

Metal Detective Monthly

Newsletter April 2007 Albuquerque Metal Detector Association

What a Speaker!!!

Wow! Was our April meeting's guest speaker amazing – or what?!? While I didn't know exactly what to expect, I know I was absolutely flabbergasted at his presentation. If you weren't able to make it to the April meeting, it was nothing short of phenomenal.

Jerry, also known as, 'Doc Rock', shared with us his experiences of years of privy digging. Not only did he have some great stories to tell, he even brought visual aids including bottles, pictures – even a mammoth tooth!

In his presentation, Jerry included useful tips for finding privies – such things as tapping the ground with a sledge hammer head to find 'hollow' sounding ground, using a probe to maximum benefit, checking maps (particularly Sanborn maps) to narrow down the search, following trails and telegraph lines to homesteads (and the associated privies).

Jerry is also knowledgeable about fossils, meteorites and rocks and minerals. I'm hoping we can get him to join us if we ever make another trek to our meteorite hunting area.

For those of you who missed it this time around, I'm hoping we can have Jerry back at least once or twice every year. We might have a Whatzit? Session where Jerry joins us for a meeting and members and guests bring in their unidentified items for his perusal. I think it would be quite a lot of fun and I have little doubt Jerry could shed some light on some of our many 'mystery' finds.

A big thanks is due to Jim for bringing Jerry to give our club such a special presentation! Jim is also looking into providing us with a speaker who hunts gold nuggets with a metal detector.

Thanks Jim!

Thanks Jerry!

Disappointing Turnout For April Hunt May Signal Need for Change

First, the report provided by Julie, our Find of the Month Judge:

Hi Phillip. My report for the AMDA April 15th, 2007 hunt will be short as only 5 members attended this hunt. Members were Mike Reddy, Chuck Teyssier, Mickey Cone, Robert W. Wilson, SR and Julie King. Not much found worth reporting. However, Mickey found an old lock (door or chest), 2 buttons, brick pieces with writing on them and a old (??) shell casing. Julie had a Levi Straus /co. SF, Calif. The weather was nice and the hike in and out wore a couple of us out but the trip was worth it since it was a new area to us. ---end report --- Julie FOTMJ

While there could have been many reasons for such a small turnout, our Saturday hunts have been quite large the last several months. Several have suggested to me that we go to all Saturday hunts. I am very much in favor of this but this should be a decision of the club – not of just one person. Expect a 'show of hands' vote at the May and June meetings. If enough are supportive, the club will finish this year and possibly future years with hunts all on Saturdays. Be thinking about this!

Special Hunt

The race is still on for the special hunt. If I'm not mistaken (I'm sure someone will correct me if I am!), these are the totals thus far: Julie – 3 halves, Terry, Mike K. and Dan each have 1 half. I know that Julie is an amazingly energetic hunter, but I'm still hoping this will not be a runaway!

It seems the last park we hid the halves in may offer something more of a challenge. Not only do you search for the halves, you have to dodge the homeless people milling about. Actually, we encountered none of these while we were planting the halves. I was totally surprised when Terry suggested on the website that it might be a problem.

Sooo.... I'm encouraging those who hunt this park not to go alone and to be aware of your surroundings while you hunt. I want these special hunts to be fun – not risky! Don't forget, the winner of this 'competition' will become the owner of a **4-ounce silver bar** in addition to the other goodies they find while searching!

I want to remind everyone to check the website often for new places to look for the special hunt halves. Why, I'm feeling the need to hide some very soon!

Who Am I?

This one is visual!



Who do you think the young feller on the right might be? Have your guesses ready for the May meeting.

Annual Hunt Donations

Betty, generous as always, got the ball rolling on donations to the annual hunt. Our donation jar is no longer empty. Let's see if we can fill that sucker up! Remember that all this will go directly to improving the annual hunt, along with the raffles and the aluminum can collection. So donate big and donate often!

Bragging Rights

Coins: Mike R. 1876 Quarter

Jewelry: Terry E. Black Onyx Ring

Misc.: Terry E. April Fool's coin

Congratulations to the bragging rights winners. It was awfully nice to have such a wide selection of items available for our voting. Keep up the good work, folks!

*Albuquerque Metal Detector Association
Monthly Meeting
April 10, 2007*

Meeting called to order: 6:35 p.m.

Corrections to the newsletter minutes: None

Motion to approve the minutes: Betty V. Seconded: Chuck T.

Visitors: Virginia Kinsky, Rick and Barbara Dwyer

Booklets are available on metal detector skills, it is slanted toward Garrett products.

Treasurer's Report – Reported by Bob Mc

Motion to approve the report: Betty V. Seconded: Terry E.

Old Business

No new information from Terry E. on the owner of the High School ring.

The hidden ½ dollars will different markings each time they are hidden

Members finding the most ½ dollars will receive a 4 oz silver bar. The current park where the money is hidden is Netherwood Park.

We are looking for people who can speak at our meetings. If you know of anyone please let Phillip C. know so that he can plan accordingly. Jim G. may have someone who has nugget hunted with metal detectors.

Magazines are available in the back for people who would like to pick them up. Please return them when you have read them so that others can enjoy the magazines when you have read them.

Mikey C. explained the idea for advertising the club through the use of metal tags that would be buried in parks around town. The tags would have club information and a prize to be redeemed when they attend one of the meetings.

Guest Speaker – Jerry S.

Subject: Privy Digging.

Jerry is a geologist and can identify rocks, and meteorites. Feel free to talk to him about your finds.

Research an area before going to the site. Walk along old trails that lead to the old homesteads, and follow telegraph lines.

How to find privies? Look for ash pits, trash pits, and gopher piles. Check the dirt and around dug up tree roots.

Use a sledge hammer pointing down to find where the grounds sounds hollow. This means the ground has likely been disturbed.

Use a probe for sounding. Probe and see what signs you have on the probe. Sounding is very important. It can tell you what is below the surface. On the probe, use a sampler to determine what is below the ground. Use a 3/8" rod for probing. Jerry has found bottles, a powder flask, a church offering plate, tokens and coins.

Jerry recommends a 1/4 screen for sifting.

Break at 8:06 p.m. Meeting called back to order at 8:32 p.m.

Question for Jerry on research. Jerry said, most town sites have problems with wild fires because they were all made of wood. In the 1870's Sanborn Insurance maps were printed which showed where buildings were located. UNM Centennial Library also has maps available.

Bragging Rights

<i>Coins</i>	<i>Mike R.</i>	<i>1876 Quarter</i>
<i>Jewelry</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>	<i>Black Onyx Ring</i>
<i>Misc.</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>	<i>April Fool's coin</i>

Raffle

<i>1907 Barber Dime</i>	<i>Phillip C.</i>	
<i>1943 war nickel</i>	<i>Allen V.</i>	
<i>1922 Peace Dollar</i>	<i>Jim G.</i>	
<i>Purple bag pick</i>	<i>Betty V.</i>	<i>personal fan</i>
<i>Green bag pick</i>	<i>Jim G.</i>	<i>Polished stones from Silver Dollar City</i>

Monthly Hunt – April 15, 2007 Fraley Ghost Town

www.amdaclub.com

The What's New message board is getting some pretty good action from people searching for the Special Hunt halves. Be sure to check the "Members Only" section often for new Special Hunt locations. Then post your successes / experiences on the message board. (Just be sure **NOT** to include the name of the park in which the marked halves are hidden. I want these special hunts to be for our club members only – **NOT** for everyone who visits our website.) Also, since many of the ski areas will be coming available for detecting in the very near future, watch this area for announcements of any impromptu group trips to these areas. It's always more fun going as a group. (More people to show off your exciting finds to!)

Special PiX

Remember when we kept track of our totals last year? Let me show all of you what George has gathered in the last six years – first the pennies:



And next, the nickels, dimes and quarters!



They say a picture is worth a thousand words.
These pictures show George with his almost \$1800
found over the last six years.

WOW!!!

Reminders:

Aluminum: Allan Veitch collects aluminum from club members to benefit the Annual Hunt. Please bring your cans and other aluminum scraps in bags to each meeting for Allan (or Betty) to pick up.

Center use: Please remember to bring non-perishable food items to donate to the center in exchange for our use of the facility.

Monthly hunts (Saturday unless noted otherwise)

May 12

June 16

July 15 (Sunday)

August 18 (Annual Hunt - Saturday)

September 15

October 14 (Sunday)

November 17

December 15

Treasury report:

TREASURER'S REPORT

MONTHLY REPORT AS OF: April 10, 2007

	Expenses	Income	
Beginning Balance			\$781.28
INCOME:			
Membership Dues		\$90.00	
Raffle Ticket Sales		\$68.00	
Club Hats/Shirts		\$32.00	
Donations			
FMDAC Memberships to be paid		\$15.00	
New Income		<u>\$205.00</u>	
	Sub Total		<u>\$986.28</u>
EXPENSES:			
February Hunt Food	-\$43.19		
Silver for Raffles (Phillip Chappell)	-\$27.50		
Web Site			
fee Fee	-\$71.70		
Deluxe Checks	-\$15.35		
	Sub Total	<u>-\$157.74</u>	
Ending Balance			<u>\$828.54</u>

Vacancies!?!

Look at the list of officers below – and especially note the large number of “VACANT” slots. Folks, this should not be! Everybody needs to contribute something of their time or effort for this club to work well. Please consider replacing one of those vacant slots with your name and let me or one of the officers know.

AMDA 2006 Officers

President	Phillip Chappell
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Dan Salazar
Treasurer	Bob McNicol
Newsletter Editor	Phillip Chappell
Prize Official	Vacant
Finds Judge	Julie King

Executive Committee:

3-year	Terry Ellis (2 nd year) Chuck Tessiyer (2 nd year)
2-year	Betty Veitch (2 nd year) Julie King (1 st year)
1-year	Vacant

Purpose of our club:

Maintain and support a club to further the interests of its members in historic artifacts. Compile, record and preserve historic data. Recover lost or hidden relics and artifacts. Provide recreational activity and the companionship of its members. Provide a service to the community in finding lost items of value and importance.

Meetings:

AMDA meets at 6:30 pm the second Tuesday of each month at Los Griegos Center, 1231 Candelaria NW. For more information, call Phillip Chappell at (505)363-4694.

Treasure Hunters Code of Ethics

1. Never Trespass. Always obtain permission prior to entering private property or mineral claims.
2. Fill all holes. Regardless of location and never dig in a way that will or may damage 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.

ALL METAL DETECTORISTS AND TREASURE HUNTERS ARE JUDGED BY YOUR EXAMPLE. Conduct yourself with courtesy and consideration for others.

Dan Salazar has been kind enough to offer to print off multiple copies to distribute at our meetings. Thanks Dan!!!