



Treasured Times

Golden Triangle Explorers Society

In Quest of the Past

Volume 25 Number 02

February, 2025

Next Monthly Meeting:

NEW WORLD UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
5134 NORTHWEST HIGHWAY
GARLAND, TEXAS 75043

MEETINGS ARE ON THE 4TH FRIDAY OF
EACH MONTH.

FEBRUARY 28, 2025 7:30 PM
MARCH 28, 2025 7:30 PM

**REFRESHMENTS FOR
NEXT MEETING:**

EACH MEMBER IS
ENCOURAGED TO BRING
REFRESHMENTS TO SHARE
WITH OTHERS.

HELP WANTED!

Come early to our meetings and
help set up the tables and chairs.
The pay is low but the rewards are
many!

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

BILL A

VICE PRESIDENT:

DAVE T

Treasurer:

TERRY R

From The President

by Bill A

We want to congratulate Janet C for earning Treasure Hunter of the Year 2024!!

We welcome our new member Kristie H. Thank you for joining us.

Thank you to Mike S for his years of doing the Golden Triangle Newsletter. We know he truly appreciates Herman D taking over for him as the rest of us do.

We enjoyed Dave T's talk on how to make metal detecting more fun especially by hunting with friends.

Looking forward to Hernan D's talk on Friday February 28th, 7:30 New World Church Parlor.

Be safe and stay healthy and warm. Remember to use your metal detecting ethics.

See you on Friday the 28nd, 7:30 in the gym,

Bill

From The Vice President

by Dave T

SECRETARY:
ANDRETTA L

OTHER CONTACTS

HUNT MASTER:
OPEN

REFRESHMENTS CHAIR:
OPEN

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
HERMAN D

WEBMASTER/WEBMISTRESS:
OPEN

FACEBOOK CONTACT:
JANET C

FIND OF THE MONTH CHAIR:
VELMA S
JANET C (ASST.)

**SEE YOUR MEMBER
DIRECTORY FOR
TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

NOTICE!

**SELL YOUR SILVER COINS
TO OUR CLUB RATHER
THAN TO A STRANGER!
CHECK OUR PRICE
BEFORE YOU SELL!**

MEMBER ADVERTISEMENTS

This space is reserved for free member ads. Do you have something you wish to sell or buy? Member ads, including pictures, will be printed as space allows.

We also have space for paid ads. If you have a business or service available and wish to advertise to club members (and those who visit our newsletter on the Webpage), reasonable rates apply.

Garrett ACE 250 we wish to sell, Purchased New, Never Used, still in the box,
Make an Offer.

Let me introduce myself, for those that don't know me...they call me Super Dave...not sure why. I will do my best to support and defend...wait a minute wrong speech...I will fulfill the office of vice president and support our lustrous president when the need arises. Ok, so much for the intro.

Greetings one and all. We're slugging through this miserable winter, but soon it will be "Hunt season", so let's start getting ready. I say this as our newsletter editor has attached (at the bottom of the newsletter) an article about hunt preparation and some common/avoidable mistakes that can be prevented or at least mitigated.

We will have a guest speaker for the February meeting. The Hermanator will repeat his highly entertaining (and educational) presentation "Getting to Know You" that he shared with the Lone Star club and was asked to do the same at the GTES meeting. If nothing else, you'll learn a little about history! You won't want to miss this.

Take care everyone, please be safe out there...it's cold. Mind your metal detecting manners and cover your holes!

See you on the 28th. Not sure at this point which room we will be meeting in, so stay tuned.

Super Dave

From The Treasurer

by Terry R

Here is the info for the February fundraiser, also posted to FB page:

Our fundraiser for February has 4 Morgan dollars, a Peace dollar, a 2022 Canada 3/4 ounce silver round, a Barber half and quarter set, a World War 2 era set of US coinage (all silver except the steel cent), a 1965-1968 40% silver Kennedy half set, and a one ounce 1996 Silver Eagle!



Larry Voyles, 972-816-5808 or, wwaviation@aol.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MAR 14-16 – COIN SHOW
MAY 14-16 – TAMDC
TREASURE SHOW

MEMBER NOTICE:

Jack L. reminds us all to save our foreign coins. These are used in hunts involving kids who often spend silver coins, especially in vending machines. Bring your foreign coins to any club meeting so we can have a reserve.

Have you done all you can to recruit new members? Invite inactive former members to become active again? Our club can only grow if we all work at it.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Space reserved for recipes submitted by members.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

by Andretta L

Minutes for January 25, 2025 Meeting

Meeting was held at New World United Methodist Church, Garland. President Bill A called the meeting to order. A brief Executive Board meeting was held prior to the meeting - meeting dates for 2025 are February 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24 (Silent Auction), November 21 (27th Thanksgiving) (Chili Cookoff), December 11 Christmas dinner at East Fork.

Dave T introduced 2 guests, and one became a member. Members with December and January birthday/anniversary received 3 fund raiser tickets.

Vice President Dave T, our speaker, gave hints for successful hunting: make hunting interesting and fun, set goals, competition with other hunters.

Members with December and January birthdays/anniversaries received 3 fund raiser tickets.

New Business

Dues for 2025 are due - \$20 for single, \$25 for family.

Treasure Hunter of the Year is Janet C. Terry R presented the award.

Sue R, a member of Lone Star, has suggested the three local clubs get together for the fun hunts. Discussion will continue to work out the details.

Those who bring snacks to the meetings will be awarded 3 fund raiser tickets.

Herman D has volunteered to be the newsletter editor. We are still looking for a webmaster.

December minutes are published in the newsletter. Would anyone like them read out loud?

Treasurer reports for both December and January were accepted as stated and filed for audit.

Sherry D won the marble drawing but did not get blue marble!

Door prize winners were Janet C, Cesar R, Andretta L, Frank M, Julie R, Kristie H.

In the Fund Raiser winners were: 1837 Large Cent - Mary P; 1901-O Morgan dollar - Chuck G; 1921 Morgan dollar - Janet C; 1922 Peace dollar - Janet C; 1923 Peace dollar - Bill A; 1995 1 oz Silver Eagle - Mary P; 1944-S Walking Liberty half - Bill A; Indian head cent, V nickel, Barber dime, Barber quarter set - Karen R; 3 90% silver proof state quarters - Herman D; 1 oz "Prospector" silver round - Mary P.

Find of the Month winners were announced. Dave T won the Name tag drawing.

Meeting adjourned.

HUNTMASTER'S REPORT

Annual Holiday Hunt - TBA

EDITORS NOTE:

WE do not currently have a Huntmaster for the club. The lack of a Huntmaster and Hunt Committee in a club primarily interested in metal detecting is a strange situation. One of the most important activities for a club to foster learning from others and the social interactions between members is fun hunts held by the club.

We really need someone to step up and fill these positions. If you are interested, please speak to one of the officers!

FINDS OF THE MONTH CONTEST

From January 2025

Place	Winner	Item
COINS		
1 st	Herman D	Standing Liberty Quarter
2 nd	Dave T	1900 Barber Dime
3 rd	Dave T	1893 Indian Head Penny
JEWELRY		
1 st	Chuck G	14K Bracelet
2 nd	Herman D	Silver TX Ranger Money Clip
3 rd	Cesar R	Moon Ring
RELICS		
1 st	Janet C	Old Key
2 nd	Dave T	Laxative Token
3 rd	Herman D	School Bus Token
MOST UNUSUAL		
1 st	Herman D	Gun Lighter
2 nd	Dave T	Merry Widows Condom Case
3 rd	Dave T	Throwing Knife
SECOND CHANCE		
1 st	Herman D	French Navy Button
2 nd	Dave T	Lipstick Tube
3 rd	Chuck G	Junk Bracelet

January's FOM included both Dec and Jan finds (which made it doubly rewarding) because there was no FOM at the Dec meeting!

I tried to include Janet's pictures of the FOM boards, but they are large files and so I'm going to leave well enough alone...maybe next month.

PHOTOS

Janet C, 2024 Hunter of the Year



ARTICLE(S) SUBMITTED BY MEMBER(S)

Hermanator

Basics for Competition Hunting & How to Handle Unexpected Problems

The idea here is to help the new folks with a few simple guidelines to help them be successful. To me, it can be simplified to: Know Your Machine, Be Prepared, Understand the Hunts.

Know Your Machine

Real life example! For my first hunt ever, I had a White's MXT. It was designed for several types of hunting (relic, beach, gold). It had target ID, depth indicator and several tones. Seemed easy enough... The purpose of that first hunt was to find pennies with numbers - reach 21 and you would go to the center of the field and turn those "points" in for a silver dollar. And you weren't limited to one. In that 30-minute hunt I found 4 pennies.

Why? Because I didn't know my machine. I was digging everything, even those signals that bounced around. I didn't know how to pinpoint. I didn't understand what a "good" signal was (target ID and tone). I didn't pay attention to the depth indicator.

So, how do you prevent this?

- 1) Practice! Practice! Practice!
- 2) Know what sounds and numbers equate to what kinds of targets (silver coins, copper pennies, zinc pennies, pull tabs, iron).
- 3) Air test your machine.
- 4) Practice in various types of environments (grassy fields, red dirt, black soil, areas with varying amounts of trash, sand, wet soil).
- 5) Read the instructions.
- 6) Listen to the seasoned hunters when they make suggestions. Ask questions.
- 7) Don't get frustrated...it will take some time for you to become "one with the machine".

Be Prepared

Real life examples! I have probably made every mistake there is to make by not being prepared for a competition hunt. Not having: a pin pointer, a finds pouch, a digger (long or short), not having headphones, not replacing batteries, not having batteries, wrong shoes (some hunts were very wet), getting to the field late, not going potty (most hunts are 30 min - 1 hr), making sure I was hydrated, not having spare parts (more on that later).

Why? Mostly inexperience and not asking enough or the right questions. Think of it as a sporting event or race...what would you do to prepare?

So, how do you prevent this?

- 1) Have the proper equipment. As appropriate: pouch, digger, pin pointer, scoop.
- 2) Plan for contingencies. (spare batteries, rain gear, spare parts)
- 3) Plan ahead. (when does the hunt start, what will I need to be successful)
- 4) Seek advice and ask questions.
- 5) You are going to be on the hunt field for a while so...stay hydrated, have a little something in your stomach, use the potty.
- 6) Check your hunting equipment to make sure everything is functioning, batteries are fresh, detector is in working order, headphones are set correctly.
- 7) Read and understand the hunt flyers.

Understand Your Hunts

Real life examples! In my early days, and on more than one occasion, I did not bother to find out what the tokens were or what they were made of. Tokens have ranged from real silver coins, to trash. Yep, one hunt put numbers on trash. One hunt had tokens that resembled bottle caps/pull tabs. Some hunts were for various types of nickels (for those hunts, hunting "high" will cost you). And pay attention to the start times...I have been late at least once.

Why? Not understanding what you are hunting for will invariably cost you in targets. You might also miss out on tokens or other "unique" items sown in the various hunts. Some clubs like to spice up hunts with a variety of targets.

So, how do you prevent this?

- 1) Read the hunt flyer - know when the hunt(s) starts.
- 2) Read the hunt flyer - know how many hunts there will be so you can pick what you wish to participate in and know when/how to pace yourself.
- 3) Read the hunt flyer - know what the hunt targets & tokens are. If possible, ask the hunt master for a sample token and air test it to see how your machine interprets it.
- 4) Like everything else, if in doubt, ask questions...we are a friendly bunch and don't mind sharing information.
- 5) Know the basic rules for a particular hunt. Some hunts require you to stop when a certain point is reached. Some hunts allow you to start out in the hunt field as opposed to along the perimeter. Some hunts don't require headphones (typically most do, though). Some hunts are done in pairs. Some are for speed and some are for depth.
- 6) Hunts are run on the honor system.

And now the fun part...what do you do when something unexpected happens that causes an interruption in your hunt.

How to Handle Unexpected Problems

Real life examples! Here again, I have experienced almost every kind of disruption there is. I have had a control box break off of a machine. My batteries died. I did not have all of the equipment I needed. I broke a cuff on a machine. I was late to a hunt. My machine started to chatter uncontrollably. I wasn't prepared for rain. My machine just flat quit. Didn't pay attention to where the power lines were. Forgot to turn my machine on (it happens). Had to go potty in the middle of a hunt.

Why? Some of these things were clearly due to not being prepared. Or not paying attention. But most were simply due to bad luck. Things happen. It's difficult to prepare for every contingency, but many of these situations can be overcome or mitigated.

So, how do you prevent this?

- 1) I have had a control box break off of a machine - fortunately a friend had some duct tape, so we did a temporary field repair and taped it back on. I now carry duct tape in my "spare parts bag". [I was very fortunate in that hunt - I found a token, which just so happen to be for an AT-PRO. Talk about karma.]
- 2) My batteries died - I always carry spare batteries (AA & 9 volt)
- 3) I did not have all of the equipment I needed - I check the hunt flier for the particulars (type of terrain, buried or not, sandy conditions)
- 4) I broke a cuff on a machine - field repair: Garrett cuffs are interchangeable (my belt didn't work)
- 5) I was late to a hunt - I check the hunt flier for the particulars and plan accordingly
- 6) My machine started to chatter uncontrollably - in one case I had to relocate to another part of the hunt field. In other cases, I simply shifted the machine's frequency. [this

situation can be caused by other machines or close proximity to power lines, overhead or buried]

- 7) I wasn't prepared for rain - while most machines are water resistant, for one that isn't, I carry in my pocket a shower cap and wrap it around the control box.
- 8) My machine just flat quit - a quick look at batteries, ensure that the connections of the cables are secure, turn the machine off and then on again is about all you can do. Several times I have had to go get my backup machine. **Always bring a backup machine.**
- 9) Didn't pay attention to where the power lines were - relocate to another part of the hunt field.
- 10) Forgot to turn my machine on (it happens) - don't get too excited and pay attention. Test the machine before walking out onto the hunt field.
- 11) Had to go potty in the middle of a hunt - as mentioned before, you will be on the hunt field for a while... "go" before you go.
- 12) I have created a spare parts bag - based on past experiences I always bring along a spare parts bag, which minimally includes:
 - a) Spare batteries & battery tester
 - b) Spare cuff
 - c) Spare bolts w/nuts for securing the coil to the shaft or cuff to shaft
 - d) Coin probe, handheld garden rake
 - e) Shower cap
 - f) Tools for repairs: screw drivers (+ & -), pliers, wrench, wire brush, duct tape, tie wraps, Velcro strips
 - g) Toilet paper, Band-Aids, bug spray, sun screen
 - h) Spare equipment: pouch, pin pointer, digger, headphones