

The *Soundoff*



***EUREKA!* Treasure Hunters Club, Inc.**

V. 44 I. 8

August 2016

Search With Care!

Visit Our Club On The Internet At <http://www.eurekathc.org>

Eden **A Nevada Ghost Town**

By Cindy Bockenstedt

Before I left for my vacation to visit my cousins, a driving trip across the West from Denver to the Yosemite area of California, I checked into some ghost towns and decided to stop at Eden, Nevada (south of Highway 6). It is a completely deserted town that began with the discovery of gold and silver in 1905 and once had a population of 40. The surrounding area is not populated and I made sure my gas tank was nowhere near empty before diving off onto the wide dirt ranch road.



I figured I had to drive down the flat open valley with a small mountain range to my right for about 15 miles. The Tonopah and Goldfield mining areas were over those hills to the west.

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eurekathc.com is now eurekathc.org

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The area was open range. The cattle were grazing in small groups and I kept an eye out for them, antelope and wild horses, while enjoying the open land with so much sky and wispy clouds. Traveling the wide lonely road and using *Maps* on my phone, I kept an



eye out for the smaller road that would veer to the right and lead to the base of the hills. Eden was on a small creek that emptied out of those hills.

I passed another ghost town on the way, but, since I didn't have endless time, kept on going. I arrived at Eden which was right on the road. I pulled over and grabbed my camera for a walk around. My gray car was completely white with fine dust and I left the 70 degree compartment behind. With a cold bottle of water in hand, I headed out to explore in the 100 degree heat of the early afternoon.

I thought of the hardworking people and animals that lived there as I checked out the old buildings and corrals. A few shade trees grew near the creek, but otherwise it was mostly sage brush and low vegetation.

The town was littered with new trash by the road and had been shot up. To the north of the structures, in the sage brush, piles of old rusted cans filled a large area. Broken glass shined in the sunlight with the older purple and aqua glass catching my eye. Nothing of value remained except the view over the wide valley to the mountain range opposite.



The completely quiet town will continue to sleep with the lizards and roaming cows as its current residents.

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Baseball caps with the Eureka! logo are available for \$10.00. Metal detector lapel pins - \$2.00, Eureka! window decals - \$1.00, water bottles - \$5.00 and patches - \$3.00.

Joining Eureka! Membership Dues

Yearly dues are \$30 per individual or \$36 for a family membership. Please go to Eureka-thc.org and download and complete the application form. Membership dues can be paid to the treasurer at the regular monthly meetings.

Renewals due in April.



Drawing tickets are \$1 each, take a chance.

TREASURE HUNTER'S CODE OF ETHICS

- I WILL respect private property and do no treasure hunting without the owner's permission.
- I WILL fill all excavations.
- I WILL appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources, wildlife, and private property.
- I WILL use thoughtfulness, consideration, and courtesy at all times.
- I WILL build fires in designated or safe places only.
- I WILL leave gates as found.
- I WILL remove and properly dispose of any trash that I find.
- I WILL NOT litter.
- I WILL NOT destroy property, buildings, or what is left of ghost towns and deserted structures.
- I WILL NOT tamper with signs, structural facilities, or equipment.

About *Soundoff*

Soundoff is the official newsletter of the Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc. (Eureka!). Mailing Address: PO Box 101385, Denver, CO 80250-1385.

Opinions expressed in *Soundoff* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the club or its members. Publication of information in *Soundoff* constitutes no guarantee of accuracy. Use of any information found in this publication is at the sole risk of the user. Neither Eureka!, nor its officers, nor *Soundoff*, nor its editors or contributors assume any liability for damages resulting from use of information in this publication. *Soundoff* is typically placed on the club's website the evening of the first Friday of the month.

Submissions

Articles, letters and short items of interest on prospecting, detecting and treasure hunting topics are welcomed and encouraged. All items submitted for publication are subject to editing. Submittals for publication or correction of errors may be made by e-mail in ASCII text format or MS Word. All article submissions must be received by the editor no later than the deadline of the month (**see calendar**) for inclusion in the next month's issue. Include publication information on articles clipped from other publications. **Let's hear your story, ideas or tips - Cindy - your *Soundoff* editor.**

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Advertising

Classified business-card-sized text advertising is free to members for non-business ads. Commercial display ads are available to anyone at the following charges: business card size, \$6.00 per month; 1/4 page, \$12.00 per month; 1/2 page, \$24.00 per month; full page, \$48.00 per month. Advertisers are encouraged to take out ads for 12 months and receive a 3-month discount. No other discounts apply. The treasurer must receive any required payments for commercial ads prior to their inclusion.

About Eureka!

Eureka! is a Denver-based, Colorado nonprofit organization established in 1973 for the enjoyment of metal detecting, electronic prospecting and treasure hunting. Its purpose is to provide an educational and social forum of mutual benefit for members. Eureka! holds a monthly meeting and conducts various special presentations, hunts and seminars. Members have voting privileges. Membership includes access to all general meetings, selected seminars and outings. Annual dues run April to March and are \$30 for single adult membership, \$36 for a family membership and \$15 for Junior membership. Pro-rating of dues are done for new members joining the club after the April 1 dues date. Club meetings are held on the second Friday of each month, 7:30 p.m., at the Clement Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood, Colorado. Come early to socialize.

Next Club Meeting

2nd Friday of August, 7:30pm

at the

Clement Community Center

1580 Yarrow Street

(NW of Wadsworth and Colfax)

Lakewood, Colorado 80214

Hotline: (303) 595-5448

www.eurekathc.org

Eureka! Breakfast Club: The Eureka! Breakfast Club will meet the [First Friday](#) and the [Third Saturday](#) every month. [Everyone is invited!](#)

Contact Chris Davis 225 235-2642 if you are interested in meeting for breakfast and then going out metal detecting with other club members.

If you want to learn more about your detector or how to detect, or cement friendships, this is a great opportunity to tap into other member's experience or to get together for a fun outing.



July 1st, 2016 Report
By Chris Davis

Had 10 or 12 folks show up for the Breakfast Club. After chowing down, went to Rosamond Park in Denver. The threatening weather cooperatively held off until we finished. Everyone had a good time. Found some change, 2 cheap rings, 2 necklace pendants, a bracelet, 2 earrings and a Naval Challenge Coin. We done worse. Ran into a tremendous hail storm in Castle Rock on the way home. Had to hide under the eve on the lee side of a building. Love this Colorado weather.



July 16, 2016
Visit to the Money Museum, see article on the following page.

The Breakfast Club Makes a Run to the Money Museum

By Chris Davis

On July 16, 2016 the Eureka! Breakfast Club made a departure from its normal outings. Rather than make the usual hunt, it visited the Money Museum in Colorado Springs. Five members including Bruce, John C., Randy S, Mary and Chris made the trip.

The Money Museum is part of the headquarters of the American Numismatic Association. The Museum includes over 250,000 objects encompassing the history of numismatics (the study of money) from the earliest invention of money to modern day. The Harry W. Bass Collection features American gold coins, experimental pattern coins and paper money. The Museum houses some of the most rare coins in U.S. history.



The Museum also offers changing exhibits about money in history, art, archeology, banking and economics, and coin collections. The current exhibit deals with money and items related to the Olympics. The Museum honored three of us as Olympic metal detecting champions.

Timing of the trip was apparently excellent. It turns out, on the 3rd Saturday of each month, admittance is free.

The Bass Collection of gold coins was excellent. In addition to a complete set of \$3 gold pieces, a specimen of the very rare \$4 "Stella" was present. The Stella was a pattern gold coin produced to explore the possibility of joining the Latin Monetary Union. Only 425 examples of the Stella were ever made.



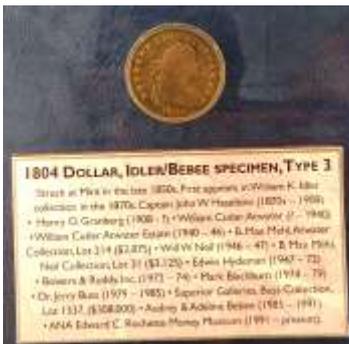
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There was also a collection of Colorado coins and notes present, including a bank note from the Colorado National Bank, Leshner, and Clark, Gruber and Company coins.



One of the main reasons I had in visiting the Museum was to see one of only 5 known specimens of the 1913 V Nickel, of which, only 2 are in public museums. The last specimen on the public market went for \$3.7 million dollars.



The Museum has both Type 1 and Type 3 1804 silver dollars. Only 15 are known to exist. The last Type 1 sold for \$4.12 million dollars. Seems like we should be able to dig a couple up.



The Museum also contains an extensive collection of paper money. America made bills of \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000. The largest bill the United States

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ever produced was the \$100,000 bill, but this was only for transactions between Federal Reserve banks. But, the specimen I liked best was the 2008 Zimbabwe 100 Trillion Dollar Note. (It is worth 8 cents, in American money).

By-the-way, it may interest some of y'all to know, it costs 1.7 cents for America to make a penny coin. For this reason, Canada stopped making penny coins a number of years ago. It is only a matter of time before we catch up with Zimbabwe.

We all had a great time. For those interested in coins, a visit to the Money Museum is highly recommended.

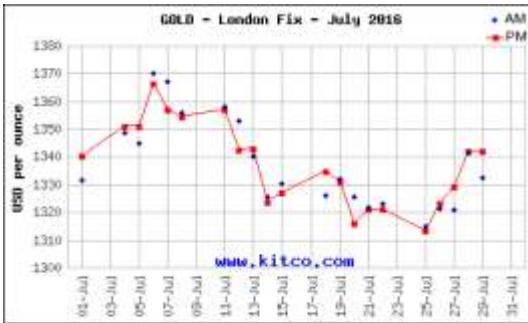


WIN A SILVER DOLLAR!

(Disclaimer: Silver Dollar may not be exactly
As pictured, but it will be silver.)

If you would like a chance at winning a silver dollar, submit your design for a “Rush to the Rockies” logo to Jeff Lubbert at coindigr@hotmail.com before **August 31**. The winning logo will be chosen by the board and the winner will receive a silver dollar donated by Jeff. The logo will be used in advertising our Rush to the Rockies event.

Gold Prices



Silver Prices



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Wheat Ridge requires a permit to metal detect in their city. **No detecting is allowed October-March.** Permits allow detecting April-September.



LuLubelle's Lost Bling

Treasure Puzzle

By
Bill Chapman

A cryptogram is an encoded message. The code used is called a simple substitution cypher. This means that the message is encoded by replacing each character in the message with a letter of the alphabet. Every time a particular character occurs in the message, it is replaced with the same code letter. Word spacing and punctuation are not changed.

Some people like to solve cryptograms much like some people like to do crossword puzzles. The cryptogram is solved by looking for frequently used characters and clues provided by letter patterns and word spacing. Solve the cryptogram shown below, find LuLu's bling and bring it to the next regular Eureka! meeting to collect a prize.

**BJPLHOPLB ROHHRL RDRDWLRRRL ROQLB HJ
BRJG KJGF NFK XJ CJE N WOQL EOKL. JF
ALE RNBH EOKL BAL CJDFK N BPNRR INEQ
OF HAJEFHJF FNPLK BQMRNQL. BAL BNG N
CLRRJG GOHA N PLHNR KLHLTHJE WDH AL
KOKF'H COFK HAL WROFX BAL RJBH GAORL
BROKOFX JF HAL BROKLB.**

The Bling was not found.

Last month's solution:

Park:

Prize: 5 golden dollar coins. Sponsored by
Louise Smyth of Gold-N-Detectors.

Prez Sez

By
John Olson



August 2016
ETHC = THCE

Greetings from semi-beautiful Watkins, CO.

This summer is going by way too fast! I have been working very hard this summer (a lie) and haven't been out metal detecting nearly enough (truth). When I did get out with my machine, I have found my less than average amounts of good targets. That's ok. I enjoy the hunts when I come home with an empty pouch as much as when I come home with a great target (almost).

Thanks to all of you who are good stewards of our hobby. Those of you who follow the Treasure Hunter's Code of Ethics are the ones that will help keep metal detecting strong in the future. Not all of us are able to write that inspiring article or speak our cause to an audience, but our actions can leave a good image to people who may think that treasure hunters are bad for the environment and history. Eureka! has always been active helping our community with PERT (physical evidence recovery team) and HART (historical artifact recovery team) along with help finding lost personal items and donations to various organizations. You guys are great!

Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club and Treasure Hunters Code of Ethics is a winning combination (ETHC = THCE).

August is a busy month for Eureka with the club hunt (John C is huntmaster), Breakfast Club on the first Friday and 3rd Saturday, Finds of the Month and Coin Drawings. September's Coinhuna hunt is in the works as well as future hunts. Stay tuned and don't miss out on our great activities. Read *Soundoff* and attend meetings. See you there!

I wish you gold, silver and rusted iron in your pouch.

John
UO510



INDEPENDENCE DAY HUNT REPORT



By Terry Weatherly

Twenty six hunters braved the 100 degree day to hunt for the almost 700 targets and prizes on July 10th. The cost was \$20 and was a members only hunt at Majestic View Park in Arvada. Food was at 12:00 and the hunt was at 1:00.

I want to thank Chris Davis, Chuck Hedberg, Randy and Marry Sable for helping plant coins and setting up and taking down, also John Hinton for cooking. After eating hamburgers, hotdogs and the rest of the eats we started the hunt.



The hunt field consisted of 275 1796-1976 tokens, 60 bicentennial Ike dollars, Kennedy half dollars and quarters. Also planted were 282 silver dimes and 3 Indian pennies. There were also some donated coins.

Additionally, there were 22 pennies for the chance for the top prizes and 1 for the box of Fireworks. For the top prizes, you had 6 bean bags to throw and you had to get the most bags in the hole, for those who know what the corn hole game is. Cody Rex was the champion and got the top prize, which was a Ellis Island coin set.



Boots Lewis and Tonette Romero got the really cool Black Ruthenium 1796-1976 Quarters. Roy Neys got the belt buckle, Brian Henry-the mint set, Ken Harmon-the Proof set, and Glen Thompson-the 1796-1996 token. Steve Rex got the American Revolution 1796-1996 token, and John Hinton-3 men round medallion. Van Romero got a hat pin with John Olson getting the

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1796-1996 key chain token. Ron Erickson got a bicentennial token, Joe Johnson-a hat pin. Fran Espinoza and Jeff Lubbert got tokens. All the prizes were given out. I hope I got everyone as it was way too hot to be outside. Pat Lucero got the “?” marked penny for the fireworks set. Thanks Boots. Boots Lewis got the Spyderco token.

I believe everyone had a good time considering how hot it was outside. We stopped the hunt after a half hour due to the heat to let everyone get rehydrated. Then we finished the hunt. I want to thank everyone for coming out.



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GOLD CATEGORY

Jay Reed	14K Men's Ring
Jay Reed	10K Earring
Roy Neys	10K Opal Ring
Bernice Ortiz	10K Lady's Ribbon Ring

JEWELRY CATEGORY

John Cornelisse	2 Religious Pendants
Chuck Hedberg	Art Deco Brooch
Chris Davis	Silver Wedding Band, Silver Dragon Pendant
Jack Hoover	Open Hearts Silver Ring
Jay Reed	Silver Men's Ring
Joe Johnston	St Anthony/St Francis Ring
Alan Bravo	Sterling Ring, Blue Earring
Bill Chapman	Stainless Lord's Prayer Ring
Kenneth Martin	Fancy Clasp, Lady Brooch
Cindy Bockenstedt	Silver Ring, Pistol Charm
John Hinton	Silver Kokopelli Necklace
Tonette Romero	Silver Ring
Mary Sable	Triple Silver Ring

COIN CATEGORY

Brian Henry	2 Indian Head Cents
Chuck Hedberg	1915 Barber Dime
Alan Bravo	1887 Indian Head Cent
Kenneth Martin	1953 Wheat Cent, Shot by Bullet
Tonette Romero	1950 Somalia 10 Centesimi
Cindy Bockenstedt	1877 Seated Dime

TOKEN CATEGORY

Chris Davis	Car Wash / \$1
Joe Johnston	Public Service Company of Colo Boulder / One Full Fare
Cindy Bockenstedt	Skirvin Hotel / 25¢

ARTIFACT CATEGORY

Chris Davis	Streamlight Flashlight
Chris Davis	Seabee Challenge Coin
Joe Johnston	Railroad Date Nail
Brian Henry	Wash Basin with Stove Door, Marble, 2 Indian Head Cents

FIND-OF-THE-MONTH CATEGORIES

Gold: natural gold (flakes, nuggets, wire) stamped karat alloy content or obvious custom alloy item, except gold coins which are entered in the Coin Category.

Jewelry: objects of metal often set with gems and worn for personal adornment, except jewelry qualifying for the Gold Category.

Coin: a piece of metal issued by governmental authority as money.

Token: a piece resembling a coin issued by some person or entity, not of a governmental authority (with the exception of tax tokens), that could be redeemed for services or specified items. Advertisement tokens with no redeemable value are entered in the Artifact Category.

Artifact: simple object showing human workmanship or modification, and all other items that do not meet the criteria for other categories.

Find of the Month Winners - July

ARTIFACT - Brian Henry

Wash Basin with Items

Brian was searching an area in the mountains when he decided to check out a rock formation. In a depression on top of the rock, under 16 inches of organics and soil that collected there, he uncovered a wash pan. It contained stove doors, a knife handle, a marble and two Indian head pennies. Brian used his XP Deus with an 11 inch coil.



COIN - Cindy Bockenstedt

1877 Seated Dime

Only two inches down between some sage brush next to a county dirt road near the Leadville area, Cindy unearthed this silver coin. She was using her usual, her White's MXT with the tiny coil.



TOKEN - Cindy Bockenstedt

Skirvin Hotel / 25¢



When Cindy saw the scallops on the aluminum disc she knew it was a good token. She was using her White's MXT with a shooter coil in an older part of Denver. The Skirvin Hotel's Billiard Parlor token is from 1911 or later. Mr. Skirvin built his prominent hotel in Oklahoma City.

GOLD - Bernice Ortiz

10K Lady's Ribbon Ring

Bernice was swinging her Bigfoot coil attached to her White's Spectrum when she



spotted this ring laying on top of the grass even before her coil passed over it. This gold ring was found in a SW Denver park.

JEWELRY - Mary Sable

Silver Triple Ring

This ring marked .925 was found at a Lakewood park with grass growing up between the rings. Mary was swinging her White's XLT with a standard coil.



Upcoming Events

NEXT EUREKA! MEETING

Also bring:

Nametags ~ thanks for wearing them to all Eureka! functions.

Cash ~ for drawings, hunts, hats...

Finds ~ to show.

Answers ~ to puzzles.

Ideas ~ for speakers, fun outings.

Snacks ~ as always, treats for the snack table are appreciated.

PLACES TO VISIT

South Park City Museum

Fairplay, Colorado

A restoration of a 19th century mining town.

Open May - October

www.colorado.com/history-museums/south-park-city-museum

Bee Family Centennial Farm Museum

Fort Collins, Colorado

An active farm since 1894.

Open May - October (pioneer living day in Sept)

www.beefamilyfarm.com

UPCOMING EVENT

Annual Cemetery Crawl, Russell

Gulch Cemetery, Idaho Springs area

Sat, Aug 27th, 2016 \$15 at gate

Beer Fest to follow at 2pm

303 582-5283 for info or advanced

tickets (\$12) or search for Cemetery

Crawl on Eventbrite.com or in person

at the Gilpin History Museum.

UPCOMING EUREKA! EVENTS

July 16th, 2016 (Saturday)* and

Aug 5th, 2016 (Friday)

Breakfast Club

Contact: Chris Davis 225 235-2642 for place and time to meet.

Sun, Aug 14th, 2016

You'll Never Know Hunt

West Meadows Park \$15

Lunch: 11:30 Bring a side-dish.

Hunt 1:00

Contact: John Cornelisse

303 250-3335

Eureka! Hotline: 303 595-5448

Sept Hunt: Coinhuna Free for members

LINKED WEB SITES

www.mdhtalk.org Detecting Hobby Talk

www.fmdac.org Federation of Metal Detector & Archaeological Clubs

<http://www.relicroundup.blogspot.com>

Relic Roundup Radio show (hosted by Jeff Lubbert 7pm Mondays), and blog.

TenaciousTreasureTracker.com

Hunt #6 started June 1st.

UPCOMING MEETING SPEAKER

August - Howard Hinsley

Howard is a member of the Denver Coin Club and will speak about numismatics generally.

You Never Know What You'll Find Hunt

West Meadows Park

Coal Mine Road & Van Gordon Way
(C-470 at the Bowles Exit)

(1 Block East to Coal Mine , turn right to Van Gordon)

Sunday, August 14, 2016

Lunch 11:30

Hunt 1:00

Lunch: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Sodas and water provided.

Bring a side-dish (chips, coleslaw, potato salad)

Fun Prizes, Spyderco Knife and Silver Coins

Members Only - \$15.00

For Information: call John Cornelisse 303 250-3335

In-Town Hunt Information

In-Town club hunts are meant to be fun, first and foremost. They provide a context outside of the meetings for fellowship with club members. To put on an in-town hunt you need to:

- Schedule with the Hunt Coordinator or President (see the contact list).
- Provide the Hunt Coordinator a plan.
- Send the hunt flyer to the newsletter editor in an appropriate format for insertion into the newsletter (see the contact list).
- Provide flyers at the monthly meeting.
- Ensure the hunt rules are discussed BEFORE the hunt.
- Police the hunt.
- Decide if the hunt is a members only or an open hunt (non-members may hunt).
- Write a story for the newsletter and send it and accompanying photos to the newsletter editor prior to that month's deadline.

To ensure the continuation of this hobby and to provide the best impression

of Eureka! and its membership, you, as hunt master, MUST enforce all rules, including:

1. Pouches to store finds and trash must be worn and used at all times during the hunt.
2. All hunters must wear headphones.
3. Absolutely no tolerance of holes left open (a first warning, followed by a time-out or expulsion from the hunt).
4. Hunters digging and leaving trash of any sort on the hunt field will receive the same treatment discussed above.

All hunts will need to be okayed by Hunt Coordinator (see the contact list) prior to officially being put in the newsletter and put on.

Failure to follow the guidelines may result in hunts being cancelled.

Hunts may be paid for in advance. This helps the hunt master with planning for how much should be planted in the field. In case a person must miss the hunt, their prepaid fee may be refunded if they call the hunt master before the hunt and cancel, other circumstances will be reviewed. No refund will be given for just plain failure to show up to the hunt.

Westminster requires a permit to metal detect in their city. It will be good for a year.
See Connie at the lower level of City Hall.
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs from 7:00am to 6:00pm.
Please follow the City's guidelines and show that we, as detectorist, are a responsible group.

Secretary's Report

By Nancy Faires

July 8, 2016

President John Olson called the Eureka THC Club meeting to order and welcomed everyone. The officers and board members were introduced.

There were 56 present including several guests.

There will be a “meet and greet” for new members at the end of the meeting tonight.

John Cornelisse presented the Treasurer's report.

**Yearly membership dues are due in April:
\$30 / single \$36 / family.
You must be a paid member to enter or vote
for the Finds of the Month.**

Ron Roberson received the Garret AT Pro detector which he won from the drawing at the June hunt. He also won a mandrel and an ultrasonic jewelry cleaner.

Speakers, Linda and Ron Erickson and Jeff Lubbert presented information on the 2017 Rush to the Rockies. July 20th is the date to call Pickle Gulch to reserve the campground. The goal is to reserve July 21 – 23, 2017.

Ron also spoke about detecting in a competition hunt.

DESIGN A LOGO contest to be used for RTTR 2017 on a T-shirt and patch. The winner will receive a silver round. The deadline is the September club meeting.

HUNT CANCELATION POLICY

Notify the Hunt Master by 10 AM the day of the hunt if you can't make the hunt and you have pre-paid.

June Hunt – Lord of the Rings Hunt – Jeff Lubbert

June 26th – Lazy Heart Ranch, Golden

Ken Harmon found the Spyderco token.

July Hunt – Independence Hunt - Terry Weatherly

July 10th – Majestic View Park, Arvada Hamburgers and hot dogs at 12 Noon, please bring a side dish, hunt at 1 PM \$20 per person

Must be a club member to participate.



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August Hunt – “You Never Know What You’ll Find” – John Cornelisse
West Meadows Park – August 14th

September Hunt – COINHUNA – Nancy Faires/Chris Davis
Mamie Eisenhower Park – Lunch provided by Club

Tip of the Month – Terry Weatherly
“Dig everything.”

LULUBELLE’S BLING – Louise Smyth and Gold-N-Detectors
Not found this month.
Thank you Louise and Bill Chapman for sponsoring this hunt.

Breakfast Club

Meetings are the 1st Friday and 3rd Saturday each month.
Please come and join us to share stories, finds, have breakfast together and an unplanned hunt to follow. Everyone is encouraged to participate.
This is a good opportunity for new members to meet and hunt with some of our Club’s excellent detectorists.
July 16th – planned trip to the Colorado Springs Money Museum.

General Drawing Winners

- 1818 Large cent – Chuck Hedberg
- 1903 Indian Head penny – Jack Hoover
- 1864 Two cent piece – Tom Conroy
- Dos Peso – Pat Lucero
- 1878 Seated half – Chuck Hedberg
- 1868 Shield nickel – Ron Graves
- 1915 Buffalo nickel – Ron Roberson
- 1929 S Standing liberty quarter – Joe Johnston
- 1864 Two cent piece – Jim Griffin
- 1830 Capped bust dime – Tonette Romero
- 1865 Nickel three cent piece – Chuck Hedberg
- 1911 Barber dime – Bernice Ortiz

Membership Drawing Winner – Steve Rex

Holiday Drawing – Chuck Hedberg
1921 D Morgan dollar

Joe Johnston was the winner of the first 50/50 cash drawing tonight.

Finds of the Month Winners

- Gold category – Bernice Ortiz
- Coin category – Cindy Bockenstedt
- Token category – Cindy Bockenstedt
- Artifact category – Brian Henry
- Jewelry category – Mary Sable

Thank you to everyone who brought food tonight.



Tom



Chuck



Joe

Contact List

Officers	Name	Phone	E-Mail
President	John Olson	(719) 588-7021	jncolson1969@gmail.com
Vice President	Jeff Lubbert	(303) 618-5179	coindigr@hotmail.com
Secretary	Nancy Faires	(303) 368-1356	photo518@msn.com
Treasurer	John Cornelisse	(303) 250-3335	joshar5@msn.com
Board 2017	Steve Rex	(720) 270-2471	kiowarex@yahoo.com
Board 2017	Boots Lewis	(303) 941-6251	foxfixer5@msn.com
Board 2017	Chris Davis	(225) 235-2642	aggiefan55@gmail.com
Board 2018	Terry Weatherly	(303) 748-7288	terrysboss302@hotmail.com
Board 2018	Brian Henry	(720) 771-1883	Brian@tenacioustreasuretracker.com
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Newsletter

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Web Site

Webmaster	John Lambe	(303) 840-8094	jlambe@earthlink.com
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Volunteers

PERT	Chris Davis	Nametags	Linda Erickson
HART	Steve Rex	Microphone	John Hinton
Hunt Coordinator	Jeff Lubbert	Greeter	Board Member
Finds Table	Bernice Ortiz	Hotline	Laura Smith
Finds Table	Van Romero	Speakers	Jeff Lubbert
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Lost Aggie Gold

James “Chris” Davis

On July 12, 2016, Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club (Lakewood, CO) members Jack Hoover, Win Faires and Chris Davis took their metal detectors and made a run up to the ski slopes of Breckenridge, Colorado in search of buried treasure. By coincidence, all were using the XP Deus. The group has been up to the slopes a number of times over the past 2 years. Normally, they spend a great deal of time happily digging up bottle caps, pull tabs and corroded coins. It does not take much to amuse some folks. For some unknown reason, while significant quantities of coins and dozens of zippers are routinely found, not much jewelry is recovered. One can only surmise no one who skis has any zippers on their clothing. Which may explain why we find all the coins. Skiing must be a violent sport. But, every once in a while, something nice is actually found.

On this particular day the group was halfway up a slope in the middle of nowhere, busily recovering corroded coins and zippers. Jack Hoover hollered, “I found a ring”.

I hollered back, “Great! What is it made of (gold, silver, other)?”

He responded, “I do not know, but it has 82 on it”.

I think Jack was “jacking” with me (if you will excuse the expression). I said it sounded like a class ring and eased over to take a look. It took approximately 2 nanoseconds to determine it was a Texas A&M class ring. I had a brief stay at A&M a thousand years ago and was familiar with the significance of Aggie rings to Aggies. Jack agreed we should return it, if we could only figure out who it belonged to. Discovering the identity of the ring’s owner was not a problem as all Aggie rings have the owner’s name engraved on the inside. We cleaned the dirt off, and discovered the name, “Christopher C. Hammel”, Class of 1982. We soon discovered it was not quite as easy to run him down. A call to the Association of



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Former Students of TAMU revealed an address in Katy, TX and a phone number. Unfortunately, the listed phone number was disconnected. We did Google searches but were unable to find a working number. We were able to confirm Mr. Hammel owned a house in Katy. We checked with the Katy Chapter of Former Students, but struck out again. However, one of the websites listed a "Pamela" as related kinfolk. By plugging "Pamela Hammel" into a Google Search, she popped up under a local real estate company in Katy. It was after hours, so I called and left my contact number and an e-mail address. That evening I got a call from Pamela confirming she was indeed the ex-wife of Christopher Hammel. I told her my group had found a ring with Christopher Hammel engraved on it. I purposely did not tell her what kind of ring it was, or where it was found. Later that night, I received a call from Christopher Hammel himself.

I have been detecting long enough to be cautious. You just do not hold a ring up and holler, "I found a gold ring!", or you may well have 5 different people claim it. You say, "Can you describe it for me?" If they correctly describe it, fine. If not.... In this case, to make sure I was talking to the real Christopher Hammel, I wanted two questions answered. First, I wanted him to tell me it was an Aggie class ring. Second, I wanted to know if where he said he lost the ring was the same location it was found. The first 30 seconds of our phone conversation answered both questions positively without even asking. We had our man.

Christopher Hammel had majored in Chemical Engineering at Texas A&M and graduated in 1982. As all Aggie graduates, he was very proud of his



new ring. It cost \$800. Virtually all graduates purchase a ring. They may have to skip paying a car note or two, but they always manage to come up with enough money to buy their ring. Needless to say, Christopher wore his ring everywhere. Six months later he went on a skiing trip to Breckenridge, Colorado with his younger brother. His brother, 14 years old, kept falling. Christopher would pull his gloves off and help

him up. When they got to the bottom of the slope he discovered he no longer had his ring. And that was the last he saw of it for 33 years.

After the loss, his mother helped him scrape money together and eventually

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he purchased a replacement. As good Aggies do, he continued to wear this new ring everywhere. After 30 odd years, the replacement was worn smooth, while the original ring recovered on the slope looks like new.

Mr. Hammel made a trip back up to Breckenridge with his kids in 2014. He learned his lesson of 30 years ago. On this trip he did not wear his ring, but left it safely in his jewelry box. He did, however, lose his driver's license.

Jack Hoover, who found the ring, is a self-employed geologist. This was the second gold ring he has found since he started detecting. Win Faires is a retired postal employee who has found too many gold rings to count. I am a retired game biologist, and like the blind hog looking for acorns, occasionally finds a gold ring every once in a while, usually by accident. But it counts. I actually attended Texas A&M back in 1977. I was studying at A&M in effort to pass the civil service exam for Village Idiot, but discovered the curriculum was too challenging and flunked out.



Jack Hoover had only one request. As a member of the Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club, we have a Find of the Month contest at our meeting each month, where everyone brings in their best finds and the best of the best are recognized. The winner gets a silver dime. The members bring in some pretty neat and interesting stuff. Jack requested he be allowed to keep the ring until he could enter it into the Find of the Month contest before returning it. After all, a whole silver dime was at stake. Christopher had no problem with this. I believe he put it, "Well, I haven't had it for 33 years, another month will not make any difference".

The Tip for the Day is, if you are not digging pennies you may be missing out on these large class rings. A heavy 10K class ring is composed of 41.7% gold, 33% silver, 25% copper, and trace amounts of other stuff. As silver and copper have high conductivity, it should come as no surprise your VDI numbers will often be up in the penny range, or in this case, the dime range.

Tip number Two: There may not be any link between finding great gold rings and using a Deus. But then again, there might be.

Happy Hunting!!

Look Who's Joining the Fun

By Chris Davis

New Member – Jeff Erlichman



The Eurkea! Treasure Hunters Club is pleased to welcome its newest member, Jeff Erlichman. Jeff joined at the July meeting and attended the July club hunt. Jeff is new to metal detecting. He wanted to develop a new hobby. He found out about our club at Gold-N-Detectors. Jeff is currently using a Garrett ET Pro detector, and has a Garrett pinpointer. He also enjoys riding motorcycles and is an avid golfer.

August 2016

5th - Breakfast Club 9am
5th - Newsletter Published
10th - Board Meeting 6:30pm
12th - General Meeting 7:30pm
14th - You Never Know Hunt 11:30
20th - Breakfast Club 9am
26th - *Soundoff* Deadline

September 2016

2nd - Breakfast Club 9am
2nd - Newsletter Published
7th - Board Meeting 6:30pm
9th - General Meeting 7:30pm
11? - Coinhuna Hunt
17th - Breakfast Club 9:00am
30th - *Soundoff* Deadline

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That's all this month - find something good!