

Oregon Treasure Trail Society Newsletter



April

2020

<https://ottclub.org/>

Founded in 1982

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

It is my hope that everyone is weathering the C-virus storm and following, to the best of their ability, the safety guidelines put in place by the various government agencies.

The board has cancelled the April 28th monthly meeting. No decision has been made about the May 26th monthly meeting yet. As for the summer picnic, not much can be done as far as planning goes until social distancing requirements are relaxed.

Even though our hobby is for the most part on hold, we can still watch a large assortment of metal detecting videos on you tube. There are many channels both domestic and foreign. Whatever machine you use you can find educational material as well. Play with your detector in the yard so you can stay in tune with it. If you haven't done so, plant a test garden. I use mine frequently.

Everyone remember that this a temporary situation and the O.T.T.S. will still be here when things get to the "new normal"

With deep regret I must inform the OTTS of the passing of member Michael Pfau on 12/11/2019, and former member and past president Pat Williams on 03/13/2020.

Everyone take care: Ron B.



Announcements

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 28, 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.



(Picture from last year. I remember it was the coldest hunt we ever went on and our second Club Hunt)

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

None

Other Information:

None

Meeting Raffle Results

None

Find of the Month Results

None

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

Postponed until further notice.

Club Hunt Details

None

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 May 3rd, a Sunday, but no longer will that be the case.



Picture submitted by Scott J

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.

Clue #2

The buffalo proceeded to tell me a tale of his desire to explore the area around his home (as his home had recently become much smaller) but had gotten lost and now could not remember the way back. "Unfortunately," I said, "my detector can only find metal in the ground so how can I find your home?" "Oh, I know", said the buffalo, "I hid metal somewhere under my horseshoe, or... hoof print, no... I mean under my home, yes, in the rocks and sand and dirt of my home" (for if ever needing to prove the land was his, I guess) "and I also buried seven little shiny pictures of animals there too. Most of these animals have never visited me, I mean they haven't been, but maybe could, I think? Other animals visit my home all the time. Usually ones that fly and float. Also, there are a few other things buried with pictures of people who used to live on my home. Find these things and you can keep them. I will also give you a large shiny thing with my picture on it, if you can prove you found my home." The buffalo then showed me a big silver round with his picture on one side.

"That was me when I was much younger and my home was much bigger", said the buffalo. I assured him that I would seek the help of my fellow O.T.T.S. members and we would search until we found his home.

Clue #2 Bonus Meeting Hint:

There are multiple ways to get there, at any time, but it is easiest after Tax Day. (Boo, Tax Day, Boo!)



Picture of the goodies to be found with the Club Challenge Token

Club Member's Experiences

Latest questions to the club members:

Have you detected outside of Oregon/Washington? If so, where?

Have you detected outside the US? If so, where?

What is the deepest target you have found?

Below are the responses received:

Jerry H

1. Yes, Kona Hawaii while on vacation, found platinum diamond ring, 1942 walking liberty half dollar.



2. Yes Caribbean islands, while on a cruise vacation. Found fake pirate coins and Caribbean clad.



3. Deepest target, 1830's military belt buckle, it was at 12 inches deep.



Laura A

The only place I have detected other than locally is in Hawaii. I would love to take a European detecting trip. The deepest target I have found was about 10 inches. I have chased a pipe much deeper but 10 inches is as deep as I have found a real target.

Harold V

1. Willy and I have detected a little in Nevada and Utah, as well.
2. We have not detected outside of the US, yet.
3. The deepest good target was around 9 inches. The deepest target I ever dug was at Seaside Beach. I was using a Pulse Induction machine. I hit a whisper of a target, which I was told meant gold. So I dug and dug and dug until I was down a good 18 inches. There it was, my target, a beautiful shiny, smashed beer can....

Tim S

1. I have detected in California and Idaho.
2. I have detected in Colchester, England
3. The deepest good target was more than a foot down. Probably 16” and it was a medieval shield weight.



Picture submitted by Scott J.

Club Member's Metal Detecting Story Submission

Submitted by Bill B. (This is his reply to my numerous requests for his answers to the poll questions.)

I first started metal detecting around 1968, when I was in the sixth grade. A friend of mine, who was around 30, lived down the street from me and lost his house to the I-205 freeway construction. After it was torn down, he told me his father metal detected around the old house and found a Buffalo nickel. This was so exciting to me that I could hardly sleep. I kept bugging him about whether he thought there was anything else there. Finally, he said "why don't you ask my father to borrow his metal detector and see for yourself?" I had never met his father, but he told me where he lived. So, I walked to his house, knocked on his door, used his son as a reference and asked to borrow his metal detector. It was a big heavy White's. I went to the old house site and detected. Seems like I found some rusty nails and scrap metal, but nothing memorable. But that was my start.

Incidentally, my friend was also a bottle digger, which started me on a long career in that field, and I am now the President of the Oregon Bottle Collectors Association.

Detecting was put on hold for a number of years as there were lots of other things for a young guy to do.

My wife and I have always been avid yard and estate sale-ers. We kept running into another couple doing the same thing and got to know them. They ran a metal detecting shop in Milwaukie, which they invited us to. They also invited us to an O.T.T.S. meeting, which we attended and subsequently joined. This was around 1988-89, so I am the longest member in the club.

My first detector was a White's Coinmaster 6000 with the needle gauge and several adjustment knobs. I didn't do a whole lot of detecting in those years, as there was work, family and collecting. My next detector was a White's XLT. I bought Chris Beniston's old machine. I asked him what the best thing he ever found with it was. He said an 1882-CC \$5 gold coin, when Hillsboro was torn up for MAX line construction. It is pictured in the Great Finds section of the OTTS web site.

The XLT really changed my life. It and I got along great. I seemed to find more with it than with the Coinmaster, which led to increased detecting activity. I still love that machine. I did buy a White's MXT but never got the hang of it, so I went back to the XLT. I sold the MXT to a friend of mine, and he soon found two Barber half dollars and a gold chain with a cross, which he still wears.

When Tim was around 17, he helped me detect a couple of times and showed some interest. For his first club hunt, he borrowed a detector from Clarence S. Then I bought another XLT and the rest is history! We really found the stuff. For Tim's 21st birthday, I bought him the top of the line White's V3i from Clarence and Mary. It was difficult to learn, but once he got it, wow!

He used to have me check signals with the XLT that he got with the V3i. One time, he had a quarter signal that I couldn't hit. He dug it and it was a dated Standing Liberty. Another time, he pulled a sterling chain with a sterling ring on it that was 10" deep. So, I had to visit Clarence and Mary to get my own V3i. There was the tough learning curve, but now I love it knowing that I'm getting the deeper targets. I've always been a White's fan, as they are the home team being made in Oregon and have great service.

My most valuable find is a 14K gold chain. My most valuable coin find is a 1909-S Lincoln penny which was XF-AU when lost. My favorite find is the rare Vancouver Barricks Canteen token. I also treasure all the friends and memories that metal detecting has brought me.

Submitted by Mary & Clarence S

A Ring Recovery:

As dealers, we frequently receive calls to help find lost items. One such call was to look for a lost ring in Wilsonville. We met the owner at her four acre farm and heard her story. The diamond ring was her grandmother's wedding ring and she wore it all the time. She had been caring for her animals and didn't know where she had lost it.

She walked through her usual route while we followed behind, searching the area. We met her llama named Jamocha Almond Fudge. He wasn't very impressed with our detectors and preferred the other side of his corral. We moved through a couple of buildings, hay storage barn and into the orchard where several of her Mediterranean miniature donkeys found us quite interesting. They were like big, friendly dogs. They nosed our detectors, tugged on our jackets and begged to be petted and scratched. I confess I probably spent more time playing with the donkeys and let Clarence look for the missing ring.



We were getting to the far corner of the four acre farm with no ring found. The last area was the pasture with her four rescued Arabian horses. I followed the fence line to the left while Clarence went right. Hope was fading when Clarence shouted "I found it!". The owner was ecstatic. He found it on the fence line right where she had been tossing hay over the fence to the horses.



She was a very happy woman who no longer wears the diamond ring while doing farm chores. We have kept in touch and have an open invitation to come play with the mini donkeys. It was a fun adventure with the best result.

Newsletter Editor's Comments

I would like to thank those individuals who submitted stories, pictures and responses to the poll questions. I must admit that I keep hoping for a better response from members. My thoughts are we have a club for people to share their thoughts, experiences, and stories about a common hobby we participate in. So, why not use the Newsletter as a vehicle to allow people to share their experiences. Remember, this Newsletter is primarily digital, so we can make it as long or as short as we like. Please, feel free to submit stories, random detecting pictures, feedback, or thoughts. I will include them in the Newsletter.

Harold V

Some random pictures I took on a recent hunt. From left to right: A penny signal (trash), Penny signal (silver ring), Deep dime signal, Deep dime signal(2 in the hole) and another trashy penny signal.



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