

# Treasured Times

April 2005



## CLUB OFFICERS

### **PRESIDENT:**

JACK ELLETT (817) 492-8774

### **VICE PRESIDENT:**

RICK BURKEY (972) 396-9666

### **TREASURER:**

Robert Jordon (972) 530-5832

### **SECRETARY:**

LISA BURKEY (972) 396-9666

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **APRIL MONTHLY MEETING**

MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

11001 MIDWAY ROAD

DALLAS, TEXAS

APR. 8, 2005 TIME 7:30 P.M.

### **REFRESHMENTS**

BARBARA CUNDIFF

ANN GIBBS

DOROTHY JAMESON

BOB & VELMA SLOCUM

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

## JACK SEZ

by Jack Ellet

President

The treasure show convention is over. I think it was a real success. Golden Triangle took second place tied with another club.

Congratulations go out to everyone who helped. It was really fun. Thanks to Alice Branger and Jeff Engemann for nice display cases. A very special thanks to Lee Caldwell for his seven display cases. Thanks folks!

Another subject I would like to address. That is the danger of our hobby being restricted or completely banned from city parks. I was talking to some people from the San Antonio club. I was told in San Antonio it is now necessary to obtain a permit to metal detect in their public parks. They must select six parks they intend to hunt. For three months those are the only parks they are allowed to hunt in. Then in three months they apply for another permit for six different parks or the same parks if they wish.

Austin metal detecting is even tougher to metal detect in, according to Keith Wills. Keith and others think the Dallas- Fort Worth area will be next. I would think in some of the Parks Board meetings the subject of metal detecting in city parks have come up more than once. We must be especially careful how we dig in city parks. I can cut a very neat hole with my relic shovel, but the image of someone digging with a shovel in a city park is not good. Busybodies live around most parks and one or two calling in about people digging with shovels in parks may get the attention of the wrong people. We are better off than other large cities because we have so many cities in the Metroplex. But if one or two cities ban metal detecting it could snowball.

So be careful of the image you project in public parks. Vacant lots are another thing. Now I will get off my soapbox and hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

Happy Hunting!

### **MAY MONTHLY MEETING**

MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
11001 MIDWAY ROAD  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
MAY 13, 2005      TIME 7:30 P.M.

### **JUNE MONTHLY MEETING**

MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
11001 MIDWAY ROAD  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
JUNE 10, 2005      TIME 7:30 P.M.

### **JULY MONTHLY MEETING**

MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
11001 MIDWAY ROAD  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
JULY 8, 2005      TIME 7:00 P.M.

Because of the Texas Treasure Show we had no March meeting. Thus, there were no monthly door prizes, monthly raffle, nor Find of the Month contest.

The winners of the annual fund raiser drawing at the treasure show were:

FIRST PRIZE – GARMIN eTREX VISTA GPS TRACKING UNIT

**Roy Glover -- GTES**

SECOND PRIZE – 2003 0.999 Silver Quarter Medallion (Four troy oz.)

AND 2004 Silver \$100 Dollar Bill (Four troy oz. 0.999)

**Grant Simpson of San Antonio**

THIRD PRIZE – 2003 0.999 Silver Quarter Medallion (Four troy oz.)

**Bob Lien -- GTES**

## **USING GPS TO RESEARCH TREASURE LOCATIONS**

**By Jack Ellett**

I gave a little talk on GPS units a few years ago. I have decided to write an article on the subject. I did not go into the sports store and see some GPS units sitting there and decide that would be a nice thing to have. I enjoy doing research on the computer and came across a GPS site that interested me.

I have found several sites since then but that one really caught my attention. It is a site that once you put in the correct title you are looking for, a site comes on that shows all the counties in Texas. When you click on a certain county all sorts of places show up with the coordinates (numbers) how to get there.

For those who are not familiar with GPS units, some time ago the US government put 24 satellites in orbit around the globe. The purpose of these satellites is to provide navigation for the military. At first civilians were not allowed access to a GPS (global positioning system). Later they let civilians own them but the civilians units were not very accurate because the government was afraid a potential enemy may use it against us. But later the civilian units were accurate within 10ft. Since then many GPS sites are now available.

For the treasure hunter it is a very good research tool. We have all wished for a map with an x that would lead us to a good hunting site. I have kept this site to myself mostly giving it to certain people; I thought that everything would be hunted out before I could hunt it. Silly me. I have just started to hunt some of it. The site is as follows (don't forget the quotation marks) "Texas landmarks & vanished communities"

I think you will be surprised at the hunting possibilities. Another site I use to verify the

Cont. on Page 3, Col. 1

Cont. from Page 2, Col. 2

existence of a particular community is "handbook of Texas online". This site most people already know.

I find an interesting "pop location" that sounds like it may not be a town today. Names like brush creek or salt flat, then I go to the Texas handbook of Texas online and read about it. If it says it no longer exists or only a very few people live there today then I think one should use their GPS unit and go check it out.

You won't know until you go there. The possibilities are endless. Good Hunting!

## **FIND OF THE MONTH CONTEST WILL "RETURN" AT THE NEXT MEETING**

## **BRING YOUR FINDS FOR MARCH AND APRIL**

**Ed Note:** Please enter your finds in the contest. It encourages others to bring their finds as well as to hunt more often. Winners should be prepared to tell a bit about where they found the item and any history. You don't have to give away any "secrets" but newer hunters need to know they can find items in both expected and unexpected places.

## **EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA DOOR PRIZE AND MONTHLY RAFFLE WILL RETURN AT THE APRIL MEETING.**

Harold and Mickey Greer have been so gracious as to donate the following items for the April meeting raffle. The club will benefit from Harold and Mickey's generosity. A Barber dime attached to a Garrett water bottle will be the door prizes (twelve).

## **RAFFLE PRIZES**

1. United States Proof Set – 1968
2. United States Proof Set – 1971
3. United States Proof Set – 1984
4. U. S. Historic Five Dime Set
5. Indian Head Cent Folder  
with 22 Indian Heads
6. Eight Indian Head Pennies
7. American Silver Eagle – 1 troy oz.  
-- .999 fine – 2000
8. Silver World Trade Universario – 1 troy oz.  
-- .999 fine – 1972
9. U. S. Assay Office – San Francisco (Silver  
Trade Unit) – 1981 (Minted from U. S.  
Strategic Stockpile)
10. Cinco (5) Pesos, Mexico, 1948  
-- .900 fine Silver
11. Un Peso (1) Mexico, 1945  
-- .720 fine Silver
12. Sterling Silver Texas Rangers Badge
13. Three Standing Liberty Quarters  
– 1925, 1926, 1927
14. Two 2 Cent coins – 1964, 186?
15. 1976 Bi-Centennial Mint Set Coins,  
-- Kennedy Half & Washington Quarter
16. Two \$1.00 Silver Certificates  
– series 1957 B
17. Four Buffalo Nickels – 3/1936—1/1930
18. Two "V" Nickels – 1/1899 – 1/1907
19. Coin Tender (Stores & Counts Coins)
20. Five Plastic Coin Mounts

# Attention all Hunters

April 9<sup>th</sup> Fun Hunt 10:00 to 11:30

31 Old South Dallas Lots

Meet at The Circle Grill  
8:30 for Breakfast Hunt Site Departure at 9:30

This is a hunt that most everyone should make a point of doing. It is a rare opportunity for many of our members to hunt these early 1900's areas of Old South Dallas due to security concerns. This is our second of this type of hunt, and our first was very successful producing the oldest coins ever in a fun hunt, tokens, relics, marbles, and even some nice jewelry.

Gene Jameson and I found 31 lots on two streets that are mostly in earshot of each other. At the site we will divide into teams of two, and draw lot numbers from a hat. We expect each team to have at least three exclusive lots to work, so if you don't like one move to the next.

See ya at the hunt,  
Gary Whalen

**ONE WAY TO HELP OUR CLUB GROW IS TO INVITE OTHER PEOPLE TO ATTEND. THEY DON'T HAVE TO BE A METAL DETECTORIST TO BE INTERESTED. ANYONE INTERESTED IN HISTORY, TREASURE HUNTING, COINS, AND RELATED MATTERS MAY JUST FIND A REASON TO JOIN AND MAYBE EVEN TAKE UP METAL DETECTING. JUST INVITE HIM OR HER AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS!**

Your newsletter editor is always looking for material and news to use (on a space-available basis.) Please forward any news, articles, or original work to:

GTES Newsletter Editor  
2403 West Crawford Street  
Denison, Texas 75020  
903-464-9962  
[Mikeshaw@texoma.net](mailto:Mikeshaw@texoma.net)

## Don't forget the Texas Lions Camp for Handicapped Children June 8th & 9th, 2005

As many of you know, this will be our 10th year to visit the handicap children at the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville, Texas. Our dates for our visit this year is June 8th & 9th, 2005. This is a Wednesday and Thursday, because the campers start packing for home on Friday. Again it will be held under the horse covered arena and planning coins will be easy to do. I have already asked for donations to these kids in foreign coins and have received a few. These donations is what keeps this activity for the blind, deaf and wheel chaired kids going throughout the summer months. The camp already has plenty of donated metal detectors on the property, donated by manufacturers, dealers and individuals when we first started this annual project. We not only will be introducing the kids to the metal detecting hobby, but will be training their counselors to continue the activity after our visit is over. The camp is nice enough to feed all of us that come down to help the kids each year, free of charge at their dinning hall. In these two days we will see about 200 kids and show them by hands-on, that there is an activity they can enjoy even with their handicap. I can not express to you the look on these children's faces when they find that first foreign coin with a metal detector. Every year the kids love the time we spend with them as does the many employees of the Camp. This is a life-changing-experience and you will be glad you came and help us and/or donated foreign coins for the activity. Everyone is invited to come and share in this wonderful and rewarding experience. So put those dates on your calendar, Kerrville has all the major motels in town and great places to eat at. Please consider helping us this year with the children, I know you will receive many thank yous from the kids and camp personnel.

Thanks again,  
Keith Wills  
201 S. Montgomery St.  
Gilmer, Texas 75644

### OUTCOME OF THE 2005 TEXAS TREASURE SHOW

As results show, we had a good turnout, not as much as we did the year before, but we are excited that next years show will be in Fort Worth area. The door sales shown below remember that members of TCTC got in free; this is public that came through the door. Keith Wills

#### Collected at Show

Silent Auction	\$610.00	
Door Receipts	\$ 1,808.00	
Garrett	Donation from Fundraiser	\$ 549.00
Hats sold at TCTC booth	\$ 80.50	
Hunts and Dinners Pd. at show	\$5,870.00	

#### Paid Out

We paid the Police Cash	\$940.00
We Pd Early Entry Cash (at Hunt)	\$300.00

#### **We also raised \$176.00 for Cisco Museum**

Larry Vickers and I donated the museum fundraiser prizes for this to be held at the TCTC booth and Larry had a donation jar at his booth, also.

WWATS fundraiser made \$362.00

Lots of Foreign Coins were donated to the Lions Camp for Handicap Children by many folks.

Major contributors was: Treasure Spot website donated 23 lbs of foreign coins

& Pikes Peak Treasure Club in Colorado donated 15 lbs of foreign coins

# WWATS Rally 2005

(World Wide Association of Treasure Seekers)

For Complete Flyer go to: [www.wwats.org](http://www.wwats.org)

## October 21, 22, 23-2005

### World's Largest "FREE"

### Metal Detecting Hunt

on  
Saturday October 22,

9am-12noon

(\$5.00 donation per person is requested to  
support WWATS events)

### K River Campgrounds

[www.krriver.com](http://www.krriver.com)

(make your reservations here)

On the Kiamichi River-Antlers, Southeast Oklahoma (North on  
Hwy 2 past Moyers one mile.)

## OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Cookout, Camping, WWATS Rally, Speed O Hunt, Grab  
Bag Hunt, Campfire Gathering, Ladies and Kids Hunts,  
WWATS Open Pay Hunt, Big Fish Contest, Clue Hunt,  
Canoeing.

Information Contact Keith Wills 903-843-5555

201 S. Montgomery St.  
Gilmer, Texas 75644

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Harold & Mickey Greer have old  
treasure hunting magazines. If you  
are new to the hobby, or just  
missed some early issues, call  
them at 214-358-6570.

### Advertising Space For Rent See your advertisement here!

"Casual Ads" for members are free

Commercial Ads at reasonable rates:

\$7.50 for one month for the business card  
size (\$60.00 annually)

¼ page space \$90.00 annually

Ads should be "camera ready" and should be  
submitted to the newsletter editor as much in  
advance of publication date as possible.

**OUR JULY AND DECEMBER MEETINGS  
START EARLY (7:00 PM) SO THAT WE MAY  
SHARE A MEAL AND ENJOY FELLOWSHIP  
WITH OUR FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS. EACH  
MEMBER BRINGS A COVERED DISH AND THE  
CLUB PROVIDES THE ENTRÉE(S) AND  
DRINKS.**

## **A SPECIAL NOTE FROM KEITH WILLS, PRESIDENT OF WWATS**

I am fully aware that this issue is taking place in Alabama and may not be a threat to you or your recreation in your state at this time. However, I'm also aware that many other states in this nation are now watching the decision of these Bills in Alabama as to possibly doing the same in their state. So you may in fact be in more danger than you are aware of, if these alike bills HB 125 (House Bill) and SB128 (Senate Bill) fail on the floor.

Both have passed committees with some concession made by both sides, but if passed these bills will allow the treasure hunter/diver and water hunter to find individual items ( in non designated historical sites) such as rings, coins and relics in their state waters without harassment from authorities according the now existing law in that state. Such an existing law should be changed that restricts your right to enjoy a simple recreational hobby as detecting in waters of the state. However, if it fails, then you will at some point see more states start to adopt the same law and in no time you will find your hobby restricted again.

I know many are saying, "Well what can I do, I don't live in Alabama and they are not going to listen from someone out-of-state!" This is where you are wrong, for you can always get their attention when you approach it from a tourism point of view (I'm sure not going to spend my money visiting your state if you don't allow detecting or diving in state waters!).

WWATS is asking you to please support these two related Bills by contacting as many Representatives and Senators in that state as you can (most have email addresses on their websites). Simply go to [www.legislature.state.al.us/](http://www.legislature.state.al.us/) and click on Senate and/or House then on next page click on "members" and start emailing, calling or writing as many as you can. Please remember this might be happening to you someday soon, so let's support our bothers and sisters in other states and not allow our government to continue to restrict our hobby and to create laws so to harass us as we enjoy it. The decision will be made on both floors in a matter of a few weeks, so don't wait, contact those representatives and senators today.

Here is the latest on the Bills as reported by the Mobile Register:

<http://www.al.com/news/mobileregister/legislature.ssf?/base/news/1112004917157380.xml>

WE NEED YOUR HELP ON THIS ONE--PLEASE!

Thank you all so much for your help, Keith Wills, president of WWATS

### **ED NOTE:**

As much news from the Texas Council of Treasure Clubs and other organizations such as WWATS will be included in our newsletter as space permits. However, news directly related to the Golden Triangle Explorers Society and its member will always have priority in this newsletter. To ensure that such news is included, please forward any articles, stories, and other items of interest to the editor as early as possible.

# GOLD CACHE!

This is all about something I reported to the members at the January meeting. I realized that I never put this in the newsletter. (At least I cannot find where I put it in a newsletter.) When you do newsletters for two clubs, it is easy to forget what story you told and which one you just thought you told.

From those who already heard this story, the first thing I will be asked is, "Have you heard any more of the details about this?" Well, the answer is no. In fact, it seems as if there has been a lid put down on the whole thing. Here is what I do know and it is true-- but slightly dramatized.

---

My friend, Scott Hendrichsen beeped me on my Nextel 2-way cell phone when he was out running his U.P.S. route. Scott was excited and had some very interesting news.

A friend of Scott's stepson was hard at work at a construction site just outside Kalamazoo. I don't know the exact location, but it sounds to me like a business is located there.

In order to expand an existing building (or build another), a huge dead tree had to come down. After the trunk and limbs were removed from the property, a backhoe was brought in for the huge task of digging out the giant stump. Once the tractor was brought into position, two large stabilizer legs were lowered to steady and hold the tractor upright. Then the backhoe operator started using the powerful digger. The strong scoop with iron tines ripped through the ground, making a medley of sounds.

The scoop's contact with large rocks sliding across the cold steel bucket sounded like the screech of giant bats! As the bucket tore at the roots, the tractor engine would groan and the diesel would send up thick black smoke, as if to complain that the job was too hard.

The entire tractor would shake and rock on its stabilizing leg extensions, as the roots would finally surrender with deep low popping sounds. These popping and tearing sounds from the roots somehow reminded the driver that what he was fighting with what was once part of God's creation--- a living, breathing and very important part of God's creation!

Judging by its species and the giant size of its trunk, the once stately old tree must have been just a tender shoot at the start of the terrible Civil War. Many people don't know this, but Kalamazoo is known to be home to some of the oldest trees in Michigan.

Time and time again, the backhoe would be repositioned as the worker broke new ground around the stump. The idea was to dig down through the roots to the softer ground just below the matted-root layer. Using the crane like a giant arm, the operator would reach far to one side to dump the rich black soil into neat piles.

The operator marveled at the rich dark soil to be found here in the Kalamazoo river basin. He started to think back to the days when much of this area was used for massive celery fields.

"Rich black dirt and plenty of moisture could make a tree pretty happy and healthy" he thought. The soft dark soil looked almost like fresh ground coffee as it slid down the sides of the piles.

Suddenly, the operator was pulled out of his day dreaming by the sight of something unnatural-- something shiny!

Quickly, he rotated the crane arm and dropped the bucket where it would be out of his way, then he climbed off the tractor. By the time he was near the place where he saw the mysterious object, there was no sign of it.

To see better, he quickly hopped into the hole, which put him at chest level with the bottom of the dirt pile. With his gloved hands, he sifted through the soft soil. Taking one handful at a time, he let the dirt drain from one hand to the other as he watched very carefully.

"Had I just imagined it?" he thought to himself.

As if to answer himself, he thought out loud "No, I saw something! It has to be here."

As he started rearranging the soil a little more aggressively, his glove filled up with dirt. Just as he started to pull the glove from his hand, he felt something cold and heavy drop into his palm.

It was as if this tiny treasure was trying to hide from him! With his glove off, the sight of this elusive item left him speechless! This was indeed like a dream--a dream that he had many times!

During the years of running backhoes and other heavy equipment, he had found quite a collection of interesting old items. Antique bottles make up the biggest part of his collection. He has found old iron tools, arrowheads, stone tools and even a small weapons cache! But this was his dream-come-true! He noticed that he was trembling as he stared at the beautiful gold coin in his hand!

Then he had a thought which physically startled him--- "Could there be more to be found?"

Quickly he slipped the coin into his pocket. Grabbing a large protruding root, he pulled himself from the hole and reached up to shut off the rattling diesel engine. In the back of his truck where he kept his rake and shovel, he spotted the iron grid that he used to classify stones for cement work.

He was so excited! His mind was filled with thoughts of finding treasure, and everything else was blocked out.

He was back and setting up his make-shift sifter in no time. With the old red bricks that were unearthed in the digging, he made a platform for his classifier.

Being very careful, starting with the top of the first pile, he filled his shovel. Each scoop of soft dirt was drained through the mesh until the dirt eventually reached the bottom of the sifter. With his rake he dragged that pile out to make room for the next load of dirt.

For a while it looked like that gold coin was all alone. Perhaps it slipped from a pocket as a weary traveler rested in the shade of the tree over 100 years ago. Soon he started daydreaming again as he finally scraped up the last dirt finishing that pile.

When he started with the next pile he became a little more careless. Perhaps he had convinced himself that there were no more coins to be found. Grabbing his rake, he started dragging the pile down and spreading the dirt out.

Boy, was he was in the right spot this time! Over a dozen coins sparkled like stars in the dark sky! Soon he was on his knees picking up coins and raking with his fingers. By the end of the day, he felt as if he had found the last of the coins.

The next day he contacted a friend with a metal detector who gladly offered his services. I understood that a few more coins were found with the detector. The final count was 15- \$20.00, 8- \$10.00 and 22-\$5.00 gold coins! That is 45 gold coins, with dates ranging from 1852 to 1876! The face value of \$490.00 represented a sizable savings at the close of the 19th century!

Here we have evidence that shows that whoever lived on this property was able to save and buried their money. That tells me that there is a very good chance that there could be more caches on this property. When Jimmy Sierra found the Goat Doctor's Hoard, the cans of silver dollars were buried all over the property.

The ideal location for the old timers to bury their money was in the privacy of a dirt floor building. If that building also served as a chicken coop, it was equipped with a smelly, but effective, alarm!

When the loot is buried outside, there was usually a landmark, which in this case is our old tree. Also, when the cache was buried outside where there was no door to lock, there was the ever-present fear that it could somehow be discovered, everything was not kept in one location.

Who was the guy with the metal detector? I'd like to know what kind of machine he used and how well he knew the detector. You would be amazed at some of the crazy ideas some people have regarding the power of a detector. Some think, if the detector is on and swept over the ground, and if anything is down there

(regardless of how deep), they will find it.

There are more caches out there, folks!



This newsletter is published monthly by the Golden Triangle Explorers Society, the oldest treasure hunters club in Texas. We are proud to be a member club of the Texas Council of Treasure Clubs and to be a part of the annual Texas Treasure Show. We encourage you to join a local treasure club and if you live in the Dallas Fort Worth Metroplex, or nearby, we invite you to join our club.

We are a family oriented group of treasure hunters and others interested in preserving the past by recovering relics, coins, and other treasures and sharing our research and information with other like-minded people. We subscribe to the “*Treasure Hunters Code of Ethics*”.

If you are interested in joining us, please fill out the form below and bring it to our booth at the treasure show, to a meeting, or mail to the address below. Dues are \$15.00 per individual and \$20.00 per family, including children up to the age of 18 and are pro-rated (Dues are Sept to Aug).

*Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*City, State, ZIP:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Telephone:* \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Golden Triangle Explorers Society  
P.O. Box 59814  
Dallas, Texas 75229

Golden Triangle Explorers Society  
P.O. Box 59814  
Dallas, Texas 75229  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

PLACE US  
POSTAGE  
HERE

DON'T FORGET:

**APRIL MONTHLY MEETING** MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH 11001 MIDWAY ROAD  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
APR. 8, 2005 TIME 7:30 P.M.