

July 31, 2011
Volume 4, Issue 7

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

Across the President's Desk

By Mark Davey

Sorry did not receive a President's Letter this month again. Mark has been very busy this month. Maybe we will get a Letter from the President next month. Also Mark has gone Prospecting.

Larry

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Board Members Articles



CLUB GAME REPORT

Silver is over \$40 per ounce at this writing! The five prizes being shown and held by JACK HIXON, a member of the prize committee, were purchased when silver was at \$36 per oz.

Who knows what the price of silver will be when five members win these prizes during the drawing held at the club meeting this October! Two things are for sure.

1. **MEMBERS** OF OUR CLUB WILL WIN THEM.
2. ALL PROFITS FROM SALES WILL BE USED **FOR** MEMBERS.

Only 20 blocks of 10 numbers each remain to be purchased by members. Why should you purchase one of the blocks?

Allow me to give you some reasons.

If you attended the Austin Park Outing in July and feasted on the hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings, (and the other fruits, deserts and salads brought by some very kind and thoughtful members) you benefited from some of the money raised by our club game.

Board Members Articles Continue

If you won, money from the Finds of The Month, (or futrue Finds of The Month), you benefited from some of the money raised by the club game.

If you plan to attend the Club Christmas Party in December you will benefit from some of the money raised by the sales from the club game.

I can go on, but by now you get the picture. All the proceeds from the sales of the club game go to members in some way. Therefore, all members are encouraged to support the club game for the benefit of all.

So, at the next meeting in Austin Park for the ice cream social and seeded hunt, (also supported by sales from the club game), step up with your \$20 bill and purchase the remaining numbers and show your support for the club.

See you at the park!

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**Metal
Detector &
Prospecting
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**Personal Training,
Consultation
& Recovery**

Board Meeting Notes

July 5, 2011 Board Meeting

Meeting opened at 5:30pm by Jim Nichols

Attendees; Bob Mende, Mike Darnell, Rodney Laubhan, Toby Shedd, Fred Bobo and Carroll Herring. Mark Davey was absent account out of town business.

Rodney opens meeting with a discussion of by-laws. We must get a proposal of the by-laws and another version of by-laws to show the proper changes. Some further changes were discussed tonight too. Although this discussion took up the bulk of the meeting. It was considered important to get the changes and some corrections made. The latest proposal will be soon be presented to the club and voted on at a later date.

Jim N. discusses the Austin Park hunt, which will take place July 12, 2011. This will also be considered our regular meeting. We will also have a cook out too. Jim says there will be a tarp hunt. Jim and Toby will meet Tuesday 4:00pm at Austin Park to prepare the hunt. Jim says he will need \$50.00 for the seeded hunt in August because of the high price of silver. August will also be the ice cream social too. Because of the lack of moisture it is recommended that no digging be done. The Greenbelt hunt has been changed to August 20 and 21 because it conflicted with the August coin show. The September seeded hunt will have a considered entry fee. And will have one unique change. You will swap detectors with a club member and use someone elses detector for this hunt.

Rodney L. says we will raffle a silver dollar and a Club Coin at the August Coin Show. Tickets will cost \$1.00 per ticket or six tickets for \$5.00.

Jim N. says spammers are becoming a problem with the club Website. Fred B. reads the Treasury Report, we have a bank balance of \$1738.09. Costs of Meeting room of \$35.00. AAA Storage rent for June and July of \$63.00. Deposits of \$386.00 Club game money and \$206.00 for ticket and dues money. This makes a balance of \$2232.09 in Checking account. Petty Cash has \$80.00 in bills and \$79.80 in change.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

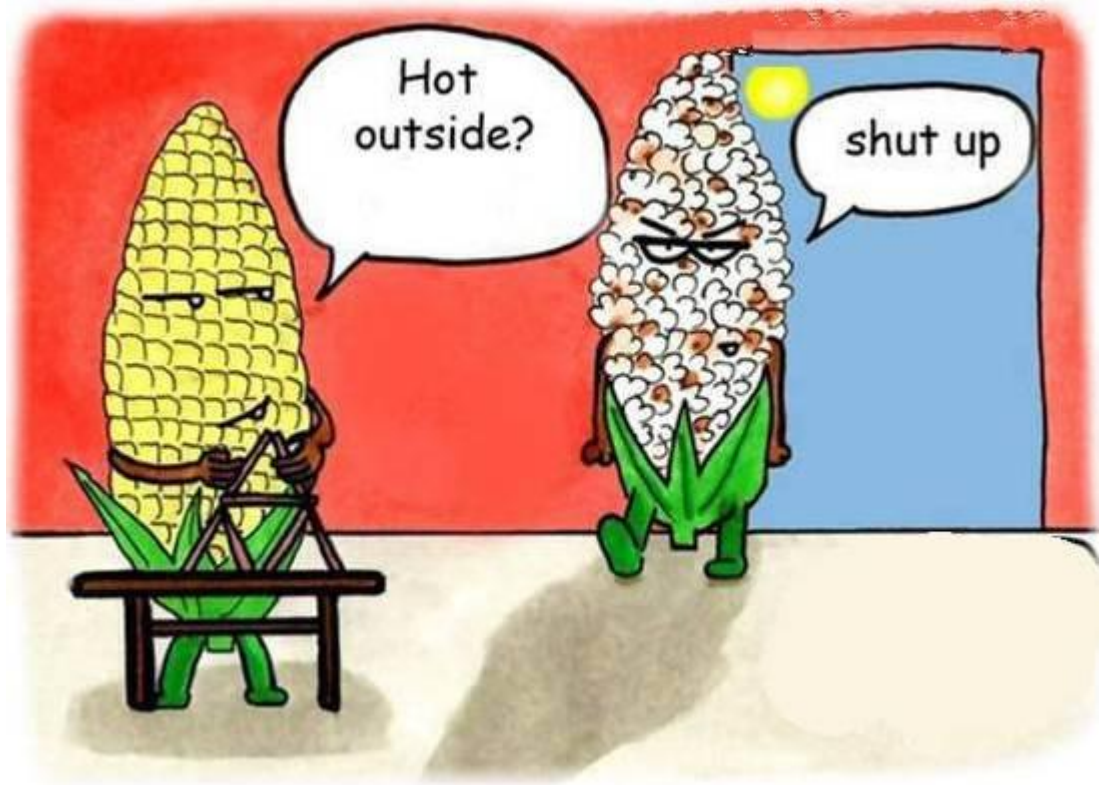
STOUT
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STORAGE

STOUT GOLD AND SILVER

806/674-8698
2300 West 7th
Amarillo, Texas 79106

TOM STOUT
Manager

Board Meeting Continue



August 9, 2011 Program

Program this month will be Ice Cream Social and Seated Hunt, Austin Park

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

Club Meeting Notes

7-12-2011 Regulator Meeting

Mark opens the meeting at 6:30pm with a salute to the Flag. And has a member introduction of some members who are new to meetings. We had a nice crowd tonight with about thirty- eight to forty members at this evenings outing. People were arriving throughout the evening. And that made it difficult to get an accurate count. Tonight was our regular meeting which was a planned TARP game and a hamburger cook-out at Austin Park. Jim N. announces the tarp game to be played tonight. He and several others showed up early to get the game set up. Under the tarp items were placed ranging from different coins and some trash to some squares with nothing. Jim also announced outings for the months ahead.

Terry Bell brings his find. Terry was digging in a yard where a house had been removed. He found a buried Craftsman toolbox. The box appeared to have been buried for several years. Terry was very gracious and brought the tool box to the meeting tonight so all of us could at the same time see what was inside. As it turned out the toolbox was used as a coffin for someone's pet cat. But we want to thank Terry for bringing his find to the meeting to share his excitement with the club. After all the box could have been filled with cash or jewelry. You never know.

Toby Shedd leads us in a prayer before lunch was served. Thank-you Toby. There was plenty to eat tonight including hamburgers, hotdogs. Watermelon and cookies for desert.

While the TARP game was in progress, the monthly winners for Relic, Jewel and Coins were announced. There was no Prospecting entry tonight. Fred Bobo won the Relic class with an arrowhead display, Terry Bell won the Jewelry class with a Gold ring and Fred Bobo won the Coin class with a 1939 Dime. Fred also won the overall class with his Arrowhead display. The TARP game winners were; first Hazel Smith, second Rodney Laughban and third was Fred Bobo. Their prizes will be issued at next month's meeting.

I was sitting Rodney Laughban's chair, and when he returned to his chair I kindly gave Rodney's chair back to him. Of course he had to harass me a little first about being in his chair. Then the funniest thing I've seen in years, Rodney sat down and was barley relaxed only to fall through his chair. I wish I would have had a camera at this time. Rodney had a very surprised look upon his face.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm

Mark Davey met with members going to Colorado after the regular meeting to discuss the travels to the prospector outing in Colorado.

Signed;

Robert Mende

Life is something
that happens
when you can't
get to sleep."

Club Meeting notes Continue

Special Article this month

Stagecoach and Train Robbery in Colorado

Do not throw the arrow which will return against you.

The only public transportation before 1869 was the, Stagecoach, and most areas were served by the interconnecting stage lines. Naturally they were an obvious and tempting target for outlaws, especially those who were just getting breaking into the bandito business. In 1869, when the transcontinental railroad was completed, the stagecoach was the only form of public transportation available. The stagecoach system remained the best way to travel most of the remote areas in the Rocky Mountain west into the early 1900's.

Since many of the local mining companies transported their payrolls by stagecoach, criminals had a pretty good chance of riding away with gold dust, gold bars, and gold coins after robbing a stagecoach. These valuables were usually stored under the stagecoach driver's seat in a strong box. Hollywood writers to the contrary, irregardless of the value of the strong box, bandits would nearly always take money, jewelry, watches, or any other valuables from the passengers.

As a stagecoach traveled along a trail or road far away from any town or stage station, robbers, highwaymen, road agents, bandits could come out of their carefully selected ambush spots and hiding places, point their guns at the driver, order him to stop, then they would demand that he throw down the strong box. The bandits would then divide up the loot (most stagecoach strongboxes weighed between 100 and 150 pounds when filled) and then ride away.

In 1879, the stagecoach line in Leadville Colorado started having a lot of trouble with robberies. The stage would sometimes carry gold shipments between Leadville and Buena Vista, Colorado. Somehow, a lone gunman seemed to always know when there would be gold on the stage, even though this information was a closely held secret and only known to the local head of the stage line and the Sheriff's deputies. The stagecoach company decided to catch the thief by planting false information among the staff and a few of the sheriff's deputies.

As had been expected the masked road agent came out of hiding to ambush the stage. Several of the guards that had been hidden inside the stagecoach jumped out and shot the robber. When they pulled off the robber's mask, they discovered that it was the wife of one of the deputies! The deputy was so shocked and embarrassed, he buried her beside the trail where she was killed instead of bringing her body back to town. Her headstone can be seen from the highway a few miles south of Leadville: My Wife Jane Kirkham died March 7, 1879 Aged 38 years, 3 months, 7 days.

Club Articles

I have a simple philosophy: Fill what's empty. Empty what's full. Scratch where it itches.

Whew is it hot Report!

July was a busy month for treasure hunters even in the dryness. We had a few look for July 4th leavings and a couple of goodies where to be dredged from the large amount of trash left behind. Lots of clad, a silver broach, a necklace and all the unopened water bottles you could carry. The picnic at Austin park was a great success thanks to those that helped such as Mark, John, Skip and Robert. They prepared the feast that was wonderful. Again thanks! We did experience a micro-burst but all survived and all my papers were rescued! 13 members tried their hand at the "Tarp-of-truth" and all did well. We did have three that did a little better and won top honors. Hazel took top spot, Rodney beat out Skip by a few seconds to take 2nd and 3rd respectively. Good going all! It is trickery than it looks.

The August meeting will be at Austin Park again and we'll enjoy an Ice Cream Social and seeded hunt. So come find some hidden treasures and bring you detectors. The seeded targets will not need to be dug as all will be on the surface. They haven't watered much there so lets be careful on our digging. Those that can provide Ice Cream and/or cookies let me know. The August Club Outing will be at Sandy Beach down on Lake Greenbelt (east side of lake) for a beach hunt Saturday and Sunday August 20th and 21st. Cost is \$5/day payable to the park store as you get to the dam. If you have a water machine and wouldn't mind showing us how they work please bring it. I recommend sand scoops for digging finds. Bring lunches or trek back into Clarendon for a bite.

September is a seeded hunt with a twist. You can't use your own detector you have to switch with someone and use a different model or brand. John thought this up and I like it. More details later.

Thanks again to those that come to our outings. You make them a success. And those that helps and provides the stuff for the outings, a great big thanks! You guys make it fun!

Let me add another reminder about getting permission to before hunting private property and watch your digging in the turf. No such thing as a plug with the ground this dry. Have fun, be safe and see you next month.

Jim

Club Pictures

July 2011 Bar-B-Que at Austin Park, Amarillo, Texas



Inside Articles

Why we search for treasure

It takes several things to make it happen where we search with our detectors or spades...

... It takes a family history, of course.

... People lived there for generations, living their lives and saving memories.

... But sometimes, they lost things or left them behind. We all do.

... They never could find what they lost.

Whatever they felt at that moment, whatever they said to each other and to a new generation, has become lost.

In the passage of time, things had to be let go of.

Now, after so many new generations, when we discover an artifact, we make those persons' lives new and remembered, and respected.

We connect across the generations.

We hold our hand out, knowing that physically it is impossible to physically deliver it; but completing the connection of one generation's respect to another's.

Every discovery is a look toward the person who lost it. We can only wonder what it would have meant to them, if they would have had it back and thank them for the joy and memories their loss has made for us. That is why we search.

Jim

It was so hot...

the cows are giving
evaporated milk.

the trees are
whistlin' for the
dogs.

“The way you do
anything is the way
you do everything.” –
Tom Waits(?)

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

Larry Lawrence
Newsletter editor

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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.

Metal Detector Guide – Metal Detectors 101

What Is A Metal Detector?

A metal detector, in a most simplistic answer, is a device that sends a signal into the ground and then measures the signal in the ground for disruptions made by metallic objects. This is a very basic description of the metal detection process. What goes into making a metal detector work is a complex system of circuitry, user-interface and calibration. The time from between the transmit signal and when the metal detector evaluates the signal is extremely short, in the microseconds. Some metal detectors utilize a single, multiple frequencies and others rely on a pulse induction method. Fortunately, we do not need to comprehend the inner workings of a metal detector in order to use one.

Three Common Misconceptions about Metal Detectors

1. **Depth** – Many inexperienced detectorists believe that a metal detector should be capable of finding items buried four, five, or some other large number of feet below the ground. While there are a few metal detectors that can break the two foot mark under right conditions, the normal range is anywhere from an inch for low quality detectors to about 14 inches on some higher end units. Most quality metal detectors provide 6 to 12 inches on quarter sized objects. What many newbies do not realize is that there are a number of factors that limit the depth of a given metal detector. These include circuitry design, ground minerals, size and shape of object, metal composition of object, proximity to other items, and depth to name a few.
2. **Gold** – It is quite common to find a new metal detectorist who is looking for a metal detector that will either find only gold or that can tell the difference between gold and other metals. If this were true, then there would be little gold left to be found other than recent drops. The reality is that gold items come in a variety of different alloys, or mixtures of metals. The jewelry items also include a huge variety of shapes and sizes. What this means for the detectorist is that even the best metal detectors struggle to differentiate a gold item from pulltabs, shredded aluminum cans, coins and other metal objects. Hence the widely accepted statement among experienced detectorists, "To find the gold, you have to dig the trash." The concept of digging trash often deflates the enthusiasm of new hobbyists, but it is a reality that must be accepted if a person is to stay with the hobby. So if you want to find gold rings, gold coins, gold chains, gold earrings, or ancient gold flatware, then you are going to have to dig a lot of trash aluminum and lead items.
3. **Wealth** – The third common metal detecting misconception is that a person is going to strike it rich with a metal detector and that finds will easily pay for your metal detector. If this were true, then there would be a lot more people buying metal detectors. The reality is that most long time detectorists will spend hours searching and find a dollar or two per hour, much less than minimum wage. Occasionally, he or she might find a more valuable silver or gold item, but the long term costs of the detector, batteries, gas, and time means that unless you are among the 1/10,000th of a percent of detectorists and find a hoard of gold coins, you will not likely get rich in this hobby.