

THE OUTPOST



NEWSLETTER OF THE THREE FORKS TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB

VOLUME XX ISSUE 5 JULY 2003

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The Outpost is published monthly by the Three Forks Treasure Hunters Club. The club is a member of the Federation of Metal Detector and Archeological Clubs Inc. It is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion of metal detecting as a hobby. No brand or model of metal detector is endorsed by the club. Membership is open to the public with the only requirement being that all members follow the Treasure Hunters Code of Ethics. Club dues are \$25.00 per family yearly. Any comments or stories that you would like to contribute to your newsletter are always welcome.

MEETINGS: First Tuesday of each month.

TIME : 7:15 P.M

PLACE: Wagoner Community Building at the corner of Jefferson and Cherokee streets in Wagoner Oklahoma.

NEXT MEETING: July 1, 2003

BOARD MEETING: The third Thursday of every month at Martin's Restaurant on Hwy. 16 in Okay Ok. at 7:00 P.M.

CLUB PO BOX: P.O. Box 753 Wagoner, Ok. 74477-0753

2003 CLUB OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Paul Mattes

VICE PRESIDENT:

SECRETARY: Tony Morris

TREASURER: Nancy Coffey

BOARD MEMBERS: Jack Cooper
Francis Tracy
Gene Coffey
Tina Yerby
Gary Young

Mary Tracy
Chuck Marcum
Randall Vogt
Vicki Lang
Eddie Tamplin



The Secretary's Report

Notes were taken by Nancy Coffey.

The General Meeting of the Three Forks Treasure Hunters Club began at 7:30 on June 3, 2003. We started with the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag. The Secretary Minutes were accepted as printed. There was eighteen members present at the meeting. Paul Mattes reported getting permission from the city of Hulbert to have an outing based at their park. A date has to be determined so Paul can let the city know when we'll be out there. The club voted on having this month's outing in Sapulpa on June 14th at 9:00. This outing will be at a Park in Sapulpa that the Salvation Army owns. Thanks to Grover Tillman, his Daughter, and Son-in law for getting the permission and setting up the outing. July 19th has been announced as the date of our Summer Club Hunt. The meeting was adjourned around 8:30.

**The Board has
nominated and
voted Eddie
Tamplin to be our
Vice President for
the rest of the year.**

**Thanks
For accepting
Eddie.**



Randall at the June 14th Outing

Since we did not have our Find OF The Month Contest last month you can enter anything you have found since the May Meeting this month. I have printed the 6 month standings and it's pretty close. There's still a lot of time to collect points. Remember you have to get out, hunt, and enter an item in every category you can every month to accumulate the most points. Good Luck to everybody.

THREE FORKS SUMMER CLUB

**JULY 19th AT THE COFFEY'S BLUEBERRY FARM
NEAR OKAY.**

The Night Hunt Entry Fee is \$10.00 before July 9th. There is also a mandatory Prize Donation worth at least \$5.00. Children 12 and under can hunt both hunts for half price and waive the donation.

Randall's Golden Road Hunt Entry Fee is \$6.00 before July 9th. This is a new hunt with a 45 minute time limit. It consists of a series of squares with buried coins and tokens where you have to get a certain amount of tokens to progress into the next square. The goal is to make it to the last square where you will be able to find a token for a 2 Peso Gold Coin or a Silver Round.

You can pay in Silver up until the time of the Hunts. Silver prices are \$3.20 face which is \$5.00 Silver for both hunts plus the \$5.00 Prize Donation.

We will be having a Pot Luck Dinner. There will be a sign up sheet at the meeting or you can call Mary Tracy at 918-695-0743 to let her know what you are bringing.

You need to furnish your own drinks and chairs if you want them.

Name _____

- Night Hunt \$10.00
- Night Hunt \$3.10 Silver
- Randall's Golden Road Hunt \$6.00
- Randall's Golden Road Hunt \$1.90 Silver

Total Cash _____
Total Silver _____

Name _____

- Night Hunt \$10.00
- Night Hunt \$3.10 Silver
- Randall's Golden Road Hunt \$6.00
- Randall's Golden Road Hunt \$1.90 Silver

Total Cash _____
Total Silver _____

JUNE PRIZE DONATIONS

DONATION

1964 Half Dollar
 Oklahoma Plate & Beanie Babies
 Texas Plate & Beanie Babies
 Angel Figurine
 China Bird House
 Popcorn Tin
 US Flag & Base
 Picture Frame
 US Flag
 2 Pints of Blueberries
 2 Pints of Blueberries
 2 Pints of Blueberries
 2 Pints of Blueberries
 2 Pints of Blueberries
 2 Pints of Blueberries
 2 Pints of Blueberries
 2 Pints of Blueberries
 2 Pints of Blueberries
 Silver Round
 Silver Round

SHARED BY

Vicki Lang
 Glenn Briley
 Glenn Briley
 Grover Tillman
 Grover Tillman
 Francis Tracy
 Chuck Marcum
 Gary Young
 Gary Young
 Gene & Nancy Coffey
 Gene & Nancy Coffey
 Gene & Nancy Coffey
 Gene & Nancy Coffey
 Gene & Nancy Coffey
 Gene & Nancy Coffey
 Gene & Nancy Coffey
 Gene & Nancy Coffey
 Three Forks
 Three Forks

SHARED TO

Paul Turley
 Gilbert Leake
 Gary Young
 Gary Young
 Tom Neville
 Gene Coffey
 Paul Mattes
 Gil Berlenke
 Paul Mattes
 Glenn Briley
 Francis Tracy
 Gary Young
 Tom Neville
 Tom Neville
 Glenn Briley
 Tom Neville
 Tom Neville
 Paul Mattes
 Jerry Harlin

The 50/50 Pot was shared to Paul Turley at \$35.00.
 The Donation Drawing was shared to Nancy Coffey.
 The Display Donation was shared to Randall Vogt.
 The Attendance Donation was shared to Chuck Marcum.

Needed: Prize Donations to share. Don't forget to bring them because everybody likes winning a prize.

The Board has voted to have our next National Hunt back at the Davis Farm South of Muskogee where we use to have it. Thanks to Frank Davis who visited us at the Board Meeting.



Mid Year Find Of The Month Contest Standings Pro Division

1. Jim Simmons	133	7. Anthony Martin	33	12. Paul Mattes	12
2. Tony Morris	69	8. Terry Burnett	22	13. Jerry Callison	7
3. Tom Neville	68	8. Francis Tracy	22	14. Terry Archer	5
4. Chuck Marcum	57	9. Joe Poplin	20	15. Eddie Tamplin	1
5. Gary Martin	46	10. Brent Edmonds	19		
6. Julie Kastler	38	11. Tex Dixon	13		

PRO DIVISION Old Coin Jewelry Val. Silv. Val. Other Relic Mil. Relic N-Metal Total Ytd. Total

Mid Year Find Of The Month Contest Standings Amateurs Div.

1. Andrew Young	94	6. Darlene Marcum	29	9. Jack Cooper	12
2. Ray Yerby	71	7. Richard Carr	28	10. Jerry Harlin	5
3. Gilbert Leake	56	7. Gene Coffey	28	11. Nancy Coffey	3
4. Gary Young	52	8. Randall Vogt	25	12. Matthew Young	1
5. Vicki Lang	46				

Amateurs	Old Coin	Jewelry	Val. Silv.	Val. Other	Relic	Mil. Relic	N-Metal	Total	Ytd. Total
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1st = 7 Points 2nd = 5 Points 3rd = 3 Points Entry = 1 Point No Entry = 0 Points

CLEANING COINS

First of all -- If you find a coin that you believe may be valuable -- DON'T CLEAN IT!!! If you are not sure of the value of a coin -- DON'T CLEAN IT!!! These methods are for less valuable coins that may be worth a few dollars at most. If you use caution with these methods, you will not cause any real damage to your coin.

When you get your finds home, just use a mild liquid hand soap and warm water. Place the coins in this mixture and let them soak for a few minutes. Then lightly brush them with a soft toothbrush, rinse with fresh water, then gently pat dry with a soft towel. This should be sufficient for most coins and there will be no need to go any farther! The silver coins in my area, come out of the ground clean and do not require any more work.

Some copper coins will have what looks like a scaly green crust on them. These will require a little more work to make them presentable for 'show and tell'. I've tried several methods for cleaning my older coins, the most reliable is the olive oil method. This is what I use on my really crusty coins that will have some moderate numismatic value. The oil will loosen up the crusted dirt so that you can use the soap and water method described above. This may take a long time. I've heard of some people soaking heavily crusted coins for up to a year!! I usually lose patience after a week or two, then start to go at the coins a little more aggressively with the toothbrush risking possible scratches on the surface of the coins. This is what you should try to avoid. Imagine finding an Indian Head cent and putting a bunch of scratches on the face of the coin!! Not a pretty picture! This will reduce the value of any coin by 50% or more. I must mention that some of the "green" is desirable and gives a special character to each coin. This is what is called the "patina" and should be left on the coin. Notice the different colors on the coins on the right. I have also tried motor oil with great results.



Words of Wisdom -- Take your time!! Taking the green crust off your coins too fast will cause "pitting". The coin on the left was done in a hurry using a mixture of white vinegar and water. It had a real crusty appearance, but I was impatient and wanted it clean right now. I wanted you to see how "ugly" this coin is, because I don't think you want your coins to look this way. At one time this could have been a reasonably attractive Indian Head cent, now it is worthless. I have cleaned coins using sulfuric acid at work and they turned out similar to this one! Yes it sure cleaned the coin in a hurry, but now I hate to even show this one with the rest of my coins. It sure works great as an example of what not to do. Some detectorists will use the vinegar method, maybe I used a rather strong mixture and should have diluted with more water, but why take the chance!



I have also used a rock tumble for the newer clad (dated after 1964) coins, but it is not necessary to clean them. Most banks will accept your clad coins if they are reasonably clean. If all else fails, I've put them into the vending machines at work. Its always fun to get one of your easily recognizable coins back in change!! Please remember those words at the top of this page -- If you think you've recovered a valuable coin -- DON'T CLEAN IT!! -- Let a professional do it. Even the most tiny of scratches on a valuable coin will decrease its value immensely!!!



Grover at the Outing.



Randall after he found a Dime.



C. Marcum
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