

This month's drawing winners!

Ken Goad won the 50/50 drawing

Charles Myers, Tim Simms & Bob Mende 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: Skip Kendrick

Board Members: KEITH FERGUSON, BUD ELLIOTT, Mark Davie & Jim Nichols

Club News

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



At our June meeting The program was presented by club member Jim Nichols. Jim described how metal detectors work in detail. The displays were done by Jim Nichols and were very informative. A great show!

Thank you Jim



Our "Find of the Month" Winner is Charles Myers.

There was no Prospecting entry June.

Congratulations Charles!



Welcome to new member Mike Sackett, were happy to have you aboard.



Our club meeting will be a "hands on" detector clinic and cook out! The meal will be furnished by the club and no cost to members. The meeting will be held at Thompson Park @6:00 PM.

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

See You at 6:00PM on July 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!

At the June meeting after Jim's great presentation we had several items on the agenda for group discussion.

- 1) We discussed volunteering as a club, to "Adopt A Park" to help keep our city parks clean. Mark Davie & Jim Nichols will give a presentation to the city parks & recreation board. We should have more info at our July meeting.
- 2) Club prospecting equipment was approved for purchase. Most of the large items have been delivered and only a few gold pans, shovels & picks have not come in yet.
- 3) Jim Nichols admonished the club for leaving "open holes" and "dug trash" items laying on the ground. This is no good for our clubs image and must be rectified!
- 4) Discussion on hunting @ John Stiff park on July 5th.
- 5) Announced that the July meeting will be in Thompson Park. The club will supply food and drinks at no cost to members. There will be a detector clinic starting at 6:00PM. Emphasis will be on Locating, Pinpointing and proper recovery of targets. Please be there and participate in a group. Food will be served "After the detector clinic"!
- 6) Mark Davey won the donated Arizona gold nugget and Ken goad won a vial of gold dust. Congratulations!
- 7) We had thirty seven (35) members and one new member in attendance.

Yellow ticket winners were: Paul Wall, Billy Jones, Penny Ferguson, Bud Elliot and Steve Russell. Congratulations!





Digging & Filling for all of us who may not know already:

Digging every signal in a small area can turn a place into a mess. Don't try to "clean out" an area of all its metal in one day. After you dig a few holes in one general area, you may want to give it a rest and let the grass recuperate. Turning someone's land into a muddy mess is not going to get you invited back, and it may damage the hobby in the long run. If you are working a spot and really want to "grid" it and dig every signal, stretch it out over a span of months if possible. Hunting the deep coins is a long-term proposition. Nobody goes into a spot and cleans out all the deep coins in one day- it's just not possible or even a good idea to try. Take your time. Enjoy each swing of the coil. Learn from it. The time in the hunt is the best time so take pleasure in it.

Be sure to FILL ALL HOLES you dig, and make sure you tamp the grass plugs down firmly. Wild animals often come along and tear out plugs that aren't tamped down securely. Skunks, raccoons, dogs, squirrels and even children will dig up plugs in search of things to eat or just for the fun of it. I have seen this at Thompson Park.

Filling holes back in without leaving obvious traces you've been there is THE most important part of the metal detecting hobby. If you can't do this right, you'll ruin the future of the hobby for yourself as well as for everyone else. There isn't a target worth losing your (our) right(s) to follow our hobby. Practice in your own back yard until you can cut a grass plug, extract the target, fill the hole, and put the plug back so nobody will even know you were digging there. Avoid digging plugs in very dry weather and if you must bring some water with you to help the plug survive. But it would be best to use that dry time for research or vacant lots. Conversely, don't try digging when the ground is mush. It should be damp but not soaking wet.

When you dig a plug, don't sever all the grass roots- try to leave the plug attached to the rest of the grass along one edge, like a hinge. I have started using this method after seeing a video on the internet. If you know the coin is shallow, instead of digging a plug, probe it with a suitable instrument (I use a homebrew probe made from 8 inches of stainless steel CB antenna glued into a wooden handle made from discarded plunger) and then make a small incision with a screwdriver and pry the coin up from the ground. I have seen John London "pop coins" out and I would say I use this method 80% of the time for coins 0-3 inches. Practice these techniques before digging on any property you don't own. And above all, ask permission before you go on someone else's land.

See you at the meeting to put some of this to practical demonstrations. Please come and enjoy the cook out.

Jim Nichols

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

