



Treasure Talk



The Monthly Newsletter of The Central Florida Metal Detecting Club

May 2023

www.thecfmdc.com



Note From the President:

May is here and so is the heat and rain! Remember to stay hydrated when you are out detecting, not to detect in conditions that have lightning in these afternoon thunderstorms and to let someone know if you are going out alone!

This month our club hunt has been moved to May 13th, the day after our meeting because we have a special guest attending the hunt. Debbie S. from Minelab will be doing a test run with our club and other Florida detectorists. Minelab will be having a **national competition** for team hunting

and we will be doing a trial run this Saturday.

This hunt will consist of teams of 4 going through 3 different mini hunts to test different skills of detecting. Please think about your team of 4 and let us know at the meeting. Debbie S. has giveaways and prizes for all those who participate. Carolyn will provide more details at the club meeting.

Debbie Bishop has some fun hunts and activities planned for those who do not want to participate in the competition but still want to have fun.

Remember to bring your finds from the past two months this Friday since we did not have a meeting in April.

See ya at the meeting!

Jim

REMINDER: Club dues are \$25 for the year and there is a one-time membership fee of \$15. If you are paying by check, please make it out to “The Central Florida Metal Detecting Club”

Come And Join Us!!!

We meet on the second Friday of every month.

Meeting Place:

Community United Methodist Church
41 West Highbanks Rd.
Debary, FL 32713

Meeting Date: May 12, 2023

Meeting Time: 7:30pm

The Central Florida Metal Detecting Code of Ethics

1. Fill all holes. Leave the land and vegetation as it was.
2. Remove all trash and litter when you leave.
3. Respect the rights and property of others.
4. Observe all laws, whether national, state or local.
5. Aid law enforcement officials whenever possible.
6. Never destroy priceless historical/archeological treasures.
7. All metal detectorists may be judged by the example you set. Always conduct yourself with courtesy and consideration for others.

Finds Table Rules and Etiquette

Do not pick up other members' finds without their consent.

Do not solicit votes.

ONLY bring finds that you found WHILE detecting.

Vote for the find you like the most!

Do Not share finds.

Do not look at the name or number on the back of the voting slip to determine your vote.

Only vote 1 time!

Voting is for active members only.

Remember this is a friendly competition.

Have fun with it!



By Jim Fielding

Missing the Obvious - Turner Beach, Captiva, Florida

Sometimes the search for treasure can put blinders on the detectorists' hunting it, and mostly without you even realizing it. I know, I have run up against this time and time again while treasure hunting. My old friend Ed Pfau, now detecting the great beyond, having passed many years ago, used to say "Don't miss the forest for the trees!" We were both enthusiastic about the hobby of metal detecting while treasure hunting back in the 1970's and 1980's and were well-traveled about the state of Florida while seeking it. I still retained my pilot's license back then, before diabetes clipped my wings permanently. Living in Broward County, but loving the history of Florida's west coast, many weekends we would load the detectors, coolers, and gear into the baggage compartment of my plane, and head for the islands of Lee County; Sanibel and Captiva were our usual destinations.

These islands both had small, grass (read "sand") fields which with our rather light load, we could just make it in and barely make it out! The Sanibel strip actually crossed a paved road, with automatic barriers that would drop and stop traffic by keying your aircraft radio on a specific frequency long enough for you to land, or takeoff. We were usually looking for treasure on Captiva island, and most usually at Blind Pass, as it was always sanded in and easily accessed. We had it

on "good" authority, that pirate treasure had been buried along the banks of this pass, and we spent a lot of time searching for it. On the Captiva side of the pass was a small beach called Turner Beach, which was a nice little spot, but we rarely even found clad coins there, let alone much else. There was a small bath-house/restroom/changing room up on wooden stilts, maybe 3-feet off the ground.

Passing by it or being a little too close, brought a slightly unpleasant, acrid smell, you usually found about public restrooms of the minimal maintenance/rarely cleaned kind. The floor of the bath-house consisted of 4x6 lumber with a 1/4 to 1/2 inch gap between the boards, letting shower water, as well as even more unpleasant fluids and substances escape down onto the damp, weed-covered ground directly under the structure. We were not impressed and did our best to steer clear of this disgusting little bath-house. We spent many more trips on the opposite side of Turner Beach, hunting treasure in the sandy regions of Blind Pass. I was in my office at work back in Broward County one afternoon when Ed came in and tossed a copy of the day's newspaper on my desk. He had circled an article with a black magic marker. The reporter wrote about a young guy with a metal detector who had ducked under the bath-house, into the excrement-filled weeds and had recovered almost \$17,000 worth of gold and silver jewelry (and this is at 1988 gold prices!) along with clusters of high-grade diamonds the bling had contained. I looked at Ed and he looked at me. He said "I STILL would not have hunted under there, even if I'd known!" We both laughed until we couldn't laugh any more!

Place	Member	Total Point
1	Todd James	34
2	Gage Dover	27
2	Rob Loucks	27
3	Gary Flatt	26
4	Lee Neubauer	24
4	Rob Hill	24
5	Bryan Mott	23
6	John Ayers	22
7	Jim Tippitt	20
8	David Gascyone	19
9	Bill Green	18
9	Danny Case	18
10	Betty Harris	16
11	Debbie Bishop	12
12	Jerry Hitson	4
12	Sarah Richter	4
13	Jim Fielding	3
13	Cheryl Fields	3
13	Ashley Plummer	3
14	Deborah Prock	2

Member Appreciation Hunt

Jim Tippett awarded Alan James and Carolyn Yohannes with a plaque and a gold coin for their role as past presidents. Daniel Lewis was awarded a certificate for his role in the kid's hunt he helped set up.

Ron and Alan fired up the BBQ and made sure there were enough burgers and hotdogs for everyone. Debbie Bishop made sure to remind us it was Earth Day and brought some awesome goodie bags for everyone. Overall, it was a fun day to appreciate the hobby, our friends and the club.



Club Officers



President - Jim Tippitt
386-847-4555



Vice President - Dave Syler



2nd Vice President - Bryan Mott



Treasurer- Vickie Chilla



Secretary- Debbie Bishop

Club Volunteers

Monthly Finds Tables

Rob Loucks

Webmaster

Jerry Hitson

Half & Half

George & Deborah Guimond

Silver Raffle

Bill & Betty Shackelford

Photographer

Bill Shackelford, Rob Loucks, Jerry Hitson

Refreshments

Joe Bishop

Newsletter Editor

Carolyn Yohannes/Dave Syler

Any time you show up for a club meeting or hunt, don't forget to sign the register.

Please feel free to bring a snack for the monthly meeting!

Please make sure that you are helping set up the meeting or closing the meeting down! The same members should not be doing this every month!

