or city 40 to 90 years ago. Making friends with these individuals pays great metal detecting dividends. This led me to develop what I have termed as the "Home Town Advantage". Get to know the **senior citizens** who are native to your community and you will have the home town advantage and should never need to roam around looking for detecting sites.

The first of these historical figures is the writers in your community and in **libraries**. Robert wrote the first history of Tarpon Springs in 1948. It is a colorful dialogue of people and places during the early 1900's. I



got so much from his book and so much more from this diminutive five-foot tall giant. He made me love the history of the sponge-diving capital of the world. I found

thousands of coins from what he shared in person and in writing. He lived to be 99 and at 92 took me into a wilderness area and showed me where a ghost town was really located, when all attempts to locate it from the directions in a renowned Florida ghost town book failed. In recent years two very comprehensive books on the history of Tarpon Springs have been published. Great well written books, but as my grandson BJ would say, not the same as the "old-timer".

A second important historical group is the **retired business owners**. Their involvement in the day to day commerce and business affairs will assist you in numerous ways. Knowing the location and types of businesses that were prominent years ago can provide site locations, traffic patterns and knowledge of



events that significantly impacted the community's economic development. John was an officer of the Bank of Commerce of Tarpon Springs from its inception in 1918, to its collapse in the Great Depression in 1929.

Our friendship led to my first significant cache find, consisting of 45 very rare uncirculated tokens given to potential customers in 1918. This token today is worth about \$400 in pristine condition. John told me where he buried them, gave permission to go on his property and locate them, and let me keep all 45. Nick Kavouklis, renowned Greek businessman, shared stories that gave me many new sites to check out. Some of my oldest and best pre 1900 silver finds came from our friendship.

The third historical group that can benefit your research is the **athletes**. Outside of schoolyards, my biggest volume and value sites have been stadiums and ball fields. Getting to know the proud athletes of past decades provides locations of sports



training, practice and playing areas that no longer exist. It is easy to get to know them. Go to high school and college games in your community and they stand out. Most are very proud of their accomplishments in sports and will open up many sites to hunt. I learned from a retired baseball coach that he played professional ball back in the 30's and he described an area where this team came and practiced in Tarpon in the late winter and early spring. The site has high foundation stones lining the street entrance and they were the bleacher foundations for that practice facility. I made some super depression era coin finds there including several low mintage key coins of the early 30's. One stadium that I have permission to hunt on an on-going basis has led to over 30,000 coins and 30 gold rings. I love those athletic connects.

There are several other older-generation **retirees** that can make your research profitable and fun. Here are a



few more historical people groups and the type of sites they deliver. Retired educators/school sites, real estates agents/all types, construction

workers/commercial and residential sites, service club members (Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.)/many types, and newspaper editors & writers/wide variety.

## *Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs*

**You can make history or just be history!** Living in the same community for more than forty years gives me a great privilege.

A privilege of sharing what I have learned from the important "historical figures" and saying yes to becoming one of them.

This is why I have written this small blurb on metal detecting research. Having found over 150,000 coins with metal detectors and 85% of them coming from Tarpon Springs makes me an expert in this my "hometown". It delights me to share info that can apply to your research in your community. Here's to "diggin it" .....Larry

### *About the Author*

**Larry Smith** is an avid coin collector and metal detector enthusiast. He's been collecting coins for over 45 years. Larry is giving away his ebook, "Coin Collecting With The Home Town Advantage" FREE for a limited time. You can get your copy and start building (or expanding) your own collection right now.

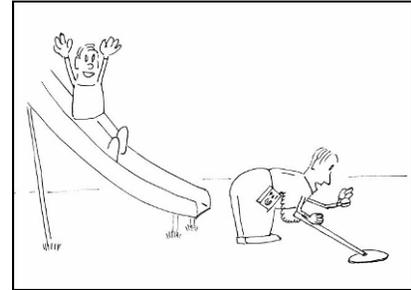
Get the ebook (and TONS of other great FREE content) by visiting his blog:

<http://MetalDetectorForCoinCollecting.com>

### *On the Lighter Side*

*"When I was about 14, I thought my father was the dumbest person I knew.*

*When I turned 21, I was amazed at how much he had learned in seven years!" .....Mark Twain.*



**"I find there's always a surprise waiting for you at the bottom of a slide."**

### *Next Meeting Preview*

\*\*\*\*\*Make sure you attend our April 2nd SVDB meeting to hear more about **the BIG April Hunt** and to hear **Larry Manger of Big Valley Metal Detectors** give us a presentation and a preview of White's newest **color screen** detector called, "**Vision**".\*\*\*\*\*

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