

The Leaverite News



August, 2008

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July Meeting Notes

By Keith Ballow

There were 37 members and guests present for the July meeting and fundraiser auction. Terry Nicholas graciously volunteered to serve as auctioneer for the club again this year.

Jess Allen, filling in for President Michael Culotta, reminded members that we are always looking for locations to hold a club hunt. Guest speakers are another thing members are encouraged to be on the lookout for.



Keith Wills mentioned that there is a need for club volunteers in each area who are willing to search for lost items whenever someone calls looking for assistance with locating it. This is the best kind of public relations for the hobby and the club when a member can locate a lost item for someone in the community.



Club members enjoying last month's fund raiser auction.



Local auctioneer, Terry Nicholas turning another donated item into cold hard cash for the club. Terry always does a great job with the auction and entertaining the crowd for the evening.

Rusk County Treasure Hunters Association Club Officers

President	Michael Culotta	lynx@suddenlink.net
VP/Treasurer	Jess Allen	jessallen743@hotmail.com
Vice President	Sam Harris	samkharris@aol.com
Secretary	Suzanne Reed	bullterrier3@juno.com
Newsletter Editor	Keith Ballow	kballow@hughes.net



Ticket Drawing Winners

Jess Allen, Bob Anderson, Junior St. Clair
Keith Wills, Tom Moss

Sign-in Sheet Winners

Darrell Crosby, Sue Anderson,
David Chapman, Tina Foxworth
Nora Backus, Tom Moss

Name Tag Drawing Winner

Jim Quinn

Marble Drawing

No Winners

Dates to Remember

Longview Club Meeting
Second Monday of Month
Rusk County Club Meeting
Second Tuesday of Month
Smith County Club Meeting
Third Saturday of Month

We Appreciate Our Volunteers!

August meeting refreshment volunteers:

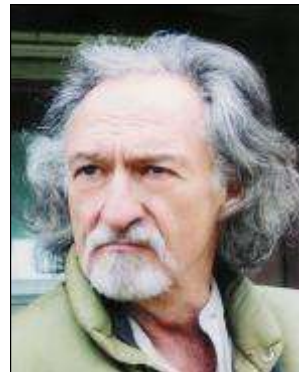
Suzanne Reed, Keith Ballow, Jess Allen

Monthly Finds Contest Winners

		Winner	Description
Coins	1st	Tom Moss	1888 Seated Dime
	2nd	Sue Anderson	1945 Mercury Dime
	3rd	A. D. Clark	1914 Wheat Penny
Jewelry	1st	Bob Anderson	18K Gold Chain
	2nd	Tom Moss	Turquoise Bracelet
	3rd	Keith Wills	3 Diamond Gold Wedding Band
Artifacts	1st	Tom Moss	Flint Knife (arrow head)
	2nd	Ed Worley	1953 Dog Tag
	3rd	A. D. Clark	Old Lock
Tokens	1st	Tom Moss	1935 Colorado 1/5 cent token
	2nd	Ed Worley	Luxury Tax Token
	3rd	Bob Bradberry	H&H Token
Judges	1st	Tom Moss	Assorted 1940-50's Metal Toys
Choice	2nd	Bob Anderson	Titanium Wedding Band
	3rd	Dana Logston	Harmonica Reed

Gregg County Club Meeting

The Gregg County Club, in Longview, Texas will hold their October 13th meeting at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be at the American Legion building with Mr. W.C. Jameson speaking.



W.C. Jameson is the award-winning author of 50 books and over 1,500 published articles and essays.

His latest novel, *Beating the Devil* (University of New Mexico Press) is racking up stunning reviews and impressive sales. It has also generated calls from movie producers. In addition to writing fiction, Jameson is the creator of the series, *W.C. Jameson's Lost Treasures of America*. His success and fame as a professional treasure hunter has led to appearances on *Unsolved Mysteries*, the History Channel, The Discovery Channel, the Travel Channel, *Nightline*, and National Public Radio. Jameson is the best-selling treasure author in the world.

One of his recent books, *Billy the Kid: Beyond the Grave* (Taylor Trade Publishing), was a regional best-seller. This controversial book presents stunning evidence that the outlaw, Billy the Kid, was not killed by Sheriff Pat Garrett but went on to live an amazing life for another seventy years. He has appeared on television and speaks around the country aspects of the life of this famous outlaw.

Jameson has won awards from national and regional associations and he is a three-time winner of the coveted Stirrup Award for Best Magazine Article. A nationally recognized and honored author, Jameson often serves as a literary judge for organizations such as the Western Heritage Association, Ozark Creative Writers, Inc., and Women Writing the West. Contact Margret Logston for details.



It's Like Watching A Tree Grow!

Traveling from Austin, Texas to Anchorage, Alaska supporting 20 bicyclists takes a long time. Here it is, day 26 of a 70 day trek and we are only at Yellowstone National Park, WY. Not even half way to Alaska.



At our present location we are near the middle of the caldera boundary. This huge caldera is the approximate area of the super volcano which makes up Yellowstone Park. That's what all the geyser and bubbling springs are about. According to scientist, this thing could blow at any time and is well over due. Yikes!

In fact I am sitting in the support van on top of a mountain waiting for the rest of the cyclist to arrive. Every 20 miles the vans stop to set up a table with refreshments for the riders so they can refuel in order to keep riding. They average 80 miles per day and need to maintain their energy levels. All the riders are doing well and are still passionate about their mission. We've only had one injury and it was non-cycling.

Our strongest rider was along on a side excursing supplied by one of our host groups. We visited an old time



roller skating rink. The boy is a super bike rider but apparently has trouble with eight wheels (skates). Most everyone had taken their skates off and Julio did one more round and went down breaking his leg in three places. He is in a cast and the rest of the team will not let him go home though he may not be able to ride until the cast comes off somewhere in Canada, about day 35. He is, needless to say, bummed.

Let me tell you about Stella. She is the girl who got her bike stolen and we put our club donation in her name. She is Korean and in this country seven years. She speaks pretty good American and some of the kids tease her a little because she expresses herself differently than them. She also rides her bike while singing and seemingly in another world. Last night was our first real camping night in Grand Teton Park. While sitting around the campfire someone started to play a guitar. Kind of a blues tune. Stella started making up words and singing the story of her ride of the last two days. Everyone was amazed at how beautiful her voice was and the poetic lyrics she was making up on the spot.



We have met some really kind and generous people on the journey so far, offering food, accommodations, advice and good conversation. In some towns we enter and leave quietly

with no fanfare. Others, like two nights ago in Dubois, WY, are quite entertaining. We were offered free food at the Whiskey Barrel Italian Restaurant and Saloon. Some of the locals challenged us to a horse shoe game off the back patio while two of our other riders were arm wrestling some big burley guys in the saloon. All had heard of our ride for cancer and just enjoyed being with us and beating us at horse shoes and arm wrestling.

It is not all just fun. Each morning before we leave we circle up and each rider announces who they are riding for that day. One of our girls had found out that Claudia, our waitress from the night before, was a breast cancer survivor and told her that she would ride in celebration of being cancer free for a year and a half. So Claudia shows up with her niece, Lacey, in order to witness this powerful morning meeting. Many of our riders dedicated that days ride to Claudia. But, our Stella had found out that Lacey wanted to come because her father had recently died from cancer. When it was Stella's turn she dedicated her ride in memory of Lacey's father. Lacey burst into tears as did all of us. Hugs were shared and everyone departed with determination to ride for those whose names they had spoken. Many days have been filled with moments that are powerful and rewarding. Like the morning two of the riders dedicated their ride to me.

Finds of the Month Contest

