

The Loop



February 2014

Antelope Valley Treasure Hunter's Society

Lancaster, California

Volume 34 Issue 02

Meeting held 1st Monday of every month at 7:00 PM (unless otherwise noted in newsletter).

Mike's Place

OUR MONTHLY OUTING AT ZUMA BEACH 2/1/2014 COMES 2 DAYS BEFORE OUR MONTHLY MEETING ON 2/3/2014!!!

I started out for the January beach outing at about 9:30 AM from my house at Winnetka. When I got to Santa Monica around 10:30 AM the parking lot on the north side of the pier was closed because it was full. It was closed because most of it was taken up by super large tents. *David Bither* As I did not care to park at the mall like Connie did, I drove up the beach to Zuma. By the way, the ocean was like a lake!

At the January meeting I received two notes in the Idea Box. One was asking how to read/interpret the tide books. The 2/1 tide table shows a high +6.3 tide at 9:47AM and a low -1.1 tide at 4:27PM. There is a difference of 7.4 feet between low and high tides. As beaches have a slope going to the water, the beaches with the steepest slope have about 100' from the high to low water marks. Zuma may have 200' between the high and low water marks because the slope is shallower. (See editor's charts later in the newsletter.)

Question two was regarding having a hunt at Scott Sandahl's Outpost, which I will describe at the February meeting on 2/3/2014.

Toodleloo!

From the Editor:

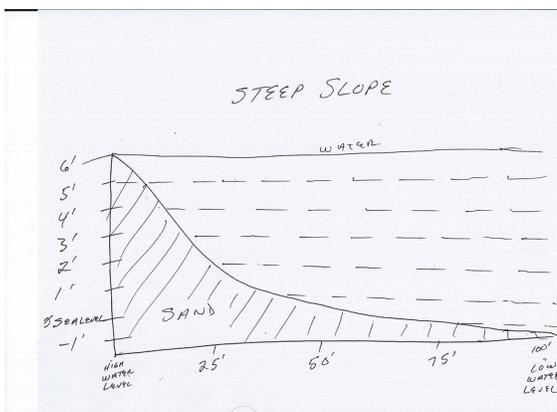
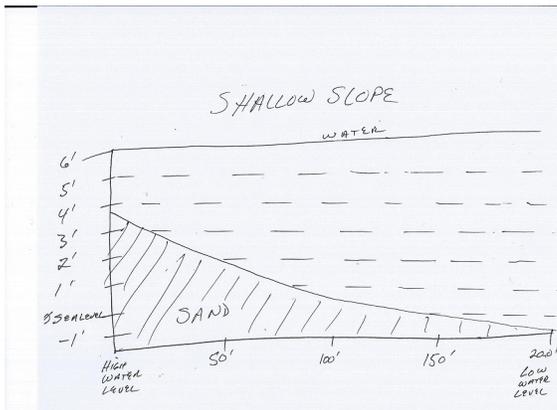


Hi everyone! I hope that those of you who made it to Santa Monica Pier for the January outing made great finds to bring to the Feb. 3 Meeting!

As Mike did, I left late for Santa Monica Pier. I arrived at about 11:30 AM and found the same conditions that he described. Not only did the tents more than half fill the parking lot, but there was a Frisbee competition going on just north of the parking lot, which filled the rest of it! Since the mall parking gives you 90 minutes free, then the next hour is only \$1 (additional time beyond that is \$1.50 for each 30 minutes) I opted to give that a try rather than pay \$8 in one of the other more distant parking lots for any length of time. That would give me some time to see if anyone was in the area. I set up on the beach with my chair and lunch cooler then walked a bit down the beach to see if I could see anyone I knew. I couldn't see a single detectorist. So I decided since I had time, I'd go ahead and eat my lunch and see if anyone came by (my chair is kind of distinctive—bright orange with a matching umbrella.) Soon I saw a man detecting the beach and I called out to him. It was Ron Renter, a new member, and he said he had seen a couple other members south of the pier. I had put in a call to Linda Reitz and she told me that she had also seen several other members, so we had a decent showing even if we didn't actually see each other! I finally left and since I went a little over 2 1/2 hours I paid \$2.50.

From the Editor (cont'd):

Now to address Mikes Tide Table issue, I thought I'd insert some visual examples:



I apologize for the crude drawings, but I couldn't find any online that would show this.

As you can see, the more slope there is to the beach the less "wet sand" area you will have to detect as the tide moves to low tide. The less slope, the more "wet sand" you will have. I hope this is a little clearer than mud.

Another thing to consider is the wind and the height of the waves. Usually, the more wind (depending on direction) and *John & Vivian Sexton* the higher the waves, the more "cut" there will be to the sand. This is why detecting after a storm can be productive—because much of the overburden of sand has been removed by wave action getting you down to the older coins and items that were lost in the past. Wind blowing in the WRONG direction can cause more sand to build up and cover all the treasure!

Connie Smith, Editor

PS. Please note substitute for 1975 quarter on Scavenger Hunt list. The US Mint did not make any 1975 quarters! New item is 1965 quarter.

Meeting Date	Outing Date	Location	Notes
February	2/3/2014	Zuma Beach Club Planted Hunt	Pot Luck
March	3/3/2014	Marie Kerr Park	Club Main dish/Members sides
April	4/7/2014	TBA (Mike's choice TBD)	BYOF
May	5/5/2014	Map Hunt, Lancaster City Park/ Planted Hunt	Club- Breakfast/Members sides
June	6/2/2014	Cajon Creek of I-15	BYOF (Bring your own food)
July	7/7/2014	Castaic Lower Lake/ Planted Hunt	BYOF (Bring your own food)
August	8/4/2014	Silverwood Lake	BYOF (Bring your own food)
September	9/8/2014	San Gabriel R. East Fork	BYOF (Bring your own food)
October	10/6/2014	Rocky Road Chili Cook Off/ Planted hunt	Chili + Pot Luck
November	11/3/2014	AVT Claim Sat/Sun	BYOF
December	12/1/2014	Christmas Party	Medrano's Mexican Restaurant

URGENT: We are losing our webpage and Rick needs someone who can set up and build a new one. He's not "technically savvy" and has just managed to handle the current one because it's pretty simple. Please contact Rick W. if you can help!

BIO: LOVETTA BURNS

My name is Lovetta Burns and I am the Vice President of the AVTHS Club. I first became interested in detecting in the late 60s or early 70s, when my dad got into it and gave me his magazines. He was unable to do much due to arthritis and gave it up. In the mid 70s I got my first detector. A GEMCO special that wouldn't stay adjusted. It was supposed to be either metal or mineral. After a couple of sweeps, adjust it again. Took it to the beach and never found anything and didn't have anyone else I knew detecting, so I too gave it up.

Fast forward to 2001, my mom had passed away (my dad in 1990) and going through the house, I found my dad's detector. I still had my old one in the closet. My late husband had never heard of metal detecting. One weekend we went to the beach and took the detectors, me using mine, and he using my dad's. I still found nothing, but he found a hot wheels truck, and was instantly hooked. A few weeks later he saw the ad on TV where the man found a gold and diamond ring and was really excited. Called the number and White's sent a catalogue along with the Wyatt's number. We contacted them and looked at new detectors and he left with a New DFX. It was the end of 2001. They told us about the club and receiving a silver dime just for showing what we found. We went to the January meeting with our meager finds and joined the club that night. He was still working, but we went out every chance we got. He retired mid year and every morning over coffee we decided where we would go that day. We were able to go out nearly every day and found a lot of treasures. We saved our money we found and at the end of the year, we had found enough to buy a water detector. We also were able to purchase a couple of used gold machines. Late in the year and we had gone to the beach and found the beaches had been sifted. We went to 5 beaches that day and there was not even foil. We ended up at Zuma. I had found 3 pennies all day and he a couple. I was tired and cranky so I headed to the car and about half way across the beach I final got a signal and the detector said bottle cap, I scooped it up anyway, and in my scoop was a man's diamond and gold ring. One large and 6 small diamonds. He finally found a silver ring that day. My ring appraised for just under \$3000. My best find yet! About 4 years ago while water detecting, my husband found a white gold and diamond engagement ring which I wear. That one appraised for \$1500. His best find.

Through this club we also joined the Taft Prospectors club and the PCSC clubs to do more prospecting. We were very active in all three clubs. Through PCSC we also became members of a volunteer group working crime scenes with LA Co Sheriff's Dept. During one of the

crime scene work, my husband had a massive heart attack, and I lost him. That was 3 1/2 years ago. He was also President of the Taft club at the time. We have many friends through the clubs and they have been a wonderful support to me. I am still active here and with the Taft club and with the crime scene team. I love all aspects of detecting and I hope you, and especially the newer people, will get as much enjoyment from it as I have. I hope I haven't bored you. Happy hunting!

Lost treasure awaits beach 'detectorists'

By **A. Pawlowski**, CNN
June 17, 2011 8:06 a.m. EDT

(CNN) -- Most people heading to the seashore bring along sunscreen, colorful towels and a big umbrella. For others, the ultimate beach accessory is a metal detector.

You've probably seen them during your trips to any coast -- sweeping the gadget back and forth along the water, ears covered by big headphones, eyes scanning the sand -- and wondered what exactly they're looking for.

Meet the detectorists, as the community of hobbyists is known.

You'll return from a day at the beach with a tan and some pretty sea shells. They're hoping to bring back something more lucrative. Gold, anyone?

This treasure hunt may evoke romantic images of shipwreck relics washing up ashore, and that does sometimes happen. But more often than not, the loot simply slips off the bodies of modern-day beachgoers.

"If you have people who are swimming, you're going to have gold in the water," said Dan Berg, an avid detectorist and author of "Beach and Water Treasure Hunting with Metal Detectors."

"The more swimmers there are, the more gold there's going to be."

It's the perfect setup, when you think about it. Most vacationers cover themselves liberally with suntan lotion and bake under the sun, so their hands swell.

Then, when they go to cool off in the water, their fingers shrink. And since they've already been "pre-lubricated" by the sunscreen, rings can slide right off, Berg said. Waves and currents help nudge accessories off, too.

The promise of such orphaned jewelry, or "drops," has always made beaches an alluring destination for detectorists, but the skyrocketing [price of gold](#) in recent years has more people than ever interested in the hobby.

(In case you're wondering whether the treasure hunters feel bad about keeping other people's stuff, the answer is pretty much no. There's usually no way to know how long the items have been lost or how to track down the owners. But in the rare instances they can identify them, most say they're glad to return the valuables.)

In search of 'bling'

Want to get in on the action? There's real money at stake, so there is a sense of secrecy, caution and reluctance when you ask veteran detectorists for a lot of specifics. But most advise newbies to start with the big tourist [beaches](#) first to increase the odds of finding something valuable. Think Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Atlantic City, New Jersey; Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; Venice Beach, California, and the like.

Then, there's Miami's South Beach.

"That's a flashy place, and it also has a lot of people who like to party. They get out there with their bling and they turn cartwheels and get drunk and do all kinds of foolish things," said Tim Higginbotham, who has been beach metal detecting for 25 years.

"Miami is an ideal place to come up with a Rolex watch or a good diamond ring or something like that. You can find a lot of stuff down there on South Beach."

Going to any popular beach after a big holiday, like the Fourth of July, can also yield more finds because so many people flock to the shore to relax and celebrate, Higginbotham said.

The detectorist has found his share of gold over the years, some of which he has sold and some of which he keeps in a safety deposit box.

He mostly hunts along the beaches near his home in Fort Pierce, Florida, on the state's Treasure Coast -- so called because of the Spanish ships full of silver and gold that shipwrecked in the area almost 300 years ago.

Here, relics sometimes do show up, including Higginbotham's favorite finds: a religious medallion from the Nieves, a sunken Spanish treasure galleon, and a 1714 gold coin.

Eccentric image

Be aware that you'll find lots of junk before you stumble onto anything valuable, warned Amy Maruso, who lives in suburban Philadelphia and likes to treasure hunt on the beaches of northern New Jersey. The hobby has consumed her for 30 years and she carefully studies winds, moon phases and tides to plan her outings for maximum payoff. Maruso recently cashed in some of the gold she's found for \$1,300, she said. But she also doesn't scoff at loose change -- which can add up -- so she likes to go to any beach that has a boardwalk, where people are likely to carry a lot of coins for parking meters, amusement rides and food.

The sight of detectorists scooping up change from the sand sometimes prompts laughs from other beach goers, Maruso said. Bud Light even made an ad mocking "[Mr. Beach Metal Detector Guy](#)" as part of its popular "Real Men of Genius" series.

The hobby has an eccentric image, Maruso agreed. Her most memorable encounter while metal detecting on a beach took place with a homeless man who asked her for money.

"He looked at my scoop and he said, 'Oh, never mind, I see you have to scrounge for change too,'" Maruso recalled with a chuckle.

Her favorite find so far has been a "large cent" minted in the United States in 1794.

The hobby can be so addictive that detectorists often pack their metal detectors whenever they travel to any destination with a beach. Berg has brought it to Bermuda and the Atlantis resort in the Bahamas. Higginbotham usually finds enough change to pay for some meals when he vacations in the Caribbean.

"The beauty of metal detecting is that almost anybody can do it, and you can do it at different levels and intensities," Berg said. "It's probably one of the only pastimes that pays for itself."

Resources

Interested in finding out more? The Internet offers lots of advice, including sites such as the [Treasure Coast Beach Report](#) and [GoMetalDetecting.com](#). You can see what valuables others have found on forums, including [TreasureNet.com](#) and [MyTreasureSpot.com](#).

Metal detecting often isn't allowed on beaches that are state parks, so check out guidance from the [Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs](#).

If you want to limit your searches to beaches near shipwrecks, there are online guides to sunken ships along the coasts of [Florida](#); the [Outer Banks of North Carolina](#) (known as the "Graveyard of the Atlantic"); and [New England](#).



RICK & VICKIE WYATT (661) 943-1124

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Douglas Dillingham
Owner/CEO



Club Apparel is available

Support your Club by purchasing one of our
new hats or shirts.

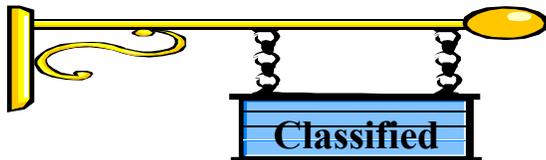


FREE RAFFLE TICKET

If you find your name in the newsletter and it looks like this: *Your Name* You get a free raffle ticket at the next general meeting. Bring it to the attention of the ticket seller. If two names appear (i.e. husband/wife) ONE ticket is given out.

WANTED: White's Surf PI Pro with **yellow label and ridges on coil** Please contact Steve Molstad at **818-891-9778**

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Proprietor



FOR SALE: Fisher 11" DD F2/F4 push on type coil and cover. \$125. Contact Harry Surtees at **661-285-1298 (H) or 661-878-1782 (C)**

Wanted: Bigfoot Coil for Whites DFX Call Ben Molstad at **562-209-2344**

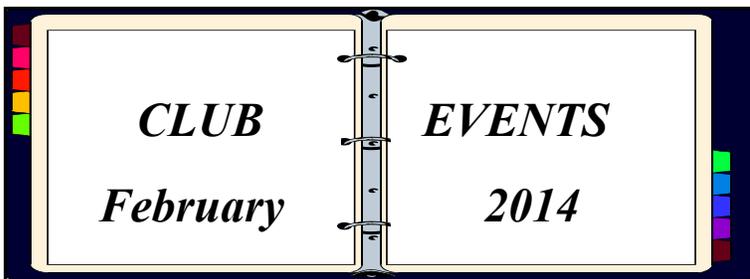
For Sale:

Gold Buddy Drywasher Medium size with a Homelite blower. Very good condition. Asking \$150 obo, Call or text John Chartier 661-317-2124

Any Member who is interested in receiving *The Loop* via E-mail can send their request to me at avthnews@gmail.com and I would be happy to send it as a .pdf file. It is generally about 2mb for the issue. If any member has something of interest for the general membership, send it my way and I will include it. The Deadline is the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's edition.

Refreshments volunteers for 2014

- Jan Mike Temple
- Feb Linda Reitz
- Mar Connie Smith
- Apr Peggy & Steve Howard
- May Mike Snowden
- Jun AVAILABLE
- Jul AVAILABLE
- Aug Linda Bravo
- Sep AVAILABLE
- Oct AVAILABLE
- Nov AVAILABLE
- Dec AVAILABLE



Feb. 3, 2014 General Meeting - 7:00 pm
 Leisure Lake Mobil Estates
 48303 20th St. West
 Lancaster, CA 93534

Feb. 3, 2014 Board Meeting following immediately
 after the General Meeting

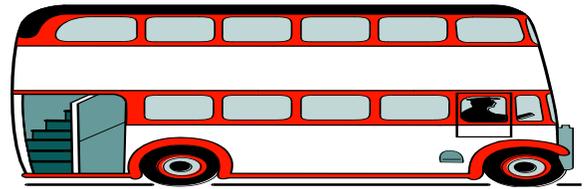
1st Qtr. 2014 Scavenger Hunt

Scavenger Hunt items for
 Jan. 7, 2014 to Apr. 7, 2014 ***

01. 5 Consecutively dated dimes
02. **1965** Quarter
03. Any New Belgian Brewery beer cap (i.e. Fat Tire)
04. Canadian Quarter
05. Silver bracelet
06. "D" cell battery
07. Fishing hook (any size)
08. Large iron nut (2" or larger)
09. Tweezers
10. 100 pull tabs
11. Non disposable lighter
12. 1982 coin
13. Underwire from bra or bathing suit
14. Gold nugget (.5 gr. or larger)
15. Any **Central** American coin (Check map for countries)

Finds must be brought to the April 7, 2014 General Meeting or earlier if all found. Display owner must be present to win. First member that finds all 15 items will win a Silver Half Dollar*. If all items are not found, the member finding the most will win a Silver Quarter**. Members finding at least 10 items will get a Silver Dime. *If there is a tie, the winner will be decided by the cut of a deck of cards and runner-up will receive a Silver Quarter. *** Only Items found between Jan. 6, 2014 meeting and the Apr. 7, 2013 meeting, qualify to be displayed. All items must be found in the act of treasure hunting or while prospecting. Items found with the naked eye qualify. **No purchased items or planted hunt finds allowed.**

CLUB OUTINGS



Feb. 1, 2014—Zuma Beach Outing

The 2/1 tide table shows a high +6.3 tide at 9:47AM and a low -1.1 tide at 4:27PM. We will hunt the wet sand as the tide goes out. Dry sand can be hunted anytime. **THE CLUB WILL PROVIDE A HUNT WITH TOKENS FOR PRIZES** at around 10:00 a.m.

Take Hwy 1 from whatever direction you are traveling. From south, Exit Hwy 1—Pacific Coast Drive—at Busch Drive to the right and loop around under Hwy 1 to the entrance of Zuma Beach. From north, just exit at beach entrance. There is a parking fee of about \$10/car. Take Zuma Beach Access Road north to the picnic tables next to the large white container. This is between the 7th and 8th parking lots.

The club will be providing main dish — hot dogs. Members will need to bring sides, such as fruit, salads, chips, cookies, cake or some other dish. Remember to bring plenty to drink, a chair and sun screen.

Those who wish to caravan from Antelope Valley will need to be at the Park & Ride, west of the 14 freeway on Avenue S at 7am.

Treasure Hunters Code of Ethics

I will always check federal, state, county and local laws before searching; it is my responsibility to know the law.

I will respect private property and will not enter private property without the owner's permission. Where possible, such permission will be in writing.

I will take care to refill any holes and try not to leave any damage.

I will remove and dispose of any and all trash and litter that I find.

I will appreciate and protect our inheritance of natural resources, wildlife, and private property.

I will, as an ambassador for the hobby, use thoughtfulness, consideration and courtesy at all times.

I will work to help bring unity to our hobby by working with any organization of any geographic area that may have problems that will limit their ability to peacefully pursue the hobby.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only.

I will report to the proper authorities any individuals who enter and/or remove artifacts from federal parks or state preserves.

“THE END OF THE LOOP”

January Finds of the Month *Member must be present to display finds*

Most Unique

Scott Sandahl—Cigar token

Best Gold Item

James Gilmore—Religious medal

Best Natural Gold

Stve Howard

Best U.S. Coin

Ben Molstad—1914D Barber dime

Best Foreign Coin

Harry Surtees

Best Silver Item

Men Molstad—ring

Best Overall

Ben Molstad

Attendance Drawing

Bonnell Forster

50/50 Draw

Steve Howard \$71



February Birthdays

Joe Covey, Robert Sams, Gordon Stocks, John Vermillion,

Please note: If your birthday isn't listed in your birth month, you probably didn't give us your information. This information is gleaned from the active membership roster. Contact Linda Bravo. to update.

OFFICERS

President..... **Mike Temple**
H 818-341-8261 C 818 557-6467

Vice-Pres..... **Lovetta Burns**
E-mail - lburns57@att.net
H 661 256-1654 C 661 428-0797

Treasurer..... **Linda Bravo**
E-mail - lsb7203@yahoo.com

Secretary..... **Linda Reitz**
E-mail - llreitz@aol.com

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Robert Weaver..... 661-948-8350
Connie Smith661-526-7494
Mike Snowden.....661-269-2937
Rick Wyatt.....661-943-1124
James Gilmore.....661-492-8707
Vicky Wyatt.....661-943-1124

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Welcome..... Vivian Sexton
Raffles..... Ted Bell & Ed Barr
Club Photographer..... Anyone With Camera
Find of the Month..... Scott Sandahl
Claims..... Linda Bravo
Metal Detecting..... Scott Sandahl
Refreshments..... Volunteer for each meeting
Club Apparel..... Vacant
Club Public Web Page..... Rick Wyatt
Newsletter..... Connie Smith
661 526-7494

Membership..... Vivian Sexton / Jim Willson
Recycling..... Jay Zeigler

Remember, as with the recycling collection, the proceeds from the sale of apparel are put back in the club to fund prizes and food at the outing.



Outing Map—Zuma Beach



Antelope Valley Treasure Hunter's Society
P. O. Box 4718
Lancaster, California 93539

ANTELOPE VALLEY



TREASURE HUNTER'S SOCIETY

This Month's Club Outing

Zuma Beach

