

# Metal Detective Monthly

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March Newsletter 2007 Albuquerque Metal Detector Association

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## Great March Meeting!!!

As predicted in the January newsletter, this year is shaping up into a dandy with all sorts of new and exciting things going on. The special hunt seems to be going well, although at the time of this writing, there is one of the marked halves yet to be found. We had a guest speaker provide us with a tremendous presentation on meteorites. We have another guest speaker coming to our April meeting to give us the 'low-down', as it were, on privy digging.

We also had eight – make that **EIGHT!** – visitors! Almost a third of the attendees for the meeting were visiting with us. And THREE later became members!!! That's quite a good sign in my humble opinion. I would like nothing better than to see the membership of our club double within the year. I definitely think it can be done.

Since I no longer include the President's Corner section of the newsletter, I will take this opportunity to wax eloquent on things we can do as a club to continue to grow in numbers.

- New members will be encouraged toward assisting in the club if they see the present members actively participating. While we don't have a huge problem (at present) with that, you can be sure that anything you can do to show that you are working to be a valuable member of the club will pay off in spades when it comes to soliciting volunteers for future projects.

- Although we have some pretty lofty purposes for the club listed in the club's bylaws, I think the most basic function of our club should be to provide fun and fellowship in an enjoyable hobby. I personally think we have a great time at the meetings and the hunts.
  - Continuing to 'brainstorm' to come up with new and fun things for the club to do as a group will undoubtedly draw new members and encourage the present membership to remain active in the club. . I think Mickey's idea of hiding targets with club info on them is a great one. The hope would be that other metal detector users in the area would find them and seek out our club.
  - Our website has been a tremendous 'shot in the arm' for the club. It has brought us visitors that otherwise would not have known that such an organization as ours even exists. Active participation on the message board will show others that things are happening in our club worth noting.
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## Guest Speaker to be at April Meeting

Thanks to the efforts of Jim Garcia, we will have another guest speaker at our April meeting. Jim told me that his buddy is an experienced privy digger that will tell us all about this intriguing hobby. This should be the presentation that we were hoping for at the February meeting. Information will include finding the privies, finds to be expected and safety issues.

This should be a very informative presentation. If you know of anyone interested in getting more information on this fascinating hobby please feel free to invite them to join us at the meeting. My presentation at the February meeting on this subject was little more than a quickly researched covering of a matter of which I knew very little. Be sure to come take advantage of hearing from a seasoned privy digger. Should be great!

# Future Topics

## (some still in the works)

I've been considering some possible future topics for our meetings. Thus far our members and the website have helped produce some great presentations and more are in the works. Let me list some that we have going and some for which I need speakers/tapes/DVDs.

1. Gold panning / nugget shooting. While gold panning is not typically considered the best domain of the metal detector, I know that detectors are sometimes used to locate gold bearing ore and nuggets. If anyone has any connections with the local gold hunters, please let me know so I can see about a possible presentation.
2. Park hunting. While almost everyone in our club does at least some coin-shooting in the parks and playgrounds, I think some reminders for some of us seasoned veterans and some pointers for the newer folks might be invaluable. Information might include: Target recovery from sand, sod and wood chips; possible 'hot spots' in hunted areas; how to deal with kids, dogs, 'lookie-loos' etc.; areas to avoid and the like.
3. Coin cleaning. While many of us remember Angie's excellent demo of electrolysis for cleaning coins, I would like to see at least one presentation each year on how to prevent damage to valuable coins (both in recovery and cleaning), how to clean large numbers of coins and materials used in these processes.
4. Presentation plaques. Mike Reddy or Marty Hrivnak would be splendid for this one. We've all seen very nice examples of Mike's work and many should remember Marty's presentation on making some excellent shadow-box type displays. He made some real beauties for some of his finds. Both (and others with similar talents) would be welcome to show us how to work magic with displaying our better finds.
5. Research. I'm seeing this more and more as the real key to finding great areas to hunt. The internet has made research much more easily accessible to most everyone. What to search for, how to do the search, how to narrow and broaden your searches. All of these could be covered. I'd also like to see information provided on what to look for in aerial photography.

These are just a few topics which would be valuable to our membership. If you would like to do one of these presentations or know anyone knowledgeable in these areas that would be willing to make a presentation to our group, please let me know.

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## Special Hunt

I hope you'll forgive me gloating somewhat over the apparent success of the special hunt. As mentioned earlier, at the time of this writing there is still one marked half yet to be found in ?????????? on the west side. Actually, I found it then replaced it. I just wanted in on the fun of hunting for it and to see what other stuff I might find. I really have no intention of competing for the **4ounce silver bar**. I found a couple of bucks in change, one costume jewelry ring and a bullet casing.

I just love that Dan 'Chick Magnet' Salazar and Bob 'Lord of the Rings' McNicol (he's found over 50 rings in the last year) came up with clues to go with the halves they've hidden. Great idea, guys! I'm looking for more great stuff from you in the future.

It's also cool what other stuff is being found in these parks while hunters are looking for the marked halves. It's interesting that Julie has found at least one unmarked half in each park she's searched thus far. Also, Terry's class ring find is significant. I'm hoping for an update from Terry regarding finding and returning the class ring at our next meeting! I'm sure whoever lost it will be pretty excited about getting their ring back some 18 years after they first got it!

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!

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## Newsletter Format

I'm still experimenting with how best to write and present the newsletter. January's newsletter was done with Microsoft Word – like this one. February's was done in my email's text editor. I'll probably be using the Word version from now on as it gives me much better flexibility in writing and storing newsletters. I'll be cutting and pasting this into my text

editor in my email program as well as attaching a Word document for those who wish to print out a copy as it was originally written. I will also be posting a 'sanitized' version for visitors to our website. I'm still hoping for input from others in the club for distribution through the newsletter. Include anything you like – opinions, items for sale, web-links, whatever.... I'll be happy to include any and all of it in the newsletter.

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## Annual Hunt Donations

First, I'd like to thank Robert Wilson for getting the ball rolling in donating to the annual hunt. His George Washington dollars should add some exciting finds to the annual hunt. Donations can be items to be presented as targets or prizes or cash to be used for purchasing prizes. Sadly our donation jar left the meeting last month the same way it came in – empty. I'll be putting a little 'seed money' in it next month to help get the ball rolling. 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!

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## Magazines

Shortly after Terry Easterly left our club, he donated a very large pile of treasure magazines for us to enjoy and share. While I've no doubt that those who got some of those magazines have enjoyed reading them, I've not seen much in the way of sharing them. Please bring any magazines you've enjoyed to the April meeting and trade them so that others may enjoy them as well.

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## Bragging Rights

Coins: John Pinkston 1866-shield nickel

Jewelry: Terry Ellis-class ring

Misc.: Terry Ellis big metal coin from Dept of Army

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!

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### **March 13, 2007 Minutes of Meeting**

*Meeting call to order: 6:47 PM*

*Did everybody get their newsletter?*

*Any corrections to the newsletter? Misc. on the Bragging Rights should have been Robert Wilson instead of Bob McNicol. Motion to accept minutes---Robert W. 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Garcia.*

*Visitors: Jack Robertson, Richard Bell, Micheal Kinsky, Mike Montoya, Joe Espita, Ray Apodoca, Vincent Roselli, Vince Roselli.*

*An explanation about FMDAC from Phillip.*

*Treasurer's Report- Bob McNicol—Motion to accept Treasurer's report—1<sup>st</sup> by Terry Ellis 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck T.*

*Please sign up for snacks for future Meetings*

*No Old Business*

*New Business—2007 FMDAC Spring Hunt...see flyer*

*Mickey-donated tags to club for hidden finds. Mickey suggested to hide tags in ground and have the club stamp on them and whoever finds these hidden tags bring them to monthly meeting for prizes to be given.*

*Robert Wilson donated President coins for Annual Hunt.*

*Donation Jar is in place for Annual Hunt*

*Jack gave talk on meteorites—he gave out handout sheets on meteorites and advised about a book named “Rocks from Space” and “Meteorite Basics. Jack explained how meteorites can be found all over, he explained the different types of meteorites iron, stony and stony iron these are the 3 main types. All have iron and nickel. UNM has one of the best laboratories for meteorites. The value of a meteorite can be from \$1000 per gram to a few dollars a pound. The most valuable are from the moon or Mars. Where to look/*

*Glorietta, desert, salt flats. You can research meteorites on the Internet at various websites. Things you need to hunt meteorites are metal detector, look for unusual rocks, magnet, GPS, something to dig with. Make sure you document where you find the meteorite. Other items used, digital camera, eye loop, and permission for searching private land.*

*BREAK 7:45 PM Return at 8:10 PM*

*Readjourned at 8:20 PM*

*The Saturday hunt 3/17/07 will be for meteorites at a location west of Rio Rancho. We will meet at 7:15 AM at Burger King in Rio Rancho. Leave at 8:00AM Head phones are required. Phillip will lead us to hunt site.*

*This month Terry Ellis and Dan Salazar found the 1/2 dollars at the park.*

*Bragging Rights—Coins-John Pinkston 1866-shield nickel—Jewelry-Terry Ellis-class ring—Misc.-Terry Ellis big metal coin from Dept of Army.*

*Raffle-1909 Vnickel-Chuck T. 1902 Barber dime-Mickey C. 1945swalking Liberty-Robert Wilson 1922 Peace Dollar-Jim G.*

*Robert Wilson picked the green bag with a Lincoln/Kennedy penny*

*Lucille Ellis picked the purple bag with the 1967 coin set.*

*Motion to adjourn meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Robert W. and 2<sup>nd</sup> by David R. 8:37 PM*

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## **March Monthly Hunt – ????????????**

Hi Phillip. Here is my report on AMDA Hunt - 17 March 2007 - Meteorite Hunt - west of Rio Rancho. Attendance: 19 members - 2 guests as follows: Phillip Chappell, Chuck Teyssier, Bob McNicol, Dan Salazar, Terry & Lucille Ellis, Gary & Cheri Tom, Dick & Julie King, David & Darlene Rogers, Dwayne & Linda Argaud, Mike Kinsky, Mickey Cone, Jim Garcia, John Pinkston, Cole Smith, Bud Alexander and Mike Reddy.

Another fun hunt, Phillip, and Thanks to Mike Reddy for getting the permission to hunt this site for meteorites, fossils, etc. Nice weather, vistas beautiful and a FUN time.

Finds as follows:

Phillip - fossils, desert rose, button, bullets.

Chuck - fossils  
Bob - petrified wood  
Dick - long nail, rock crystals  
Jim - rocks  
Mickey - 40lb rock (?), squirrel skull, crystals, dirt (wise guy ) [Judge's comment – smile]  
Lucille - shell fossil, petrified wood  
Terry - spring, wire snare, pull tab, petrified wood  
Cheri - 1998 quarter, rocks w/crystals  
Gary - rock crystals  
David & Darlene - mystery piece - meteorite??, petrified wood & turtle shell (piece).  
John - ??  
Dan - petrified wood, rocks and " Leprechaun Ear" [another wise guy – smile]  
Mike K - rocks  
Cole - arrow head - neat  
Bud - cowtooth, bullet (projectile)  
Dwayne & Linda - ??  
Mike R. - crystals  
Julie - crystals, petrified wood and desert rose.  
\*\*\*\*\* End Report\*\*\*\*\* Julie FOTMJ

*Note from Phillip: Although we didn't all return with our pouches full of \$1000 per gram meteorites, I think everyone had an enjoyable time. The weather was just perfect and crystals, fossils and petrified wood were plentiful!*

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[www.amdaclub.com](http://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 websites.) 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!)

## **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)

April 15 (Sunday)

May 12

June 16

July 15 (Sunday)

August 18 (Annual Hunt - Saturday)

September 15

October 14 (Sunday)

November 17

December 15

### Refreshment Schedule:

April – Gary & Cherie

## **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 <sup>nd</sup> year) Chuck Tessiyer (2 <sup>nd</sup> year)
2-year	Betty Veitch (2 <sup>nd</sup> year) Julie King (1 <sup>st</sup> 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.

## 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!!!