

Treasured Times

January 2005



CLUB OFFICERS

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING

MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
11001 MIDWAY ROAD
DALLAS, TEXAS
JAN. 14, 2005 TIME 7:30 P.M.

**WANTED: FOLKS TO PROVIDE
REFRESHMENTS AT FUTURE
MEETINGS. HOW LONG HAS IT
BEEN SINCE YOU BROUGHT
REFRESHMENTS?**

JACK SEZ

by **Jack Ellet**
President

Well, Christmas and New Year's have come and gone. I hope everyone had a good Christmas and have a very good new year. One of the things (not resolutions; I NEVER MAKE RESOLUTIONS) I want to do this year is to get in more metal detecting. Last year I didn't do as much as I would have liked. I have I think some pretty good places in mind to hunt. Sure hope they pan out. At this writing the weather is 27 degrees. But in a few days the weatherperson(?) says it is supposed to be in the 70's. That is what is called good metal detecting weather. Hope everyone will get out there and bring some good finds to the January meeting. See you at the next meeting. Good hunting!

Jack

Minutes of the December 2004 meeting & Welcome, new member

Our December meeting was a "holiday dinner", in which we combine Thanksgiving and Christmas into one meal together. It is a time to renew old friendships, be thankful for all our blessings and friends, and a chance to celebrate Christmas together. No minutes were taken since little business was conducted. Forty-six members and six guests attended, one of whom joined the club. Be sure to welcome **George Koehl** as a new member. And be sure to thank those members who worked so hard to make our meal so enjoyable!

FINDS OF THE MONTH CONTEST (December 2004)

Coin category

1st	Ed Duroy	1909 Barber Half
2nd	Susan Oliver	1913 D Buffalo Nickel
3rd	Floyd Caldwell	1903 Barber Dime

Jewelry category

1st	Floyd Caldwell	14 kt Ring/Diamonds
2nd	Robert Jordan	Silver Ring
3rd	Lisa Burkey	Sterling Silver Heart

Relic category

1st	Rick Burkey	Clock Key
2 nd	Gary Whalen	Cameo Frame
3rd	None	

Most unusual category

1st	Robert Jordan	Hot Wheels
2nd	Bob Lien	Masonic Pin
3rd	Rick Burkey	Brass Lion's Head

Second Chance Category

1st	Floyd Caldwell	1928 Mercury
2nd	Robert Jordan	1942 Mercury
3rd	Gene Jameson	Mexican Coin

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.

Your newsletter editor is always looking for material and news to use (on a space-available basis.) Any suggestions on making the newsletter easier to read or more useful are always appreciated. 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

DOOR PRIZE AND MONTHLY RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS (December 2004)

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

Sewing Kit & Chip Clip	Lisa Burkey
Sewing Kit & Chip Clip	Dave Jones
Sewing Kit & Chip Clip	George Koehle
Sewing Kit & Tape Measure	Vickey Hargrove
Marbles & Civil War Book	Connie Shaw
Water Bottle & Chip Clip	Dorothy Jameson
Water Bottle & Chip Clip	Velma Slocum
Water Bottle & Chip Clip	Roy Glover
Tape Measure & 2 Chip Clips	Gene Jameson
Tape Measure & 2 Chip Clips	Bob Lien
Tape Measure & 2 Chip Clips	Betty Lien
Wreath	Ann Gibbs

RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

Pocket Knife	Floyd Caldwell
Pocket Knife	Jim Hamilton
1928 \$2.00 Bill	Gene Gibbs
American Obsolete Coin Set	Robert Jordan
1964 Proof Set	Robert Jordan
1940 Proof Set	Danny Price
Silver Round	Larry Voyles
1934 \$5.00 Silver Certificate	Shelly Sharum
1921 Morgan Silver Dollar	Mary Penson
1900 Morgan Silver Dollar	Robert Jordan
1840-O Seated Dime	Dave Jones
1885 Seated Dime	Floyd Caldwell
1915-S Barber Half Dollar	Ben Hong
1893 Barber Half Dollar	Bill Abbott
1843 Large Cent	Danny Price
1945 Gold Dos Peso	Mareta Glover

Help support your club! Buy a raffle ticket and join in the fun. The GTES operates on funds collected as member dues, monthly and treasure show raffles, and other donations. This money is used to fund treasure hunts and club programs.

Not only can you win a nice prize but you gain better prizes in the treasure hunts.

If you have suggestions on prizes that might encourage more participation, contact the Club Treasurer, Robert Jordan.

TEXAS TREASURE SHOW 2005

“Still the Largest Treasure Show in America”

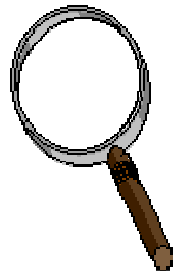
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For More Information, Contact: Keith Wills, (903) 843-5555 or Email: kwills@worldnet.att.net

Presented by: **Texas Council of Treasure Clubs, Inc.**

Is it TRASH or TREASURE?

We are all familiar with the old saw, “one man’s trash is another’s treasure.” As treasure hunters we are more aware than others just how true it really is. There is not a one of us who has not wondered whether what we have just dug out of the ground really belongs in the “find of the month” contest – well, OK; some things are apparent, but not many. I think it would be nice to have some members tell us about some of the things they have found that turned out to either be more treasure than trash, or vice versa, after they showed them to others. Just write it up and submit it to your trusty newsletter editor (see page two for address) and tell me whether I should do any re-writing on it or just a spell-check. We can even make it anonymous if you wish. Here is an article on the subject:

Save Your Trash By Bruce Cash

Save your trash. At least long enough to determine what it is and how old. The trash you dig up can tell you a lot about the site you are hunting. Let's dump the pouch out and see what we have. Well we have 9 pull tabs, 6 zinc cents, a clad dime, assorted bits of aluminum & copper, a brass washer, a rusty nail and a copper rivet.

Everything here appears to be pretty typical of what we find on a lot of sites but on closer examination we see the rusty nail is a square nail. Now what's that doing here? Now we look a little harder at the copper rivet. It is two pieces hammered together with a nice patina. Both the rivet and square nail are much older than the other items indicating the area was probably in use before 1910.

How do we know this? Well, by the start of the 1900's, the first coils of steel round wire were produced and machines to use this new material to produce nails were developed. This was the end of cut nails or square nails as round nails were cheaper to make.

Hand made nails were used in buildings built before 1800. Cut nails (square nails) suggest the building was built between 1800 and the early 1900's. Wire nails will be found in a building built in the period from then to date.

Given that our nail is old, a closer look at the bits of copper we dug is warranted. Sorting through them we find one that appears to have some filigree stamped on it. This was typical in the 1800's. Many personnel items and containers were stamped with fancy designs. Now the copper rivet has more importance as it is most likely from the 1800's (hammered rivets are still used today but had considerable use in the 17th century and before).

So we have some modern trash items and a few older pieces of trash. What first appeared to be a site with only the hope of finding clad coins and pull-tabs now has the potential for Barber and Seated Liberty coins, Indian heads, watch fobs and other items from the 1800's and earlier.

More concentration and patience is needed for this site. Look for concentrations of the older trash and work these areas more carefully. You may get the half-dime you have been wanting or a nice token. Pieces of broken pottery, old glass and oyster shells found at the site are also indicators of use prior to the 1900's.

FROM: www.Treasurenews.com

TIPS ON HOW TO DATE EUROAMERICAN SITES IN YELLOWSTONE

Ed Note: This article came from the “THE YELLOWSTONE BACKCOUNTRY PAGE” but the information is useful all over the world.

Many cultural remains in Yellowstone are scant at best. What you will see may be nothing more than a few scattered pieces of debris. In the case of shelter sites, only a crude foundation or some weathered wood shards may be left. If you do discover an obvious remnant of human habitation in the backcountry, here are a few things to look for that may help determine the age of the site.

NAILS

There are basically two styles of nail that will be encountered in Yellowstone. They can be used to date the remnants at a particular site.

- 1) Cut or Square Nails. (larger)
- 2) Wire Nails. (smaller)

During the Civil War the United States got very mechanical in the manufacture of nails with the method of stamping out nails from iron. This process of machine made or raw iron nails continued until about 1892. Then the factories changed over to the streamlined and more cost-effective wire nails. It took until roughly 1894 for stores to use up their individual stocks of square nails. And by the late 90's the square nail was gone, and you began to have all wire nails.

GLASS

Some types of glass can also be used to date a site. The easiest is the purple glass that is still commonly seen at some of the old hotel sites in the park.

In the glass-making process before World War I, sand was fluxed with soda. This was the common method world-wide. One side effect of this process was that when sunlight strikes soda glass for a long time it gradually turns purple. It gets more and more purple as time goes on. When the war began the United States was cut off from its suppliers of soda, which happened to be Germany and Austria. Faced with a glass shortage, we went to other fluxes and we never went back to soda. These newer glass-making methods did not have the purple side effect but rather stayed white in the sun. Thus purple glass fragments date a site to the mid-teens or earlier.

CANS

If you find what we are called “bull-eye cans,” you know a site is pre-1905. On one end of the can there will be a big ring. In the center of the ring is usually a little drop of lead. This is called Bull-eye sealing. It was part of the vacuum sealing process used in the late 19th century. But it wasn’t fool proof, people got sick from eating the contents sometimes and thus the process did not last.

In some of the old park dump sites, you can find these type of cans almost rusted away, but will find the rings, because they are lead and wont oxidize like the other metal. After “bull-eye” canning were the modern machine made cans we have today.

BOTTLES

One of the most common ways to date a bottle is by noting how far the mold seam goes up the bottle. The mold seam is the line made by the mold in which the bottle was formed. Almost all bottles manufactured after 1860 have a mold seam. Before then bottles were made with a blowpipe using what's known as the "free blown method". In either process, the lip of the bottle was formed after the body of the bottle and then applied to the bottle. A lot of bottles made after 1890 were machine made and did not have the "applied lip".

STOVES

Although rare, stove parts can help date a site. On many stoves there will be a patent date.

BRICKS

Dating a site from bricks is a little more involved and will take a bit of work. On some old factory made or imported bricks, there are individual impress designs. There are catalogs that can identify the maker and year based on that design.

THE YELLOWSTONE BACKCOUNTRY PAGE
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PART OF OUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WAS FOR MEMBER TO "GIFT THE CLUB" WITH ITEMS TO BE USED FOR RAFFLE PRIZES. MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS FOR THEIR GENEROUS GIFTS:

Jason Blackburn Shelly Sharum	Two Pocket Knives Silver Round and Ten Dollar Silver Round Gaming Token
Robert Jordan Jack Ellett Rick & Lisa Burkey Bob Slocum Velma Slocum Don & Barbara Cundiff Ben Hong Gene & Ann Gibbs Henry & Angie Moore Bob & Betty Lien	1945 Gold Dos Peso Garrett Headphones Blanket USA Silver Round Mexican Silver Round Liberty Silver Round Liberty Silver Round W W II Silver Quarter Set Ladies Gold Plated Ring Three Card Holders, Knife, Sewing Kit, Whites Cap, Water Bottle, two Coaster Sets
Bill Abbott Mary Penson Mike Shaw Connie Shaw Ed Duroy Leigh Duroy	Clock Radio Digger and Probe 1968 Proof Set 1968 Proof Set 10 cent Fractional Note Garrett Headphones, Calendar, Head Lamp
Alice Branger	Coin Collecting Holiday Stocking
Gary Whalen Greg Willams Vickey Hargrove	1974 Turks Calico Coin Radio Shack Battery Bank Candle

THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME FOR EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE CLUB TO TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK THE EMPLOYEES OF GARRETT FOR THE MANY ITEMS THEIR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTES EACH YEAR FOR OUR CLUB TO USE AS DOOR PRIZES. MANUFACTURERS MAKE OCCASIONAL LARGE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR HUNTS, ETC. BUT GARRETT BRINGS A BIG BOX OF ITEMS EVERY YEAR IN ADDITION TO THOSE.

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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!

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
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Dallas, Texas 75229

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PLACE US
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JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING
MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
11001 MIDWAY ROAD
DALLAS, TEXAS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2004

TIME 7:30 P.M.

Come early and bring your metal detector.
Bring a guest.