

# THE SILVER SIGNAL

[www.lonestartreasure.com](http://www.lonestartreasure.com)

March 2007

## Lone Star Club Executive Officers

John Finnell  
Robert Jordan  
Ivan Santos  
Dave Totzke

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer



## President's Corner

by John Finnell



Hi everyone! I hope all of you have had a good month treasure hunting. With any luck, I'll have something to show on the find of the month boards finally. This month things are really starting to heat up! We start the month off with our regular meeting, where

I hope we see some real progress on selling tickets for the TCTC expo raffle. I've found that if I carry a few tickets around in my shirt pocket someone will eventually ask about them, and usually wind up buying a few from me. If you've got some tickets and money, please remember to bring them to the meeting. Or you can mail them to me at: JW Finnell, 1124 W. Sharpshire Dr., Waxahachie, TX 75165. We must have all of the sold tickets back in by March 22nd.

Also this month, we plan to have a club garage sale on March the 10th. We will have more details at the meeting, but if you have some items for the sale please bring them to the meeting on March 2nd. Please remember that next month we have our annual club hunt, "Bucks on the Brazos" on April 14<sup>th</sup>. So be making plans to attend.

Our program for this month is from Ron Newby and David Lott representing Minelab USA, Inc. ([www.minelab.com](http://www.minelab.com)). They will be discussing Minelab's new product line, and I am sure they will have a few machines you can fondle as well.

Hope to see you there, wherever *there* is . . .

**GOOD LUCK AND GOOD HUNTING!**



Top of the mornin' to my family of readers! Since I was a little girl I've always enjoyed Saint Patty's Day. Could it be the green beer? Or perhaps the fact that **emerald** green is my favorite color. Who knows? Yes, I am Irish-American. (Among other things that we won't discuss.) At least that's what my Aunt JoNell has informed my family, after an exhaustive genealogy hunt. She even printed a book on our family tree. No monkeys involved. No! Really! Besides the family evidence, a lot of people say I am full of b...blarney. So I blame it on my ancestry. I do believe there is a bit of Irish in us all. No matter what country we originally were born into.

This month we have speakers from Minelab metal detecting. This should be an informative topic of discussion. We have many items on the meeting agenda, Bucks on the Brazos, the next garage sale, the TCTC Expo, and others. I know John and Mike both have more information for you on all of the club's upcoming events. So you definitely don't want to miss out on this meeting.

I want to reiterate that you now have the option of getting your newsletter by email instead of snail mail. This is a better way to view the newsletter as you get to see all the photos and pictures in color, and you don't have to wait on the U.S. Postal Service either. Be sure to update your email addresses with Jack Lowry so you can receive your newsletter on a timely basis. That's my two cents worth this month so...

**HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY EVERYONE!**



## SUCCESS STORY!

In response to our email and letter writing campaign, Keith Wills received this comment...

***Natural Resource Committee Chairperson: "Mr. Wills, let me first tell you this before you address this committee: I believe this committee will agree, that if any of us were to run for another office in Texas, we would first get hold of your group of detectorist's in this state; for none of us on this committee has ever witnessed such a huge letter and email campaign in behalf of your Bill in the years we have been in this legislature. Your folks are to be congratulated for their outstanding support of this Bill by far!"***

All committee members agreed.

We were assigned a House Bill, number HB 1016, this bill is our House Bill to open Texas State Parks to metal detecting activity across the state. Now is the time to contact your House Rep in your area, and express to him how much you want him to vote "YES" on this Bill. I have a sample letter below that you can use or change into your own words.

So as you can see, in 2001 we blew the Senate Committee and Senators on the floor away with our letter writing. I'm asking for every one of you to help us do this again. If you will write to support this bill to your Senator and House Rep, we will win this fight again, and they will pass our bill. Please take time out and help!

Sincerely, Keith Wills

You will find the sample letter on page 4.

To find who represents you in the legislature go to:

[www.tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/](http://www.tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/)

Then go to: "Who Represents Me?"

Let's make this our best effort yet to pass this bill! Send those letters today!

## SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Honorable Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I contact you today to request your support in favor of **HB 1016** Bill in the House. The major facts for voting "YES" on **HB 1016** Bill is that 38 other states in America allow this recreational activity of metal detecting on "pre-disturbed public use areas" of their state parks that have no archeological or historical significance, where we find lost coins and jewelry that many times allow us to return them to the original owner, and at the same time creates a means of physical activity to keep us healthy. This is especially important for our many senior citizens here in Texas. These 38 current states that allow this recreational activity also had the same concerns of protecting our many natural and cultural resources as we do, and as is the duty of the state of Texas. However, these states found a way to co-exist with this activity by designating areas for the activity to be allowed that has no archeological or historical significance; public use areas.

The Army Corps of Engineers has allowed this activity on their lands in "designated public use areas" since 1989 without incident nationwide, which they too have been successful in the protection of their many thousands of significant resources all those years.

Let's not forget that most all Texas County and city parks currently allow responsible metal detecting activities on their properties, and are also able to protect their significant resources and co-exist with the activity. There just is not any reason why Texas cannot also allow this legal, and responsible recreational activity within their state parks.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife have been against it, but allow all other recreational activities and sports on Texas State Parks. This is nothing more than discrimination against our activity, and the many thousands of tax paying folk here in Texas who enjoy the activity for recreational and family purposes.

We request that you please vote "Yes" to **HB 1016**, and allow the people of Texas the use of their State Parks.

Sincere thanks for taking the time out to listen, and considering supporting this Bill. I will be more than happy to discuss this Bill anytime with you.

Your supporter, \_\_\_\_\_

**Find of the Month Winners February 2007****COIN**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Jack Lowry	1898 Indian head cent
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Andy Mesaros	1917 Obv. walking liberty half
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ronnie Morris	1945 Standing liberty half

**GOLD JEWELRY**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Andy Mesaros	14K Gold and diamond ring
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rusty Curry	Ugly gold band
3 <sup>rd</sup>	no placement	

**SILVER JEWELRY**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Frank Martinez	Silver & gold
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rusty Curry	Silver airmen's wing
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ivan Santos	Cast bronze bat ring

**RELIC**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Frank Lawson	Union soldier's breastplate
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Andy Mesaros	Green River whiskey fob
3 <sup>rd</sup>	no placement	

**TOKEN**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Andy Mesaros	19 <sup>th</sup> Union conf. vet. badge
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ivan Santos	Luggage tag
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rusty Curry	Notary seal 1934

**WILD CARD**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Frank Martinez	Silver star 1920 half dollar
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rusty Curry	Metal policeman
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ivan Santos	Werewolf face drawer plate

## Raffle Winners February 2007

1876 Seated dime	Virgil Jones
1822 Large cent	Rusty Curry
1826 Large cent	Bob Bruce
1838 Large cent	Ronnie Morris
1845 Seated half dime	Mary Penson
1866 Shield nickel	Ronnie Morris
1834 Bust half	Jack Lowry
2006 American eagle	Frank Martinez
2006 American eagle	John Finnell
10 cent fractional currency	Mike Southard
1858 Flying eagle cent	Dave Jones
1865 Three-cent piece nickel	Terry Schick
1852 Three-cent silver	Terry Schick
1875 Seated dime	Robert Jordan
Dos Pesos	Lewis Murray



### **DOOR PRIZE WINNERS**

Rick Grimes	Hat
John Finnell	Treasure trails book
Jack Lowry	Cigar box
Frank Martinez	Civil War hunt book
Ivan Santos	Fork digger
Robert Jordan	Hat
Terry Schick	Hat
Bob Bruce	Carry box

We would like to give our **THANKS** to **Garrett Metal Detectors**, **Lisa Burkey**, and **Jessy Boedeker** for their support with donations. These generous donations to the club's door prizes are greatly appreciated.

**Huntmaster sez**

by Michael Koenig

**We need some Bucks for Bucks!**

Everyone mark your calendars for the 10th of March. This is the date of our club's next garage sale. We need items to sell, and club members to come out early on Saturday, the 10<sup>th</sup> of March, to set up and help with the sale. If you have items for the sale and cannot attend, bring them to the March meeting and one of the club members with a truck will transport them for you. So start your spring-cleaning early for a great cause...Our Spring Hunt! The Bucks on the Brazos hunt is scheduled for April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.

Speaking of Bucks, I should have an answer about the hunt location by the next meeting. Be there for more info. See you in the Field!

That's all for now so...**Get out and Hunt!!**

**The Prez sez...**Bucks on the Brazos update: Mike has contacted another place in the Glen Rose area, and we are on the way to scheduling the hunt. Mike is going to try to arrange a group discount rate for camping that would be \$5.00 per person, but if that is not possible the rate will be \$20.00 per tent/RV (2 persons per), and \$10.00 per additional person. The campsites all have water and electricity.

**Birthday Drawing**  
**Name Tag Drawing:**  
**Marble Raffle:**



Terry Schick  
 John Finnell  
 John Finnell drew a white marble, and drew the \$20 envelope.

## Announcements and Reminders



### **SNACK REMINDER**

Robert Jordan, Mike Skinner, and Bill Austin have agreed to bring snacks to the meeting March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you for your contribution to the club.

The meeting date is March 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:30 p.m., at the IOOF lodge. It will be business as usual with raffles, and find of the month entries.

The TCTC Expo is March 24th & 25th at the Killeen Civic Center, Killeen, Texas. We have five tables once again, and will be looking for volunteers to go down early to set up the display. We are not going to be able to pull the vehicle into the building so it would be a good idea to bring along a few trucks or carts. We will be signing up volunteers at the meeting in March. Hotel rooms in the immediate area are getting scarce so you may want to get a reservation soon. Please note that there are several other larger cities in the area. As you are aware, the club conducts a drawing for a few prizes during the expo, and this time we have come up with a few changes in the hopes of generating more money. Instead of the usual metal detector as 1st place prize, we are raffling a 20" flat screen LCD television, a 2nd place prize of a \$5.00 1886 U.S. gold coin, and a 3rd place prize of a ten ounce silver bar.

The fun hunt will be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The time and location will be announced at the club meeting. Come join us for fun, practice, and camaraderie.

Please extend congratulations to Ivan Santos who has agreed to fill the club's secretary vacancy.

We all need to help in selecting program topics for the meetings. We would like to get several arranged in advance for the upcoming months. If you have any ideas for subjects or speakers, please email them to: [president@lonestartreasure.com](mailto:president@lonestartreasure.com) or submit them to any committee member.

## Announcements and Reminders, Cont'd.



Three Forks Treasure Hunters Club 21st Annual National Hunt  
Sunday April 29, 2007, Creek County Fairgrounds, Sapulpa, OK.  
See website for hunt fliers, details, and to enter online.

[www.threeforkstreasurehunters.org/nationalhunt](http://www.threeforkstreasurehunters.org/nationalhunt)

Call: 918-695-5777 or email: [graycote@cox.net](mailto:graycote@cox.net)

If you have any questions or comments about the newsletter, please contact the editor at the address below. If you have an announcement that needs to be in the newsletter, please send them in along with any other submissions to the following email address or give them to John Finnell at the next meeting. Please hand-print announcements for John or email them to:

[newsletter@lonestartreasure.com](mailto:newsletter@lonestartreasure.com)

### Committee Members for 2007

Elizabeth Wesson and Rodney Bates  
Catherine Finnell  
Mary Penson  
Jack Lowry  
Ronnie Morris and Rick Anderson  
Roy Harston  
Mike Koenig  
Andy Mesaros  
Mike Skinner  
Joe Hennig

Find of the Month  
Newsletter Editor  
Hospitality Chairman  
Membership Chairman  
Raffle Committee  
Fun Hunt Chairman  
Huntmaster  
Refreshment Chairman  
Program Chairman  
At Large Position

## 33rd Annual LSTHC Hunt

**Huntmaster:** Michael Koenig • 478 Millwood • Highland Village, TX 75077 (214)-499-8118 • koenigmc@msn.com

All Entry Fees go into the ground as coins, tokens, or prizes.

### Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007

8:00-9:00	Registration
12:45-1:15	Silver Quarter/Half Hunt
9:15-9:45	Dollar Hunt
1:30-1:45	Fundraiser Hunt
10:15-10:45	21 Hunt
1:45-3:00	Cake Auction
11:15-11:45	Treasure Chest Hunt
3:00-3:45	Main Hunt
11:45-12:45	Lunch
4:00	Prizes Awarded

### Hunt Events:

**Dollar Hunt:** Get your dollars worth! Susan B's, Ikes, Sach's and plain ole George's!

**21 Hunt:** 21 in any combination will get you a silver round! (Until they run out!!!)

**Treasure Chest:** Find the key, unlock the lock, and win the chest and contents! (We are planning for five handmade chests this year). Save your keys for chances at other prizes.

**Quarter Half Hunt:** Half your fee in quarters, and half your fee in halves. Hunt fast for your greatest reward.

**Hodgepodge Fundraiser:** Club fun hunt. (This one is always wild). Club members donate everything. Pay \$5 cash the day of the hunt.

**Main Hunt:** Bigger and better than ever! Larger field and more tokens for prizes and detectors

**Cake Auction:** Club fundraising event. Bring your dollars to support our club. Chances to win great prizes or even a detector.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR ENTRY FEE.**

**Mail entry to: Lone Star Treasure Hunter's Club**

332 Plantation Dr. •Coppell, TX 75019

Entry Fees: Please check the appropriate boxes below. (All hunts are optional, and must be paid for no later than 9:00 the day of the hunt).

Dollar Hunt*	\$20
Silver Quarter/Half Hunt**	\$40
21 Hunt*	\$25
Big Main Hunt***	\$75
Treasure Chest Hunt*	\$25

After 5 October, 2007

\*A late entry fee of \$10 for each hunt selected will be accessed

\*\*A late entry fee of \$15 for the hunt selected will be accessed

\*\*\*A late entry fee of \$25 for the hunt selected will be accessed

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Landowners, hunt officials, sponsors, and/or club members connected with this hunt will not be held responsible for theft, injuries, or damages.

**YOUR SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED TO HUNT!**

**Headphones required for all hunts!**

One person per entry.  
Photocopy is valid.

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Lone Star Treasure Hunters Club  
1124 W. Sharpshire Dr.  
Waxahachie, TX 75165