



# Newsletter

**APRIL 1997**

April is here, does that mean anything to you. It should. This time of year is a treasure hunters dream. Nice weather, lots of spring breakers have just finished restocking the beach, the locals are getting out more to parks and lakes, treasure hunting clubs around the state are holding open hunts and our club is having a weekend hunt. There are all kinds of reasons to enjoy this time of year, so do.



Here's a little detecting tip I'd like to pass along. It just happened to me last month. I'll start by getting straight to the point, "Don't put off hunting those sites you pass day after

day". Here's my story. I was working in the Southeast section of downtown Orlando and as usual kept my eye open for potential sites. On the weekend I drove through this section on my way to detect another site and to my surprise they had just finished clearing a lot right in the middle of a very old neighborhood, I decided to continue on to my present site and come back to this site the following week. I called Jerry Sunday night and told him I had found a site and would probably be going to it Monday or Tuesday after I got off work. Well it turned out to be Tuesday and Jerry and I met at the site. Trash was present, but not to bad so we would dig any good sounding target. In about an hour we had found four wheat cents from the mid twenties, 2 from the thirties and one from the forties. Not bad I thought, but where was the silver. As Jerry and I were talking about the site we realized that what we thought had been hunted by each other hadn't been, which meant someone else must have been there. This was proven to us as we moved to the grass strip between the street and

sidewalk. We found fresh dig marks with the trash item laying beside the hole. Both Jerry and myself take everything we dig with us, so we knew someone else had beat us, and we wondered what the other detectorist had found. If I had stopped on the weekend instead of passing the site I might have found out what I missed. Jerry did return to the site with Bill and found an Indian Head penny, so we know what might have been there. This site came up fast and is gone now, but we all pass sites day after day. These might be around for awhile or may be gone tomorrow. If you see a site you think is worth hunting, "Just Do It", but don't forget to get permission and abide by the code of ethics.



## 1997 OFFICERS

President.....Randy Settle

Vice-President.....Jerry Hitson

Second Vice-President.....Chuck Hosbein

Secretary.....Madeline Corder

Treasurer.....Lonna Leist

Newsletter Editor.....Ted Smith

Refreshments.....Ron & Gerry West

Find Table.....Milton & Lorine Raw

Prizes.....Fred & Nancy Schimmel

The Central Florida Metal Detecting Club meets the second Friday of each month. Meetings are held at the Goldenrod Civic Center, close to the intersection of Aloma Ave. and Palmetto Ave. Meetings start at 7:30. Next meeting: Apr. 11th., May 9th, and June 13th.

**MARCH NEWSNOTES:** The March meeting opened at 7:30pm to a light crowd. We had one quest and no birthdays or anniversaries. Madeline was a little late so I read the minutes. Lonna reported a February ending balance of \$1149.10. We have 54 paid members for 1997, one of which has already paid Federation dues to another club so we will have to apy \$265.00 to the Federation for our National dues.

**FEDERATION UPDATE:** News has it that the National Forest Service may be opening up some land to metal detecting. On the other hand some disturbing news is coming from the BLM. Something called the LEO Authority, Law Enforcement Organization, would give complete and total authority to officials working for the BLM to conduct random search and seizures and to make arrests without warrants or due process. The interpretation of this authority could not only effect you if you are on BLM land, but also anywhere off their land if they deem it necessary. Another disturbing news item comes out of New York. The New York Parks and Recreation Department has made new rules that could cost the following fines: \$50.00 if you are caught with a detector or digging tool in a park. \$1000.00 fine for the destruction of plants or grass. So, always check laws in parks and on public land. If you find yourself in a situation where you are caught or fined, you can call the law inforcement hotline, 1-800-824-9124.

What would you say if someone walked up to you and said "Hey, we need t let you know what you can do on your property, because it's a sanctuary now". Well that may well happen in the Florida Keys. There is a group that is in the process of trying to make the keys a National Marine Sanctuary and they aren't bothering to ask the locals how they feel about it. Just think about it. To mow your lawn you would need a permit, your children cann't plan on your land because they might disturb it. It sure sounds like "Big Brother is Watching".

We discussed our first weekend hunt of the year. It will be at a campground in Leesburg. (For exact directions see UPCOMING EVENTS) The cost will be \$35.00 per person. This includes your room and meals. RV and tent sites may be a little cheaper. They made a \$150.00 deposit to hold the campground and we need at least 25 to attend. There will be games and prizes Saturday night. The grounds are large, there is a lake and 10,000 to 15,000 people use the park each year.

Our second camp hunt is the March site rescheduled for May 17th and 18th. Costs range from \$6.00 per person for RV sites, to \$10.00 per person in the cabins, to \$24.00 for a motel room. This site has been used since the 1950's, it has a nice lake with good fishing and 10 acres of land for detecting. For those staying in the cabins don't forget to bring

linens, and there is a kitchen for campers to use. This site was not confirmed as of the March meeting and since this site was rented out from under us last month a motion was made to OK a deposit as soon as the camp contacts us. We also have a 3rd camp in the works. The dates for this site aren't until November so we have lots of time. All I'm going to say about this camp is it sounds more like the Club Med of campgrounds. Including two chefs at our desposal for meals. Randy made sure to let Ray and Doug know how much everyone appreciates there hard work to bring us these sites.

George Livingston gave a presentation on Elderhostels. Its focus is on education and adventure for older individuals. It is non-profit, offers academic programs and has 1800 participating institutions. Last year 250,000 people enrolled. Those persons 55 and older, and their spouses, are eligible. It offers accomodations, meals and classes all for one low price. George has forms for more information and video tapes for loan.

Ray auctioned off a few items to raise money for the club. It raised \$12.75.

Half and Half was won by Edna Liberatore, \$15.50.

#77, Jerry Hitson, won \$25.00 for bank night.

## FIND OF THE MONTH

Single Coin.....	CHUCK HOSBEIN
Group Coin.....	EDNA LIVERATORE
Single Jewelry.....	ALDEN MITCHELL
Group Jewelry.....	LORINE RAW
Single Artifact.....	NO ENTRY
Group Artifact.....	NO ENTRY
Single Odds-N-Ends.....	JERRY HITSON

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**OPEN HUNTS:** Weeki Wachee's 8th annual hunt is April 12th. They always put on a good hunt so don't miss this one. The cost is \$50.00 and must be sent in by April 5th. Coffee and donuts start at 8:30am.

The Southeast Chapter will hold an open hunt May 2nd and 3rd at Red Barn Mobile Home Park near Bushnell. The cost will be \$45.00 and needs to be sent in by April 30th. For more information you can call Sue Dubiel, (813)576-1793.

**CLUB OUTINGS:** For the April camp hunt everyone is to meet at the camp, Saturday April 19th, between 9:am and 10:am. The campground is the "Florida United Methodist Family Campground". It is located 3 miles north of Leesburg on US 27 to County Road 466-A East (Picciola Road). Follow this road to the campground.

We are planning a camp hunt for May 17th and 18th. This is a pretty old campground with around 5000 visitors per year. Costs will be \$10.00 for cabin space and \$24.00 for a motel room.

**EVENTS:** The Central Florida Coin Club's semi-annual coin show will be April 11th, 12th and 13th at the Expo center on Livingston Ave.

**TCAS HUNT REVIEW:** The Treasure Coast Archeological Society held its tenth annual benefit hunt on March 15th. The CFMDC had a pretty good showing. We had nine members entered in the hunt. First let me say our club members won quite a few prizes and I hope I didn't miss anyone. Representing our club were Jack & Argent Erwood, Joe Walton, Don & Becky Smith, Doug Melvin, Jerry Hitson, Bill Bergdoll and myself, Ted Smith. The days hunts consisted of a competition hunt, a pinpoint shoot-out, a runway shoot-out and a token hunt. This year the turnout was somewhat smaller than last year. I'd guess they had 40 to 50 entries. The prizes were also somewhat less compared to previous years, but they all were excellent prizes. One of the most impressive things about the TCAS hunt is their lunch. They always have excellent Bar-B-Q chicken and all the fixings.

The list of prizes our members brought home is pretty impressive. Argent Erwood received an old slot token. Doug Melvin took 7th place in the competition hunt and received a digger. He also found a token for a 1715 half reale. Becky Smith won the pinpoint shoot-out and won a 1715 8-reale. She also took 4th place in the runway shoot-out and received a proof set, plus she had at least one token for a piece of spanish silver. I found a token good for a proof set, took 6th place in the pinpoint shoot-out to win a mint set and took 5th in the runway shoot-out to win another proof set. Jerry Hitson found a token good for a 1715 one-reale. Bill Bergdoll won the runway shoot-out and won a Fisher 1212 detector. If you would have seen Bill in this hunt you would have said the same thing that Jerry and I said "He was in the ZONE". This was a 90 second hunt in a narrow runway about 30 feet long. Bill was the only one I saw that made it look easy, which caused Jerry and me to give him a mini-wave when he finished. All in all the hunt was run well, alot of fun and I'm sure it will get even better.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT DEPARTMENT

The classified section is a free service for the members of the CFMDC. Anyone wishing to place an ad must contact the Editor, Ted Smith, in person at the monthly meeting or by phone @ 291-3442. When the ad is no longer required please inform me so I can remove it.

### **\*WANTED: Buy or Trade\***

The Florida Yankee wants your Civil War and Seminole War Collectibles, especially buttons. Call Dave at (407) 767-0530.