

The Loop



May 2015

Antelope Valley Treasure Hunter's Society

Lancaster, California

Volume 35 Issue 05

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

Prez Sayz, Don Duncan said he's not much of a writer, but will let me know when he has something to say. Meanwhile, I'll keep you updated with the activities.

From the Editor:

We had a very good turnout at the April "Mystery Hunt" outing. I think we had about 20 participants. We were all sent out in at least pairs on a scavenger hunt to any of the local parks we wished to check out but didn't have a clue what we were looking for! Lovetta just told us to pick up everything we found. When we got back to the site at 11:00 a.m. she pulled out a list of items she had preselected with a point system for each different item. We all went through to see what we had from the list then learned how many points we earned! It was really fun. Winners earned cash prizes from \$2—\$10. *Johnnie Beebe* I look forward to doing it again sometime! Great job, Lovetta!

I went to the West Coasters' Annual Rendezvous last weekend (April 17-19) and was surprised not to see any other AVTHS members! There are usually several. I did hear that Dick and Nancy Waters didn't make it because Dick ended up in the hospital! Lovetta told me that Dick had to have a stent placed in his heart but is doing well now. Mas Kadonaga was there, but he's a WC member, as well, and was helping plant the fields. I didn't do all that great in the hunts, but I did have fun!

This year, at least I made it into the "gold field" and there were still two gold coin tokens left, but, alas, I didn't find one. I proceeded to the "consolation field" for one more chance at a token for a gold coin and multiple tokens for other prizes. I got a token for a Walking Liberty silver half. I also found a token on another hunt for a silver round. Vickie and Rick—the Crouthers asked me to tell you that they miss seeing you at Rendezvous! I stayed an extra night so I could just relax and enjoy the park. Usually I arrive in time for the "Warm-up" hunt and Bingo Friday night, then am busy with the various hunts on Saturday and Sunday then have to rush to get everything ready to pull out by 1:00 p.m. This time stayed one extra night. I took a chair over to the man-made lake and relaxed with a book. There are many other things to do at Jurupa Regional Park and I'll save some for next year.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

I heard that several people didn't get their membership cards or rosters in last months newsletter. Please let me know if you were one and we'll get that rectified. I attached the membership cards to the Roster and placed them into the Newsletter, but didn't staple them to the newsletter. I thought that the stickers holding the newsletter together would keep them in place, but apparently some of the packages had a rough ride and may have been jostled out. My apologies for that. In future years, I'll definitely staple them to the newsletter.

I'm putting out a call to all members to give me some suggestions for the Quarterly Scavenger Hunt items. Please send me a list of unusual

Items you find on your hunts that you haven't seen on the lists. This will help to give some freshness to the Scavenger Hunt list I keep on file. It's quite a challenge to come up with different items and your assistance is much appreciated!

NOTE FROM MIKE SNOWDEN:

Just wanted to let the membership know, the Club has purchased an electronic Diamond Tester, Gold Testing Kit, Scale and Magnifier, for use during our monthly General Meetings. The complete kit will normally be available near the back of the room, where the Club Apparel is being sold. *Apparel purchase is not necessary, but we will always be happy to accommodate anyone who needs a Hat, Polo Shirt, T-Shirt or Hoodie.....*

Be sure to come out for the May "Map Hunt" outing. It's always been a fun hunt and Mike Snowden puts a LOT of work into organizing it and finding fields to hunt. It's one of my favorites of our regular outings! For those who are new to AVTHS, Mike selects four different hunt sites then the participants get maps and clues to the first site. Participants are divided into two teams and each team has two sites to find and hunt. They will be looking for colored coins (painted their team colors) and a special token in each site. In the first of the team's fields there will also be a small treasure box with clues *Bonnell Forstner* to the NEXT field! Prizes will be given for the most coins, and for the individuals who find the special tokens and the treasure box. It's a timed event and teams have to be back to Lancaster City Park by the specified time or the win is forfeited. Mike will give specific information at the park. Also, the club will provide a pancake, sausage and scrambled eggs breakfast. It's a really fun event!



Month	Meeting Date	Outing Date	Location	Notes
January	1/5/2015	1/10/2015	Santa Monica Pier	BYOF
February	2/2/2015	2/7/2015	Zuma Beach	Club food/potluck (Hunt)
March	3/2/2015	3/7/2015	El Cariso Park—Sylmar	Club food/potluck
April	4/6/2015	4/11/2015	Lovetta's Mystery Hunt	BYOF
May	5/4/2015	5/9/2015	Map Hunt—Lancaster City Park	Club food (breakfast) (Hunt)
June	6/1/2015	6/6/2015	East Fork—San Gabriel River	BYOF
July	7/6/2015	7/11/2015	Lake Isabella and/or Lake Isabella ski area	BYOF
August	8/3/2015	8/8/2015	Silverwood Lake	Club food/potluck
September	9/7/2015	9/12/2015	Marie Kerr Park	Club food/potluck
October	10/5/2015	10/9-11/2015	Chili Cookoff—Rocky Road	Chili/potluck (Hunt 1 free, 1 paid)
November	11/2/2015	11/7/2015	AVT claim off 395	BYOF
December	12/7/2015	12/12/2015	Christmas Party	Medrano's Mexican Restaurant

From Dave McCracken of The New 49'ers:

Since the San Bernardino Superior Court ruled that California's gold dredge permitting moratorium is unconstitutional, making their existing regulatory "scheme" unenforceable as a matter of law, we are not going to prohibit suction dredging on our mining properties.

According to its web site, The California Department of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) appears to be taking the position that the agency does not accept the Court's ruling; although since the ruling, they have not issued citations to any active suction dredgers as far as we know. We do have active suction dredgers right out in plain sight on the Klamath River, with more excited prospectors arriving every day.

With the Moratorium and 2012 dredge regulations invalidated by the Court, it is difficult to assess which, if any, state regulations remain in effect, though federal rules and regulations do apply.

Since unregulated suction dredge activity is unacceptable on New 49'er properties, we are hereby adopting Emergency Rules concerning suction dredging for the duration of this period of uncertainty. We have carefully crafted these Rules from the DFW suction dredge regulations which applied to our properties during the 2009 season when the illegal moratorium was imposed. They have been modified slightly in consideration of concerns voiced during the San Bernardino legal proceedings, along with the ongoing drought situation in California.

DFW Wardens Back Off During First Contact With Suction Dredgers!

Story by Derek Eimer & John Rose

Derek: On the 3rd of April, I set up a 2 1/2-inch sampling dredge on the Klamath River downstream of Happy Camp near to where I made an incredibly rich gold strike a few years ago. It is still early in the season, so I was just sucking up small samples to process with my gold pan. Shortly after getting started, I looked up and saw that there were two DFW wardens watching me from up on the road. John Rose was up there talking with them. So I shut my machine down and crossed the river to see if they wanted to talk to me.



The wardens seemed genuinely surprised.

John: Someone had reported to the office that there was a dredge in the river down on our newer K-23AA property, so I went down for a look. Sure enough, Derek was over on the other side of the river operating a suction dredge. As I was standing there watching, the two DFW wardens arrived in their patrol vehicle. I went over and introduced myself as Deputy Director of Internal Affairs for The New 49'ers. The officers were polite and cordial. My impression is that they were somewhat sympathetic and perhaps a little embarrassed to be caught in the middle of a silly struggle over small suction dredges; and would rather have been out chasing poachers or real criminals.

Derek: The wardens were also polite to me when I walked over to my truck and started changing out of my wet boots. When they asked what I was doing across the river, I told them I was sucking up small samples off the bottom of the river. They replied by asking if I was aware that my activity was in violation of Section 5653 of the Fish & Wildlife Code. I responded by handing them the portion of Judge Ochoa's Decision that explains Section 5653 in its present form is not enforceable by DFW. They seemed genuinely surprised as they read the final part of Judge Ochoa's Ruling.

John: The wardens told Derek they were going to take his suction hose and nozzle for evidence, write up a report and submit it to their superior, who might or might not forward it to the Siskiyou County District Attorney for prosecution. When I

asked how long all that would take, the warden answered that it could take several months or longer.

Derek: I just told them that I would be back out on the river with another hose and nozzle on the following day!

John: The wardens responded that they would just keep on coming out and taking the hoses and nozzles away, or perhaps at some point arrest Derek. So I suggested if it were going to eventually result in an arrest, why not just arrest Derek on the spot?

Derek: That's when I told the wardens that I would fully cooperate with being arrested just so we could get the whole matter in front of a judge without further delay. My suggestion prompted one of the wardens to get on the radio in their patrol car.



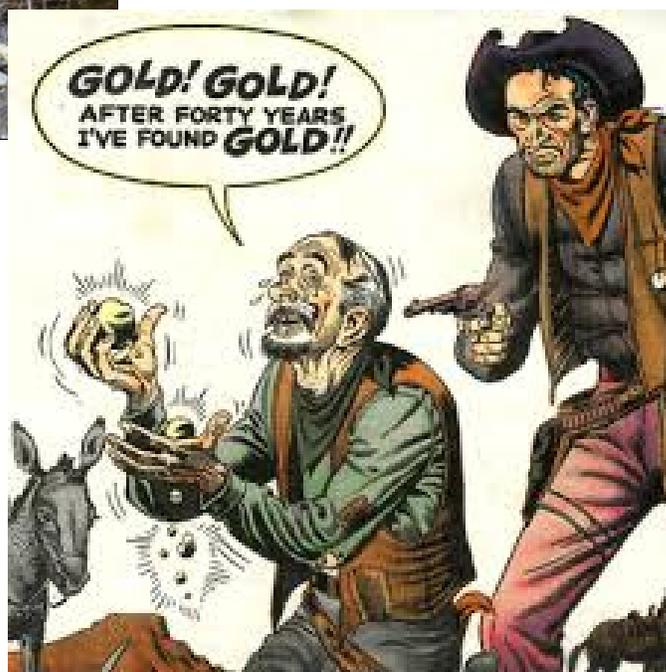
Derek: The warden returned and said he would issue me a receipt for my nozzle and suction hose. Then he asked if I would mind going across the river to fetch them. I answered that I was not going to help them confiscate my own equipment when I did not believe I was doing anything wrong in the first place.

John: Since the wardens had no safe way to cross the river, they must have come back the following day with a boat, because



Derek's nozzle and hose were gone. True to his convictions, Derek returned with another hose and nozzle and is now back out on the river continuing his sampling program.

John: Our office manager, Tony Balderrama, is a dedicated amateur radio operator. He uses the New 49'er radio system to regularly monitor all of the Siskiyou County emergency frequencies. This is because we have so many active members, if there is ever an emergency; we are more likely to find out about it faster over the emergency channels. Later, when I returned to the office, Tony told me he that he took notes of the entire exchange between the warden and his dispatcher. The conversation began at 2:10 pm. ***"The subject is requesting to be arrested,"*** said the warden. At 2:20, the dispatcher answered ***"The Watch Commander says that's a negative on making an arrest or issuing a citation."***



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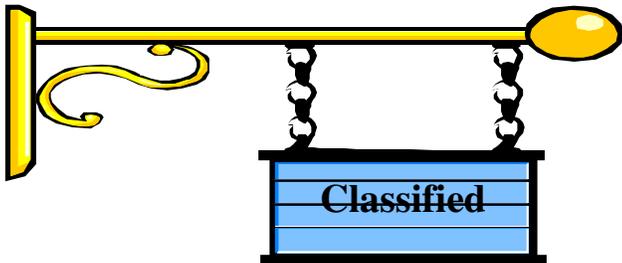
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All members will be receiving *The Loop* via E-mail to save on printing and postage costs, unless they don't have e-mail. If they are currently receiving it by snail mail and later get an email account they can send their request to me at avthnews@gmail.com and I would be happy to send it as a .pdf file. It is generally about 2mb for the issue.

Club Apparel is available

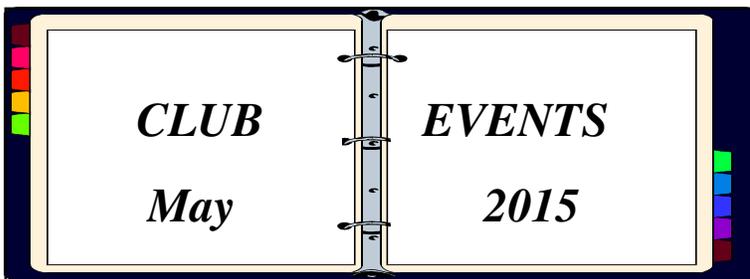
Support your Club by purchasing one of our new hats or shirts.



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.

Refreshments volunteers for 2015	
May	Mike Snowden
Jun	Harry Surtees
Jul	Lovetta Burns
Aug	Linda Bravo
Sep	Linda Reitz
Oct	Don Duncan
Nov	Wes Weathers
Dec	David Young



May 4, 2015 General Meeting - 7:00 pm
 Leisure Lake Mobil Estates
 48303 20th St. West
 Lancaster, CA 93534

May 4, 2015 Board Meeting following
 immediately after the General
 Meeting

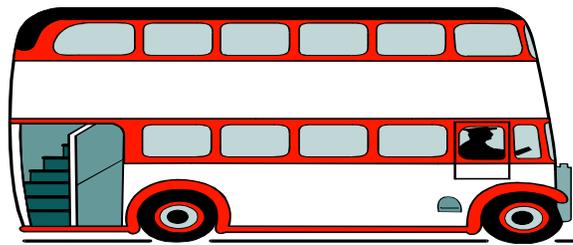
2nd Qtr. 2015 Scavenger Hunt

**Scavenger Hunt items for
 April 7 2015 to July 6, 2015*****

1. Gold or silver ring with stone
2. Electronic circuitry
3. 5 different bottle caps (not screw type)
4. Bottle opener
5. Mirror
6. Silver Quarter
7. Wheat penny
8. Canadian Quarter
9. Miller High Life aluminum bottle cap
10. 1960 coin
11. Earring—any metal
12. Cell phone
13. Charm (any animal)
14. 1980 Quarter
15. Cell phone battery

Finds must be brought to the July 6, 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 April 7, 2015 meeting and the July 6, 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



May 9, 2015—7:30 a.m. LANCASTER CITY PARK

This is our annual Map Hunt. Club will supply breakfast (scrambled eggs, sausage & pancakes) at 7:30 a.m. Members to bring sides, i.e. juice, donuts, fruit, etc. Don't forget Vickie's chocolate! LOL!

The hunt will start at 8:45 a.m.

Take CA 14 north/south to Ave. L. Go east on Ave. L to 10th St. West. Go left on 10th St. W just past Costco. Park entrance is on the left. Pull into parking lot at end of main entrance drive. We usually take the picnic tables just beyond the parking lot.

See ya there!

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"

March Finds of the Month

Member must be present to display finds

Most Unique

Scott Sandahl—1904 Worlds Fair token

Best Gold Item

Ben Molstad—Gold/diamond ring

Best Natural Gold

Scott Sandahl

Best U.S. Coin

Scott Sandahl—1900 Barber dime

Best Foreign Coin

Ben Molstad—India coin

Best Silver Item

Ben Molstad—65 g. Silver bracerlet

Best Overall

Scott Sandahl

Attendance Drawing

Gary Spain—\$35

50/50 Draw

Lovetta Burns \$46



Jerry Balcer, Cindy Barron, Ted Bell, Cheryl Brudvig, Donna Haynes, Sue Jackson, Linda Reitz

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..... **Don Duncan**
H 661-478-2409

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.....**Lorelei Paland**
661-273-3932

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
Linda Reitz.....C 661-478-7938

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Welcome.....Vivian Sexton
Raffles.....Connie Smith, Harry Surtees, Larry Blair
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

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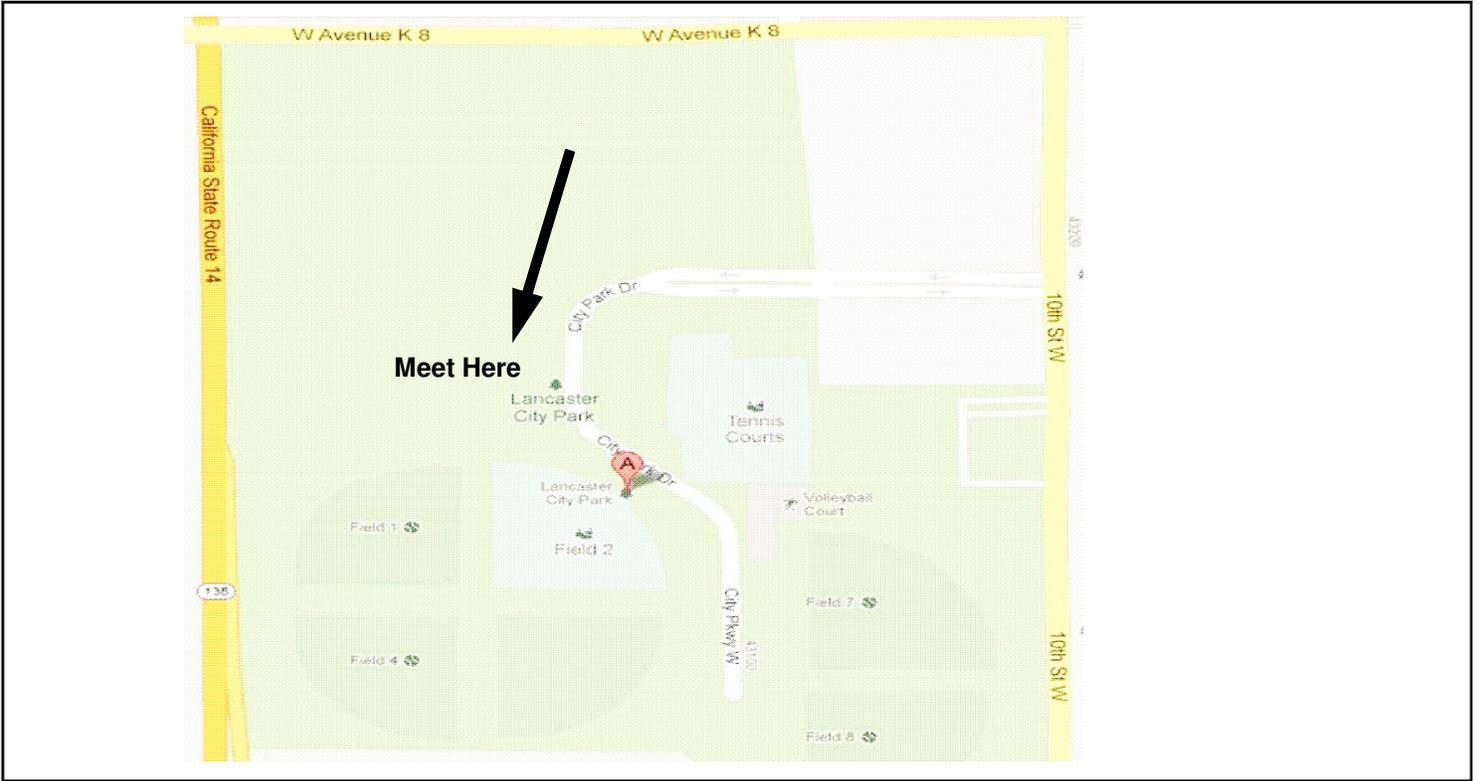
Membership..... Vivian Sexton
661 478-0174

Recycling..... Jay Zeigler
661-943-0397



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—Map Hunt!



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

ANTELOPE VALLEY



TREASURE HUNTER'S SOCIETY

This Month's Club Outing
Map Hunt
Lancaster City

