

I DIG IT NEWS

AUSTIN METAL DETECTING CLUB

(Since 1963)
5007 Timothy Circle Austin, TX 78734
Membership: \$20.00
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July 2008

Meeting Information:

Place - Woodlawn Baptist Church
4600 Manchaca
Date - **July 10th** 2008
2nd Thursday of each month
Time - **7:00 pm**
Room - M - 103/104

Officers:

President - Larry Vickers 243 -1831
Vice President - Jim Lawhon 259-1036
Treasurer - Scott Hegel 331-1131
Secretary/Newsletter - Blaine Nelson
266-7058 punkin4048@aol.com

Executive Committee:

Ed & Sherry Newsom - 282-4001
Daniel Mireles -989-1134
Cecil Herrin 512-755-0131
John Chapman 261-5029
Art Tiemann - 272-8902

Larry's Ramblings:

Changes to Treasure Hunter of the Year

We are adding activities to augment the "Find of the Month" competition to decide who will represent our club as Treasure Hunter of the Year. Examples of some of the items are listed below and will be discussed and points added at our executive meeting. All are welcome to participate in the executive meeting.

Give program to AMDC
Find program for AMDC
Serve as officer in AMDC
Serve as executive member of AMDC
Head a committee or serve on a committee in AMDC
Head up search or assist with search of lost item
Contribute article or story for the newsletter
Find non-public place for AMDC to hunt
Head up AMDC booth setup for non-Texas Council (TCTC) Show
Assist with AMDC booth setup for non-TCTC Show
Give program to other organizations
Serve as Officer of Texas Council of Treasure Clubs (TCTC)
Serve as Director in TCTC
Head up AMDC booth planning and setup at TCTC Show
Assist with AMDC booth at TCTC
Run booth for 1 - 2 hours at TCTC Show
Work the admission table at TCTC Show
Head up or serve on a committee for TCTC
Give seminar for TCTC
Head up or work with elected bodies to open parks to Metal Detecting

Other can be added as needed

We are looking to have our Treasure Hunter of the Year be a well rounded Treasure Hunter

July Program

This month we will have a guest speaker, John Lawhon, who will present a program on Stone Carving. This should be very interesting, so do plan to attend.

July Executive Meeting

We did not hold an executive meeting this month due to the July 4th holiday. Our next executive meeting will be on **August 7th** at Luby's, 1410 E. Anderson Ln. The meeting starts at **6:00**. Executive meetings are held on the **first Thursday** of each month and all are invited.

June Meeting

Program

Larry Vickers presented a program on fine tuning our detecting skills. We had time for Q & A and members shared detecting tips. Susie Mireles gave an inspiring testimonial of her experiences participating with the children at the Lion's Camp in Kerrville. She made a very creative tri-fold display to share with pictures of the camp and some of the smiling children.

Display Contest

This month we had a DISPLAY contest in lieu of our monthly "Find of the Month" competition. Six members entered displays and we enjoyed viewing and voting on our favorite. The winner's were: First place – Blaine Nelson, Second Place – Rudy Nordmeyer, Third place – Scott Hegel. Honorable mention went to Daniel Mireles, Dennis Gans and Frank Vick.

Club Tee Shirts

We agreed to pursue finding a source to order club tee shirts. We discussed possible colors and logos. Blaine will follow-up and report back.

Refreshments

Thanks to Betty Vickers for bringing refreshments. Jim Lawhon will bring refreshments in July.

June Activities

Kerrville Lion's Camp

Club Hunt

We had a "Member Only" club hunt at the Travis Co. Expo Center on Sunday, June 22. The hunt followed the huge biker rally that drew thousands of people earlier that week. Everyone had a good time and found numerous coins and other items around the grounds.

Monday Morning Hunt

On Monday June 30th six club members met at the Travis Co. Expo Center to try more detecting after the biker rally. We continued to find a number of coins, old bullet shells and a \$5.00 bill was spotted in a ditch.

Lost and Found

Another success for the Search and Recovery Team! Jim Lawhon went out on a request that came in through our web site for assistance in locating a lost ring. The ring was lost in a back yard and was found within 5 minutes after Jim arrived. Congratulations Jim, and thanks for your service!

Group Presentation

Larry and Blaine presented a program on metal detecting to the Mensa group meeting on June 10. There were approximately 16 persons in attendance and they had many interesting questions for Larry and Blaine.

New Members

Jason Bollenbacher, Mark Kubiak, Karen and Boyd Hayes and Jon and Linda Sagester joined the club in June. Welcome all!! Please meet and greet these new members.

AMDC Website

If you've never checked out our web site take a few minutes to see what's there! Everyone is encouraged to go to the Forum and participate, as this generates interest, good PR and even info./potential sites for the club. Our web site is: <http://www.amdconline.com> You can register for the Forum, or to get a password for the "Member Only" section, jot Cecil (webmaster) an email and he will get you a temporary password. You can then set your own user name and password to get in. **Word of caution** – If you post items or reply to a posting, be sure that you send accurate information – especially when replying to questions from the public.

Upcoming Events:

Sept. 27-28 – Llano Gold Fest – AMDC will have a booth and put on a fun hunt for the public.

Oct. 4 – Cowtown Treasure Hunter's Club Competition Hunt – Casino Beach Park, Lake Worth, Tx

Nov. 16 – Houston Club (H.A.R.C.) Competition Hunt – Appfel Park, East Beach – Galveston

Ongoing – We are collecting the following items – bring to any meeting:

- Foreign coins to plant for the Kerrville Lions Camp hunt in June
- Items to donate for **2008 Christmas** dinner fundraiser (anything of interest)

Find of the Month:

At each meeting, finds are displayed by category. Members earn points for entering finds and more points for winning in a category. The rules and entry form are available at each regular meeting. Items found since the **MAY** meeting may be entered in the **JULY** Find of the Month contest. (We had an extra month to collect finds, because June was the Display Contest!) You may still show your finds even if you do not wish to compete in the Find of the Month.

“I Left My Heart At Texas Lions Camp”
by Susie Mireles

To quote Janice Joplin, “Take another little piece of my heart...” I have to agree with this, as I left part of my heart in Kerrville at the Texas Lions Camp. About a dozen of us gathered under the equestrian arena, with our host Keith Wills’ on June 18 & 19th for the 12th annual trip to TLC. There were representatives from the Fort Worth, San Antonio, Houston and Austin area clubs. We had five members from Austin club.

After the tables and displays were in place and the first round of coins buried, we anxiously awaited the first of several groups of kids and counselors to appear. We were fortunate this year to have new Garrett Ace 150 Metal Detectors to use. They were donated by Garrett and Keith had them ready for us. One of the detectors had been modified with a light to allow deaf children to participate without problem! I mention the detector with the light since it is the main reason I lost part of my heart that day!

Our first group of about 20 kids and counselors appears in the arena, excited and eager, to hunt! Keith gives them a little orientation about what we are going to do and points out the displays. We are as excited as the kids and we wait on the sidelines like in school, waiting to be chosen for a kickball team! We whisper amongst ourselves, “wonder who I will be with?!” After the introductions are done, we are paired up with kids and counselors.

I noticed during the introduction that one of the boys has a counselor that is interpreting sign language, so I grabbed the Ace 150 with the light, asked Larry Vickers to “make it work for me” and made sure Keith knew I had it! (a side note; even though my husband, Daniel, has been detecting for about 10 years, I am new to this and not as confident about my new found skill, so Larry or Keith always make sure my detector is set correctly). As I hoped, I was paired up with the little boy I described. He was about 8 or 9 years old. I asked the counselor what his name was and he spelled, in sign language, J-O-S-H-U-A. I was able to keep up with his spelling and he was pleased that I understood. I was able to use my, not so great, sign language letters skills and tell him my name was S-U-S-I-E. He smiled and was ready to try this fine sport. He told the counselor that he didn’t think he could do this because he was deaf. As the messages were relayed back and forth between us, I showed Joshua that there was a light that would light up when he was over a coin! He was then very excited (the newest sign I learned, just ask me and I can show you that one) and off we went. He found one coin, then another and another and by the end of his session, he had about a dozen coins in his bag! He had his photo made with me, thanked me and went on his way to lunch! As he was leaving he was still, very excitedly, sharing views of the contents of his “bag o’ treasure” with the counselors! Now, you might think this is where the story ends and my heart has been tagged, but there is one more part.

We always are invited to eat in the lunchroom with the kids and for the most part, our group all takes them up on their offer! It’s not so much the great chicken fingers, burritos or even the salad bar, including a peanut butter and jelly bar, that are so inviting. It’s not even the air conditioning or indoor restrooms, even though those are all nice enticements. But rather, it’s the camaraderie of our group and enjoying the lively activities just like we were part of the campers! We go through the lines and gather our trays, utensils and find a table to enjoy our meal, and head back for our drinks. Daniel and I headed to the lemonade and above

the normally loud roar in the lunch room, I hear a squeal and look up just in time to be grabbed and hugged by none other than the famous JOSHUA!! Daniel and the counselors watched as we shared an exciting moment! At that very moment, I had giant tears of joy in my eyes and truly lost a piece of my heart. He saw me again the next day and waved excitedly.

I also recognized my favorite “heart piece” from last year, Wyatt, and visited with him for a few minutes! He was very pleased that I remembered him spoke to him. He is blind and was equally excited last year and he learned he too could participate in our hobby! During the “quiet time” after lunch, Daniel and I rode around and enjoyed the beautiful scenery of the 504 acres that make up Texas Lions Camp, we also had a couple of games of ladder ball in the arena. I believe we had about 100 kids in the 2 days there and Steve Mabry, the director of the camp, mentioned that this was the largest group they had hosted so far with over 140 kids in attendance that week. All in all, it was another rewarding, exciting, and exhausting year at camp! I can’t wait until next year. If you want to have a great time too, please think about putting this activity on your calendar next year and join us! Thank you Keith for making this possible!

Find of the Month

U.S. COIN: _____ # _____

FOREIGN COIN: _____ # _____

TOKEN: _____ # _____

RING: _____ # _____

JEWELRY: _____ # _____

ARTIFACT: _____ # _____

TOY: _____ # _____

BUTTON: _____ # _____

MOST UNUSUAL: _____ # _____

NON-METAL: _____ # _____

OLDEST U.S. COIN: _____ # _____

OLDEST U.S. CENT: _____ # _____

MOST VALUABLE U.S. COIN: _____ # _____