

Oregon Treasure Trail Society Newsletter



Photo by Brian E

President's Message

There are days in this hobby where you know right away you are onto something special. And then there are days where you are completely blindsided by a place you thought you already understood.

That was the case with a recent Seated Liberty quarter I pulled from Mt. Tabor. What still gets me is not just the coin itself, but how ordinary the spot was. A short stretch of ground I have walked past countless times. In fact in 2020 when Matt Nelson found me on Reddit and convinced me to join the club, our first meet up was at Mt. Tabor, and we walked through this spot. We didn't find anything that day but what struck me was his generosity in chatting up a young kids interested in what we were doing. He gave him a Mercury dime he had in his finds box, resulting in a huge smile that definitely made his day. So this location was already special in memory.

Another amazing memory was about to be cemented but the signal was faint. Easy to explain away. Easy to ignore. But slowing down and trusting the process made all the difference.

It is easy to assume the best finds come from forgotten corners or brand new permissions. Sometimes they do. But sometimes they come from obvious places where people have always gathered. Where they sat, rested, admired the view, and went about ordinary moments that quietly turned into history. Coins like this did not survive because they were hidden. They survived because they were overlooked.

This hobby constantly tests patience. It tests confidence. It makes you question your research and your instincts more often than it rewards you. But every once in a while, persistence lines up with luck, and you are reminded why it is worth slowing down, rechecking ground, and keeping an open mind.

Do not write off familiar places. Do not assume you already know what the ground has to offer. Change your angle. Take one more pass. Sometimes the biggest bucket list finds are waiting exactly where you stopped believing they could be.

Our picnic is coming up in five short months! Please help the success by considering donating unused equipment, prizes, coins, or jewelry. All of it will be folded into the event.

Always dig responsibly and leave no trace.

Ryan Paradis
President

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MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 27 MEETING MINUTES

- Meeting called to order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Board and board members at large introduced
- New members 3 / Guest 0
- Member draw won by Chris S. (new member)
- Progressive draw cancelled this month , no member list available
- Birthdays 1 coins given
- Club tokens turned in, 3 Dan,Kirk,Jackee
- Minutes from last meeting accepted
- Treasurers report accepted
- Club hunt report given
- Brian reported on social hunt- 11 people
- New Business cards introduced
- Club stickers now available
- Club pull tabs donated to American Legion
- Coin adjustments discussed
- Picnic scheduled: Sunday July 12th
- Jaqueline Atelevich “Jackee” elected Treasurer
- Calendars available - \$20
- Break
- Ryan talked about find of the month
- Club hunt announced
- Author event-Oregon Gold
- Snack sign up
- Raffles
- Forum
- Attendance: 33 members/ 0 guests
- Meeting adjourned

Announcements

Next Meeting

- Tuesday, February 24th 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!

Danielle S & Lorilee C

(on deck for March Larry W)



Next Club Hunt

March 1st, Sunday
8:00 AM -12:00 PM

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

Raffle Results

Winners

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

GOLD:

- 1 gram Canadian Gold Leaf – Sherrie B

SILVER:

1. 1964 Kennedy Silver 1/2 – Sean T

2. Standing Liberty 1/2's – Larry W

3. Kathy B

4. Danielle S

5. Peter F

6. Kenny B

7. Benjamin 1/2's – Randy E

8. Dan R

9. Scott H

10. Ryan P

11. Standing Liberty Quarter – Danielle S

12. Bill B

13. Danielle S

14. Silver Quarters – Steve E

15. Diane H

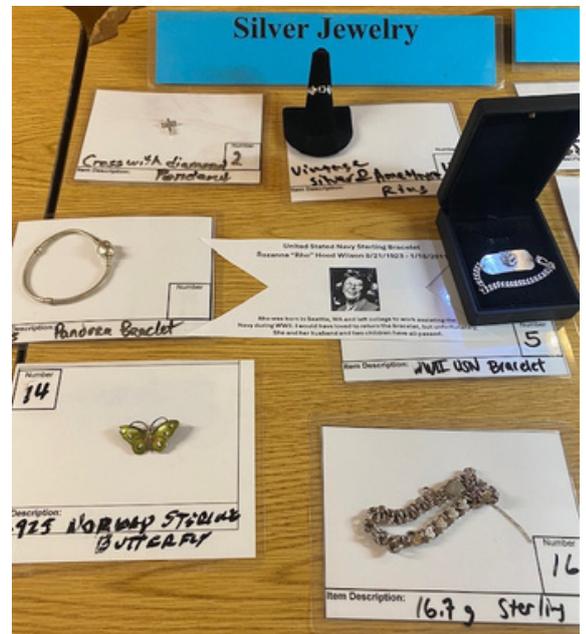
16. Steve E



Find of the month January

Category	Place	Name	Item
Item of the Month			
	1	Jackee	Confederate Infantry Button
	2	Ryan	Mini Cell Phone
	3	Bill B	Copper Salmon
US Coin			
	1	Ryan	1954 D Franklin Half Dollar
	2	Brian	1904 Indian Head Penny
	Tie 3	Bill B	1952 S Nickel
	Tie 3	Sean	1930 Buffalo Nickel
Foreign Coin			
	1	Jackee	1952 Peru Sol De Oro
	2	Bill B	2002 Austria 1 Euro
	Tie 3	Chuck F	Mexico 1c Coin
	Tie 3	Ryan	1967 Canada 1c Bird Centennial Coin
Token			
	1	Jackee	1930s Portland Traction Co Good for 1 Fare
	2	Chuck F	1970 Elks Token
	Tie 3	Jeff C.	Shell Presidential Token
	Tie 3	Ryan	Indian Nickel Token
Gold Jewelry			
	1	Richard	14K Diamond & Ruby Ring
	2	Ryan	14K Gold Jesus Pendant + Broken Chain
	3	Jackee	14K Gold Earring Stud
Silver Item			
	1	Jackee	WWII Sterling US Navy Bracelet
	2	Brian	Vintage Silver Ring
	3	Chuck F	Norway Sterling Butterfly
Jewelry			
	1	Brian	D&D Ring with Chain
	Tie 2	Bill B	Angel Pendant
	Tie 2	Chuck F	Guess Cluster
	Tie 3	Kirk	Headless Jesus Pendant
	Tie 3	Jackee	Norge (Norway) Pendant
Artifact			
	1	Chris S	Hand Cuffs
	Tie 2	Jackee	German Luftwaffe Eagle Cap Badge
	Tie 2	Sean	1950s Hubley Cap Gun
	Tie 3	Bill B	Little Eiffel Tower
	Tie 3	Gregg	Arrowheads
Oldest US Coin			
	1	Brian	1883 Indian Head Penny
	2	Ryan	1897 Indian Head Penny
	3	Bill B	1898 Indian Head Penny
Most Valuable US Coin			
	1	Ryan	1960 D Franklin Half Dollar
	2	Brian	1960 Roosevelt Dime
	3	Jackee	1943 S War Nickel
Display			
	1	Chuck F	Cash of Wheat Pennies
	Tie 2	Jackee	
	Tie 2	Ryan	
	3	Brian	
Best of the Best			
	1	Richard	Gold

Rank	Name	Jan-26
1	Jackee	30
2	Ryan P	27
3	Brian E	23
4	Chuck F	19
5	Bill B	15
6	Kirk	10
7	Jeff C	8
7	Sean T	8
8	Lorilee	5
9	Ron B	4
9	Chris S	4
10	Richard	4
11	Dan R	3
12	Gregg	2



Silver Category Entries



**Best of the best
found by Richard S.**

OTTS Challenge Token

It's challenge token time! Jackee has hidden the token somewhere in the Portland metro area. Guess the park and start hunting for it. New clues will be issued monthly. Here is your first clue.

Over 80 acres to explore
In a Portland park that I adore

Near a place where people like to toss and throw,
Though not hidden where discs are meant to go

It is lightly buried about 2-3" deep. VDI on the
Manticore was bouncing between 29/30/31 & was
showing deeper than it is actually buried. No
need to crawl under any bum bushes!!!!

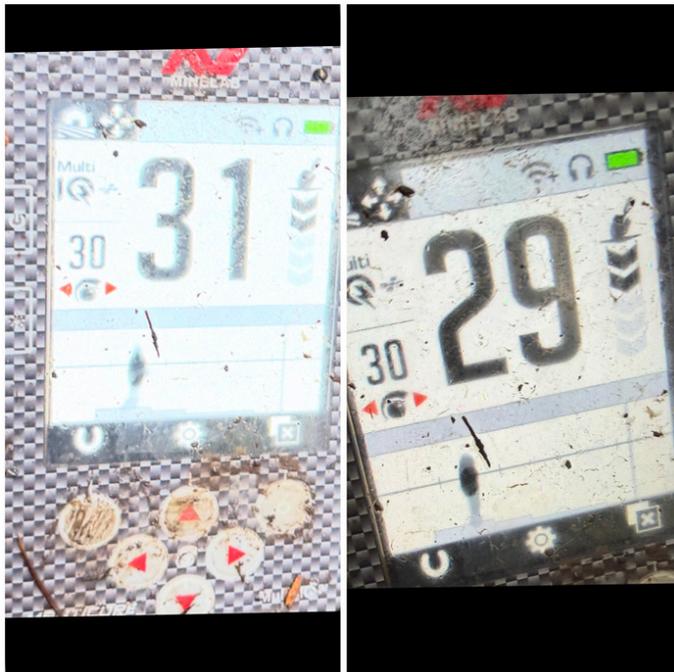
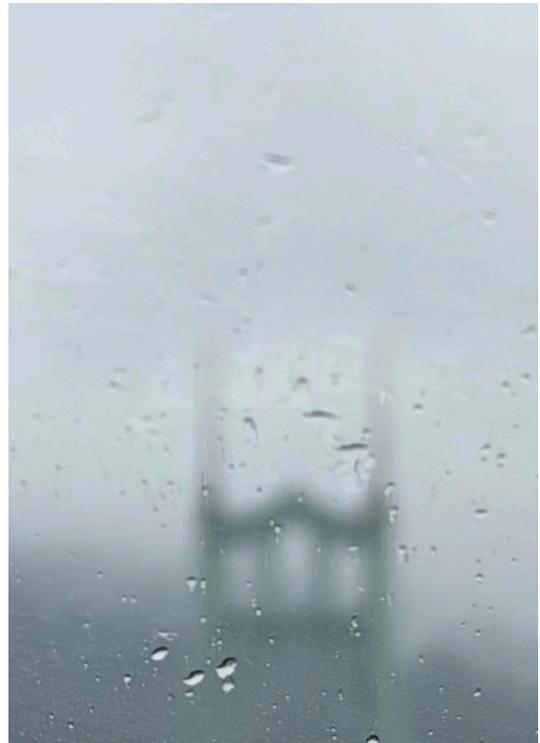


Photo clues.



Good luck & bring the token to the next club meeting to redeem your prize :)

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

Club Member's Experiences

Ryan P's amazing find that he talks about
in the president's message.



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

Club Member's Experiences

Brian E's fun first finds over the last few months.

First Barber coin and I couldn't have been more over the moon.



I met this fun chubby fellow in a park who posed for a photo.



Sweet curb strip find on NE Killingsworth.

First Kennedy 1/2
First 1800's coin
First IHP (and second!)



First coin error I've ever identified.



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

Club Member's Experiences
Jackee A's fabulous finds!



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

OTTS Club Annual Christmas Hunt Report

Date: January 4, 2026 9am-1pm

Location: Westmoreland Park, Portland



The club gathered for the annual Christmas hunt at Westmoreland Park. Thirty four members (including four new ones) and one guest showed up to participate in the scramble for extra prizes. Ryan and Jackee hid 35 tokens good for a dime, six special tokens good for a quarter, one special token good for a half, and ten regular club tokens for members to search for.

The club did recover some very nice natural finds, finding two silver dimes! Ashley found a Mercury dime and Jackee found a Rosie. Tony found a buffalo nickel. Brian, Chuck found silver items and Dan added two more. Dan's 1917 wheatie won the oldest coin.

Top places in the competition were:

1. Jackee 169 points. Prize: silver quarter
2. Brian 72.5 points Prize: silver quarter
3. Tim 72 points Prize: silver quarter
4. Lee 63 points Prize: silver quarter
5. Dan 61 points Prize: silver dime
6. Ashley 59 points Prize: silver dime
7. Ryan 49 points Prize: silver dime

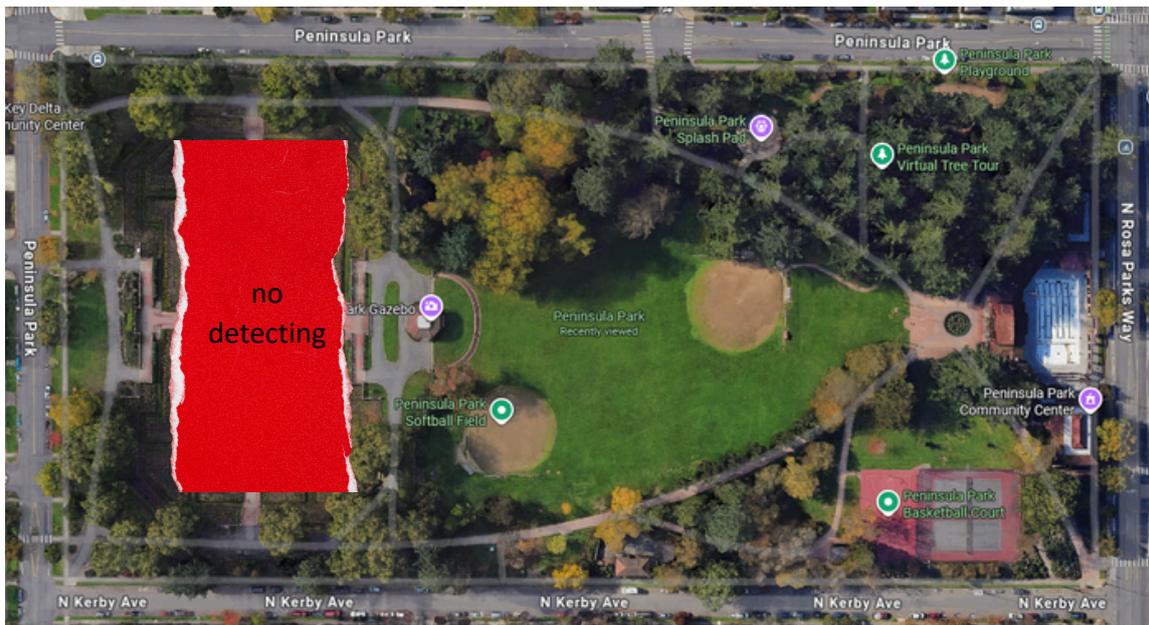
Total tokens found: 40 out of 52

Total clad found: \$25.97

Trash collected during the hunt: 20 lbs.

Total clad found: \$25.97
Trash collected during the hunt: 20 lbs

Club Hunt Report



Date: January 31st, 2026 9am-1pm

Location: Peninsula Park - 700 N Rosa Parks Way, Portland, OR 97217

General Information: Located in north/north east Portland in the Piedmont neighborhood.

Historical Information: The park was purchased by the city in 1909 for \$60,000 with funds raised in a 1908 bond measure. Originally owned by local businesswoman Liverpool Liz, it had been the site for a roadhouse and racetrack for quarter-mile horse racing. An autopark and campground were also included in the original parcel. Planned by renowned Oregon architects Ellis Lawrence and Ormond R. Bean, the park was a result of Portland's 1912 'City Beautiful' movement. Completed in 1913, much remains of the original features, including the lantern-style streetlights, the stone pillars, vast brickwork, and the nearly 100-year-old fountain in the center of the rose garden. Disc #4, a bronze sculpture by Jerry Allen, was installed in 1979 along the west side of the park.

Hunt Recap: The OTTS January Club Hunt was held on Saturday January, 31st 2026. We met at New Seasons Market - Arbor Lodge located at 6400 N Interstate Ave, Portland, OR 97217. 26 members (including 1 new member) and 0 guests met between 8:15am-9am and left for the Peninsula Park at 9. While the week leading up was quite rainy and overcast, the group really lucked out with a beautiful sunny day. Saturated soils made digging plugs a breeze, however it was a bit muddy in some areas of the park. Nick hid 8 regular tokens, and 1 special token for members to search for. A club hunt "bulletin" was also introduced for the meet up location which was met with positive feedback. It outlined several things such as the count out location, restricted areas (rose garden), park history, past club hunt history, and seeded token information.

Peninsula Park hasn't been hunted as a club frequently, with records showing March 2023 and October 2016. Since then, per the new Portland city policy, we were unable to detect the Rose Garden area of the park which was unfortunate. However, the group was still able to pull some good finds! Allisyn W. blew everyone out of the water with her massive 30 battery spill - it's always great to see dangerous items removed from our parks. Four silver jewelry items were found by Jeff, Lee, Tim, and Pat. One of which was a beautiful ring with an assortment of different gemstones on it. Old coins were fairly slim however, as only 3 wheat cents were found and the oldest coin being a 1940 nickel by Sean T.

Total clad found: \$26.59
Trash collected during the hunt: 16 lbs

Club Hunt Report (cont.)

At count out Clark O, Tim S, and Ted M won a member draw silver quarter. Brian E, Clark O, Lee H, and Jeff S found club tokens which were redeemed for a silver dime. One of which was several inches down and was from a previous club hunt. No one found a special token, however several people walked right over it! It was collected after the hunt. As noted during the January meeting, the number of competition prizes were reduced with the unprecedented increase in silver price - thus the "honorable mention" was introduced for 4th and 5th place for a large and small sticker respectively.

Top places in the competition were:

- Allisyn W. 115.8 points Prize: silver quarter
- Jeff S. 87.1 points Prize: silver dime
- Lee H. 67 points Prize: silver dime
- Tim S. 63 points Honorable Mention
- Laura A. 55 points Honorable Mention

Club tokens found: 3 out of 8

Special tokens found: 0 out of 1

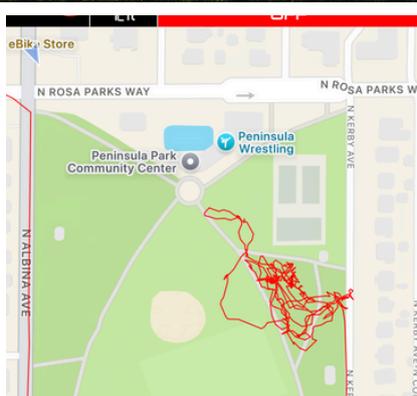
Total clad found: \$26.59

Trash collected during the hunt: 16 lbs.

Next Club Hunt: Nick will be hosting the next monthly club hunt on Sunday, March 31st. A meeting location will be announced soon, check the club calendar for updates.

We will start at 9am and count out at 1pm. Be at the meeting spot by 8:30am!

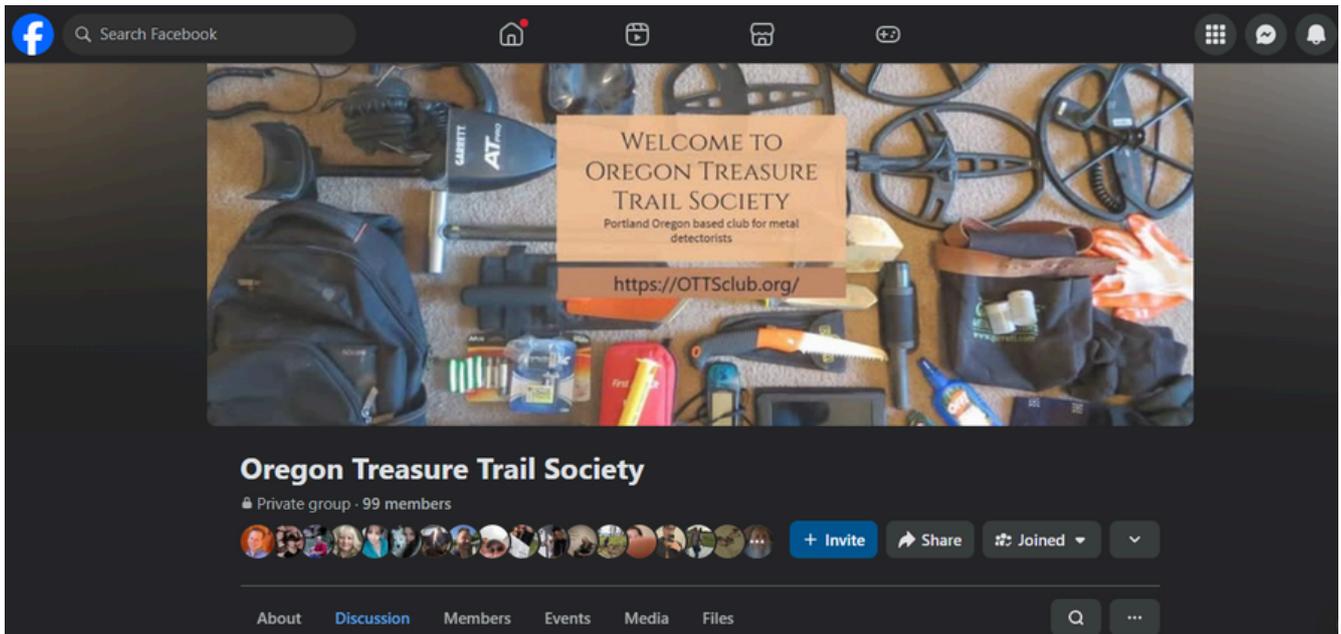
Non-members are always welcome.



Ed V's club hunt track.

Equipment, Tips & Tricks

Did you know OTTS has a Facebook group? Well it sure does! It is a private group so you do have to be a member to join. Go smash that join button today and get in on the discussion!



Also, the OTTS website is the best way to keep informed on what the club is doing. There you find the calendar of events, newsletter archives and lots of photos of cool finds. Check out the “links” under the “More” tab.

To submit entries for this section email rubber2theroad@yahoo.com

This is a great one pager on key coin dates.

KEY DATE COINS



Indian Head Penny
Key Dates
1859 thru 1877
1908-S, 1909-S



Lincoln Wheat Penny
Key Dates
1909-S, 1909-S VDB
1910-S, 1911-S, 1912-S
1913-S, 1914-D, 1914-S, 1922 Plain (Die #2), 1924-D
1931-S, 1955- Double Die



Lincoln Penny
Key Dates
1972 - Double Die
1995 - Double Die



Shield Nickel
Key Dates
1871, 1879, 1880
1881, 1883 (3 over 2)



Liberty "V" Nickel
Key Dates
1885, 1886, 1912-S



Buffalo Nickel
Key Dates
1913-S (T-1)
1913-D (T-2), 1913-S (T-2)
1914-D, 1918 (18 over 17), 1921-S, 1926-S, 1931-S
1937-D (3 Legged Buffalo Error)



Jefferson Nickel
Key Dates
1939 Double Die,
1938-S, 1939-D, 1950-D
Silver 1942-P,D,S to 1945-P,D,S



Barber Dime
Key Dates
1892-S, 1893 (3 Over 2)
1894-O, 1895, 1895-O, 1896-O
1896-S, 1897-O, 1901-S, 1903-S, 1904-S



Mercury Dime
Key Dates
1916-D
1921, 1921-D
1942 (2 Over 1), 1942 (2 Over 1) -D



Barber Quarter
Key Dates
1896-S, 1897-S, 1901-S
1909-O, 1913-S, 1914-S



Standing Liberty Quarter
Key Dates
1916, 1918 Over 17-S, 1921
1923-S, 1924-D, 1924-S



Washington Quarter
Key Dates
1932-D, 1932-S, 1950-D/S,
1950-S/D

Barber Half Dollar
Key Dates
1892-O, 1892-S
1893-S, 1896-S
1897-O, 1897-S
1914, 1915



Walking Liberty Half Dollar
Key Dates
1916, 1916-D
1916-S, 1917-D
1917-S, 1921
1921-D, 1921-S,
1938-D



Franklin Half Dollar
Key Dates
1949-S
*None in Circulated Grade



Morgan Dollar
Key Dates
1886-S
1888-S
1889-S,
1893, 1893-O
1893-S, 1895 Prt.
1894, 1894-O
1994-S, 1895-O
1895-S, 1896-S,
1899, 1902-S, 1903-O, 1903-S, 1904-S,



*And All Carson City Mint. (CC) Years included are:
78, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93

Peace Dollar
Key Dates
1921
1928
1934-S



US mint 1964 and earlier dimes, quarters, and half dollars coins are silver. Many collector coins not listed may still be rare and could have collector values. Dollar coins from 1935 and earlier are all silver and most in fine condition or grades above have value greater than just their silver content. We specialize in buying US coins, precious metal bullion coins and bars, silverware, gold, silver, and platinum jewelry, diamonds, and all other precious metal items.

Oregon Treasure Trail Society 2025 Trash Report

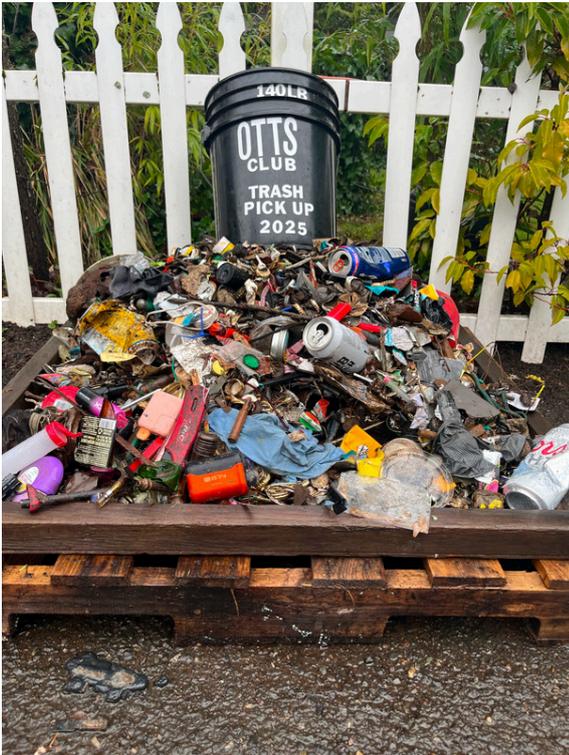
Over the years O.T.T.S. members have continued to remove hundreds of pounds of trash from parks and schools during club hunts. While removing trash helps make a park a more pleasant place to be, the other accomplishment is an improvement to park safety. Most people do not realize that detectorists hunting in parks or schools are removing dangerous items, making places more safe to enjoy. Although most things we find are buried, some are just below the surface, hidden in grass, sand or wood chips.

This year the Oregon Treasure Trail Society had 12 Club Hunts. The hunts were in Portland City Parks and schools, a City of Vancouver Park, and a City of Longview Washington park. The number of club members participating in the 12 hunts ranged from 17-33 averaging 20.4, each hunt lasts for 4 hours, meaning our club spent 81.6 hours clearing 140 pounds of trash from public parks and schools this year.

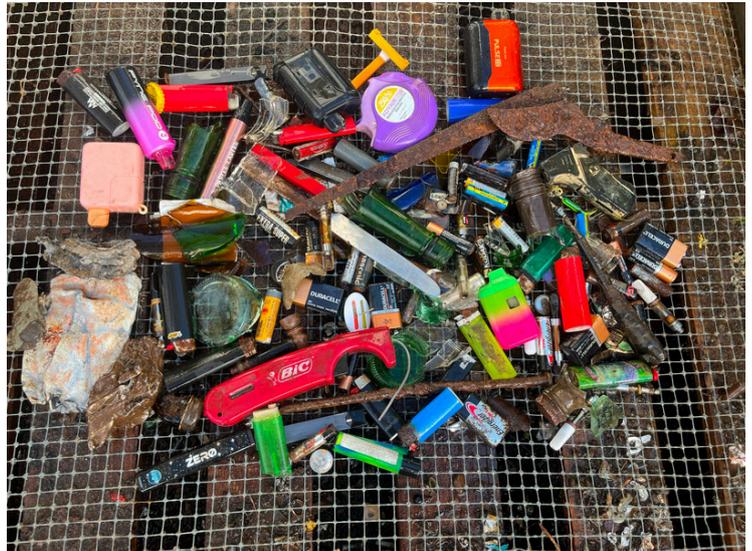
Locations	Trash
Portland City Parks/Schools	119 Lbs
City of Vancouver Park	5 Lbs
City of Longview Washington	16 Lbs
Total for year	140 LBS

We noticed did this year, that several of the Portland Parks seemed to have less surface litter.

However, in addition to the normal “danger items”, broken glass, nails, knife blades, lighters, etc, there is a noticeable rise in the number of Vaping containers, and drug paraphernalia



140LBS Found in 2025



**Some of the Danger Items Found in 2025
(All Batteries Were Recycled)**



**Live Ammunition.
Properly Disposed.**



**Bulk Lead
Recycled**

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 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: 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