

The Soundoff

EUREKA! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc.
Denver, Colorado



Vol. 49 Issue V

May 2021

Search With Care!

Visit our Club on the Internet at <http://www.eurekathc.org>



MAY 2021 ROUTE 66 RALLY (on Highway 93)



COME GET YOUR KICKS
(searching for coins, tokens and misc.)

Saturday, May 15, 2021

LAZY HEART RANCH
(Hwy 93 and W. 82nd Ave.)

\$25

HUNT AT 11:30 a.m.

You may pay for this hunt at the April hunt or
RSVP by May 8, 2021 to linda.erickson@comcast.net
RSVP to attend constitutes commitment to pay as the money will
be put in the ground. Thanks!
We will practice social distancing as necessary. Wear face mask.

If you have a classic car you would like to show off, please drive it to the rally. Special car prizes awarded.

Bring extra cash for tip board drawing.

Linda Erickson 720-231-8080





The Prez Sez

By Roy Neys

We aren't having Rush this year but we are having Coinhuna! Mark your calendar for June 13th, that's the Sunday after our Friday night Club Meeting. We are having it at Robby Ferrufino Park, 8901-8983 W. 74th Avenue and will start at 2:00pm sharp (hopefully). If the weather doesn't cooperate then we will have it the Sunday after Father's Day. The hunt is free to the members of Eureka Treasure Hunters Club.

Should we have thunderstorms, I'm spending them in the front seat of my car. We have had firsthand experience of lightning and don't want to repeat it. That's a big reason why I want to try having timed heats- at least the first heat, anyway. We have a number of new members, so a short explanation is in order.

We try to spread the coins as evenly as possible. Each hunt field is divided into quarters that are each planted by one or more people. This also allows the planters access to 3 quadrants to choose from at the start of the hunt; this way everyone can participate without being accused of cheating. This leads to the question: How can I improve my chances of success at a competition hunt? I think my friend Jeff Mc. summed up coin recovery best last summer when we were hunting Loretto Heights College. Jeff said he wanted to go back and really paint the area where he found an old nickel.

Think of a virtual room. You have a mop and a bucket of paint. You want to cover as much area as you can with paint as easily as possible. To and fro swabby style with the mop flat on the floor, overlapping your swing a bit gets a lot of good coverage with the least amount of effort. This is a good way to metal detect too.

1. A pendulum swing puts your coil flat on the ground less than 20% of the time. If your coil is at any angle other than horizontal, you are losing valuable coverage and depth: especially if you are using a concentric coil. Keep that coil horizontal to the ground!
2. If you walk too fast, you end up walking on good targets. Move quickly but don't exceed your detector's sweep speed.
3. It's best not to use a brand new detector or program here: you will be disappointed!
4. Ground balance before you start. Every place is a little different and a good balance will give you a bit of an edge.
5. Learn to pinpoint with your detector. A proper pinpoint will give you a target area of about a half dollar or less. I usually hit the target on the first probe. That's a lot of recovery time saved instead of fumbling with a pin pointer first.
6. If you probe first and don't get it after 3 or 4 probes go to the next target or hit it with the pin pointer- can't find it- too deep, move on. I usually hit the target on the first probe 60% of the time. Do you hear the pin pointer but can't probe or feel it with your fingers? Might be a ring: come back after the hunt is over.

I hope everyone has a good time!

Happy Trails



**Roy Neyes
Proudly Presents....**

**THE BIG
COINHUNA
HUNT!**

**Date: June 13, 2021
Place: Robby Ferrufino Park
Time: 2 PM**

A Duffy

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Joining Eureka! Membership Dues

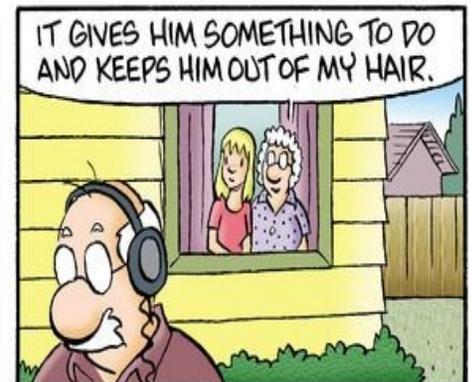
Yearly dues are \$33 per individual or \$42 for a family membership. Please go to:

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.

PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



© Brian Crane

Hindsight is 2020 Hunt Report

by Jeff Lubbert



This being Eureka's first seeded hunt in over a year, I knew this had to be a good hunt. We didn't want to head to a local park just yet as we weren't sure of how the local rules would work out. The Lazy Heart Ranch seemed to be the perfect choice for the hunt location. When we were planning the hunt, we didn't expect snakes to be out this early in the season (more on that later), so we were confident in the location; the weather being the only thing that I felt I needed to worry about. I knew that we could have 2 feet of snow or it could be 80 degrees; it is spring in Colorado after all.



I worked with Roy to get some items from the club safe. We pulled a mix of Mercury and Roosevelt dimes, a mix of dated and dateless Buffalo nickels, a batch of V-nickels, several Indian Head cents, some silver Washington quarters and a few silver Kennedy halves. I was also working closely with Linda Kibler and Nancy on budget and the membership list. During one of the previous board meetings, we, the board, decided to add \$100 of value to upcoming hunts so I had an additional \$100 in silver dimes added to the coin count.

I visited a local coin dealer and purchased 500 Indian Head pennies for the body of the hunt. I also purchased a P, D, and S set of 1920 Wheat Cents, a P, D, and S set of 1920 Mercury dimes, (2) 1920 Walking Liberty half dollars, and an 1876-S Seated quarter for token prizes. Jay Reed donated a few barber dimes and Standing Liberty quarters that were placed in the hunt field. Jay also donated the Barber half that was part of the over-under for the pull tab drawing that we held. I donated the other silver half that was the



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under prize for the pull tab drawing.

The week prior to the hunt was the sign-up deadline that gave me time to set a budget, get coins purchased and work with Roy to get coins from the club's inventory. During the week prior, Boots and I planted the coins. That process takes a few hours, so it needed to be done prior to the weekend of the hunt.



On Easter Sunday, which was after the sign-up deadline and prior to the hunt, it was unseasonably warm. I was visiting the ranch when a rattlesnake was spotted just a few feet from Sally's door. Sally is Boot's mother who also lives on the ranch. We dispatched the critter but now were nervous about the possibility of snakes in the hunt field.



The day of the hunt the weather was more seasonal, maybe even a bit cooler than normal. I was confident that snakes wouldn't be an issue. I set out (5) prize tokens plus a Spyderco token to plant. There was also a Spyderco token in the field that was not found in our previous hunt so there was going to be (2) Spyderco knives to be given away. Nancy and Linda Kibler handled the sign-in and payment of members joining us, they also kept



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me organized and going in the proper direction (not an easy task).

We started the pre-hunt talk and answered questions about the hunt. We also gave away the tip card Morgan dollar which went to new member Pete Leischer. Todd Lyle won the Barber half and Linda Erickson won the 90% Kennedy half. After the give-a-ways we headed out toward the hunt field and paused for a few group photos.

Once on the hunt field it was to be a shotgun start, meaning that hunters could start anywhere within the boundaries of the hunt field. Hunt officials Kevyn Llewellyn, Bruce Morton, Chris Davis and myself were dispersed on the hunt field. When the signal to begin the hunt rang out, the mad scramble began for coins and tokens. Soon our rustiness began to show its face as we had a member that forgot their pinpoint probe. I made a mad dash to the parking lot to retrieve a pinpoint from their vehicle. I also spent a bit of time with some of our new members coaching them on competition hunting.

The hour flew by and soon we sounded the end of hunt signal and made our way back to the bunk-

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Eureka! 2021 Calendar

May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

ANNOUNCEMENT!

I have been asked by KG and Ringy to be a guest on their podcast "Running & Gunnin" (video Podcast) on May 18th at 6:30PM. Tune into the DIGGIN with KG and Ringy Facebook page to get updates.

Jeff Lubbert





A Four Dime Day

by Alan Bravo

On a recent Saturday afternoon Marty Stone and I checked out a large lot where two 1900-vintage houses had been scraped off. The owner of the demolition company was on the site using a loader to get a large pile of debris into a dump truck. He was a metal detectorist too and gladly allowed us to search as long as we stayed out of his way. The site was trashy and gave up little of interest other than some modern coins, including a 1983 dime. A newer dime, OK, moving on. Marty had to take off after a while, but I stuck around until the debris pile was dug up and hauled away. I checked where it had been and came up with a 1935 Mercury dime. That's better. Giving up on that site, I headed home but decided to swing through an old area of town on the way. While turning a corner I came across a scene that immediately caught my eye. A sidewalk and part of an alley had been dug up in order to add some sort of drainage system. There



were piles of dirt scattered with old bricks and pieces of bottles. The detector was out and swinging in no time and soon a signal came up that demanded to be dug. Turning over a scoop of dirt, out popped a silver coin - a 1904 Barber dime. Now we're talkin'! Soon another signal perked my ears right up. This time it turned out to be - what

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else - another dime. This one couldn't be identified so it went in the pocket for later. By now it was getting dark, so I headed home to clean off my latest find. On closer inspection it turned out to be a well-worn but barely decipherable 1887 Seated Liberty dime. A great end to a four-dime day!



Postscript: Tax assessor records show the building adjacent to the alley was built in 1885 and the house next door in 1881. In fact, all the buildings on that block were built in the 1880's. After watching the site for a couple of weeks I went back and came up with one last coin - yep a dime - a 1902 Barber.



Breakfast Club

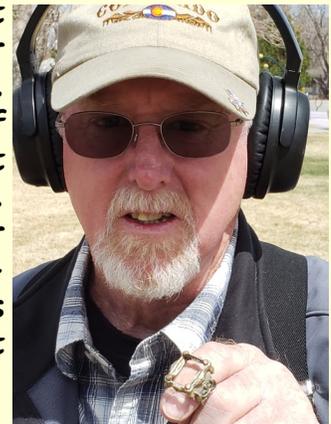
by Chris Davis

April 2

Our scheduled Breakfast Club outing for Friday, April 2, turned out to be a very nice day. Temperatures were in the low 70's, soil moisture was very good for digging. Our crew went over to Aurora City Park for our hunt. Aurora City Park was a target rich environment. Lots of bottle caps, aluminum liquor caps, pull tabs and pennies. Lots of pennies. The group found 3 rings. The best was found right off the bat by Brice Y. It was silver, with a gold plated heart and tiny diamonds on the sides. Marcus L. got a tiny ring. Mike M. dug up a



man's ring missing the stone. For the second week in a row, Roy N. came out with the most change, \$9.31. Bob H. was next with \$8.93. Jeff M. had \$6.96. Marianne M. came in with \$5.50, but would have probably done better had her battery not given out. Believe she is getting the knack of her new Equinox. One of the best finds was made by Michael W. who picked up a very nice silver cross. Mark C. got a small bracelet. Three wheat-ear pennies



were recovered. The best item I found on this hunt was a very nice, loaded .40 S&W cartridge.

April 24

Our regularly scheduled second April hunt was planned for April 17 but was cancelled due to a heavy snow. It turned out, the weather on the following Saturday was excellent, so we decided to hold an impromptu Breakfast Club on April 24. The weather was indeed nice. Temperature reached a high of 57. Soil moisture was excellent. Hunting conditions were great.

As usual, we met in the parking lot of the Look N Good Restaurant. After a bit of discussion, it was decided that we would try Fulton Park for our

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hunt. At the time, I did not realize there were two Fulton Parks. As a result, a number of our members ended up at the wrong park. I apologize for the oversight and will blame Bruce, seeing as how he wasn't even there. Alison and Mark M. came out to see



what our Club was to thank Linda and B. for showing them their detectors. I had a quality prompt hunt, we very well. I (as an individual) can say



about. I would like Richard K, and Lee how their respective worked. For an individual (as a group) did outdoor recreational

Linda K. dug up a pretty hair clamp. Greg L. got a nice folding knife. Dan P. pulled up a loaded .45 APC pistol bullet. Roy turned up an Eisenhower dollar, There was some older stuff found on the site. At least 4 wheat-ear



pennies came up. Lee B. found a very nice Army button. Nearby, I found a 1920's shotshell.

Seven rings were found, including 4 silver and 1 gold. Marty S., Brice Y. Mike M. and Bob H. all found silver rings. Lee B. picked up a very nice 14K man's wedding band, so he gets best find on the day. The usual suspects did best on change. Bob H. regained his position on top with \$12+, followed by Jeff M. with \$9.60, Dan P. with \$8.33, Roy N. with \$8.30 and Marianne S. with \$7.56. Dan P. managed to pull 12 quarters and other assorted coins out of one hole.

I think it is safe to say we had a "good hunt".



THE TOKEN TALKS

BY BUCK NINETY-FOUR

Well, here I am, the prize token that was hidden by John Olson last year in his "Eureka! Hunt for \$1.94". I'll bet you didn't know a token like me could write an article, did you? Bear with me for a few minutes while I tell you my story. My full name is Buck Ninety-four, but you can just call me Buck. I have the numbers \$1.94 engraved right on me.



Over a year ago Mr. Olson (I call him Mr. O) put me in the ground in a Denver park. I didn't mind, I enjoyed the peace and quiet. In February 2020 Mr. O started giving monthly clues as to my whereabouts at Eureka club meetings and in the club newsletter. He gave clues every month for the following six months, but nobody came by to pick me up! I waited and waited. Good thing I am a patient token.

Then Mr. O gave his "FINAL CLUES" in the July newsletter. He was about ready to call it quits and come rescue me himself if nobody else found me in the next 30 days. Well, it was early morning on July 5, and I was just waking up when I heard footsteps on the ground above me! At first it sounded like someone was stumbling around aimlessly, but then I felt movement in the ground next to me, and suddenly I was popped out of my underground hiding place in Judge Joseph Cook Park! It took my eyes a minute to adjust to the sunlight after being in the ground so long, but then I saw a guy with a silly grin staring right at me! Later I learned this guy usually has a dull, blank expression on his face, but he was definitely smiling when I met him. Right away, he called his wife Sue on his cell phone and told her he had found me!



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So this guy (I peeked in his wallet and discovered his name is Norm Ruggles) took me home with him and I spent the next nine months at his house! He's an okay guy except when he gets worked up over politics or the Broncos. At least his wife and grandkids sure are nice.

Boy did I miss my friend Mr. O. Due to the pandemic, there weren't any Eureka club meetings where Norm could return me to Mr. O, or where Mr. O could give Norm his prize for finding me way back in July.

At long last, we all got together again at Jeff Lubbert's "Hindsight Is 2020 Hunt" on April 11 at the Lewis' Lazy Heart Ranch. It was fun! Finally Norm was able to return me to Mr. O, and Mr. O gave Norm a group of awesome collector coins as his prize for

finding me! Of course the coins aren't as cool as a delightful token like me, but I admit they are pretty darn swell.

The prize coins included an 1885-P Morgan silver dollar; a 1942-D Walking Liberty silver half dollar; a Standing Liberty silver quarter; a 1945-D Mercury silver dime; a 1936 Buffalo nickel; a very rare 1865 three-cent piece; and a 1906 Indian Head cent. This collection is amazing, and was donated entirely by Mr. O, who was the clue and puzzle mastermind!

You'll notice the total face value of the coins is \$1.94. Isn't it a coincidence that my name is Buck Ninety-four? Well Eureka people, I am now back home with my pal Mr. O and his sweet wife Cindy. I'm resting up for another adventure. You never know, I might meet you somewhere down the road!

Sincerely, Buck

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house for giving away of our prizes. Laura Lewis and John Olson had the Spyderco tokens and each received new Spyderco knives. The tokens I planted were modern Jefferson nickels stamped with numbers 1 through 5 on them with number 1 getting the first choice of prizes. Brian Henry had token 1 and had first choice of the prizes, he was followed by George Grimberg, Jennifer Rose, Roy Neys and Steve Rex. From what I heard, everyone had a good time and most were happy with the number and type of targets that they recovered. I saw several targets that were recovered that I did not plant for this hunt which were from previous hunts. Since the hunt field will be used by Linda Erickson in the next hunt that



Eureka will put on, we did not allow hunters back into the field following this hunt. So, there should be a few left-over targets from this hunt that will be dug up during the Route 66 hunt and other future hunts that Eureka puts on. I would like to thank all of the members that participated in the hunt and also like to thank all of those that volunteered their time and put in a big effort to make this hunt happen (names left out so I don't forget someone).









Upcoming Events

NEXT EUREKA! MEETING

For in-person meetings, bring:
Nametags ~ thanks for wearing them to all Eureka! functions
Cash ~ for drawings, hunts, and Eureka! merchandise
Finds ~ to share
Ideas ~ for speakers and outings

A remote meeting will be held via Zoom. If you need training in using Zoom, contact Chris Davis, Bruce Morton, Alan Bravo, or Nancy Faires.

UPCOMING EUREKA! EVENTS

Breakfast Club (with precautions)

Friday June 4th

Contact: **Chris Davis 225.235.2642** for details or to get added to the email list.

Route 66 Hunt, Saturday May 15th Lazy Heart Ranch (see flyer in this edition)

Coinhuna Hunt, Sunday June 13th

Robby Ferrufino Park (see flyer)

KG & Ringy Podcast with Jeff Lubbert on Tuesday, May 18th at 6:30 PM

LINKED WEB SITES

www.mdhtalk.org Detecting Hobby Talk

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

www.spreaker.com/admrr

Relic Roundup Radio Show (hosted by Jeff Lubbert, 7pm Mondays)

TenaciousTreasureTracker.com

See Brian Henry's website for the TTT Hunt clues, and new merchandise available.

www.Youtube.com/AdventuresInDirt

Compilation of the best weekly metal detecting channels and finds, by Ken King (Eureka! member). See his **Weekly Dirt** show at 3:00 PM on Sundays (and available thereafter)

www.Youtube.com/5280Adventures

A variety channel of metal detecting, coin hunting, and other outdoor activities by Tony Frangella (Eureka! member) with his son, Caden.

"Metal detecting is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get."

-DirtFishing.com





SECRETARY'S NOTES BY NANCY FAIRES

MAY 2021

Eureka! THC Club Meeting
VIA ZOOM
April 9, 2021

CALL TO ORDER Roy Neys, President
Time: 7:31 PM

The monthly Eureka! THC Club meeting was held Friday April 9th via Zoom. There were 41 “logged-in” participants including several guests.

Welcome – Roy Neys

Thank you to Alan and Laura for the use of their unlimited ZOOM.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we will continue our monthly Club meetings via Zoom (2nd Friday at 7:30 PM),
Breakfast

Club (1st Friday and the 3rd Saturday) monthly and HART (as scheduled).

REPORTS

Treasurer Report – Linda Kibler

REMINDER: April is Club dues month. Please renew by April 30 or an additional \$5 will be charged. Membership is from May – April every year.

Breakfast Club – Chris Davis

March 20 – canceled due to bad weather

March 27 – Park Lane Park

April 2 – Aurora City Park

April 17 – next scheduled

Speaker – Chris Davis

Topic: Cleaning Clad Coins

The Clements Center remains closed due to Covid-19.

HUNTS

Hindsight 2020 – Jeff Lubbert April 11, Lazy Heart Ranch, Golden \$20 members only

Route 66 – Linda Erickson May 15, Lazy Heart Ranch, Golden \$25 members only

CoinHuna – Roy Neys June 13 members only

If anyone is interested in participating in a committee to find lost articles, contact Roy.

The Board has been discussing ways to make our F-2-F meetings better for all: for example: adding Zoom, live Broadcasts. What are your thoughts/ideas?

Attendance Drawing (you must be a paid member, logged in with your name and be present online to win)

Walking liberty half – Mary Sable

Standing liberty quarter – Bruce Morton

Washington quarter – Nancy Faires

Prizes will be available at the Breakfast Club for pick-up or Roy will hold until our next F-2-F meeting.

Show-N-Tell - Chris

Next meeting: May 14, 2021 at 7:30 PM via Zoom.

ADJOURN 9:05 PM
Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Faires
Secretary, Eureka THC

Soundoff May 2021



Cleaning Clad by Chris Davis

I spoke on the topic of cleaning coins at the last Zoom Meeting. I then opened the floor for additional ideas on the subject and got some good input. As everyone was not able to attend the Zoom Meeting, I thought I would go ahead and put the coin cleaning article



in the Newsletter.

Much of the year, so far, has been pretty cold. The ground was too frozen much of the time for clean digging. So, for lack of ability to metal detect, I reluctantly forced myself to clean up some of the clad I have been accumulating for over a year now. It was either clean corroded coins or watch politics on the telly or do chores around the house.

One of the nice things about to belonging to a metal detecting club is I get to associate with a large number of people with a wide range



of related knowledge. I have been metal detecting for over 40 years, and I am still picking up new ideas and tips. For instance, what do other folks do with all those dirty coins they dug up over the past year? I started asking questions and came up with some very informative ideas.



Of course, this discussion deals only with the cleaning of clad coinage for the purpose of putting them back into circulation. Hopefully, everyone knows coins of numismatic value should never be cleaned. This will seriously lower

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the value of such coins. Clad coins are another category. Many of the clad coins we recover are seriously stained/dirty. For some strange reason, the banks are often hesitant to accept such dirty coinage.

Some folks use the automatic change sorting machines available in some banks. I am told Walmart also has such machines, but they charge you a percentage to use them. I bank with Chase, and they do not have change sorting machines. Chase requires you to roll coins for turn in (but they do give me the coin wrappers for free). I have been rolling the dirty coins with the clean, and, so far anyway, they have been taking them. However, one of our members recently tried turning in dirty coins, and the bank would not take them.

I turn in some \$500 worth of coins each year (do not ask how much the gas cost to get \$500 of corroded coins). So, wishing to avoid future problems, I broke down and purchased a Lortone, Model 3A rock tumbler. I did not have a clue how to run one, so I carefully researched You Tube videos on the internet. There are You Tube videos for everything on the internet. I also talked to 8 or 10 of our members who use coin tumblers. Of



course, you get what you pay for. There are a dozen different rock/gravel/sand abrasives to choose from, and virtually every video/person I checked with used different gravel/additive recipes of chemicals.

I was thoroughly confused.

So, I embarked on a trial-and-error approach. I purchased some plain brown aquarium gravel (at Walmart), and some stainless-steel pellets (from BC Precision). I was later told, gravel with rough edges did the best job cleaning the coins. It was

also suggested white beach sand works well. Such sand can be purchased at pet stores, but it is much better to go down to the Gulf Coast and get it yourself off the beach.

The total weight limit (coins/abrasives/chemicals/water) for a Lortone, Model 3A Tumbler drum is 3 pounds. If you exceed the weight, eventually you will burn the motor up. I weighed each of my full drums to make sure I did not exceed weight limits. If I had it to do again, as I have a large number of coins needing tumbling, I would have purchased the Lortone 33B, which has two 3 pound drums. I solved this problem by purchasing a second-hand tumbler from Jay R. at the January Club outing at Clements. Most (many anyway) of the videos recommended adding an equal volume of coins and abrasives, then adding just enough water to cover them. For the stainless-steel pellets, I just used a pound. I purchased them from BC Precision (\$18).

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There is a wide variety of chemicals various individuals add to the gravel. One individual doesn't add any chemicals at all. He just uses coins/gravel/water. Another adds just a dash of Dawn detergent. Quite a few purchase commercial additives such as CLR (Calcium, Lime, Rust) or Finch Products cleaning powder. At the Zoom Meeting, one individual said he had excellent results using a quarter capful of Shine Brite in his gravel, while another used ½ tsp. of Borax.

Personally, I do not really care if the coins are blindingly shiny. I just want them clean enough to pass muster at the bank. So, I opted for cheapskate methods. My first try was to mix gravel/water/coins, then add a dash of Dawn detergent/vinegar/Lime-A-Way/pinch of salt. Then I ran the drum for an hour. I then went out to the flower bed



and dumped the coins/gravel in a colander and thoroughly rinsed with the hose. One does not want to dump these chemicals down the drain, as they will eat up the pipes. It seems like 50 or 60% of the coins were clean enough, so I took the clean coins out and added additional dirty coins and ran it for another hour. The problem with this chemical mixture, it left a film of chemical on the coins.



My next try was just to add a dash of Dawn detergent to the gravel/water/coins. It seemed this worked just as well as the mixture above, but without the chemical film.



I then tried it using the stainless-steel pellets instead of gravel. It worked at least as well. The only problem, the stainless-steel pellets required a much finer mesh colander. After rinsing my first batch, I noticed stainless steel pellets all over the ground. It took a magnet to gather them all up again, which was a pain, as some idiot had dumped a batch of black sand from a prospecting trip in the flower bed and the magnet picked it all up also. Oh well.



It seemed I always had a few heavily stained coins which refused to clean up. Another video recommend-

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ed using pure vinegar instead of water over the coins/gravel, so I tried that. Which was almost a disaster. Yes, the pure vinegar cleaned the coins, but it also created pressure within the drum, causing it to expand and freeze up to the extent the drum would not turn. If I had not caught it quickly, it probably would have burned up the tumbler motor.

Do Not Use Straight Vinegar in a tumbler!!!

After studying the internet a bit more, I came up with more ideas on how to handle brown stained coins.

The first was to soak them in isopropyl alcohol with a

tbsp of salt. After 2 days, I could not discern any improvement at all. The second suggestion was to soak them in Lime-A-Way for an hour. This did a great job of getting rid of the brown. The problem is, it also got rid of all the silver color. What was left was copper colored dimes. A side note, just for yucks and giggles, I then tumbled these copper-colored dimes, and 80% of the silver color came back. Still, it was an awful lot of trouble using a caustic and more expensive solution. The third idea worked out much better.



First, I tumbled the coins and separated out the ones that were still badly brown stained. I took these stained coins and soaked them in a solution of vinegar with a tbsp of salt for an hour or two. This ate the brown stain off, but left the coins with a dull, silver satin-like finish. I tumbled them again in gravel with a dash of Dawn. This polished them and they looked great. It was also mentioned ketchup works well removing the brown stains on clad, but will discolor nickels.

So, for my purposes, the brown gravel or stainless steel and a dash of Dawn detergent seemed to work fine for most of the coins. For the brown stained ones, soaking them in vinegar/salt and tumbling them again worked best for what I was trying to do, get the bank to accept them.

One of the few things everyone agreed on (well, all but one who said he did not have any problem tumbling everything together) was you should always use a different set of abrasives to tumble pennies, and nickels/dimes/quarters/halves. If you tumble pennies, then tumble nickels/dimes/quarters/halves in the same gravel, everything will turn out a brown color.

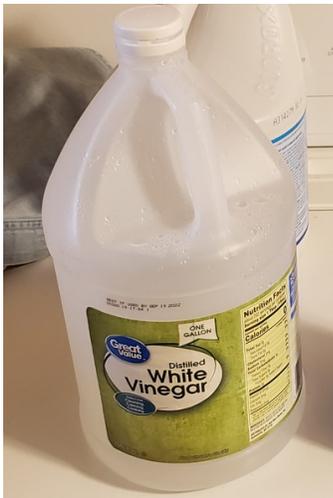
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There is not much you can do with corroded zinc pennies, other than save them to be planted at the next Coinhuna Hunt.

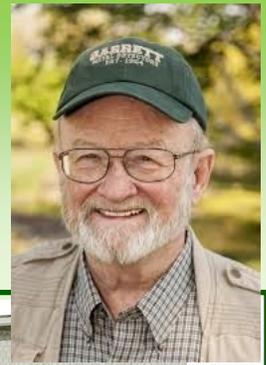
What do I do with all that loot received from turned in coins? Well, I could pay back some the equipment expenditures I have made over the years, but that would make too much sense. So, I usually use the monies to invest in more metal detecting equipment, I just can not live without.

I have often heard metal detecting is one of the few hobbies which pays for itself. Well, this might be true if you exclude gas expenditures, and are really good at finding gold rings, but most of us cannot pay for the gas with the change we find. But, if you figure in the health values resulting from all that exercise, we are all millionaires.



Charles Garrett Hunt

2021



Eureka donated 2 gold nuggets in 2020 to the Garrett Memorial Hunt. Due to Covid-19, the hunt was canceled and re-scheduled April 16-18, 2021 in Canton, Tx. Howie Rosser "Triple H", from Red Fork, OK, found the Eureka "coin" planted in the Silver Hunt and won the Eureka gold nuggets prize. More to come on this next month!



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About Soundoff

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

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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 - contact your **Soundoff** editor.**

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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 \$33 for single adult membership, \$42 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
The May 14th meeting will
be held remotely, via Zoom,
at 7:30 p.m.

The emailed invitation to join the session should reach you by 7:15 p.m.

www.eurekathc.org

