



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 July 2009

Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs 2009 Elected Officers

President: John Duffy

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Vice President: Peter Johnson

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Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Allan Woltman

looking4au@hotmail.com

2009 Volunteer Positions

Hospitality: Candy Workman - July

Hunt Masters: Paul Giese & Bob Morris

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Librarian: Tom Schweppe

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Membership: George Magann

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June 4, 2009 Meeting Minutes

President: John Duffy

- John was vacationing and VP Peter Johnson chaired the meeting. See John's article on page 3.

Vice President: Peter Johnson

- Peter introduced and welcomed 3 new visitors to tonight's meeting: Jay Aldridge, Lee Ying and Sarah. Peter mentioned that he has not been detecting lately, but as a state worker he has a few non-paying furlough days coming up so he will begin detecting again.

- We had an attendance of 65 tonight.

Secretaries Report: Bob Harrison

- Bob resigned as SVDB secretary due to family and work commitments. Talk to John Duffy if you are interested in taking over this position.

Membership Report: George Magann

- George reported that we now have 132 SVDB members. Bob Meneely won tonight's membership drawing.

Treasurer's Report: Allan Woltman

- Al gave this month's treasurer's report:

Beginning Balance	\$4,227.86
Expenses	2,202.69
Income	989.91
Ending Balance	\$3,015.08

Hospitality: Candy Workman

- Al Ezell resigned as chairman of hospitality and no one volunteered to take his place. SVDB members really appreciated the job that Al has done.
- Candy Workman volunteered only for the month of July. This will be on a month to month basis and if no one volunteers - we will not have any more snacks/drinks at the meetings.
- SVDB needs & survives on the volunteers who donate their time and effort to our membership.



Please help us out!

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Hunt Masters Report: *Paul Giese & Bob Morris*

2009 SVDB Hunts (Remaining)

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

- **August 8th** **Tahoe Park 9:00 am**
- **September 19th** **Place TBD**
- **October 24th** **Place TBD**
- **December 12th** **Place TBD**



We had 41 people show up for the **June 27th** hunt at **Fite Park**. The Ace 250 metal detector was won by **Chris Poulsen**, the 2/3 pennyweight nugget (donated by Paul Giese) was won by **Jim Millbradt** and the women's ring (donated by Bob Morris) was won by **Cyndy Johnston**. There were 87 token/raffle prizes and 832 coins totaling \$170 that were planted. The Ace 250 metal detector was donated by **Garrett** through **Larry at Big Valley Metal Detectors - Thanks Larry!** Another Big thanks goes to **Paul Giese & Bob Morris** for organizing this hunt!



Tahoe Park August 8th at 9 am - for the next hunt.

Sign up no later than August 6th meeting

Librarian Report: *Tom Schweppe*

Tom was back after traveling to the far reaches of the globe on a cruise ship. He mentioned that someone donated a bag of magazines, a few books and a Gold Fever video. We have a great library to get metal detecting/gold prospecting reading material and videos.

SEE YOU AT THE JULY 2nd 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. Several bargain priced detecting items are usually bought and sold at the meetings. We also have a freebees table. So check this out.
- **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 June, 2009 Raffle:

- We received **\$746** from this month's raffle. Thanks to Mary Ann Meji, Don Ivers & James Neeley for selling tonight's raffle tickets! We gave away a 1/10 oz. gold coin and a gold nugget donated by **Paul Giese**. *Winners are pictured below. BTW, Ron Bassell won the gold coin raffle just 2 months ago - Mr. Lucky!*



Ron Bassell & Gold Coin - Jack Bower & Nugget

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DB 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

SVDB previous month's hunt results and winner:

May 10th at Mills Middle School, 3 members found 90 coins. Oldest coin found by **Vince Migliore**.

May 17th at Matson Park, 4 members found 163 coins. Oldest coin found by **Don Thurber**.

SVDB Finds of the Month (FOM):

- Photos of these finds are on our website under FOM. The photos were of the previous month's finds. The winner of this month’s FOM show and tell finds was **Bob Meneely**.

Bob then told us about a H.S. class ring he recently found at Santa Cruz on the main beach. After a quick internet search, Bob called Foothill College and was directed to soccer coach Tom Liner.

The coach told him it belonged to one of his special players. He also said the player received the ring as a gift and was worried sick about losing it.



George Mendoza and Bob Meneely

Bob returned the ring to George Mendoza with the soccer coach present at Foothill College the day after he found it. The coach gave Bob a soccer team jacket and submitted an article to the San Jose Mercury. As coach Liner said in the article, "**Moments like these are life-changing.**"

Bob, we all thank you for this great "feel good" story of how you went the extra mile(s) to return this ring...Don

[Link to San Jose Mercury article.](#)

President's Corner: John Duffy

From the Inquisitive Mind of Your President...



Ok – you have a detector, whether it's your first one or the latest one that you just got while detecting over the years – now the big question... Where shall I hunt today? Do I go back to the same old park I've gone to over a couple of years, or do I look for a “new” spot, perhaps one where no one has detected in ages?

To take an objective look at this question I went to my computer, where I have a record of (almost) every day I have hunted – date, location, weather, time, treasures and trash. Without this written record I would be lost with respect to this particular question – is it ok to go back to that old place or do I have to search out somewhere new?

So, let’s take a look at my unnamed park in the greater Sacramento area:

Unnamed Sacramento Park

Year	Days	Min	\$1	50c	25c	10c	5c	1c	Wheat	Silver	Total
2003	2	60			1	3		5			\$.60
2004	5	250				6	1	22			.87
2005	6	240			4	9	7	74			2.99
2006	9	405	1		11	13	6	70	2	1	6.05
2007	28	1500			36	72	19	197	31	8	19.12
2008	27	1215		1	38	89	6	175	27	6	20.95
2009	6	310			6	10	1	32	8	2	2.87
Totals	83	3980	1	1	96	202	40	575	68	17	\$53.45

This averages out to about 45 minutes/day to find 11 coins worth \$0.65 face value. Every 1.25 days I would expect to find a wheat cent and every 5 days, a silver coin (15 dimes and 2 quarters). All this in an area that for the first 3.9 years I would have said, “Why bother?”

I started with an underwater pulse induction detector for the first two years, then upgraded to a mid-range, non-programmable discrimination model. It was in December of 2006 when I went up to a programmable multi-frequency high end detector and found those first 2 wheat cents and a silver dime. You can see how that motivated me to hunt that same old park in 2007 and 2008!

Clearly, both experience and equipment have big impacts on my success! So, sharpen your skills, don’t be afraid to upgrade your equipment once in a while and keep a written record of your hunting experiences.

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When I went through my records to sort out the data for this article, I was reminded of several locations that I haven't been to in a while – you can bet I'll be headed out to some of them quite soon.

Hunt often, and always fill your holes! Good luck.....John

Detector to the Rescue - Times 2

by Paul Giese

Rescue 1 - On June 14, after returning home from a 3 day gold mining trip to Webber Creek I checked my emails. There was one from a gal in Natomas whose granddaughter had lost one of her 14k Opal earrings in her back yard. She wanted to know if I would be interested to hire out to find this item. I called her to volunteer to hunt for it and then called Bob Morris to setup a date to start our search. He was available that afternoon and I made an appointment with the lady. We arrived and used Bob's MXT in the hunt.

Bob Morris & Paul Giese to the Rescue - Have Detectors Will Travel



While hunting for the earring the 8 year old girl who lost it was intently watching as Bob swung the coil over the ground.

With a happy shriek



the little girl saw the earring just as Bob got to it, picked it up quickly and jumped up and down. The grandmother was delighted to get her jewelry back and the little girl was off the hook for having lost it. Searching further we found a quarter and then 3 dimes stacked together which we gave to the girl.

Rescue 2 - I was metal detecting on June 20th in a local park and there were 4 boys playing on the park equipment. They ranged from about 7 to maybe 12 years old. When they saw me they came over to watch. I found ten quarters, 3 dimes and 4 nickels in about 30 minutes. I found about a dozen pennies which I gave to them and they were eager to learn how to detect. The eldest told me he had lost his apartment key but was not sure exactly where in the play area. It was getting quite warm but I wanted to see if I could locate his key.

I had covered about 2/3 of the area when the Fisher F2 made a hit that I suspected was the key. It sure was and the boy gave me a big high 5 and a smile a mile wide. He said his momma told him he had to find it "or else". When I left a couple of minutes later all the kids were pretty happy.....Paul



Coin Cache Found in the Desert

by Carolyn Garrett



John Nutting of Las Vegas, NV was metal detecting in the So. California desert in January of this year. He got mixed signals as he ran his detector over a bag lying in the sand. He kicked it and out spilled six \$10 gold coins along with many old silver coins.



This photo shows what was in the bag which John believes may have been hidden in a car's old seat springs that lay nearby. Included in the bag of silver and gold coins, was a crumpled \$5 bill - a real old one. He estimates that the bag had been there for

several years!
.....Carolyn

How About These Metal Detecting Sandals



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[Metal Detecting Sandals](#) are a new arrival from the gadget guru's [Hammacher Schlemmer](#), that will let you scour local beaches, parks and paths for hidden treasure in a much less conspicuous fashion than with a traditional metal detector.

Featuring a copper coil built right into the right sandal and using frequency oscillation technology, the Metal Detecting Sandals can sense metal objects - whether they be coins, jewelry or perhaps even ancient artifacts - up to 2 feet underfoot.

Unlike their [Rechargeable Heated Insoles](#), the Metal Detecting Sandals are powered by a small battery pack that straps to your calf - which will get you up to 6 hours of treasure hunting from a single 9-volt battery. To alert you to potential gold discoveries, the pack uses a red flashing light and either an audible buzz or a [gentle vibration](#) (for subtlety).

You'll probably want to wear some long shorts or rolled up trousers to conceal the battery pack strapped to your leg, but once you've got that covered, I can't think of anything that would offer more motivation to [get some exercise](#) than the possibility of striking it rich. Sure, you could walk to the shop to buy a lotto ticket, but this looks like *much* more fun.

You can pick up a pair of Metal Detecting Sandals over at Hammacher Schlemmer for [\\$59.95](#).

SVDB - 2009 Santa Cruz Beach Hunt

There are currently 9 SVDB Members signed up - I would like at least 15 members.....Lee Wiese



SVDB-Santa Cruz Beach Hunt August 23rd & 24th, 2009

Entry Fee for Prizes: \$20 per hunter
Hunt Time: 6:00 am to 11:00 am each day
August 23rd at the Santa Cruz Main Beach
August 24th at Seacliff or ?? State Beach

Sunday morning there will be a 20 minute warm up hunt with planted coins.

After 11:00 am each person is free to do what ever..
Lunch Sunday Noon: Lunch after Sunday's Hunt

6 AM Morning Hunt

Drive Down Early Sunday Morning - if you leave the Sacramento area about 3:00 am it gets you to Santa Cruz around 6:00 am. Stay over night for the Monday morning hunt. Drive back Monday early afternoon.

[Make your own motel reservations.](#)

Parking: Sunday, Meter Parking Available, Meters Start @ 10: 00 AM 10 MINUTES for a Quarter. (Meters Take Quarters / Dollars Coins \$1.50/hour)

Monday @ Seacliff state park, Park at Rio Mar just south of Seacliff State Park Beach its **FREE Parking & Entrance**

Prizes each day for: **Most coins**
Highest Dollar Amount
Oldest Coin
Best item of the day (Voted on by the group)

You can only win one of the major prizes per hunt day.

SVDB Beach Hunt Rules

1. Entrants must provide their own metal detector and beach digging tools (sand scoops, baskets, etc.).
2. All holes made in the sand must be filled to avoid injuries to beach goers.
3. Keep a distance of 15-20 feet from all beach goers that are sitting on the beach.
4. Keep everything you dig. TRASH should be kept and deposited in **Trash Containers**.
5. All detectorists are requested to signup in advance, and pose for a group picture the day of the hunt.
6. Must be a current SVDB Member.
7. Must wear Headphones and Coils not larger than 12 inches for the seeded hunt.

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Metal Detecting Tips

1. Here's a tip to **restore dug up Lincolns and Indians**. After cleaning off the dirt, put a drop of **Tabasco Sauce** on the cent. After about 5-10 seconds wipe off and presto, shiny as new. There's some sort of chemical reaction that the copper reacts to the pepper sauce. Caution! If you have a cent you believe is numismatically valuable - it's better left uncleaned.

2. **Gather an assortment** of generally found items; pull tabs, bottle caps, washers, coins, old jewelry, silverware, keys, rings - you get the idea. Make 3 X 5 cards with the name of each item on one card. Have a friend place some of the items at random in your yard in an 8 X 10 foot area and cover them with a plastic tarp. Practice locating the items and placing the appropriate card on each location.

Keep your detector about 6 to 12 inches above the tarp to simulate the item being buried. After locating all the items give yourself a grade based on the number of correct finds. With a little practice you'll find you can generally identify items before you look at them, invaluable experience for actual field treasure hunting. Be sure to do this with different modes of your metal detector so you know the difference. In the all metal mode you should be able to find all the items but may have a little more trouble identifying them. In the discriminate mode, depending on the amount of discrimination, you may not detect some of the items that are considered "trash" and this is good. Summing it all up, Practice, Practice, Practice.

3. **Poker Chips** make excellent markers for treasure hunting. You can place one on each found location and after a number of finds stop detecting and start digging. You can even use different colors for different types of finds - ie, red for "hot" finds, white for "questionable" finds, and blue for "sounds deep" - make up your own color code. I've done this for many years and it also gives your arm a chance to rest from swinging the detector.



Here's a way to find valuable rings while beach detecting.

Retrieving them is another story....

Next Meeting Preview

*****Make sure you attend our August 6th SVDB meeting to hear Lee Wiese discuss metal detector discrimination. Lee originally planned for this discussion after the July SVDB meeting, but an unplanned family commitment made Lee move this training session to the August meeting.

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