

This month's drawing winners!

Dennis Gee the 50/50 drawing

Rodney Laubhan & Karen Tanner won the Blue ticket drawing.

Every month we have two drawings. A 50/50 drawing for all attendees and a Blue ticket drawing for members only

50% of the proceeds from the 50/50 goes to the club.

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AMARILLO PROSPECTORS & TREASURE HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

President: JOHN LONDON

First VP: DENNIS GEE, in charge of arranging for programs

Second VP: RODNEY LAUBHAN, events coordinator

Sec/Treasurer: KATHY BRAGG

Board Members: KEITH FERGUSON, BUD ELLIOTT & Skip Kendrick

Club News

Welcome to the March 2009 edition of the Prospectors & Treasure Hunters Newsletter



At our March meeting The program was presented by Mark Pittman, business Manager at Ceta Canyon.

Thank you Mark

Our "Find of the Month" Winner is Jim Rainey.

Ken Goad won the Prospecting find of the month.

Congratulations!



Welcome to new members George Brokens, Wes Farris, Pete Shaddon, Larry Lawrence, Jason & Kristin Messer, Harold Taylor and Tim Simms.



Club members, Rodney Laubhan & Jim Nichols will give a presentation on A unique treasure hunting method and perhaps some treasure stories.

Don't miss this one!

The April 2009 meeting will be held at 2200 W. 7th @7:PM.

Board of directors had their meeting at 5:00 PM, Monday April 6th @ Gander Mountain.

Please see the text below.

See You at 7:00PM on April 14th



STOUT GOLD AND SILVER

TOM STOUT  
Manager

806/374-8698  
2300 West 7th  
Amarillo, Texas 79106

This is your club and we want to hear your opinions.

All club members have the right to be heard. If you want to discuss an item during the open meeting, just raise your hand and you will be recognized.

To be added to the meeting agenda, please call or email me and your topic will be put in the news letter.

Your opinions are important to the health of the club.

Use your voice!

The executive board, in their regular board meeting Monday night April 6, after a lengthy discussion about Charter Membership in the club made a decision about who should be charter members. You will recall that those in attendance at the organizational meeting in October 2007 decided who would be charter members. The decision of those regulars in attendance throughout 2007 decided that those who paid dues by the club meeting in January 2008 would be charter members. Some thirty three memberships were collected after the announcement was made and published in all newsletters.

Now that a charter membership is being allowed on our club coin many in the club would like to be included. To be fair with all concerned, and after long discussion about what is fair for all, the board has voted to the following:

All those who signed up as members from November 2007 through DECEMBER 2008, our first full year of being a club will be considered Charter Members. This will allow those whose names appears on our books as having paid dues during the stated time will be able to have their name listed as a charter member on a purchased club coin. We will still allow those who joined the club during the original charter time, Nov. 2007-Jan. 2008, to have first chance at the lower numbers. All other charter members will be given the chance to get a charter coin as they pay and sign up for a coin. No special numbers or movement in position will be allowed.

All coins cost \$15.00 each and money will be taken at the April club meeting for the coins. The first group of charter members will be given the chance to purchase a low number coin through the MAY 2009 meeting according to the date they joined the club. After that those who are on the list and come forward wanting a charter coin will be assigned a first come first served number. This means that a new list will be compiled and most coins will not be ready for delivery until the June, 2009 meeting.

After the May meeting, If you want a coin, whether charter member or not, low numbers will be assigned to those who first pay for coins. The club has 300 coins in inventory.

The board further decided that any complimentary coin given for any reason will need to be approved by a majority vote of the executive board. Complimentary club coins currently authorized are for first president John London, Deceased members, Bill Montgomery, Virgil Wallin and Club Coin Designer Jim Nichols.

The board also has revised our meeting structure.

Beginning immediately, All members are requested to come early if possible. The **only entry will be at the North rear door of the club room.** There will be a registration table set up. Please be in your seats and ready as the meeting will come to order promptly at 7:00PM! **We will not sell any raffle tickets until intermission!** The first ten (10) minutes will be for club announcements. The program will have thirty minutes (30) max and if it runs a bit short then we will use the time for more announcements. Our break will be for thirty (30) minutes and members may buy raffle tickets, pick up find of the month ballots, visit and enjoy refreshments. Find of the month and Show N Tell items may also be put on the table(s) during the break. After the break we will have "Show N Tell". Each entrant should give a short description of his/her finds or treasures. Next will be Find of the month for treasure hunting and prospecting. All entries must be prospected or found in some manner, **Not Purchased!** The board has added a **FREE** raffle ticket (Green). This ticket will be for a \$1 presidential coin X 5 per meeting. Green tickets will be given to each registering member either before 7:00 or at intermission. Please Remember to be in your seat by 7:00PM! The Meeting will come to order at that time!

Kathy Bragg has tendered her resignation as Secretary/Treasurer. The April meeting will be her last as a board member.

We, the Board of directors and club officers, want to encourage all members to think about accepting those positions.

As a growing group of adventurers, it is imperative that we have one or two people willing to serve as secretary and/or treasurer. Please give this some serious thought. Our club needs your help!

Please remember to bring your money for your club coin. They are \$15.00 engraved with your name. May be ordered during the break!

Show & Tell items are always wanted. Bring your latest finds. Each member will be given time during the show & tell time to show case your latest finds to members.

Sign in your Find Of The Month with CLINTON STURCHEN before the meeting starts or during the break. Remember we vote for the best and winners get a \$10 prize. Finds are any treasure you have found since last meeting. Enter as many items as you want as long as each is a single item. If you have found GOLD nugget(s) or placer since last meeting you may enter in the prospector section. Winners get bragging rights for the month and a chance to enter the find in the Find Of The Year voted on during the Annual Christmas Party Second Tuesday of December. Winners of Year win \$120.00 in prizes. You can win big!

The club will have a table at the Golden Spread Coin Show August 15 & 16 at Civic Center. Members are encouraged to sign up for one or two hours to work the table. We will show case our club and activities and sign up new members. Members will be allowed to sell some of their wares such as finds, and show & tell for visitors to our table. We are still in the planning stages for this our first such event.

#### Longview Treasure Show by Kevin Harbison

Arriving at the Longview treasure show Friday afternoon, many vendor booths were set up with all sort of machines, accessories, books etc used for the hobby of metal detecting and prospecting. Many others would drift in that afternoon and Saturday morning to set up for the show.

I have only been to one other show like this so I had a good time looking at all the detectors and tools that are out there for the coin shooter. A few vendors were displaying prospecting equipment.

Others were set up to show off all the finds they have come across through the years. Coins, bullets, buttons, buckles, old toys and all sorts of other findings.

I have never panned for gold, and there was a seminar Saturday afternoon I attended that was put on by one of the local club members. He explained the basics of what he does in the area they hunt. The gold him and his club are panning is very fine, powder type gold, and it takes a long while to get any good amount out of the river they prospect. Almost no nuggets to be found in his area, but very fun to do anyway. Some of the local rules as well as state and private property regulations were talked about, as well as some of the techniques and equipment. After the seminar I went to a GPAA table where a small wash basin was set up for panning. I got to run my very first pan of black sand down to find quite a few small nuggets in the bottom of my pan.

Sunday morning was a coin hunt in an open grassy field next to the convention. The field was full of hunters with their detectors,

hoping to find one of the many coins and tokens placed out there for them to retrieve. There were so many hunters they were almost standing elbow to elbow while walking the field. They all looked they were having a great time.

To get all you can from these shows a person could spend a little time at all the tables, listening to the advice of all the treasure hunters tell their stories and techniques, looking at all the targets they revealed in their digs and catching every seminar you can. It makes for a busy weekend, but if ever anyone new to the sport would want to get interested in coin hunting, next to getting out there with someone who already metal detects, a treasure show is sure to get someone excited about trying it out.

It was a good show, although quite a drive, but the company and conversation on the way down and back made the trip go by pretty fast.





## "What Have You Done for Your Club Lately" by Jim Nichols

Are you an active club member, someone who is at every meeting? Well my question to you is "What Have You Done for Your Club Lately"? A club is made up of members all with different abilities and talents and yet very few get involved with the operation of the club behind the scenes. Too many clubs have the same core members year after year with little or no growth. Do your officers roll over year after year because no other members express an interest in the month to month operation of the club? Trust me when I say our club officers don't want to hold their positions forever, they are just waiting for someone to step up and take an interest in taking their club to the next level. All though our club is seeing excellent growth and interest many clubs memberships are stagnant with little or no growth one reason could be due to lack of change. Change makes things different and maybe different is what is needed to attract new members, interest and ideas. Next time your club holds elections don't be afraid to stand up and offer your talents and abilities. You are not going to hurt anyone's feelings and you may be the person to bring new life to a great hobby.

## 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.

Hope to see ya'll Tuesday the 14th



