



A Nonprofit Organization

The Public is Invited to Attend our Meetings

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

Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs Newsletter

Issue Date May 2011

April 7, 2011 SVDB Meeting Minutes

President's Report: John Duffy

- John introduced Board Members and also welcomed 2 new visitors: Tim Bright and Dave Hrivnak. Welcome to SVDB!
Annual Hunt committee is busy on May's Hunt.
Discussion on conduct at hunt sites. We need to show a good image for our sport.

2011 Elected Officers

- President: John Duffy
Vice President: Paul Giese
Secretary: Barbara Anderton
Treasurer: Charlotte Key

2011 Volunteer Positions

- Hospitality: Al & Linda Woltman
Hunt Master: Cyndy Johnston & Charles Long
Librarian: Tom Schweppe
Membership: George Magann
Newsletter Editor: Barry Atkinson
Newsletter Mailings: Rick & Sue Morris
Raffle Table: Mary Ann Meji, Don Ivers & James Neeley
Web-Site Editor: Vince Migliore

Miscellaneous Club News

- A request was made to publish George Magann's address so you can mail him next year's dues if you can't pay at the meetings. Dues are \$30 for 1 person or \$40 per family. BTW, everybody please check & give George your current address, phone # and email address - several member's information is not up to date. Here is George's address:
George Magann, 1740 Sessler Dr. Yuba City, CA 95993



- Vice President's Report: Paul Giese
Secretary's Report: Barbara Anderton
Don Dunn handles the emails that are sent to our SVDB website & last month's request was from a dentist in the South Sacramento area. He requested help in locating a water main shut off valve. UPDATE: Al Woltman looked for the water valve and after 15 minutes found it. Dentist Lai donated \$100 to SVDB. Nice work Al!
Treasurer's Report: Charlotte Key



Table with financial data: Beginning Balance: \$1,137.09, Expenses: \$ 225.73, Income: \$1,369.50, Ending Balance: \$2,280.86

Membership Report: George Magann

- We currently have 200 members of which 64 members still need to pay their 2011 dues. You can't hunt in planted hunts or the annual May 14th hunt if you have not paid your 2011 dues. You can now mail your dues to George Magann
We had 60 people at tonight's meeting.
Membership Winner: Clyde Milo, 1884 Morgan Dollar

Other Club Hunts:

- NW Treasure Hunters Club host their 39th Annual Hunt on June 17, 18 and 19, 2011 at Farragut State Park, Athol, ID. See info below.

Advertisement for NW Treasure Hunters Club hunt at Farragut State Park, Athol, ID. Includes map, contact info, and event details.

- The West Coast Prospectors and Treasure Hunters Club held their Rendezvous 2011 on April 15th to 17th. See Lee's article beginning on page 2 for details.

May 2011							June 2011							July 2011							
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4							1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
														31							

• **Calendar Legend**

- SVDB Monthly Meetings
- SVDB Sunday Hunts
- SVDB Bi-Monthly Planted Hunts
- SVDB BIG Annual Hunt

See You at the May 5th Meeting

• SVDB Meetings are held at the old SMUD Building 5026 Don Julio Blvd, North Highlands. It's located at the intersection of Elk Horn Blvd and Don Julio Blvd. The meeting is held in a large room facing Elkhorn on the first Thursday of each month and starts at 7:30 pm. We meet close to where all the cars are parked in the SMUD parking lot near Elkhorn Blvd.

Day-In-The-Park Hunts:

• There are 3 day-in-the park hunts per month. The hunts are on the first, second and third Sundays of each month. Sunday 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 Watt and Auburn
- ❑ 2nd Sunday Hunt: Meet at Denny's at Sunrise and Zinfandel Drive (2474 Sunrise Blvd)
- ❑ 3rd Sunday Hunt: Meet at Lumberjacks – 1030 Howe Ave., Sacramento, 95825

Day-In-The-Park Hunt Results & Oldest Coin Winners:

- March 6: Lincoln Village Park, Rancho Cordova. Total members hunting: 10. Total coins found: 148. Most coins found by Chris Poulsen - 28. Oldest coin by **Chris Poulsen** - 1936 Penny.
- April 3: Rush Park. Total members hunting: 11. Total coins found - 206. Most coins found by Bob Woods-36. Oldest coins by **Bob Woods** - 1961 Penny **and Colleen Pedroza** – 1961 Nickel.
- The second and third Sunday hunts were rained out.

Hunt Master Report: Cindy Johnson & Charles Long

UPDATE: According to Cindy & Charles after doing research, no permits are needed to hunt in the parks.

A **metal detector** was found left leaning against a tree after the Land Park hunt. If it's yours contact Cyndy Johnston at Cynthia.johnston@att.net **UPDATE: Bob Harrison realized he left it there and claimed it.**

- Cyndy Johnston's brother has 20 acres of unimproved & undisturbed land in the Sonora/Stanislaw Forest area. He has given her & her friends permission to detect on his land.
- If you're interested in going when the snow/rain ever stops, see Cyndy at the meetings & give her your name/phone number. **UPDATE:** Cyndy has a new signup sheet, even if you have already given your name & number, sign the sheet. Hoping for May/June date.

Librarian Report: Tom Schweppe

- Tom reported that the library was in great shape. We are doing very well with new books. However, some still people need to return library books and videos on loan.
 - Tom hopes everyone will make use of our extensive library.



SVDB Finds of the Month (FOM):

- Eight members brought their finds to the April meeting for everyone to see.
- FOM (Show & Tell) winner was **Clyde Schroeder**.

April 2011 Raffle Results:

We received \$753.00 from tonight's raffle. Thanks to **Mary Ann Meji and James Neeley** for selling tonight's many raffle tickets!

Sharon Anderson on the right, won tonight's raffle of a 1/10 Ounce Gold American Eagle coin. Sharon is making a habit of winning these gold coins. **This is her 4th!**



SVDBers' in Riverside, California

By Lee Wiese

- The **West Coast Prospectors and Treasure Hunters Club** held their Rendezvous 2011 Event Friday evening, April 15th to Sunday noon, April 17th. During this time there were eleven metal detecting hunts for clad, silver & gold coins plus token prizes.

SVDBers' in Riverside, CA (continued)

- SVDB had 10 club members plus several family members attending the event this year in Riverside, CA. The photo below represents the members that metal detected at the event.



*Left to Right:
David Sturdivant,
Rick Costello,
Lee Wiese,
Ann Costello,
Don Dunn,
Bob Meneely,
James Hallett,
Tom Boyd,
Steve Hallett &
Lois Wiese.*

- The big winners at the event were **Bob Meneely**, a Gold Dos Peso coin & a Gold 2 ½ Dos Peso coin, **Steve Hallett**, a 1/10 ounce Gold Eagle coin, and **Don Dunn**, a Gold Dos Peso coin.
- Other major finds were tokens for silver rounds and bars and silver coins planted in the various hunts. It was a very warm 95 degrees on Saturday that included 6 daytime hunts. Everyone drank lots of water and had a great time.

Lee Wiese's Corner



- At the last SVDB meeting the membership voted to hold the Metal Detecting Beaches class that I put together some time back. I have reserved the event room at Raley's 1915 Douglas Blvd. in Roseville on May 7th. The event room is on the right side of the store in the back. The first 24 people to sign up by email or at the next meeting will be able to go. The class starts at 8:30 am and should be over by 10:15 am. You cannot bring food or drinks into the event room from outside of Raley's. All items such as food & drinks must be purchased at Raley's. To participate in the class you must have a valid SVDB membership.
- My email address is: lee-wiese@surewest.net
- If anyone in the club would like to receive the news brief from my <http://www.mdhtalk.org> website each month you can request it by sending an email to mdhtalk@mdhtalk.org along with your name and email address and club name (SVDB).

New Business

Al Ezell donated many old magazines to the club tonight for the auction and one box sold for \$30, another for \$21. Thanks Al.

Lee suggested members donate all "found" pennies and brass keys to the club. Motion made and seconded. Barry Atkinson will handle this project. A motion was made to award Barry with an annual membership for next year for handling this.

There is a signup sheet for volunteering at the annual hunt. A list of prizes for the hunt was also displayed.

Here are the prizes we will have for the 2011 Annual Hunt

Item	Description	Item	Description
Clad Coins	6,000 Planted Coins	Silver Dollars	(10) Silver Dollars
Gold Coins	(5) 1/10 ounce Gold Coins	Large Cent	(2) Braided Hair Cents
Garrett Pinpointers	(2) Pro-Pointers	Silver Half Dollars	(10) Silver Barber Half Dollars
Headphones	Detector Pro Gold	Silver Rounds	(2) Silver Rounds
Cash Prize	\$100	Silver Quarter	(10) Barber Quarters
Cash Prize	(2) \$50	1H Pennies	100 Indian Head Pennies
Silver Dollars	(2) Carson City	Nickels	Shield Nickel
Gift Certificate	(4) For Metal Detecting Stuff	Silver Half Dollars	(25) Silver Half Dollars
Lesche Diggers	(2) Knife type	Large Cent	1822 Large Cent
SVDB Membership	(2) 2012 SVDB Free Memberships	Buffalo Nickels	(83) Buffalo Nickels
V Nickels	(100) V Nickels	Tokens	Tokens Used for Prizes
Half Dime	Seated Half Dime	Cost of Facility Plates & Utensils	Rental Fee, Bottled Water, Utensils,
		Total Value	\$4,200

***Our \$4,000 total is based on if we have 80 hunters. If we have more or less than 80 hunters we will adjust the prizes accordingly.**

Last year we ran out of main dish food items before some people went through the food line. Because of that we have adjusted this year's food. **Bring enough food portions to serve 6 people**

Last Name Food Item

A through J – Bring a Main Dish

K through S – Bring a Salad, Side Dish or Appetizer

T through Z – Bring a Dessert

Please Plan to Arrive at Alta Mesa Gun Club by 9:00 am

Day of the Hunt Plans Saturday May 14, 2011

Drag Hunt Field Grass & Setup Tables/Chrs	8:00 am to 9:00 am
Sign In, Give Coins & Raffle Tickets	9:00 am to 10:00 am
Group Picture	9: 45 am
Go Over Rules with All	9: 50 am
Hunt Time	10 am to 11:00 am
Distribute Token/Raffle Prizes	11:15 am to Noon
Eat Lunch	Noon to 1:00 pm
Hunt for Leftover Coins	1:00 pm to 2:30 pm
Tables/Chairs Take Down & Clean Up	2:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Rules for the Hunt

- Coils No Bigger than 12" in Any Direction
- Everyone Must Wear Headphones
- Only VLF Detectors Allowed –NO Pulse Detectors
- Electronic Pin-Pointers and Digging tools Are Allowed

We Still Need Help with Table Setups, Clean Up & More

President's Corner John Duffy



Remember to project a good image for our sport and follow the "Code" of good detecting.

Sometimes we just have to make some hard choices – and as the prices of gold and silver continue their skyrocketing increases I feel it is now that time. Two years ago, in May 2009 we were buying 1/10 oz gold coins for the coin raffle for \$102 (they were \$62 when I first started buying coins for the Club some 5 or 6 years ago). Last week the price was \$156. Morgan and Peace silver dollars were \$15, and last week they were at \$33 each. Silver rounds (1 ounce .999 fine silver) were \$15.50 and now would be about \$48. Ouch! With 60 to 80 members in attendance at any given meeting we have tried to have 40 coins in the raffle that might be distributed as 1 1/10 oz gold, 4 silver rounds, 25 silver dollars and 10 silver half-dollars.

Two years ago the value of that array was about \$590 and raffle sales would usually, but not always cover those costs. At today's prices their value would be \$1343! As you are all aware I have recently been reducing the coin count to bring costs in line with ticket sales. I personally enjoy seeing the happy smiles on the faces of our winners each month, so I ponder how to keep the number of prizes up. Doing the math and pondering the imponderable I come up with thoughts like dropping the 1/10 oz gold coin and the 1 ounce silver rounds or reducing the silver dollars and increasing the silver half-dollars. At this point I do not have an answer – and I am open to hearing your thoughts. Perhaps we will discuss this at a future meeting. No matter what we do I am pledged to be fiscally responsible for balancing coin values with ticket sales. With all this in mind, just think of the positive side – every silver coin we find these days has gone up considerably in value over the last two years. Keep on hunting, & fill in those holes. *Editor; could we try a good DOS 2 1/2 Peso coin?*

Lost Whaling Shipwreck with link to Melville's Moby-Dick Discovered in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands



A diver examines an anchor at the *Two Brothers* shipwreck site. (NOAA)

NOAA NEWS

February 11, 2011 (Honolulu, Hi)

Maritime heritage archaeologists working with NOAA's **Office of National Marine Sanctuaries** have found the nationally-significant wreckage of a famous 1800's Nantucket whale ship, *Two Brothers*, on a reef off French Frigates Shoals, nearly six hundred miles northwest of Honolulu, in the remote **Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument**. This rare archaeological discovery is the first discovery of a wrecked whaling ship from Nantucket, Ma., the birth-place of America's whaling industry. All of America's whaling ships are now gone, broken up or sunk except one, the National Historic Land-mark **Charles W. Morgan** at Mystic Seaport Museum in Connecticut. **Lost Whaling Shipwreck (continued)**

Two Brothers was captained by George Pollard Jr., whose previous Nantucket whaling vessel, *Essex*, was rammed and sunk by a whale in the South Pacific, inspiring Herman Melville's famous book, *Moby Dick*.

Pollard gained national notoriety after the *Essex* sinking, when he and a handful of his crew resorted to cannibalism in order to survive their prolonged ordeal drifting on the open ocean. The story of Pollard, *Essex* and *Two Brothers* was reintroduced to American audiences by author Nathaniel Philbrick's New York Times bestseller, *In the Heart of the Sea*. Capt. Pollard went to sea again as the Master of *Two Brothers* and was likely the last person to think "lightning would strike twice," but it did on the night of Feb. 11, 1823, when *Two Brothers* hit a shallow reef off French Frigate Shoals. Pollard did not want to abandon ship but his crew pleaded with him and they clung to small boats for survival during a long and harrowing night. The next morning they were rescued by the crew of another Nantucket whaler.

For the past 188 years, the wreckage of *Two Brothers* has been lost on the ocean floor. The vessel was part of a fleet of several hundred whaling ships that were part of America's economic and political expansion into the Pacific, transforming the region, including Hawaii, both economically and culturally, and resulting in the near extinction of many species. The whaling fleets were also largely responsible for early exploration of the Indian Ocean and the polar regions. A 2008 NOAA-led expedition to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands to study marine life, remove floating marine debris and look for cultural resources resulted in the initial clues about the resting place of the *Two Brothers*. Maritime archaeologists first spotted a large anchor, followed by three trypots (cast iron pots for melting whale blubber to produce oil), another large anchor, hundreds of bricks and the remains of the ship's rigging. Those artifacts conclusively indicated the wreckage was from a whaler dating to the early 19th century. Subsequent expeditions in 2009 & 2010 resulted in researches discovering more artifacts including blubber hooks, five whaling harpoon tips, three whaling lances, four cast-iron cooking pots and ceramics and glass indicating a U.S. origin. This helped confirm the dating of the wreckage. Additional scholarly research provided first-hand accounts from *Two Brothers* crew members, including an approximate location of where the ship grounded, which matched the location of the wreckage.

“Shipwreck sites like this are important in helping tell the stories of the early days of sailing, including whaling and maritime activities both in the Pacific and around the world,” said Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument maritime archaeologist Kelly Gleason, Ph.D., who led the on-site expeditions using **NOAA Ship Hi’ialakai**. “Discoveries like the Two Brothers serve an important role in connecting geographically separated regions and communities (New England and the Pacific), the past to the present, and provide context and better understanding human decisions that have altered the planet,” said James Delgado, director, NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries’ Maritime Heritage Program.

Papahānaumokuākea is cooperatively managed to ensure ecological integrity and achieve strong, long-term protection and perpetuation of Northwestern Hawaiian Island ecosystems, Native Hawaiian culture, and heritage resources for current and future generations. Three co-trustees – the Department of Commerce, Department of the Interior and State of Hawaii, joined by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs – protect this special place. Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument was designated as the first mixed (natural & cultural) UNESCO World Heritage Site in the United States in July 2010. Downloadable images of shipwreck artifacts, a site map and artist renderings of whale ship Essex are available at <http://www.Papahānaumokuākea.gov/maritime/twobrothersmedia.html>.

Titanium Ring, Lost & Found
by Tom Boyd



I got a call from Don Dunn after he received an email from Anthony Masiel requesting assistance in finding a lost wedding ring (a titanium ring). Anthony said he had been looking on web sites to see if he could rent a metal detector, when he came upon SVDB web site and found out we have club members that do this sort of help.

I agreed to go and look for the ring. I invited my longtime friend **James Hallett** to help me, as he has much more experience than I. We set a time to meet Anthony at his house. The ring was lost while he was washing his dogs.

Anthony showed us the general area he believed the ring was lost. Both James and I searched the area shown with no luck. I asked Anthony if he had mowed the grass since he lost the ring. When he said he had mowed, we both thought that was why we did not find the ring. Because the yard was relatively small we searched the entire back yard.

I asked James if he searched the area on the other side of this foot path, and he had but insisted I search it myself. No luck. As many of you who know James, he does not give up easily. So he searched an area about 3 feet beyond where Anthony thought he had lost the ring for the 3rd time. (Once by James, once by me, and a second time by James).

Sure enough he found the titanium ring. It rang in at a solid 30 on the Fisher F2. The bottom line is **“Persistence Pays Off”**.

It may have been 20 minutes for James to find the ring. Not long, but once again, I say it was the 3rd try over the area that it was found. Anthony and his wife were very appreciative. They tried to compensate us but, we said we would only take something if they wished to donate to SVDB. Anthony did give us \$20 for our club.



James Hallett giving the found ring to Anthony

To Don: Thank you for giving me the opportunity to help Anthony and his wife. It was fun.....Tom Boyd

Don received this email from Anthony Masiel:

*Well your crew is **AMAZING!!!** They came over yesterday around 5:00 pm and were able to find my wedding ring in the backyard. I was stunned when they found it. I thought for sure that mowing my lawn was probably a bad idea. They were looking for about 20 minutes and to be honest, I was beginning to think that it was hopeless. They wouldn’t give up, though. They kept scouring that yard until they found it! Without you guys, I’d have been looking for a new ring (perhaps) even a new wife (hahaha).*

Anyway, thanks again for all your help and make sure to give those guys a big pat on the back again for me. Anthony Masiel

Now that’s what John was talking about, good job Tom Boyd & James Hallett.....Barry

Knights in Shining Armor

Austrian authorities reveal find of buried treasure
Submitted by Barbara Anderton

VIENNA — A man turning dirt in his back yard stumbled onto buried treasure — hundreds of pieces of centuries-old jewelry and other precious objects that Austrian authorities described Friday as a fairy-tale find.



Austria's department in charge of national antiquities said the trove consists of more than 200 rings, brooches, ornate belt buckles, gold-plated silver plates and other pieces or fragments, many encrusted with pearls, fossilized coral and other ornaments. It says the objects are about 650 years old and are being evaluated for their provenance and worth.

While not assigning a monetary value to the buried bling, the enthusiastic language from the normally staid Federal Office for Memorials reflected the significance it attached to the discovery.

"Fairy tales still exist!" said its statement. "Private individual finds sensational treasure in garden."

It described the ornaments as "one of the qualitatively most significant discoveries of medieval treasure in Austria."

The statement gave no details and an automated telephone message said the office had closed early on Good Friday.

But the Austria Press Agency cited memorials office employee Karin Derler as saying the man came across the "breathtaking" objects years ago while digging in his back yard to expand a small pond.

The weekly Profil magazine identified the man only as Andreas K. from Wiener Neustadt, south of Vienna, and said he asked not to be named.

While he found the ornaments in 2007, Andreas K. did not report it to the memorials office until after rediscovering the dirt-encrusted objects in a basement box while packing up after selling his house two years ago, said Profil. The soil had dried and some had fallen off, revealing precious metal and jewels underneath.

He initially posted photos on the Internet, where collectors alerted him to the potential value of the pieces, leading him to pack them in a plastic bag and lug them to the memorials office, the magazine said in its Friday edition.

Neither Profil nor the memorials office statement said when Andreas K. first alerted Austrian authorities and it was unclear why they waited until Friday to announce the discovery.

Memorials office president Barbara Neubauer told Profil the objects were a "sensational find."

The magazine said the finder was not interested in cashing in on the trove and was considering loaning the collection to one of Austria's museums.



Photo of Brooch

MEXICAN GOLD COINS



By C.W. DeLaughter

A wide variety of attractive gold coins have been minted by our southern neighbors. Mexico produced gold coins in six denominations, valued from two pesos to 50 pesos. In gold content, these coins range from around 1/20th of an oz to almost 1 1/4 ounces. Specific denominations include the 2 pesos, 2 1/2 pesos, 5 pesos, 10 pesos, 20 pesos and 50 pesos coins.

Mexican gold coins trade on a two-tier basis. Coin issues of rare dates are traded on the basis of numismatic demand, as you might expect. Coins of common dates are traded much like bullion coins, with very reasonable premiums over basic gold content value. Be warned that price variations between different coin dealers can be extreme. When shopping for a gold coin, or gold in any form, it pays to be informed about prices.

Illustrated with this article are two common date coins, a two pesos and a 20 pesos coin. The two pesos coin is virtually identical in gold content with the \$1 gold coin of the United States, last minted in 1889. The 20 pesos coin is comparable to the \$10 gold coin of the same era. At current price levels, this may be a good time to purchase gold. But investment value aside, there is something special about owning a gold coin. Gold has fired human imagination since before the dawn of history. You owe it to yourself to hold your own gold coin in your hand. Consider Mexican gold coins in your collection.