

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 October Everyone!

I know a few of you are getting anxious to get back up on the claims, but it is still a bit warm out there with occasional breaks in the heat. Traditionally it is the third week in October before I head out to our high desert claims, but already I have received reports from two members who have successfully done trips. Jeanny picked a weekend in *September*, and it was a perfect 85-90 and just a few days before the moisture from ex-hurricane Mario dumped on the Barstow, Red Mountain, and Mojave Desert area with the most significant rain in the more than 20 years that I have been going out there and disrupted the roads with some flash flood action. Even worse than the other hurricane rain 2 years ago that left 3 feet of sand in the main wash as far as the Freedom claim is concerned. Joe Becht called this past week to let me know that 395 between Johannesburg and the railroad tracks was down to one lane for the Caltrans crews to clean the road of sand and rocks. Also, he reported the road from Duisenburg up the hill to the north basin of Freedom has had the sand washed away and it is now very rocky and difficult to make it through. The road on the south side of the tracks is washed out at the tunnel from the water flow, something I have never seen before. Just be aware of this as some of our members camp over there with their trailers. In Phoenix Gulch the water was so deep it left mud puddles up against the banks where folks normally dig. I figure 2 weeks of sun to make the area fully workable again and he said it was 95 at the time.

As far as this month's activities, we were forced to reschedule our Night seeded hunt due to JerryG's last minute conflict with the day. The PLP annual Fallfest is the 9th through the 12th hopefully the heat remains below 95. And we have not decided on the October outing, perhaps the Night Seeded Hunt reschedule.

Originally, we had the Mitchell Caverns written in, but again the logistics, walking and reservations are a bit much to coordinate and therefore cancelled. November is the next Freedom outing, and the Christmas Party is Sunday December 14th, we ideally wanted a Saturday, but they weren't available.

That's it for now.

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- Mike Ryan #20 of 68 attendees \$2 Bill

Finds of the Month-

Gold 1. Brian Winter

Metal detecting- 1. Mike Johnson 2. Mike Ryan
3. Gary Emmons 4. Bruce Madsen

Gems and minerals- 1. Gabriel Clum 2. Matt Boeck

Silver Exchange Winner

1. Loren Murphy \$60 silver coins exchanged for cash

Gold Nugget Winners

Chits issued as JerryG forgot the pickers

1. Gary Emmons 2. Matt Boeck
3. Matt Boeck 4. Loren Murphy
5. Keith Browning 6. Matt Boeck
7. Jim Jupena

Table Drawing-

1. Gary Emmons 2. Jerry Goldstein (Give back at end)
3. Illegible 4. Steve Wood
5. Adriana Taroma 6. Dan Crumpton
7. Martin Garcia 8. Kim Holmes
9. Matt Boeck 10. Jeanny Pierce
11. Bruce Madsen 12. Jerry Goldstein (Give back at end)
13. Jim Jupena 14. Janice Davies
15. Kim Holmes 16. Roz Laffoon
17. Jesse Robles 18. Rick Koontz
19. Jeanny Pierce

Quarterly Raffle (Gold Wheel and \$50 Gold Bag)

1. Brian Winter

Metal Detecting

On Sunday September 7th, 6 of us showed up to try our luck up at the beach along North Mission Bay from the Fanuel Street Park to the Catamaran Hotel. We are still on our quest for a better producing stretch of beach like we had in past years.

The item of the day was tent pegs.

Bruce Madsen 5 targets \$.18

Jerryk 2 targets \$.02

Jim Jupena 1 targets \$.25

Troy/Tucker Beatty 1 targets \$.01

Marie Beatty Tent pegs

Sunday October 5th is our next date at Oceanside South of the Pier 8-10am

September's "Outing"

None

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

Outings and Events:

Oct 1, 2025 -Wed	6:30 PM to 8:30 PM Knights of Columbus Hall 515 West Valley Parkway Escondido, CA 92025
Oct 2, 2024 -Thursday	TSSD Board Meeting 12 Noon to 2:00 PM Jerry Goldstein's house.
Oct 5, 2024 -Sunday	Metal Detecting with Jerry Kaplan Oceanside, south of pier 8-10
Oct 18-19, 2024 -Sat/Sun	None

OCTOBER 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 TSSD General Meeting 6:30PM	2 TSSD Board Meeting 12 Noon	3	4
5 Metal Detecting with Jerry K Oceanside 8-10	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	

Download & Print Free Calendars From [Wiki Calendar](#)

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

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:	Joe Johaneck	858-273-5987	joe4409@aol.com
Secretary:	Roz Laffoon	619-423-6426	rozalynnlaffoon@att.net
	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:	Troy Beatty	619-942-4677	beattybunch@techelectric.net
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:	Vacant		
Gem & Mineral:	Jeanny Pierce	951-678-9128	cosmonut76@yahoo.com
Gold Bags:	Sue Conner *	760-522-9122	suzconner@gmail.com
Librarian:	Iris Horak	442-999-1278	ronaldh0063@sbcglobal.net
	Jeanny Pierce	951-678-9128	cosmonut76@yahoo.com
Membership:	Claire Lunt		
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:	Adriana Taroma	760-315-3727	Cavet4@gmail.com
	Janice Davies	760-473-2024	jdavies7456@gmail.com
Sgt. At Arms:	Vacant		
TSSD Apparel:	Cathy Conner	760-481-5156	creativecreationscal@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: 09-28-2025

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