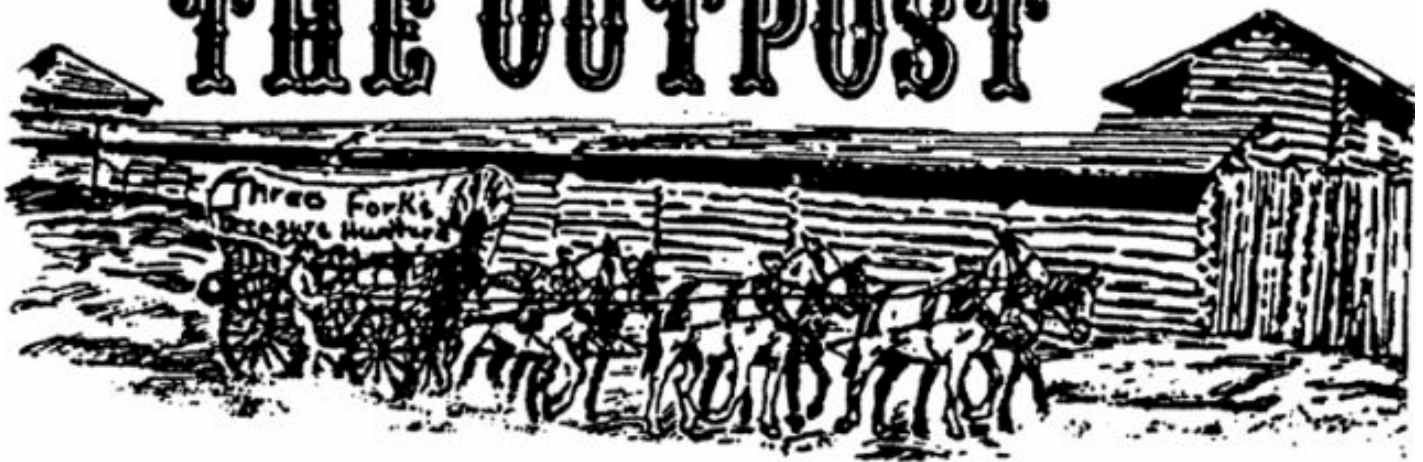


THE OUTPOST



NEWSLETTER OF THE THREE FORKS TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB

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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 FRIDAY 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: June 3, 2005

BOARD MEETING: The second 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



2005 CLUB OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Gilbert Leake

VICE PRESIDENT: Gary Young

SECRETARY: Shawn Gilbert

TREASURER: Cathy Young

BOARD MEMBERS:

Nancy Coffey	Tom Neville
Gene Coffey	Grover Tillman
Jerry Harlin	Mary Tracy
Vicki Lang	Francis Tracy
Chuck Marcum	Andrew Winters



Diamond Hunt Outing Date Set

We will go hunting for diamonds on October 15th and 16th. This ought to be a good time of year to go, it shouldn't be too hot or too cold and hopefully not rainy. Everyone I have talked to about diamond hunting has said "I always wanted to do that". Here is our chance. As lucky as a lot of our members are there will be some diamonds found. If you don't find one you'll always have the memory of going diamond hunting.

The hunt spot will be at the Crater of Diamonds State Park near Murfreesboro Arkansas. It is about 237 miles southeast of Tulsa. I have contacted the Park and made our group reservations. We are going to invite everybody to come and hunt with us, the more the merrier. I'll contact all five Treasure Hunting Clubs in the area. Club members can also bring friends and family. We have the group rate to hunt which will be \$3.00 per day per adult. We will also have an option for free group programs. I think the best one is Diamond Hunting 101. If there is enough interest we'll set it up for Saturday morning. It is a free 20 minute program.

As soon as I get an idea about how many will be coming I'll try to get our group a motel discount. There are 59 RV campsites with hookups in the Park and they will take reservations. This is going to be a different kind of outing for us. We won't be using our detectors and you can arrive anytime you want. Some of us will leave on Friday. You can drive right to the Park and hunt on Saturday or come out on Sunday. Some of us will carpool. You can split rooms and we will be organizing convoys. I'll make up a signup sheet and we'll have more details soon. The address to the Park's Web Site is: www.craterofdiamondsstatepark.com

Upcoming Events

June 3
June 9
July 1
July 14
July 30
October 15, 16

Three Forks Club Meeting
Three Forks Board Meeting
Three Forks club Meeting
Three Forks Board Meeting
3 Forks Club Night Hunt
Diamond Hunt Outing



Mark Gilbert found this rare Silver Creek Indian Earring during the last outing near the Creek Agency Cemetery. He found it right where we were always parking.

Coin Prices are Up!

Everybody knows that the price of silver and gold is up. Some coin prices are also up. You need to upgrade your Red Book and get the 2005 edition. Red Book prices through the eighties, nineties, and the beginning of the new millennium has stayed about the same. But now in 2005 some has changed. Tom Neville told me about it a while back and I finally got the new book the other day. My last book was the 1999 edition. I never bought a newer one because the prices were plateaued.

Here are some of the price differences between the 1999 Red Book and the 2005 book. The 1914D Wheat Cent went from \$80.00 in good to \$120.00. The 1909s VDB Penny in good was worth \$350.00 and now is worth \$460.00 in good condition. An 1838o Half Dime which I found and sold two of went up from \$500.00 to \$700.00 in extra fine condition. There have been quite a few of these coins found in this area. There was probably a whole bag of them shipped out here back then. If you are lucky enough to find a 1916D Mercury Dime it has gone up from \$2,400.00 to \$3,750.00 in extra fine.



Mary and Donnell at the last club meeting

THREE FORKS SUMMER CLUB HUNT

JULY 30th AT THE COFFEY'S BLUEBERRY FARM IN OKAY.

The Night Hunt Entry Fee is \$10.00 before July 20th. 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 4 Room Frenzy Hunt Entry Fee is \$6.00 before July 20th.

You can pay in Silver up until the time of the Hunts. Silver prices are \$4.75 face which is \$3.30 in 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. You need to furnish your own drinks.

3:00 Setup and bury Hunts
5:00 Randall's 4 Room Frenzy Hunt
6:30? Pot Luck Dinner
Dark:30 Night Hunt

Name _____

- Night Hunt \$10.00
- Night Hunt \$2.10 **Silver**
- Randall's 4 Room Frenzy Hunt \$6.00
- Randall's 4 Room Frenzy Hunt \$1.20 **Silver**

Total Cash _____

Total Silver _____

Name _____

- Night Hunt \$10.00
- Night Hunt \$2.10 **Silver**
- Randall's 4 Room Frenzy Hunt \$6.00
- Randall's 4 Room Frenzy Hunt \$1.20 **Silver**

Total Cash _____

Total Silver _____

MAY PRIZE DONATIONS

DONATION

Green Lantern
Red Lantern
Silver Lantern
Igloo
Pocket Knife
Rain Poncho
Soup Cup
Silver Round
Cashews
Silver Quarter
Silver Round
Silver Round

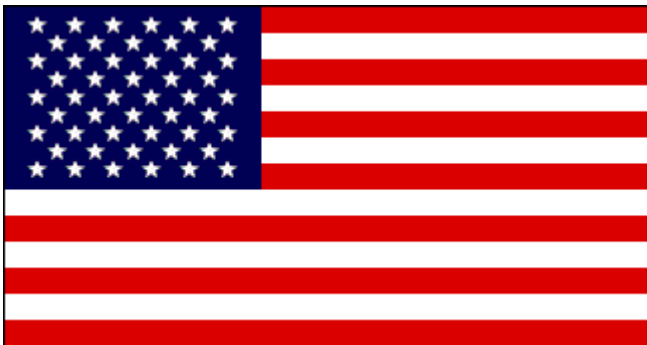
SHARED BY

Donnell & Andrew Winters
Donnell & Andrew Winters
Donnell & Andrew Winters
Mary Tracy
Tom Neville
Sam Littrell
Ruth Littrell
Gene Coffey
Nancy Coffey
Vicki Lang
Three Forks
Three Forks

SHARED TO

Dee Page
Dee Page
Matthew Young
Vicki Lang
Mary Tracy
Cathy Young
Mary Tracy
Mark Gilbert
Chuck Marcum
Matthew Young
Ruth Littrell
Frank Davis

The 50/50 Pot of was shared to Jim Simmons.
The Donation Drawing was shared to Mary Tracy.
The Display Donation was shared to Gilbert Leake.
The Attendance Donation was shared to Gene Coffey.



Flag Day is June 14th

Donnell's Note for the day on 5-06-05
Tomorrow may not come, but if it does
may you breathe well and thank God.

MAY FIND OF THE MONTH WINNERS

PROS

Oldest Coin

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1 1887 Indian Head Cent | Tom Neville |
| 2 1891 Indian Head Cent | Gilbert Leake |
| 3 1904 Indian Head Cent | Jim Simmons |

Jewelry

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| 1 10k Class Ring | Gilbert Leake |
| 2 14k Ring | Jim Simmons |
| 3 Sterling Silver Ring | Tom Neville |

Val. Coin Silver & Gold

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| 1 1939s Mercury Dime | Jim Simmons |
| 2 1907 Barber Dime | Tom Neville |
| 3 1943 Washington Quarter | Gilbert Leake |

Valuable Coin - Other

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1 1911s Wheat Cent | Tom Neville |
| 2 1916D Buffalo Nickel | Andrew Winters |
| 3 1920s Wheat Cent | Jim Simmons |

Relic

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1 Captain America Badge | Tom Neville |
| 2 Dallas State Fair Badge | Jim Simmons |
| 3 Token | Tim Schlup |

Military Relic

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1 Side Shield Button | Tom Neville |
| 2 General Service Button | Chuck Marcum |
| 3 Musket Ball | Andrew Winters |

Non - Metallic

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1 Tulsa Pop Bottle | Jim Simmons |
| 2 Drug Store Bottle | Richard Carr |
| 3 Soothing Syrup Bottle | Jim Simmons |



Eddie Tamplin sent me this photo of Col. John S. Mosby "Grayghost of the Confederacy"

AMATEURS

Oldest Coin

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1 1890 Indian Head Cent | Francis Tracy |
| 2 1897 Barber Dime | Tony Morris |
| 3 1919 Wheat Cent | Sam Littrell |

Jewelry

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1 Silver Indian Ear Ring | Mark Gilbert |
| 2 Sterling Silver Ring | Jerry Hoffman |
| 3 Sterling Silver Ring | Sam littrell |

Val. Coin Silver & Gold

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 1959D Franklin Half Dollar | Sam Littrell |
| 2 1929 Standing Liberty Quarter | Jerry Hoffman |
| 3 1935s Washington Quarter | Tony Morris |

Valuable Coin - Other

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1 1914D Wheat Cent | Tony Morris |
| 2 1889 Indian Head Cent | Francis Tracy |
| 3 1916D Wheat Cent | Jerry Hoffman |

Relic

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1 Falstaff Beer Token | Francis Tracy |
| 2 Red Shoe Token | Sam Littrell |
| 3 Thimble | Jerry Hoffman |

Military Relic

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1 NY Militia Button | Francis Tracy |
| 2 General Service Button | Tony Morris |
| 3 3 Ring Bullet | Nancy Coffey |
| 3 3 Ring Bullet | Sam Littrell |

Non - Metallic

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1 Bennington Marble | Sam Littrell |
| 2 Small Bottle | Tony Morris |
| 3 Dog | Shawn Gilbert |
| 3 Bottle | Mark Gilbert |

Golden Eagle Award



Francis Tracy found this really nice New York Militia Button.

Les was kind enough to take 14 of us out to hunt the Davis Bridge Battle Field in Tennessee after the Shiloh Hunt last fall. Here is an article that the Clarkdale Press Register did on him when they saw him hunting in Clarksdale Mississippi.

Man looking for buried history in Friars Point

By DAVID OWENS, Staff Writer

May 09, 2005

Email to a friend Voice your opinion



If there's history buried in your backyard, Les Seals may be the one to find it.

Seals, a native of Collierville, was in Friars Point last week searching the ground with his metal detector and looking for artifacts.

Les Seals, a Tennessee bank examiner, will spend the next few weeks in Friars Point looking for buried treasure. Seals hopes to find some Civil War relics to donate to the North Delta Museum in Friars Point.

Friars Point, of course, was the site where the Union navy planned their assault on Vicksburg in 1862.

In fact, some troops remained in Friars Point from 1862 to 1865 keeping close watch on the Mississippi River.

Seals, who has done many searches at battlegrounds like Shiloh, hopes to find something those troops left behind.

"I know there's stuff here," he said. "You can't have that many soldiers for that long and not have something.

"The river was important all the way up and down," he said. "All the little towns had troops stationed there. There were 250 to 500 troops in Collierville which had a railroad."

Oftentimes, up to 10,000 troops could unload at a small town preparing to go somewhere else.

Seals, a bank examiner with the U.S. Treasury Department, will be looking over a bank's records for at least two weeks beginning May 16.

While in the area, Seals will be digging each night looking for Civil War remains.

So, what interested him in this unique hobby?

"I've had a metal detector close to 25 years now," Seals said. "It was coins when I lived in Oklahoma. When I moved to Collierville, I moved from coins to Civil War relics."

Seals said he has found belt buckles, bayonettes, canteens, bullets and buttons for the era.

However, he's most proud of two sets of Calvary cross saber hat pins.

"They're really hard to find complete because they were made of real thin

brass," Seals said. "They are 145 to 150 years old. You're picking up a piece of history."

To make Seals efforts even better, he's going to donate anything he finds to the North Delta Museum located in Friars Point.

Flo Larson, the curator of the museum, said there's plenty of history buried in the town.

"Nobody every lets anybody dig," she said. "It's a certified historic district and everybody is working together for the good of Friars Point."

Larson is a multi-generational descendent of James T. Suddoth, who ran the old Suddoth Hotel on First Street.

"Nobody ever lived on this block but my family," she said. "What you'll find here belongs to real people. It's not just a story."

On Thursday alone, Seals found some worthless items (coins and a watch), but also some things that could be worth something.

"I found a belt buckle that looks real old," he said. "It's probably from the period. I also found a knife handle that probably came from the hotel."

It seems Seals has lived quite a life with calls even coming from the Memphis/Shelby County Bomb Squad because he found some live cannonballs.

"They wanted to take them and blow them up," he said. "I talked to the owner of a Civil War antique shop in Shiloh and, after identifying what they were, he told they weren't real volatile.

"He added 'but you don't want to play catch with them,'" Seals said. "I put them in the truck and took them to him."

Seals said it only took \$30 a piece to defuse the cannonballs worth approximately \$300 a piece.

They now make some pretty interesting mantelpieces for Seals.

Seals said interest in Civil War relics is growing with their value steadily rising.

"The 150th anniversary is coming up and that will spark a lot of interest," he said. "A few years ago with the Shelby Foote books, Ken Burns Civil War and the movie Gettysburg, there was a whole lot of interest in the Civil War.

"The anniversary should provide another spark of interest," Seals said. "I have read the government is planning something."

Seals said you never really know what you can find.

"I was at this one hunting place where at one time there was an old church," he said. "But, it was used as a hospital during the Civil War. I found some pain bullets with teeth markings."

Seals said the phrase "bite the bullet" came from that area.

"They didn't have much medicine and what they had didn't go far," he said.

"They used to bite bullets because the lead was soft to help dull the pain.

"Those bullets are some 150 years old," Seals said. "I wouldn't take \$100 for the bullet. They are not worth nothing, but there's a story to it."

Perhaps the most common handgun is 44-caliber, but Seals said he's found 69-caliber bullets from the era.

"They're almost as big as your thumb," he said. "The bullets could shatter your arm. During the war, as many died from sickness and disease as the wounds they received in battle."



Chuck Marcum
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Tulsa, OK 74136