

Oregon Treasure Trail Society Newsletter

August 2026



Photo by Brian E

President's Message

I hope everyone is having a great summer and finding plenty of time to get out there and enjoy the hobby!

This month, I'd like to recognize two of our OTTS members, Jackee and Lee, who have scored high enough to be two of the fifteen finalists in Minelab's Race to the Realm contest! A special mention our member Ted, who barely missed out and ended in 16th position.

Making it this far is an incredible accomplishment, and having two OTTS members among the finalists is something our entire club can be proud of. Jackee and Lee will now compete against the other finalists for a \$100,000 grand prize!

Please join me in congratulating them and wishing them the very best in the final competition. We'll all be rooting for you!

Always dig responsibly and leave no trace.

Ryan Paradis
President

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AUGUST 25 MEETING MINUTES

- • Meeting called to order
- • Pledge of Allegiance
- • Board and board members at large introduced
- • New members 0 / Guest 0
- • Progressive draw won by Sean T
- • Member draw won by Michelle D
- • Birthdays 3 coins given
- • Club tokens turned in, 1 Daniel
- • Minutes from last meeting accepted
- • Club hunt report given
- • Treasurers report accepted
- • Social hunt report
- • Update on Don S
- • Up coming fundraisers , basket and bake sale discussed
- • New business ; Race to the Realm finalists Lee H and Jackee A
- • Custom club tokens made by Brian E
- • Clubs plan for buying silver for next year
- • 2027 Executive board President and Vice President
- • Break
- • Dan R talked about the new XP Icon metal detector
- • Announcements, Namma hunt, By the light of the silvery moon hunt
- • Raffle drawings
- • FOTM announced
- • Meeting adjourned

Announcements

Special thanks to those who
have brought snacks who
aren't on the list. Snacks
are always welcome!

Next Meeting

- Tuesday, September 22nd 2026
- Social hour starts at 6:00 p.m.
- Meeting starts at: 7:00 p.m.
- Meeting location:
American Legion Post 1
1830 S.E. 122nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97233

**Next members to
bring meeting snacks!**

Larry & Jason

On deck , Sherry & Boehm



Next Club Hunt

September 26th, Saturday
8:00 AM -12:00 PM

Location TBA on website
calendar.
<https://ottsclub.org/calendar>

Raffle Results

Winners

Tuesday, August 25, 2024

Top Prize!

1 Gram Gold Canadian Maple Leaf
- Ron & Kathy

1. 1824 Silver Dime - Ron & Kathy
2. 1853 Silver ½ Dime - Brian
3. ½ oz Silver pour JP - Lee
4. ½ oz Silver pour man - Ted
5. 1 Troy oz Metal Mafia- Steve
6. 1 oz Heraeus Round- Steve
7. 1 oz King Charles Round- Paul
8. 1 oz Astronaut Silver Bar- Kathy
9. ½ oz Silver Bar - Randy
10. ½ oz Silver Bar - Bob
11. ½ oz Silver Bar - Lee
12. ½ oz Silver Bar - Ted



Find of the month August

Category	Place	Name	Item
Item of the Month			
	1	Pat D	Portland Police Badge
	2	Bill B	Brass Knuckles
	3	Jackee	Ram Figure
US Coin			
	1	Lee H	1891 Seated Dime
Tie	2	Ryan P	1926 S Standing Liberty .25c
Tie	2	Jackee	Copper Sheetting w/ 1962 Rosie .10c
	3	Sean T	1943 D Washington .25c
Foreign Coin			
	1	Jackee	1980 Great Britain New Pence
	2	Ryan P	1985 Yugoslavia 50c
	3	Lee H	Australia Dollar Coin
Token			
	1	Jackee	Woodsmen of The World Token
	2	Lee H	I love Books Token
	3	Kirk	Baseball Range Token
Gold Item			
	1	Bill B	Platinum Ring
	2	Clayton	14K Gold Band 9.6 grams
Tie	3	Ted M	14K Gold Ring
Tie	3	Jackee	Tiny Gold Picker
Silver Item			
	1	Sean T	Silver & Garnet Earring
	2	Kirk E	Silver Ring
	3	Pat D	.925 Dolphin Ring
Jewelry/Non-Precious			
	1	Lee H	San Francisco Watch Fob
	2	Bill B	Copper Longhorn Skull Pendant
	3	Jackee	Sheriff Badge
Artifact			
	1	Jackee	1888 Antique Tag
	2	Brian E	Spoon
	3	Ryan	Musketball
Oldest US Coin			
	1	Jackee	1881 Indian Head Penny
	2	Lee H	1897 Barber .25c
	3	Ryan P	1908 Barber Quarter
Display			
	1	Jackee	
	2	Kirk E	
	3	Lorilee C	

Rank	Name	Aug	Total
1	Jackee	29	187
2	Ryan P	13	144
3	Brian E	8	130
4	Kirk E	15	114
5	Bill B	13	97
6	Jeff C	5	49
6	Sean T	7	49
7	Jeff S	2	46
7	Ted M	5	46
8	Tony G		38
9	Dan R		36
10	Ed V	4	33
11	Scott H		32
12	Pat D	10	27
13	Nick R		26
14	Lorilee	7	22
15	Chuck F		19
16	Lee H	18	18
17	Gregg		15
18	Richard S		14
19	Don S		7
20	Tim S		6
21	Ron B		4
21	Chris S.		4
21	Chuck P		4
22	Clayton	3	3
23	Daniel A	1	1

Challenge Token Clue #1



Heading North, the big water flows behind me. I lie here with a few of my friends. Loud and Proud you might think I'm Trash, but I'm just getting ready for Halloween. And that cute little sapling is only 12 feet from me. It is my closest neighbor on top of this hill. Please park nearby. Oh NO; here comes another dog.



Jackee had some cool finds to share!

First picker of gold



First walker!

History of Amusement parks in Portland

A new iteration of Portland history this issue is a brief History of Amusement parks in Portland. Most of us know of Oaks park, it is both the oldest and now the only remaining Amusement park in Portland. A friendly rivalry developed between the builders of Oaks Park and the Lewis & Clark Expo and the race to see which could open first. Oaks Park opened two days before the Expo, on Memorial Day 1905. In its first season, over 300,000 people packed the streetcars to visit the park and over 30,000 people would visit the park on Sundays and holidays. Oaks Park had a 4000-seat auditorium and The Oaks was said to have been John Philip Sousa's favorite place to perform, having been there numerous times.

The only amusement park in Portland that survives today is Oaks Park, which is the oldest amusement park on the West Coast and the skating rink is the oldest rink west of the Mississippi. The first picture below is the original entrance to the Park. By age the next oldest is the Lewis and Clark Expo. As I said above it too opened in 1905 although its purpose was much greater than just amusement park rides, that is for another post. The second picture is of a slide that was a part of the exposition along with other rides. Guild's Lake provided a perfect location for the popular Chute-the-Chutes at the Lewis & Clark Exposition. Three million people came to Portland's Party, many of them decided to stay. Portland's population doubled in the next five years.

Most of us have never heard of Council Crest Dreamland but it too was a Amusement park atop Council Crest. Council Crest was "Portland's roof garden on the mountaintop." It was an unproven belief that the park site had been a traditional council ground for Native American Indians; therefore, the name "Council Crest." If you are familiar with Portland, you know the incredible views afforded atop Council Crest. From Council Crest (on a clear day) you can see five snow-capped peaks and 3,000 square miles of land and rivers that connect them together. But unless you were here early in the 20th century, you might not know that an amusement park once ruled the Crest. Council Crest Park opened on Memorial Day in 1907 and it was in operation until Labor Day in 1929. Council Crest was heralded as "The Dreamland of the Northwest" and is depicted in our 3rd photo.

The forth photo is even more obscure Columbia Beach. This ad appeared in the Portland News on August 9, 1916. The ad says that 15,000 people attended Columbia Beach on the previous Sunday. When Columbia Beach's season opened on June 6, 1926, over 7000 people flocked to the park to get some relief from early summer heat. The Miniature Railroad with its shiny new engine was very popular as was the Merry-go-round and the Ferris Wheel. Columbia Beach Amusement Park operated from 1916 until 1926, when a fire destroyed the dance pavilion. When the Park was at its peak, as many as 15,000 people would swim there at one time. In 1927, the name of the island was changed to Tomahawk Island. Portland school children had a contest to name the island. It was chosen because according to legend, an Indian removed a tomahawk that was on display at the Lewis & Clark Exposition in 1905. It is said that he buried the tomahawk on what had been known as Sand Island. Today, Tomahawk Island is connected to Hayden Island and Jantzen Beach. Part of the Columbia River was filled in to make it one body of land.

The fifth and last photo is one many will remember Jantzen Beach Amusement park. Carl Jantzen had been a partner in Portland Knitting Mills when the company was formed in 1910. Jantzen's success with designing swimsuits used by the Portland Rowing Club resulted in the name change to Jantzen Knitting Mills in 1918. Jantzen and his partners at Jantzen Knitting Mills opened Jantzen Beach Amusement Park in 1928. The world famous Big Dipper Roller Coaster was the main attraction. Jantzen Beach survived the Vanport flood in 1948, but the people who survived moved away. The loss of people in the immediate vicinity led to the loss of patrons to the park and attendance never did reach pre-flood levels. To help with increasing traffic flows going north and south on the Interstate Bridge, the Highway Division built a matching span to separate the northbound traffic from the southbound traffic in 1958. For about 25 years, tolls were collected to pay for construction costs. After years of dwindling revenues, the park closed on Labor Day in 1970 and the rides were dismantled and sold. The wood from The Dipper was salvaged and was first used to build a small warehouse on SE 22nd and Division where Mr. T's Bakery is located and there are now new condos.



Photo 1 the entrance to Oaks Park Early 1900's



Photo 2

Photo 2 Chute-the-Chutes at the Lewis & Clark Exposition

Submit entries for this section to: rubber2theroad@yahoo.com

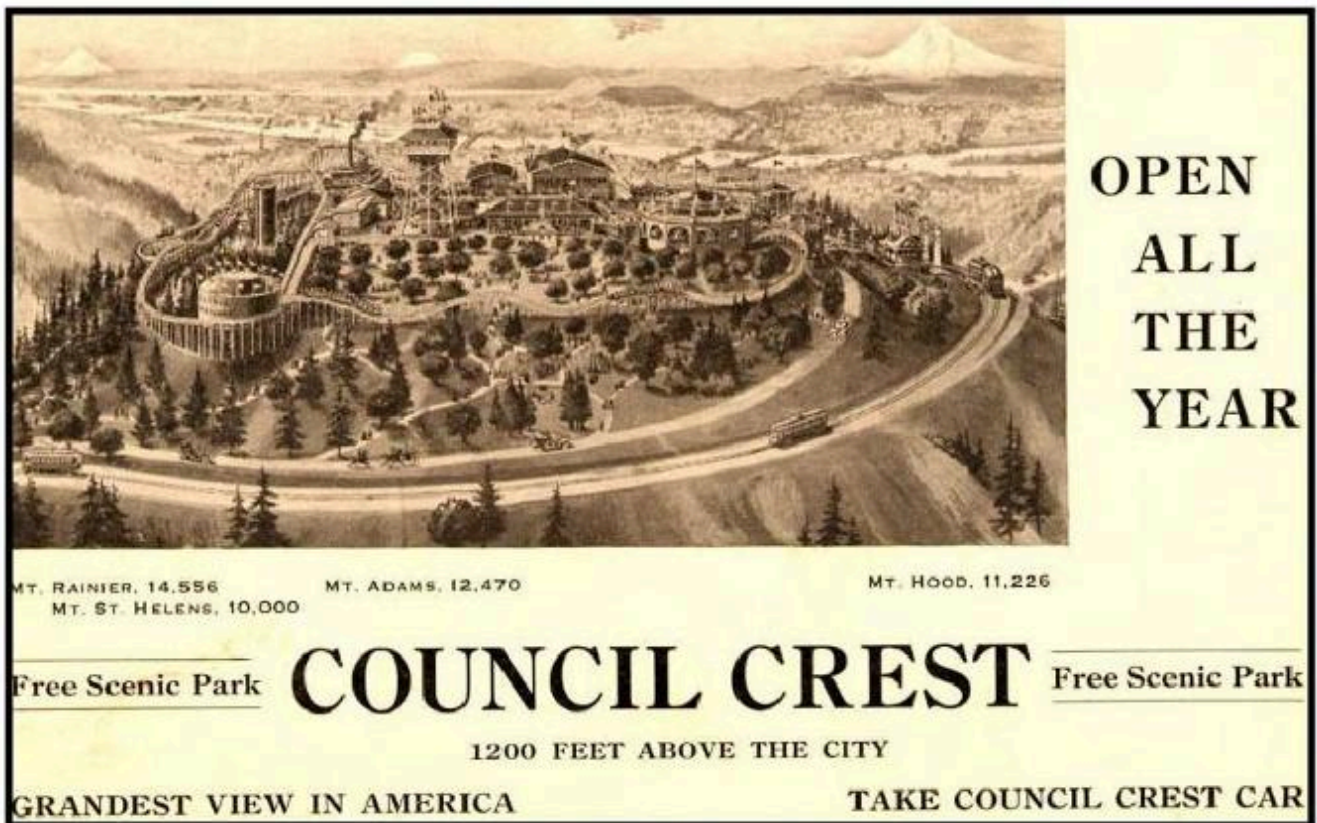


Photo 3 "The Dreamland of the Northwest"



Photo 4 Columbia Beach

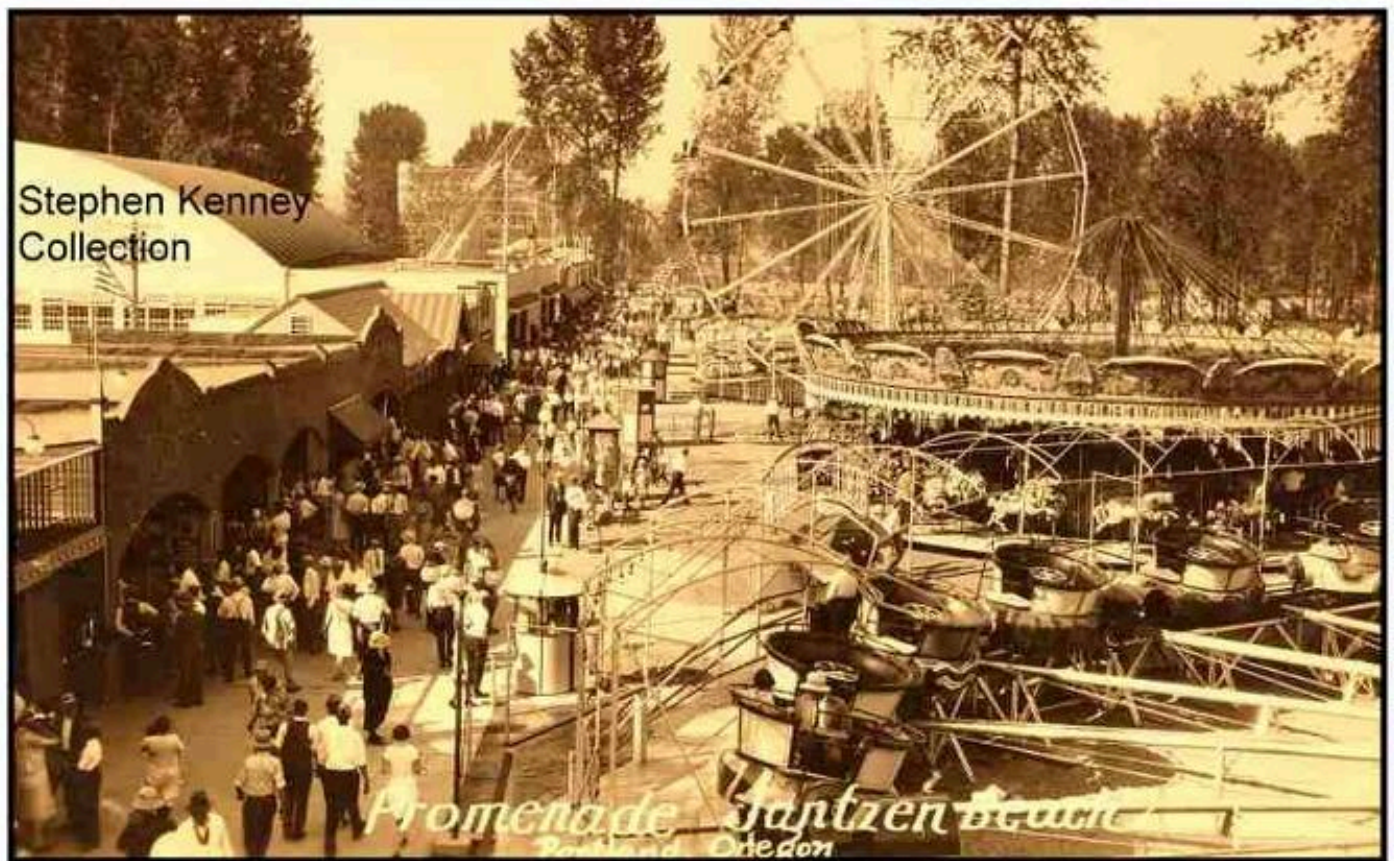


Photo 5 Jantzen Beach Amusement Park

OTTS Club Report

Date: August 30th, 2026 8am-12pm

Location: Kelley Point Park - N Kelley Point Park Rd, Portland, OR 97203



General Information: Located in North Portland at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia River.

Historical Information: Prior to officially becoming a park in 1984, the land underwent drastic geographical transformations serving as an indigenous gathering hub, a 19th-century homestead, and an industrial dumping ground. The site was formerly part of Percy Island, separated from the mainland by sloughs (See 1897 historical map). Percy Island and Slough were both named after Nathan Percy, who settled a donation land claim on the island in 1850.

As the city of Portland developed, the need for a lighthouse emerged with funding authorized in 1894 and construction in 1895. The lighthouse remained active until 1935 and was left abandoned until 1959 when it was destroyed by a fire. Shallow remains can still be seen at low tide. Development projects later altered the landforms, mainly between 1919 and 1926, when the Port of Portland acquired the site and spent decades covering the flood prone islands with tons of river dredge spoils.

In 1926, a group of Portland citizens persuaded the United States Board on Geographic Names to rename it Kelley Point. The name honors Hall Jackson Kelley (1790-1874), a New England resident who during the first half of the 19th century promoted interest in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. During a brief visit to Oregon in 1834, Kelley tried unsuccessfully to establish a city at the confluence.

Hunt Results: The OTTS August Club Hunt was held on Sunday August, 30th 2026. We met at Kelley Point Park located at N Kelley Point Park Rd, Portland, OR 97203. 28 members and 1 guest met between 7:00-8:00am and started their hunt promptly at 8am. It was a fantastic summer morning, sunny yet cool when meeting up with many shedding their layers after an hour of swinging. Nick opted not to do any detecting and instead had a table set up at the entrance to do some community outreach. Business cards were handed out while discussing general information about the club - several of which showed a great deal of interest and said they would try to make it to next month's meeting.



A few new tokens were introduced this week thanks to members Brian E and Dan R. Brian has been working on creating new custom stainless steel laser etched club hunt tokens (see image below), and Dan provided a PTT stamped token good for a \$20 gift card at his shop, Prospector's Treasure Trove, in Tigard! Nick hid 5 (old) regular tokens, 5 (new) regular tokens, 2 special tokens, and 1 PTT token for members to search for.



As expected, finds were fairly consistent with a popular beach park. A whopping 63 fishing gear items were recovered throughout the morning. Other notable finds include 15 bullets/casings, 13 costume jewelry/junk rings, and 3 non OTTS tokens. Folks who visit the park should also be more mindful of where they put their keys, as 16 of them were found! Overall the group put in some great work to clean up a park and beach which resulted in one of the highest trash weigh-in's in quite some time, totaling 28lbs! For valuable finds, Jackee and Brian found silver rings, both of which are pictured below. Tim S was the only one to find a silver coin, a 1942-S Mercury Dime, which happened to be the oldest coin of the day and was awarded a 1947-D Roosevelt Dime for his efforts. An honorable mention to Sean T, who found an extremely beat up 1935 Washington tax token.

At count out Tim S won a member draw and received a 1964-D Washington Quarter. Sean T, Lorilee C, Scott H, Lee H, and Ryan P found club tokens which were redeemed for a silver dime, with the exception of Lee who opted to keep the new "Good For" OTTS token as his prize. Scott H found a special token which was redeemed for St. Helena 1/10th oz .999 silver Guinea. The second special token and the PTT token were not found unfortunately. Nick also awarded a "special prize" which was not disclosed until after count out. It was then revealed that this prize was for the member who collected the most amount of trash (who was not in the top 6). Ed V came out on top with 60 trash items and was awarded a 1926 Buffalo Nickel for his efforts. An additional member draw was done at the end thanks to Tim's natural silver find resulting in Sean T taking home another silver dime.



Quiet morning on the beach

Photos by Hunt Master
Nick



OTTS president Ryan at the tip of Kelley Point



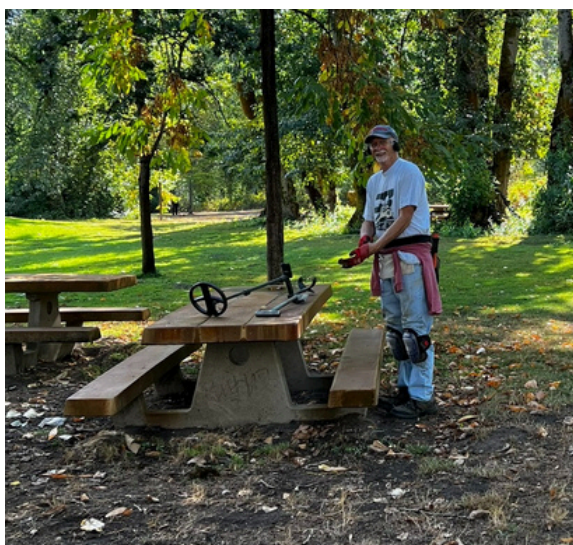
Scott just after finding the special token



Brian's silver ring (and finger)



Jackee's turquoise stone silver ring



Tony taking a break from the mid-morning sun



Tim recalling where he found his 1942-S Mercury Dime

Top places in the competition	
1) Jackee A. 110.1 points Prize: 1950 Washington Quarter 2) Ryan P. 103 points Prize: 1954-S Roosevelt Dime 3) Tim S. 102.4 points Prize: 1942-S Mercury Dime 4) Dan R. 67 points Prize: 1944-S Mercury Dime 5) Scott H. 56 points Prize: 1953-D Roosevelt Dime 6) Pat D. 43 points Prize: 1964 Roosevelt Dime	Average score: 35.4 points Club tokens found: 5 / 10 Special tokens found: 1 / 2 PTT tokens found: 0 out of 1 Total clad found: \$36.72 Trash collected: 28 lbs.

2026 running totals, OTTS club hunt participants have found							
Wheat Cent	Buffalo Nickel	War Nickel	Silver Dimes	Silver Jewelry	Gold Jewelry	Clad Coin	Trash
15	1	4	3	19	11	\$217.53	104.5 lbs

Next Club Hunt: Nick will be hosting the next monthly club hunt on Sunday, August 30th. A meeting location will be announced soon, check the club calendar for updates.

We will start at 8am and count out at 12pm. Be at the meeting spot by 7:30am! Non-members are always welcome.

Club Code of Ethics

- I WILL RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY AND WILL NOT TRESPASS WITHOUT THE LANDOWNER'S PERMISSION.
- I WILL NOT DESTROY PROPERTY, BUILDINGS OR WHAT IS LEFT OF GHOST TOWNS AND DESERTED STRUCTURES.
- I WILL NOT LITTER, ALWAYS PACK OUT WHAT I TAKE IN AND REMOVE ALL TRASH DUG IN MY SEARCH.
- I WILL LEAVE ALL GATES AND OTHER ACCESSES TO LAND AS FOUND.
- I WILL APPRECIATE AND PROTECT OUR HERITAGE OF NATIONAL RESOURCES, WILDLIFE, AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.
- I WILL USE THOUGHTFULNESS, CONSIDERATION AND COURTESY AT ALL TIMES.
- I WILL ABIDE BY ALL LAWS ORDINANCES OR REGULATIONS THAT MAY GOVERN MY SEARCH, OR THE AREA I WILL BE IN.
- I WILL FILL ALL HOLES, REGARDLESS HOW REMOTE THE LOCATION, AND NEVER DIG IN A WAY THAT WILL DAMAGE, BE DAMAG ING TO, OR KILL ANY VEGETATION.
- I WILL REPORT THE DISCOVERY OF ITEMS OF SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL VALUE TO A LOCAL HISTORIAN OR MUSEUM IN ACCORD ANCE WITH THE LATEST LEGISLATION.
- I WILL BE AN AMBASSADOR FOR THE METAL DETECTING HOBBY. I WILL BE POLITE AND INFORMATIVE TO THOSE WHO INQUIRE ABOUT MY HOBBY.
- I WILL NOT MISREPRESENT AS TO HOW AND WHEN AN ARTICLE WAS ACQUIRED.

Oregon Treasure Trail Society History

The Oregon Treasure Trail Society (O.T.T.S.) was formed in 1982. It was started by five avid hobbyists who each put \$5 into the kitty and declared themselves an official club. They set out to provide an organization that would unite people together with the same interest in metal detecting, whether it be coin and token hunting, relics hunting, or simply a passion for finding interesting treasures of the past.

Club Officers

President: Ryan Paradis

Vice President: Ashley W

Secretary: Jeff Sikorski

Treasurer: Jaqueline Atelevich "Jackee"

At Large Board Members: Kirk Ebensteiner, Brian Echerer

Immediate Past President: Scott Hadley

Club e-mail address: oregontreasuretrailsociety@gmail.com

Extracurricular Positions

Website Editors: Ryan P, Brian E

Newsletter Editor: Brian E

Find of the Month Team: Clark & David O & Jackee A.

Club Hunts: Nick R

OTTS Club Picnic: Ryan P

Raffles: Kathy & Ron B

Challenge Token: Jackee A

OREGON TREASURE TRAIL SOCIETY	NEWSLETTER RUBBER2THEROAD@YAHOO.COM
www.OTTSClub.org oregontreasuretrailsociety@gmail.com	Meetings 4th Tuesday of the month. 6:00 PM American Legion Post 1: 1830 se 122nd Ave. Portland OR 97233