

Oregon Treasure Trail Society Newsletter



March

2020

<https://ottclub.org/>

Founded in 1982

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

The "Club" is off to a running start in 2020. With both the summer picnic and Xmas party having dates set this early in the year things are coming together nicely. Credit to those who worked to organize and acquire dates in years past as their help has been invaluable this year. With the website and the newsletter being redone and updated in the last year they have both become a reliable and valuable tool to all members. Thank you, Jerry H and Harold V, for all your efforts.

With the days getting longer and warmer I hope everyone is getting more time swinging your detector. Good luck and remember to display your finds for the month at the March meeting. See you there.

Happy Hunting,

Ron



Announcements

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 **CANCELLED**

Setup starts at 5:30 p.m. Socializing starts at: 6:00 p.m. Meeting starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Meeting location:

Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge, 7611 N. Exeter Avenue, Portland, OR 97203

Guest Speaker:

No Guest Speaker has been scheduled for the upcoming meeting.

Birthdays for the Month:

None have been announced.



O.T.T.S Detector Raffle

January to May 2020

1. White's MXT Pro Metal Detector
\$919.90 value item
2. Packaged Accessories:
 - A, Pro Hunting pack includes: deluxe backpack which holds the detector and all accessories
 - B. Prostar Headphones
 - C. Bullseye Pinpointer\$289.95 value of accessory items



Drawing to be held at May 2020 meeting
Tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20
Doner claims never turned on never used.

Excludes factory Warantee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 25, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Ron B. The pledge of Allegiance was recited and the officers and at large board members were introduced. The meeting was attended by 37 members and 1 guest. The minutes of the last meeting, as published on the website, were noted and accepted. The Treasurer's report was read and accepted. Terry B reported on the February club hunt. Birthdays were announced and birthday coins were given. The birthday draw was won by Lee H. He was awarded a 1962 Franklin Half. Steve E won the member draw. He was awarded a 1922 Peace Dollar. The progressive draw was not awarded. New silver was added to the pot.

Old business was discussed. Club tokens were turned in. 2020 dues are now due. In order for members to receive club benefits dues must be paid. New club shirt designs were discussed. Members are encouraged to submit new designs at the upcoming meeting. Mike M would like members to help with turning in pop cans. Anyone who is willing to help can contact Mike for more details. At this point, the club was adjourned for a break and finds voting.

New business- The special token was planted by Scott J. Our first clue as to its location will be available in this month's newsletter. Ashley will work on finding speakers for club meetings. Any member suggestions would be welcome. Harold V talked about the newsletter. He published the responses to poll questions in the latest newsletter. There will also be new polls submitted this month. We all look forward to everyone's responses. The snack sign-up sheet has 6 more slots available.

The summer picnic and big hunt will be held at Rooster Rock State Park on July 19th. As always, it takes many members to help with set up, clean up, shopping, cooking, field planting, Etc. Members were asked to think about how they could help. The Christmas party has been scheduled for December 12th, 2020. More details to follow. First finds and other significant finds were discussed. On Saturday and Sunday, May 23 & 24th the ITTH club will have its 49th annual Indian Territory Treasure Hunt in Tulsa, Oklahoma. They will be holding a hunt. Byron says this one is pretty great. Drawings for Plinko, Coin Drop and The Big Raffle we held. Bill B presented the results of the monthly finds. The winner of the gold coin was announced.

Other Information:

Ongoing club fundraisers and charitable contributions include a monthly can food/money drive for the needy. Cans with deposits and washed pennies are collected each month. The money is used for club activities. Clean pull tabs are collected and donated for scrap metal.

Meeting Raffle Results

Tickets are one for \$1.00, or six for \$5.00. And 25% of the ticket sales goes back to your club the remaining 75% is used to purchase the next month's prizes.

Gold Coin:

2015 Canada \$5 1/10 oz – Don F

Silver Coins:

1880 Morgan dollar – Sue M

1882 Morgan dollar – Brian L

1883 O Morgan dollar – Mike J

1886 Morgan dollar – - Steve E

1891 S Morgan dollar - Mike J

1898 Morgan dollar - Mike J

1900 Morgan dollar - Mike J

1921 Morgan dollar - Colleen V

1921 D Morgan dollar – Sue M

1921 D Morgan dollar- Sue M

1954 D Franklin half- Steve E

1958 D Franklin half- Allyson W

1961 D Franklin half- Steve E

Mystery Envelope (1) 1948 Mexico 5 peso - Eric F

Mystery Envelope (2) –1978 Mexico 5 peso -Steve E



Coins for Next Meeting Raffle:

Gold Coin:

1996 1/10 oz \$5 Dollar American Eagle

Silver Coins:

1879 S Morgan dollar

1884 Morgan dollar

1887 O Morgan dollar

1890 Morgan dollar

1900 Morgan dollar

1921 Morgan dollar

1921 Morgan dollar

1921 D Morgan dollar

1952 Franklin Half

1954 D Franklin Half

1961 D Franklin Half

1852 Large Cent

Mystery Envelope ???

Mystery Envelope ???



Find of the Month Results

February 2020 Find of the Month Results

Oldest US Coin

1 st Matt N	1899 Indian head penny
2 nd Tim S	1907 Indian head penny
3 rd Bill B	1920 Wheat penny

Most Valuable US Coin

1 st Bill B	1912-S Wheat Penny
2 nd Harold V	1953-S Washington quarter
3 rd Willy A	2000-D Sacagawea \$1

US Coin

1 st Lee H	1923 Standing Liberty quarter
2 nd Matt N	1918 Mercury dime
3 rd Bill B	1928 Buffalo nickel

Foreign Coin

1 st Linda C	1973 Hong Kong \$1
2 nd Tim S	1964 Canada cent
3 rd Bill B	2002 Germany 20 Euro cent

Token

1 st Willy A	1937-2012 Golden Gate Anniversary
2 nd Tim S	1933 Heathman Hotel
3 rd Colleen V.H	Dan P. Cooper Detox Center

Gold Jewelry

1 st Jerry H	Platinum 3 diamond ring
2 nd Harold V	14k (tested) chain & cross

Silver Item

1 st Harold V	925 Ring w/ green stone
2 nd Scott H	925 Topaz ring
3 rd Colleen V.H	925 Cat face ring

Jewelry

1 st Bill B	Caesar Augustus pendant
2 nd Willy A	Purple tear drop earrings
3 rd Linda C	Copper & silver tone bracelet

Artifact

1 st Bill B	Great Seal Army button
2 nd Colleen V.H	USS Wallace L. Lind Zippo lighter
3 rd Tim S	WWI US Army collar disk

Display

1 st Bill B
2 nd Willy A
3 rd Colleen V.H

Item of the Month

1 st Terry B	1960 VW Bug Tootsie toy
2 nd Scott J	Bullet lighter
3 rd Bill B	Blue toy pickup truck

Best of the Best

Jerry H	Platinum 3 diamond ring
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Find of the Month Entry Form:

Located on the O.T.T.S. website: <https://ottclub.org/files>

The form contains category classification information, rules, and an entry form to compete in the Find of the Month competition, held during most monthly meetings.

2020 Detectorist of the Year Standings

<u>Detectorist</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 st Bill B	44
2 nd Willy A	40
3 rd Harold V	38
4 th Tim S	26
5 th Colleen V.H	22
6 th Jerry H	20
7 th Don F	16
Tie Linda C	16
9 th Scott J	15
10 th Matt N	11
11 th Rick Page	9
12 th Ashley W	8
Tie Ron B	8
Tie Scott H	8
15 th Laura A	7
Tie Jeff S	7
17 th Lee H	5
18 th Owen F	3
Tie Terry B	3
17 th Tom S	2
Tie Gary B	2
20 th Laura A	1



O.T.T.S. Monthly Club Hunt

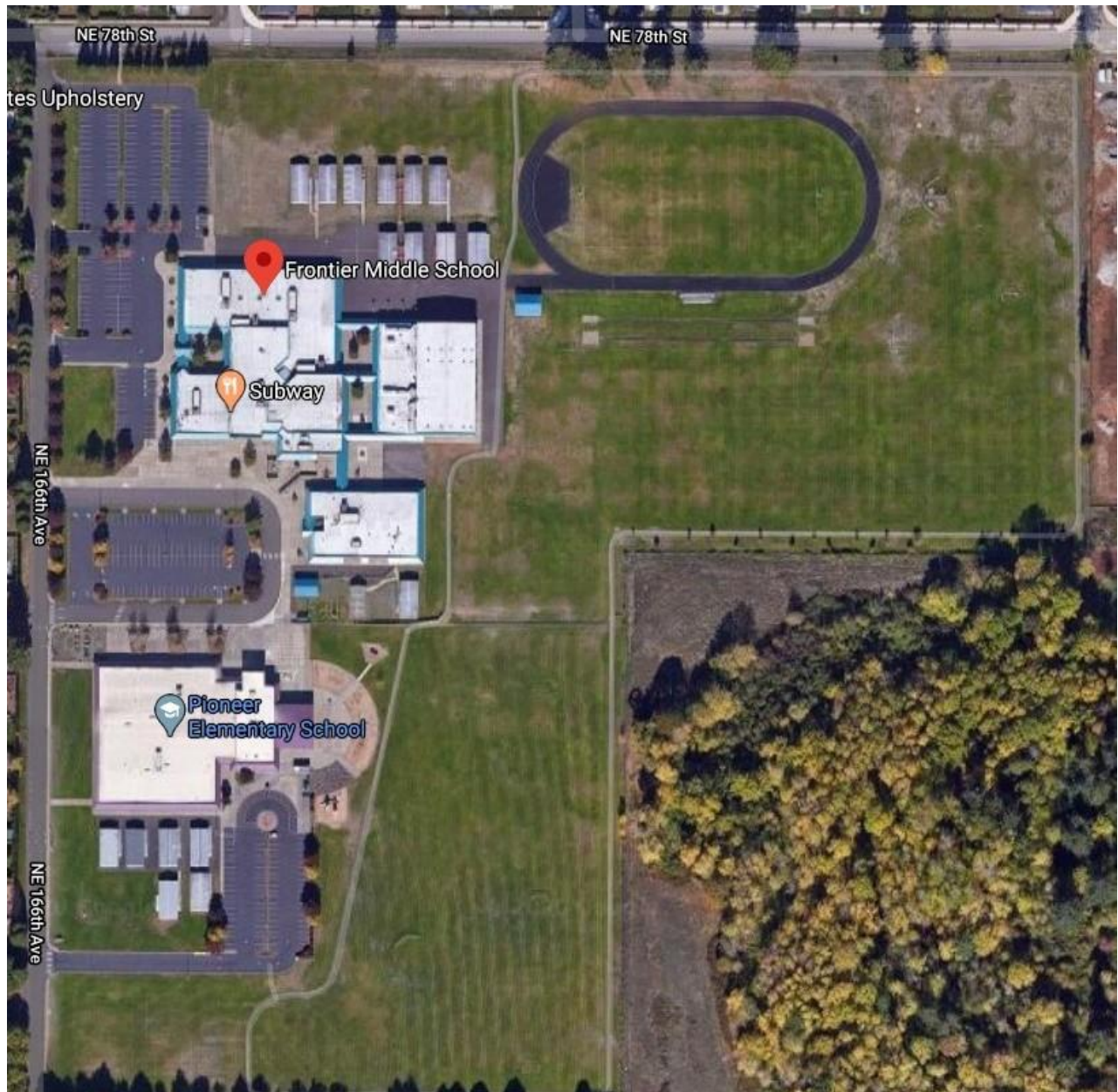
Hunt Date: March 1, 2020

Location: **Frontier Middle School**

7600 NE 166th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98682

General Location Information: Wheatley School was built between 1990 and 2000.

Historical Information: None



Club Hunt Details

The OTTS Club Hunt was held on a Sunday, March 1, 2020. We met between 8 & 9 am at McDonalds, located at 15813 NE Fourth Plain Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98682. Members left for the park at 9 am. 22 members and one guest attended. 20 members and 1 guest stayed for the count out at 1 pm.

The Hunt Master hid 15 regular tokens and 2 special tokens. Of the 15 hidden token, 10 tokens were recovered. Both special tokens were found. One was found by Jeff S.

The membership drawing was won by Linda C. She received a 1963 Franklin Half Dollar.

Top 6 Club Hunt Winners:

Harold V	124 Points
Gary B	79 Points
Rick P	78 Points
Bill B	71 Points
Willy A	69 Points
Don F	67 Points



Notable Club Hunt Finds:

Oldest coin: 1955 Wheat Penny found by Scott J

Gold Items: None

Silver Items: None

Notable US Coins: 1962 Quarter, 2 Half Dollars

Foreign Coins: 3

Costume Jewelry: 28

Tokens: 11

Other Items: 3 Knives

Total Clad: \$49.20

Total Trash collected during the hunt: 13 lbs.

Hunt Master Notes:

The hunt hours have switched to the summer hours. This means meet at designated location between 7 & 8 am. Leave for hunt location at 8 am. Count out at 12 noon.

Next Club Hunt Details:

The next club hunt has been **CANCELLED**. It was to be held on Mar 28th, a Saturday, but no longer will that be the case. We will meet at the McDonald's located at 5517 NE Gher Rd., Vancouver, WA 98662. The meeting is from 7 & 8 am. We will leave for the hunt at 8 am. Count out will be at 12 noon.

Club Challenge Token

Challenge Token Rules:

Follow the Metal Detecting Code of Ethics.

Each month, a new clue will be published in the newsletter.

A Bonus clue will be given to those attending the monthly club meeting.

When found, turn in the Challenge Token at the next O.T.T.S. club meeting for a prize.

This is for fun. We want to be able to continue this event in the future, so enjoy it and have fun figuring out the clues.

Clue #1

A couple days ago, I was metal detecting at one of my favorite spots in Oregon when suddenly, out of the corner of my eye, I saw a large creature walk out of a grove of Cedar trees and meander toward me. It was a medium height (but very rotund), dark brown buffalo with a progressively light tan to blond coat of fur around its head and neck, looking much like a blanket which has been washed too much and lost its color. I stood silently and still as it sniffed at my detector in a non-threatening manner. "What are you doing?" enquired the beast, in a gruff but surprisingly friendly tone. Well you could have knocked me over with a Robin's feather at hearing a buffalo talk! "I'm....ah...searching for lost things", I replied. Just then, a small tear streamed down the buffalo's face as he spoke again, "I'm a lost thing... I mean... no, wait, that's not right. I have lost a thing. Yes, that's what I mean, I have lost my home. Can you help me find it?"

Clue #1 Bonus Meeting Hint:

The bonus meeting clue (or technical clue) is that on a difficulty scale of 1 to 5 (1 being a walk in a park and 5 being a hike up a mountain) this hunt is a 2 to 3, so don't expect to get out of your vehicle and just walk up to the spot.

Club Member's Experiences

There is one "late" entry to the last set of question:

Tim S

I joined the club because I wanted to be a part of a club with like-minded people. I started detecting around 2008. I detected from 2008 to 2010 then stopped for a while because of work and other commitments. So total of about 6 years. I started with White's XLT that I bought from my dad. I still have it, but haven't used it since purchasing the Cox 3030

Latest questions to the club members:

What is the best find you have found?

What detector were you using when you found your best find?

What is the oldest coin you have found?

What is the item that you have wanted to find, but has eluded you?

Below are the responses received:

Tim S

Best Find? This is a hard one to answer, my Eagle A artillery button. Or my Roman coin. I was using my Equinox 800 when I found the button and my CTX 3030 when I found the roman coin. The oldest coin I have found is a 69 AD bronze Roman coin. I haven't found a barber coin, or a silver dollar.

Scott J

My best finds were those found in England last year. They include the 1859 gold half sovereign, the 2000 year old roman coin (which is also my oldest coin) and the handmade bronze horse harness ring from sometime in history when horses were the main mode of transportation. This is my favorite find, not necessarily because of what it is, or it's monetary value, but because it represents a kind of ingenuity which is uniquely human, made hundreds of years ago, used for thousands of years, will most likely never be improved upon and will only become obsolete if horses go extinct... or humans. My latest must find is a Chinese Cash Coin.

Harold V

I have a few best finds: The 1892 Peace Dollar, which I found at a High School (found with the v3i), the 1853 Seated Liberty dime I found in my yard (found with the AT Gold), or the Diamond ring I found in October 2019 at an Elementary school (found with the CTX 3030). The oldest coin I have found is the 1853 Seated Liberty dime. I really want to find a V nickel. The first old coin Willy and I found, back when I was the official hole digger, was a V Nickel out of a hunted out park. I thought it was a knock out from an electrical box. Anyway, I have yet to find one on my own. And, of course, a gold coin!

Willy A

The best thing I have found is a diamond ring. Harold beat me in finding one first, but I think mine is better. I found it with my Equinox 800. My oldest coin is a 1907 Barber Quarter. The coin that has eluded me is a silver Morgan dollar.

Lee H

My best find was finding a wedding ring belonging my recently deceased father-in-law, which was lost 25 years ago, somewhere on a 50 acre plot of land. I found it using my XP Deus. My oldest coin is a 1869 Seated half-dime (found in a "hunted out" park, of course). The items I want to find, but haven't yet are a 2lb gold nugget and I always thought it'd be neat to find an old heel plate with a clover or heart cut-out.

Colleen V.H.

My best find was a gold plate 925 ring with a pink stone. My best find, in that, it won the silver category for September 2019! Whoo hoo! Found with my one and only DEUS XP. The oldest coin I have found was a 1944S Liberty head dime. I almost past it by, as it was a very faint hit. It was down the full length of my digger! What I want to find is that ever elusive gold! Anything gold! Not plated, the real thing through and through!

Byron D

What is my best find? Hmm, several come to mind, however I keep coming back to my first gold ring. 1999, within the first month of purchasing a Whites XLT I decided to hunt the old Washington County Hospital. After many hours finding nothing but a few wheat pennies and deciding to call it a day I noticed an old Willow tree in the middle of the field out front of the building. I was tired, hungry, and wanted to go home, but decided to give it a go. The tree branches had grown to the ground. After lifting them up I found an old broken down bench, after a few swings I got what I thought was a nickel signal. To my amazement not a nickel but a chunky men's 14K Star Sapphire ring about 3 inches down. I remember walking away thinking "this isn't so hard" "I will make a fortune at this hobby", we all know that was fools gold. My oldest U.S. coin was an 1886 Morgan dollar found as part of a small hoard consisting of one Morgan, two Barber half dollars, two Barber dimes, and two Indian pennies. These were found in an old corner lot, one foot from corner and about four inches deep wrapped in the remains of an old tobacco cloth bag. What has eluded me? Maybe that million dollars, no, I am happy looking, the ground never stops amazing me with what keeps coming out.

Club Member's Metal Detecting Story Submission

Submitted by Lee H

I wanted to elaborate a bit on the story of my best find, not because of the obvious sentimental value, but more because someone asked me to. Well, that and because I was accused of cheating to find it. Cheating? At metal detecting? How, you ask? It's quite simple really, I used magic.

No, I did not "plant" a great find... that would be "sleight of hand" magic and we've all seen that trick. Instead I used an ages old practice called Dowsing. For those unfamiliar, Dowsing is a type of divination employed in attempts to locate ground water, buried metals or ores, gemstones, oil, gravesites, and many other objects and materials without the use of a scientific apparatus. Divination is defined as the practice of seeking knowledge of the future or the unknown by supernatural means. So yeah, pretty sure that qualifies as magic.

Now I'm not a "dowser" myself. I tried once but just ended up walking around in circles, turns out what I was looking for was in my pocket all along. Could have saved me some trouble. Anyway, before my father-in-law fell ill, I picked up detecting, upon hearing this he excitedly asked me to come try and find his ring. I graciously accepted the offer for some day.

In town over a brief weekend for the services, I would have about a half-day to look for it. I knew the odds of finding a 1" square item on 50 acres was, according to the math, about 1 in 314,000,000. And I had been told that this old property previously held cabins, razed prior to building their home in the 70's. I knew I would need all the help I could get so, like most people in times of desperation, I turned to the internet.

There I reached out to a dowsing sub-forum of an online treasure hunting community with my story of a gold men's wedding band lost 25 years ago on 50 acres, and posted a satellite photo of said property. I figured why not, right?

Within a few days several response photos were returned to me with circles marked over possible target locations. One dowser explained that the size of the circle indicated the intensity of the target. I was skeptical of course, but excited. As I stared at three separate images from three separate people I could feel the anticipation building...looking closely I noted that there was one circle in common between all three photos, right in the middle, with only a few millimeters difference.

Flash forward to a few days later and I'm now in New Hampshire. Treasure map in my pocket, detector in hand and wearing a full mesh pullover with mesh face hood provided by my in-laws. Literally a jacket made from bug screen. (I'd never experienced Black Flies before. Their bite, like hot needles in flesh, leave marks that last for weeks.)

With some trepidation I turn on the detector sweeping the ground near my feet, lots of iron and junk signals being heard...seems normal. I pop a modern quarter from the ground, not a target on my map, but all systems are a go. Eager to get on with it, I refer to my marked-up treasure map and proceed to a target indicated along a nearby stone wall; it's a survey marker. Hrmpf.. OK. I'm done playing. I call the wife over and we head down the hill towards the primary target; the one circle commonly located on all three images, the big red x on my treasure map. I began to swing my detector and, as hoped, a solid target appeared. 84, 85. 84, 85. Well, pretty

solid, and on my Deus that has been gold, but it's usually aluminum or a zinc penny. Only once was it a seated half-dime. (Damn technology, when they gonna figure this stuff out.)

Looking up as I put the pinpointer to the ground, the wife staring at her cell phone asks what it is. Probably part of a pop can you left on the yard in 3rd grade I say, a bit jokingly. Carefully popping the plug, I stared down at the hole with profanities of disbelief spilling from my mouth. My wife, unsure of the situation but with full attention asks what happened. "I think we found your dad's ring," I say. Gently plucking the ring from the hole she confirms, we indeed have.

So that's the long story of my best find. Call it research. Call it luck. Call it divine intervention. Call it B.S.... Whatever. That's detecting. But I wear that ring every day and it reminds me of many things. One being that life is full of mystery. The other, that it's often too short.



"Finding coins under your couch cushions doesn't count as finding buried treasure."

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.

O.T.T.S. Club Meeting Location

Come and see us in person by attending one of our meetings. Club meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month. Social hour begins at 6:00 p.m., and the official meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. Meetings are held at the Eagles Lodge located at:

7611 N. Exeter Avenue, Portland, OR 97203

Web Link to O.T.T.S. Location:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Fraternal+Order+of+Eagles/@45.5839492,-122.7260428,17.16z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x5495a7eefbf6831:0x80dc15723d738faa!8m2!3d45.5835352!4d-122.7249067?hl=en>



Club Code of Ethics

- I will respect Private property and will not trespass without the land owner’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 be an ambassador of my pastime.
- I will not misrepresent as to how and when an article was acquired.

Club Officers and Extracurricular Positions

Board Members

President: Ron B

e-mail: anotheroftheherd@yahoo.com

tel #: (306)-624-6949

Vice President: Ashley W

Secretary: Laura A

Treasurer (temporary): Mike M

At large: Rick P

At large: Byron D

Other Club Contacts

Club Hunts: Terry B

Forms Support: Sue F

Raffles: Jeff S

Challenge Token:

Newsletter/Website Editors

Website: Randy W

Website: Jerry H

Newsletter: Harold V

Find of the Month Team

Bill B

Sherrie B

Linda C

Club e-mail address

oregontreasuretrailsociety@gmail.com