

AMARILLO PROSPECTORS & TREASURE HUNTERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

President: Mark Davey. First VP: Toby Shedd, in charge of arranging for programs.
Second VP: Jim Nichols, events coordinator.
Secretary: Bob Mende
Treasurer: Fred BoBo.
Board Members: Carroll Herring, Dan Ferguson, Rodney Laubhan, Mike Darnell.
Newsletter Editor's: Larry Lawrence

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Across the President's Desk

By Mark Davey

Hello to all,

As another month has come and gone, so has my time. Not enough time for work, time, or the club. I am sorry I have missed the last club hunts. After hearing people talk about them, I definitely missed out.

For the month of April we had a wonderful talk on meteorites, given by Jeff Indeck. Club members who were not there missed out. I encourage you all to come, as you never know what will happen and only get to hear about it later.

As the April meeting went longer than expected, we did not have Show and Tell. Be sure to bring your items to the May meeting for all to see and so that we can learn about when and where they were found.

There are some new proposals on the table for the club to consider. The club has put forth a suggestion to rename the club newsletter. When the club was founded, the newsletter was named after the club. If you have any ideas or suggestions on what it might be called, please bring them to the May meeting. All ideas and suggestions will be compiled into a list, and the list will be voted upon.

The club has also put forth a suggestion to rename the "club game." Please bring any ideas or suggestions for what the club could call this game to the May meeting. All ideas and suggestions will be compiled into a list, and the list will be voted upon.

As well, the club would like to expand the Find of The Month categories to more accurately represent the types of items that are found by club members. The categories will be as follows; Coins, Jewelry, Relics, and Prospector. These categories will be used from the June meeting onwards. Please bring ideas and suggestions of the items that you think would be appropriate for each category. If you do not suggest something, it might be missed and not have a place to go for the monthly drawing. The more ideas we get, the better chance you have of winning! Since there will be more categories for Find of The Month, it is important to bring more items for Find of The Month to give yourself more chances for prizes and Find of The Year.

This month we will have our first drawing on the club game. It is going to be fun to watch people's faces light up as their names are called, so be sure to be there. With the price of silver going up and reaching record highs, all winners should be quite happy. This has made the club a large sum of money, thanks to all of our members who played. Thanks to the club Game Committee for conducting this round of the club game.

We will be taking a prospector trip in July. The time and place has not been set at the time of the newsletter. We hope to have a final time and date at the May meeting. We do know however that we will be at altitudes somewhere between 8,500ft and 12000ft. This makes it very important to take your B6 and B12 to help your body get use to taking in more oxygen. We will camp as low as possible to help with acclamation to the higher altitudes.

Lastly, we need all members to be at the May meeting so that we can vote on the proposed Christmas party motion. **This is very important.** Please be at the May meeting so that we can vote on this motion.

Treasurer's Report
\$1905.82 Checking Balance
\$1050.00 CD
\$ 85.00 PayPal
\$ 18.85 Petty cash

\$3059.67 Total funds available

Valle de Oro Detectors

Garrett Fisher

Metal Detector & Prospecting Supplies

Amarillo, Texas

(806) 381-5886

Board Members Articles

Jim's April Comments,

Well, the seeded hunt went well with a nice turn out. We had 20 avid hunters there and most of the coins were found with lots of subsurface trash as well! The Buffalo Nickels made it almost mandatory to dig those pesky tabs. A ring with a stone did surface thanks to Mike D. and a couple of nice finds besides the ring came up. Mr. Simms found a 1946 Sixpence (50% silver) and '56 wheat back with his other finds. He also got a commemorative penny from Disneyland as well. Way to dig! I think the most planted coins found were 5 and that feat was shared by a couple hunters.

Our next outing will be in Hereford. We will be hosted by Robert and Charlie. I think the park next to the infamous "Mothers Park" can yield some old coins. There have been 4 wheat backs and a silver dime found on it already. So we will do that the weekend of May 14th and 15th. Hereford has several older parks so there is plenty to "fish". Just keep in mind the dry conditions and use common sense when digging.

June will be the "Prospecting Day at the River" so plan on a good time and lets find some "yeller gold" and learn how to use the tools the club has purchased.

July we will have a couple outings. The annual John Stiff hunt (July 5th 6AM) and a TBA club hunt. I am thinking a BBQ is in order for July!

Keep your holes to a minimum as we are so dry or better yet find where they have been watering and hunt there. Be safe and good luck on your treasure hunts.

Jim

Rodney's April Comments,

Anatomy of the Seeded Hunt. The seeded hunt in Austin Park this month will be the subject of the May program. Several members who hunted will present their "Hunt Finds".

Second part of the program will be the Drawing of Numbers for the Winners in the Club Game. The Game Committee will conduct the drawing. Winners need not be present, but members will want to be there for our first ever Club Drawing Game. After the drawing we will vote on the future of the Club Game as was presented when we decided to have the game.

Members will be asked "Do we continue the game", or "No". Those voting no will have an opportunity to say what kind of game we should have. The voting also allows for how to continue game for the remainder of the year. The game has raised \$560.00 in prizes to draw for at the meeting May 10th and puts \$560.00 in the club treasury for use by the membership. We have raised \$1120.00 for the club with the game.

The third part of the program will be the voting on the proposed change to the By-Laws, provided a quorum is present.

Rodney

Board Members Notes

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Attendees; Bob Mende, Mike Darnell, Mark Davey, Rodney Laubhan, Jim Nichols, Dan Ferguson, Carrol Herring and Fred Bobo.

Meeting opens at 5:30pm.

Mark asks Mike about available Presidential Coins. And our coin stock is low. Mark asks for a discussion of the news letter. Everyone says the newsletter is looking very well.

Mark reads the treasury report; Total account value is \$2867.89, Checking Account has \$1763.89, Pool game collection is \$300.00, Tee shirts and Caps \$62.00, 50/50 pot \$190.00, Dues \$62.00, Blue Tickets \$170.00. Money out; Pool Prizes \$560.00, Room Rent \$70.00, CD \$1050.00 and \$82.00.

Mark reads a very nice letter from the Town of Nara Visa. They also say they will find a better place for us to hunt in their area.

OLD BUSINESS

Rodney brings up a discussion of a news letter name. He thinks Larry Lawrence should give it a name. He actually thought Larry was given the task last month. At this time no name has been suggested. Jim Nichols will send Larry an Email and give him a nudge to give a name to the Newsletter.

Rodney also asks if a name for the pool game has been made. A Pool Game name was brought up in last months meeting. At this time no name has been suggested. Rodney says about 560 numbers remain to be sold in the Numbers Game. And there is little time left for sales to be made.

Rodney reads and talks about By-Law rules. And how this will relate to the changes we made about this years Christmas Party. He noted that we cannot make changes to the Christmas Party without a quorum vote. We did not have a quorum at the time we passed the changes. As it stands as of this date 58 members must be present to make a quorum.

May 10, 2011 is the target date to have a quorum vote on the Christmas Party motion. Members will be notified of a special meeting in May.

Jim Nichols gave a report on the special hunt with an Airman at old Amarillo Air Base. He said fifteen members showed up for the hunt. Although they did not find many treasures, they did have a good time with this brave soldier.

Jim shows us an Ohio Metal Detecting Club quarterly magazine. The magazine was given to him by the Airman. The magazine was very nice with a lot of info in it from that area. He sort of indicated it would be nice for us to have such a magazine, but probably not realistic at this time.

Mark give a brief talk about the Girl Scout Camp. It was a good hunt, but not quite as fruitful as we had hoped for.

Jim Nichols discusses the May 14 and 15 seeded hunt in Austin park, which is also a clean-up mission too. Jim is waiting for approval to have the Cita Canyon hunt in June. He noted that a \$6.00 per day charge would be assessed then. He would also like to visit Cita Glenn to do some detecting too. Rodney says he needs a \$160.00 Check to pay for Tables at this years Golden Spread Coin Show. Rodney would also like to see more participation in our "show and tell" part of our regular meetings. He suggests changing the finds categories. He would like to see four categories. There would be a "Gold", "Coins", "Jewelry" and "Relic" categories. He hopes this would bring more participation from members. He furnished a displayed plan which should be presented at next regular meeting. This would also increase the budget for finds from \$340.00 to \$510.00. A motion was made, seconded and approved to change budget for finds of month and year. This will be discussed at April's regular meeting.

Bud Elliot's

Gold Nugget

*Fine Gold Jewelry
Gold Wire Jewelry*

*Jewelry Repair
Colored Stones*

*Diamonds
Castings*

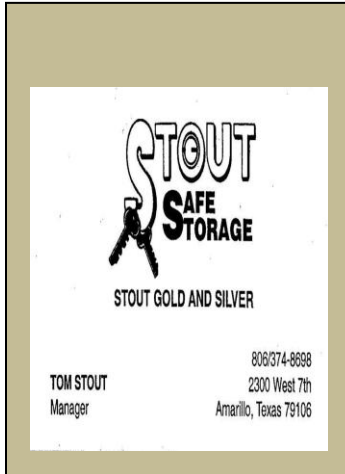
*Prospecting
Consulting*

**The Prospectors
Shop
Est. 1981
Authorized Dealer
for
Whites Bounty
Hunter Teknetics**



**Personal Training,
Consultation
& Recovery**

Board Meeting Continue from page 2



**May 10, 2011
Program**

Program this month will be Anatomy of the Seeded Hunt Questions Contact Rodney Laubhan

Club hunt at Hereford Texas, May 14th and 15th questions contact Jim Nichols.

The Club needs future Programs, if you can present a Program please contact Toby Shedd

Rodney wants to know what to do about Auctions at the meetings. Because of very little participation Mark suggests we have quarterly auctions. Jim suggests we have quarterly silent auctions. And Rodney suggests we have a for sale table. The main thing is to have more items for sale or for auction. Bob Mende asks if a classified page could be placed in the Newsletter. But it was noted a classified page already has been approved.

Jim Nichols says he was called by the company who embroideries our hats has a special where they will do two patterns on our caps for the same price as one pattern.

Jim also says the Clubs website is getting a lot of traffic. And possibly we should open a web store and sell some of our items.

Mark says our CD is up for renewal. It was decided to leave the CD as is.

Fred Bobo announces a new member has joined the club. His name is Brandon Allen. We are all happy to have Brandon in the club and hope he enjoys it as much as we do.

Mark will make an inventory of tools and items in storage. This should be available by the regular April meeting. He also wants to know if we need to order more "T" shirts and caps.

Marks asks, "anything else"

Mike Darnell says there is a WATTS treasure hunt meet in Antlers, OK. It will be at the "K" river camp ground.

Carroll Herring just returned from a doctors visit with a skin cancer on his ear and will return to the doctors for a possible infection on his nose too. We all wish Carroll the best of luck. Our prayers will be with you. And we hope to see you soon.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

After the regular meeting Bob took notes from an Oklahoma Tax Token found by Mark. Remarks below. The 5's are bronze and the 1's are white metal. They can be bought for four to five dollars. So you could probably get one to two dollars from a coin dealer. These sales tax tokens were made in great quantities starting in 1935. They were used in giving change for sales tax. Sales tax resulted in the final price of items having taxes in fractions of a cent. For example, purchase of a \$1.25 item, taxed at 3% would cost \$1.2875 or \$1.28 and 3/4 cent. So what to do? Rounding up to \$1.29 would result in an "unfair" profit to the sell of 1/4 cent. But rounding down would be unfair to seller by reducing the profit by 3/4 cent. The solution was to

provide tokens denominated in fractions of a cent or "mills" (1 mill = 1/1000 of a dollar, or 1/10 of a cent. So in the above example the customer would pay \$1.29 and receive 2.5 mills in tax tokens as change. If the next purchase came to \$3.4325, the customer could pay \$3.43 plus the 2.5 mills in tax tokens. As you can imagine people did not like having to carry a second set of coins and to further complicate matters, different states issued different tax tokens. The use of tax tokens declined and was finally discontinued in 1961. And people basically decided not to worry about fractions of a cent. See "GovMint.com Official site", for confirmation

P.S. the Treasury report does not balance for me, maybe I wrote some figures wrong.

Bob Mende

Club Meeting Notes

APTHA MEETING

April 12, 2011

Mark calls meeting to order at 7:15 pm. The meeting is opened with a salute to the Flag. It is announced that a total of 36 people were in attendance. Tonight we had two visitors. And two new members have signed up. The new members are Tony White and Nicholas Davey. Toby Shedd introduced Jeff Indeck as the speaker of the night. Jeff is from the Museum in Canyon, TX. Jeff works there with archeology and geology. In particular Indian artifacts and meteorites too. He has found artifacts from Perryton to Palo Duro Canyon as well as many other places in the Panhandle. He said that although he does not use a metal detector, the metal detector is being used more often in their pursuit of finding artifacts and meteorites too. The odds of finding a meteorite is 1000 to 1. The main difference between a meteor and a meteorite is, a meteor burns up in the sky and a meteorite lands on earth. Meteors are composed of iron, Nichol and silicon sand. Ages of meteorites are similar to that of earth. There are estimated 1000 to 1500 events of meteorites on earth. An event is when a meteorite lands on earth. Although many thousands of meteorites are found around the earth, can be explained by the fact when a meteorite lands on earth it bounces and is fragmented over thousands of square miles of earth. For example the mass of the meteorite which landed in Arizona has not been found. I wonder if possibly it may have bounced off the land and maybe it bounced into the ocean. "Just guessing". From my prospective this was a very good 45 minute presentation. I hope everyone else enjoyed it as much as I did. Jeff also brought several samples of meteorites. They were on display on show and tell table. It is amazing how heavy they are.

Mark calls for a ten minute break at 8:04pm.

Mark calls meeting back to order at 8:18pm.

Mark announces we have a need for a Quorum vote. A quorum vote is called for at the May meeting. We will then vote on a change to Christmas party activities.

Rodney Laubhan passes out a sheet explaining changes to finds of the month. There will be a new category added to the find of the month. The new category will be Relic. Now we will have a Category for Prospecting, Coins, Jewelry and Relics. And after that there will be a best of show. These changes will occur at June meeting.

Mark announces there was no president letter to the March News Letter. He said there will be one in the April letter.

Minutes for April have been approved.

Mark reads a thank-you letter from Nara Visa, NM. Nara Visa hopes we will attend another hunt in their lovely town. They are looking for another place that may not have had any metal detecting done in the area.

Treasury report was not read tonight and Mark will get it to the editor before the News Letter is published. If not he will have a correct report at May meeting. We do have a \$1050.00 CD and a Paypal account with \$82.00 in it.

We still need a name for the News Letter. We hope members will think about that and bring suggestions to the May meeting.

Jim Nichols talks about the future hunts in the months ahead. The next hunt will be at Austin Park April 14, 2011 Thursday night at 5:00pm until dark. Jim will hide 55 coins in this seeded hunt. The May hunt at Cita Canyon has been canceled because restrictions have been placed. They do not want us hunting on any mowed areas.

Sometimes the heart sees what is invisible to the eye.

Club Meeting notes Continue

*If everybody's
thinking alike,
somebody isn't
thinking.*

That would make it difficult to find anything. Since most coins are found in grassy areas. This is where people more often walk or congregate. He said you as a person may go if you wish, but the club will not. Jim hopes in June to have a black sand panning and sluice party. It will take place at the Canadian River Bridge north of Amarillo on Highway 287. This event will be a learning experience for members who have never done anything like this. Jim is working on the May hunt. A 50 year old Baptist camp-ground. He hopes to find silver there. Jim talks about the Amarillo Air Force hunt with an Airman Manny Corrillo. Manny was home on furlough and hoped to have a hunt with some of our members. More than ten members showed up to join Manny that day. Jim says the Girl Scout camp is still open for hunting, and only if no Girl Scout girls are on the property.

Rodney Laubhan talks about the August 13 and 14 Coin Club event at the Amarillo Civic Center.

He says there is a need for members to sign up for work and selling.

He also brings up the Pool numbers game. Tonight will be the last night to buy numbers. There will be six prizes. The prizes are on the website if you are interested.

Keith Ferguson asks, when is the Colorado trip? Mark said no date has yet been set. But he asks the members should be taking their vitamins B-6 and B-12.

Mark announces that a list of Club equipment has been made. The equipment is available for members to rent. The list will be in the next News letter.

Mark announces Blue ticket winners. A silver round was the first prize given away. Mrs. Blackwell wins a 1890 Dollar. And Jack Hixon wins walking liberty half dollar.

Red ticket winner was Alan Duncan wins 50/50 pot with \$82.00 in it. \$41.00 went to Alan. Find of the month went to Terri Nichols. She found a 1954 Borger Gold Class ring. The story told by Jim Nichols. Other finds were a Buffalo nickel found by Fred Bobo at Tent city in Borger, TX. John London found a 1904 Barber Dime at Mothers Park in Hereford, Tx. The catch of the day was by Ed and Toby Shedd. They caught seven nice fish near Padre Island, TX.

Five yellow ticket winners were announced. The numbers and names went so fast I could not get names or ticket numbers.

Lost and found items, a kneepad and glove were returned to their owner.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:17pm.

After the meeting number game tickets are being sold. The selling went on until 10:15pm

Club Articles

Artificial Intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

Unknown

The Board has approved new Categories for find of the month and year. The members need to suggest what finds need to go in what category. Please submit your suggestions to lrlaw52@suddenlink.net so I can get these suggestions to the Board members. These suggestions are needed before the Board meeting in May.

Newspaper editor Larry Lawrence

APTHA CHANGE
FOR FINDS OF THE MONTH
AND YEAR
APPROVED BY BOARD APRIL 2011

Current plan BUDGET IS \$340 YEAR NEW BUDGET \$850 YEAR

The money increase will come from the Club Numbers Game. This will give back to members immediate return from the profits of the game. The plan by the board is to start the new Finds of the Month in June. This will give members time to become familiar with the new change. The budget increase will be \$510 for the year and with only half a year beginning in June the increase will be \$255. The change brings categories shown below. Competition will be more in line with finds and provide for more winners each month and end of year.

CHANGE FINDS OF THE MONTH TO FOUR CATAGORIES. The prospector of the month would remain the same. There would be a winner in each of the categories and one winner for best of month from the categories.

	MONTH		YEAR
FIND OF THE MONTH-COINS	\$120	+	\$50=\$170
FIND OF THE MONTH-JEWELRY	\$120	+	\$50=\$170
FIND OF THE MONTH-RELICS	\$120	+	\$50=\$170
FIND OF THE MONTH-PROSPECTOR	\$120	+	\$50=\$170
 FIND OF THE MONTH FROM ONE OF THE ABOVE	 <u>\$120</u>	 +	 <u>\$50= \$170</u>
TOTALS	\$600	+	\$250=\$850

The board will accept ideas for definitions for each category and make the rules for each available at the May meeting in time for the June meeting. Make suggestions any time between now and the board meeting in May. Give to any board member or officer.

Example: Coins to include U.S and Foreign coins, tokens, andyou make suggestions and the board will make final rules at May board meeting.

Club Pictures

Austin Park Hunt



Inside Articles

THE ALASKA EXPEDITION

Come along on an once-in-a-lifetime trip to the Last Frontier! If you have ever dreamed of escaping the everyday life and wanted to experience **great prospecting, fishing,** and the **beautiful Alaskan scenery** then here is your chance. The GPAA Alaska Expedition is a unique, six week vacation on the gold filled beaches of Nome, Alaska. Aside from the exciting experiences of the Cripple River camp, Nome is home to the finish line of the world famous Iditarod sled dog race, deep mining tradition of the first gold rush days, and filled with wildlife around every corner.

If you love to fish, the Cripple River has everything you need. Pink salmon run lasts almost the entire month of July, right along with Chum salmon. There is also a healthy presence of fresh water fish including Arctic Char and Dolly Varden that run during the trip and are some of the fighten'est fish that ever knocked the fire out of a rod and reel. Not to forget about the Silver Salmon, most averaging between 8 and 12 lbs and 24-to-30 inches long. With all this excitement, it's sure to keep your fishing experience interesting.

Since 1982, the Gold Prospectors Association has been escorting its members north to mining camps on 2,300 acres of the beautiful Seward Peninsula; providing them with food, shelter, mining equipment, and mining techniques in the form of classes and seminars conducted by knowledgeable experts. The Cripple River Mining Camp is located in a perfect setting, 12 miles west of Nome, tucked away on the tundra-laden shore of the Bering Sea, with picturesque backgrounds of deep- hued, enchanted hills.

See Link below

<http://www.goldprospectors.org/EVENTS/Alaska/tabid/59/Default.aspx>

The reward of a thing well done is to have done it.

Ralph Waldo Emerson
US essayist & poet
(1803 - 1882)

APTHA EQUIPMENT LIST

EQUIPMENT/ACCESSORIES	INVENTORY	# CHECKED OUT	# AVAILABLE
Buckets (5 gal)	20		
Classifiers – Garrett 14" ½" hole	7		
Dry Washer	2		
Gold Pans – Garrett Gravity Trap Pan	3		
Gold Pans – Garrett Super Sluice Pan	3		
Gold Pans – Keene SP-14	4		
High Banker, toolbox (contains: paper towels, funnel, oil, fitting, scissors, needle nose pliers, regular pliers, utility knife, 4 straight screw drivers, 2 Phillip's screw drivers, motor and pump manuals), gas can, oil, punched suction bucket, suction hose, 2 lay-flat hoses, 1 garden hose w/sprayer	1		
Picks – 18" Wood handle	1		
Pry Bars – 6'	1		
Shovels – Spade 26" D-Handle Wood	1		
Shovels – Spade 40" D-Handle Wood	3		
Shovels – Spade 60" Fiberglass Handle	2		
Shovels – Spade 60" Wood Handle	1		
Shovels – Square 40" D-Handle Wood	3		
Shovels – Square 60" Fiberglass Handle	2		
Shovels – Square 60" Wood Handle	1		
Sluice Box – A-51	1		
Sluice Box – A-52	1		

Last article - sent by a club member

Please send more Articles and Pictures to enter in the January 2011 Newsletter.

Larry Lawrence
Newsletter editor

E-MAIL:
Lrlaw52@suddenlink.net

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.amarillotreasure.com/default.htm>

Code OF Ethics of Treasure Hunters

- **I WILL** respect private property and do no treasure hunting without the owner's permission.
- **I WILL** fill all excavations.
- **I WILL** appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources, wildlife, and private property.
- **I WILL** use thoughtfulness, consideration, and courtesy at all times.
- **I WILL** build fires in designated or safe places only.
- **I WILL** leave gates as found.
- **I WILL** remove and properly dispose of any trash that I find.
- **I WILL NOT** litter.
- **I WILL NOT** destroy property, buildings, or what is left of ghost towns and deserted structures.
- **I WILL NOT** tamper with signs, structural facilities, or equipment.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLUB GAME COMMITTEE

The Game committee, consisting of the following;

SALES TEAM-**CHARLES MEYERS, GEORGE BACA, RON NEWBERRY, PRIZE TEAM-GEORGE BROKEN, JACK HIXON, TIM SIMMS**, AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT **EDDIE SPRUILL**, deserve a big THANK YOU for all the work they did to make the game a sold out event and make the club **\$560.00!**

Thanks men.

Rodney, game director.