



THE LEAVERITE NEWS



February, 2015

Rusk County Treasure Hunters Association * Henderson, Texas

Member of Texas Association of Metal Detector Clubs (TAMDC)

2015 RCTHA OFFICERS

President - Michael Heim (903) 241-4723
Treasurer – Mary Hurlburt (903) 445-9591
Hunt Master – Wayne Adkison (903) 928-9135
Board Member – Larry Wilkerson (903) 720-4808

Vice President – Rick Hurlburt (903) 445-9691
Secretary - JoAnn Dunn (903) 392-3575
Board Member – Keith Wills (903) 734-7773

Meeting Place: South Main Church of Christ (back parking lot building) 402 S. Main St. Henderson, TX
Meeting Time: 7:00 P.M. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Visitors welcome.
Email Contact: michaelheim39@gmail.com or rcthaclub@aol.com

Where Have the Silver Coins Gone?

By: Keith Wills

This is question I'm often asked and many times accused of finding them all, since I started metal detecting for those old coins some 45 years ago in this area. Yes, I remember those days where my father and I would hunt together and find sometimes as many as 20 silver coins each that day, but those days are memories. For today, with the increase of the many in our beloved hobby, pockets of lost silver coins are very hard to find, but not impossible.

I have found like some others that research will allow me to find those long lost sites where folks gathered and lost their silver from their pockets. It is usually sites where nothing is remaining that would show there once stood a town, or school, or saw mill, or better. Here in Northeast Texas, the woods are full of such sites, but if you never learn to search for them, talk to ole' timers or do the research in your local libraries or old newspapers, then you may never find such sites that produce that wonderful old silver coins.



Keith Wills on HWY. 300

Sure you can still get lucky every now and then and search those out-laying areas that many may not had taken time to look over well and still put out an old silver coin or two yet. I have done it many times even in the hunted-out schools yards around town, but they come far apart in comparison to the many pull tabs and junk

you may dig. To find that silver you must find those sites so well hidden that a treasure hunter driving by it would never know it was once a grand site and folks gathered there regular. Or, you learn to hunt the one site that still gives up the silver over and over again, yet is being covered up by junk every day- the in-town home site.



Many times I have drove up and down the neighborhoods of the older parts of towns and look for new construction or homes vacated along the way. I will try to find permission and hunt these old house sites and use my experience with my detector to see through the junk and pull out the silver below it. It is not always how deep your detector will find items, but it is how well you know your detector so to understand what it tells you about the next target it finds. If your one of those that changes detectors frequently, then you may have a tough time finding that silver buried in these old yards and house places. If you own a smooth operating detector with ample depth, then learn that detector—work with

it so you can understand what the signals it makes is trying to tell you. It really works, for I have seen old guys with 20-year-old detectors run circles around the less experienced hunter with the \$1200.00 detector.

Take the time to learn and do some research and talk to the ole’ timers out there. Then you’ll start finding those lost silver coins you have been looking for all these years. They were under your feet all this time and you missed them.

Keith Wills, Owner
East Texas Metal Detectors
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1495 FM 49
Gilmer, Texas 75644
(903) 734-7773

Happy hunting and keep your coil to the soil because you never know what you might find next.

Michael L. Heim, President RCTHA

If you would like to submit an article, story, or pictures of your adventures in metal detecting to “The Leaverite News” please submit to michaelheim39@gmail.com by the 1st of each month.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Fuzzy Harmon

Nick Grisham

Earl Norad

RCTHA CALENDAR EVENTS

(dates are subject to change)

RCTHA Night Hunt (club outing)	February 21 st @ the Hurlburt's Place
ETTHA 4 th Annual Piney Woods Relic Hunt	March 7 th
TAMDC Convention	April 10-12, Longview, TX
RCTHA Club Auction	April 14 th , to raise money for Spring Silver Hunt
RCTHA Flag Hunt (club outing)	April 18 th
ETTHA Spring Silver Hunt	April 25 th @ Terry Smith's Home
RCTHA Spring Silver Hunt	May 16 th @ the Dunn's Place
WWATS Rendezvous Hunt	May 22-24, Antlers, OK
RCTHA Wounded Warrior Service Project	June
RCTHA Land & Water Hunt	July 25 th @ Lake Gladewater
WWATS Rendezvous Hunt	Aug. 20-23, Durango, CO
RCTHA Club Auction	Sept. 8 th , to raise money for the Fall Silver Hunt
RCTHA Fall Silver Hunt	Oct. 17 th @ Eastside Baptist Church, Henderson
RCTHA 21 Hunt (club outing)	Nov. 14 th

2015 Club Service Projects:

Food Boxes: Bring can foods and non-perishable food items to each club meeting for food boxes to be donated by the club during the 2015 holidays.

Trash Buckets: Don't throw away your metal trash after you're through detecting. Separate your aluminum, brass, copper and lead items and bring them to the club meetings and place in RCTHA Buckets. At the end of the year we will cash all the metals in and give a gift certificate for a kidney dialysis.

Wounded Warrior: More information will be given later

PARK TOKENS REPORT

NOTE: Tokens are now placed in Longview's, Fluellen Park on Judson Road across from Posados Mexican Restaurant, Kilgore City Park, and Eastside Baptist Church in Henderson. There are 8-9 tokens in each park and are good for either silver dollars, silver halves, silver quarters or silver dimes. There will be a time at each monthly club meeting in exchange for silver coins.

Park	Tokens	Found	Remaining	Special Tokens
Fluellen Park, Longview	8	0	0	1
City Park, Kilgore	8	0	0	1
EBC, Henderson	9	0	0	1

WINNERS of the FINDS OF THE MONTH – January 2015



Coin-	1st	Tom Moss	1893 V Nickel
	2nd	Michael Heim	1882 Indian Head Penny
	3rd	Wayne Adkison	1897 Indian Head Penny
Jewelry-	1st	Michael Heim	Silver Chain Link Ring
	2nd	Heart Necklace	Joel Barton
	3rd	Wayne Adkison	Silver Plated Ring
Token-	1st	Michael Heim	1921 German Sawmill Token
	2nd	Rick Hurlburt	Longview Election Token
	3rd	Wayne Adkison	Gilmer Sawmill Token
Relic-	1st	Tom Moss	Sheriff Badge
	2nd	Rick Hurlburt	WW1 Military Button
	3rd	Michael Heim	1909 Model T Ford Valve Stem Cover
Judges Choice-	1st	John Ramsey	Slave Medicine Coin
	2nd	Tom Moss	Republic of Texas Coin
	3rd	Joel Barton	Cross

* Consolation Winner- Michael Heim Coin Spill (1908, 1912 V Nickels; 3 1916 Buffalo Nickels)

* The Consolation Winner in the *Finds of the Month* is determined by the Hunt Master and 2 Board Members. This is an award given to a person whose object in the *Finds of the Month* did not get voted on, for whatever reason, but was worthy of a win. The Consolation Winner will earn no points for the Digger of the Year competition.

RCTHA Leading Diggers: Leading diggers will change from month to month based on the points given with each win from the *Finds of the Month* competition. These points will determine in December who will be the *Digger of the Year*.

Tom Moss	21 Points	8 wins
Michael Heim	14 Points	6 wins
Rick Hurlburt	5 Points	3 wins
Wayne Adkison	5 Points	4 wins
Joel Barton	4 Points	3 wins
Mike Ross	3 Points	2 wins

RCTHA Rules for "Finds of the Month"

- 1) To enter any item(s) in the **Finds of the Month** you must be a member of RCTHA and club dues must be current for the year.

- 2) Finds of the month consist of what you have dug or found while metal detecting from the club meeting of the previous month to the current club meeting. For example, you cannot use an item that you found in June 2013 to be placed in January 2014. Finds of January 2014 must be found between club meeting in December 2013 and club meeting in January 2014. Only finds found from the monthly meeting until the next monthly meeting will qualify for the Finds of the Month. **Finds of the Months can only be used once.**
- 3) Any item in any category may be removed by the Hunt Master and one other Board Member or Officer at their discretion if the item does not comply with the Finds of the Month rules. Only one item per member for each of the categories will qualify.
- 4) Any bottle found while in the process of metal detecting on the surface of the ground needs to be placed in the JUDGE'S CHOICE category. All other bottles dug while metal detecting is to be placed in the RELICS or JUDGE'S CHOICE categories. If placed in RELICS, it must be 75 years old or older.
- 5) If you find multiple items of the same category, the first one must go in the applicable category. The additional item(s) can be placed in JUDGE'S CHOICE or RELICS. If placed in RELICS it must be 75 years old or older.
- 6) Pictures and descriptive materials may be substituted for an item if the item is unavailable for display.
- 7) **You must be present at the club meetings** to submit your finds for The Finds of the Month.

FIND OF THE YEAR: Only items entered in the "Finds of the Month" and winning **first place** during the year may be entered in the Find of the Year competition. This runs December through November each year and the Board members will elect and announce the winner during the December club meeting.

DIGGER OF THE YEAR: The Digger of the Year Award will be determined by total amount of points won from the years Finds of the Month competition. First Place = 3 Points, Second Place = 2 Points and Third Place= 1 Point. There will be a monthly score sheet listed in the newsletter who the leading digger is.

COINS: Must be dug while in the process of metal detecting. No coins found in planted competition hunts or won by previous wins in the Finds of the Month can be used in this category. If more than one coin is found, one coin must be placed in the COINS category. Additional coins may be placed in JUDGE'S CHOICE of any date or in the RELICS category if it is 75 years old or older.

JEWELRY: Must be dug while in the process of metal detecting. No jewelry found in planted competition hunts can be used in this category. If more than one piece of jewelry is found, one piece of jewelry must be placed in the JEWELRY category. Additional pieces of jewelry may be placed in JUDGE'S CHOICE or RELICS if it is 75 years old or older.

TOKENS: Must be dug while in the process of metal detecting. No tokens found in planted competition hunts can be used in this category. If more than one token is found, one token must be placed in the TOKENS category. Additional tokens may be placed in JUDGE'S CHOICE or RELICS if it is 75 years old or older.

RELICS: Anything 75 years old or older and must be dug while in the process of metal detecting. No items found in planted competition hunts can be used in this category.

JUDGE'S CHOICE: Anything dug while in the process of metal detecting, bottles, relics, additional coins, additional jewelry and additional tokens. No items found in planted competition hunts can be used in this category.

TICKETS, BINGO CARDS & SPLIT the POT DRAWING

Each month we will have tickets and Bingo Cards (every other month) sales to raise funds for the club. Tickets and BINGO cards are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. You can buy tickets for the following:

Coins- there will be 3 drawings each club meeting for quality coins and sometimes even a gold coin.

Quarterly Giveaway- each quarter we will have a drawing for great prizes such as detectors, silver bars and coins and other items.

Bingo Cards- every other month we will have Bingo Night during the time allotted for a speaker. The cards are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. There will be nice quality prizes to be won.

Split the Pot Drawing- write your name or initials on a \$1 bill, or as many as you like, and place in the bucket and at the close of the meeting we will draw for a winner. If we draw your name you win and split the pot with the club.

Last Month's Ticket Winners:

Ticket Drawings:

Park Tokens:

Gold Coin Drawing:

Split the Pot Drawing:

METAL DETECTOR'S CODE OF ETHICS

1. Respect the rights and property of others
2. Do not detect without the land owner's permission
3. Observe all laws, whether National, State, or Local
4. Aid Law Enforcement Officials whenever possible
5. Never destroy historical or archeological structures
6. Never destroy, damage or deface public or private property, or what is left of ghost towns or deserted structures
7. Leave land and vegetation as it was
8. Remove and properly dispose of all trash and litter when you leave
9. Leave gates and enclosures as found
10. Do not tamper with land owner signs, structural facilities, or equipment
11. Take precautions when digging towards a target where underground conditions are unknown.
12. You may be judged by the example you set so always be courteous with consideration for others.
13. ALWAYS COVER YOUR HOLES!





NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

March 10th @ 7:00 p.m., 402 South Main, Henderson, TX.

Speaker: Member Earl Norad

-RUSK COUNTY TRESURE HUNTERS ASSOCIATION-



K.G. and Ringy will be the guest speakers at the T.A.M.D.C Show April 10-12, 2015 @ the Maude Cobb Center in Longview.

Watch the brand new season of *Diggers* on the National Geographic Channel. Follow the "Ringmaster" Tim and "King George" on another exciting season of *Diggers*!

Check out Season 3 new episodes starting Wednesday, February 25 at 8 pm ET/PT.