

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

Individual Highlights:

Board Articles	2
Board Articles	3
Board Meeting	4
Board Meeting	5
Club Meeting	6
Event Notes	7
Club Article	8
Club Pictures	9
Inside Story	10
Last Story	11

Across the President's Desk

By Mark Davey

Hello APTHA!

Who's ready for the heat to be over this summer? I know I am. It's been so hot and dry that metal detecting has been hard. Most of us haven't gotten out in the heat to dig in the dry dirt, and I can't blame us. Hopefully this record breaking heat wave will end soon and we can get back to enjoying our metal detectors.

As you all know, the club took its annual trip to Colorado at the end of July. It was a great trip. We didn't find much gold, mostly fine and flour gold, but what we didn't find in gold we found in friendship and good cooking.

The camp site was perfect for the group we had this year. It even rained on camp every day we were there...if only we could get that here right?

We have had two club outings at Austin Park. One was a tarp hunt and the other was a seeded hunt. Sadly, the ground is so dry that even the seeded hunt still has coins in the dirt that haven't been found.

The club also went to Greenbelt Lake not long ago. I wasn't able to make it, but some of our members found a few items.

I just want to remind all our members to cover any holes that are dug. With the ground being so dry, try not to dig any holes if at all possible. There were some holes found that weren't covered after recent club outings.

Hopefully we start getting some rain soon and can get back out there and enjoy our metal detectors again. I hope to see all of you at the next meeting.

Mark Davey

Board Members Articles

8-18-2011 Special Board Meeting

Attendees are Bob Mende, Mark Davey, Dan Ferguson, Mike Darnell, Toby Shedd, Carroll Herring, Jim Nichols and Rodney Laubhan.

Mark opened the meeting at 7:05 pm

Purpose of the meeting is to go through the By-Laws word by word and Article by Article. And come up with a proper wording of this document. Discussions were presented for one hour and fifty minutes. By-Laws have been revised and are ready to be published and will be brought before the Club at the next regular meeting. The By-Laws will be voted on in November by the membership.

Jim Nichols pulls his idea for a fishing trip at Medi-Park in September and moves the trip to November after the lake has been planted with Trout. Jim suggests a trip back to the Girl Scout Camp in October.

Our best wishes to Fred Bobo's Daughter while she recovers from a motorcycle wreck.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:16pm.

Signed _____ Robert Mende

APTHA 2011 COIN & TREASURE SHOW AUGUST 13/14 2011

We measure the success or failure of our participation in the annual show not by the amount of sales we make, rather by the number of interest we have in the show by attendees and new memberships made. We had great interest in the show by those in attendance and added three memberships to the club.

We had a great response from our members working and adding to our club displays. There were ten (10) members who worked and several who came by the booth as they visited the show. The amount of effort made by all is just more evidence of how good a club we have.

The three new members who signed up are R.C. BOB ROLAND (S), KIRK KING (F), GREG GARNER (F). We look forward to having these new members in our club. One more person is expected to join our club in September. Welcome to the club.

The following members worked and had a display: MIKE DARNELL, JIM NICHOLS, MARK DAVEY, CARROL THOMASON, CHARLES MYERS & RODNEY.

The following also worked the show: NICK DAVEY, BOB MENDE, RON NEWBERRY, & HAZEL SMITH.

Board Members Articles **Continue**

MIKE DARNELL worked setting up the booths on Friday.

KAREN & ALBERT TANNER had a booth set up at the show. KAREN & ALBERT also added displays to the show cases. Also members LIZ and GENE EVINS had a booth at the show. Our club and members added six tables to the show.

Winning the silver dollar & club coin from the show raffle were:

TIM SHEDD & TAMMY TAYLOR



CLUB MEMBERS

HERE ARE THE COINS TO BE AWARDED TO SOME LUCKY MEMBERS IN OCTOBER AT THE CLUB DRAWING.

ONLY ONE MORE OPPORTUNITY REMAINS FOR MEMBERS TO PURCHASE NUMBERS FOR THE CLUB DRAWING. BRING YOUR MONEY TO THE MEETING SEPTEMBER AT THE MEETING HALL.

LUCKY MEMBERS WILL WIN SOME GREAT SILVER!

9 TICKET GROUPS REMAIN AT \$20 EACH

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Board Meeting Notes

August 2, 2011 APTHA Board Meeting

Attendees, Rodney Laubhan, Mike Darnell, Bob Mende, Dan Ferguson, Carroll Herring and Mark Davey. Absent are Jim Nichols, Toby Shedd and Fred Bobo.

Mark opened meeting at 6:05pm.

The immediate discussion of the By-Laws came up. And because Mark was absent at the July Meeting, Mark wanted us to revisit the By-laws changes. And Mark will take the changes we discussed in the July meeting home and study the changes we discussed. We will have a special meeting Tuesday the 9th after the regular meeting to vote on any possible changes.

Rodney on behalf of Jim Nichols brought up a discussion of keeping a past President on the Board for one year after the new President has been voted in. And also have a voting position with the Board. It was decided this would not be a good idea, Mark said he would not be interested in doing so. This would also put an even number of voting members on the Board. It was decided to not keep an outgoing President on the Board. The By-Laws changes made at the July Board Meeting were voted on and passed. Possible changes may be made after August 9 meeting in a special Board Meeting. This would be in consideration by Mark to have time to read and approve of the By-Law changes.

It was discussed and decided to remove the By-Laws from the Website until the new version could be installed.

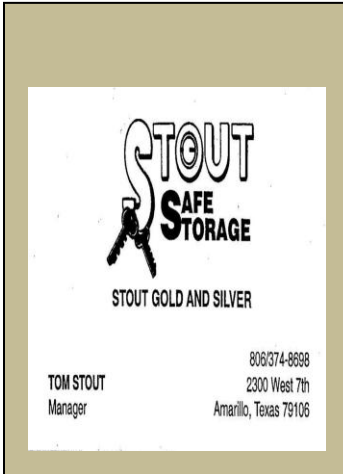
Mark presents the Treasury Report; \$1683.66 in Checking Account, \$1050.63 in CD Account, \$138.96 in Petty Cash. And totals \$2873.25.

Mark submits receipts from the Colorado expedition that were charged to Petty Cash. He also submits a \$461.00 receipt for the purchase of Gold to be used for Blue Ticket sales. He picked up 13 pieces of Gold including some Gold Flakes. Mark wrote \$92.00 checks to avoid a second signature on the check. This was O.K.'d

Rodney makes a motion to buy quarters equal to the number of halves we have. Also for the Blue Ticket sales. Motion was seconded and passed.

Rodney gives a report on the new Money Game and says there are 20 blocks of ten numbers left for sale. Hopefully they will be sold before the time limit ends.

Mark announces that next Meeting Aug. 9, will be an ice cream social and seeded hunt at Austin Park at 6:30pm. He asks that some members please bring water and cookies. Jim via Mark asks about having a fishing trip. After the meeting I received an email from Jim which explains where when and how. Jim will probably talk about it at the Aug. 9th meeting.



**September 13,
2011 Program**

**Seeded Hunt at
Austin Park
September 15th**

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

Board Meeting Continue

I will bring his email to the meeting. Just in case Jim is absent. Rodney says the coin show in August has eight helpers, which should be o.k. There will be a raffle for a Silver Round and a Club Coin will be raffled too. Rodney asks for and is approved to have change from the Petty Cash account. He also asks for Postage Stamp money, and it was approved. We will also hope to sign up new members at the coin show too.

Rodney brings two proposal options for the Find of Month. The two proposals were discussed and some changes made to them. Proposal number two was accepted. Motion made seconded and passed. The FOM will now pay out \$10.00 first, \$6.00 second and \$4.00 for third place winners.

Rodney brings up discussion of hauling Gold bearing dirt from Colorado. Mark says no one in Colorado seems to want to sell dirt this way. The idea was put off for a latter discussion. Mark gives a report of the Colorado trip including Chad's claim, Orphan boy claim and the Cache Creek claim. It seems not a lot of Gold was found, but we did really enjoy the trip. After all that is what it's all about! Enjoy yourself and the people around you.

Meeting adjourned at; 8:00pm.

Signed; Robert Mende

Club Meeting Notes

8-09-2011 Regular meeting at Austin Park

Mark Davey opens meeting at 6:46pm with the salute to the Flag.

It seems we dodged a severe storm what was moving east toward Amarillo from Wildorado, It seems the storm just dissipated. We received only a few drops of rain and some wind.

Kenneth Goad gave a report on his trip to Atlin, Canada. Ken had operated his metal detector and sluice box up there on some private claims. Ken did bring some nice gold home, just a bit over a half ounce. That does not account for the amount of gold his partner had found.

“Congratulation to Ken for a great trip”.

Rodney Lauhban takes time to discuss the money game and promote the selling of more Money Game Tickets.

Mark Davey gives a report on the Colorado trip. There were fourteen persons attend the group hunt to Colorado. Some time was spent on Chad’s Claim. A charge of \$10.00 per person per day to work on his Claim. Chad’s Claim is just North of Alma, Co. Some time was also spent on the “GPOC” claim at Cache Creek. And some time was also spent on the Beaver Creek claim which is also owned by Chad. And some fishing was on the agenda by others. Although little gold was found. It must be understood that everyone had a very good time. And first and foremost the reason for these trips are to have fun and get to know each other better. And I believe this was accomplished.

Jim Nichols and his Wife Terry did the coin seeding of Austin Park as the club considers the search for the twenty three coins. The seeded coins include two silver quarters, five barber dimes ten Indian nickels and six Indian Pennies. By the end of the night twelve coins have been recovered. We want to thank Jim and Terry for their help. And as you know that means they do not participate in the hunt. So they sacrifice a bunch.

Jim says September 15 will be another seeded hunt at Austin Park. He also said we will meet at the Canyons meeting place September 13.

Kenneth Goad announced tonight he will be quitting his prospecting and wants to sell all of his prospecting equipment. If anyone is interested, I’m sure you could visit with him at any meetings when he is in attendance.

Carroll Thomason led us in Prayer prior to the evening dessert.

We now take time to consume the Ice Cream and Cookies that were brought by members. After enjoying the ice cream and cookies. I would like to thank Carroll Herring for bringing the only homemade ice cream this year. It was the best compared to the entire store bought.

“THE HUNT BEGINS”

While some members were coin hunting. The finds of the month were awarded.

The finds of the Month were; Relic- Arrowhead by Charlene Bobo, Coin- 1904 Barber Dime by Jim Nichols, Jewelry- Dolphin Broach by E.B. Shedd and Prospector- Gold by Ken Goad. The overall winner was the Gold find by Ken Goad.

Searching for the seeded coins went on until dark. I did not get an accurate count of persons attending the meeting tonight, but probably between thirty and thirty five persons.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Signed; Robert Mende

Never approach a bull from the front, a horse from the rear, or a fool from any direction.

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Event notes Continue

Remember that
silence is
sometimes the best
answer.

School is back and wow! What a short Summer it was!

The August meeting was an Ice Cream Social and seeded hunt at Austin Park. We had 21 hunters look for the 23 coins hidden there. At this time there are 2 mercury dimes, 2 IH pennies and 6 buffalo nickels that were planted and still unaccounted for. So go get them! The seeded targets will not need to be dug as all will be near the surface. They haven't watered much there so lets be careful on our digging. Thanks for the Ice Cream and cookies and brownies! Yum!

The August Club Outing was down at Sandy Beach on Lake Greenbelt (east side of lake) Saturday and Sunday August 20th and 21st. We had 18 hunters get sand in their shoes and lots of clad was found but not much else this round. A 52D penny was found on the beach as well as a 45S penny at the park later after lunch. Thanks for those that went and it turned out to be a very pleasant hunt that morning since the moderate temperatures and slight breeze made it nice.

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. We will meet at Austin Park at 6:00PM Thursday the 15th and do the switching of detectors and training for about 15-20 minutes then off to the races on locating the seeded coins (in addition to ones already planted from before).

October will be a rematch at the Girl Scout camp. We will hunt Saturday and Sunday the weekend of Oct. 15th and 16th. Let's meet at 9AM at the camp.

Again let me add a reminder about getting permission before hunting private property and watch your digging in the turf. If you hunt a park look for the areas they have watered. There is no such thing as a plug with the ground this dry. Have fun, be safe and see you next month.

Jim

Club Articles

Gold is so rare that the world pours more steel in one hour than the world has poured gold in its history.

TEXAS TREASURE HUNTING

GEMS

Some of the best agate, jasper, chert and petrified wood found in the nation comes from Texas. Blue banded, moss and red and black plume agates are found near Alpine in Brewster County. Similar agates are found in Jeff Davis, Hidalgo, Hudspeth, Presidio, Reeves, San Patricio and Starr Counties. Petrified wood can be found in Amarillo, Bastrop, Brazo, Comal, Duval, Fayette, Gonzales, Lavaca and Uvalde Counties. With fine quality palm wood coming from Live Oak and Webb Counties. Good quality chert can be found in limestone formations in McCulloch, Moore and San Saba Counties. The material from Moore County also is called Alibates flint and was used by prehistoric and modern day Indians to make weapons and tools. The quarry from which the Indians obtained their flint is now Alibates State Park.

RELICS COINS AND JEWELRY

Texas has a rich history of early settlements and battlefields. The perfect combination for an energetic relic hunter. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

Schools and College Campuses Parks / Playgrounds / Picnic Areas. Foundations, Wells and cellar holes of old Churches or houses, downtown construction sites. Swimming holes, Beaches and Natural springs camp grounds, Boy Scout Camps, WPA camps, and mining camps, Sports facilities, Ghost town Rodeo Arenas, Riding Stables and Race Tracks, Old Fair grounds, Carnival Locations and Old town dump sites.

LOST TREASURES

As in other areas of the US, there are several tales of lost treasure in Texas concerning caches buried for safety. In many of these stories, people either died or forgot where they buried the stash. Contributing factors include:

1. Federal laws making possession of gold illegal in the early 1900s
2. Distrust of banks during the great depression.

Gold bars were lost in Paisano Pass near the Brewster-Presidio County line. In Brewster County notorious Texas outlaw Sam Bass spent time in the 1870s robbing stagecoaches including several near Deadwood in the Dakota Territory. Seeking other opportunities, Bass and his sidekick Joel Collins went to Big Springs, Nebraska. And there held up the Union Pacific Railroad, escaping with a payroll of 3,000 freshly minted 1877 \$20 gold coins in a trunk. Although \$25,000 worth of coins (1250 gold coins) were recovered. There are still about 1750 coins not accounted for. Collins and Bass died without revealing where the rest of the loot was. It is said that Bass had hidden his part in Cove Hollow about 30 miles from Denton, Texas. Who knows, it may still be there today. It is thought a lost cache of \$20 gold coins may be in Palo Duro Canyon, Armstrong County.

Courtesy of www.treasurefish.com

Club Pictures

August 2011

Amarillo Coin Show Pictures



Greenbelt Sandy Beach Pictures, fourteen members attended on Saturday



Inside Articles

Colorado Group Hunt

July 23, 2011 fourteen members of the AT&THA went to a mountain camp near Fairplay, Co.

A few people went earlier and scouted the area. By Saturday everyone had arrived at the campground.

Sunday and Monday members went to a Claim owned by Chad. Chad's claim was about six miles north of Alma, Co. Chad charged \$10.00 per day per member for the privilege to pan for Gold on his claim. Chad had dug a fifteen foot deep hole to bedrock with a backhoe. Two members made a deal with Chad and opened a waterway to the dug out hole. The hole was dug by a back-hoe and Chad wanted a river entrance to the hole. While digging the waterway Chad allowed us to work with his dredge. It took two days to dig the entrance. Chad gave the two all the concentrates from the digging. The gold in the concentrates to this day is not known. Mean-while the rest of the members ran about two yards of material through two high-bankers piled up from the dugout hole. The concentrates from the material have not been cleaned. I'm not sure when the Club will clean the material.

Tuesday, seven or eight members went to Cache Creek, a claim operated by GPOC. Members must have a GPOC to work this claim. Some Gold was found by members on this claim. This was a very good looking Claim and hopefully we can return there in the future.

Other members went to a Claim owned by Chad at Beaver Creek. No one has reported to me if any Gold was found there.

One member went to a local fishing hole and tried out his luck in a creek. He told me he did not have much luck with the fish. Actually the fish were the lucky ones.

Mark and Skip did most of the cooking, by the way they are very good cooks. A cook tent was set up for cooking. A campfire was burning most of the time. It would burn out by morning, but usually was hot enough to restart kindling in the morning. A camp guard was on duty each day while the others were out having fun.

I had to leave Tuesday night because of a doctor's appointment Wednesday. So what happens the rest of the week will have to be written by someone else.

Written by R. Mende

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

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.

Article from the past that I found on the Internet. Larry Lawrence

One of the most memorable areas that I've hunted was an old [drive-in movie theater](#). I was stationed at Redstone Arsenal, (Huntsville) Alabama at the time. The theater was located on Highway 231 South (Memorial Parkway). Under the screen was a trailer where the groundskeeper lived. One day while he was out front mowing the lawn I stopped by and inquired about hunting the playground area in front of the screen. During the conversation I learned that the drive-in was built in 1949 and had been detected by other hunters. However, business was slow and the drive-in was now in the process of closing down for good. Permission was granted to metal detect so I parked inside and concentrated on the playground located directly in front of the screen.

The playground was approximately 150 feet wide and about 30 feet deep. In the front were two chair swings on either side of a cement pad (use unknown). In front of the cement pad was a see-saw and beyond that a merry-go-round. On the left was another merry-go-round and a swing set. On the right was another swing set and in the middle toward the back was a slide playhouse. All of the equipment looked its age. It is hard to remember exactly where I found all of the coins. I kept accurate records of the drive-in and to this day only remember digging up one of the coins...a Ben Franklin half dollar. I only hunted in the playground as most of the area where the patrons would park and watch the movies was paved over. I was using a White's 5000-D metal detector at the time (I still have it).

The date was March 3, 1980. I found 2 silver Washington quarters, 1 [Standing Liberty quarter](#) (1929-S), 3 Mercury dimes, 4 silver Roosevelt dimes, 30 wheat pennies, 46 new pennies, 7 clad dimes, 4 nickels, 4 quarters, and 1 silver ring. It was a good day of detecting and I had the entire area to myself. I made plans to return the following week.

On March 8, 1980 I detected the playground again. Coins were popping out of the ground like the previous hunt. That day I found 1 silver Washington quarter, 3 Mercury dimes, 2 silver Roosevelt dimes, 18 wheat pennies (one was a 1909), 8 clad dimes, 1 nickel, 25 new pennies and another silver ring. The drive-in was starting to become a very productive site.

On March 10, 1980 I hit the playground again but coins were starting to thin out somewhat. I managed to pull up 1 silver Washington quarter, 1 Mercury dime, 1 silver Roosevelt dime, 5 wheat pennies, 1 clad dime and 5 new pennies. All in all it was still a good day. Could there still be more coins hiding in the playground?

I found out the answer on March 11, 1980. Yes! Coins were still sparse but I did find 2 more Mercury dimes, 2 silver Roosevelt dimes, 6 wheat pennies, 2 clad dimes, 2 nickels, and 12 pennies. Looks like things were closing down in the coin department too.

I had to pull a short tour of duty at Fort Hood, Texas. At the time I was a Meteorological Observer in research and development. It was a great job and I really enjoyed that type of work. When the tour was up I went on a 30 day leave (vacation) back to Pennsylvania. I guess I'm trying to say it was a few months before I got to go back to the drive-in. Surely, there had to be more coins.

A big change occurred while I was gone. The screen burned down some time during May of 1980. All of the playground equipment was now gone and the lot had been bulldozed over. On August 10, 1980 I hit the vacant playground again. The one coin I remember finding after 19 years is the Ben Franklin half dollar I found under the see-saw. After hitting the area 4 times, I still missed a rather large coin. That is why it pays off to hit an area time and time again. When the day was done I ended up with the 1954 B.F. half dollar, 2 Mercury dimes, 3 silver Roosevelt dimes, 1 silver war nickel, 6 wheat pennies, 1 clad dime and 5 new pennies.

September 7, 1980 would be my last visit to Whitesburg drive-in. It was a sad feeling knowing that the end of an era was coming to a close. The movies had not played for some time now and the screen and playground were gone. No more children to laugh and play on the swing sets. No more parents watching the children and discussing current events. All gone, just memories now. I ended the day with 2 Mercury dimes, 2 silver Roosevelt's, 8 wheat pennies, 2 clad dimes and 7 new pennies. Whitesburg drive-in was undoubtedly a great place to metal detect. I found a total of 239 coins with a face value of \$9.68. \$4.50 of that was in silver. Recent correspondence with metal detecting buddy Robert Hoard in Huntsville tells me that the entire place is now Whitesburg Shopping Center. Bob Hope said it the best, "thanks for the memories."