

**A Nonprofit Organization****The Public is Invited to Attend our Meetings****SVDB Web Site <http://www.sacramentovalleydetectingbuffs.com/>****Issue Date March 2010****Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs****2010 Elected Officers**

- President:** *John Duffy*
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- Vice President:** *Paul Giese*
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- Secretary:** *Don Dunn*
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- Treasurer:** *Linda Woltman*
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- 2010 Volunteer Positions**
- Hospitality:** *Anita Massey*
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- Hunt Master:** *Paul Giese*
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- Raffle Table:** *Mary Ann Meji, Don Ivers & James Neeley*
[nighthustr \(at\) aol.com](mailto:nighthustr(at)aol.com)
- Web-Site Editor:** *Vince Migliore*
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2010 SVDB Volunteers***A BIG thanks goes to these volunteers for helping out!****(There are still more volunteers - their photos will be posted later)*

Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs

February 4, 2010 SVDB Meeting Minutes***President: John Duffy***

- John was still at home recovering from his knee surgery so VP Paul Giese sat in for John tonight. Paul welcomed 1st time visitors Robert Marshall, Chuck Blaisdell and Ross Hoffeditz.
- Paul then told us in addition to John recovering, two other SVDBers are also recovering from surgery; Bob Maytum and Ceil Wiegand. Paul encouraged us to email or call them during their *take it easy* time.
- John D wanted everyone to know that he will soon be detecting for the 1st time since his knee operation. He's going with Peter Johnson and Peter doesn't know it yet, but he will have to do John's digging.

Vice President: Paul Giese

- Paul conducted a gold nugget cleaning session prior to tonight's meeting. Thanks Paul.
- He also had a sign up resource list for people to add their names along with their skills. People would share their skills - either with other trades or with money to help the less skillful members (like me - dd).

Secretary: Don Dunn

- Don introduced James McClendon of Baysavers. James will be awarding the White's prizes tonight.
- He then thanked Vince Migliore for taking over the SVDB web site on short notice. Vince made a few changes to the web site and asked for comments.
- Don announced that Jimmy Sierra would again have a Whites raffle starting next week with prizes to be awarded at the March meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Woltman

• Linda gave this month's treasurer's report:
Beginning Balance \$4,596.85
Expenses 2,112.53
Income 1,829.00
Ending Balance \$4,313.33

Membership Report: George Magann

- George announced we now have 174 members. **Jim Clark** won tonight's membership drawing.
- George said 65 members still need to renew their 2010 SVDB membership.
- We had 68 people here tonight.

**Hunt Masters Report: Paul Giese**

• **Paul Giese** announced the next planted hunt will be on **March 13, 2010**. It will be at **Lone Oak Park**, 3425 Elverta Road. It is about 7/10 mile east of Watt Ave. on the north side of Elverta Road. Starting time is **10:00 am** and the entry fee is \$10.00. The alternate rain delay date is March 20 at the same time & place.

Librarian Report: Tom Schweppe

• Tom was back from his latest cruise and reported that we have over 25 overdue library items. Please return these items so others can enjoy them.

February 2010 Raffle Results:

- We received \$741 from the February raffle. Thanks again to *Mary Ann Meji, Don Ivers & James Neeley* for selling tonight's raffle tickets!

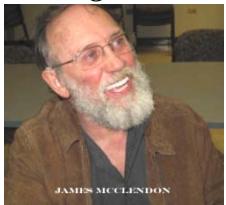
Jerry Thompson won tonight's 1/10 ounce gold coin.

• **Rick Costello** won 3 small gold pickers that were donated by *Paul Giese*. Several T-Shirts were raffled off that were donated by the company who made them for SVDB through Rick Costello. We also raffled off the DVD that David Warner won on the Whites raffle, but was unable to attend the meeting. We had over 60 raffle prizes including close to \$500 in coins that several different people won tonight. Paul did a great job calling the winning numbers and he was ably assisted by his nimble runner, the *entertaining Pete Pobor*.

**White's Raffle at February & March Meetings**

Smiling James McClendon of Baysavers gave away several raffle prizes from Jimmy Sierra/Whites at the February meeting. Jimmy Sierra again wants to thank those SVDB members who have supported Whites by giving more raffle prizes to Whites

detector owners at the **March** meeting. **Thanks Jim!** Visit the SVDB web site to enter the March raffle which closes on **Feb 28th**. You have to be a SVDB member in good standing and be in attendance at the March meeting. Any item not claimed at the meeting will become part of the regular coin raffle. The prizes will again be presented by James McClendon from Baysavers (SVDB sponsor) at the March 4th Meeting.



James gives SVDbers a **10% discount** on Whites metal detectors & other discounts on md related equipment.

SEE YOU AT THE MARCH 4th 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.

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

Jan 3rd at Foothill HS, 7 members found 213 coins. Oldest coin was a 1964 penny found by **James Neeley**.

Jan 10th at Hagan Park, 8 members found 235 coins. Oldest coin was a 1960 penny found by **Bob Woods**.

Old Business:

• You can **bring items to our meetings** & sell them on the "For Sale" table up front on the left. So bring your for sale "stuff" to the next meeting and find willing buyers. We also have a freebees table. Another alternative is to put your classified ads on our web site thanks to **Vince Migliore**. Check them all out.

Day-In-The-Park Hunts:

• There are now 3 day-in-the park hunts per month. The hunts are on the first, second and third Sundays of each month. Sun breakfast is at 8:00 am with the hunt starting at 9:00 am. More hunts are organized using "[Meetup](#)". The meeting places for the Sunday hunts are:

- 1st Sunday Hunt: Meet at Denny's at Watt and Auburn
- 2nd Sunday Hunt: Meet at Denny's at Sunrise and Zinfandel Drive (2474 Sunrise Blvd)
- 3rd Sunday Hunt: Meet at Pancake House at 21st and Broadway

SVDB Finds of the Month (FOM):

- There were 10 people that displayed some impressive finds at the Feb meeting.
- First time visitor *Ross Hoffeditz* (partner in a mine with Paul) brought this potential *meteorite* to tonight's meeting for identification.



- *Ron Swenson*, a member of the



National Minelab Team displayed this significant collection of civil war items that he detected at the Jan 2010 GNRS (Grand National Relic Shootout). It was held at the *Castle Hall Plantation in South Carolina*. Close to 200 detectorists participated in this event.



- This month's *Show & Tell FOM* winner was the *always lucky Jake Workman*.

New Business:

- Earl Frey** talked about the new Wed night Science Channel show titled, "**Meteorite Men**". This new interesting TV show is about 2 meteorite hunters armed with magnets & Fisher F75 detectors looking for **iron/nickel or stony meteorites** throughout the US and Canada. Some of the iron/nickel meteorites are more valuable than gold.



"**Meteorite Men**"

Geoff Notkin & Steve Arnold with one of their larger meteorite finds



Meteor Quiz

- I am the scientific term for a shooting star.
 - Asteroid
 - Meteor
 - Comet
- I am partially made out of dirty snow.
 - Asteroid
 - Meteor
 - Comet
- I'm a small rocky bit that floats around the solar system.
 - Asteroid
 - Meteor
 - Comet
- I have a tail.
 - Asteroid
 - Meteor
 - Comet
- Most of us live in a belt between Mars and Jupiter.
 - Asteroid
 - Meteor
 - Comet
- I burn up in the Earth's atmosphere.
 - Asteroid
 - Meteor
 - Comet
- My orbit is so reliable, you can watch for me to come back.
 - Asteroid
 - Meteor
 - Comet
- In ancient times, this was believed to be a bad omen.
 - Asteroid
 - Meteor
 - Comet
- Sometimes I fall in a predictable annual "shower" on Earth.
 - Asteroid
 - Meteor
 - Comet

Answers

1 - B, 2 - C, 3 - A, 4 - C, 5 - A, 6 - B, 7 - C, 8 - C, 9 - B

New Business Continued:



rgswenson@comcast.net

for more information.

- Paul Giese then discussed the **annual hunt**. He said he was looking at having it the 1st part of May. A location has not been determined yet, but Paul was looking into 3 possible places. He wanted a guarantee that we could hunt until at least 3 pm and have some sort of arrangement for eating accommodations for about 70 people. The entry fee will be \$30 apiece and we will give away some **\$4,000 in prizes!** *Al Woltman, Paul Giese, George Magann and Don Dunn* are tasked to come up with the prizes for the annual hunt. If there is something you want as a prize contact one of these guys. This will be discussed at the March 4th meeting.

Finding Old Coins

Sometimes you need to think a bit differently, especially when hunting areas that others have gone over repeatedly. One way to do that is to **search the spots others have not**. Sounds simplistic but often you need to run your coil over places you wouldn't normally think to look. This isn't a trick for finding old coins but it can increase your finds and the odds of picking up some older coins. Here are a few suggestions:



Hillsides...few if anybody will hunt off balance yet I've found plenty of keepers in areas you couldn't believe. Generally they are shallow too. In my part of the planet there are plenty of steep hillsides. How things got lost there I'll never know. I can tell you that it's worth the effort.

Edges of parks and playgrounds. Everyone heads for the swings, the old oak, the pavilion. I head for the overgrown borders, the places where people might duck out of sight to relieve themselves. I found a nice man's ring not 4 feet from the asphalt parking area that most people would walk right past while their turning on or off their machines to and from their car. I found a gold coin and a number of gold rings just inside the wooded and overgrown areas along the edges of grassy urban parks.



Along the base of stone walls. You might need a small coil to work these tight areas. Often coins get lodged between rocks and you need to work your loop into small cracks and crevices.

Under sidewalks that are being torn up or city streets that are being widened. People of yesteryear that populated the area walked on dirt before everything was paved. Find the spots where the concrete is being removed to repair water, gas, sewer lines or where a new bridge is being built. A quick scan of the dirt piles can reveal some amazing finds.

In short, try to train yourself to see beyond the obvious. Avoid the most likely places because everyone hunts there. Check out a few spots where you wouldn't think to detect. Become a contrarian and you'll find things in the most remarkable places. Good luck. **Posted By Carl on the F/BBS Forum**

2010 FMDAC SW Chapter Hunts

by Lee Wiese

On February 6th four SVDB Members traveled to Goldfield, AZ for the Annual Southwestern FMDAC Chapter Hunts.

There were three metal detecting competition hunts on Saturday the 6th. The first was the Gold Nugget Hunt with 73 gold nuggets planted. The second was the Silver Dime Hunt with 850 dimes planted, and the third was the Silver Coin and Token Hunt with about 1,000 silver coins and 59 tokens for various prizes. Lawry found tokens for a 15 grain nugget and some Garrett accessories. Betty found a token for some Garrett accessories. Lois won the 50/50 Raffle for \$42, **Lost Treasure** subscription and some Garrett accessories. Lee found tokens for a Garret ACE 250 Detector and a nice set of headphones. Everyone came away with their fair share of Silver Coins and I believe a total of nine gold nuggets for the 4 of us. The nuggets

were in the range of 6 to 15 grains for the Nugget Hunt. It was a great day, great hunt, the weather was good and the hunt fields were in the barren desert of Goldfield.

Betty & Lawry Yerby, Lee & Lois Wiese



Lost Chinese Cache in Volcanoville, CA

By Anthony Belli

Forgotten now are the thousand or more places where much of El Dorado County's history was written. In mining camps and towns such as... Hell Roaring Diggings, Loafer's Hollow, Whiskey Flat, George's Town, and Poverty Flat. The names of other camps frequently told you much about who was mining there... Chile Bar (Chileans), Kanakatown (Hawaiians), Frenchtown, Alabama Flat, Texas Bar, Cooley Mine (Chinese), Indian Diggings, Mormon Gulch, even Puritan Camp. Forever consigned to the records of time each of these camps had its own unique and often colorful history. One such place is the ghost town of Volcanoville where tales of it's past includes mining, and buried treasures.



One of a few remaining abandoned buildings left standing in the ghost town of Volcanoville, CA

It was here during the days of the California Gold Rush when the Volcanoville boasted a lively population of thousands, including a large Chinatown. In the cemetery, two headstones remain which speak of the town's past. The tombstones tell of two 49ers interred here -- both youths had been murdered for their miner's poke by Gold Rush highwaymen.

Located in northwest El Dorado County, Volcanoville sits just south of the Middle Fork of the American River. Today telephone poles along Volcanoville Road mark the edge of progress - stopping just short of the old town site where few old buildings stand in defiance of encroaching development.

It was during the mid-1870s when Volcanoville saw a serious decline in mining as many quartz mines played out.





With gold more difficult to find, anger and hate for all non-Anglos in the diggings became a hot subject. Most Chinese were now working in the larger cities in Northern California, for those who remained in the Mother Lode they suffered the most since they represented competition to White miners. Such was the case in 1874 when Chinese miners discovered a 10 oz. pure gold nugget on their claim at the Cooley (Chinese) Mine in Volcanoville.

One evening a group of miners gathered at a local saloon where their conversation turned towards the dreaded Chinese. With enough liquor, words quickly turned to action leading to the massacre of at least 15 Chinese that night. The Chinese miners were rounded up by the drunks and herded into a cabin. With the Chinese locked inside, the cabin was set a fire. Those who died in the inferno were only spared a bullet; those who ran from the flames and thick smoke were quickly gunned down in flight. None survived.

While many Chinese were mining along the Middle Fork of the American River one group of 12 from Volcanoville was buried alive in a cave-in during the 1890's. By the time aid reached the men they had died from suffocation.

Another story from Volcanoville tells of a wealthy Chinese store owner who ran a thriving general store.

He sold out to another Chinese man and returned to China. For years he remained in his homeland before returning to Volcanoville.



Chinese miners in California, mid 1800's.

He claimed he returned to retrieve a cache of gold he'd hidden years earlier. A major fire had destroyed much of the town in 1879 which left the older former store owner with no landmarks to guide him to his treasure.

He returned several times over the next several years looking for his lost cache but never found it.

For years treasure hunters have sought to answer the question of the lost Chinese caches buried in and around Volcanoville.

Volcanoville was founded as a small trading post in 1851 but grew into a large prospering Gold Rush town by 1855. Other industry in the area included a steam driven sawmill and tannery at Mt. Gregory.

Volcanoville became a voting prescient in 1854 and established its own Post Office in 1858.

Mining became prosperous here again during the 1880's and remained so through the 1890's supporting a twenty-stamp mill. At that time the largest working quartz mine was the Josephine. As most of the town's residents were employees of the Josephine Mine, in 1895 the Post Office changed the name of the town from Volcanoville to Josephine. The Josephine Post Office operated until discontinued in 1917. The town saw two devastating fires, the first in 1879 then again in 1907. All of the remaining original buildings to survive the 1879 fire were destroyed in the 1907 fire. A small community re-established itself here but the town never recovered.

Somewhere I once read that "*25% of all the precious metals and gems ever recovered have become lost*". It is true during the era when global transportation was provided by the great sailing ships of the day much treasure went down the result of accident, piracy, or violent storms. The next cause has been laid to natural disasters. Finally the remainder is credited to the individual who acquires wealth and buries it for safekeeping. For whatever reason, the owner of the cache is separated from his wealth and is never able to

recover it. It is said that a dozen or more of these buried



Mother Lode Mineral Society's
ROCK & GEM SHOW
MARCH 13TH & 14TH

Saturday 10 am-6 pm
Sunday 10 am-5 pm
Admission \$5.00 - 12 & under free

- Dinosaur & Fossil Exhibits
- Kids Activities
- Demonstrations
- Great Food
- Gem & Mineral Dealers
- Educational Exhibits
- Fluorescent Display
- Jewelry, Beads & Tools
- Speakers for Children and Adults



Turlock Fairgrounds

900 North Broadway Turlock CA

www.turlockgemshow.com

Contact: Bud & Terry McMillin 209-524-3494

Chinese caches are connected to the history at Volcanoville and the Northern California Goldfields.



The Presidents Corner by John Duffy

As I sit here at the keyboard, belatedly putting something together for Don Dunn's March Newsletter I am drawn to our upcoming Annual Hunt and the great teamwork that is even now "preparing the ground", so to speak, for a really great time.

Don, Paul Giese, George Magann and Al Woltman (and there may be others that I'm not aware of) are working to come up with a package of prizes that will really draw our members to the event and provide a quality hunt experience.

Since I have been in our Club we have held all our annual hunts at the Gun Club. While this has served us well in the past our dedicated group is actively searching alternate sites that might serve us as well. Stay tuned for more info.

Between the weather (wet and windy) and my January knee surgery I have not been out detecting very much this year – the good news is that I did get out for about a half-hour this past week – a great start on return to normal. I expect to be back for our March meeting. *In the meantime, take only coins, jewelry, pull-tabs, rings, bottle caps and dog tags and leave no trace of your presence in the field.*

Good hunting..... John

Metal Detector Word Jumble

What you might find when metal detecting

D	L	C	A
N	Y	N	E
T	E	G	U
T	O	E	L

1. Make a word from each line
2. Combine the circled new letters to solve the statement below

What you don't want to find

A _____

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions or articles to submit contact your editor, *Don Dunn*.

* CRYSTALS * JEWELRY * MINERALS *
* BEADS * FOSSILS * GEMSTONES *
Gem and Mineral Show
Roseville Rock Rollers
Gem and Mineral Society
1960-2010
Golden Jubilee 
* NATURE'S WONDERS *
March 27 & 28, 2010
Saturday 10 am - 5 pm Sunday 10 am - 4 pm
Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds
800 All America City Blvd., Roseville, CA
FREE PARKING
GENERAL ADMISSION \$5.00
SENIORS 60+ \$4.00, 12 AND UNDER FREE
\$1 off admission price with this COUPON
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