



S.H.R.R.A. Monthly

September 2016

www.shrra.net

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ATTENTION!

** If you have any finds you would like to submit for consideration for the Newsletter, send them to db007@att.net.*



S.H.R.R.A. Members,

What a great meeting! Thanks to Larry Yerino for his presentation on Minerals & Fossils. For those of you that missed it...for info on how to/where to find fossils/minerals, make sure to read Larry's Article included herein. All of his reference & presentation Material is available for download on the website... Under the "Articles" Tab located on the Navbar.

Next Meeting is Oct 11th, 2016 @ 6:30 – Italian Pie in Slidell, LA off Gauze Blvd. Richard Angelico will be giving a presentation on a Battle Field Pickup rifle from the Port Hudson Battlefield..... Looking forward to see what his research turned up!

Sincerely,

*David Bond
S.H.R.R.A. President*

HUNTER OF THE YEAR CONTEST

Everyone, please bring in finds to submit at the meetings. There are 13 Categories (Below). You will earn 1 point for entering, plus... 3 Points for 1st, 2 Points for 2nd, 1 Point for 3rd. The FINAL 2015 Treasure Hunter of the Year Standings is shown on Page 3.

This Month's September 2016 - 1st Place Category Winners are:

Most Coins: 494 – Rick Hervey

Most Bullets of 19th Century or older: 3 – David Bond

Civil War Buttons: NONE

War of 1812 Buttons: NONE

Civil War & Pre-Civil War Relics: 52 Cal Musket Ball – David Bond

Buttons (non-C.W. and Non-War of 1812): Colonial Flat Button – Larry Yerino

Artillery: NONE

Jewelry: 10kt Gold Diamond Ring – Rick Hervey

Coin: 1917 Mercury Dime – Nick Haas

Tokens: 50Cent Logging Token - Nick Haas

Bottles: 1950-1960's Royal Crown Cola Bottle – David Bond/Ointment Jar – Nick Haas

Non-Metallic: Peltier Woody Shooter Marble – David Bond

Wild Card: 3 Melted Pennies – Nick Haas/19th Century Suspender Clip – David Bond

SHRRA Hunter of the Year Standngs										
	NAME	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Total
1	Nick Haas	19	18	26	25	26	25	21	26	186
2	Larry Yerino	23	16	17	0	0	0	18	26	100
6	David Bond	17	0	0	0	0	16	13	25	71
5	Rick Hervey	6	11	16	14	14	0	6	14	81
3	Richard Angelico	0	0	0	0	36	28	32	0	96
4	Dwelia Haas	8	17	19	20	12	9	0	0	85
7	Tom Colvin	4	11	0	11	6	4	3	0	39
8	Frank M.	0	16	0	11	0	0	0	0	27
9	Charlie McLeod	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	15
10	Jeremy Birch	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
11	Jimmy Lea	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	10
12	Travis Reeves	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	8
13	Dusty Williams	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	7
13	Dan Fontenot	0	0	0	2	0	4	1	0	7
15	Jesse Sanders	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	6
16	Ken Guidry	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	4

Treasure Hunter of the Month

1st	Nick Haas	26
1st	Larry Yerino	26
3rd	David Bond	25
4th	Rick Hervey	14

Marble Pull:

Still Open...

Detector Razzle:

None at this time

HUNTMASTER REPORT

NOTE: Club Hunts are not guaranteed, except for the Huntnic. It is not mandatory, but it is everyone's responsibility to find a spot for a club hunt. If you do find a spot, you will be rewarded. Once a member offers up their spot, the club will be informed after a definitive date is set. Let's all make it a point to constantly be on the lookout for a place to bring the club.

•Annual Huntnic: October 15th

Hunting Minerals & Fossils

By: Larry Yerino

I grew up as a kid collecting fossils in Cincinnati, Ohio which is the world's type location for Upper Ordovician-aged fossils. This led to my interest in geology and eventually majoring in this subject at college and spending some 30+ years working as an exploration geologist with various oil companies in Louisiana and Texas. I guess one could say that metal detecting and fossil/crystal hunting are very similar to each other because in both you never know what you are going to find every time you go out to hunt.

In hunting either minerals or fossils the first thing you want to do is to figure out what you would like to find and where you need to go to find them. If you are new to the hobby and don't know what you would like to find you can pick up guide books such as "The Peterson Field Guide Series to Rocks and Minerals" or "Simon and Schuster's Guide to Fossils". These are handy reference books that describe the mineral's physical properties (i.e. color, luster, hardness, etc.) and occurrences or with fossils their physical descriptions, geologic age and general locations to find them. Fortunately these reference books come with color photos which make identifying a whole lot easier. Another way to identify fossils or minerals you would like to hunt is to visit a Natural History Museum and look at their collections. The vast majority of their minerals and fossils were found in the United States and by noting the name of the specimen and where it was found you can do a web search to find collecting sites that would have these items.

Like in metal detecting finding locations to hunt is always the hardest part of the hobby. Mineral or Fossil hunting locations can be easily found by doing a little research on the internet or through books and articles. One can simply type in "Hunting for (a specific mineral or fossil)" and the internet will inundate you with all sorts of sites giving locations in various states around the country. You will have to do a little digging to refine your search once you have identified a location because, as in metal detecting, some people will not give an exact location, but if you dig hard enough someone will provide directions to an outcrop to dig at.

Other sources for locating sites can be found at the websites of Geologic State Surveys. Every state has one and most have publications on all things geological within their state including fossils and minerals that can be found there. They also publish geologic maps that show the location and age of the rocks within their boundaries. In fossil hunting if you know the age of the fossil you can find the same age rocks on these maps and use that to target your hunting area. Other sources of geologic maps are the AAPG (American Association of Petroleum Geologists) that have Geological Highway Maps for different multi-state regions. These maps also show the locations of different aged rocks within their region. The maps can be purchased from their website and there are 12 different regions across both the lower 48 and Alaska and Hawaii. Another source for information is the USGS website (U.S. Geological Survey). They have a boatload of information and maps on the geology of the U.S. including information on minerals and fossils (your government dollars at work). Another great reference item is the Roadside Geology Series books of various states. These books will take the major roads that run through a state, and describe the geology that you are seeing from the road using mileposts as reference points. They will include information on fossil and minerals sites accessed from the road, outcrops of interest and even quarry and mines along the way. This is a really good reference book to take along on a road trip. If you read it in advance you can amaze everyone in your car with how smart you are as you are driving through an area, although, if you have them, most teenagers would tend to disagree about that. And finally, a really good publication that is out of print but worth the effort to find is a book entitled

“Texas Mineral and Fossil Locations” by Jewel and Arthur L. Umberger. It is a great reference book with maps and descriptions for finding all sorts of neat fossils and minerals throughout the great state of Texas.

Now let’s touch on 2 hunting sites in the next 2 paragraphs: At the quartz crystal site in the Hot Springs, Arkansas area I would advise the following: Because of the sticky red clay in the area wear old clothes and boots, bring clean clothes to change into when you are done, and a trash bag to put the dirty clothes in to keep your car clean. Even though the quarry will give you a sturdy plastic bag for your finds bring a 5 gallon bucket to collect with. If you dig in the dirt to find crystals bring a large shovel, a small hand trowel and a small 3 or 4 prong hand rake. They have a faucet and hose in the parking area to clean some of the red clay off any crystals that you find. They also have nice clean restrooms in the main ticket building that you can use. Since there is no shade bring plenty of sunscreen and bottled water. Also purchase a bag of Oxalic Acid from the ticket office to get your crystals really clean when you get home. They will provide an instruction sheet on how to prepare the cleaning solution. Also try to go collecting after they have had a heavy rain, the rainwater erodes and exposes more crystals at the surface and they are easier to find. And finally make a small vacation out of it and stay in Hot Springs while you are there. They have hiking trails, the National Park bathhouses, Gravan Woodland Gardens, a casino/racetrack, great restaurants and plenty of hotels.

At the fossil hunting site I recommend the following: Unlike going to the crystal quarry after a heavy rain make sure that it has not rained hard at the Sulphur River site. I would wait at least 5 days or more after a heavy rain before going. If you do go after a rain the gravel bars will probably be under water. The fall is usually the best time to go with cooler temperatures and less rain chances. Wear old clothes and boots and bring a change of clothes and a trash bag to hold your dirty and wet clothes. All you need to collect with is a 5 gallon bucket and gloves to pad your hands. The fossils have eroded loose from the bedrock and you do not need a hammer to break anything, just pick them up when you see them. Look for sharks teeth in the smaller gravel and keep an eye out for arrowheads. Bring plenty of sunscreen, bottled water and a snack since you will not be right next to your car. Parking next to any of the bridges is allowed and the locals are used to seeing fossil hunters so you won’t get looked at twice. There are bio-hazards in the area so keep an eye out for snakes, spiders and wasp nests. If you want to flip over a rock to see what is on the other side I would advise flipping it over with your boot. Paris, Texas, just north of the area, has a lot of the chain hotels and restaurants, so it is a comfortable place to stay. There just aren’t a lot of things to do there when you’re not hunting but they do have a movie theater and shopping malls.

Remember to get permission to hunt on private property. As in metal detecting state parks and national parks are off limits to collecting and you are not allowed to collect on any outcrops along Interstate Highways.

Larry Yerino

2016 S.H.R.R.A. MEMO

Note to all SHRRA Members: Please direct all new/potential members to www.shrra.net. All information on the club is there. The Website includes a web store where you can now Pay Dues online, info on How to Join, Annual Huntnic Information, etc...

*If you would like to contribute an article or Metal detecting related story, or something relevant to our hobby or club... Please submit to db007@att.net. Upon B.O.D. approval, we will post it on the website.

www.shrra.net

CLUB SPONSORS:

Cayenne Metal Detectors

Provides great Member only discounts on Metal Detecting Equipment & Accessories.

DigginitTees.com

SHRRA Club T-Shirts are available on their website for purchase S-XL starts at \$18.

PredatorTools.com has also come on Donating a Lesche Digger for the Huntnic Rebel Raffle, and offering Club Members \$10 off each purchase.

MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVES

Refer a New Member Program

*Earn 10 FREE Rebel Raffle Tickets
Eligibility for FREE tickets will be voted on by the Club's Board of Directors on a case by case basis. You will only earn tickets for the One person you refer. Terms are subject for revision as needed.*

Club Hunt Reward Program

Earn 20 FREE Rebel Raffle tickets for finding a site for a Club Hunt.

Eligibility for FREE tickets will be voted on by the Club's Board of Directors on a case by case basis. Access to a site, means.... An area of historical interest with potential, that is not normally accessible by the general public. Setting up Hunts on a public Beach will not be eligible for Free Tickets. Terms are subject for revision by the Club BOD as needed.

NEXT MEETING IS: October 11th, 2016 at the Italian Pie @ 6:30 pm

If you have a great personal best find, and you would like to submit a picture for this Newsletter..... or an article, send to db007@att.net