

# I DIG IT NEWS

## AUSTIN METAL DETECTING CLUB

(Since 1963)

111 Live Oak Drive, Wimberley, TX 78676

Membership: \$20.00

\* \* \*

**November 2014**

### **Meeting Information:**

Place - Woodlawn Baptist Church  
4600 Manchaca

Date – **Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>** 2014

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

Time - **7:00 pm**

Room - M – 103/104

### **Officers:**

President – Dennis Gans 512-944-8929

Vice Pres – Mary Prause 512-670-9645

Treasurer – Scott Hegel

Secretary/Newsletter – Blaine Nelson  
512-722-3148 [punkin4048@aol.com](mailto:punkin4048@aol.com)

### **Executive Committee:**

Mike Stafford, Leon Prause

Daniel and Susie Mireles,

Jim Lawhon 512-632-3139

John Chapman

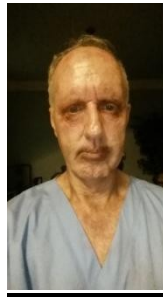
AA

Art Tiemann – 272-8902

### **Newsletter Contest!**

We continue our drawing for a prize at the meetings. If you can answer the mystery question correctly taken from information in the newsletter, your name may be drawn. Good luck!

### **A Word From Our President:**



No, I wasn't in an accident but I did volunteer at the Lakeway Haunted House for Halloween. While I'm on the subject of volunteerism, please consider contributing to the success of your Club by serving as an officer or board member next year.

Our AMDC election is this week, so please step up.

Our December Christmas Party is just around the corner so do plan on attending. **Remember to bring your favorite potluck dish to share and donations for the Christmas Raffle.** A good rule to follow on what to donate to the raffle is to bring things that you would like to receive yourself.

Since we won't have another newsletter this year, I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to be your president in 2014. I also want to thank our club officers and board members for putting up with me. You know, overall, this has been a pretty good year.

Dennis Gans

## **November Meeting**

For our November meeting we will view a presentation on “Metal Detecting 101” that we started a few months ago. Scott Hegel will be our facilitator, and there will be much to learn and discuss. Don't miss this program – as detecting hobbyists new and old can gain some new tips!

During Break we will have our Find of the Month competition featuring items found since the October meeting, so bring any finds you want to enter. The more we have, the more interesting it is!

## **Special Meeting of Search Team**

Please note that there will be a short meeting of the Search Team members at 6:30 - right before the club meeting begins this Thursday. If you are on the team, or are interested in the team, please plan to attend. We have some discussion on logistics to go over.

## **Club Hunt with the San Antonio Club - Lockhart**

Club members from both our Austin and our neighbors from the San Antonio Metal Detecting Club got together for a joint open hunt at Lockhart City Park on Sat. Nov. 1. There were approximately 10 AMDC members and 15 S.A. club members present. We started out munching on donuts, kolaches, fruit etc. and then set out to detect. Prizes were awarded at the end of the hunt for categories i.e. Oldest Coin, Most Coins, Most Unusual, etc. Each club contributed 4 silver quarters to the pot.

Here we are!



### **Executive Meeting**

We have decided to cut down the number of Board Meetings and will hold meetings in Feb. March, May, August, Oct. and Nov. Our new meeting place will be at the Thunder Cloud Subs on S. Lamar (near Manchaca). All are welcome at any Board meetings. We usually come early to grab a bite, the meeting begins at 6:00.

### **Reminder!**

As members of the Austin Metal Detecting Club we all need to abide by National, State and Local laws/rules regarding metal detecting. Remember that detecting is not allowed in **City of Austin Parks or land** without a permit. It is your responsibility to check the detecting rules before detecting. We are role models for our hobby.

### **Lost and Found Efforts**

Since the last report only one request has come in via our web site. The request is to locate a drain at a condo complex in Austin. That search is pending at this time.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**December 11** – AMDC Christmas Dinner (regular meeting night)

**March 7, 2015** – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Piney Woods Relic Hunt – Lake O Pines (near Longview)

**April 10, 11, 12, 2015** – TAMDC Annual Treasure Show and Hunt – Longview

### **AMDC Website**

Remember to check our web site often to see what's there! We have a links to You Tube videos of some of our recent programs.

Our web site is: <http://www.amdconline.com>

## **Club of the Month**

Each month the Newsletter will feature a Metal Detecting or Treasure Hunting Club. It is fun to know what others are doing, and how they operate.

## **San Antonio Area Metal Detecting Club – San Antonio, TX**

**Founded** – 1971

**Membership** – approximately 100 members

**Dues - Web Site** – [www.sanantoniomdc.com](http://www.sanantoniomdc.com) **Face Book Page** - YES

**Meetings** – 2nd Thursdays of each month, all year.

**Club Hunts** – San Antonio MDC holds club hunts each month, weather permitting. The hunts are usually on private property, or at a park

**Service** –The S.A. Club participates in the Kerrville Lions Camp project each summer, has members certified to assist with forensic searches, sponsors National Neighbor’s Night Out, Biker Rally, etc.

**Fund Raisers** –. The club has a drawing at each meeting to raise funds

**Find of the Month Contest** – Members are encouraged to bring in Finds, and there are categories for oldest, most valuable, highest \$ value etc. Prizes are usually silver coins.

Pictures below include club members just before a hunt, club member volunteering at Kerrville Lions Camp, and member with display at club meeting.



# The Magical Class Ring

By Blaine Nelson

Have you ever found a class ring? As metal detecting enthusiasts we are excited and intrigued when we find a class ring. Perhaps it is the history – What school is it from? What year did the owner graduate? What is the mascot? Just the beauty of these rings gets our blood flowing. And more so than with other rings we may find, we have half a chance of finding and returning the ring to its owner.

When friends Mary and Leon Prause were up visiting me in Conway, New Hampshire, one of our detecting outings took us to Fryeburg, Maine. We drove by the prestigious Fryeburg Academy and noted that it was “Founded in 1792!” Wow, we exclaimed – Wouldn’t it be cool to find an old Fryeburg Academy Class Ring?

This thought got us wondering about class rings. When did class rings first come about, and where? So much to ponder! That day we did not find a class ring, but decided to do some research on these artistic heirloom rings.

What we learned is that class rings began as a tradition at West Point Military Academy in 1835, when students started wearing them to show their unity and as a remembrance of the time they spent at the Academy. School class rings were originally of uniform design for each educational facility, changing only in year date of graduation. Over the years the rings became more artistic, giving students more choices to individualize their rings.

The oldest high school class ring tradition in the United States is at Falls High School in International Falls, Minnesota, dating back to 1929.

What can we do to locate the owner if we find a class ring? Here are a few ideas you might try:

- Make note of all the unique and identifying information on the ring: School, year, initials on the inside, mascot, mans or women’s ring, etc.
- Contact the school and ask if they might be able to help.
- Do a web search using the information that you do have. This might include looking for a Face Book page for the school, postings on the web from the school, etc.
- Contact the manufacturer of the ring – they often have leads. Some of the main companies are ArtCarved, Herff Jones, Jostens, Balfour and Dunham; there is a logo or stamp to identify the maker.
- Post the ring on a Ring Finder site, i.e., [www.classringfinder.com](http://www.classringfinder.com), [www.lostmyring.com](http://www.lostmyring.com) etc.

It is very rewarding to locate an owner and let them know you found their ring. Be sure and take a lot of pictures of this memorable event of returning a long lost ring!

Question: What year was the San Antonio Club founded?

### Find of the Month – October Entries

<b>Place</b>	<b>Display</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>U.S. Coin</b>
1	Paul Krugler	1	Jan Hallez Lincoln Dollar Coin
2	Mary Prause	2	Ralph Dawson 1960 Dime
3	Jan Hallez	3	Blaine Nelson 1987 Quarter
3	Mike Bird	3	Mike Bird 1/2 Penny Cut
	Blaine Nelson		Mary Prause 1967 Penny
	Scott Wilkins		Paul Krugler Penny 1/4 Ground Away
			Scott Wilkins BiCentennial Quarter
			Daniel Mireles 1983 Quarter
	<b>Foreign Coin</b>		Ollie Ponce 1998 Dime
1	Pat Dawson 1972 Ecuadorian 10 Centavos		
2	Blaine Nelson 20 Centavos Mexico		
			<b>Token</b>
	<b>Ring</b>	1	Paul Krugler Uncle Sam Half Buck
1	Blaine Nelson Silver w/Diamonds	2	Scott Wilkins 1945 Good Luck
2	Josh Graham Turtle Ring	3	Pat Dawson Crabtree
3	Paul Krugler 10k Gold Heart	3	Mike Bird St Patrick Green
	Daniel Mireles Sparkle Ring		Vicki Landrum Religious
	Mike Bird San Jacinto Monument Ring		Jan Hallez Car Wash
	Jan Hallez 2 Together with Chain		Blaine Nelson Great American Hot Dog
	Mary Prause Small Gold Plate		
	Scott Wilkins Sterling w/Heart		<b>Jewelry</b>
		1	Pat Dawson Pair of Earrings
	<b>Artifact</b>	2	Paul Krugler Celebrate Recovery
1	Mike Bird Silver Spoon	3	Mary Prause Owl Earring
1	Daniel Mireles Bird Cabinet Handle	3	Jan Hallez Chain w/ Dolphin
2	Josh Graham 1903 Padlock		Vicki Landrum Earring
3	Vicki Landrum Suspender Buckle		Blaine Nelson Chain Bracelet
3	Ralph Dawson Key		Mike Bird Peace Ring
	Scott Wilkins 3 Merry Widows Tin		
	Mary Prause Part of an Old Razor		<b>Toy</b>
	Paul Krugler Pump Cap	1	Mike Bird Airplane
	Jim Robertson Yellow Fishing Lure	2	Josh Graham Monopoly Game Piece
	Blaine Nelson Decorative Shield	3	Paul Krugler Part of Car
		3	Blaine Nelson Beetle Light
	<b>Button</b>		<b>Most Unusual</b>
1	Mike Bird Army		
2	Blaine Nelson DS	1	Scott Wilkins Electric Fan
3	Mary Prause Scott's Level Best	2	Leon Prause Michelob Ultra Bottle Opener
3	Scott Wilkins Small Metal Decorative	2	Vicki Landrum Crucifix
	Josh Graham Aluminum Button	2	Mike Bird Monopoly Car
		2	Jan Hallez Religious Key Ring
	<b>Non-Metal</b>	2	Daniel Mireles When Empty Manor Sign
1	Blaine Nelson Deer Teeth	3	Mary Prause Part of Ground Plate

2	Vicki Landrum Nose			Paul Krugler Blue Plastic Ring
3	Josh Graham Wooden Spindle			Blaine Nelson Santa Ford Car
	Mary Prause Silver Colored Ring			
	Jan Hallez Wine Cork			<b>Oldest U.S. Coin</b>
	Scott Wilkins Windows Disk		1	Scott Wilkins 1952 Dime
	Paul Krugler Red Snake		2	Blaine Nelson 1961 Dime
			3	Paul Krugler 1964 Nickel
	<b>Oldest U.S. Cent</b>		3	Mike Bird 1964d Dime
1	Mike Bird 1918			Jan Hallez 1967 Nickel
2	Scott Wilkins 1929d			Mary Prause 1970 Quarter
3	Paul Krugler 1945d			Jim Robertson 1991 Dime
3	Jan Hallez 1945			
	Daniel Mireles 1946d			<b>Most Valuable U.S. Coin</b>
	Josh Graham 1948d		1	Jim Robertson 1948 Dime
	Blaine Nelson 1950		1	Scott Wilkins 1958 Dime
	Mary Prause 1964d			
	Jim Robertson 1981d			

## 2014

Rank	Name
1	Scott Wilkins
2	Blaine Nelson
3	Paul Krugler
4	Jan Hallez
5	Mary Prause
6	Scott Hegel
7	Mike Bird
8	Leon Prause
9	Daniel Mireles
10	Ed Newsom
11	Josh Graham
12	Charles Goertz
13	Jack Hoffman
14	Larry Vickers
15	Dennis Gans
16	Ralph Dawson
17	Ollie Ponce
18	Mitch London
19	Pat Dawson
20	Rudy Nordmeyer
21	Bob Fernandez
22	Vicki Landrum
23	Jim Robertson
24	Victoria Leonard
25	Peter Jarjoura
26	Alan Russell
27	John Walton
28	Mike Stafford

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: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

DISPLAY \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_



