



# 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 September 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:** Vacant

**Treasurer:** Allan Woltman

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

### 2009 Volunteer Positions

**Hospitality:** Anita Massey

[amassy12346@yahoo.com](mailto:amassy12346@yahoo.com)

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

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

**Librarian:** Tom Schweppe

[coottom@aol.com](mailto:coottom@aol.com)

**Membership:** George Magann

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

**Newsletter Editor:** Don Dunn

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**Newsletter Mailings:** Rick & Sue Morris

[suezeeeq@gmail.com](mailto:suezeeeq@gmail.com)

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**Raffle Table:** Mary Ann Meji, Don Ivers &

James Neeley

[nighdustr@aol.com](mailto:nighdustr@aol.com)

**Web-Page Editor:** Gary Zang

[gzang@att.net](mailto:gzang@att.net)

**Web-Site Editor:** Lee Wiese

[leewiese@excite.com](mailto:leewiese@excite.com)

## August 6, 2009 SVDB Meeting Minutes

**President:** John Duffy

- John introduced and welcomed new visitor Barry Masterson to our membership.
- John also later discussed changing the by-laws to reflect new wording on purchasing coins for hunts and raffles. The change was voted on and passed by the membership to raise the minimum single purchase of coins from \$1,000 to \$1,500. This allows SVDB to have an exemption on paying state sales tax on coins.

**Membership Report:** George Magann

- George reported that we now have 150 members. Marvin Weiss won tonight's membership drawing.
- We had a great attendance of 84 tonight.

**Treasurer's Report:** Allan Woltman

- Al was on vacation, but he gave this month's treasurer's report to John Duffy:

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance     | \$3,823.00        |
| Expenses              | 292.78            |
| Income                | 760.06            |
| <b>Ending Balance</b> | <b>\$4,291.04</b> |

**Hospitality:** Anita Massey

- Anita brought the munchies and drinks tonight for the first time. It was a nice assortment that was really appreciated. Thanks Anita!

**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:

1. October 10th Johnston Park 1st Prize: Ace 250
2. November 14th TBD
3. December 12th TBD

- Paul and Bob put on a very successful hunt at Tahoe Park on August 6th. A fun time was had by all.

## Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs



*Tahoe Park Hunt on August 6th with 40 SVDBers*



*Candy Workman Won a Gold Nugget at Tahoe Park*

• Paul in an email to me said, "The next hunt is scheduled for **October 10th, 10:00am** 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. We will have a sign-up sheet and maps at the September 3rd 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**. We are also holding another **Ladies Raffle** and **Bob Morris** generously is donating some very nice **Sterling Silver rings**."

- Here are the rules for all planted hunts:
  - **Electronic Pinpointers are OK**
  - **No digging tools or sand scoops allowed**
  - **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 the grass**
  - **No PI metal detectors allowed - they cause interference to VLF detectors**

### *Librarian Report: Tom Schweppe*

- Tom was back from his Alaska cruise and told

us the library was in excellent shape. Tom reported that several National Geographic magazines dealing with detecting will be available at the Sept. meeting.

### ***SEE YOU AT THE SEPTEMBER 3RD 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. An MXT and an Explorer 2 were for sale on the web-site and the **2 members decided to trade these 2 detectors with each other**. Only Lee's Vibra-Tector 720 pinpointer is currently for sale.
- You can also **bring items to our meetings & sell** them on the "**For Sale**" table up front on the left. There were **several detectors** and other finding items at **bargain prices** for sale at the **August meeting**. We also have a freebees table. Check them 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 August, 2009 Raffle:***

- We received a whopping **\$778** from the August 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 Chet Burress.



***Chet Burress & Gold Coin - Also with a nice ring set he found***

# Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

## 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:

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

**July 5th** at Hamilton Street Park, 7 members found 92 coins. Oldest coins found by (tie - both found 1969 pennies) **Dan Thurber & Chet Burress.**

**July 12th** at Gold Station Park, 6 members found 175 coins. Oldest coin found by **Don Jong.**

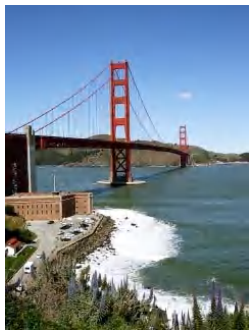
**July 18th** at McClatchy Park, 6 members found 215 coins. Oldest coin found by **John Felt.**

**August 2nd** at Oak Ave. Park 10 members found 283 coins. Oldest coin found by **David Sturdivant.**

## 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. We had several rings and other valuable/interesting items on display in August. This month's pre-chosen show and tell finds winner was **Makayla Gay.**

## Finding Coins, Jewelry & Relics in CA



**California** offers many incredible opportunities. If **metal detecting** is your interest, here's a few ideas where to get you started:

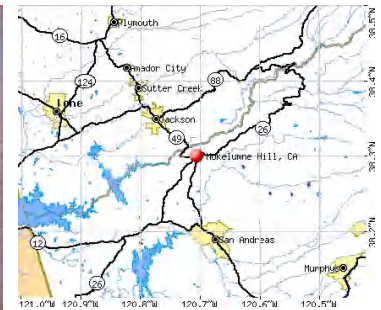
Schools and College Campuses  
Parks / Playgrounds / Picnic Areas  
Foundations, Wells, and Cellar Holes of Old Churches or Houses  
Downtown Construction Sites  
Swimming Holes and Ocean Beaches (especially following a storm)  
Camp Grounds, Boy Scout Camps, WPA Camps, and Mining Camps  
Sports Facilities  
Ghost Towns  
Rodeo Arenas, Riding Stables, and Race Tracks  
Old Fair and Carnival Locations or even Old Town Dumpsites.

## LOST TREASURE

As in other areas of the US, there are several tales of lost California treasure concerning caches buried for safety. In many of these stories, people either died or forgot where they buried the stash. Contributing factors include:

1. Federal laws making possession of gold illegal in the early 1900s
2. Distrust of banks during the Great Depression. Hmm, does this sound familiar in 2009?.....DD

## Mokelumne Hill CA - County Seat from 1852 to 1866



In Mokelumne Hill along Route 49 in the Mother Lode country, a cache of \$50 gold coins is said to be in an old foundation wall. A bandits' underground hiding place near Avila, San Luis Obispo County, is said to have been the depository for much loot. Can you find the cave? Dr. John Marsh's cache of \$40,000 in gold coins, (Marsh Creek, east side of Mount Diablo, near Brentwood, Contra Costa County), would be worth many times that if it were found today.

*These above excerpts are a sampling from, "American Coin Treasures and Hoards" book.*

## Metal Detecting in 1850

Vince Migliore produced a video with background music on metal detecting in 1850. It is an interesting view of our original gold prospectors and the tools of their trade associated with today's lingo.

[Link to You Tube Video by Vince Migliore](#)

## Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

### The August 23rd & 24th, 2009 SVDB Santa Cruz Beach Outing - by Lee Wiese

The Santa Cruz Beach Outing had a good turn out with 29 club members signed up and 27 actually participated in the two day event. The weather was great - no rain and the day time temperatures were very mild. The results of this years hunt was much lower than previous years in coin count, no gold rings were found, however Sharon found two Gold earrings and Lois found a nice heavy Silver three inch Bangle bracelet. Some unusual finds were: 1943 Silver Mercury Dime, and a "SF" Railway Token from the 30's, Set of 3" Plated Earrings. There were 10 or 11 rings found about half silver and the rest plated or brass. There were many pieces of plated jewelry found (Earrings, Bracelets, Chains, Etc.) and much more. There were 800 plus coin target found which translated \$65. Not all the hunters reported their results so the numbers are low for coin and dollar amount summaries.



#### Nice Find

Early the 2nd day Don D was approached and asked if he would please search for a set of car keys that were lost two days prior. This young man had been looking for his keys in the sand the last day and 1/2 and had no luck. Don the gentlemen he is, said sure lets go. Ten minutes later at the volley ball court the young man had his keys returned. Don's reward was the big smile on the young man's face and a fresh cup of coffee the man gave to Don at 6:45 in the morning.

### Beach Hunts Results

|  | Warm | Dollar | Coin    |       |
|--|------|--------|---------|-------|
|  | Up   | Amount | Targets | Rings |

|                |                 |                |            |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|-----------------|
| <b>Sharon</b>  | \$2.66          | \$4.57         | 41         | 2-Gold Earrings |
| <b>Jack</b>    | \$8.63          | \$3.85         | 32         |                 |
| <b>Tom</b>     |                 | \$0.00         | 0          |                 |
| <b>Charles</b> | \$3.48          | \$1.46         | 10         |                 |
| <b>Rick</b>    | \$4.77          | \$1.33         | 29         |                 |
| <b>Ann</b>     |                 | \$0.00         | 0          |                 |
| <b>Don</b>     | \$7.47          | \$2.62         | 37         | 1-Avon Ring     |
| <b>Jim</b>     | \$8.39          | \$4.85         | 57         | 2-Silver Rings  |
| <b>Steve</b>   | \$9.03          | \$1.09         | 17         |                 |
| <b>Carla</b>   | \$2.70          | \$4.82         | 58         |                 |
| <b>Cindy</b>   |                 | \$0.00         | 0          | 1 Plated Ring   |
| <b>Charles</b> |                 | \$0.00         | 0          |                 |
| <b>George</b>  | \$2.58          | \$3.78         | 59         |                 |
| <b>Dale</b>    | \$8.15          | \$6.67         | 72         |                 |
| <b>Bob</b>     | \$9.77          | \$3.34         | 73         | 2-Silver Rings  |
| <b>Kyle</b>    | \$6.72          | \$2.47         | 31         |                 |
| <b>George</b>  |                 | \$0.00         | 0          |                 |
| <b>Ken</b>     |                 | \$0.00         | 0          |                 |
| <b>Carol</b>   |                 | \$0.00         | 0          |                 |
| <b>Al</b>      | \$3.42          | \$2.53         | 34         | 2-Brass Rings   |
| <b>John</b>    | \$5.26          | \$1.03         | 17         |                 |
| <b>Mary</b>    | \$8.14          | \$1.06         | 15         |                 |
| <b>David</b>   | \$6.13          | \$1.94         | 15         |                 |
| <b>Fred</b>    | \$3.85          | \$3.69         | 48         |                 |
| <b>David</b>   | \$7.35          | \$6.22         | 67         |                 |
| <b>Lee</b>     |                 | \$4.45         | 59         | 1-Plated Ring   |
| <b>Lois</b>    | \$5.80          | \$2.30         | 36         | 1-Plated Ring   |
| <b>Candy</b>   | \$1.50          | \$0.63         | 8          |                 |
| <b>Jake</b>    | \$2.81          | \$1.06         | 16         |                 |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>\$118.61</b> | <b>\$65.76</b> | <b>831</b> |                 |

#### Other Finds:

|                           |                     |                      |
|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Allen Wrench              | Earring             | Old "SF" Token       |
| Superman Toy              | Disney Charm        | Honk Kong \$5 Coin   |
| Toy Soldier               | Wheat Penny         | 1943 Mercury Dine    |
| Luggage Tag               | Onyx Pendant        | 2- Gold Earring      |
| Hooks & Sinkers           | Spoon               | Many Silver Earrings |
| Shovel                    | 7-Tent Stake Bundle | Fishing Lures        |
| Bottle Opener             | Toy Car             | Tie Clip             |
| Key                       | Raiders Lighter     | Necklace             |
| Hair Clips                | Plated Bracelet     | Flattened Penny      |
| Toy Frog                  | Engaged Pin         | Goggles              |
| 3- Gold Looking Bracelets |                     | Santa Cruz Token     |

## Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

The prizes available for this outing either as token prizes or daily hunt prizes were: 14-Morgan Dollars, 9-Walking Liberty Halves, 20 Standing Liberty & Barber Quarters, and 80 Mercury Dimes. There were also another \$135 dollars of clad coins for the warm up hunt this translated to ~ 900 targets plus 105 tokens.

### *Eureka - Rush to the Rockies 2009*

There were five SVDB Members that went to the Rush to the Rockies Event in July. The members were: Bob Meneely, Rick & Ann Costello, and Lee & Lois Wiese. There were 25,000 coins, tokens and gold nuggets though the course of the weekend. With the famous "Ten Thousand (10,000) silver coins in one hunt" - Plus four other spectacular hunts and a free kids hunt. This year the Rush to the Rockies Treasure Hunt was held near historic Limon, Colorado and took place from July 17th – 19th, 2009. This event is sponsored by Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club from Denver, Colorado.



This year the SVDB group did not get any outstanding prizes however, between us there were ~600 silver coins recovered and 17 small Gold nuggets plus clad coins and other targets. Ann won a raffle for a 1.4 gram gold nugget. We all had a good time at the hunts there were ~ 87 hunters and a couple of good guest speakers.

### *Metal Detecting Tips*

1. **If you know someone interested in detecting** or if you are trying to teach someone how a particular detector works, here is a very inexpensive way to do

so. While trying to teach my wife about my XLT I purchased a Y-adaptor plug at the local Radio Shack that would plug into the audio jack on my XLT and allow me to plug to sets of headphones in. This way I could show her just exactly what kind of responses different targets produced as I was detecting and still use headphones. One note- the battery life didn't seem to be affected at all. Good Luck--**Rick Getting**

2. **Permission:** Sometimes gaining permission to hunt someone's property may be negative, but don't give up hope. Sometime ago I asked the police chief of my town to hunt a piece of property he owned. The old place was empty and had been partially burned and through speaking to him, it was under investigation for arson. He turned me down due to these circumstances. I waited for a year or so and asked again and was granted permission. I'm glad I persisted, because after clearing the area of newer date coins I began to find silver. Silver Mercury's, Roosevelt dimes, a soldier's dog tag issued prior to W.W.II. Then as the finds became more scarce, I had a good signal that kept registering in the nickel/foil range and since I've found many gold rings in this range, I decided to dig this one also. Yes you've guessed it, a very nice 14kt. gold wedding band that was produced in the thirties. So do not, and I re-iterate do not give up after being turned down. Persistence can be a nice reward. **Charles Vance**

3. **I often find rings** as I suppose many other hunters do, but here is a mistake I made: I found a nice



ring, but no stone on a top flat surface, I failed to put the two together at the time and could not find the exact spot where I found this ring, I may have missed out on a decent stone, so,

after discovering a ring, look it over, if it appears that it may have held a stone, very carefully sift through the soil, I carry a small sieve or a 12" by 12" piece of screening and continue to search this area, who knows you could find something interesting. **T. Money.**

## *Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs*

4. I've discovered that **carrying a hand-held scoop** is fine for the beaches but I often go into the water because I use the Fisher 1280 waterproof detector. This requires the long handled scoop for reaching down in deeper water. My point is to use the long handled scoop even on the beach. The idea is to drag the scoop behind you in one hand as you cover the beach. Presto! you have marked exactly where you have gone and can go back and forth on the beach and actually overlap your coverage without missing any areas.



*Whites New Gold Detector - the GMZ*

Larry from Big Valley Detectors demonstrated White's newest gold detector, the GMZ at the August meeting. According to Larry the GMZ is light weight, easy to adjust and operates at 50khz. It has a salt and normal operating mode and uses the same coils and battery packs as the GMT. It does not have an LCD screen and is aimed at the Lobo Super Trac/Gold Bug 2 user along with the beginning to intermediate gold detector enthusiast.

*Voted on by SVDB Membership August 9, 2009*

*Click on this text for a link to show the Hunt Rules & Hunt Prizes that were approved by SVDB membership*

**LOST AND FOUND**

**We're in a hobby that is supported by a bunch of LOSERS!!**

### *Please Go Home*

While detecting with a friend at a local park, several small boys came over and asked us what we were looking for. I said old coins. He said like these? He reached into his pocket and pulled out about a dozen Indian Head pennies, V nickels, and Mercury dimes. I asked where he got them, and he said they found them under their tree house, but they wouldn't tell us where it was. We figured that we would wait until they went home and follow them. **I guess some kids never have to go home like we did.**

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)