

January 2025

Oregon Treasure Trail Society Newsletter



Photo by Ryan

O.T.T.S. President's Message

Well, here we are at the start of a new year. I am excited and looking forward to a really great year.

We just completed our first board meeting, and we have already got started on several goals and assignments including:

- A new newsletter editor
- Development of a new Find of the Month team and support
- Annual Picnic committee chairperson and planning & goals
- Establish a new silver drawing for the 1st Qtr. with budget
- Discussion and brainstorming on how to increase satisfaction of new & novice members
- Ideas and discussion on how to incorporate new members with existing members & mentors
- Development ideas for a hunting buddies program

So with all this going on get your 2025 dues and membership in early (by mail or by next meeting). Forms are available on our website: OTTScub.org

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Rick Page, President

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MEETING MINUTES

NO MEETING MINUTES THIS EDITION

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD
JANUARY 28TH, 2025

SETUP STARTS AT 5:30 P.M.
SOCIALIZING STARTS AT: 6:00 P.M.
MEETING STARTS AT: 7:00 P.M.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 1
1830 SE 122ND AVE.
PORTLAND OR 97233

**!!!Please consider bringing cash or checkbook to the
meeting and renew your membership for 2025!!!**

A start for new members to OTTS: Detecting Videos & Training and other thoughts. As a metal detectorist you never stop learning. From your first detecting experience to your last you are learning about yourself, your machine and researching sites. While instruction from others is part of that process your most critical element is your own efforts to seek out information to educate yourself. A prime resource for this is the Internet.

Look for videos that are specific to your machine and/or detecting skills you want to learn.

- Start with an online search for “metal detecting videos”. Look for videos about your machine.
- YouTube.com is a great source, but look through the extensive list you found.
- If you fail to find videos on your specific machine don't fret. You can still learn plenty watching other instruction videos. Look for videos teaching techniques, skills and areas of interest.
- Get out and hunt frequently. Dig every signal for at least your first 60-100 hours. To make your signals easier to retrieve get a good quality pin-pointer and digger. This will save you hours of fruitless effort and frustration. And remember to refill your holes to as close to how you found them as possible.
- Settings - Most machines, new or relatively new have factory settings, or programs. Makers have developed these programs to make their equipment ready to use out of the box. We recommend you use stock settings until you feel comfortable with your abilities.

OTTS goal to create an environment of sharing and fellowship. --From President Rick

Find of the month 2025

Bring your best finds and FOTM form to join us as the FOTM and Detectorist of The Year contest begins with the next meeting January 28th.

Special note, you can submit finds since the last meeting in November!

You can find FOTM details and form on our website
<https://ottsclub.org/find-of-the-month>

Club Member's Experiences

Ron's photos from the Holiday Hunt



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

Club Member's Experiences (cont.)

Brian's photos from the Holiday Hunt

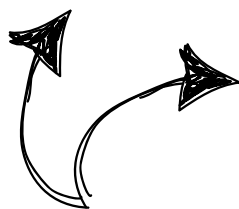
Pro detectorists!



Ryan gets serious!



Count out.



Winning!!!



The mist rolled in after a beautiful day of hunting.

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

Club Member's Experiences (cont.)

Ryan's photos from the Holiday Hunt



Jackee's silver haul for the day, including the 2 Roosevelt dimes she found in the park. The rest was awarded by the club in some way! Great job!



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

Holiday Club Hunt Details

Monthly Club Hunt Report

Date: January 5, 9am-1pm

Location: Harney Elementary & Edgewood Park, Vancouver, WA



Results: 33 members, including 2 brand new members, and 1 guest turned out for the Christmas club hunt. Ron and Jackee hid half the tokens at the school and Ryan hid the other half in the park. A total of 50 tokens made up of forty one Shell's Mr. President game tokens and nine gold painted clad were hidden and good for a silver quarter. If that wasn't enough, also hidden were ten OTTS stamped tokens good for a dime, five Barber silver half dollars, and three special tokens. Lauree and Clark brought snacks to count out which was great for all the hungry hunters.

For a Christmas themed hunt with lots of tokens hidden about, members actually turned out the best natural silver coin day in quite a while. Having a silver coin found at a club hunt is rare, but it does happen. The club found four silver dimes and a silver quarter between Harney and Edgewood Park. Since I began running club hunts in May of 2021, this hunt was the second most productive in terms of face value of silver, narrowly topping a six dime club hunt at Pier Park. What was the first most productive for face value silver? I'm glad you asked because that would be when Scott pulled a Morgan dollar at Fernhill! (cont.)

Club Hunt Details (cont.)

At this hunt Lee found a 1926-S Mercury dime, Jackee found a pair of Roosevelt dimes, and Fabian found his first silver coin ever, only realizing at count out that he had found a silver Rosie. Harold added to the total with a 1940s Washington Quarter he found 30 minutes before counting out. Lee's 1926 Mercury also won the oldest coin on the day, despite some wheat pennies also being found. For jewelry, Brian found a silver ring and Richard found a very nice tiger's eye ring handmade with silver wire. An oddly large amount of aluminum arcade tokens were found as well, along with the usual odds and ends.

At count out, Ron, Jackee, Ryan and Tim announced they had each found a hidden silver half dollar, with Jackee finding two. As far as the special tokens went, Brian won the Morgan Dollar and Harold won a 1oz silver round.

Everyone who didn't find a token was awarded a silver quarter. Then members with found tokens turned them in, some members had up to seven tokens good for a quarter! Astoundingly, all 41 Shell game tokens were turned in, and about half of the gold clad. 4 club tokens and one special token were not recovered. Extra member draws were held for each natural silver coin found on the day. So five additional silver coins were given out to members by random draw.

Pull tabs were collected and will be donated to the American Legion.

For the membership drawings, Harold and Ashely won half dollars. The top places in the competition hunt were:

- 1) Harold 135 points Prize: silver quarter
- 2) Jackee 120 points Prize: silver quarter
- 3) Tim 94 points Prize: silver quarter
- 4) Lee 76 points Prize: silver dime
- 5) Ryan 73 points Prize: silver dime
- 6) Brian 61 points Prize: silver dime

Total clad found: \$46.22

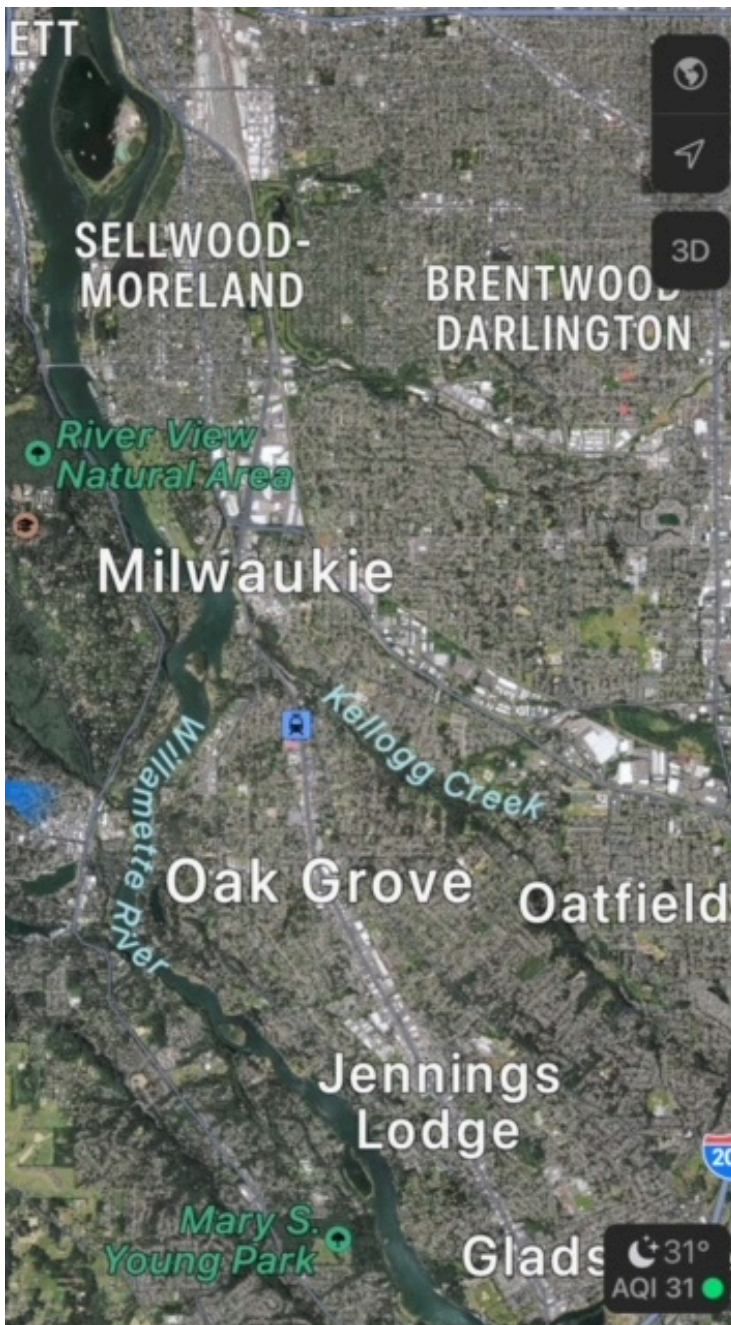
Trash collected during the hunt: 21 lbs! (this is about twice our average)

As a general reminder, anytime you go out, but especially when there is a large group like at a club hunt, everyone needs to make sure that holes are filled with care. Multiple members reported to me that some holes were being left unfilled, causing them to go and fix the situation themselves. Yes hand diggers can be more difficult to utilize, but that's no excuse for leaving a patch of soil looking worse than before you dug.

Next Club Hunt: OTTS will be hosting the next monthly club hunt on Saturday, February 1st. The meeting location will be announced soon, check the club calendar for updates. We will start at 9am and count out at 1pm. Be there by 8:30am! Non-members are always welcome.

Challenge Token

Find the challenge token and return it to a club meeting for the prize!



Challenge Token Clue #1
The stainless steel token is hidden in a park somewhere on this map.

Challenge Token Clue #2
This was the target reading on my Manticore.



- 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 DAMAGING TO, OR KILL ANY VEGETATION.
- I WILL REPORT THE DISCOVERY OF ITEMS OF SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL VALUE TO A LOCAL HISTORIAN OR MUSEUM IN ACCORDANCE 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: Richard L Page e-mail: rickpage2@comcast.net

Vice President: Ryan Paradis

Secretary: Jeff Sikorski

Treasurer: Don Spillman

At Large Board Members: Kirk Ebensteiner, Brian Echerer

Immediate Past President: Scott Hadley

Club e-mail address: oregontreasuretrailsociety@gmail.com

Extracurricular Positions

Website Editors: Jerry H

Newsletter Editor: Brian E

Find of the Month Team: Richard Sather with support from Kirk and Ryan Also David Ortman after March

Club Hunts: Ed V & various members

Raffles: Kathy & Ron B

Challenge Token: Brian E

OREGON TREASURETRAIL SOCIETY	NEWSLETTER RUBBER2THEROAD@YAHOO
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