

Oregon Treasure Trail Society Newsletter



**September
2020**

<https://ottclub.org/>

Founded in 1982

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

OTTS is still waiting for a local advancement to another stage of recovery. There is little if any change to the numbers from last month and I expect things to continue as they are for a while yet. I know some of you have great finds that you would like to enter for FOTM. However, the board is in agreement that judging should be kept as fair as possible to all members. We feel that this should be done at a regular meeting on the 4th Tuesday of the first month when things open to the next stage. We know that some members will not agree with this stance. but all members are aware of the regular scheduled monthly meeting and when it happens. Hence "fair as possible".

We, the board, want to start meeting again and are well aware that things are going to be quite hectic for the first couple of months. Terry has informed us that he will not be officiating the club hunts next year. If anyone is interested please speak up. We also need someone to fill, the still vacant, treasurer's position on the board. Mike M has gone above and beyond with filling in thus far. If anything changes or happens concerning the club, I will ask Harold to send a group email.

Happy Hunting,

Ron B



(Picture submitted by Ron B, I think that is Jerry H in the water.)

Announcements

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, **Unknown**

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 submitted by Harold V. A few beach finds.)

Meeting Minutes

None.

Other Information:

None.

Meeting Raffle Results

None.

Coins for Next Meeting Raffle:



(Picture submitted by Ron B from the August Club Hunt.)

Find of the Month Results

None.

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



(Picture submitted by Willy A. Can you believe she found this at a beach?)

O.T.T.S. Monthly Club Hunt

Hunt Date: August 30, 2020

Location: **Harmony Elementary School**

17404 NE 18th St, Vancouver, WA 98684

General Location Information: The hunt was primarily at Harmony but members wandered over to Pacific Middle School, which was adjacent to Harmony.

Historical Information: Harmony Elementary School was built around 2000. Pacific Middle School was built around 1990.



Club Hunt Details

The OTTS Club Hunt was held on a Sunday. We met between 7 & 8 am at the parking lot of Safeway located at 6700 NE 162nd ave, Vancouver, WA 98682. Members left for Harmony Elementary School at 8 am. Members were welcome to hunt at Pacific Middle School and Pacific Community Park, as well. 19 members and no guests attended. All members stayed for the count out at 12 noon.

The Hunt Master hid 15 regular tokens and 2 special tokens. Of the 15 hidden token 11 tokens were recovered. Both special tokens were found by Tim S.

The membership drawing was won by Bill B. He received a 1934 Walking Liberty Half Dollar.

Top 6 Club Hunt Winners:

Terry B	154 Points
Willy A	134 Points
Tim S	124 Points
Bill B	102 Points
Harold V	99 Points
Jeff S	80 Points

Notable Club Hunt Finds:

Oldest coin: 1936 Wheat Penny found by Linda C

Gold Items: None

Silver Items: 1

Notable US Coins: 1939 Nickel found by Linda C

Foreign Coins: 3

Costume Jewelry: 35

Tokens: 19

Metal Toys: None



(Picture submitted by Harold V. Found this at Harmony when I went back)

Other Items: 1 Eisenhower Dollar, 1 dollar coin, 1 Fifty cent piece, and 11 keys

Total Clad: \$86.23 (Terry believes this is a record amount for the club at a hunt. It is a lot of money.)

Total Trash collected during the hunt: Unknown

Hunt Master Notes:

I, Terry B, would like this to be my last year as the Hunt Master. I would like to see someone step up and volunteer to do this job in 2021. It has been fun doing the hunts for the club.

Next Club Hunt Details:

The next club hunt will be on Sep 26th, a Saturday. We will meet at the Safeway parking lot located at 13719 SE Mill Plain blvd, Vancouver WA. We will meet between 7 & 8 am. We will leave for the hunt at 8 am and the count out will be at 12 noon.

Club Member's Experiences

Submitted by Colleen V

Hello everyone, I hope you are all healthy, happy and finding time to haul in treasure!

I had an opportunity recently to experience a metal detectorists dream. A friend owns private property near Phillipsburg, Montana that has several abandoned gold mines on it. I was asked if I would like to pay a visit and do some detecting in the area? Let me think about that...YES! Does a bear, you know what, in the woods? I'll start out by saying I did not find Martin "Moose" Johnson's gold nugget on a shoestring, but not for a lack of trying.

Moose Johnson was a legendary local mountain man who starting in 1918 was hired to build the log buildings used in the camps. He was known to wear a gold nugget around his neck. He fell off a cliff to his death at the age of 79, and wonder of wonders the nugget disappeared.

During the early to mid-20th century prospectors were lured to the area and established several claims. The mines failed during the great depression, and today all that remains are the abandoned log cabins and campsites of the prospectors. It was so interesting to wander around and imagine a bustling camp of miners. In some of the cabins, it was like they just up and left one day. Peering through the broken windows I could see furnishings, dishes, rugs and other household items. Oh, how I would have liked to get inside! My friend Don Fantz told me they likely had salt floors, and there were surely things to find. But alas, it wasn't safe, so I settled for hunting around the exteriors. It was a constant chatter, as back in the day they did not have garbage haulers. The miner's garbage was dumped in the environment. Being the tree hugger that I am it was sad to see! They used much of it for target practice too, as everything had bullet holes in it! I found myself hoping for an unbroken glass item. At last, a shaker, with what looked like pepper still in it surfaced. I left that behind for our host's curio cabinet. I got in about 5 hours of hunting around this amazing place. There were bullet casings and bullets galore, both old and modern day. (38 specials/357 Magnums etc.) A "Big Buck" stud button from a pair of vintage overalls. The Highlander beer is made in Missoula. Cheers! I managed a vintage clip on earring too. Looks like it is made of copper, but perhaps I should have AAA look at it? There really was so much, but I only kept what I thought was a fun representation of what I experienced.

I had a most excellent adventure amongst the quaking aspens in big sky country. The good news...our hosts are dear friends, and invited us to come back next year. OH BOY!

Take care everyone, and happy hunting! Colleen

I did some research on line. There is a name inscribed on the inside, but I did not see that name printed in the roster of the class of 1988. I did however see a link to submit information for lost and found class rings. I did that today, and have my fingers crossed that I will hear from the owner. Stay tuned!

Take care everyone, and happy hunting!

Pictures of Colleen's trip:



Submitted by Terry B

I received my first metal detector when our Pop passed away in 2002. It was a Gold Master Pro. I still have it. It has an extendable shaft on it, and came with 3 coils. One real small one to get down between rocks in the riverbeds to locate gold. I remember my first hunt with it, I went down to Fort Vancouver, after the 4th of July, I found several pennies on top of the ground. I had no digger, at the time, It wasn't long, before a security guard came running up to me and told me, "You can't be doing that here. This is historic property."

Metal detecting always intrigued me, so in 2013 I purchased a Whites Spectrum XLT. That got me out to the parks and school grounds of the Vancouver, Portland area. I worked for a heating company and traveled all over the area so it gave me lots of places to go after work. Then I joined the OTTS club. I remember on my first club hunt I found this cool knuckle ring with a wolfs head on it. I entered it in the find of the months and won best of the best my 1st month in the club.

I've owned many metal detectors. Among them the Gold Master Pro, Whites XLT, Whites V3i, Minelab's Etrac, the Equinox 800, and the XP Deus. Got lots of enjoyment out of all of them, But, my favorite right now is the Minelab Equinox 800. I take it everywhere with me just in case I happen upon that next spot to detect.



(Picture submitted by Terry B. His award winning wolf finger ring)

Submitted by Harold V

A few pictures from some of my recent hunts. The picture below is from when Scott J and I went to a river beach waaayyyy too early in the morning. And we didn't find much.



Later that morning and the sun is up enough that you can actually see Scott J.



Left Picture: I was pretty happy with this find. Deep Quarter on edge and the CTX 3030 found it.

Right picture: A weird signal that turned out to be a pig.



2 Car find at the beach.



2 squashed silver rings found at a school



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: Scott J

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