



Since 1963



Meeting Information:

Place: Woodlawn Baptist Church

4600 Menchaca Blvd.

Austin, TX

Day: Second Thursday of each month

Time: 7:00 pm

Membership: \$20

January 2025

Club Officers:

President

Jim Lawhon

Vice President

Andrew Phillips

Treasurer

Scott Hegel

Secretary

Charles Goertz

Board Members: Andrew Philips, Charles Goertz, Scott Hegel, Mary and Leon Prause, Daniel and Susie Mireles, Jim Lawhon, Carrie Rogers, Fred and Jeanne Toewe, Larry Vickers, Dennis Gans, Paul Krugler, Ed Newsome

Huntmasters:

Ed Newsome and Charles Goertz

Newsletter:

Mitch London

newsletter@amdconline.com

Webmaster:

Fred Toewe

webmaster@amdconline.com

Welcome to 2025

As the new President of the Austin Metal Detecting Club for 2025, I want to thank you all for being members and welcome you into the new year!

Best of luck in all you metal detecting endeavors and I hope to see you at a club meeting or function

AMDC President,
Jim Lawhon

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December Holiday Party

The Austin Metal Detecting Club held its annual Holiday Party for its members. Folks came from all over to attend this special event. The club supplied the ham and members brought side dishes, salads and a plethora of desserts!

They also came bearing gifts galore! There were metal detecting items, and non metal detecting items and there were lots of them! People purchased tickets and after the dinner the drawings began. Numbers were called out and people went up to the table of gifts and made a selection. Everyone went home with at least one gift. Some had multiple goodies.



With plenty of food, and good cheer, folks talked and told stories of things they found throughout the year. However, the things they found during the previous month would have to be held onto for just a little longer as the Find of the Month was postponed until the next

meeting.

Mitch collected his prize, a Morgan silver dollar, for the cache he found and he also distributed clues for the new cache. So be sure to go out and look for it! Folks also took the opportunity to pay dues for 2025.

Thank you for being a member of the Austin Metal Detecting club!



6 Best Metal Detectors

Many of us are on the internet watching metal detecting shows, or YouTube clips of people finding buried treasure or reading news articles about those luck %\$#@! that found the treasure hoard of gold and silver coins. As the newsletter editor I am always on the lookout for fun and interesting articles about metal detecting. I saw one recently that caught my eye but instead of reprinting the article it made me want to examine it more closely.



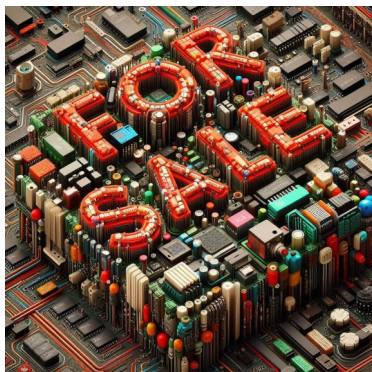
The title was “We found the 6 best metal detectors after testing nearly a dozen models.” by Family Handyman, an online version of their print magazine. After reading the title I started scrolling down the article not reading much of it as I wanted to get to the ‘meat’ of the story. I want to see the list of the top 6! It was at this point a very audible “laugh” escaped me.

I know from being a member of this club that for the most part, you get what you pay for. When their number one choice for “Best Overall” of the eleven detectors they tested was a Bounty Hunter Tracker IV, I was surprised to say the least. I then wondered what their criteria for their testing was. I am sure the price point of being under \$70 was a big factor, but was that enough to offset the difficult to understand the gauge which “reads from 10 to one (left to right) bounces all the way to one, then immediately back to 10 again. “ making it nearly impossible to read.

The Sunpow came in as best for budget detectorists, and the Garrett Ace 300 was Best for Beginners. Nokta and Minelab also made the cut. However after going through and looking at the article, they do not actually say these are in order from best to worst. They have been given a category they were best in and so they are not really comparing all of the detectors against each other. This is fine of course but when we see an article that say the best detectors, we naturally think along the lines of a top 5 list.

So the moral of this story is, don't judge an article by its clickbait title. We all have our favorite detectors. Some high end some not so high end. Whatever it takes for us to get the treasure found! If you wish to read the entire article you can find it here...

[Family Handyman](#)



Have an item for sale?

Perhaps a no longer needed pinpointer. Last years model top-of-the-line detector. Maybe you upgraded and no longer need the older version. Whatever the case may be, you can offer it up to club members right herein the newsletter for the low low price of absolutely nothing! Just send the detail and if possible include a picture or two and send it to newsletter@amdconline.com.

AMDC Search Team Results

The Austin Metal Detecting Club has a team of searchers that go out and attempt to find lost items. These are the results of our recent searches.



The Story: (From November) I made my wedding ring out of 10 grams of 24k gold. I think I lost it in my yard while building a squaredrop trailer but I can't be absolutely certain. I narrowed down the time period I misplaced it to 8 hours and working in my yard is where I spent most of that time. I'm terrible about getting around to finding stuff but someone recommended you guys and so I figured I'd give it a shot.

The Search: Mitch and Alan went out on a slightly drizzly day. They searched the relatively small front yard for an hour and found tools, toys, change...everything but the lost ring. The owner says there is a chance it might be elsewhere. If he gets an idea as to where we might search, he will inform us.



The Story: The ring was lost by a client at an addiction treatment facility located in Lockhart Texas. The owner of the ring is extremely distraught. She was sitting down by a pond when she realized she had ants crawling on her. She stood up and tried to shake the ants off and, in the process, the ring slipped from her finger and fell into the water. The pond is pretty murky and while many have stuck their hand down in it and felt around it, it has not been found. The client is talking about wanting to buy a heavy-duty metal detector to find it, but I am hoping there is someone who already has one that would be willing to be paid to find it.

The Results: *From Paul* -We had search the shoreline and gone as far as we could out into the water, which had some troublesome moss and almost knee deep mud. We were considering dragging moss from beyond Detector reach in closer so we could check farther out in that way. But before we went to that effort, Andrew and I decided to expand our search a little bit in shallower water. On my side, I had stopped where a log was in the water. Fairly quickly I got a junk sounding signal on the other side of the log. My AT pro numbers were inconsistent between 50 and low 70s. And I was having trouble getting a good location fix with my larger coil. Andrew came over with his Minelab and small coil. In seconds he determined that there was a target pretty well up against the log. We still weren't optimistic, but up came the ring on Andrew's second pin-pointer grab! It was a WOW ring.



Elisabeth, the rehab center employee who had contacted us, was with us and we all celebrated to-

AMDC Search Team Results-Continued

gether. She was pretty emotional, saying how much this was going to mean for the client who had lost the ring. I was impressed by how much she truly cared for the client. She said she would personally make a donation to the club even after we explained that no donation is expected.

Elisabeth asked permission to give our contact information to the client, which was fine with us. It will be neat if the client does call.

This ring is likely the most valuable item I have ever been involved finding. Wide gold bands fused together with multiple large diamonds plus smaller ones.

The Story: I'm trying to help my neighbor find her survey pin at the south east corner of her lot so she can install some metal edging and rock in her front yard without encroaching onto her southern neighbor's property. I have a helper here Monday through Friday from 9 am to noon who can do any digging necessary to locate it.



The Search: Mitch went out and searched for about an hour finding very little even in the way of trash. The ground where the pin might be was four feet higher than the street level and so it was possible that the pin is a couple of feet down. It also could have been moved by previous work being done. Mitch suggested looking for a plat map which might have a location of the pin. If that could be done we could give it another try. They agreed and made a donation to the club for its efforts.



The AMDC Search Team members are those of us with a lot of free time or weird work schedules that allow them to go out and try to find lost items that come in through our website. Many times it is a recently lost ring, or it may be a ring that was lost long ago and people only recently found out about us and our free service of searching for lost metal objects. It is always very satisfying finding the lost item and returning it to the owner.

If you would be interested in helping, please get in touch with Scott H. and he can give you more information. If you think it is a good fit for you then you can be put on the email list that goes out when a lost item search request comes in.



January 16: AMDC Meeting. Mitch will present a program on AI and metal detecting created by AI!

February 22: *43rd Annual Open Beach Hunt by HARC* at Galveston, TX [Flyer page 1](#) [Flyer page 2](#)

March 6-9: *Digstock XI, Relic Hunt* by Digstock Events LLC at Eastern, NC [Flyer](#)

March 14-16: *TAMDC Treasure Show and Hunt* by TAMDC at Brenham, TX [Flyer](#)

March 15-16: *Silver Hoard Hunt* by Ozarks Metal Detecting Club at Atkins, AR [Flyer 1](#) [Flyer 2](#)

March 28-30: *2nd Annual Show-Me Pro/Am Treasure Hunt* by Mitch Barks at Greenville, MO [Flyer](#)

March 29-30: *22nd Treasure Hunt of the Carolinas* by Randy & Joyce Gatchel at Blacksburg, SC [Flyer](#)

April 23-27: *Bone 32, Best O' North East Treasure Hunter's Week* by Streeter's - Treasure Hunting Supply at Keene, NH [Flyer](#)

April 27-28: *9th Garrett Rally* by Detector Shop at Province of Forli-Cesena, Italy [Web page](#)



BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are open to all Club Members. If you are interested in attending a Board meeting, please contact an Officer, Board Member, or the Webmaster for details. These are held via Zoom on the first Thursday of each month at 6:15 p.m.



Display

No finds of the month for December.

Foreign Coin

Token

Please brings your finds of the month to the
January meeting.

Ring

Jewelry

Button

Artifact

Wild Card

Oldest US Coin

Most Valuable US Coin

All Categories Filled

Newsletter Question

Visitor Drawing

Member Drawing





AUSTIN METAL DETECTING CLUB

FIND OF THE MONTH

DISPLAY _____ # _____

FOREIGN COIN: _____ # _____

TOKEN: _____ # _____

RING: _____ # _____

JEWELRY: _____ # _____

BUTTON: _____ # _____

ARTIFACT: _____ # _____

WILD CARD: _____ # _____

OLDEST U.S. COIN: _____ # _____

MOST VALUABLE U.S. COIN: _____ \$ _____ # _____

Name _____ Month _____