



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 October 2009

Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs 2009 Elected Officers

President: John Duffy

pres_svdb@att.net

Vice President: Peter Johnson

esteponapj@surewest.net

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Allan Woltman

looking4au@hotmail.com

2009 Volunteer Positions

Hospitality: Anita Massey

amassy12346@yahoo.com

Hunt Masters: Paul Giese & Bob Morris

ppgiese4au@comcast.net

Librarian: Tom Schweppe

coottom@aol.com

Membership: George Magann

gcmagann@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Don Dunn

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Newsletter Mailings: Rick & Sue Morris

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Raffle Table: Mary Ann Meji, Don Ivers &

James Neeley

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Web-Page Editor: Gary Zang

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Web-Site Editor: Lee Wiese

leewiese@excite.com

September 3, 2009 SVDB Meeting Minutes

President: John Duffy

- John introduced and welcomed the following 1st time visitors; Cherri Peters, Barbara Anderton, Sam Lister, Craig Homburg and Bill Hendricks.
- John also thanked each club volunteer for helping with the many activities associated with SVDB. If you see or hear of a SVDB need, jump in and help get it done. Ideas are good, but follow up is most important.
- John told me last week that he had secured the same 1st Thursday of the month SMUD meeting room & dates with the county for all of 2010...Thanks John!

Vice President: Peter Johnson

- Peter went into a little more detail about his **run in** with the 8 point buck 2 months ago - both lost. He also told a blond joke (as did John) that loosened everyone up. Peter also helped with tonight's meeting minutes since we don't have a secretary. Thanks....DD

Treasurer's Report: Allan Woltman

- Al was back from Cabo San Lucas where he found minimal treasures on the Mexican beaches. He gave this month's treasurer's report:

Beginning Balance	\$4,291.04
Expenses	2,011.23
Income	961.50
Ending Balance	<u>\$3,241.31</u>

Membership Report: George Magann

- George reported that we now have close to 150 members. **Frank Tester** won the membership drawing.
- We had another great crowd of **79** tonight.

Hospitality: Anita Massey

- John and Joy Duffy substituted for Anita tonight. Joy baked some **delicious brownies** and brought other goodies for our hungry group. Thanks go to **John and Joy** for this last minute substitution.



Hunt Masters Report: Paul Giese & Bob Morris

- Paul reported that the start time for the October 10th Sat. hunt has been changed from 10am to **9 am.**

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- Paul also asked if the members wanted a hunt in November and December. The membership voted yes to both months if Paul & Bob could do it.

2009 SVDB Hunts (Remaining)

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

1. **October 10th Johnston Park_1st Prize: Ace 250**
2. **November 14th TBD 1st Prize:Garrett ProPointer**
3. **December 12th TBD**

- Paul and Bob said the next hunt is scheduled for **October 10th, 9:00am at JOHNSTON PARK in North Sacramento**. This is a **\$15 hunt fee** event. Directions are: I 80 to Norwood Ave. south about 1 3/4 miles to Eleanor Ave. turn right, then about 1/2 mile to the park. Paul will have a sign-up sheet and maps at the October 1st club meeting.

The **token prizes** will be an **Ace 250 Detector**, a nice **Gold Nugget**, **Silver and Collector coin prizes**, and **lots of other prizes**. Paul said, "we are also holding another **Ladies Raffle** and **Bob**

Morris is generously donating some very nice **Sterling Silver ladies rings**."

- Here are the rules for SVDB Members grass hunts:
 - **Electronic Pinpointers are OK**
 - **No digging tools or sand scoops allowed - Fingers are OK**
 - **No jumbo coils allowed**
 - **Headphones are required**
 - **Small (12" or less) hand rakes with round prongs are allowed as long as you don't dig up or tear up the grass**
 - **No PI metal detectors allowed - they cause interference to VLF detectors**

Librarian Report: Tom Schweppe

- Tom said that the library had several magazine and book donations tonight. He also was glad that he has a 1 ton truck to haul all of the books, magazines and videos to/from the meetings.



Tom reported that there are some books and DVDs that are overdue & should be returned to the library. Thanks Tom for the great job in maintaining the library! DD

SEE YOU AT THE OCTOBER 1st 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 sharp**.

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**. Just send an e-mail to SVDB with your ad – one picture is allowed. Not much on the web site **this month**. Only Lee's Vibra-Tector 720 pinpointer is currently up for sale.
- You can also **bring items to our meetings** & sell them on the "For Sale" table up front on the left. There were a few md items (and Gene's cowboy boots) at bargain prices for sale at the September meeting including a Garrett Propointer. Come on, get that rarely used detecting stuff out of moth balls, clean it up and put it on the table to sell to the many newbie's and others. We also have a freebees table. Check them out.

- **SVDB Club Patch** ----->  Lee had our SVDB club logo put on a patch and Al is selling these patches at the meetings for \$5. **Patches are still available—profits support SVDB.**

SVDB September, 2009 Raffle Results:

- We received **\$834 (wow)** from the September raffle! Thanks again to Mary Ann Meji, Don Ivers & James Neeley for selling tonight's raffle tickets! John added a few more silver dollars because of the large \$ amount we received. We also gave away a US 1/10 oz. gold coin raffle prize to **Paul Giese**.



Paul Giese & Gold Coin - With a little "help" from his friends

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Day-In-The-Park Hunts:

- There are 2 or more two day-in-the park hunts per month. The hunts are on the first Sunday and the third Sunday of each month. More hunts may be organized. Breakfast is at 8:00 am with the hunt starting at 9:00 am. The following locations are the meeting places:

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

SVDB Day-In-The-Park Hunt Results and Winners:

August 16th at Olde Florin Towne Park, 10 members found 215 coins. Oldest coin found by **Don Compton**. The August 2nd hunt was in the September newsletter.

Election Time 2010 - Already?

John Duffy asked for volunteers to find out who is interested in running for SVDB elected officer positions for 2010. **Don Dunn** and **Paul Giese** volunteered to beat the bushes and get SVDB members interested in running for the following positions:

1. **President**
2. **Vice President**
3. **Secretary**
4. **Treasurer**

If running

for a 2010 SVDB elected officer position interests you please send an email to Don at dadunn02@yahoo.com or Paul at ppgiese4au@comcast.net - or tell them at the next meeting. We need people who can make a difference! There is currently a Secretary vacancy and Cyndy Johnston volunteered to fill this position for the rest of 2009. If **you** are interested in this 2009 Sec'y position let Don or Paul know. Members will vote for Cyndy or YOU to fill this vacancy at the October meeting.

President John's Pulses...

Now days my *pulses* are mostly VLF (Very Low Frequency) and once in a while they are PI (Pulse Induction), especially when I am around water. No matter what kind of detector you use, it's important to **"trust your signal"** and pay attention to what your detector is telling you.



I recently had yet another reminder of how my mind can be the biggest "hurdle" in successful detecting. During January, February and March I found 17 silver coins, mostly dimes. Then the **well ran dry**. April, May and June came and went with hardly a bit a silver. I began to question whether my coil was working properly, or if had I changed my settings in some subtle way, or had I just plain "hunted out" some spots, but something was just not working. I realize now that I began to hunt a little bit less – well, that's normal during summer – after all the ground dries out and digging becomes more difficult, there are more people in the parks during summer and it gets way too hot. I also prefer not to hunt when there are lots of people nearby.

Then our VP, Peter Johnson gave me a call and said **"Let's go hunt!"** and so off we went. We returned to one of our favorite spots – where we have spent a lot of time and I found some of that silver.

We spent an hour in one area finding a few coins. Then we moved to another spot not too far away, and lo and behold – after about 10 minutes I got one of those faint high pitched sounds that I love to hear – indicating possible deep silver. I cut my opening hole to about six inches and with the in-line pinpointer I got a very nice signal. I carefully worked down another 2 ½ inches and got the first glimpse of shining silver, and a few moments later I had my first ever Barber quarter in my hand – a 100 year old 25c piece minted in San Francisco.



It was quite a thrill for me and perhaps a bit of envy for Peter as he shared in examining the coin. Of course at that point all my mind games vanished as I realized that all it takes to be successful is: Persistence! Keep on looking – if you doubt your equipment is working properly, have it checked out, but don't just leave it sitting in the corner of the room because you haven't found anything "exciting" for a while. Instead, get out and detect, for sooner or later you're bound to find "IT".

Keep hunting, dig and dispose of trash and fill those holes back carefully.....**John**

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SVDB Finds of the Month (FOM):

- Photos of these finds are on our website under FOM. The photos are of the previous month's finds. There were several rings and other valuable/interesting items on display including items found at the Santa Cruz Beach hunt. This month's pre-chosen show and tell FOM winner was **Sharon Anderson** - she also found a nice nugget ear ring at Santa Cruz.

Lee's World

- **Lee Wiese** spoke briefly at the last meeting about the August Santa Cruz beach hunt. See the September newsletter for a full report on the Santa Cruz hunt.
- Lee then mentioned that he would conduct a Lake Tahoe hunt on 9/16 for **PI** metal detectors. Additional news from Lee and the Tahoe hunt results follow:

NEWS FLASH

- *** Lee will do a presentation on, "**Tips on Metal Detecting Salt Water Beaches**" after the October 1st meeting starting at about 8:30 pm. Don't miss it! ***

Other Club's News

Lois and Lee Wiese attended The Treasure Hunters Society of Santa Clara Valley (THSSCV) Hunt & Pot Luck on Sunday, Sep 13th in San Jose. Lois found a token for a VF - Morgan Dollar. She also found tokens for Mercury Dimes, grab bag prizes and detected some Wheat Pennies. Lee also got some Mercury Dimes, tokens and some Wheat Pennies. SVDB members Mary Soultanian and Carla Herbert were also there.

Lee's One Day Tahoe PI Detector Outing on 9/16

There were five SVDB Members that took part in the one day **PI** outing. They were Bob Meneely, Jim Hallett, George Magann, Ted Spelis and Lee Wiese.



L-R: Lee, Bob, Jim, George and Ted

Jim and Bob went up the day before and hunted 2 other beaches. Jim found a junk Gold Plated Kids Ring and also a very nice 14K White Gold Band. The band had been wrapped in string of some type to make it fit better on the ring finger. Unfortunately it did not work and the person still lost his new wedding band.

We started off early and were on the beach by 8:00 am. Two different beaches were hunted during the day. The weather was a bit cool early on but in a short time the jackets and sweaters were off and back in the car. We wrapped it up around 2:00 pm and went our own ways. Some went home while George and I hit the beach.

There were a fair number of coins found during the day which included five Wheat Pennies, the oldest in the early forties. Jim found a plated necklace; George found an old money clip (no cash in the clip) and a silver or plated earring; Lee found a small silver ring and on the last beach of the day two brass rings. *There was no GOLD found on the Day of the Outing.*

The group had a good time and discussed doing an outing of some type in the near future - maybe in late October - come join us with your PI detector...**Lee**



Jim with his 14K White Gold Band and Plated Ring



Lee's Silver Ring and Two Brass Hippie Style Rings

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Cleaned-out Spots

If you know of someplace that has been well hunted or overhunted, try detecting there after a **big rain** when the ground is soaked. The rainy season is approaching in Nor Cal - (we hope). The wet ground has more conductivity and you may find the deeper stuff. After a real wet winter the ground may shift. So there may be targets where there weren't any last year. Go back and check your old turf again.



Tips on Cleaning Your Finds

When you start finding those old silver coins and gold/silver jewelry you probably wonder how to clean them. Here are several methods.

NOTE: DO NOT CLEAN OLD COINS THAT YOU SUSPECT ARE VALUABLE!

**It could cut their value in half!
Ask a local coin dealer first before you start cleaning and scrubbing.**



Baking soda method

This is a very easy to do cleaning method. However, it doesn't work on everything and it is mostly used to clean old silver coins that you find in the ground. Just wet the coin and dip it in some baking soda and clean it with an old toothbrush. This will take the tarnish off and shine the coin without scratching it.

Tumbling method

Use a rock tumbler if you want to clean lots of clad coins at once! It will cost you around \$60.00 for a good rock tumbler, or you might be able to find a better price on eBay. Don't get a cheap plastic one - they are noisy & break down. Talk to SVDB club members about what materials to use in a tumbler. Remember - Just do pennies by themselves!



Cleaning copper pennies/copper

White vinegar makes an awesome penny cleaner. Put the pennies in a plastic drink container (a half gallon apple juice container works great) with a screw-on top and fill past the pennies with straight white vinegar. Screw the cap on and **shake, shake & shake**. Leave it sit overnight. Rinse with clean water until the water doesn't come out murky. This is about the best penny cleaner I've ever used!

Ammonia method

Fill a small jar with ammonia, add your gold or silver items, put on the lid and let sit for awhile. Open it up later and polish each piece with a soft cloth. This works best for gold. We have tried old silver coins that we found in the salt water, but afterwards you need to use the baking soda and a toothbrush also to get all the black off.

Jewelry Cleaners

There are plenty of cleaning methods and products out there for cleaning your silver and gold rings, some of them can cost you a pretty buck, and others are no more than a few dollars. Here are a few products that we use all the time that you may want to try for yourself.

○ *NEVR-DULL* is a cotton wadding polish that cleans and polishes all metals including: silver, gold, brass, copper, pewter, glass, steel, aluminum and chromium. It removes rust and tar, leaves no deposits in the crevices of metal work and cost about \$5.99.



○ *BLITZ Jewelry Care Cloths*

This polishing cloth is the best way to brighten your silver or gold rings and chains. They already have the polish in the cloth! It is two pieces of soft cloth sewn together in the middle. One cloth has the cleaning agent and the other cloth is for buffing. We were recently introduced to these fantastic little cloths at our club meeting. The best news is that they are affordable, costing only about \$2.99 at Wal-Mart.

○ *Blue Magic Metal Polish*

This is a product we use all the time to clean our gold rings and other jewelry. Safe and nonabrasive, removes oxidation and tarnish. This works on gold, silver, chrome, aluminum, copper, brass and stainless steel. It kind of reminds me of toothpaste. Blue magic liquid metal polish works like magic. Costs about \$3.99



Buffing Wheels

If your rings or jewelry items are dull or have light scratches, you may want to invest in a buffing wheel to polish and clean them up.



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There are many different wheels and polishing compounds to choose from. Medium soft wheels work best for me. I have a soft wheel as well but find it too flimsy and it takes forever to get a nice luster. I got a buffing machine at Home Depot for about \$50.00. I have a grinding wheel on one side and a buffing wheel on the other side. This has proven to be a handy tool.

Rick's SVDB T- Shirts

Rick Costello had 10 gray colored T-Shirts imprinted with the **SVDB logo** (looks good) on the front. This 1st batch also has "*Your Lunch Money = My Beer Money*" in large letters on the back (no comment). Rick already sold 3 and will bring the remaining 7 with him to the 10/1 meeting; (1) XL & (6) L. Rick will also take orders at the meeting for the 2nd batch of T-Shirts that won't have ... "*Beer Money*" logo on the back. The \$18 price tag includes a portion of the money going to SVDB.



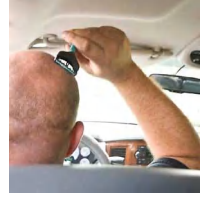
While Driving to my Favorite Detecting Site...

This morning while driving south on I-5 I looked over to my right and there was a Woman driving 65 mph in a brand new Mercedes. She had her face up next to the rear view mirror putting on her eyeliner.

I only looked away for a couple seconds. When I looked back she was drifting into my lane, still working on that makeup.



As a Man, I don't scare easily. But she scared me so much that I dropped my head shaving razor, which knocked the donut out of my other hand. In all the confusion of trying to straighten out the car using my knees against the steering wheel, I knocked my cell phone away from my ear, which fell into the coffee cup in my lap, splashed and burned me, ruined the phone, soaked my pants, and disconnected an important call from my metal detecting buddy.



Can you believe these woman drivers?

SMF Airport Security



"Yes, I'm sure my pockets are empty."

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