

THE TINFOIL TIMES



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

VOLUME 34 NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2009

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE 7:30 P.M. JANUARY 8
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

JANUARY MEETING - 2008 YEARLY BEST FINDS

The New Year is here and that can only mean one thing. That's right! It's time once again for the much anticipated **ANNUAL BEST FINDS CONTEST**. This is one of the highlights of the year, so we hope every member will participate.

Bring your best finds recovered in 2008 for the Best Finds Contest. The entries must have been found between January 2008 and December 2008 and while you were a member of the GCTC.

Categories will be: **Best Gold; Best Silver; Best Costume Jewelry; Best Toy; Best Token; Best Foreign Coin; Best Relic; Best Platinum Jewelry; Most Unusual; and Oldest American Coin.** The Oldest American coin will be broken down into subcategories of oldest penny, nickel, dime, quarter, half-dollar and dollar. Winners for the 10 major categories will receive a silver half dollar, a certificate and picture of your find on the website for a year. (The picture on the website is optional.) Winners of the American coin subcategories will each receive a silver quarter, a certificate and picture of the find on the website. Each member is allowed one entry per category. Winners are decided by the same voting system that is used for the monthly best finds. Of course, voting on the Oldest American coin will not be necessary.

In addition to the regular monthly best finds, the category of Platinum will be featured. Any platinum found between the September 2008 meeting to the January 2009 meeting can be entered. An individual can enter more than one find since this is a quarterly event.

Please note: During 2009, for all monthly best finds - the winner will continue to receive a certificate, but the award has been changed to a silver quarter.

Starting in January, birthday celebrants who attend the meeting will now receive a gold Presidential \$1 coin instead of a silver quarter. Unfortunately, all these changes have been made to save the club money due to the difficulty lately in buying silver.

Thanks in advance to January's Mystery Prize Stumper volunteer Stacey deLucia. A refreshment volunteer is still needed. Contact Linda Bennett if you want to volunteer.

Please don't forget to return books, DVDs and tapes that you checked out from the library last month!

JOIN US AT PA BBQ BEFORE THE MEETING!

Start the New Year off right by catching up with friends over dinner in the back room of PA BBQ at 5:30 p.m. immediately before the meeting. (Dutch treat!)

**Park Ave. BBQ & Grille
2401 N. Dixie Hwy (US 1)
Lake Worth, Florida**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am really excited about taking on my new position as president of the Gold Coast Treasure Club. It is my great pleasure and hope to bring some new ideas, fun, and just a different view to the club. Some may agree and some may not, but all ideas are welcome and with the help of our other board members, I think we can really bring some new activities and programs to the club.

Mindy Spiroch

**TREASURER'S REPORT
\$ 1290.19**

THE GOLD COAST TREASURE CLUB, INC.

Founded in 1973 by Ted Rudd

President

Mindy Spiroch
561-432-7242

Vice-President

Stacey deLucia
561-687-2310

Secretary

Jan Smirnow
561-735-8921

Treasurer

Ken Lubinski
561-762-0116

Hunt Master: Linda Bennett

561-791-7682

Cell Phone: 561-352-4068

Assistant Hunt Master: Gary McNew

561-784-1088

Sales and Raffle Promoter

Elayne Lynch

Photographer: Steve Hoskins

Librarian: Cheryl Petenbrink

Hospitality Hostess: Betty Laur

Doorprize Coordinator: Karen Larson

Membership: John Lobota and Jim Sharp

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 & used detectors, scoops, cleaners, tumblers and books. He also does custom metal working and laser detailing. For details, call 954-971-6102. Low prices plus 10% discount to members! The new five-sided scoops are available. See my website: www.rtgstore.com. For member discount, you'll have to go to the store to buy the scoop.

TOM LIEBERMAN – Ready to serve your real estate needs. Call 561-852-7409; email: telieberman@aol.com

ED WESTON – WANTED: Collectable and antique fishing tackle. Lures, rods, reels. 561-622-9282.

FRANK and PAULINE NASH – Minelab and Fisher metal detectors for sale: palmbeachmetaldetectors.com. The owners are club members Frank and Pauline Nash. When you purchase a new detector from them or refer a customer to them, 10 % of the net profits will go directly to benefit our club and its members. Call 561-743-5248.

FRANK NASH – Private collection of spirits for sale. 561-743-5248

JERRY LAUR – FOR SALE: Hard-bed cover for short-bed truck. New in Jan 2008. Paid over \$800. Will sell for \$450. Call 561-694-7963.

NIKOLAY MALCHEV – Would like to trade my Minelab Excalibur for a Fisher CZ-20. 561-309-1124.

STACEY deLUCIA - selling *never used, NEW* Singer Commercial Grade Sewing Machine, CG-590: 18 built-in stitch patterns, 4 step buttonhole, motor is 60% stronger than standard machine, faster speed - up to 1,100 stitches per minute, free arm, stainless steel bed plate, suction cup machine base, automatic needle. Includes carrying case, a special ruffler & Singer Essentials "Side Cutter" to trim away excess fabric as you sew. Paid \$425. Yours for \$300. E-mail: sdeLuc823@aol.com / call 561-687-2310.

GARY McNEW - WANTED: Bigfoot coil for Whites DFX. Contact gmcnew@bellsouth.net or 561-718-5523.

JOHN SILLING - KollectAll V8! Software to catalogue anything and everything you collect. K8! has over 40 collectibles templates including the Treasure and Water Treasure hunter. K8! is an EZ way to inventory all your finds. Go to Collectiblessoftware.com to download a 30-day try-before-you-buy copy! Special GCTC member pricing, only \$10.00 per copy with all proceeds going to the club treasury. See **Ken Lubinski** to buy your copy!

*Club members can advertise items for sale or items wanted, free of charge. Sometimes ads will need to be edited due to available space. Items do not have to be related to metal detecting. Contact **Linda Bennett** to place your ad.*

TREASURE HUNTER OF THE YEAR - 2008

At every meeting, GCTC members bring in their finds from the previous month for the club's Show and Tell table (AKA Tall Tales Table). Forms are filled out listing the various finds. Points are awarded by the Hunt Master based on the Show and Tell worksheets and Monthly Best Finds. A secret tally is kept from January to November. The top hunters are recognized at the holiday party in December. New categories were initiated this year, resulting in trophies for the top Snowbird Hunter and top Woman Hunter. Honorable Mention ribbons were given to six members. Second, Third and Fourth place winners each received a trophy and a club hat. The winner received a plaque donated by Kellyco in addition to a club hat. A club trophy on display at every meeting lists every GCTC Treasure Hunter of the Year since 1990. Congratulations to ALL of our winners!



**JASON PETENBRINK
2008**

TREASURE HUNTER OF THE YEAR



**JASON WITH PLAQUE
DONATED BY KELLYCO**



**PAUL HAMLIN
2ND PLACE**



**TOM LIEBERMAN
3RD PLACE**



**JIM SHARP
4TH PLACE**

Photos by Steve Hoskins



Top Snowbird Hunter of 2008
Les Batts



Top Female Hunter of 2008
Jan Smirnow

Honorable Mention



Irving Smith, Gary Spiroch, Nikolay Malchev, Cheryl Petenbrink, Bob Smirnow, Bob Dobski

The Gold Coast Treasure Club would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to all of our generous donors for making the GCTC 2008 Holiday Party a spectacular highlight of our year!

Garrett Metal Detectors
White's Metal Detectors
Minelab Metal Detectors
Lost Treasure Magazine
Park Avenue BBQ Grill
RTG Store (Kevin Reilly)
The Palm Beach POPS
Kellyco Metal Detector Superstore
Cheryl Petenbrink
Stacey deLucia
Karen Larson

Linda Bennett
SeaShore Gifts of Lantana (Paul Hamlin)
John Lobota
Bru's Restaurant
Progrill Restaurant
Atlanta Bread Company
Wings Plus
Firehouse Subs
Cheeburger Cheeburger
Reds Backwoods BBQ

KFC
Great Wraps
Papa Johns
Brewzzi
Rotelli's
Quarterdeck Seafood Bar
Pizza Hut
Ed Weston
Ken Lubinski
Jan Smirnow
Betty Laur

HOLIDAY PARTY

65 members and guests attended the holiday party and enjoyed a great variety of yummy side dishes prepared by members, decadent homemade desserts and some amazing prizes! A short meeting was held to vote for and induct officers and board of directors.

OFFICERS FOR 2009

Mindy Spiroch, President
Stacey deLucia, Vice President
Ken Lubinski, Treasurer
Jan Smirnow, Secretary



Jan, Mindy, Ken and Stacey

BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2009

Linda Bennett, Hunt Master
Gary McNew, Assistant Hunt Master
Karen Larson, Prize Coordinator
Betty Laur, Hospitality Chair
Jim Sharp and John Lobota, Membership
Gail Hoskins, Member at Large

AD HOC COMMITTEE

Steve Hoskins, Club Photographer
Cheryl Petenbrink, Librarian
Elayne Lynch, Sales and Raffles

SPECIAL THANKS FOR HOSTING A CLUB HUNT IN 2008

Customized GCTC hats were awarded to **Ben Smith, John Lobota** and **Ernie Bouyoucas** for hosting club hunts in 2008. Thanks, guys, for your hard work!



Ernie Bouyoucas and John Lobota
Not pictured – Ben Smith

SPECIAL AWARD

Ernie Bouyoucas was presented with a plaque recognizing his two years of leadership and service as President for 2007 and 2008. Thanks, Ernie!



Ernie Bouyoucas receiving his plaque from
VP Stacey deLucia

BIRTHDAYS

December birthday celebrants **Carol Presslein, Jarrett Spiroch** and **John Zabriskie** each received a silver quarter for attending the meeting during their birthday month. **Happy Birthday, gang!**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH TO:

Don Caplinger (1/13)
Maureen Chodan (1/22)
Jerry Felton (1/17)
Geraldine Frost (1/10)
Heidi Ginty (1/27)
Sheila Megibow (1/6)
Jack Petenbrink (1/15)
Nina Smith (1/13)
Irving Smith (1/21)
Wayne Stephens (1/3)
Stella Wheatley (1/24)
Ed Weston (1/25)

What do the above people have in common? If they come to the meeting during their birthday month, they each will receive a gift of a gold Presidential dollar!



PASSING THE TORCH

Mindy Spiroch
being presented the
Presidential Gavel by
outgoing President,
Ernie Bouyoucas

DUBIOUS AWARDS

Winners of these awards were nominated by their fellow members for their actions during club events.

- **Ernie Bouyoucas** had never found a piece of gold with his detector, so he was given a box of sand containing some foil, a pull-tab and a 14kt ring with instructions not to use a sifter first!
- **Stacey deLucia**, a perennial recipient, was presented with a two-in-one award. She received a bell to fasten to her metal detector to scare off any bears while detecting in remote areas. The bell also had the statement: "IBL8" for her always being 15 minutes late to club events.
- **Jan Smirnow** was awarded a piggy bank for finding 889 pennies in one hole.
- **Jerry Laur** was awarded a large deck of cards for easier reading and shuffling to help him *not* lose money at poker games with visiting pirates.
- **Jerry Laur** was awarded a two-sided picture, one side where he is good, and the flip side, bad. This award was to impress upon him for the future "what happens in Daytona, does not STAY in Daytona!" (See column 2 for details.)
- **Bob Smirnow** was awarded a plastic screen to be used to help save any diamonds he may find in the future (and to prevent them from falling through his scoop).
- **Bob Smirnow** was awarded a special edition "bad boy T-shirt" for a comment made during a meeting several months ago. The shirt said, "Charge for any kid off the nipple." (Don't ask.)



Dubious Award Winners: Ernie Bouyoucas, Jerry Laur, Bob & Jan Smirnow, Stacey deLucia

For pictures of the winners with their dubious awards prizes, be sure to see the club website.



Donnie Miller, Jonathan Lobota, Pauline Nash, Radina Malchev and Jarrett Spiroch received holiday stockings.

WINNER OF THE BROKEN SCOOP AWARD

By popular vote, **Jerry Laur** received the honor of winning the first annual Broken Scoop Award for his dubious action of allowing his picture to be taken with a scantily-clad female employee of a local gentlemen's club while attending a metal detecting event in Daytona. Jerry will have to display this award in a prominent place at his home until the next Holiday party in 2009. Hopefully, he will be able to pass along this award at that time to another member. Thank you to **Kevin Reilly** of **Reilly's Treasured Gold, Inc.** for the donation of the broken scoop.



DESSERT CONTEST

Thanks go to everyone who participated in and tasted the delicious goodies prepared for the Holiday Party. Again, you all out did yourselves!

Congratulations to the Winners!



Stella, Ken and Betty

Ken Lubinski – 1st Place: Chocolate Whipped Cake

Stella Wheatley – 2nd Place: Better than Anything Cake

Betty Laur – 3rd Place – Almond Brickle

The club thanks **Jan Smirnow** for organizing the contest for the third year in a row and embroidering the aprons. A special thanks to **Cheryl Petenbrink** for the donation of the aprons.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR 2008

The following members had perfect attendance: **Linda Bennett, Ken Lubinski, Bob Smirnow, Cheryl Petenbrink, Jason Petenbrink, Jack Petenbrink, Carmelo Basilico, Stacey deLucia, Karen Larson, Betty Laur and Jerry Laur.** This feat made them eligible for a drawing for a paid 2009 American Coin Hunt and Picnic entry. The lucky winner was **Bob Smirnow.**



Perfect Attendance Winner - **Bob Smirnow**

HOLIDAY TREE RAFFLE WINNER

Ed Weston made another one of his fabulous Holiday Trees and donated it to the club to be raffled off at the Holiday Party. All proceeds will be applied towards the American Coin Hunt. Thanks again, Ed!

Raffle Winner - **Paul Hamlin**



PULLTAB CONTEST WINNER

Ken Lubinski revealed the list of guesses and opened the Pull Tab Jar. **Kurt Herring** won the \$100 bill. **Kurt** guessed 5,690 and the total in the jar was 5,691! Congratulations **Kurt!** Special THANKS go to **Ken Lubinski** for coming up with the idea, his donation of the \$100 prize, and for collecting and counting each of those pull tabs! Thank you to everyone who participated!

WINNER OF FISHER F4 METAL DETECTOR



Trent Bowen

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

For the 13th consecutive year, GCTC members demonstrated their commitment to our community. During our holiday party members and the GCTC treasury donated a total of **\$200** to benefit **Home Safe**, a haven for abused, neglected and abandoned children. A big thank you goes out to everyone who donated to this important cause - especially in this difficult economy!

In addition, throughout the year members collected and donated cell phones and ink cartridges to raise money for the club, as well as *hundreds* of prescription eyeglasses and sunglasses which will benefit disadvantaged clients of the Lion's Club of South Florida. (More information will be featured in the February newsletter.)

Thank you to everyone who participated!

Karen Larson shared the following e-mail, sent to Greenberg Taurig employees by a colleague that illustrates the caliber of the children that we have been helping each year at Home Safe (some details were changed to protect the child's privacy):

A great true story – by David M. Layman

Excuse my sentimentality on this one, but at this time of year, with all that is negative in the world, I have to share this true story. For a number of years I have been on the Board of Home Safe, which provides a home to about 50 children in Palm Beach County who have been severely abused and neglected. For many, it is the best home they have ever had.

At the Board meeting today, we were told of a resident named Tommy, who has been with Home Safe about 3 years. He was severely abused, but has received counseling and treatment, and is doing quite well. He is a sophomore in high school, and is a member of school club.

Recently, he entered a contest sponsored by a beverage company to write an essay. He won the contest for high school sophomores, and his prizes included an I-Pod, a DVD player, and \$1,000 in cash.

At school, Tommy's club adopted for the holidays a family of 5 children, whose mother just passed away of kidney disease. Tommy donated his entire cash prize of \$1,000 to the family, saying he had everything he needed at Home Safe.

Almost everyone at our Board meeting was in tears after hearing what Tommy did. What an example for all of us this season.

E-BAY

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

BY ERNIE BOUYOUCAS

I've been buying and selling on eBay for almost 10 years. During that time, I've bought or sold coins, stamps, paper money, books, clothing, toys and metal detectors. I would like to share my thoughts as far as the numismatic aspect of the site is concerned.

The Good: From a buyer's perspective, eBay is great. You can sit at home and browse thousands of coins, any time of the day or night. No gas needed. It's like all the dealers are coming to you. You can examine photos of the items you are interested in and eventually you will find a coin or two that you like. As far as selling is concerned, it's almost the same thing. Your wares are shown to thousands of buyers across the country (and other countries, if you so choose). You don't have to set up a table or pay bourse fees, although there are fees associated with on-line selling. This is certainly better than a show where only a few hundred or thousand people show up.

The Bad: As a buyer, you really should know grading and value for the items you are seeking. Overgrading is the #1 gripe that I and so many others have about eBay coins (although that's true with too many regular dealers also). To a lesser extent, overpricing is also a problem. For a properly graded coin, however, paying a little above bid or market value is acceptable for the convenience of home shopping, IF it's a great coin. Another thing to watch out for is excessive postage charges. There's no reason to pay \$5 or more (sometimes without insurance) to have a coin or two mailed to you. Some sellers try to squeeze every last cent out of you. Avoid them! For some sellers, in my case anyway, a big drawback is that too many buyers want refunds after receiving their coins. For legitimate reason (mainly coin not as described) I cheerfully give a refund less postage. The problem is that too many buyers consider eBay an approval service and want to examine coins with no intention of buying.

A good way to evaluate a buyer's or seller's past performance is eBay's feedback system. For a successful transaction, each party usually leaves positive feedback for the other. It's obviously trouble when you see an eBay buyer with lots of negative feedback. I've completed almost 400 transactions with one negative feedback. For some reason a buyer thought he was getting mint U.S. 19th century stamps at face value. What an idiot. They were all properly described and priced. After the negative, I wrote my rebuttal for all to see the truth.

The Ugly: Besides the negative aspects of trading on eBay as described above, a few other really bad (ugly) problems persist.

1) Gross overgrading – I've shown the picture to a few club members of a Barber half described as VF when it was AG at best. Either the seller had no clue about grading or was trying to pull a fast one on buyers who have no clue on grading.

2) Incomplete deals - when a buyer won't pay or a seller won't deliver the product. There are several procedures in place for these scenarios including reminders, warnings and finally suspension of trading privileges.

3) False identities – although not a major problem, there have been instances where either buyers or seller misrepresented himself with no coins to deliver or fraudulent payment methods. Counterfeit coins – OK as long as they are labeled as such. There have been cases where they weren't.

I hope I've given some of you with no idea about trading on eBay a little insight about what goes on there. Generally, it is a pleasant experience to deal coins on line. (eBay being just one of the sites.) For those of you planning to sell on line, start slowly until you learn the ropes. For those planning to buy, as in any enterprise. *Caveat emptor!*

DECEMBER CLUB HUNT

The weather could not have been more perfect for an all day hunt at Tanah Keeta Boy Scout Camp. Three members met at Cracker Barrel for a leisurely pre-hunt breakfast. A total of 15 members spent the day metal detecting and collecting trash for our service project. **Gary McNew**, our new assistant hunt master, is also a Boy Scout leader. He was able to take some of the members to older outlying areas and provided more history of the camp. Besides the usual amount of Boy Scout and camping items, two older coins were found. **Jason Petenbrink** found a 1940 silver dime and **Jim Smith** found a 1951 Wheat Penny. **Bill Ginty** found a very nice Boy Scout item. Two pieces of jewelry were found: **Bob Dobski** – a silver ring, and **Ken Lubinski** – an earring. The top "finders of loose change" were **Irving Smith, Jack Petenbrink, Jason Petenbrink** and **Ken Lubinski**.

*If either of the two items below were found, please contact **Gary McNew**:*

- *A small silver device with a small, odd shaped, silver carabineer attached to a burgundy rope.*
- *A key marked "CT14."*



This picture doesn't give justice to the amount of trash recovered and how heavy all the bags were.

JANUARY CLUB HUNT

The next club hunt will be on Sunday, January 11 at Dark Hammock Boy Scout Camp located northeast of Okeechobee City in Okeechobee County. The hunt time will be 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine. Meet at the camp parking lot by 8:45 a.m. for a briefing.

Our application states that we are doing a service project for the camp and our primary purpose is the removal of trash and unsafe metal objects. You will be given a trash bag to collect trash that you dig up or come across. There will be an area to put full bags or large pieces of trash so you do not have to tote a lot of garbage as you hunt. All trash will be collected and transported off the campsite. Pictures will be taken at the end of the day and the results shown to the ranger.

The purpose of this camp is to provide natural Florida wilderness camping experiences for Troops, Crews, or Explorer Posts only. This is a primitive campsite, but it does have one outhouse. You will need to bring your own water, food, insect repellent and sunscreen protection. There is a swimming pond at the camp, so water hunting is allowed.

Directions to the camp will be provided at the meeting. Contact Linda Bennett for any questions.

TCAS 22TH ANNUAL BENEFIT HUNT

The Treasure Coast Archeological Society in Sebastian will be holding its competition hunt on Saturday, March 14 from 9 a.m. till 4 p.m. at the Kiwanis-Hobart Park, Wabasso, Florida. Multiple hunts will be held: Competition, Pin Point, Silver and Reale hunt. Grand Prize is a Garrett GTI-1500! The cost is \$75 for all 3 hunts. Lunch is included. Hunt applications will be available at the GCTC meetings.

For further information regarding the hunt contact

Mitch King, Hunt Coordinator at

mking11@earthlink.net or

www.geocities.com/tcas_club/tcasbenefithunt.htm

7th GREAT SOUTHERN BEACH SHOOTOUT APRIL 3-5, 2009

Held every year at Daytona Beach, Florida, the GSBS has quickly become known as the world's largest beach metal detection event! This year's Great Southern Beach Shootout will feature several competition hunts, plus a kid's hunt! As always, thousands of coins, prizes and cash awards will make this GSBS an event not to be missed by any metal detecting enthusiast! Information and application forms will be available at the next meeting.

CHECK OUT THIS SITE:

<http://www.gsbsdaytonahunt.com/>

Membership Renewal Form

Name _____

Address _____

City and State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone # _____

Cell Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Please _____ DO _____ DO NOT

Include my address, phone # & e-mail address
in the new club directory.

(Note: members' names, at least, will be included.
Directory goes to members ONLY.)

MAIL TO:

**Gold Coast Treasure Club
Ken Lubinski
P.O. Box 1818
Hobe Sound, FL 33475**

Thanks to the following members who were on the
Holiday Committee:

Linda Bennett

Stacey deLucia

Gail Hoskins

Karen Larson

Betty Laur

Ken Lubinski

Cheryl Petenbrink

Jan Smirnow



For more Holiday Party pictures, be sure to see our website.
All Holiday Party Pictures by Steve Hoskins

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 8, 2009: 2008 Yearly Best Finds and Club Meeting

January 11, 2009: Boy Scout Camp Hunt at Dark Hammock

March 14, 2009: TCAS Hunt

March 15, 2009: Boy Scout Camp Hunt

April 3-5, 2009: Great Southern Beach Shootout at Daytona Beach

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

Thanks to the following contributors:

Linda Bennett, Stacey deLucia, Mindy Spiroch, Ernie

Bouyoucas, Betty Laur and Jan Smirnow.

*Special thank you to Cheryl Petenbrink for typing some
articles.*