

I DIG IT NEWS

AUSTIN METAL DETECTING CLUB

(Since 1963)
111 Live Oak Drive, Wimberley, TX 78676
Membership: \$20.00
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April 2020

Meeting Information:

Due to the COVID-19 directives the AMDC will not be meeting in April. (Board vote)
We will monitor situation and make decisions about May and future gatherings.

Officers:

President – Jim Clary
Vice Pres – Jeremy Scroggins
Treasurer – Scott Hegel
Secretary – Blaine Nelson
Newsletter – Blaine Nelson 512-722-3148 punkin4048@aol.com

Executive Committee:

Mary and Leon Prause, Dennis Gans,
Daniel and Susie Mireles, Jim Lawhon, Carrie Rogers, Fred Toewe, Charlene Smith, Larry Vickers

A Word from our President:

Last month I resolved to start doing more “door knocking” for sites to detect. Well, that resolution is certainly on hiatus as most all our outdoor activities are. The shelter-in-place and social distancing requirements from COVID-19 are tough on all of us, something none of us have experienced. As detectorists, I think one of the best ways to make the most of this situation is to keep doing our research of sites and potential detecting sites. We are historians searching for places where people have gathered, socialized, camped, lived and lost their valuables. My list of such places is long, and for many of the places, I know where they are, but, the next and sometimes most difficult part of the research, is finding the landowner and getting permission. That will certainly give me plenty to do over the next month or more of shelter-in place! Good luck with your research!
Stay safe and healthy!

Jim Clary

April Meeting Activities? From your editor...

In this section we usually post what will be going on at our upcoming meeting. Just as school students have had to adapt to a new way of learning, perhaps we can jump on the wagon and consider new ways to enjoy and enhance our metal detecting hobby in the midst of this Corona crisis.

Jim Clary has some excellent thoughts in his President's message, and I would like to expound on this, and throw out some other ideas as well:

History and Research – Just HOW do we do research? A question often asked. The days of going to the library to pour over old books and maps has pretty much been replaced with online searches. Yet don't rule out these valuable hands on resources, noting that at the current time, libraries will be closed. Ask yourself the question, "What is it I hope to find?" This will vary from person to person – old coins, Civil War relics, etc. Maybe even jewelry, looking for old swimming holes – my favorite.

A great resource to find information is word of mouth, asking questions. Art Tiemann will share that he will go to a small town, sit in a Dairy Queen and start a conversation with locals... and pretty soon he has invitations to go detect! Although we can't talk face to face right now, you might scope out areas where you will find folks who can tell you the stories. Keep notes of what you find, so you can make a plan and prioritize where you will go to detect.

Practice!

This is the perfect time to really learn your detector(s) and practice with a variety of targets. You can do this in your own yard. Set up a "test garden" with items such as clad coins, silver coins, various pull tabs, token, gold (more than one is good to try, as gold is mixed with various other metals), toy car, etc. See how deep your detector will detect various signals, if you have sand or a place to bury a few targets.

Finds

What do you do with your Finds? This down time is a good opportunity to clean and organize finds i.e. coins and relics. Do any of you track your finds on a spread sheet? Scott Hegel got me going some years ago with an Excel spread sheet – so you can enter coins, locations found and it keeps a running total. Seeing the coin totals add up is a real motivator for me.

Share Ideas

This is also a time we can share our experience and ideas with one another. Please share your thoughts and ideas and I'll include in the next Newsletter!

TAMDC Treasure Show Recap

Thanks to all of you who ventured to Bryan to support our club and help with the booth at the TAMDC Treasure Show March 13-15. Everyone had a great time (as usual) and it was good to re-connect with folks from clubs around the state, and meet new friends. Our booth “rocked” and a number of people took the time to view our display of old detectors and read the information cards next to each. Thank you Susie, for (again!) jumping in and creating this awesome display.

Special thanks to Larry, Scott and Jeremy who donated items for our fundraiser. The club took approximately \$650 from our fundraisers.



Mary manning the booth



Jeremy in front of whisky fund raiser



Old detectors in our booth



Friday night dinner at Shipwreck Grill



AMDC is on Face Book! Be sure and check out and “Like” the Group

Be sure and check the Face Book page often, as we put pictures and news of club goings on.

AMDC Website

Remember to check our web site often to see what’s there! Our web site is: <http://www.amdconline.com>

For SALE

Jim Lawhon has a Fisher F75 – new in the box for sale - \$500. It comes with a pin pointer and digger. Call or text Jim at 512-632-3139 if interested, or email him at jlawhon@swbell.net.

You may list items for sale in the Newsletter – let Blaine know what you have.

Lost and Found Efforts

Note – the Search Team activities have been suspended until further notice

Our Search Team is currently on hold due to COVID-19. Prior to the change in status, we did have one request, to search for a man’s wedding ring lost in the yard. Jim Lawhon volunteered to tackle this one, and after discussing the safety issues Jim and the owner agreed to the search. Jim was successful, and came up with the ring. Good job Jim!



Here is an entry submitted by Larry Vickers:

“A lost and found story, I got a phone call on ST Patrick’s day about 2 p.m. a neighbor lost a ripper tooth to his box blade while trying to smooth out hog rootings. Being I was just started watch TV, said I would be right over. We drove down to the river where he was working, and the search began. It was only about 2 acres so with me stumbling and swing on unlevel ground after about 20 minutes there was a large signal. He kneeled down and started scratching and lo and behold there it was. I didn’t mention that it was around a - the book as a success.

Just a side line earlier this morning a friend had me search over a 100 pounds of meat to see if there was any metal in it from his tenderizing machine in it. A small piece had broken off and they found it and wondered if there was any more. None found.”

Thanks for submitting this, Larry!

Upcoming Events – Metal Detecting:

May 16 – AMDC Club Hunt and Pot Luck at Tumlinson Park, Leander

June 3 & 4 - Texas Lions Camp volunteer effort, Kerrville

November 14 – AMDC Veteran’s Day Memorial Hunt and TAMDC Satellite Hunt – Round Rock

MEMORIES!

A number of you were members of our Club back when we used to have an annual Social in August, at Frank and Blaine's. Here is a picture taken from one of those socials. Can you find yourself here? And who are those faces way in the back? Enjoy!
(The pic is on the next page, in its entirety, for size).

While we are going down memory lane, did you know that Ed Newsom has been a member of the Club since 1977 (43 years!) and Larry Vickers since 1984 (36 years!). WOW!



FIND OF THE MONTH RESULTS

January 2020 FOM Winners

Display	Charlene Smith – Marbles, Silver, Buttons and more	
Foreign Coin	Charlene Smith – 1946 20 Centavos (M mint mark)	
Token	Charlene Smith – The Rexall Store	
Ring	Scott Hegel – 14K with 6 sapphires	
Jewelry	Paul Krugler – Sterling Sand Dollar Charm	
Button	Jeremy Scroggins – Civil War Federal Gen. Service	
Artifact	Scott Hegel – Doage Brothers Emblem	
Wild Card (tie) Scroggins – 1873 Ruffler	Scott Hegel – Indian Head Ring Wild Card	Jeremy
Oldest US Coin	Paul Krugler – 1891 Indian Head Cent	
Most Valuable US Coin	Blaine Nelson – 1915S Wheat Cent (\$20.00)	
All Categories Filled	Charlene Smith, Andrew Worthen, Blaine Nelson, Scott Hegel	

Drawing for Member - Winner – Leon Prause Drawing for Visitor – Winner – Billy Rudisill



AUSTIN METAL DETECTING CLUB

FIND OF THE MONTH 2020

DISPLAY _____ # _____

FOREIGN COIN: _____ # _____

TOKEN: _____ # _____

RING: _____ # _____

JEWELRY: _____ # _____

BUTTON: _____ # _____

ARTIFACT: _____ # _____

WILD CARD: _____ # _____

OLDEST U.S. COIN: _____ # _____

MOST VALUABLE U.S. COIN: _____ \$ _____ # _____

Name _____

Month _____