
Albuquerque Metal Detector Association

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Newsletter

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AMDA launches a new year!

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Club Officers

President.....	Mickey Cone
Vice President.....	Richard Ruble
Secretary.....	Tom Murray
Treasurer.....	Richard Ruble (acting)

BIG PRINT

Given the average age of our membership, I am going to try to use larger print than normal since most members are viewing the Newsletter electronically. This may increase the number of pages slightly, but it won't increase the cost of printing or mailing the newsletter as it might have in earlier years when the newsletter was printed on paper and mailed USPS.

MOSS TALLANT 1954-2009

As the year closed, we were notified of the loss of a close friend and member, Moss Tallant.

Moss, an avid metal detector, died suddenly at 6 PM on Saturday, 26 December 2009. Moss, 55, was an employee of Sandia National Laboratories working in Plant Engineering. He is survived by his wife Joan (pronounce like Jo Ann), father Ruben Tallant and wife, Adela, brother Kevin Tallant and wife Joyce, sister Theresa Rhoda and



husband, Dan, and other in-laws. A service was held on Thursday, December 31 at 4:00 PM at French Mortuary, Lomas Blvd Chapel,

10500 Lomas Blvd NE. Visit the on-line guestbook at www.RememberTheirStory.com.



Moss clearly touched the lives of many, as the French Mortuary service burst at the seams, overflowing the 200 capacity chapel by at least another 120 people, each with fond memories of their association with Moss. His prowess as a photographer, tractor repairman, engineer and fix just about anything guy was recounted numerous times by friends and family. His love of metal detecting was also he subject of testimo-



nial. Many members of Moss' world who were not metal detectors themselves were in awe of his many finds. One thing that stood out from

the memories shared by those offering personal recollections of their dealings with Moss, was that to Moss Tallant, friends and family were top priority. Moss's sense of humor and good nature were clearly consistent in the minds of the crowd that filled all 12 pages



of the guest registry, 23 lines per page. Many of the entries were multiple guests, such as “Jane and Michael Smith” or “John and Mrs. Lynne Doe”, so it is hard to tell exactly how many people were there. Suffice it to say people came from far and near at the news of the loss of this unique man and friend to all. The parking lot was full. The sides of the nearby streets were full. And Applebee's and the local mall parking were feeling the strain of the overflow of vehicles that brought people to pay their respects to Moss Tallant.

One thing we are reminded of is certain. Life is too short and too precious to let little things get in the way of our enjoyment of our sport and pastime of metal detecting. Moss clearly kept his focus on the important things in life and didn't let petty issues distract him. His many friends who will miss him are clear testimony to this.

It has been said that “if a man goes through life with as many as three REAL friends, he is fortunate, indeed.” It appears Moss made his own fortune, and his number of friends was clearly far in excess of three. We will miss you Moss.

OLD BUSINESS

Club Newsletter Archives for the last three years are accessible on this website. If you get a chance, log on to the AMDA web and check the January Edition of 2009. It is obvious that there were issues then as there are now, and one of them had to do with the mix of the club hunts. For those who do not have ready access to the web, the 2008 chart is included for reference below; the 2009 data is added at the right.

YEAR	04	05	06	07	08	09
Park Hunts	3	2	2	3	2	5
Ghost Towns	5	3	3	2	1	2
Belen Dump		3	2	1	2	
Torrance County			2		2	1
Ski Resorts	2	1		1	1	1
Private Land		1		2		
State Fair Grounds			1			
Valencia County						
Fair Grounds					1	
Socorro Dump						1
Pecos River				1		
Drive-In					1	
Total	10	10	10	10	10	10

In addition to the monthly park hunts (2 at Hyder Park, 1 each at Roosevelt, UNM Johnson Field, and Balloon Fiesta Park), there was a Special Hunt at Menaul School, and several Hunt for Halves activities at additional local parks where halves were planted. The Annual Hunt does not show in the tables above; traditionally held in the Oak Flats Picnic Area south of Tijeras.



Tom & Chris Murray



Richard Ruble & Guest



Albert Lopez



Cameron, Donna, & Colin
Crawford



Dwayne Argaud & Linda Solomon



Sylvia & Jim Westmoreland



John Mead & Guest



Tony, Vinson & Patrick Costillo



Vera & Dan Rossbach



Dick & Julie King



Gary Tom



Alan Veitch



Virginia & Mickey Cone



Betty Veitch



Ray & Sharon Alexander

Christmas Party Roll-Call

CHRISTMAS PARTY AT FURR'S CAFETERIA

AMDA members shown and families enjoyed the Holiday Party which takes the place of the December meeting on the second Monday of the month. The party was held at Furr's Cafeteria on Wyoming, and anyone who went home hungry had only themselves to blame! Mickey Cone presided over the meeting, while Julie King welcomed guests and collected the portion of the meal cost not paid by the club from each guest. The standard gift exchange followed the meal, and Ray Alexander maintained the official 'bean count', as Colin Crawford guessed the closest to the number of beans in the large jar [2045] (numbers are approximate) and Jim Westmoreland guessed the closest to the number of beans in the small jar [1138]. Colin found a \$20 bill in the top of the jar he won, and Jim found a \$10 bill in his. Second place awards were made in both categories. After good victuals, and the gift exchange, table decorations were distributed among the members based on a randomly selected number start and the sign in roster. Everybody who attended had a good time!

CHALLENGES FOR 2010

The new year will bring AMDA new challenges. We have new leadership and new focuses on activities. One of our challenges will be to expand membership and to extend the joy of metal detecting to kids and young adults. Those of us who have hunted for over ten years would certainly agree that metal detecting can be a life long passion and pastime. While most youngsters who play baseball or hockey will not carry those sports into adulthood, golf, tennis, music and metal detecting are among those things that can bring nearly lifelong enjoyment. We need to share our enjoyment with the adults of tomorrow, since metal detecting is affordable and with diligence, we can protect our ability to enjoy the sport by making sure we police those who would not fill holes or abuse the sport by ignoring the rights of others. Metal detecting is a fragile sport as evidenced by growing restrictions in populated areas. It is up to use to keep from providing reasons to restrict the opportunity.

There was no monthly hunt in December as is tradition, therefore there is no report on a December monthly hunt.

Tom Murray reports there are no minutes from the December Christmas Party. Meeting minutes and treasurer's report will be picked up in January

Treasure Hunter's Code of Ethics

1. NEVER TRESPASS. Always obtain permission prior to entering private property or mineral claims.
 2. FILL ALL HOLES, regardless how remote the location, and never dig in a way that will damage or be damaging to property.
 3. NEVER DESTROY priceless historical or archaeological treasures.
 4. DO NOT build fires, camp or park in non-designated or restricted areas.
 5. LEAVE all gates and other accesses to land as found.
 6. NEVER LITTER. Always pack out what you take in, and remove all trash dug in your search.
 7. DO NOT damage, deface, destroy, or vandalize any property (including ghost towns and deserted structures). Never tamper with any equipment at the site.
 8. RESPECT AND UPHOLD all finders, search and salvage agreements.
 9. ABIDE by all laws – national, state, county and local.
 10. ALL METAL-DETECTORISTS AND TREASURE HUNTERS ARE JUDGED BY THE EXAMPLE YOU SET.
- Conduct yourself with courtesy and consideration for others.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR ANNUAL HUNT.

Site Links (AMDA Website) <http://www.amdaclub.com>

(1) On-line Treasure Magazine:

American Digger Magazine <http://www.americandigger.com/>

Lost Treasure <http://www.losttreasure.com/>

Western & Eastern Treasures <http://www.treasurenet.com/westeast/>

(2) Metal Detector Manufactures:

Garrett Metal Detectors <http://www.garrett.com/>

Minelab Metal Detectors <http://www.minelabusa.com/>

White's Metal Detectors <http://www.whiteelectronics.com/>

(3) Interest Links:

Mama's Minerals <http://www.mamasminerals.com/>

