

The Loop



Lancaster, California

December 2014

Antelope Valley Treasure Hunter's Society

Volume 34 Issue 12

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

Mike's Place

FYI, I still have the equipment and material for making sand scoops! Anyone interested in buying it from me, I will gladly teach you how to make them! Please call me (H 818-341-8261 C 818 557-6467) or talk to me at the next meeting!



From the Editor:

Is it really December already?! That means we'll soon be enjoying the most attended outing of the year—THE CHRISTMAS PARTY! Yea! Vickie is taking payments (\$15/person) *Jerry & Lorelei Paland* for the Christmas Dinner. We need at least 50 prepaid dinner tix to get the room for free! If you plan to attend, please get your payment to Vickie ASAP by mailing them to the club at:

Antelope Valley Treasure Hunters Society
P.O. Box 4718
Lancaster, CA 93539

There was a decent turnout at the AVT outing this month. I had originally planned to go out on Thursday and stay through Sunday, but then remembered that I promised a friend I'd dog/cat sit for her for a week. In addition to that, it turned out at the meeting that all who planned to participate had never been to AVT before! Since I was the only one who knew the way (barely!) I just made it a one day thing. Besides me, Don Duncan and his friend Roger Kibby, Ron Renter, Brian Skerston and Ron Ayers all showed up at JetHawk Stadium. An event was being held there, but fortunately they weren't charging parking fees and

we were all able to go in and wait. Due to the Virgin Shuttle crash in the Jawbone area, Redrock—Randsburg road was closed while they search for debris (covered 34 sq. miles!) so we headed across on 58. As we approached Osdick Rd. there was some police activity going on and we saw what we're pretty sure was a body covered up. As we continued toward the claim, we saw more police at the point where you turn into our claim. They said the road beyond was closed due to a bad accident. I told the officer that we wouldn't need *Roger & Syndia Kemp* to go any further because we were right at the entrance of our claim. We pulled in and got set up. Don, Roger and Ron worked on Don's Keene 140 and Ron Ayers had his own 140. I would have been running my Tornado 2, but, alas, I drove off leaving all of my three charged batteries sitting in my garage! The Tornado is set up to be used as a rocker, as well as battery operated, but that sounded like too much work to me, so I tagged along with Brian to do some "nugget shooting." I put that in quotes because the only "nuggets" we found were bullet shells, lead, and other miscellaneous metal junk left by the former miners and the modern day shooters that frequent the area. Jerry Balcer came by to visit for a while, too. Roger entertained us with his prospecting stories—like the time he and some friends wanted to test to see who had the best detector. One guy gave them a vial with 1 oz. of gold to plant. They put it in a banana peel and immediately, a squirrel ran up, grabbed the banana peel with the gold and headed into his burrow! The never did find the gold, even though the tried to dig it out. The squirrel went too deep!

Oh, by the way—a note to Gregg Bergman, I apologize for not getting your business card into The Loop earlier. I thought I had done so, but found your card in my folder and double checked and saw that it WASN'T in the newsletter! It is now! AVTHS members, if you are looking for Garrett detectors and equipment, be sure to check with Gregg!

REMEMBER—ELECTIONS AT DECEMBER MEETING! As far as I know, we still need a Secretary as Linda Reitz will not be able to continue in 2015 for personal reasons. FYI, officers get their membership paid for the year they serve! If that isn't an incentive to step up, I don't know what is! Those running are:

President—Don Duncan & Jim (Ebon) Gilmore
VP—Lovetta Burns
Secretary—???
Treasurer—Linda Bravo
Members at Large—Robert Weaver, Rick Wyatt, Mike Snowden, Connie Smith

Connie Smith, Editor

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

And a HAPPY NEW YEAR, too!

[illegible]

Hi folks,

I received the below email from Dave McCracken regarding the recently published Appellate Court Decision in the case of the State vs. Rinehard . It seems that the State is trying to get that publication reversed so that the miners can't use it as a precedent! I'm also attaching to this emailed version of the newsletter the page with the PROOF OF SERVICE that needs to be sent along with the letter. The letter is on the next page or you can copy and paste the letter from the link below. Please follow Dave's recommendation to send via an expedited service rather than First Class as these need to be in the hands of the Court by Thursday, so we need to ensure that they arrive by Wednesday at the latest! The flood of letters from miners got the decision published and we can keep it from becoming DEpublished!

"Dear Connie Smith,

I am truly sorry to bother you with this, but it has just come to our attention that the State of California has petitioned the California Supreme Court to de-publish the Third Appellate Court's Rinehart Decision which confirms our federal mining rights on the public lands. Here it is:

http://peoplevrinehart.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Letter-cum-POS_Rinehart-Request-for-Depublication.pdf.pdf

We only have 10 days from when the Petition was filed to deliver our own letters of opposition to the Court. That means our letters must reach the Court on or before this coming Thursday, 27 November.

Our attorney believes it would be beneficial for the California Supreme Court to hear from an army of gold prospectors who have an interest in how this matter is resolved in California. It does not matter the state or country where you live.

Once again, if the Rinehart Decision is de-publicized, we will not be able to rely upon it in the ongoing legal negotiations to get our suction dredge regulations back, or in any other litigation -- ever. It would basically put us back to square one.

Here is a sample letter from which you can copy and paste, date, modify as you like, and add your name and address:

<http://www.goldgold.com/sample-ltr-ca-supreme-court.html>

Please note that you must also date and sign the proof of service and include it with the letter.

I am asking that you use some kind of express mail, overnight UPS or Fed Ex service to make sure your letter and proof of service reaches the California Supreme Court in time. You can send copies by regular mail to the other names on the proof of service page.

The Rinehart Decision is perhaps the most important legal development for mining on the public lands in our lifetimes. It is the turning point which we have all worked so hard for. Please help us try to prevent the dark side from taking it away!

Thanks for whatever you can do,

Dave McCracken
The New 49'ers Legal Fund

The New 49er's, 27 Davis Road, Happy Camp, California 96039, USA"

BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

Supreme Court of California
914 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: *People v. Rinehart*, Third Appellate District, Case No. C074662

Response to the People's Request for Depublication

To the Honorable Tani Goree Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California, and to the Honorable Associate Justices of the California Supreme Court:

Pursuant to California Rule of Court 8.1125(b), I write to request that the Court deny the People's request to depublish the opinion issued in *People v. Rinehart*, Third Appellate District Case No. C074662, 230 Cal. App.4th 419 (September 23, 2014).

As a suction dredge miner in the State of California, I have been denied my federal statutory right to explore and develop mineral claims on federal land in the State of California since 2009. Ever since the first statute stopping the Department of Fish and Wildlife's longstanding permit program, the mining community has been engaged in civil litigation to establish that the State may not arbitrarily single out suction dredging for precious metals from all other suction dredging and other dredging activities, and refuse to issue any permits whatsoever. But no judge in any of the multiple civil cases has reached the merits of this claim, despite multiple motions and requests to do so.

Mr. Rinehart, at great personal cost, undertook to get the criminal justice system to demonstrate that the State's regulatory power does not extend to a blanket prohibition that frustrates mineral development on federal land. The civil lawsuits now remain before the San Bernardino County Superior Court. There are settlement negotiations underway that could lead to the resumption of permit issuance. If the opinion is depublished, it will embolden the opponents of suction dredge mining who seek a permanent ban, and threaten to cause those settlement negotiations into pointless relitigation of the question.

It is worth noting that the State itself, in a joint motion seeking calendar preference before the Court of Appeal, acknowledged that the Rinehart opinion would "provide important guidance to the Superior Court in the coordinated proceedings". Now that the case has come out confirming the position of the miners, by its request the State seeks to prevent the miners from even citing it to the Superior Court. This is unjust.

The Rinehart opinion meets the standards of publication because even though it addresses a particularly unique misuse of legislative authority to destroy a long-standing permit program, and applied clear federal and state precedents, it clarifies an issue of continuing public interest, and explains longstanding rules of federal supremacy in the mining context so that all parties can fashion a reasonable and workable permit program.

Please deny the State's request for depublication, and thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

(Name and Address)

RICK & VICKIE WYATT (661) 943-1124

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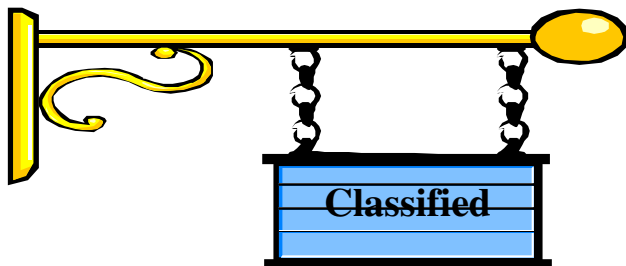
Fine Art Gallery - Coins, Gold & Collectibles

Gold Panning Ins. & Classes - Rocks & Gems

34141 116th St E Pearblossom, CA

SCOTT SANDAHL

Proprietor



Mens XL Wetsuit for sale:

Brand new with tags still on

3/2 mm, full body, black and blue

Asking \$50 obo

Call or text John 661-317-2124

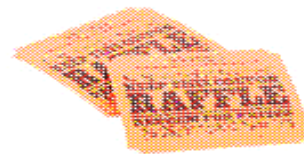
Wanted: Bigfoot Coil for Whites DFX Call
Ben Molstad at **562-209-2344**

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

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.

Club Apparel is available

Support your Club by purchasing one of our

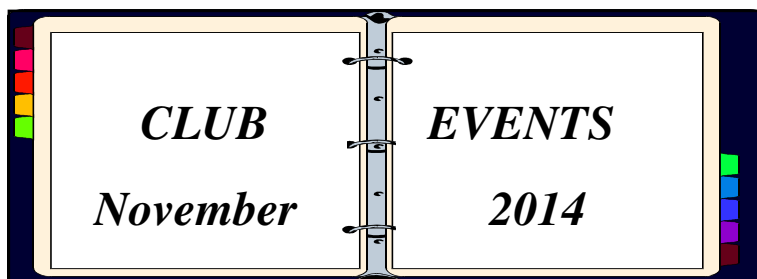


FREE RAFFLE TICKET

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.

Refreshments volunteers for 2014

Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov



Dec. 1, 2014 General Meeting - 7:00 pm
 Leisure Lake Mobil Estates
 48303 20th St. West
 Lancaster, CA 93534

Dec. 1, 2014 Board Meeting following immediately
 after the General Meeting

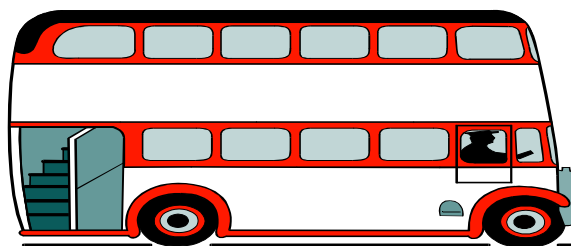
4th Qtr. 2014 Scavenger Hunt

**Scavenger Hunt items for
 October 6, 2014 to January 5, 2015*****

01. Ten rusty nails
02. Child's gold or silver jewelry
03. Soccer pin
04. Chucky Cheese token
05. Pepsi (glass bottle) cap
06. Any brass item
07. 5 Tent stakes
08. 5 Consecutively dated nickels
09. Staple puller (any style)
10. 100 pull tabs
11. Hinge
12. Metal fork
13. Paper clip
14. AAA battery
15. Fish hook

Finds must be brought to the January 5, 2015 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 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. If all items are not found, the member finding the most will win a Silver Quarter. If there is a tie, a cut of a deck will decide the winner. Members finding at least 10 items will get a Silver Dime. *** Only Items found between Oct. 6, 2014 meeting and the January 5, 2015 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



Dec. 6, 2014—CHRISTMAS PARTY!!!

**Where? MEDRANO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT
 44276 10th St. W in Lancaster, CA.**

Those coming from the north can take the 14 freeway to the Avenue J exit and go East (left) onto Avenue J and continue to 10th St. W. Make a right turn then turn left into the strip mall parking lot at Avenue J-2 which dead ends at 10th St. W on our right. Medrano's will be on your left.

Those coming from the south can take the 14 north to Avenue L and turn right. At the light at L and 10th St. W, turn left and follow up to Ave. J-2 (which dead ends at 10th St. W. on your left) then turn right into the strip mall parking lot. Medrano's will be on your left. We have the big room from 5:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.



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”

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

Most Unique

Dan Petrozzi

Best Gold Item

Dan Petrozzi

Best Natural Gold

Jim Gilmore

Best U.S. Coin

Gary Spain—Indian Head penny

Best Foreign Coin

Harry Surtees—Silver Philippine dime

Best Silver Item

Gary Spain

Best Overall

Harry Surtees

Attendance Drawing

Al & Alicia Klomhaus

50/50 Draw

Gary Spain—\$53



December Birthdays

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.

**Ed Barr, Frankie Holman, Roger Kemp,
Marie Molstad, Chip Myers, Lorelei Paland,
Chris Smith, Fred Smith, Jay Zeigler**

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

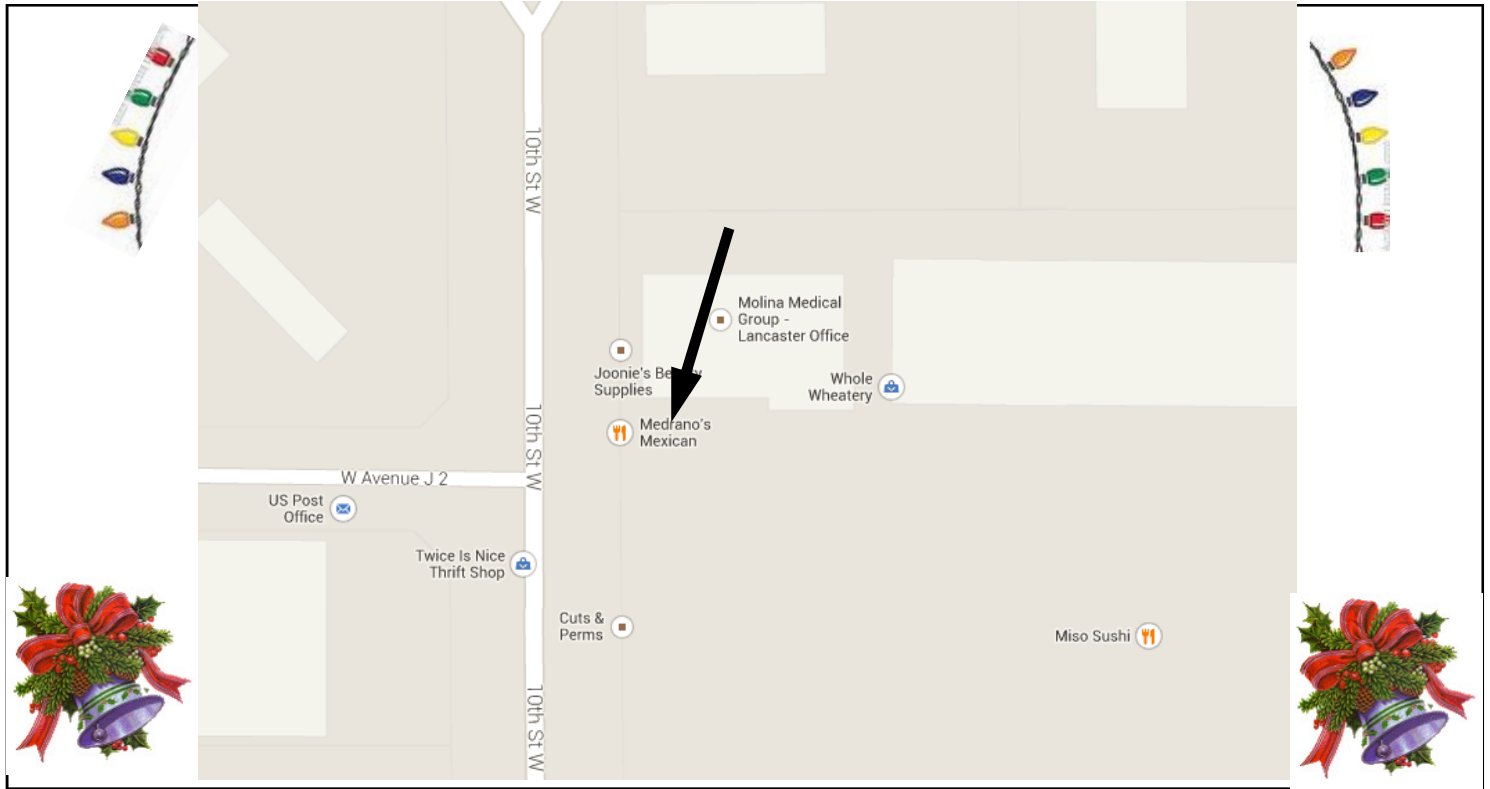
Membership..... Vivian Sexton
661 478-0174

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—Christmas Party, Medrano's



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



This Month's Club Outing

Christmas Party!!!

