

The *Soundoff*



***EUREKA!* Treasure Hunters Club, Inc.**

V. 44 I. 3

March, 2016

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eurekathc.com is now eurekathc.org

February's "Two of Hearts Hunt" Report

By Van Romero

The fact that we are still in winter makes it difficult to plan for a hunt much less a big lunch, so we opted for hot and cold beverages and a lot of pastries that of course included one of the major food groups "donuts"! Chris arrived to help plant the field (thank you, Chris!) and hang the Eureka sign while Nancy thankfully helped with registration. Originally, the hunt was going to be by the amphitheater but we found a nice little secluded area east of the soccer field that had a port o potty. The morning was cold and the ground was hard but there was enough tall grass and foliage that Chris and I successfully loaded the hunt field with silver dimes, silver quarters, wheat pennies and six heart shaped medallions worth prizes.

Jeff had mentioned a couples or partners hunt that was previously done and hadn't been done in some time. So after some thought I figured this would be a perfect way to spend Valentines partners hunt. We had and the rules were simple: one person ran the detector and the headphones. The other person wore a drawing, were allowed to use a strategy that worked in the field. A penalty box was set up for couples who found it difficult to remain silent.



morning with a couples/eight pairs of couples please: no talking, one per couple, paired through some time to put together the best for them in the hunt marked out for those difficult to remain silent.

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For some, remaining silent was the hardest part. Surprisingly the penalty box was only used once or twice. Since this was a couples hunt whatever the pair found was awarded two times. So, if the couple found six Mercurys they were given an additional six Mercurys. In addition to the buried targets we also had fun with a little poker. All the Wheat Pennies had a card denomination tapped to them and was covered up so not to encourage the hunters to try to make a winning poker hand in the target field. We started hunting around 10:30am and once in the field the cold weather was not an issue. The hunt lasted until it appeared locating targets slowed down which took about 45 minutes. Now came the fun part, figuring out how many coins was owed to each couple, who had the best poker hand and who found the six heart shape medallions.



One team was one card away from having a flush which would have proven to be the winning poker hand. But, as it turned out the winning hand was three of a kind (6s) by Mary and Ken and for that hand they won a 1 troy oz .999 Las Vegas silver “art” bar by Mother Lode Mine. The runner up was close. Two separate partners had two aces. John H. and Jim (see cover photo) won with two aces, king high, beating out Steve and Win who also had two

aces with a queen high. They won each a 1921 Morgan dollar.

John O. and Cindy found the most heart shaped medallions and took home enough candy to last until summer.



The heart shaped medallion with the #1 on it was found by Paul and Roy and they took home some very fine looking love tokens/seated dimes.



Like most unknowns it can be challenging and this hunt proved to be a rewarding day of fun and prizes. I want to thank all who braved the cold and participated in this hunt. Happy hunting this spring and good luck!!

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Drawing tickets are \$1 each, take a chance.



TREASURE HUNTER'S CODE OF ETHICS

- I WILL respect private property and do no treasure hunting without the owner's permission.
- I WILL fill all excavations.
- I WILL appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources, wildlife, and private property.
- I WILL use thoughtfulness, consideration, and courtesy at all times.
- I WILL build fires in designated or safe places only.
- I WILL leave gates as found.
- I WILL remove and properly dispose of any trash that I find.
- I WILL NOT litter.
- I WILL NOT destroy property, buildings, or what is left of ghost towns and deserted structures.
- I WILL NOT tamper with signs, structural facilities, or equipment.

About *Soundoff*

Soundoff is the official newsletter of the Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc. (Eureka!). Mailing Address: PO Box 101385, Denver, CO 80250-1385.

Opinions expressed in *Soundoff* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the club or its members. Publication of information in *Soundoff* constitutes no guarantee of accuracy. Use of any information found in this publication is at the sole risk of the user. Neither Eureka!, nor its officers, nor *Soundoff*, nor its editors or contributors assume any liability for damages resulting from use of information in this publication. *Soundoff* is typically placed on the club's website the evening of the first Friday of the month.

Submissions

Articles, letters and short items of interest on prospecting, detecting and treasure hunting topics are welcomed and encouraged. All items submitted for publication are subject to editing. Submittals for publication or correction of errors may be made by e-mail in ASCII text format or MS Word. All article submissions must be received by the editor no later than the deadline of the month (see calendar) for inclusion in the next month's issue. Include publication information on articles clipped from other publications. **Let's hear your story, ideas or tips** - Cindy - your *Soundoff* editor.

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Advertising

Classified business-card-sized text advertising is free to members for non-business ads. Commercial display ads are available to anyone at the following charges: business card size, \$6.00 per month; 1/4 page, \$12.00 per month; 1/2 page, \$24.00 per month; full page, \$48.00 per month. Advertisers are encouraged to take out ads for 12 months and receive a 3-month discount. No other discounts apply. The treasurer must receive any required payments for commercial ads prior to their inclusion.

About Eureka!

Eureka! is a Denver-based, Colorado nonprofit organization established in 1973 for the enjoyment of metal detecting, electronic prospecting and treasure hunting. Its purpose is to provide an educational and social forum of mutual benefit for members. Eureka! holds a monthly meeting and conducts various special presentations, hunts and seminars. Members have voting privileges. Membership includes access to all general meetings, selected seminars and outings. Annual dues run April to March and are \$30 for single adult membership, \$36 for a family membership and \$15 for Junior membership. Pro-rating of dues are done for new members joining the club after the April 1 dues date. Club meetings are held on the second Friday of each month, 7:30 p.m., at the Clement Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood, Colorado. Come early to socialize.

Next Club Meeting

2nd Friday of March, 7:30pm

at the

Clement Community Center

1580 Yarrow Street

(NW of Wadsworth and Colfax)

Lakewood, Colorado 80214

Hotline: (303) 595-5448

www.eurekathc.org



LuLubelle's Lost Bling

Treasure Puzzle

By
Bill Chapman

A cryptogram is an encoded message. The code used is called a simple substitution cypher. This means that the message is encoded by replacing each character in the message with a letter of the alphabet. Every time a particular character occurs in the message, it is replaced with the same code letter. Word spacing and punctuation are not changed.

Some people like to solve cryptograms much like some people like to do crossword puzzles. The cryptogram is solved by looking for frequently used characters and clues provided by letter patterns and word spacing. Solve the cryptogram shown below, find LuLu's bling and bring it to the next regular Eureka! meeting to collect a prize.

LDWK RYJLD TWLLTI TCTCXITTI UEK
HIKIEHSDWJZ LDI LYUJ KWLI YG GTILSDIH.
TELIH E AEHP JCHKIHQ LDI KWLI UEK TIEKIM LY
LDI EHRQ UDWSD XCWTL E DYKAWLET YJ LDI
AHYAIHLQ. E AYJM UEK XCWTL LY DYJYH ETT
ZIJIHET YGGWSIHK EJM UEK SDHWKLIJIM UWLD
E AEWH YG MCSPK. UDWTI NWKWLWJZ LDI
KTWMIK YJ LDI ATEQZHYCJM YG LDI AEHP LDEL
UEK XCWTL EHYCJM WL KDI KLYAAIM LY HIEM
LDI HCTIK KWZJ EJM TYKL DIH XTWJZ.

Last month's solution:

To honor Presidents Day Little Lulubelle was going to dine on a large stack of buckwheat cakes with maple syrup but found her cupboard bare of syrup. To make some she went to Maple Grove Park to tap a maple tree. She discovered there

were no maple trees in that park so played on the slides and lost her bling once again.

Park: Maple Grove Park

Prize: 5 Golden Dollars. Sponsored by Louise Smyth of Gold-N-Detectors.

Eureka! Breakfast Club: The Eureka! Breakfast Club will meet the [First Friday](#) and the [Third Saturday](#) every month. [Everyone is invited!](#)

Contact Bill Abercrombie 303 525-0504 if you are interested in meeting for breakfast and then going out metal detecting with other club members.

If you want to learn more about your detector or how to detect, or cement friendships, this is a great opportunity to tap into other member's experience or to get together for a fun outing.



Report
by Chris Davis

After only 2 months of horrible weather, the Breakfast Club finally got a nice day. And, had a record turnout of 21 Eureka! members. Most of us had a very good breakfast at the Lookin' Good Restaurant, then moseyed over to the Addenbrooke Park to play with our toys. We hit the huge field over on the east side and did not do too bad. A very nice bracelet was recovered. Kathy Zeller picked up a silver heart shaped necklace pendant. Best of all, Jack Hoover found his first gold ring. It appears to be a 10K man's wedding band, composed of rose gold, white gold and yellow gold. I would call it a very successful hunt.



Prez Sez

By
John Olson

The Best Detectorist

Greetings from semi-beautiful Watkins, Colorado.

Where in this world are the best metal detectorists? You've seen them in all the magazines and advertisements for treasure hunting. You've seen them on the TV shows and hear them on the radio. It's the people who find the gold coins and the gold rings! They find and dig raw gold and silver right out of the ground. You've seen their artifacts from civilizations long past and from wars near and far. They find handfuls of coins and jewelry and valuables that others before them have lost.

I have seen them and I know them. You can see these people too, if you just look in the mirror. You can meet more of these people if you just come to a Eureka! meeting. The best detectorists come from our own club. We know our machines and our skills are honed through education and practice. We educate ourselves with Eureka! University and by studying history and searching through books and pictures for clues to hunt sites. We ask questions and give out information when asked. We persist and never give up on that 'hunted out' site. We help our communities with PERT (Physical Evidence Recovery Team) and HART (Historical Artifact Recovery Team) and other charitable activities. We haul off tons of trash from our parks!

Yes, we are the best detectorists! I can see it on the Finds of the Month table, I read about it in the national magazines and I hear it in the tales of our great hunts! I encourage us to help new members to get better and maybe show a youngster how cool it is to find something valuable with that detector.

Gold and Silver in March hunt!

John



FIND THE MONTH

GOLD CATEGORY

Van Romero 10K Opal Ring

JEWELRY CATEGORY

John Hinton Silver Amethyst Ring

Kathy Zeller Copper Ring

Mary Sable Silver Ring w/Diamonds

Sapphires and Rubies

COIN CATEGORY

John Cornelisse 1960 D Roosevelt Dime

Chuck Hedberg 1888 Indian Head Cent

Jeff Mercer 1891 Indian Head Cent

James Merritt 1936, 1943 S, 1944 Walking

Liberty Halves

TOKEN CATEGORY

Pat Lucero Car Wash / 50¢

Pat Lucero PJ's Car Wash / \$1.00

Alan Bravo G. A. Domedion / 12 ½¢

ARTIFACT CATEGORY

Chris Davis Skull Pendant

Chris Davis Religious Pendant

Sue Ruggles Barbed Wire, 1876 Pat. Date

Chuck Hedberg Lead Toy Car

Cindy Bockenstedt Denver Harness Company Plate

Joe Johnston Book with 2 Five Dollar Bills

Alan Bravo Lee, Clarke, Anderson Bicycle Plate

FIND-OF-THE-MONTH CATEGORIES

Gold: natural gold (flakes, nuggets, wire) stamped karat alloy content or obvious custom alloy item.

Jewelry: objects of metal often set with gems and worn for personal adornment, except jewelry qualifying for the Gold Category.

Coin: a piece of metal issued by governmental authority as money (includes gold coins of any nation).

Token: a piece resembling a coin issued as money by some person or body not of a governmental authority; can be redeemed for services or specified items.

Artifact: simple object showing human workmanship or modification.

Find of the Month Winners - February

TOKEN - Alan Bravo

G. A. Domedion / 12½¢



This token for a billiard parlor located at 1533 Arapahoe Street was found by Alan at a late 1800s scrape off with his 6x9 inch DD coil on his White's V3i detector. The ground was frozen but he dug this out at about 1½ inches deep.

JEWELRY - Mary Sable

Silver Ring with Gems



Mary found this marked ring to be silver and tested for diamonds. It also had sapphires and rubies. Mary was searching a Lakewood Park with her White's XLT with

a 9 inch coil when she got a quarter signal and dug this ring out from 4 ½ inches deep.

GOLD - Van Romero

10K Opal Ring

While searching the frozen tundra at Bishop Elementary, Van managed to extract this sweet gold ring after hearing a signal from his White's MXT Pro with a DD coil.



ARTIFACT - Alan Bravo

"The Lee" Bicycle Plate

Lee, Clarke and Anderson Co. (1887-1899) Bicycle Plate. Identified it in the January 1897 Chicago Journal of Commerce. Alan dug it at a scrape off out of 3 inches of mud. The maker's plate was bent and dirty. Alan found it at a 1880s scrape off with his White's V3i with a 6x9inch DD coil.



COIN - Jim Merritt

1943 S, 1944, 1936 Halves

Jim found these dated Walking Liberty halves in downtown Littleton by a bus stop sign about 3 inches down. He was hunting with his White's MXT Pro with a 9 inch DD coil.



In-Town Hunt Information

In-Town club hunts are meant to be fun, first and foremost. They provide a context outside of the meetings for fellowship with club members. To put on an in-town hunt you need to:

- Schedule with the Hunt Coordinator or President (see the contact list).
- Provide the Hunt Coordinator a plan.
- Send the hunt flyer to the newsletter editor in an appropriate format for insertion into the newsletter (see the contact list).
- Provide flyers at the monthly meeting.
- Ensure the hunt rules are discussed BEFORE the hunt.
- Police the hunt.
- Decide if the hunt is a members only or an open hunt (non-members may hunt).
- Write a story for the newsletter and send it and accompanying photos to the newsletter editor prior to that month's deadline.

To ensure the continuation of this hobby and to provide the best impression

of Eureka! and its membership, you, as hunt master, MUST enforce all rules, including:

1. Pouches to store finds and trash must be worn and used at all times during the hunt.
2. All hunters must wear headphones.
3. Absolutely no tolerance of holes left open (a first warning, followed by a time-out or expulsion from the hunt).
4. Hunters digging and leaving trash of any sort on the hunt field will receive the same treatment discussed above.

All hunts will need to be okayed by Hunt Coordinator (see the contact list) prior to officially being put in the newsletter and put on.

Failure to follow the guidelines may result in hunts being cancelled.

Hunts may be paid for in advance. This helps the hunt master with planning for how much should be planted in the field. In case a person must miss the hunt, their prepaid fee may be refunded if they call the hunt master before the hunt and cancel, other circumstances will be reviewed. No refund will be given for just plain failure to show up to the hunt.

Westminster requires a permit to metal detect in their city. It will be good for a year.
See Angie at the lower level of City Hall.
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs from 7:00am to 6:00pm.
Please follow the City's guidelines and show that we, as detectorist, are a responsible group.

Upcoming Events

EUREKA! MEETING

Also bring:

Nametags ~ thanks for wearing them to all Eureka! functions.

Cash ~ for drawings, hunts, hats...

Finds ~ to show.

Answers ~ to puzzles.

Ideas ~ for speakers, fun outings.

Snacks ~ as always, treats for the snack table are appreciated.

UPCOMING EUREKA! EVENTS

Mar 19th, 2016 (Saturday) and

Apr 1st, 2016 (Friday)

Breakfast Club

Contact: Bill Abercrombie 303 525-0504 for place and time to meet.

Mar 13th, 2016

Pot 'O' Gold Hunt

Del Mar Park

\$20

10:00am

Contact: John Olson 719 588-7021

Hotline: 303 595-5448

UPCOMING MEETING SPEAKERS

March Meeting - Antique Bottles

By members of The Colorado Antique Bottle Collectors. Bring in any bottles you want to show, have identified or have questions about.

LINKED WEB SITES

www.mdhtalk.org Detecting Hobby Talk

www.fmdac.org Federation of Metal Detector & Archaeological Clubs

<http://www.relicroundup.blogspot.com>

Relic Roundup Radio show (hosted by Jeff Lubbert 7pm Mondays), and blog.

TenaciousTreasureTracker.com

UPCOMING EVENT

Antique Bottle Collectors of Colorado

51st Anniversary Show

Saturday, July 23rd, 2016

9am-4pm \$3

Douglas County Fairgrounds

Kirk Hall

Castle Rock, CO

Contact Jeff Johnson 303 681-3776

AntiqueBottleCollectorsOfColorado.com

(Dealer Tables Available)

THE HUNT

Tenacious Treasure Tracker

Hunt #5 started March 1.

See Brian Henry's website listed above for clues.



Secretary's Report

By Nancy Faires



February 12, 2016

President John Olson called the Eureka Club meeting to order. Everyone was welcomed and the officers and board members were introduced. There were 81 present including 10 guests.

John Cornelisse presented the Treasurer's report.

The Club is selling \$5 tickets for a Garrett AT PRO detector. The winning ticket will be chosen at the June monthly club hunt.

We have added a 2nd drawing prize – Garrett "Carrot" Pin pointer.

January 2016 – Snowball Hunt - Jan Hallez and Nancy Faires

Saturday January 9, 2016 – David T Garland Park, Denver, Colorado

16 hunters participated finding lots of coins in the snow. Sheri Muehlbauer found the Spyderco token.

February 2016 – Two of Hearts Hunt (partners hunt) - Van Romero

Sunday February 14, 2016, 10 AM Clement Park

LULUBELLE'S BLING – Louise Smyth and Gold-N-Detectors

The Bling was found by Mary Sable at Maple Grove Park. She received 5 golden dollars by Louise.

Thank you Louise and Bill Chapman for sponsoring this hunt.

March 2016 – to be announced – John Olson

If anyone is interested in putting on a hunt, please let John Olson know.



Breakfast Club – Chris Davis

1 recent hunt due to weather – there were some nice finds in the frozen tundra.

Meetings are the 1st Friday and 3rd Saturday each month at Lookin' Good Restaurant, 9 AM.

Please come and join us to share stories, finds, have breakfast together and a hunt to follow. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

This is a good opportunity for new members to meet and hunt with some of our Club's excellent detectorists.

National Hunt – 2017 – Linda Erickson

More information provided at a later date.

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Tip of the Month – Chris Davis
Always carry spare batteries.

The **WWATS** hunt will be held May 26-29, 2016 in Mancos, Colorado. If interested, see John Olson for more information:

<http://www.wwats.org/index.php/events/wwats-rendezvous-2015-mancos-co>

The **5th Annual Piney Woods Relic Hunt** will be held March 12, 2016 in Longview, Texas. If interested see Nancy Faires for more information: <http://www.ettha.org/Piney%20Woods%202016%20Relic%20Hunt%20Final%20Hunt%20-3%20Flyer.pdf>

Club T-shirts are available for \$12 each: S, M, L, XL, 2X, and 3 X. See Nancy Faires to place an order.

Chris Davis is working on obtaining demographic information for our club. Please pick up one of the demographic reporting forms and fill it out. Do not put your name on it – it is anonymous.

2015 FINDS OF THE YEAR WINNERS

Jewelry – Randy Sable

Artifact – Chuck Hedberg

Token – Chris Davis

Gold – Randy Wade

Coin – John Cornelisse

John Olson provided thank you's to the outgoing Board: Ron Erickson, Jan Hallez, John Hinton and Van Romero.

He also thanked Jeff Lubbert, Linda Erickson, John Lambe, Louise Smyth, Cindy Bockenstedt, John Cornelisse, Boots Lewis, Chris Davis, Steve Rex, Lori Atencio, Terry Weatherly, Brian Henry, Fran Espinoza, Joe Johnston, Bernice Ortiz, Randy Sable, Mary Sable, John Steele, Charlotte Steele, Cindy Olson, all of our speakers and anonymous coin donors.

Gene Kotlan Award – Nancy Faires

Charles A Johnston Award – Brian Henry

Dan Sprouse Memorial Award – Nancy Faires



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General Drawing Winners

1853 Half dime – Diane Lubbert
1986 Panda gold – Alan Bravo
1835 Large cent – Glenn Thompson
1858 Flying eagle cent – Tonette Romero
1898 Indian cent – Jon Mueller
1857 Seated dime – Linda Erickson
1852 3 cent silver – Ron Dunsmore
1867 2 cent piece – Ron Roberson
1878 Seated half dollar – Cindy Bockenstedt
1945 Walking liberty half – Chuck Hedberg
1930 Liberty quarter – Devan Romero
1865 3 cent nickel – Chuck Hedberg



Joe Johnston spoke about his father whom the Charles A Johnston Award was named.

Last Chance Drawing

Kennedy half dollar double-dye error coin – Randy Williamson
Kennedy half dollar double-dye error coin – Chuck Hedberg
Finders Secrets of Success by T D Bunce – Jane Reed
2016 White's Calendars – Able Espinoza, John Olson, Brian Henry, Win Faires

Membership Drawing Winner – Jay Reed

Holiday Drawing – Van Romero
1878 D Morgan silver dollar

Finds of the Month Winners

Gold category – Van Romero
Coin category – Jim Merritt
Token category – Alan Bravo
Artifact category – Alan Bravo
Jewelry category – Mary Sable

March program: bottle collectors



President John Olson thanks Past President Ron Erickson for all his mentoring and service.

Thank you to everyone who brought food and participated in our potluck tonight.



Find Of The Year 2015 Winners



John Cornelisse - Coin
346 AD Roman Silver



Randy Sable - Jewelry
Tiffany & Co. Silver Necklace



Randy Wade - Gold
1.15 oz Colorado Gold Nugget



Chuck Hedberg - Artifact
Pewter Child's Teacup



Chris Davis - Token
Brunswick Hotel / 2 1/2¢



EUREKA!
POT'O'GOLD HUNT
SUNDAY MARCH 13 10 AM



DEL MAR PARK
12000 E 6th Ave Aurora, CO 80011
SNACKS AND DRINKS
\$20 PER PERSON

Advertising

Classified business-card-sized text advertising is free to members for non-business ads. Commercial display ads are available to anyone at the following charges:

Business card size, \$6.00 per month
1/4 page, \$12.00 per month
1/2 page, \$24.00 per month
full page, \$48.00 per month

Advertisers are encouraged to take out ads for 12 months and receive a 3-month discount. No other discounts apply. The treasurer must receive any required payments for commercial ads prior to their inclusion.

Baseball caps with the Eureka! logo are available for \$10.00. Metal detector lapel pins are \$5.00 and Eureka! window decals are \$2.00.

Joining Eureka! Membership Dues

Yearly dues are \$30 per individual or \$36 for a family membership. Please go to Eurekathc.org and download and complete the application form. Membership dues can be paid to the treasurer at the regular monthly meetings.



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OFFER EXPIRES MARCH 31, 2016.
NO CHECKS.



Contact List

Officers	Name	Phone	E-Mail
President	John Olson	(719) 588-7021	jncolson1969@gmail.com
Vice President	Jeff Lubbert	(303) 618-5179	coindigr@hotmail.com
Secretary	Nancy Faires	(303) 368-1356	photo518@msn.com
Treasurer	John Cornelisse	(303) 250-3335	joshar5@msn.com
Board 2017	Steve Rex	(720) 270-2471	kiowarex@yahoo.com
Board 2017	Boots Lewis	(303) 941-6251	foxfixer5@msn.com
Board 2017	Chris Davis	(225) 235-2642	aggiefan55@gmail.com
Board 2018	Terry Weatherly	(303) 748-7288	terrysboss302@hotmail.com
Board 2018	Brian Henry	(720) 771-1883	Brian@tenacioustreasuretracker.com
Board 2018	Linda Erickson	(720) 231-8080	linda.erickson@comcast.net
Board 2018	Fran Espinosa	(720) 202-5101	maddoxe29@gmail.com
Newsletter			
Editor	Cindy Bockenstedt	(303) 523-6735	seychik@aol.com
Web Site			
Webmaster	John Lambe	(303) 840-8094	jlambe@earthlink.com
Volunteers			
PERT	Lorie Atencio	Nametags	Linda Erickson
HART	Steve Rex	Microphone	John Hinton
Hunt Coordinator	Jeff Lubbert	Greeter	Board Member
Finds Table	Bernice Ortiz	Hotline	Laura Smith
Finds Table	Van Romero	Speakers	Jeff Lubbert
Drawing Table	Fran Espinosa	Orientation	Board Member
Drawing Table	Abel Espinosa	Coin Purchases	Jeff Lubbert
For general information contact the hotline: (303) 595-5448			
Visit our club on the Internet: http://www.eurekathc.org			

Eureka! Club Members Service Directory

RL Vending Inc.

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Richard and Linda Kibler

303-517-1189

rlkibler@earthlink.net



American Digger
Magazine - Relic Roundup

Co-host - Jeff Lubbert

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Skype: AmericanDigger

Monday nights 9:00 pm EST
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comdgr@gmail.com

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Wheat Ridge requires a permit to metal detect in their city. **No detecting** is allowed **October-March**. Permits allow detecting April-September.

FIRST GOLD

By John Olson

My first experience prospecting with a gold pan came when I was unprepared and very amateur at getting gold out of the ground. It started with a weeklong trip to Ganes Creek, Alaska, where I was metal detecting for gold nuggets. I never have found any raw gold with my detector and never had gold in a gold pan. Sure, I knew the principal of getting the heavy gold through a sluice box and ending up in a small vial, and I saw the TV shows and read the how-to books on prospecting, but this trip to Alaska was for large nuggets that even I could find.

Our bush pilot landed in a narrow canyon on a small runway that was made from mining tailings. We landed late in the morning and after stowing away our gear, we had lunch and a quick orientation from the landowner on the do's and don'ts of our adventure. Then the 12 of us were taken to the first hunt field which consisted of tailings that were flattened out with a bull dozer. Within 30 minutes, I heard a faint beep on my White's V3I that sounded like it could be a nickel. I dug down about 3 inches and there was my very first gold nugget! It was shaped like a small Corn Flake that was about ¼ inch in diameter. Not much for size, but wonderful to me! It was the first nugget found by our group but I didn't find another piece of gold for the next three days!

The organized detecting was from 8AM to 5 or 6PM each day with a lunch break. There were several hours of free time in the evening because the sun didn't go down until 10:30PM so I would go out around the camp metal detecting for more nuggets. I came back to camp one evening and noticed a guy up on a small steep hill right above the small creek. He was scratching away at the dirt with his digging tool then going down to the creek with his bucket where he had a small sluice box and a pan. I talked to the guy and he told me that he borrowed the mini sluice, bucket and gold pan from the property owner. I was able to borrow another bucket and gold pan so that I could try prospecting.



The next evening after dinner I headed up on that steep little hill which required me to grab onto bushes to pull myself up the incline. The other guy said that his area of about

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100 square feet was off limits to me, but I could dig anywhere else around there. That was his 'claim' which we both laughed about. We could use the creek to sluice and pan our material but prospecting in the creek was off limits also.

Digging was not easy and, because of the rock, I had a hard time getting any dirt. The rock was fractured and flakey with just a small amount of material in the cracks. At the time, I thought it was the worst part of the area. Little did I know that it was probably the best bedrock in the area. The only way I could get material in my bucket was to pry and break up the layers of rock and scoop up the little bit of dirt that was between each layer. It was painfully slow and I was tired from metal detecting all day so I headed down to the creek after with my bucket which held less than two gallons of material, mostly rocks. It was a pretty dismal amount of material for an hour of work.

My new friend gave me a quick panning lesson and after another 30 minutes I had my bucket empty and my first gold in my pan. Wow! There was a lot of gold in my pan! Dozens and dozens of little pieces of Gold!!! I put them in a bottle and the next two nights I was right back to my little spot on the hill side. I only had two more days left before I had to leave for home, but in those three short evenings I was able to recover a little over a quarter of an ounce of gold. I probably lost about as much gold into the creek as I was able to save, but what a spot!



I found a total of four nuggets with my metal detector, one of which weighed 1 troy ounce and another that was ¼ ounce and two small corn flakes.

I have learned a lot about prospecting from the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies over the few months that I have been a member. I wish that I had this information before I went to Alaska because I would have dug my material differently and processed it more efficiently. I'm sure that I left a lot of gold on that hill and dumped a lot of gold in that little creek!



Ganes Creek no longer has metal detecting on their property but if they ever do, I want

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to go again! Was the trip worth it? No, if you figure the amount of money that I spent on that week compared to the value of the gold that I found. But the experience of Alaska and the experience of finding my first gold made it an adventure that I will never forget!



March 2016

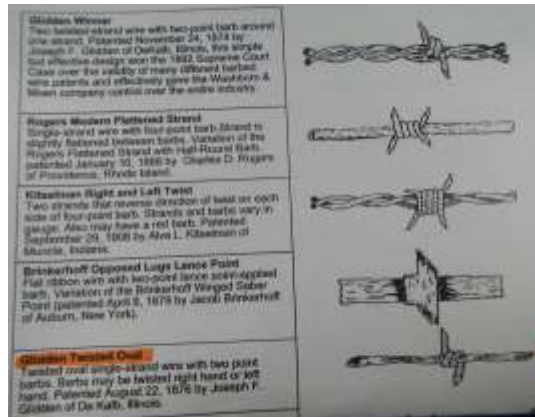
4th - Breakfast Club
4th - Newsletter Published
9th - Board Meeting 6:30pm
11th - General Meeting 7:30pm
13th - Pot Of Gold Hunt 10:00am
19th - Breakfast Club
25th - *Soundoff* Deadline

April 2016

1st - Breakfast Club
1st - Newsletter Published
6th - Board Meeting 6:30pm
8th - General Meeting 7:30pm
10th - Club Hunt
16th - Breakfast Club
29th - *Soundoff* Deadline

May 2016

6th - Breakfast Club Cancelled
6th - Newsletter Published
11th - Board Meeting 6:30pm
13th - General Meeting 7:30pm
15th - Club Hunt
21th - Breakfast Club
27th - *Soundoff* Deadline



Coin Shooters – How Much Are You Finding? Part 2

By Chris Davis

How much can you reasonably expect to find while metal detecting? Perhaps what I have picked up during 2014 and 2015 may provide an indicator of moderate versus heavy effort. You may recall the article I prepared last year documenting the number of coins found while down south 10 years ago, and what I found in Colorado during 2014. Well, the numbers significantly increased in 2015.



Maybe it was the machine. Not being able to afford a real metal detector, like a Garrett or a White's, I upgraded from my Minelab Sovereign and had to settle for an XP Deus. This new machine only took me 6 months to figure out how to work. No, it is not that complicated, I am just that technology challenged and stubbornly resist change. I also still use a 30 year old Minelab Excalibur when in the water. This particular machine is just about broken in. I suspect I found more during 2015, because I hunted a bit harder. Actually, a good bit harder. You can do that when you are retired and able to sneak out of the house before the wife can get the honey-do list to you. And yes, I regret to admit I am primarily one of those lowly park and school hunters (but it should be pointed out, I found 7 gold rings this year).

In my previous article you may recall I quoted metal detecting pioneer, Charles Garrett, who said, "With a metal detector, you can find at least 5,000 coins a year". Author Andy Sabisch further contended this statement was even more true "today" (1998) because of the improved metal detector technology available. Well, I was unable to come close to achieving this goal in 2014.

During 2014, I put in what one might call a moderate effort. I hunted when I could, but regularly. I was new to the Denver area and had to learn where I could go. I put in 82 days and compiled 209 hours of search time. At the end of the year, I tallied up 1,544 coins which totaled only \$118.95. This included 4 dollar coins, 279 quarters, 309 dimes, 105 nickels, 847 pennies and 1 Euro 20c. I found about 18.8 coins per hunt, and averaged \$0.57 per hour. I hunted 65 different locations, many multiple times. The coins included 1 silver quarter and 3 wheat-ears. I found 39 rings during the period: 1 gold, 11 silver, 2 tungsten, 1 titanium, 3 stainless steel and 21 "other". "Other" is a sneaky way of saying, "garbage".

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During 2015, in addition to a much better knowledge of where to hunt, I doubled my hunting time. I hunted 122 days and compiled 473 hours metal detecting. Hunts averaged 3.9 hours. I gathered in close to \$0.98 per hour, which is about what my time is worth. It should come as no surprise, when you double your efforts, you will double your finds. I found 5,659 coins which totaled \$462.07. So, it appears during 2015 anyway, I was able to meet Mr. Garrett's suggestion one can find 5,000 coins a year. I hunted 187 different locations (including England and Franktown). I found 1 gold coin (England) and 7 silver coins (5 in England). Coins from 12 different countries were picked up in Colorado. Only 4 wheat-ear pennies were recovered. (You will note I am still cleverly not disclosing how much I spent on gas and other related expenses during these efforts). In summary, yes, you can find 5,000 coins a year metal detecting, but you better be prepared to really work at it.



My ring finds also jumped to 89 for the year. This included: 7 gold, 20 silver, 7 stainless steel, 4 tungsten, 4 titanium and 47 “other”. (Note the definition of “other” above).

Quite a bit of jewelry was recovered. This included: 67 Necklace/bracelet pendants/charms, 8 Necklace chains, 11 Bracelets, 4 Crosses, 8 Religious medals, 1 Rosary, 45 Earrings, 2 Cufflinks, 7 Watches or parts thereof (4 pocket watches) and 24 Pins.

What other kinds of valuable stuff was found? Well, let us see: 9 Dog tags, 2 Dog leash snaps, 1 Marine Dog Tag, 2 Cub Scout Neckerchief Slides, 2 Military buttons, 5 Lighters, 51 Bullets/Hulls, 2 Pocket knives, 4 cell phones, 25 Tokens, 50 Keys, 12 Toy cars, 55 Lead fishing weights, 17 Fishing lures/hooks, 6 Sunglasses, Batteries, a pile of Zippers a show dog couldn't jump over, Belt/shoe buckles, 2 Toy guns, 1 Toy airplane, Pedometer, Sparkplug, Spoon, Wine opener, Dog whistle, half a Paddle, kid Goggles, Marble, Boat plug, electric Hookah, Boat hook, Whistle, Charger, Camera lens cover, Drug vial, Syringe (complete with needle), Glue containers, Flashlight, an Eyeball and a purple Spider.

I also found 11 Baseballs, 9 Golf balls, 2 Lacrosse balls, 3 Tennis balls, and 2 Rattlesnakes (I found them while metal detecting, they count) (you can tell it is a rattlesnake by the distinct buzz signal) (if you are lucky).

What are your chances of finding a particular coin denomination? In my article last year, the data presented was based on 10 years finds down South, and 2014 in Colorado. Ac-

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According to this data, for every 1,000 coins I found, 473 of them were pennies. I could expect to find 1 penny for every 10 minutes of searching. Some folks do not dig pennies. After I tested my son's 10K gold high school ring, and found it gave a signal just the same as a zinc penny, I dig pennies. Odds of finding other coins are listed in the following table:

Clad	Number	Per 1,000	Coins Find Per Time Searched
Pennies	2,923	473	1/10 min.
Nickels	775	125	1/37 min.
Dimes	1,280	207	1/22 min.
Quarters	1,193	193	1/24 min.
Halves	4	0.6	1/120 hrs.
Dollars	3	0.6	1/120 hrs.
A Coin	6,179		1/5 min.

In 2015, the numbers were similar, but finds came primarily from Colorado. Better than half of every 1,000 coins found (538) were pennies. I could expect to find 1 penny for every 9 minutes of searching. Odds of finding other coins are listed below:

Clad	Number	Per 1,000	Coins Find Per Time Searched
Pennies	3,043	538	1/9 min.
Nickels	477	84	1/60 min.
Dimes	1,043	184	1/27 min.
Quarters	1,084	193	1/26 min.
Halves			
Dollars	11	2	1/43 hrs.
A Coin	5,659		1/5 min.

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According to my figures, if I was counting on coins found while metal detecting for my retirement, I would be in for disappointment. But, there is always the chance of finding something else. Say, something gold colored... If you are extremely lucky, you might even find a rattlesnake.

I may not be good, but my experience has proved persistence does pay. Some time ago a famous ballplayer was talking to a reporter who commented about how many lucky plays the ballplayer had made. The ballplayer agreed, he was indeed lucky, “and you know, the more I practice, the luckier I get”. It is the same thing with many endeavors, including metal detecting. The more you hunt and work at it, the luckier you are going to be. It is a statistical probability.

Most of us, if we do not delude ourselves, metal detect for the recreational value. Beats the health out of sitting around the house watching Oprah and eating bon-bons. We are big kids who like finding things. We are interested in the historical and personal context of the items we find. We hunt where we can, when we can, and keep in the back of our minds there is always the chance we will “strike it big”.



Good luck and good hunting.

Gold Prices



Silver Prices



Look Who's Joining the Fun

By Chris Davis

With the Newsletter down for several months, we have quite new members which have not been recognized. The Eureka! Treasure Hunter Club would like to welcome:

The Yowell's, Curt, Lisa and Keith reside in Arvada. Curt is a 5th generation Coloradan. He is currently looking for a job, perhaps in the public safety sector. Curt has just taken up metal detecting and is using a Garrett Ace 350. He primarily hunts parks and schools. Other interests include amateur radio, patch collecting and eating BBQ.



Rick Spoor and his wife, Akemi, currently live in Greenwood Village. Rick is employed as a landlord. Rick is using a Minelab 705, Gold Package, but Santa may have brought him a Garrett ATX for Christmas. Rick is also interested in prospecting.

Jeff and Luann Mercer call Westminster home. Jeff is an environmental health and safety engineer. He uses a Whites V3i.



Bud VanGundy was born in Ohio, but has lived in Colorado since 1959. He currently resides in Wheatridge. Bud has retired twice. He served 28 years as a firefighter. Bud is new to metal detecting. He is using a Garrett Ace 350, a fine machine.

Chris Jacobsen was born in California but has resided in Colorado since 1994. Chris works in cyber security. He is new to the sport of metal detecting. His father used to detect, so he figured he would give it a shot. I noticed he was still going at it at the last Breakfast Club after everyone else had departed. Persistence does pay. Chris uses a White's MXT with an Eclipse 950 coil. Chris also enjoys snow skiing, golf and flying model airplanes.



Karen Bryant is also new to metal detecting. She is originally from Wichita and has lived in Colorado since 1960. Karen has retired from service with the federal government where she was a mapmaker. She now spends a good deal of her time as a botanical artist, when she is not hiking or riding a snowmobile. Karen is using a White's machine and would be interested if anyone has a used pinpointer for sale.

Eureka! Members Find Gold

By Cindy Bockenstedt



Ron and Mary Norden celebrated their Golden Anniversary in January.



Congratulations on 50 years of marriage!

That's all this month - find something good!