

FINDERS KEEPERS

Editor: Bob Dunn

An Association of Small Miners

All articles in our newsletter are written by the Editor, Bob Dunn, unless credit is given to another who wrote their article. Copying any form of this newsletter needs prior permission from the Editor

PLEASE do not go into the meeting building BEFORE 6:00pm for set up.
Our hours of use are from 6:15pm to 8:30pm. Thank you.

President's Message:

Welcome to September Everyone!

Summer is over and the kids are back in school, it is now time to start thinking about the fall mining season in the deserts and start looking over your gear and fixing those little things you put on your list at the end of spring. Of course, the start is dictated by the heat and when it breaks.

This month we say Goodbye to one of our TSSD family with the passing of our past Secretary, Candy thrower, and close friend Michele Silva. Unfortunately, she succumbed to cancer early on the morning of Friday August 22nd. A more enthusiastic, fun loving, high energy and positive force in the Association will be hard to find. I will miss her sharing the front table with me and JerryG will miss the help over at the raffle table. May you find truly large and plentiful nuggets in those great gold fields in heaven. I will miss and forever remember you, my friend.

This month we have a night seeded hunt down at Mission Bay on the 20th at Crown Point Shores. October's trip to the Mitchell Caverns will probably be changed due to the logistics problems and difficulty of the walk and tour. Heat permitting, maybe a second trip to Hall of Fame.

See you at the meeting or outings.

Jerryk

Notice!

TSSD wants your gold!

If you are willing to part with your gold, Jerry G will have his scale and checkbook at our meetings.

Opportunity Drawings

Door Prize- Charles Hawkins of 99 attendees \$2 Bill

Finds of the Month-

Gold-

1. Scott McGrosso

Metal detecting-

Nobody entered

Gems and minerals-

1. Gabriel Clum
2. Bruce Madsen

Silver Exchange Winner

1. Charles Hawkings \$33 silver coins

Gold Nugget Winners

- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Roz Laffoon | 2. John Giles | 3. Tom Neumeyer | 4. Scott McGrosso |
| 5. Rudy Haluza | 6. Mitch Birenbaum | 7. John Giles | |

Table Drawing-

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Thomas Heflin | 2. Bruce Madsen | 3. Bruce Madsen |
| 4. Matt Boeck | 5. Ron Horak | 6. Kim Graham |
| 7. Cindy Muntz | 8. Wade Ahumada | 9. Janice Davies |
| 10. Rudy Haluza | 11. Rosie Dusying | 12. Matt Boeck |
| 13. Thomas Heflin | 14. Scott McGrosso | 15. Jerry Goldstein |

In loving
MEMORY OF



MICHELE DITOMASO-SILVA

11/07/1953 - 08/22/2025

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, AT 11:00 AM

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH
13208 LAKESHORE DR.
LAKESIDE, CA 92040

Please wear purple

August's "Outing"

Our August unofficial outing was listed as the weekend of the 16-17 up in Big Bear. It was more to remind you that our claim there was open for the summer to beat the heat. As we discussed at the August general meeting a fire had just broken out on the other side of Holcomb Valley and the area and forest roads north of the lake had been closed to all activities as a precaution. I was back east on vacation and didn't try and go up there so I will call on members to see if anyone made it up that weekend.

For the rest of the summer we will be staying in Big Bear and the higher elevation as the deserts will be a bit too warm to comfortably work until the PLP Annual Outing at Duisenberg in October, which is also just a bit early temperature wise. Our outing in September is another seeded hunt currently listed as a night hunt on the 20th and there will be food. It will be at Crown Point Shores, our alternate Mission Bay location.

Volunteers Needed! **Many club positions are open!**

More hands less work! If you have any questions just call Jerry Kaplan

Membership Applications:

Membership Applications are available at the general meeting.

Please be sure to attend and complete an application before the end of the meeting.

The new 2024 membership cards are available for pick up if you completed and turned in an application at the prior meeting

For Sale:

Tesoro Sidewinder \$225

Minelab Explorer \$400

Both with all the goodies

Contact Cathy Conner, 760-481-5156

Outings and Events:

Sept 3, 2025 -Wed	6:30 PM to 8:30 PM Knights of Columbus Hall 515 West Valley Parkway Escondido, CA 92025
Sept 4, 2024 -Thursday	TSSD Board Meeting 12 Noon to 2:00 PM Jerry Goldstein's house.
Sept 7, 2024 -Sunday	Metal Detecting with Jerry Kaplan TBA 8-10
Sept 20, 2024 -Sat/Sun	Seeded Beach Detecting

SEPTEMBER 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 TSSD General Meeting 6:30PM	4 TSSD Board Meeting 12 Noon	5	6
7 Metal Detecting with Jerry K TBA 8-10	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Seeded Beach Detecting
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

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TREASURE SEEKERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

2025 OUTING CALENDER

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

JANUARY

Chapter Meeting – 8th
Board Meeting – 9th
Metal Detecting – 11th
Club Outing – 18th-19th
Quartzsite Gem Show

FEBRUARY

Chapter Meeting – 5th
Board Meeting – 6th
Metal Detecting – 8th
Club Outing – 15th-16th
Cargos Claim
Quartzsite Gold Show?

MARCH

Chapter Meeting – 5th
Board Meeting – 6th
Metal Detecting – 8th
Club Outing – 15th-16th

JC Backside of Calico

APRIL

Chapter Meeting – 2nd
Board Meeting – 3rd
Metal Detecting – 6th
Club Outing – 26th & 27st
Hall of Fame Claim

MAY

Chapter Meeting – 7th
Board Meeting – 8th
Metal Detecting – 10th
Club Outing – 17th & 18th
Freedom Claim

JUNE

Chapter Meeting – 4th
Board Meeting – 5th
Metal Detecting – 8th
Club Outing – 21th & 22th
Big Bear 1 Outing

JULY

Chapter Meeting – 2nd
Board Meeting – 3rd
Metal Detecting – 6th
Club Outing – 12th
Annual Picnic
Bonita Cove
BB 1 claim

AUGUST

Chapter Meeting – 6th
Board Meeting – 7th
Metal Detecting – 9th
Club Outing – 16th & 17th
BB 1 Claim

SEPTEMBER

Chapter Meeting – 3rd
Board Meeting – 4th
Metal Detecting – 7th
Club Outing – 20th
Night Seeded Metal
Detecting
Ski Beach

OCTOBER

Chapter Meeting – 1st
Board Meeting – 2nd
Metal Detecting – 5th
Joint Clubs Outing – 18th-19th

Mitchell Caverns
Lavic Siding

NOVEMBER

Chapter Meeting – 5th
Board Meeting – 6th
Metal Detecting – 8th
Club Outing – 15th & 16th
Freedom Claim

DECEMBER

Chapter Meeting – 3rd
Board Meeting – 4th
Metal Detecting – 7th
Club Outing – Christmas
Party TBA

What did I sign on the back of the Membership Application?

Treasure Seekers of San Diego County (TSSD) Claim Rules and Regulations

Mining claims are not real property, but a claim to minerals on public lands.

Mining claims held by the Treasure Seekers of San Diego County (TSSD) are subject to the rules and regulations of the holders of these public lands and TSSD.

Each TSSD membership is a family membership including the member's spouse and/or children under the age of 18 years. After purchasing a TSSD membership Claims Guide, TSSD members may take family members with them when visiting TSSD listed claims. TSSD members visiting Gold Prospectors Association of America (GPAA) claims are subject to GPAA rules and regulations.

The TSSD claims are for the use of TSSD members only. A guest can only go to the organization claims with a TSSD member. A limit of 2 guests with an additional 2 guests by permission of the TSSD President. The guest is limited to two visits and then must then become a member of the TSSD and purchase a TSSD Claims Guide. Unruly guests are the responsibility of the corresponding TSSD member.

Members are required to be members in good standing of the Treasure Seekers of San Diego County with current membership card and TSSD Claims Guide.

Any children under the age of 18 years old are the sole responsibility of the parents and must be under the direct supervision of the parent at all times while out on the organizations claims. Unruly children are the responsibility of the corresponding adult.

Members must accept all responsibility for injury to themselves and/or family members and/or guest while on claims open to TSSD members. Members also are personally responsible for any damage caused by either themselves, family members or guests.

Animals are discouraged unless they are kept on a leash at all times. The animal's owner is liable for the animal's actions. If the animal becomes a nuisance, they can be barred from the organization claims.

All equipment, vehicles or other items at the claims are the sole responsibility of the owner and no liability is accepted or assumed by the Treasurer Seekers of San Diego County.

The claims are subject to Fish and Game, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, State and Local regulations. Violators of their regulations will be subject to disciplinary actions or termination of membership by the TSSD.

The BLM and Forest Service require that all areas of surface disturbance be returned to their original contours. This can be done by filling in holes when mining activity is finished. Be sure to fill any holes and ditches you or your guest(s) make while working on the claims. Plant removal is strictly forbidden. Pick up any trash that you have while working or occupying any of the claims. Please keep these claims and public lands clean. TSSD members of good standing are issued a Membership Card that is good from May to April the following year. A current Membership Card MUST be displayed on your person and you MUST have your Claims Guide in your possession while prospecting on the TSSD claims.

If you encounter individuals who do not follow these regulations, inform them of their activities. If they appear uncooperative, you may report them to any TSSD officer so that TSSD can take appropriate action.

Supporting the Chapter:

(See Merchandise Table for Current Prices)

Glass Vials – 3ml and 1 ¾ inch

14-inch Gold Pan

11-inch Gold Pan (Gold Catcher II)

10-inch Gold Pan (Martin Pan)

Gold Claw Pan

Gold Claw Pocket Pan

Heavy Duty Scoop

Sniffer (Snuffer) Bottle

Vial Carrying Case with 4 glass vials

Black Sand Magnet

Membership Card Holders with clip - \$2.00 each at the Membership Table.

Hard Plastic Engraved Name Tags - \$10.00 each with pin - \$12.00 each with Magnetic.

Bags of Gold Pay Dirt - \$10.00, \$25.00, \$50.00 and \$100.00 bags available for purchase.

TSSD Claims Guides - \$30.00 with your TSSD Membership Card.

Classifieds:

If you have something that you would like to sell or trade, please send your ad to Bob Dunn at bobs67camaro@gmail.com before the 25th of each month. Ads run for one month.

Opportunity Drawings:

Door Prize – taken off the meeting sign in sheet

50/50 Split Drawing, Gold Nugget Drawing, Raffle Table Drawing

See Jerry Goldstein for your winning tickets!

TSSD does not charge dues. Outings are free, prospecting our claims is free, the library is free, and the education and companionship are priceless and free. Yet TSSD still has to pay rent, pay the mining claim fees, pay the storage bill for the meeting and event items, gold and raffle item costs, printing fees and numerous other monthly costs.

Please support “your” Association! Participate! Buy some tickets! Win!

A special ‘ticket’ is given to you for every \$20.00 spent at a meeting. This ticket is for a “Super Prizes” that will be drawn at the February 2023 meeting.

Claim Use Form:

We hope our members are out enjoying our claims during this time.

PLEASE remember to the last page of this newsletter, the “Claim Use Form”, and fill it out and mail it to the address that is printed on it or drop it off at the sign-in table at the meeting.

Camping on BLM Land:

All of our claims are on BLM Land. Here is their newest ruling regarding camping on BLM Land: On most BLM lands, you may camp for free without a permit for up to **14 days** at a time at the location of your choice. You must then **move at least 25 miles away** to another campsite, and you cannot return to the original area for 28 days. Fires are allowed in most areas, however check with the field office where you plan to camp to determine whether a fire permit is necessary.

Know the Difference:

TSSD is not a ‘club’ nor are we ‘recreational miners’.

We are a ‘Association’ which ties us to the 1872 mining laws and we are “small miners”.

Use these terms when approached by any law enforcement official while out mining.

And **ALWAYS** have your claims guide and current membership card with you.

Websites to stay informed with:

BLM NewsBytes – a weekly publication - <http://www.blm.gov/ca/caso/getnewsbytes.html>

Western Mining Alliance – www.westernminingalliance.org

Public Lands for the People (PLP) - <http://www.publiclandsforthepeople.org/>

American Mining Rights Association (AMRA) – <http://americanminingrights.com/>

Minerals and Mining Advisory Council (MMAC) - <http://www.mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org/>

Camp Fire Permits - <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/>

G.P.A.A. - <http://www.goldprospectors.org/>

My Land Matters - <http://www.mylandmatters.org/Maps/ClaimsCa/GetMap>

Mining Laws:

USFS/FSM (Forest Service Manual) 2800 – Minerals and Geology, Chapter 2810 – Mining Laws:

http://www.publiclandsforthepeople.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/2810_MINING-CLAIMS.pdf

This is a PDF file well worth the read.

What Do You Mean My Membership and Card Has Expired:

If you do not have the new ‘Tan’ colored membership card then your membership with TSSD has expired and you are no longer considered a member of TSSD in good standing.

This means that you are no longer able to use the TSSD claims – period.

If you are on a TSSD claim without a current “Tan’ membership card then you are considered “claim jumping” and legal recourse could be taken. Holding a TSSD claims guide does not give you the right to work our claims. You must have a current membership card as well.

Attendance Year:

Treasure Seekers of San Diego has an unusual attendance year. We were founded in May and our elections are held in April. Thus, our yearly attendance requirement runs from May to April. You are required to attend a meeting every three (3) months in order to maintain your membership status.

TSSD Membership:

Membership to Treasure Seekers of San Diego is free. We do not charge an annual due. All that is asked is that you attend meetings, participate and support the group through its opportunity drawings and events. To maintain membership, you **MUST** attend one meeting every three (3) months.

1 st meeting:	Complete and turn in a membership application.
2 nd meeting:	You will be given your TSSD membership card.
3 rd meeting:	You will be able to purchase a TSSD Claims Guide with proof of your membership card.

Conduct and Code of Ethics:

Members shall conduct themselves in the highest ethical standards and reflect no discredit upon this association. This standard shall be one of the qualifications for membership in this association. Any violation of these standards shall be deemed grounds for expulsion or acceptance.

Termination/Suspension of Membership:

The Board of Directors, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the Board, may suspend or expel a member of the Corporation for cause after an appropriate hearing before the Board. The term “for cause” shall include (a) the member's conviction of a felony, acts of reckless endangerment, failure to perform commitments made to the Corporation, conduct on the part of the member that would render him/her ineligible for indemnification if required by the Board and member conduct which constitutes a conflict of interest with TSSD.

Membership Cards are to be worn:

Your “Orange” colored Membership cards are to be worn at the meetings and while at the claims. This way we know that you are already a member. Not to be stored in your claims guide or in a drawer or your vehicle.

G.P.A.A.:

Treasure Seekers of San Diego is a chapter of G.P.A.A. This does not require you to become a member of G.P.A.A. but if you are, please advise them that you are also a member of TSSD, so that we are eligible for ‘points’ from your membership. TSSD uses those ‘points’ to obtain opportunity raffle items.

Caretaker of Claims:

TSSD does **NOT** have any ‘Caretakers’ on any of our claims. If someone is representing themselves as a caretaker of one of our claims – they are not. Please report this information to the Board if someone does.

See Someone Claim Jumping:

By Charlene Myers

If you see someone that you think or know for a fact is claim jumping one of our claims –do the following:

Photograph the person, vehicles, equipment and whatever else you can and send the information to the Board including the date, time and location of the possible offense.

If the offender becomes agitated while you are doing this, it is recommended to contact the local law enforcement and tell the officer of the Penal Codes for reference:

California Penal Codes for Claim Jumpers:

By Charlene Myers

California Penal Code – “THEFT”; “GRAND THEFT”
Title 13 – “OF CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY”
Chapter 5 – “LARCENY” (Section 484-502.9)

Section 486:

Theft is divided into two degrees, the first of which is termed grand theft; the second, petty theft.

Section 487:

Grand theft is theft committed in any of the following cases:

- (a) When the money, labor or real or personal property taken is of a value exceeding nine hundred fifty dollars (\$950), except as provided in subdivision (b).
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), grand theft is committed in any of the following cases:
 - 3(c) When the property is taken from the person of another.

Section 487d – Grand Theft; gold dust, amalgam, or quicksilver:

Every person who feloniously steals, takes, and carries away, or attempts to take, steal, and carry from any mining claim, tunnel, sluice, undercurrent, riffle box, or sulfurate machine, another’s gold dust, amalgam, or quicksilver is guilty of grand theft and is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170.

Section 1170. (h)(1):

Except as provided in paragraph (3), a felony punishable pursuant to this subdivision where the term is not specified in the underlying offense shall be punishable by a term of imprisonment in the county jail for 16 months, or two or three years. Fine authorized in addition to prescribed imprisonment, see Section 672.

California Penal Code §672:

Upon a conviction for any crime punishable by imprisonment in any jail or prison, in relation to which no fine is herein prescribed, the court may impose a fine on the offender not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in cases of misdemeanors or ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in cases of felonies, in addition to the imprisonment prescribed.

Treasure Seekers of San Diego County

Mission Statement

Treasure Seekers of San Diego County (T.S.S.D.) was officially organized on May 21, 2003 when the election of officers was held. We are a G.P.A.A. chapter. Non G.P.A.A. members may attend meetings and participate in the raffle, but are not eligible to vote, hold office, be on the claims committee, or utilize G.P.A.A. claims. The purpose of this organization is to provide an environment to increase public awareness, with education and training, of locating, identification and legal removal of minerals, caches and treasures while keeping in mind the preservation of the environment and wild habitat. A Non-Profit 501(c)4.

Meetings are held at the Knights of Columbus Hall
515 West Valley Parkway, Escondido, CA 92025
On the first Wednesday of each month, 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Board Members

President:	Jerry Kaplan	858-232-0670	jerryk23A@gmail.com
Vice President:	Vacant		
	Joe Johanek, acting	858-273-5987	joe4409@aol.com
Secretary:	Vacant		
	Jerry Kaplan, acting	858-232-0670	jerryk23A@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Jerry Goldstein	760-317-1819	auprospector101@aol.com
Activity Communicator:	Jerry Kaplan	858-232-0670	jerryk23A@gmail.com
Audio/Video	Robert Cook *	760-741-6547	rmjcc@cox.net
Claims Director:	Vacant		
Claims Guides/Manager:	Gabriel Clum	760-815-2522	
	gabrielclum@rocketmail.com		
Engraved Name Tags:	Mary Troseth *	619-820-9001	jtroseth@yahoo.com
Finds of the Month:	Leslie Laveroni	760-271-6432	llaveroni@gmail.com
Gem & Mineral:	Jeanny Pierce	951-678-9128	cosmonut76@yahoo.com
Gold Bags:	Sue Conner *	760-522-9122	suzconner@gmail.com
Librarian:	Rozalynn Laffoon*	619-423-6426	rozalynnlaffoon@att.net
Membership:	Rich Hegyi	619-443-2028	rhegyi@aol.com
Metal Detecting:	Jerry Kaplan	858-232-0670	jerryk23A@gmail.com
	Bruce Madsen	619-869-4608	bjmadsen@cox.net
Newsletter:	Bob Dunn	619-302-1033	
	bobs67camaro@gmail.com		
Political Action	Jerry Kaplan	858-232-0670	jerryk23A@gmail.com
Printing:	Frank Trutta	760-743-8681	scthfrank@yahoo.com
Refreshments:	Vacant		
Sgt. At Arms:	Vacant		
TSSD Apparel:	Cathy Conner	760-481-5156	creativecreationsca1@gmail.com
Ways & Means:	Jerry Goldstein	760-317-1819	auprospector101@aol.com
GPAA State Director:	Ken Maltby	951-522-7710	keyguy67@gmail.com
* Denotes Director at Large			
Updated: 07-07-2022			

Find us at:

www.treasureseekersofsandiego.org

Emergency Phone Numbers & Addresses

911

El Centro, Ca.

Imperial County Sheriff's Dept. 442-265-2125
328 Applestill Road El Centro, Ca.

El Centro Regional Med Center
1415 Ross Ave., El Centro

Yuma, Arizona

Yuma Co. Sheriff's Office 928-783-4427
160 S. 3rd Ave. Yuma, Az.

Yuma Regional Med Center
2400 S. Avenue A Yuma, Az.

Johannesburg, Ca.

Kern Co. Sheriff's Dept. 760-384-5800
128 E. Coso Ave. Ridgecrest, Ca.

Ridgecrest Regional Hospital
1081 N. China Lake Blvd. Ridgecrest

Quartzsite, Arizona

Quartzsite Fire & Rescue 928-927-6556
70 Tyson St. Quartzsite, Az.

Palo Verde Hospital
250 N. 1st St. Blythe, Ca.

Quartzsite Police Dept. 888-818-4911
305 N. Plymouth Ave. Quartzsite, Az.

La Paz Regional Hospital
1200 W. Mojave Rd. Parker, Az.

Big Bear Lake, Ca.

San Bernardino County Fire Station 909-866-4878
39188 Rim of the World Dr. Fawnskin, Ca.

Bear Valley Community Hospital
41870 Garstin Dr. Big Bear Lake, Ca.

San Bernardino County Sheriff 909-866-0100
477 Summit Blvd. Big Bear Lake, Ca.

Barstow, Ca.

San Bernardino County Sheriff, Barstow Station
760-256-4838
225 E. Mountain View St. Barstow, Ca.

Barstow Community Hospital
820 E. Mountain View St.
Barstow, Ca.

The Treasure Seekers of San Diego County

Claims Department P.O. Box 300941, Escondido, CA 92030

In order to ensure that our claims are worked and so that we have records to prove it, we made up this form. If the BLM questions us as to the use of our claims or wants to close one of our areas to prospecting, we want to be able to produce records that show that our claims are being used. Thanks for your help. The form should be mailed to the above address or turned in at a monthly meeting.

CLAIM USED _____

MEMBERS NAME _____

DATE USED _____

TOTAL PEOPLE AND TIME ON THE CLAIM _____

(number of people actually prospecting or mining & amount of time doing it plus all repair, maintenance and cleanup done. If more space needed use back.

TYPE OF WORK DONE _____

MEMBERS SIGNATURE _____

ACCESS:

CLAIMS ACCESS

- 1 ☐ EASY 5 ☐
- 2 ☐ 6 ☐
- 3 ☐ 7 ☐
- 4 ☐ 8 ☐ VERY DIFFICULT

VEHICLE ACCESS

- ☐ 2X4
- ☐ 4X4
- ☐ CAMPERS OK
- ☐ HIKE IN ONLY

CLAIM MARKERS

- ☐ IN PLACE
- ☐ DOWN/NOT READABLE
- ☐ COULD NOT LOCATE

CLAIMS GUIDE DIRECTIONS:

WERE DIRECTIONS ACCURATE? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IF NOT PLEASE GIVE NEW DIRECTIONS _____ *CON'T ON BACK*

Type of equipment used: ☐ Pan ☐ Rockerbox ☐ Sluice ☐ Drywasher

☐ Metal Detector ☐ Highbanker ☐ Other _____

Type of gold found ☐ nugget ☐ flake ☐ flour