

# THE SILVER SIGNAL

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

August 2006

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Our next meeting is August 4, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. We will be back in our usual location at the IOOF hall. We hope to see you there.

## President's Corner

by John Finnell



Hello everyone! One Hundred and Five Degrees! That's what my thermometer says as I write this. I got a chance to do some good hunting this weekend, but after the sun got up, and I ventured out from the shade, it practically sucked the life out of me. When it's hot like this remember to bring along some water whenever you're out hunting. I didn't remember, and if it hadn't been for Mike Skinner bringing enough water for all of us, we would have been hurtin' for certain. A hat with a wide brim, and a lot of high SPF sunscreen are good ideas as well. Even a short time outdoors in this heat can be dangerous.

I hope everyone had a good time at the barbeque last week. Although I don't think any of us had quite as good a time as Ronnie Morris! I think "Lucky" Lewis Murray may have to start sharing his nickname after this last raffle! Congratulations to everyone who won a prize, and thanks again to everyone who worked so hard to make it a success.

## Trivia

Fort Knox is probably the country's best-known storage facility because that is where much of the U.S.A.'s gold is stored. You have to take their word for the fact that the gold is still there as there is an extremely strict "No Visitors" rule. All that gold is the subject of many a dream; some legal and others illegal. There is no practical use for the gold stored at Fort Knox, but there is enough there to pave a 16-foot-wide highway from New York to Chicago, one fourth of an inch thick. Also called "The United States Bullion Depository," Fort Knox is located in Kentucky and was built in 1936.



Hello again folks! The July 14<sup>th</sup> Barbeque dinner was a giant success for everyone. I had a great time visiting with friends, and I ate too much chocolate cake, but I am not complaining. It was great cake. I loved the fresh fruit as well. As a matter of fact, all of the food was wonderful. Thanks to everyone who

brought food for our banquet! It was a lot of fun to see our friends from Golden Triangle again and share an evening of fun!

Our first spotlight article is going to shine on a friend whom many of you may already know, but who deserves the spotlight for being a dedicated member as well as an exceptional treasure hunter. The member spotlight article appears later in this newsletter. I hope you enjoy getting to know our members better with each new article. Remember, it might be you we interview as our “Shining Lone Star” next month. So watch your incoming email to see if you get a letter from me.

I am still expecting input from our members for upcoming newsletters. All articles, stories, pictures, jokes, artwork, etc. may be sent to me at my email address. Don't be shy! All submissions are welcomed and appreciated. Send all submissions to: [newsletter@lonestartreasure.com](mailto:newsletter@lonestartreasure.com).

Until next month, may good fortune and prosperity be yours.

### **Q&A**

**Q.** Why are there two varieties of the Buffalo nickel?

**A.** This is one of those questions that frequently get ignored, on the assumption that “everyone” knows the answer. The original design shows the buffalo on a mound. This exposed the date, which wore rapidly. The mound was removed and replaced by a raised line, which helped somewhat to protect the date from wear. The first Standing Liberty quarters had the same problem, which was corrected in 1925.

## August's "Shining Lone Star" Member Spotlight

This month's member spotlight is on Mary Penson. Mary was born in Havre, Montana. Her father moved her family to Kettle Falls, Washington when she was a teenager. Mary met and married Noland Penson. The two moved to Kansas City, and then AT&T moved them to Garland, Texas in 1970. Mary is still a young woman at only 65 years of age, and she says she loves being 65.

Mary started working for Garrett Metal Detectors in 1979, and started metal detecting when her husband, Noland, passed away in 1997. Her favorite find came about searching for her father's car keys. Mary says, "I don't get out metal detecting as much as I should, but searching my dad's back yard looking for his keys one day a silver quarter popped out!" Mary told me that her funniest find came about when she was digging and found a tire iron, five old-time chrome colored lug nuts, and a rear view mirror; which all came out of the same hole. "If I had kept digging," she said, "I might have found the car!"

Mary has been using a Garrett (naturally) GTI 1500 metal detector. She loves the sizing feature most about her detector. Her best advice for new treasure hunters is to learn your detector by being patient, and listen to what it is "telling" you.

Mary loves to hunt for coins and some jewelry, but thinks treasure hunting on a Florida beach would be wonderful! So do I! She told me that before she gets around to hunting anywhere else in the world she wants to hunt more of the United States.

Mary is definitely a "Shining Lone Star member!" I want to thank Mary personally for her spotlight interview. I hope everyone enjoys the first member spotlight. Stay tuned to read about more of our members and their love of the activity of treasure hunting!

**July BBQ Raffle Winners**

<b>Raffle Prize</b>	<b>Donated By</b>	<b>Winner</b>
1895 Barber Quarter	GTES	Joan Hines
1732 British Half Cent	LSTH	Danny Webb
Washington Comm. Half	GTES	Ronnie Morris
1800 British Token	LSTH	Roy Glover
1935 UNC Silver Certificate	GTES	Ronnie Morris
2006 S Proof Half Dollar	LSTH	Lewis Murray
Canadian Wolf Half Round	GTES	Laverne Wheeler
2006 S Proof Half Dollar	LSTH	Jack Ellett
1979 Proof Set	GTES	Ivan Santos
Colorized Dollar Set	LSTH	John Finnell
1 oz. Silver Bar	GTES	Olga Hankins
Fractional Currency	LSTH	Rick Anderson
1 oz. Silver Round	GTES	Catherine Finnell
1887 Seated Dime	LSTH	Mike Shaw
1926 S Peace Dollar	The Caldwell's	Ronnie Morris
1829 Bust Dime	LSTH	Earl Johnson
2006 Silver Eagle	GTES	Joan Hines
1850 Large Cent	LSTH	Rick Anderson
1899 Barber Half	GTES	Ronnie Morris
1804 Repo Round	LSTH	Hilary Johnson
1889 Morgan Dollar	GTES	Herman Denzler
1853 Seated Half Dime	LSTH	Rick Ege
1853 Seated Quarter	GTES	Norita Darke
1854 Large Cent	LSTH	Ronnie Morris
2.5 Peso Gold	GTES	Phillip Caffey
1847 Large Cent	LSTH	Mike Skinner

## JULY BBQ Raffle Winners Cont'd.

<b>Raffle Prize</b>	<b>Donated By</b>	<b>Winner</b>
2.5 Peso Gold	GTES	Jack Lowry
1830 Bust Half	LSTH	Herman Denzler
1872 Seated Half	GTES	Frank Lawson
State Seal Dos Peso Gold	LSTH	Rick Burkey

### **Trivia**

The West Point Mint is the youngest of our mints, and comes with its own special history. It began as a U.S. Silver Bullion Depository. It was built in 1938. The first shipment of silver to West Point consisted of over 1.2 billion bars, amounting to some 1.2 billion troy ounces. A 1973 law authorized “any” facility for striking coins. Presses were moved in and the facility began striking cents, up to 1.5 billion a year. In 1988 its status was upgraded to a full-fledged mint.

The West Point Mint did not strike any foreign coins with the W mintmark, but it did strike all of the Panama 1974 one-centesimo coins. The W was not used until the 1984 U.S. Olympic coins. The W has also appeared on a number of commemorative coins struck at the West Point Mint, but not on the cents.

What is Exonumia? It isn't a strange gasoline-related disease, well maybe, if being tired of high gas prices counts. Very simply it's anything on the fringes of numismatics. Stocks and bonds are just two of the many collectibles that fall under this heading. Old stocks and bonds can be worth money, and they should always be checked for value even if the company no longer exists.

# COIN NAME HUNT

A B F N V T O E H E Y T T N A T W E I T N A N L I  
Y H L A R N B Y G Y E S N I T A B L W E O N V E N  
K W H T A E D E G S A W O T E O S O I B K G E K O  
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A A E R C N H N E L B I O C S S R Y O R B R Y W R  
C N O N S O L C H A E A L B E S L R N N R E T E O  
N L I L N L A A W M N V O T E W E E A N R R R Y E  
W L H Y E T T Y E L T H E R O Y R K V F B N T Y E  
E R L R O S R G O G O E A S W T C G E E B V E L R  
I N L T R E H N I H B N S O O S G W R S N K W B O  
A E R A D A N G S H N N E A O O O N W K S N C C N  
R I N L T E L K G A N L E V C E R T B N G Y R G E

Lincoln

Barber

Morgan

Roosevelt

Sacagawea

Gobrecht

Buffalo

Liberty

Kennedy

Eisenhower

Washington

Anthony

## Announcements and Reminders

A.M. Van Fossen of Houston, Texas passed away on June 29, 2006. He will be sincerely missed. Van was a real friend to our treasure hunting community. Several times at great cost to himself he shared his many unbelievable and valuable artifacts with us all at the Texas Treasure Show. Van had been across the world hunting treasure and was considered an authority on most all kinds of treasure and its history. Our prayers and sympathies go out to his family and friends.

The next meeting is August 4th in our regular meeting place. Bring in any finds from the last two months for the find of the month competition. Snacks brought to the meeting for intermission will be appreciated!

WWATS (World Wide Association of Treasure Seekers, Inc.) will again have their annual open rally and FREE hunts at the same location as last year, K River Campgrounds just north of Antlers, S.E. Oklahoma on the Kiamichi River. Dates will be Oct. 20-22nd 2006. Start making your reservations at the campgrounds on the kriver website at: [www.kriver.com](http://www.kriver.com) now. You do not need to be a member to participate, but membership in WWATS is free for a three-year period! This is a free hunt, but they do take donations to help in the continuance of this hunt as well as WWATS. If you need further information on WWATS or the rally, you can contact Keith Wills, 1495 FM 49, Gilmer, TX. 75644 Email: [kwills@etex.net](mailto:kwills@etex.net) or you can go to the WWATS website at [www.wwats.org](http://www.wwats.org)

Q&A and Trivia submitted from Coin Clinic 2 by Alan Herbert.

Deadline for all submissions to the newsletter editor will be on the 15th of each month. Submissions after the 15th may not appear until the following month's newsletter. If you have an announcement that needs to be in the newsletter, send them along with any other submissions to the following email address or you can give them to John Finnell at the next meeting. No advertisements or sale items will be placed in the newsletter at any time. Please **hand print** announcements for John or email them to: [newsletter@lonestartreasure.com](mailto:newsletter@lonestartreasure.com)

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