

The *Soundoff*

EUREKA! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc.



V. 45 I. 8

August 2017

Search With Care!

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Rush to the Rockies
National Open Metal Detecting Event
July 21- 23 2017
BIG SUCCESS!
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Joining Eureka! Membership Dues

Yearly dues are \$30 per individual or \$36 for a family membership. Please go to:

Eurekathc.org

Download and complete the application form under the *About* tab. Membership dues can be paid to the Treasurer at the regular monthly meetings.

Renewals due in April.

Eureka! T-shirts, window decals, mugs, pins, and patches are available.

Rush To The Rockies T-Shirts and stickers for a limited time.

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

Second Friday of August, 7:30

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
Spectrum 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.

MCDQ KTAMC HCDJF DA CFY TJN AFDECXTYCTTN
JDMMJF JBJBXFJJF CGN MCF BYEF VTY G MGZT.
QCF CFGYN TV G IGYW MCGM VFGMBYFN G JGYEF
MGZT. HCFA QCF GYYDLFN QCF YFGJDUFN MCGM
CFY CFGYDAE HGQ XGN. MCF XDE MGZT HGQ
GZMBGJJS IGZT DA CTATY TV IGZT QGAZCFU.
HCDJF YFGNDAE MCF IGYW YBJFQ QCF JTQM CFY
XJDAE.

Last Month's Solution:

In a strange mood reading poetry of Alfred Lord Tennyson and watching a Jimmy Stewart movie about a large invisible rabbit, Little Lulubelle went to a park near Kunsmiller Jr High. There she played on all three slides and really enjoyed riding the

bulldozer; she lost her new bling.

Park: Harvey Park, Denver

Prize: 5 golden dollar coins. Sponsored by Louise Smyth of Gold-N-Detectors.

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 Connie 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.

Prez Sez

By
Chris Davis



I think I can authoritatively say the Rush to the Rockies Hunt was an outstanding success. Everyone had a great time, and all the comments I heard were overwhelmingly positive. We all had an opportunity to meet and talk about detecting with folks from around the nation. It was a very enriching experience. I would like to recognize and personally thank Ron and Linda Erickson, Jeff Lubbert, Linda and Richard Kibler, Cindy Bockenstedt and Nancy Faires. But these folks are only the tip of the iceberg. A large number of our club members put in an inordinate amount of time and effort to make this hunt such a success. I thank you, one and all.

It was a good hunt. Everything was going swimmingly (if you will excuse the expression) until noon on Sunday, when Mother Nature came for a visit. A dark cloud rolled over, and it started sprinkling. Everyone assumed it would pass over quickly, but the rain quickly developed into a downpour, complete with impressive thunder and lightning. Many folks took shelter under the numerous canopies we had erected. Others just stood there in their rain coats and ponchos in the pouring rain looking up. I had a great time moving from canopy to canopy taking pictures. Every time I would take a flash photo, everyone would jump and cringe, thinking it was lightning. When things got best, it started hailing. The ground was soon covered with ¼ to ½ inch size hail. Well, we were proud to give our out-of-state visitors a real taste of Colorado. Never-the-less, a good time was had by all.

Oh yes, one of our out-of-state visitors won \$3,000 at the casinos in one night.

Good luck and good hunting.

August 4th - The Breakfast Club enjoyed gathering at the Lookin' Good Restaurant.



GOLD CATEGORY

Ron Erickson..... White Gold Ring with Diamonds
Pat Lucero..... 10K Gold Ring
Chuck Hedberg..... 1974 North Dakota Class Ring

JEWELRY CATEGORY

Jim Merritt..... Silver Ring with Diamonds
Bruce Morton..... Copper Plated Feather Ring
Jack Hoover..... Silver Band
Jane Reed..... Black Hills Gold and Silver Ring
Norm Ruggles..... Unicorn Necklace
Norm Ruggles..... Black Stainless Ring
John Hinton..... Silver Ring
Randy Sable..... Silver Ring with Ruby Stone

COIN CATEGORY

Chuck Hedberg..... 1892 Barber Dime
Alan Bravo..... 1896 Indian Head Cent
Alan Bravo..... Chinese Coin
Win Faires..... 1853 2½ Dollar Gold Quarter Eagle Coin

TOKEN CATEGORY

Jim Merritt..... Chinese Token
Bruce Morton..... Boondock's
Chuck Hedberg..... Colorado Tax
Alan Bravo..... J. S. CO / Good For 2½¢ In Trade

ARTIFACT CATEGORY

Brian Henry..... Russell Suspender Clasp
Bruce Morton..... Kindness Currency Coin
Chuck Hedberg..... Brass Oar Bracket
Chuck Hedberg..... Kitty's Adult Coin
Alan Bravo..... Balcom House Luggage Tag
Jeff Lubbert..... Brass Indian Tinkler
Norm Ruggles..... Fort Clinch Florida Medallion

FIND-OF-THE-MONTH CATEGORIES

Gold: natural gold (flakes, nuggets, wire) stamped karat alloy content or obvious custom alloy item, except gold coins which are entered in the Coin Category.

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.

Token: a piece resembling a coin issued by some person or entity, not of a governmental authority (with the exception of tax tokens), that could be redeemed for services or specified items. Advertisement tokens with no redeemable value are entered in the Artifact Category.

Artifact: simple object showing human workmanship or modification, and all other items that do not meet the criteria for other categories.

Find of the Month Winners - July

ARTIFACT - Norm Ruggles

Fort Clinch Florida Medallion



Norm was using his Garrett Ace 350 with a DD coil and found this artifact from Florida by the back door of a church being remodeled in South Denver, 4 inches down.

JEWELRY - Randy Sable

Silver Ring with Ruby

After the 4th of July fireworks, Randy searched Adams County Fairgrounds with his Garrett AT Pro. His 8 1/2 x 11 inch coil signaled him and the ring was found.



TOKEN - Alan Bravo

J. S. CO / 2½¢



Alan was searching a 1906 scrape off with his White's V3i with a 6x9 inch coil when he found this scalloped token at 4 inches deep. It took 2½ hours of electrolysis to clean it.

COIN - Win Faires

1853 2½ Dollar Gold Coin

Detecting in the woods in the Colorado mountains with his XP Deus with an 11 inch coil, Win got a VDI of 70 that sounded sweet, not scratchy. His last VDI of 70 was a platinum ring, so he was very hopeful.



GOLD - Chuck Hedberg

10K Class Ring



This gold ring is from the Fargo HS 1974 Class. Chuck was "curbing" in front of a house being remodeled in North Denver. He found it next to a gold colored Miller Lite bottle cap, so two gold in the hole, ha ha. Chuck-A-Luck was using his favorite detector, the Fisher LTD 75 Black Ltd with it's stock DD coil.



Brass Indian Tinkler

By Jeff Lubbert

You may have seen this artifact on the Finds Table at the last Eureka! meeting. Although quite nondescript, it is actually note worthy and has some historical significance. - Editor

Tinklers, otherwise known as tinkle cones, are made from sheet tin, brass (copper) or even silver. The sheet metal is cut and rolled into a cone shape that was added to the fringe of clothing items, pouches, sheaths and the like.

When dancing or moving the fringe moved and the pieces of coned metal hit together and made a “tinkle” sound.

Below, there is a linked website for further information.

This tinkler was found during my trip to central Minnesota to a fishing resort. The owner of the resort knew the history of the area and related a bit of information to me. The north shore (the area the resort was on) was settled by an off shoot of Mormons that were traveling west in the 1840's and 1850's. These Mormons lived in harmony and often interacted with the local indigenous people. They would have celebrations together and lived in peace.

The tinkler and a very small bead were found just a couple feet apart along the shore of the lake. These two items are in a display and will be sent back to the resort in the next few days along with information about what the items are.

<http://www.nativetech.org/metal/tinkle/tinkle.html>

Other items
from the
Finds Table



Upcoming Events

NEXT EUREKA! MEETING

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 EVENTS

Now - September 10 \$15

The Western: An Epic in Art and Film
Denver Art Museum

September 1-2

License Plate Collectors Show
Jefferson County Fairgrounds

Sept 17, 2017

Mo-Kan Search & Recovery 41st
Annual Treasure Hunt (Missouri/
Kansas)



UPCOMING EUREKA! EVENTS

August 19th, 2017 (Saturday)

September 6th, 2017 (Friday)

Breakfast Club

Contact: Chris Davis 225 235-2642 for
place and time to meet or to get added
to the email list.

Sun, Aug 13, 2017

Just For Fun Hunt

10:00 am

\$20

Majestic View Park

Contact: Terry Weatherly 303 748-7288

Sun, September 10, 2017

Members Only - Free

Coinhuna Hunt

Contact: Chris Davis 225-235-2642

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

Hunt #10 started Aug 1st. See Brian's
website for the TTT clues and to
check out the new items available.

Eureka! Club Members Service Directory



If you are a Eureka! Member,
you can put a business card
sized advertisement here.



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Magazine - Relic Roundup**

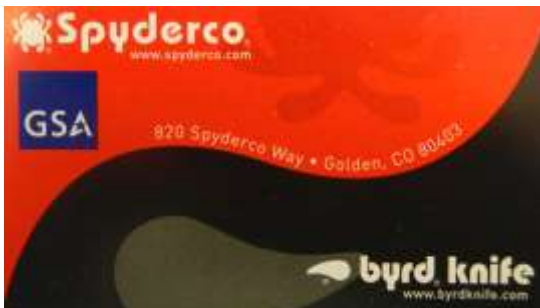
Co-host - Jeff Lubbert
www.relicroundup.blogspot.com
Phone: 678-439-1863
Skype: AmericanDigger
Monday nights 9:00 pm EST
(7:00 pm Mountain Time Zone)

Personal contact:
condiger@yahoo.com
Phone: 303-487-0438
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Just For Fun Hunt

Sunday, August 13, 2017

10:00 am

\$20

Majestic View Park

72nd Ave

between Carr & Kipling Streets

*Silver Rings, Tokens, Fun,
Hobo Nickels, Silver Coins*

Terry Weatherly 303 748-7288



Secretary's Report

By Nancy Faires



July 14, 2017

President Chris Davis called the Eureka! THC Club meeting to order at 7:30 PM and welcomed everyone. The officers and board members were introduced. There were 70 present including several guests and new members.

Jeff Lubbert will be available after the meeting tonight for the "meet and greet". Anyone with questions is welcome.



Linda Kibler presented the Treasurer's report.

The speaker tonight is Vince DiPrimo. The topic is Coin Collecting. Thank you Vince.

Eureka Coin Buy Back program has been suspended.

Sue Ruggles received a Spyderco knife from Boots Lewis for finding the Spyderco token at the May hunt.

Linda Erickson received a Spyderco knife for finding the Spyderco token at the June hunt. Thank you Spyderco and Boots.

June Hunt – Jeff Lubbert – June 24 "Warm up to RUSH" Majestic View Park, Arvada
39 detectorists participated / lots of volunteers helped
Jeff donated a silver dollar for a tip card.
Louise donated the Gold-N-Detector tokens.

Tip of the Month – Jeff Lubbert

Do not wait until the last minute to change your batteries or check your equipment before a hunt.

LULUBELLE'S BLING – Louise Smyth and Bill Chapman
Glen Thompson found the Bling at Harvey Park, Denver.
Thank you Louise and Bill for sponsoring this hunt.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club continues to be popular and well attended.

Meetings are the 1st Friday and 3rd Saturday each month.

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

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

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The next outing will be July 15, 2017 weather permitting.
See Chris Davis to sign up for an email reminder.

Eureka has t-shirts, pins, window decals, mugs and patches for sale. See Vince or Marilyn DiPrimo.

PERT volunteers visited Canon City recently. There will be follow-up information regarding this later.

HART - Norm Ruggles

Norm spoke regarding HART (Historical Artifact Recovery Team). He has applications for volunteers. You must be a member of Eureka for at least 1 year to qualify.

RUSH 2017 July 21 – 23, 2017 Pickle Gulch, CO

Linda Erickson noted that we have 79 paid registrations.
Anyone wanting to volunteer should sign up with Linda E.
Thank you to everyone who has donated to RUSH.

General Drawing Winners

Dos peso – Roy Neys
1922 S Peace dollar – Bud Van Gundy
1944 Walking liberty half – Alan Bravo
1875 Seated liberty quarter – Bud Van Gundy
1853 Seated liberty dime – Norm Ruggles
1912 V nickel – Pat Lucero
1866 Two cent – Steve Rex
1835 Large cent – Linda Erickson
1857 Flying cent – Jeff Lubbert
1831 Bust half dime – Brian Henry
1906 D Barber half dollar – Steve Rex
1980 Proof set – Michael Hall

2nd Chance Winners – Shadow T-shirts

James Harrison, Tom Peebles and Jack Hoover

Membership Drawing Winner – Tony Frangella

Holiday Drawing Winner – Sue Ruggles

1889 Morgan silver dollar

Best Unspecified Find Winner – Jack Hoover

RUSH 2017 50/50 Cash Drawing Winner – Steve Rex

2nd Chance Winner – 1944D silver half – John Hinton

Finds of the Month Winners (must be a member to enter and vote)

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Gold category – Chuck Hedberg

Coin category – Win Faires

Token category Alan Bravo

Artifact category – Norm Ruggles

Jewelry category – Randy Sable

REMINDERS:

Membership dues: \$30 single and \$36 family

Volunteer to plan and/or assist with a Club hunt

Viking Exhibit, Denver Museum of Nature & Science – now through August 13

Cowboy Exhibit, Denver Museum of Art – September

World's Fair of Money, ANA, Convention Center – August 1-5

RUSH to the Rockies – Pickle Gulch July 21-23, 2017

Thanks to everyone who brought food, everyone who assisted with the meeting tonight and everyone who donated prizes.

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

August 2017

4th - Breakfast Club 9:00am

4th - Newsletter Published

9th - Board Meeting 6:30pm

11th - General Meeting 7:30pm

13th - Just For Fun Hunt 10:00am

19th - Breakfast Club 9:00am

25th - *Soundoff* Deadline

Sept 2017

4th - Breakfast Club 9:00am

4th - Newsletter Published

6th - Board Meeting 6:30pm

8th - General Meeting 7:30pm

10th - Coinhuna

16th - Breakfast Club 9:00am

29th - *Soundoff* Deadline

Oct 2017

6th - Breakfast Club 9:00am

6th - Newsletter Published

11th - Board Meeting 6:30pm

13th - General Meeting 7:30pm

15th - Club Hunt

21st - Breakfast Club 9:00am

27th - *Soundoff* Deadline

November 2017

3rd - Breakfast Club 9:00am

3rd - Newsletter Published

8th - Board Meeting 6:30pm

10th - General Meeting 7:30pm

12th - Club Hunt

18th - Breakfast Club 9:00am

24th - *Soundoff* Deadline

Contact List

Officers	Name	Phone	E-Mail
President	Chris Davis	(225) 235-2642	aggiefan55@gmail.com
Vice President	Jeff Lubbert	(303) 618-5179	coindigr@hotmail.com
Secretary	Nancy Faires	(303) 368-1356	photo518@msn.com
Treasurer	Linda Kibler	(303) 517-1189	rlkibler@outlook.com
Board 2019	Norm Ruggles	(303) 877-2734	normruggles@gmail.com
Board 2019	Vince DiPrimo	(303) 506-6500	vdipper@yahoo.com
Board 2019	Sheri Muehlbauer	(720) 841-4163	smuehlbauer@msn.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	Chris Davis	Nametags	Linda Erickson
HART	Norm Ruggles	Rush to the Rockies	Linda Erickson
Hunt Coordinator	Jeff Lubbert	Greeter	Linda Erickson
Finds Table	Bernice Ortiz	Hotline	Laura Smith
Finds Table	Brian Henry	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! Breakfast Club

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

Contact Chris Davis 225 235-2642 if you are interested in meeting for breakfast and then going out metal detecting with other club members.



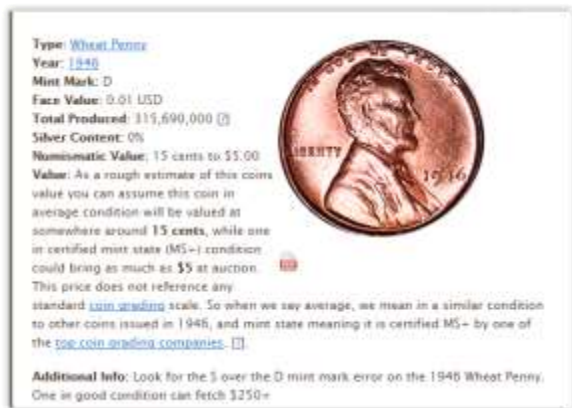
If you want to learn more about your detector or how to detect, or cement friendships, this is a great opportunity to tap into other member's experience or to get together for a fun outing.

July 7, 2017 Report and Photos by Bruce Morton

The advisory about the July 7th Breakfast Club must have left many folks believing that it had been cancelled. Bruce Morton showed up to an empty house. Figuring he might as well at least get some good pancakes, he was wrist deep in syrup and butter when Joan Finkleman arrived followed closely by Doug McConnell. While Joan and Doug had the dubious pleasure of watching him polish off the short stack, it was decided that they would go west just a few blocks to O'Kane park.



It turned out to be a relatively brief hunt where Bruce became King of Corona bottle tops, Doug recovered a nice 1946 D wheat penny and a large silver plated necklace pendant (which did not survive later cleaning), and Joan received some additional guidance and experience and was able to locate and recover



(Continued on page 19)

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her very first coins on her own! Congratulations Joan!

July 15, 2017 Report and Photos by Chris Davis

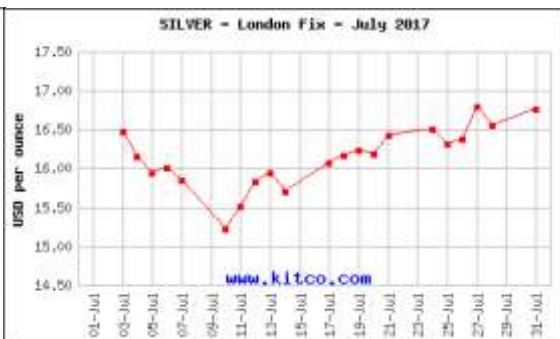
The Breakfast Club met on July 15, 2017. Sixteen folks attended the outing. After a nice breakfast, we all went out to Barnum Park for a hunt. It was a bit on the warm side. And the park was pretty trashy. Never-the-less, a few good finds were made. Randy W. picked up a nice pocket knife. I recovered a Sam Adams bottle opener. Probably the best find was made by Dan, who picked up a very nice crack pipe. You just never know what useful items you can find on a public park.



Gold Prices



Silver Prices



Who's New

By Bruce Morton

Michael and Jacqueline Hall



We're re-introducing Michael and Jacqueline (you've seen their photo before). They reside in Superior, CO and have been in this area for almost 20 years (Michael from Wisconsin and Jacqueline from Canada). They are self-employed and have been detecting for only a few months with their Garrett AT Gold. So, an Eureka! teaching opportunity presents.

They found Eureka! while driving by a park where we were hunting. Fortunately for them, they spoke to Nancy Faires who was so nice

that they had no choice but to join (yep, that's the story we're going with). Besides detecting, they enjoy fishing, hiking, and biking. They are open to an invitation to join in your hunts, both club and private: 303-554-0781, and have interest in the Breakfast Club.

Todd Hoffmaster



Todd is new to Denver, having relocated here from Arizona (can you blame him?) He's also new to detecting with his Garrett AT Pro (another teaching opportunity for our Garrett experts). Todd works in logistics at the VA Hospital, and learned of Eureka! from our web site. In addition to detecting, he enjoys shooting, camping, and 4-wheeling. Todd encourages invitations to join club and private hunts: 623-640-2181, and may join in the Breakfast Club.

If you've joined Eureka! as a new, or returning, member in 2017 and have not been introduced in the newsletter, please see Bruce Morton during a meeting, or contact him at nmip.bruce@gmail.com.



RUSH TO THE ROCKIES 2017

By Linda Erickson
RUSH Chairman



WOW, what a weekend! We had 82 hunters participate in our Eureka! Rush to the Rockies (national metal detecting event) July 21-23, 2017. A BIG thank you goes out to all the volunteers. Our volunteers handled registration, made signs and props, helped with parking, made tokens, budgeted the funds, handled the catering, took photos, cooked, served lunch, made sure there was plenty to drink, got donations, made donations, helped with ticket sales, helped sort and hand out prizes, MCed the event, policed the hunt fields, chaired meetings, planned hunts, marked hunt fields, planted hunts, helped set up and take down the day use area, purchased coins, counted and sorted coins for hunts, hauled items to and from Pickle Gulch, and helped with the kid's hunt. Whew, I'm sure I missed a few things, but let's just say, it's great to be part of a group of people who stepped up to make this a really FUN event. A few people had the dream to bring back the Rush to the Rockies event, but it took dozens to pull it off. I know everyone was exhausted by the end of the weekend, but I hope you had fun and had the chance to meet some great folks from around the country who share our passion.

Our weekend started early with several of us waiting at the gate to get into the day use area at 8:00 AM on Friday morning. LaMar's Donuts donated dozens of



Photos by Chris Davis and Cindy Bockenstedt

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donuts for the crew and the Kiblers brought breakfast burritos for all of us to enjoy. After unloading all the vehicles, we set up camp, marked off the hunt fields and started the coin and token planting. The crew took a break for a hot dog lunch and then it was back to work. By late afternoon, work in the upper area was finished for the day but the lower lot was buzzing with participants checking in at the registration table.

People staying at the site set up camp, while others checked into nearby hotels. Rain rolled in Friday evening and made for a soggy fireside chat with Stealth Digger's "Smokin Joe" and "Just Bob". Despite the rain, we had a campfire and s'mores were enjoyed by all the kids and a few adults.



Saturday morning started early as people rolled into the area assisted by our great parking team. It was great to see many folks from our past Rush events attend this year and all of them were so excited we brought the event back after a several year hiatus. After going over some introductions and rules, we started



the Casino hunt. Approximately 15% of the hunt fee went into the Casino hunt and it had 5,000 targets consisting of clad dollars, half dollars, 27 prize tokens, and 44 tokens for food and game play at the Century Casino. After the hunt, the token prizes were distributed, participants reviewed their finds and prizes, and everyone got ready for the gold hunt.

The Thar's Gold in Them Thar Hills hunt was approximately 20% of the hunt fee and consisted of 330 gold nugget targets enhanced with a coin and 43



mini gold bar token prizes good for several golds coins, other prizes, and a papa, mama and baby nugget donated by Gold-n-Detectors! Lunch arrived after the second hunt and everyone enjoyed the great BBQ from Brad's Pit BBQ. Thanks to the Gold Prospectors Association of America, there was plenty of time for people to try their hand at gold panning before the last hunt of the day.



The last hunt was the Silver Streak hunt. Approximately 25% of the hunt fee went into this hunt and the targets consisted of 4,357 silver dimes and silver war

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RUSH TO THE ROCKIES DONORS



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nickels. There were 30 tokens for prizes and a few donations provided by club members. Hunters stacked up their piles of silver coins and swapped stories of recovery methods and machines used.

While the last prizes for Saturday's third hunt were being handed out, the free Kid's Hunt was going on. Many small fries were toting oversized detectors but having fun finding coins, jewelry and prize tokens.



We encouraged people to head to the casinos on Saturday evening and let them know how much our group appreciated all the great prizes. Many people won free meals and game play cards. Saturday evening was a beautiful evening and there was another fireside chat with s'mores. It was great to listen to stories from the older folks and hear the enthusiasm of those new to the hobby.



There were two hunts on Sunday. The Wild West Hunt was approximately 20% of the hunt fee and consisted of 2700 targets of 1 ounce silver rounds, 1 gram silvers, Indian Head pennies, Buffalo nickels, various western metals, Kansas and Colorado tokens, misc coins from the time period—large cents, 2 cent pieces, 3 cent pieces, half dimes, 20 cent piece, etc.



There were also 42 prize tokens in this hunt. According to the evaluations we collected, this was probably the most popular hunt. Everyone enjoyed the variety of coins and other items planted in this hunt.

Lunch and a talk about Colonial history by the Stealth Digger boys filled in the break between hunts on Sunday.



Thanks to our great sponsors, we gave away a detector in every hunt. In addition, we gave a sixth detector away during the lunch break on Sunday. We also gave away a vintage 100th anniversary "Rush to the Rockies" bottle of whiskey during lunch on Sunday.



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The start of the final hunt—Hi Ho Silver Away Hunt—was delayed 45 minutes by an unwelcome rain and hail storm. However, the hunt would go on and at the start of the final hunt, the sun broke through the clouds. The Hi-Ho Silver Hunt was approximately 20% of the hunt fee and consisted of large silver coins. There was also an old bottle with a gold nugget planted in the hunt field along with a couple of cache prizes donated by Eureka! members. I never saw who won the cache prizes, but I am sure they were thrilled with the 15 golden dollars and bag of gems they found.



I saw there were a lot of happy and tired participants and volunteers at the end of the day. Many mentioned that they hoped we would continue the Rush hunt and talked about the fun they had.



Clean-up began during the last hunt and again, the volunteers came together to clean out the day use area, load up the cars and lock the gates after the last hunt. After helping others pack up their camps, the last six of us pulled out of Pickle Gulch about 7:00 PM.



We hope to gather the core committee together again for one last meeting to go over the evaluations, discuss the positive points and make notes of things that could make it even better next time. If you attended or volunteered at the hunt and did not turn in an evaluation, we would appreciate your comments and suggestions. Please send them to

Linda.erickson@comcast.net. I already have some ideas for the next time around. According to the surveys submitted, all participants would return to Rush again. This is something the club will need to consider in the future.



Again, a BIG thank you to everyone who volunteered, and thank you to those in the club who participated in the hunt and made our guests feel welcome.

Happy Hunting.



That's all this month - find something!