

THE TINFOIL TIMES



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLD COAST TREASURE CLUB, INC.

VOLUME 30 NUMBER 5

MAY 2005

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE 7:30 PM MAY 12
AT THE WEST PALM BEACH GARDEN CLUB IN DREHER PARK
IN WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA**

OUR CODE OF ETHICS: HAVE PERMISSION AND DO NO HARM MAY MEETING

Until they were gunned down at the Sebastian Bridge in 1924, The Ashley Gang terrorized the lower east coast of Florida. Led by John Ashley, a crack shot with only one eye, and aided by his nephew, Hanford Mobley, the gang held up boats, passenger trains and motorists. They openly robbed banks in the coastal communities from Lemon City (now part of Miami) to Stuart and Fort Pierce. Mostly, though, the Ashleys profited as bootleggers, and running rum from British warehouses in the Bahamas and Bimini to the Florida coast. John launched his criminal career in 1911 with the murder of Desoto Tiger, a Seminole Indian. From then on he had several run ins with Palm Beach County Sheriff Bob Baker; and their mutual hatred was fanned into a blood feud.

Although the gang is said to have gotten away with tens (if not hundreds) of thousands of dollars from their illegal activities – very little of it has ever been recovered. Well, our own new member, **Steve Carr**, has for many years been part of an international group of hunters that have attempted to unravel the mysteries left behind by the Ashley Gang. Steve has agreed to present a condensed version of the longer historic overview that he has often presented and to bring a few of the wares that have been found for display.

Stacey deLucia will provide the refreshments. **Karen Larson** will try to stump members with her mystery item.

Remember to return any library books or videos that you checked out last month.

**TREASURER'S REPORT
\$2025.99**

CLUB ITEMS FOR SALE
PENS WITH CLUB NAME: \$3.00
CLUB TOWELS: \$3.00

FACE VALUE OF COINS BROUGHT TO

TALL TALES TABLE 2005

DOLLAR AMOUNT \$1983.66

GOLD 19

SILVER 65

MAY CLUB HUNT

The next club hunt will be on a local beach at 8 AM on Sunday, May 15. Directions to the hunt site will be announced at the club meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting, call Linda on Friday or Saturday for directions. If you would like to meet for breakfast around 6 AM, let Linda know. (For more information on the purpose of this hunt, see "Lost Jewelry Report" on page 5).

THE GOLD COAST TREASURE CLUB, INC.

Founded in 1973 by Ted Rudd

President

Kurt Herring
561-622-9801

Vice-President

Stacey deLucia
561-687-2310

Secretary

Jan Smirnow
561-735-8921

Treasurer

Gail Hoskins
561-967-2923

Huntmaster: Linda Bennett

561-791-7682

Cell Phone: 561-352-4068

Asst. Huntmaster: Richard Zabriskie

Sales and Raffle Promoters

Jason and Jack Petenbrink

Photographer: Steve Hoskins

Librarian: Cheryl Petenbrink

Hospitality Hostess: Joy St. Clair

Doorprize Coordinator: Karen Larson

Newsletter Co-Editors:

Linda Bennett and Stacey deLucia

Email: gctreasureclub@yahoo.com
Website: www.geocities.com/gctreasureclub/

CLUB MAILING ADDRESS

c/o Gail Hoskins
206 Russell Dr
Lake Worth, FL 33461

Dues are \$30 a year
New members pay an initiation fee of \$5
and \$30 if joining between Jan 1st and
the end of June
or \$15 if joining between July 1
and Dec. 31

MEMBERS

BUY AND SELL COLUMN

KEVIN REILLY offers a complete line of new and used detectors and also scoops, cleaners, tumblers and books. He also does custom metal working and laser detailing (call for details).

954-971-6102 or www.rtgstore.com

Has low prices plus 10% discount to members

TOM LIEBERMAN 561-852-7409.

Ready to serve your real estate needs.

MITZI BERGRUD

Need a mortgage? Buying a home? Want to finance before the rates go up? Special rebate of \$250 to club members. Call us at: First United Mortgage Group. Call 561-790-3997 or email southstar@earthlink.com.

GIANT GARAGE SALE MAY 14TH.

You name it, we have it. Starts at 8 AM.

Convenient Location:

3716 S. 57th Avenue, Greenacres
790-3997 Mitzi or 818-7802 Cell

ED WESTON Wanted: Collectable and antique fishing tackle.

Lures, rods, reels. 561-622-9282.

BOB GRUBB Garrett 550 Target ID detector w/2 coils. Used less than 40 hrs. Excellent condition @ \$ 250.00. Stainless steel scoop @ \$ 100.00. Call 561-638-8400 or email: BobDeRay@AOL.com.

Club Members can advertise items for sale or items wanted free of charge. These items do not have to be related to metal detecting. Contact Linda Bennett to place your ad.

Web site containing lots of hard to find maps.

For anyone interested, the web site is

www.maps-of-the-past.com

JASON AND JACK'S CORNER

AND THE WINNERS ARE!

DOOR PRIZES

Silver Round - **Karen Larson**

One Troy Ounce Silver - **Joy St. Clair**

Three Lottery Tickets - **Karen Larson**

Folding Magnifying Glass - **Bob Smirnow**

Headlamp - **Jeff Foss**

"Ghost Town Locations in Florida" - **Bob Smirnow**

Donations of items for our monthly drawings are always appreciated! This month, we'd like to thank Linda Bennett for the magnifying glass, Bob Smirnow for the headlight and the book by the Warnke Family.

MYSTERY ITEM

Every month a volunteer is needed to help stump fellow club members with a secret treasure picked out by you! This past month's stumper, a nail clipper, was brought in by **Ernie Bouyoucas**. He indeed stumped the club. *Remember to bring all items found. You never know what will be that month's mystery item!*

50/50 DRAWING

John Presslein won \$39.00 for his share of the drawing. IT PAYS TO PLAY, FOLKS!

MONTHLY BEST FINDS CONTEST

(Winners receive a silver half-dollar)

BEST GOLD

Ring: **Cheryl Petenbrink**

BEST SILVER

1/2 Silver Reale: **Richard Zabriskie**

MOST UNUSUAL

Fishing Lure Lighter: **Bob Dobski**

COSTUME JEWELRY

Ring: **Jason Petenbrink**

BIRTHDAYS

April birthday celebrants **Karen Larson** and **Bob Konnagon** received silver quarters for attending the meeting during their birthday month.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH TO:

Sharon Bouyoucas

Trent Bowen

Louis Brozyna

Cheryl Burke

Carol Coffin

Barbara Dobski

John Lobota

Nancy Stephens

Kazhie Zabriskie

Remember, come to a meeting during your birthday month and you will receive a gift of a silver quarter!

NEW RAFFLE

Karen Larson announces the club's new raffle item – a gold tester. Raffle tickets are \$5. Forty chances will be sold.

CONGRATS TO OUR WINNERS AT THE GREAT SOUTHERN BEACH SHOOTOUT!

Top 50 tokens were found by:

Bob Dobski - \$1000

Karen Larson - White's Beach ID MD

Stacey deLucia - \$200

Richard Zabriskie - Compass MD

Linda Bennett tied for first place in the Women's Competition hunt and won \$200. *More details and pictures in the June Newsletter.*

**FROM OUR SISTER CLUB -
South Florida Gold Coast Chapter – GPAA**

EVER HEAR OF OR SEE A HOVERDREDGE?

Come to the South Florida Gold Coast Chapter of the GPAA meeting on Saturday, May 21st at 10:30 AM and see for yourself. A program on Gold Prospecting in Alaska with a 24 foot Hoverdredge takes you on a one-of-a-kind gold prospecting adventure. Four people set up camp 30 miles downstream to recover Gold from Alaska's famous 40 Mile River. You will see the operation of the world's only 24 foot hovercraft/gold 10 inch dredge. The video details the gold recovery from the sluice to the gold scales. This is the one and only, straight from Chicken, Alaska.

FOREIGN COINS

Our club, along with the SFTHC, will again be collecting foreign coins to donate towards a summer camp for handicapped children. Over 4000 children attend this camp every summer. Keith Wills and his club in Texas have been teaching campers how to use metal detectors. Club members then plant foreign coins for the children to find. The children are shown that there is a recreational sport they can do despite their handicap. The collection of coins needs to be mailed in the middle of May. Thanks to **Ben Smith** for this donation of a baggie full of coins at the April meeting.

Beach Tips

Research plays a very important part in beachcombing – just like inland treasure hunting. Have a look at some of the early historical photographs – these can generally be found in books produced by local councils, schools and historical societies. These show the location of early swimming beaches and jetties, which are no longer in use and can produce some remarkable old finds and coins. The following list will give you an idea as to where to search at the beach, whether it's at a roaring surf beach or a quiet river / creek estuary. Remember, just go anywhere where people congregate. Car lots; paths to and from the beach; retaining sea walls; picnic areas; under shady trees and bushes; sun-tanning areas; boat launch ramps; high water mark right down to the low water mark; rocky outcrops; storm water pipes that partly run out to sea; jetties; piers; kiosks.

(excerpts from www.treasureenterprises.com)

BURIED COINS CACHE

CLUE NUMBER ONE

The coins are in the northwest part of a park with initials " L. L."

CLUE NUMBER TWO

Remember the clue about the northwest. Maybe a couple of trees will help you the best.

CLUE NUMBER THREE

Seven steps to the west will help you find the treasure chest.

Burial of cache and clues provided by Jim Smith. If found by a club member, that person will receive a prize of \$25.

TECH/INTERNET TIPS FROM JOHN LOBOTA

Summer is coming and many of us take time off to do some vacationing. My vacation definitely has family time, but if possible I try to incorporate metal detecting into my activities. It is always exciting to explore new locations, but there is the opportunity of not knowing the area and good places to detect. I don't let this deter me and here is what I did one summer. We had plans to travel to New Hampshire to stay with relatives at their summer cottage. So, I decided I wanted try cellar hole hunting since all the towns in that area date back to the 1700's. Utilizing some Detecting Forums, I made a post to the forum relating my request for a hunting buddy along with the date of my visit to their area. I did have to re-post a second time to the forum and by e-mail. I also contacted a NH detecting club in hopes they could help. My efforts paid off... within a couple weeks an experienced "Cellar Hole" hunter contacted me more than willing to take me out and show me some cellar hole hospitality. That was one of the best weeks I ever had metal detecting. I made a new friend and brought home some colonial coins, buttons and relics to remind me of my adventure. Go ahead, plan your next summer vacation detecting adventure. There is an experienced guide both willing and able to help you make it happen.

Here are some internet sites that have a "Find a Hunting Partner" forum.

American Relic Hunters - www.americanrelichunters.com

The Treasure Depot - www.thetreasuredepot.com

The Find Mall - www.findmall.com

Treasure Net - www.treasurenet.com/f/

You can also do a search by state or town for a detecting club.

APRIL MEETING

Meeting was called to order by President Herring. New members **Edward Heltzer** of Margate and **Steve Carr** of Lake Worth along with guest **Bill Harris** were welcomed.

Kurt reminded everyone that when you bring a first time guest, do the mystery item, provide refreshments for the evening and display your monthly finds on the tall tales table you will receive an additional door prize ticket, however, you need to sign up with Jack or Jason at the raffle table. So folks bring a friend, volunteer to do the Mystery item or bring in the refreshments and show and tell and you can receive free chances to win a door prize!

Karen Larson reported at the beginning of the meeting there were 20 tickets remaining for the 1721 Reale raffle. By the end of the meeting all spots were sold and the drawing was held:

The lucky winner was **Jeff Foss**

The program "Competition Hunting," was presented by Linda Bennett. Linda is our Huntmaster and is an avid hunter (30 years experience) and one tough lady to face in competition. Written tips were handed out. Some of the most important information was "Never use a detector that you are not really familiar with in a competition hunt – KNOW your machine and Practice, Practice, Practice! If interference from other machines (chatter): 1) move away or wait until the other machine moves away 2) turn down your sensitivity – you do not have to dig deep in competition hunting. Linda's presentation was great, really informative and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Her demonstration of the "crab stance" was great! Thanks Linda!

Thanks to **John and Carol Presslein** for the refreshments and **Ernie Bouyoucas** for the mystery item. Also a thanks to **Wayne Stephens** for his donation of a gold pan.

BOYNTON BEACH HUNT

The April club hunt was held April 16 from 7 PM to 8:30 PM. 14 hunters and 4 spectators participated in a combination wild/planted hunt. Painted pennies and Super Bowl pins were planted to liven up the hunt. Whoever found a Super Bowl pin was able to claim a flashing light. It turned out that the planted items were about the only things found. Some tokens were found by **Ira Rappaport**, **Jack Petenbrink** and **Stacey deLucia**. Prizes were determined by who had the three flashing red lights at the end of the hunt and who had the largest number of painted pennies. There was a tie for first place with the painted pennies - **Stacey deLucia** and **Jim Smith** - who won umbrella hats. **Kurt Herring** finished with two flashing lights which earned him a bag. Other winners included **Cheryl Petenbrink** - kneepads and

Jim Smith - apron.

LOST JEWELRY REPORT

In mid-April, club Vice President **Stacey deLucia** received a phone call from a young man – a call that began like so many the club officers have heard before: "Last week my wife and I were at the beach and she took off her rings to put lotion on my back and..." (you know the rest!) Although a week had passed, Stacey promised the man that she would happily search for the rings the next day and would enlist the help of other club members. Armed with a description of the rings (a wedding band and engagement ring soldered together) and an idea of the drop spot, **Jan and Bob Smirnow** were at the beach at the crack of dawn the next morning in full search mode. Although they methodically covered the beach and enlisted the help of a passing detectorist, they had no luck.

A few hours later, **Steve and Gail Hoskins** and **Stacey** met the young couple, **Rob and Crystal Starcher**, at the beach prepared to hunt for the elusive rings. Unfortunately, the tide was high and surf was wild. The couple acknowledged that the rings were lost at low tide, somewhere near where the waves were breaking, hundreds of yards out! Despite the fact that club members were unable to locate the rings, they promised the young couple that they would continue the search. The Starchers then made a generous donation to the club, in appreciation for efforts made to locate the rings.

At the board meeting that very afternoon, the board unanimously voted to make the Starchers GCTC members. In addition, the board decided to take on the challenge of finding the lost rings. On May 15th, club members are invited to search for the lost rings at our next club hunt. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at a local beach (location to be announced at the May 12th general club meeting). Help us reunite this loving couple with their cherished rings!



GCTC Goes to Nassau

We are cruising to Nassau from June 3-5th for one day of beach hunting!! The Imperial Majesty is an older, smaller cruise ship that sails continuously to Nassau from Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale. All meals, shows, and casino gambling are free. Of course – bar bills are not. We will board Friday afternoon between 1 PM and 3:30 PM. Most of Saturday (from 9 AM to 6 PM) will be available for detecting (or whatever) in Nassau. Cable Beach – probably the largest and most popular – is approximately 3 miles from the harbor and downtown/straw market area of Nassau. Local buses run throughout the day for \$1.

Everyone interested is free to make their own travel arrangements. Regular staterooms are available with Imperial Majesty from \$179 pp plus a \$20 gratuity. The cruise line has advertised a special offer at \$129 pp plus \$20 gratuity. The price difference is due to smaller cabins with only upper and lower berths rather than two single beds. The ship only has 30 of these promotional cabins, and they will sell out quickly.

We've put together a page of answers to frequently asked questions that will be available at our next meeting. Additional information is also available on the cruise line's website <http://www.imperialmajesty.com>. Their reservation phone number is 800-394-3865.

SELL YOUR FINDS!

Several people have suggested that GCTC help members sell their finds and hobby-related equipment. Other clubs regularly include an auction as part of their monthly program; and, we've decided to give it a try as well. You can participate by bringing an item with a written description and reserve price. All items will be displayed during the meeting and orally auctioned. If your reserve price is met, your item will be sold; otherwise of course, you simply keep it. Is there a catch? Well, a little one. If your item sells for more than your reserve price, we ask that you donate the difference to the club. As we try out this new feature, these thoughts might be useful: 1) adequately clean, display, and describe your item; 2) limit your submission to one (for now) hobby-related item; 3) set a reasonable reserve price (an amount that you would actually pay). Inexpensive items will undoubtedly sell the best. So think about whether you really want to keep those old silver coins or jewelry you found and no one ever sees. Or, whether that scoop in the closet is doing anyone any good.

Errors in grammar and spelling are added for those who like to find them.

Linda Bennett newsletter co-editor

2005 CLUB DIRECTORY

The club directory was mailed with the March newsletter. If you did not get one let Linda know. The directory is for your personal use only. The names, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses are to be used only for contact within the club. If there are any errors or omissions please notify Jan Smirnow, 561-735-8921. Additions or changes to the directory will be printed in the newsletter for you to add to your copy of the directory.

Correction to directory:

North Address for Ed Berry

PO Box 117

Arcadia, MI 49613

Additions to directory:

Steve Carr

232 Fordham Drive

Lake Worth, Florida 33460

Tel No. 561-585-3146

Edward & Audrey Heltzer

7827 Golf Circle Drive Bldg. F Apt. 103

Margate, Florida 33063

Tel No. 954-977-8735

postman391@aol.com

Crystal and Robert Starcher

8975 Okeechobee Blvd

No. 102

West Palm Beach, FL 33411

Tel No. 561-784-5060

RICHARD'S TIP

At the beach, when you find a good item, don't keep going forward after you have retrieved the item. Instead start going around the spot in a circular motion for about 3 feet and see if any other item can be found. Many items are lost in groups.

CAMP WEWA WEEKEND CAMPING TRIP

If you passed on the Central Florida metal detecting camping trip you missed a great time! The location was beautiful and the weather couldn't have been better, making it a perfect detecting weekend. It was sunny with a slight cooling breeze. After a short orientation by **Ray and Lona Leist**, we all claimed our bunks in the cabins and then began metal detecting. Almost immediately we started recovering coins and jewelry! To spice things up a bit, Ray had planted fifty pink colored keys and fifty yellow colored tokens throughout the campground. Each recovered key or token could be exchanged for a silver dime. By the end of the first day of metal detecting only about half of the keys and tokens had been recovered, demonstrating that a site is never hunted out!

The food was good and there was plenty of it! After Saturday night's dinner we had a silver raffle and a "Finds Competition." Monetary awards were given for three categories: Coins, Jewelry, and Miscellaneous. Ray awarded a First, Second and Third prize cash award for each category. The traditional "Game Night" followed, with Ray awarding cash for the winners.

Some of the finds that weekend were impressive. More than 3,500 coins and an impressive number of jewelry finds were recovered, including gold and silver rings, gold and silver bracelets, medallions and miscellaneous items. GCTC members made some nice recoveries! **Richard Zabriskie** found a silver ring, Mercury dime, a 1/8 reale and 141 coins totaling \$7.58. **Stacey deLucia** found 3 Wheat pennies, a Buffalo nickel, a copper belt buckle, 49 coins totaling \$2.69 and a coral snake! **Karen Larson** found a belt buckle, a Wheat penny, and 27 coins totaling \$1.68. **Bob Dobski** found an enamel ring and 35 coins totaling \$.42. **Gail Hoskins** had a great time and found 7 coins totaling \$.73. **Steve Hoskins** found a silver ring, voodoo doll and 17 coins totaling \$1.46. **Irving Smith** found an enamel ring, a Wheatie, and 72 coins totaling \$8.59. Several GCTC members also found pink keys and tokens.

Many thanks to Ray and Lonna for their efforts in putting together this unique metal detecting camping experience. It was a shame if you missed this fun opportunity to get to know members of the three participating clubs. You won't want to miss the next one!



Sunken Treasure on Florida Reefs

This year Bob Weller will be holding 3 day seminars to enable those with demanding jobs to break away for a week-end of fun and enjoyment. The seminars will be held on Fri.-Sat.-Sun. and consist of two days of identifying, locating, and background information on both the 1715 and 1733 Spanish Treasure Fleets that sank along the East coast of Florida. Primary emphasis will be on the 1715 fleet because these sites are still available for salvage through sub-contracting rights with the Fisher Group. The third day will be spent actually visiting the sites by auto, with Frogfoot pin-pointing the hot spots where treasure has been recovered. For those wishing to dive shipwrecks while visiting in Florida, arrangements have been made with Brownie's Dive Shop in Riviera Beach to take attendees, with dive certification, out on shipwreck dives of 40 to 75 feet for \$65, or \$100 including all required equipment and tanks. This includes two sites for a total of two dives. These dives would be made either on a Thursday preceding, or Monday following, the seminar. The cost of the seminar per person is \$500, with a deposit of \$150 required to hold a reservation to the seminar chosen. A maximum of 10 attendees per seminar will be maintained. The cost includes all lunches, morning and afternoon coffee breaks, and the auto tour. The seminar lectures are held at Frogfoot's home on the water (waterfront gazebo) at 1818 17th Ave. N., Lake Worth, FL 33460-6432 Ph# 561/588-2903; e-mail; frogfoot@adelphia.net.

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The Tinfoil Times

Gold Coast Treasure Club, Inc.
Official Newsletter



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15: Club Hunt
June 3-5: Nassau Trip
TBA: Picnic with SFTHC