

I DIG IT NEWS

AUSTIN METAL DETECTING CLUB

(Since 1963)
5007 Timothy Circle Austin, TX 78734
Membership: \$20.00

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October 2008

Meeting Information:

Place - Woodlawn Baptist Church
4600 Manchaca
Date – **October 9th** 2008
2nd Thursday of each month
Time - **7:00 pm**
Room - M – 103/104

Officers:

President – Larry Vickers 243 -1831
Vice President – Jim Lawhon 259-1036
Treasurer – Scott Hegel 331-1131
Secretary/Newsletter – Blaine Nelson
266-7058 punkin4048@aol.com

Executive Committee:

Ed & Sherry Newsom
Daniel Mireles
Cecil Herrin
John Chapman
Art Tiemann – 272-8902

Larry's Ramblings:

It is time for all of us to re-evaluate what we are contributing to our Metal Detecting Club. The Club does not belong to Austin; it is our Club and we need **you** to contribute according to your talents. This being said we are seeking volunteers for officers and Executive Committee members for the 2009 year. All positions are open. We have had a couple of folks show interest in one or two positions. The positions are not very time consuming and will bring much satisfaction to the holder. Elections are held in November, this gives you time to assess your talents and where you can best use them in our Club.

It is also the time of year to make sure your immunizations (shots) are up-to-date. **Flu** shot is important to everyone with health problems, or 60+ or has contact with infants. **Shingles** can be very painfully so get the shot to prevent them or at least have a much milder case if you get them. **Tetanus** or better know as lock-jaw. This germ lives in the dirt and very dangerous. A booster is needed every ten (10) years, if you can't remember your last Tetanus shot it is time to get your booster. **Pneumococcal** often called pneumonia shot will prevent or make pneumonia less sever.

October Program

Chandler Nelson (Blaine's Dad) will present a program on how to make a promotional DVD for Austin Metal Detecting Club. This can be very helpful with the agencies we are trying to get permission to metal detect on pre-disturbed areas public use areas (i.e. Texas Parks and Wildlife, Travis County, City of Austin, State of Texas, LCRA, etc.) He will show us the 9 minute DVD he made featuring his retirement home "The Clairmont". Chandler will impart some of his wisdom, information and tips on how to create a DVD promoting the Austin Metal Detecting Club.

October Executive Meeting

Officers

It is time to elect club officers for 2009! We will seek volunteers to run for the officer positions. If you are interested in serving as an Officer or Board Member please put your name in at the meeting, or let a current officer know how you would like to serve if you cannot attend the October meeting.

Security

We discussed security and our names/phone numbers on the web site. We agreed to leave the officer phone numbers in the newsletter, and omit the Board phone numbers. Art requested his number remain. Additionally, we will omit the names in the Find of the Month version of the newsletter that is posted on our web site.

Llano Weekend Recap

The consensus was that the Llano Gold Fest weekend was fun and successful. A number of club members came out to assist with our booth and to enjoy the camaraderie and activities. We had 24 hunters detect in the hunt we sponsored on Saturday, and 13 participated on Sunday. Many of the participants donated the foreign coins back to the club. There were 5 silver dollar drawings which generated some funds for the club.

Upcoming Events

Crows Nest – Art will check on plans for the club to set up at the Crow's Nest on Oct. 25

Rock and Gem Show – Our club has been asked to participate in the Rock and Gem Show which will be held in Fredericksburg the 3rd weekend in January. They are interested in us hosting a hunt similar to what we did in Llano. We will announce details as currently know at the club meeting.

September Meeting

Program

During our September meeting we watched a video entitled "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate". This program dealt with how decisions are made when passing down/dividing family possessions and sparked a lot of thought and interesting conversation.

The "Find of the Month" entries were very light this month – probably because the heat has discouraged much detecting. Now that it is cooling down, we expect folks will get out and bring interesting finds. There were a number of prizes given away in our monthly fund raiser.

Refreshments

Thanks to Rudy and Jenna for bringing refreshments for the September meeting. Andy Waters will bring refreshments in October.

New Members

There were no new members who joined the club in September

September Activities

The club participated in the "Gold Fest" on the river in Llano Sept. 27 and 28th. AMDC set up under two canopies and had interesting displays, a club silver dollar fund raiser and detector demonstrations. We encouraged children to try detecting and allowed them to search for coins in the grass. On both Saturday and Sunday we sponsored hunts for the public. For a \$5.00 entry fee hunters were able to search for dozens of foreign coins and tokens for prizes. The main prize on Saturday was a Garrett Ace 150 detector, and on Sunday was a 2 peso gold piece. Additionally, there were numerous prizes donated by Garrett and Premium detectors. Our own Mary Prause won the Ace 150 in the Saturday hunt!

Monday Morning Hunts

Our Monday Morning Hunt was held on Sept. 22 in Buda. Mike Stafford worked with the city and obtained permission for the club to hunt that day at the city park and the area near the library. Seven club members came out to detect. Everyone found some goodies, including coins, toy, silver ring etc. **Thanks to Mike Stafford for making the arrangements for this hunt!**

The next Monday Morning hunt will be on October 20 (mark your calendar) – site to be determined.

AMDC Website

If you've never checked out our web site take a few minutes to see what's there! Everyone is encouraged to go to the Forum and participate, as this generates interest, good PR and even info./potential sites for the club. Our web site is: <http://www.amdconline.com> You can register for the Forum, or to get a password for the "Member Only" section, jot Cecil (webmaster) an email and he will get you a temporary password. You can then set your own user name and password to get in. **Word of caution** – If you post items or reply to a posting, be sure that you send accurate information – especially when replying to questions from the public.

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 18 – Lone Star Treasure Hunter's Club Competition Hunt – Glen Heights (Dallas area)

Oct. 18 – Texas Council Quarterly Meeting – Noon, in conjunction w. the Lone Star Hunt above

Oct. 25 – Crow's Nest

Nov. 16 – Houston Club (H.A.R.C.) Competition Hunt – Appfel Park, East Beach – Galveston

Dec. 11 – AMDC Christmas dinner and meeting

Ongoing – We are collecting items for the following – bring to any meeting:

- Foreign coins - for the Kerrville Lions Camp hunt in June
- Donations (anything of interest) - for our fundraiser at the **2008 Christmas** dinner

Newsletter

Are you tired of seeing the same old newsletter? We welcome YOUR input and articles. Do you have anything of interest to report, or a story that the members might enjoy? If so, let Blaine know, and/or send items to her via email.

Cowtown Competition Hunt

Blaine, Mark and Larry attended the Cowtown Hunt this past weekend. We all had a great time. Blaine and Mark managed to secure a couple of cakes with nice prizes under them. We all enjoyed the camaraderie of other metal Detectorists from across the state. The weather was a little warm, but not as hot as in Austin. Ask Blaine and Mark what they won and what they found in the hunt. If you ask Larry what they found it was enough to fill several treasure chests and he would say his was "if the Devil danced in empty pockets he would have a ball in mine."

Member Involvement

In addition to the "Treasure Hunter of the Year" award which is based on the Find of the Month Competition, the club has initiated an "Ambassador of the Year" award based upon a member's participation and contribution to the club and our hobby. Activities that would be considered (but not limited to) include:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Points</u>
Give program for AMDC club	4
Find program for AMDC club	3
Head up committee for AMDC	5
Serve committee for AMDC	3
Head up search for lost item	3
Assist with search for lost item	2
Find non-public place for club to hunt	5
Head up AMDC booth for TCTC, Llano, Lund, Crow's Nest, etc.	5 per day
Assist with the AMDC booth for TCTC, Llano, Lund Crow's Nest. Etc.	3 per day
Give program for other club	5
Serve as AMDC representative	5
Attend meeting on metal detecting as Travis County, State Legislature	5
Bring refreshment	2
Attend AMDC meeting	1
Donations to AMDC	2

Note: Officers are not always aware of things you do outside of the club to promote the hobby, so please let us know when you participate in an activity such as searching for a lost item, speaking to a group etc.

Where Should I Go Detecting Today?

(Note from the editor)

If you're like me, you are dying to try detecting at some new or interesting place but never seem to know where those places are. We have a tremendous challenge here in the Austin area since many parks and potential sites are "off-limits". So where do we begin? Here are just a few thoughts you might want to consider:

Look at the Same Places in a New Way

Maybe there is a park in your area that you have detected numerous times. You may get a few coins each time, but nothing spectacular, and feel that the park is "hunted out". Don't give up on the park as there are usually many treasures yet to be found. Next time you work the park, try hitting the areas that are out of the way. Avoid the "easy stuff" that other detectorists hit first – playgrounds and picnic areas, and try less obvious areas along the edges of the park – the paths that people take to the parking lots, along the edges of basketball courts etc.

Look for large grassy areas where people might play soccer, throw Frisbees to dogs etc. Although there will not likely be as MANY targets, there is the opportunity to find some good stuff.

Take Time to Dig the Trash

To thoroughly detect most places would take forever. Most of us get discouraged when detecting trashy areas and soon turn our detector discrimination to go for only the coins. But sometimes it might be worth digging all those pull tabs and trash to discover the possible gold ring, old nickel etc. that we would miss if we didn't sift through the junk. This is particularly worth a try in older areas where there may be older/deeper coins, or areas where there might be gold jewelry. If you methodically cover a small area at a time, you are likely to find some great treasure that everyone else went over.

Keep a Log of Sites and Finds

Start a log and list the sites you detect. As you do research and explore new areas, your list will grow. Keep your eyes always open for possible sites. I like to log the dates that I detect each site, and the finds for that trip. This can be helpful to determine trends - certain times of year sites produce more, what type of targets you retrieve, etc. It can also help you rule out or limit detecting at sites that are non or low producing.

Take a Detecting Day Trip

On a free day plan a trip to try detecting some new sites. Do research ahead of time, make sure you have permission to detect, and head out. Every trip is an adventure and the joy of detecting (among many) is you *never know what you might find!*

Good Luck!

Find of the Month:

At each meeting, finds are displayed by category. Members earn points for entering finds and more points for winning in a category. The rules and entry form are available at each regular meeting. Items found since the **SEPTEMBER** meeting may be entered in the **OCTOBER** Find of the Month contest. You may still show your finds even if you do not wish to compete in the Find of the Month.

Rank after September meeting:

Blaine Nelson
Frank Vick
Scott Hegel
Jan Hallez
Larry Vickers
Rudy Nordmeyer
Ed Newsom
Roy Stahl
John Chapman
Richard Wright
Daniel Mireles
Dennis Gans
Michele Pfler
Jim Lawhon
Susie Mireles
Gary Keirn
Art Tiemann
Leon Prause
Jenna Farrell
Andy Waters

O.K. everyone! We have two more months to enter the “Find of the Month” contest – October and November.

Everyone is encouraged to bring and show your finds. The more we have, the more interesting it is!

September Finds

U.S. Coin	Foreign Coin
Blaine Nelson - 1953 Cent	Blaine Nelson - 1000 Lyre - Italy
Larry Vickers - 1966 Dime	John Chapman - 1 Cent - Canada
Jan Hallez - Flat Cent	Jan Hallez - 5 Groszy
Token	Ring
Blaine Nelson - Daughters of the Rep. of Texas	Larry Vickers - Gold w/Emeralds & Diamonds
John Chapman - Cinemark	Blaine Nelson - 14K Ladies Engagement Ring
	Jan Hallez - Men's Gold Tone w/Clear Stone
Jewelry	
Larry Vickers - Crucifix	Artifact
Blaine Nelson - Ladies Watch	John Chapman - Fastener
Jan Hallez - Foil & Blue Bead Bracelet	Larry Vickers - Petrified Palm
John Chapman - Silver Earring	
	Button
Toy	Blaine Nelson - Tiny Metal
Blaine Nelson - VW Hippie Van	
Larry Vickers - Doll Shoe	Non-Metal
	Blaine Nelson - Black Teeth
Most Unusual	John Chapman - Dora Sunglasses
Larry Vickers - Perfume Bottle	Larry Vickers - Plastic Card
Blaine Nelson - Silver Tiffany & Co. Locket	Jan Hallez - Yellow Poker Chip
Jan Hallez - Appalacian Trail Pin	
	Oldest U.S. Cent
Oldest U.S. Coin	Ed Newsom - 1905
Blaine Nelson - 1961 Nickel	Blaine Nelson - 1936
Jan Hallez - 1964 Nickel	John Chapman - 1945
Larry Vickers - 1968 Dime	Jan Hallez - 1964
	Larry Vickers - 1976 Cent
Most Valuable U.S. Coin	
Larry Vickers - 1946 Cent	

Find of the Month

U.S. COIN: _____ # _____

FOREIGN COIN: _____ # _____

TOKEN: _____ # _____

RING: _____ # _____

JEWELRY: _____ # _____

ARTIFACT: _____ # _____

TOY: _____ # _____

BUTTON: _____ # _____

MOST UNUSUAL: _____ # _____

NON-METAL: _____ # _____

OLDEST U.S. COIN: _____ # _____

OLDEST U.S. CENT: _____ # _____

MOST VALUABLE U.S. COIN: _____ # _____