

Calgary Metal Detecting Club

THE BUZZER

Volume 52 – issue 1 January 2023



*A few hardy souls are out finding treasure during the winter season.
Don't forget that the CMDC is planning in-person meetings
in the next few months. More info inside.*

The Buzzer is published by and for the membership of the CMDC –
Canada's oldest Active Metal Detecting Club.
Visit us on the internet @ www.cmdc.org.



Happy New Year,
and All the Best for the
2023 Metal Detecting Season!

Wishing the CMDC All the Best in 2023

We've reached the end of another metal detecting year. 2023 looks like an amazing year – and I am looking forward to getting out my metal detector and looking for treasures.

Its nice to see the Covid Restrictions behind us in 2022 – and it was great to see so many people out hunting for treasures. There were some pretty amazing recoveries last year, and we are looking forward to more amazing finds in 2023.

We wish the Calgary Metal Detecting Club a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year! We wish you all good hunts, great memories, and a multitude of recovered treasures.

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## 2023 CMDC CLUB MEETINGS

Starting in December of 2022 the club has arranged for a meeting place for Calgary Metal Detecting Club. We are initiating “in-person” meetings again. Our next meeting on February 09, 2023 will be a Zoom meeting, but plans are in the work to be back at the Brentwood Co-op for March and April. The club is still working on dates for the March and April meetings, and information will go out by Facebook and Email when we confirmations in place. I'm sure we are all happy to have the opportunity to get together for monthly meetings again.

I am hoping that all of you are keeping healthy, and that everyone had a fabulous 2022 metal detecting season. Winter may put the hobby on hold for some of us – but the 2023 season is just around the corner. At the January meeting we already heard of 3 separate hunts for lost rings and keys – so we can still hunt in the winter. In fact, I know of a few CMDC members who made some pretty spectacular winter jewellery finds. Whether you are out hunting in the snow, or staying indoors waiting until warmer weather, stay safe. CMDC meetings will continue every month, and our CMDC outdoors club hunts will likely resume in April (or when the Spring weather is firmly established).



# **BUZZER CONTEST WINNER 2022**

Our Buzzer Contest for December 2022 was won by TWYLA RITCHIE of Edmonton. There were several entrants – and every entry was entered into the draw - so we used a random generator (random contest spinner) off the internet to determine the winner. Congratulations to Twyla for her great story about how she and her husband, James Belke, met through the Edmonton Club. James entered his version of the story for the Buzzer contest, and both have been included in this issue. Thanks also go to Jamie Schmidt (two entries), Rod Gow, Allen Billy, Gloria Conklin, and Bob Conlon, who all submitted stories to enter into the contest. Rod's was used last month. For the rest, look at future Buzzers to see your stories published.

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## **Our Best Find Ever!**

By TWYLA RITCHIE

About 5 years ago I bought myself a Garrett AT Gold detector and joined the local metal detecting club. Shortly after joining, a few of the guys instantly started inviting me out to sites for a dig – “What a friendly group!” I thought. Unbeknownst to me, females were rare in this sport. Soon to follow would be offers to go for coffee, which I politely declined, as I didn't want to just “talk about metal detector over a coffee” I wanted to get good at it so I could find all the great stuff I saw at our club meetings.

I slowly started to notice a pattern that if a guy invited you to a site for a dig, some of the guys considered that was a “date”. Wait, what?? Who decided this? As far as I knew, dates required drinks or dinner. So this had to be clarified quickly, especially since I went out detecting with several different members. I may have been developing somewhat of a reputation (not the good kind).

Thankfully the novelty wore off when it became clear that I was only interested in one thing –“Metal Detecting!” Besides, a sweaty woman in khaki clothing full of mud, with twigs tangled in her hair all the time probably got old fairly quickly. The more hours I got under my belt the better the finds were, and I was averaging 25-30 hours a week detecting, so it was paying off. In my second year I found a German WW1 belt buckle and won a prize for “relic of the month”.

By the third year I was able to enter more finds that were worthy of the friendly contest. One beautiful spring day a couple of the expert detectorists that I came to know over the previous year, invited me to a great spot. I didn't hesitate to go as it sounded like the site had huge potential. I also didn't have to worry about it being considered a date since there were 3 of us and they were both married, so I thought.

The address was texted to me, and I showed up on time, ready to go. As the sun lowered in the sky, we shared our silver finds and called it a night. One of the guys mentioned he was in hurry as he cooked for himself. I mentioned that I did too. For some reason I assumed he was also married. I had always admired the way he carried himself, as he was really nice and very helpful to all the members. I suddenly saw him in a different light.

The next day we agreed to meet at a little restaurant to share a meal together, there was no denying it, this was an official date, I knew it to be so because I had showered and was wearing clean clothes and so was he, lol. After that day, we started going out for digs exclusively together. As the summer went on, we each shared our “special hot spots,” so I started to get the feeling that this was getting serious!

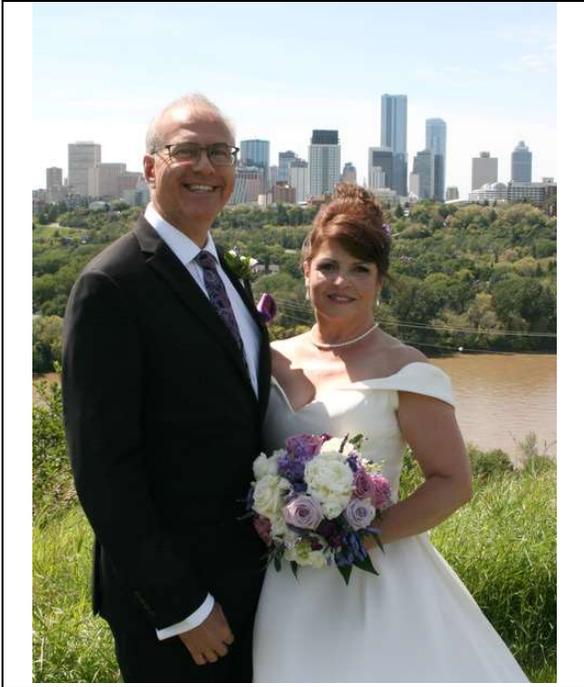
On Christmas he proposed, and we had a COVID wedding in the backyard the following summer. We are in our third year of marriage and fellow club members often mention how great it must be to have a partner who also loves to hunt. Sometimes while we are at a public site, people will stop to ask us about the hobby, and they will inevitably ask what the best treasure is that we have ever found. We turn to each other and point. Because we truly believe finding each other in this hobby is the best treasure a person could hope to find. To have a companion to dig with everyday that you get to also go home with to talk about the hobby even more is the ultimate find in our eyes. We are thankful every day for this blessing!

# Our Best Find Ever – Part II!

By JAMES BELKE

This is a great hobby for so many reasons: enjoying our beautiful outdoors, getting off the couch for some needed exercise, meeting other hobbyists, and of course heading out and finding rare and extraordinary treasures! ...and who hasn't been approached by a curious passer-by and been asked, "What is the best thing you have ever found?"

After pondering the question, one often struggles in that moment to pick something special: a unique relic? A rare coin? Gold ring encrusted with diamonds, or what??? For me the answer is easy. Here is my story of my best detecting find ever...



## Spring 2018

Regular club meetings and club organized hunts can be great ways to meet individuals and build new friendships with those just getting into the hobby and I recall one who stood out in particular. After one of our EMDC events I extended an invitation for this member to join me for a coffee. She politely declined my offer.

Also with spring comes the arrival of another joint CMDC/EMDC Rochon Sands seeded club hunt event. As one of the organizers that year I was on site early helping to set up the seeded beach and I was hearing stories of an intrepid detectorist who camped in the Provincial Park over night, fended off the swarms of mosquitos & pesky little sand flies, and slept in the back of her SUV.

Despite my efforts over the course of the day to connect with her, there was always a bit of a crowd around and one non-stop activity after another, so despite my best efforts all I was able to do was extend to her an invitation for to meet up with me on a future hunt when we were back in the city.

A couple of invites later and we were finally able to tee up a "digging date". (Well, it was a date from my perspective at least.) The site was one of the hot spots at that time and our chaperone on this date was an experienced EMDC member who, like her, hunted with a Garrett AT Gold and he would be there to provide additional tips on the machine's operation if needed. After the hunt my buddy was like, "...and so?" And I was like, "I don't think she is interested as she only seemed to be focused on digging and finding something old, lol". At this point, I had all but given up hope...

## Fast forward to Spring 2019

Another treasure hunting season was upon us - and another group hunt was happening where she was in attendance, and hope springs eternal!. Somehow, almost out of the blue, we were talking about a restaurant we both wanted to check out, so we set a date (my 2nd and her 1st!) and the rest is history.

July 11, 2020, and our little back yard Covid wedding was a huge success, and we are now digging happily ever after! So now when I'm asked by curious passers-by what my best find detecting is, I proudly reply, "my wife, Twyla!"

# CMDC Club Membership Renewals

The Calgary Metal Detecting Club usually looks for membership fee renewals starting in January. Last year the club executive extended the dues for 2021 to cover 2022 as a part of our CMDC “50 Year” Jubilee celebration, but that has ended now.

2023 has arrived, and club membership is due again. We will be taking payment for club dues at the next few in-person meetings of the CMDC – but arrangements can be made for “E-transfer” if that is your preferred method of payment. Any club membership fees for people that have joined since October of 2022 will be extended for the coming year.

The CMDC annual membership renewal cost is

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|----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>In-town membership</b>  | <b>\$30.00</b> |
| <b>Out-of-town member</b>  | <b>\$25.00</b> |
| <b>Family Membership</b>   | <b>\$45.00</b> |
| <b>Out-of-town Family</b>  | <b>\$35.00</b> |
| <b>Senior’s Membership</b> | <b>\$20.00</b> |

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Advertising Wish List Items

In the early to mid-20th century many products came with advertising items that have been found by members of the CMDC over the years. Below are some common “advertising” wish-list items that are always a thrill to find. Some have shown up on the finds table over the years.

Nabob – Coffee Spoon. A little brass scoop was located in every 10 LB glass jar on Nabob Coffee sold in the 1930s and 1940s. Later versions could be obtained by sending proof of purchase to the company. As so many were available, the cute little spoons often made their way into children’s hands, and then were lost outside as a part of pirate treasure or some other adventure. This is a Canadian item, as Nabob was a BC company when it was introduced.



Jack knives, are always a cool find – and some were used as advertising items for local businesses, and for specialized services. Some of these examples are from the USA, but were available in Canada with a little editing.



One advertising item that has been popular for over 60 years are “Key Rings”. These can be mass produced with minor deviations for smaller businesses, but many of the bigger companies specially designed their own advertising swag. They are also produced as Souvenirs for travel locations. Most of the examples below are Canadian.



HOW TO CREATE A TEST GARDEN

Some of you may have heard about the concept of a “Test Garden” as a means of learning your machine. Here is a description and some basic instruction on how to create your own Metal Detecting Test Garden. A Test Garden can be created to help you learn the capabilities of your detector, and about what different signals mean without the constant digging of garbage in parks. You can use the garden to educate yourself about what the signals mean before you dig them. It will help you learn your machine, and the signals your detector gives when it encounters various metals and depths. A Test Garden will also help you understand the effects of ground minerals, moisture content, target angle, oxidation/rust, trash proximity, target defects, surface textures and provide practice in pin-pointing targets.

First of all, select the area you want to use for your Test Garden, and use your metal detector to find and remove every bit of metal from the area of your proposed area. The next step is to select the metal targets to “seed” your garden. Choose targets such as various coins (clad, copper and silver), a bottle cap, a pull tab, lead, can-slaw and other objects of different metals and a few nails. Also select a small jar filled with scrap copper and a large (litre or larger) tin-can. Note: Do not use your good silver coins in a test garden. Find the cruddiest silver coins you have – the ground won’t know the difference. Note that your Test Garden doesn’t have to be an exclusive use area – you can plant other items (like marigolds, vegetables, tulips or pansies). If you are planting vegetation, we suggest something that stays low to the ground, and doesn’t prohibit swinging.

Bury all the metallic objects in rows about two or three feet apart. You have to make sure you space the items well enough apart that the signals you are testing don’t overlap. Bury coins at varying depths, between two inches and 10 inches deep. Bury coins with different perspectives, such as “on-edge” or several different types together (coin spill). Bury some in dry areas that you don’t water, and others in well watered areas. The point of the garden is to learn how to identify targets in different depths, make-ups, and in different soil-types. If you want, bury some gold or silver jewellery in the garden, but remember that this is a long-term proposition. You aren’t going to be digging it up anytime soon. You also might want to specially mark more expensive targets.

Bury the jar at twelve inches to the top of its lid. Bury the large can with the lid one to two feet below the surface. You can also plant a rusty nail next to a silver coin to see what that sounds like. This is a great use for some of the “trash-finds” that fill our pouches.

The next step is to create an itemized and detailed map or drawing of what you planted, and the depth the items are buried at. The target locations should be marked with colored non-metallic objects. Plastic or resin garden row labels will work fine, as will color wood golf tees, or plastic flags.

The purpose of the buried coins is to familiarize you with their characteristic sound. The jar and large can will help you learn to recognize “dull” sounds of large, deeply buried objects. Experiment with different sizes of search coils as well as different program settings of your detector. Your test garden is important because your success in scanning over it will be a measure of how well you are progressing and how well you have learned your equipment. Remember that you must make an accurate map and keep it up to date when you change or add to your test garden.

One of the biggest mistakes people make is with a “Test Garden” is to try to use it right away. You have to let the garden rest a while so the soil settles. A recently buried item will respond differently from an item that has had time for the soil to compact a bit or had time to affect the soil around it. Let your garden “mellow” awhile and give items time to permit a metallic “halo” to work into through the soil. This so called “Halo Effect” is a process that over time, coins or other metallic objects become electrically more associated with surrounding earth materials and the molecules of metal begin to “leak” into the surrounding soil. Some of you may have tried to dig a great sounding silver sound, only to find a rusty nail – and then found that the “silver” sound disappeared as soon as the ground was disturbed. That is because of the “halo effect” of the rusted iron affecting the ground balance around it.

The information in this article was gleaned from several different sites, but the following websites can provide valuable hints about creating your own test garden.

http://metaldetectingworld.com/test_garden.shtml

<https://www.detecting.us/tips-faqs/coingarden/>

SELECTING A METAL DETECTOR

The very first tool you need to start out on your metal detecting journey is a metal detector. You don't need to spend a fortune on it, especially if you're new to the hobby, but you don't want to skimp on it, either. The idea is to get yourself a reliable detector that gives good results and is user-friendly, especially for a beginner. Look at the cost – stay within your budget - but try and get the best features you can for the available money. When choosing a metal detector, think about the following features which are available on most modern detectors.

Detection Modes ~ Most metal detectors available today come with pre-configured detection settings that focus on specific types of objects or areas. Some of the most recurring modes include jewelry, coins, relics, and specific metal types. This is great while you are starting out, as you can pre-select find you are interested in, but realize that as you grow more experienced you will want to move beyond the “pre-sets”.

Sensitivity ~ Most new detectors are designed to be highly sensitive. This means that they are able to pick up signals of treasure items under soils of high mineralization. This function allows detectors to pick up metals that have corroded under ground. The operating frequencies for metal detectors typically range between 6.4 KHz and 20 KHz. In short, a metal detector with higher sensitivity will make the search easier.

Coil Size ~ The diameter of a metal detector's coil is directly dependent on the depth under-ground you want to reach. The tact is that if you have a larger coil, you'll be able to search deeper. As a general rule, your depth down will be the diameter of your search coil. For instance, a medium-sized 8-inch coil allows you to search in depths that range from 8 to 9 inches. If you want to detect deeper targets, you need a larger coil. In modern urban neighbourhoods I use a smaller coil to avoid trash signals but use a larger coil when I am searching for relics in rural areas. Most detectors will have a larger or smaller coil available for an extra cost.

Ground Balance and Operating Frequency ~ Trace amounts of iron or other metals can interfere with your metal detector's ability to find coins, relics or precious finds. Fortunately, ground balance is the very thing that will cancel out this interference. A metal detector's operating frequency influences both depth and sensitivity of the target. It's the number of times a signal is transmitted and then received by your detector every second. Lower Frequency detectors provide deeper scanning capabilities, while those with higher frequencies are more sensitive to gold and smaller objects. The newest detectors are offering multi-frequency detection, which search both high and low, using multiple frequencies at the same time.

Discrimination ~ When starting on your metal detecting journey, it is helpful to be able to separate good targets from the many trash items under-ground. That is purpose of “discrimination”. It allows you to eliminate signals from items you might not want, like iron or lead. Discrimination filters out selected metals and allows you to filter-in desired signals like copper, silver or gold. If this is all you want to find, you will find more “good” targets, and save time digging garbage. There is a down-side - many detectorists choose not to use discrimination as you can miss some cool items that don't use one specific metal type like “tin-type” toys, “pot-metal” toy guns from the 1960s or earlier, or items created from alloys like belt buckles, buttons, and costume jewellery.

Target ID ~ This is the feature that will allow you to identify every one of your targets. That's how you'll be able to determine the value of your finds. For example, most new detectors provide an alpha-numeric indicator that designates a number or symbol for the proposed target. This allows for identification of the general metallic type of the target, and a clearer decision on if it is something you want to dig.

Other things you may want to think about are detector weight and battery life – this can be a huge concern if you plan on day-long outing with a lot of detecting. While some newer detectors use USB charging, their detectors don't always hold the charge as long as a battery detector. However, the USB charging detectors are much lighter, and that extra weight is a consideration for a lot of people.

“Loaded” Roman Dice recovered in Britain

Just before Christmas in 2021, North Yorkshire detecting brothers Stephen and Shane Pattison made a remarkable recovery. The brothers were detecting a new “permission” in a field near Bagby, when they discovered “dodgy dice” made from bronze. The dice were used in a gambling game which involved rolling a two or a six, and the dice that Stephen Pattison recovered were tilted to favour certain numbers.

At first Stephen Pattison thought it was a nut or bolt from farm machinery used on the farm they were detecting but discovered its true purpose after he wiped off the soil. The history buff knew enough about the early Romans to know that they were gambling fanatics. When he saw the dots on the find, he quickly figured out it was a Roman Dice. It didn't take long until the men realized it was made lopsided to suit certain numbers. When the Pattisons tried out the dice, they noticed twos and sixes came up more often.

Stephen Pattison has previously uncovered other historical finds, including 13th century silver coins. Pattison says that they are all about respecting the land. For them its just about history and being the first person to hold an artefact lost for ages. Stephen says that “It really is the closest thing to time travel.” The Pattison's also have a YouTube channel called the “Darrowby Diggers”



Class Ring Recovery in Alabama

A surgeon's missing class ring, lost five decades ago what unearthed by a local Mobile, Alabama, woman – doing what she loves. Barbara Burgess has been an avid detectorist for a few years. She says that she usually pulls up pull-tabs and bottle caps, but occasionally find a treasure. In this case she unearthed a 1970 University of Tennessee class ring with the initials “SRS” engraved inside.

It took an internet search, and several calls to the University of Tennessee before she learned that the ring belonged to Dr. Stephen Sheppard. Sheppard lost the ring about 50 years ago, when he was attending medical school. At the time he was living at the house where the ring was found. in an odd coincidence, Burgess discovered that she knew the surgeon. “He had actually done surgery on me 25 years ago,” Burgess stated.

Burgess and Sheppard met shortly after the ring was found, and it was returned to him. Dr Sheppard offered a reward for the ring, but Burgess wouldn't accept it. Burgess said that the best reward, even better than finding the ring, was returning it. Barbara Burgess said she felt rich with gratitude seeing the look on Dr. Sheppard's face when the ring instantly brought back memories from his youth.



Summer Water Hunts

CMDC member Rod Gow has taken on a new challenge for us this year. A few years ago (pre-Covid) we had arranged several community water-area hunts. We were able to find some precious objects for return, and some that were never claimed. Rod Gow would like to try this again in 2023. He has taken on the role of “Water Hunt” director for the CMDC and wants to try to arrange for some beach and water hunts at some of the communities around Calgary with water-access. While Rod has a few names and locations in mind, he would like to ask the membership for help.

If you have a contact for a possible water hunt – perhaps you live in a community with a private beach / swimming area – pass it on to Rod. It might make for a great CMDC club water hunt. If you have a suggestion for a beach area or swimming hole that no one knows about – that might be a great club hunt.

Send Rod Gow an email @ rodgow19@gmail.com. You could help arrange an amazing detecting adventure.

BLAST FROM THE PAST – **Over 50 Years of Detecting with the CMDC**

Last year we had a lot of fun with the “Blast from the Past” page filled with metal detecting stories from the last 50 years with the Calgary Metal Detecting Club. It was a lot of fun to dig up those stories, so we will occasionally continue to publish them. It won't be a regular feature like last year's CMDC Jubilee Celebration, but we will still continue to print “Blast from the Past” stories in the Buzzer occasionally.

There have been a lot of great detecting adventures in Calgary and the surrounding area, and great detecting stories never get old! We have a pretty good club in Calgary – and we look forward to more adventures and great finds in the coming years. I think we can look forward to another 50 years of Detecting with the CMDC. This winter ring recovery story by Andy Coward is another great adventure in metal detecting.



COCHRANE RING RECOVERY

By ANDY COWARD

Early in 2009, the CMDC received a call from a person in a nearby town who had lost their wedding band over the holiday season. Andy Coward volunteered to take this one even though it was a bit of a drive (43 k). After playing phone-tag for about a week a meeting was set up to locate the lost ring. Here is Andy's story.

I was watching the forecast since we had a spate of bad weather but it was looking good with a slight warming trend promising to drive the mercury above zero. GREAT! Things were a Go - and I was itching to swing my Garrett 1350 for the first time in 2009.

When Saturday came, I loaded my gear and finally hit the road at 11:30 to make it to the allotted location by Noon. It was about a half hour drive and I took a quick picture to document my arrival... After some questions I learned that it was a man's wedding band made of plain yellow gold. The site was a vacant town-owned lot and recent snow had left it pristine and ready for me to mess it up...

Well, I donned my gear and waded in, having to shorten my detector stem a notch or two due to the deep snow. It was about 10 inches deep most places, a flat lot as you can see. I got in three passes towards the fence and took a break. The fellow had headed off to do some chores and I said I would call if I had any luck. I proceeded with a fourth pass with reduced sensitivity along the fence going slow since I only had the standard coil with me. Up till now paying only close attention to signals in the right conductivity range and depth for the object at hand. Then having finished that I decided to work outward in the opposite direction from the "spot" starting where my previous sweeps had ended and moving at a right angle to my previous work.

After four or five sweeps (always keeping them overlapped slightly), I got the right frequency on my display... The audio was LOUD and didn't sound off at all like a pull-tab even though that's what the 1350 was displaying for conductivity. Up until now all targets had been mostly in the iron/foil low end and very deep. There seemed to be few surface targets (8-10 inches for my scans) that were loud and in the right conductivity. I pinpointed and then scooped snow and caught a glimpse of gold in the sunlight. A real HONKER of a wedding band...

After all that I phoned the gent and explained that I had found his band and that he should come and claim it. He was very pleased but I gather very sheepish for having lost it in the first place. So much so that he declined to have his picture taken but allowed me a picture of the ring back where it belonged.



Local Detecting YouTubers

You may not realize it, but at the CMDC we have “YouTube celebrities” in our midst. We have club members that have taken on the role of “video-graphing” their adventures, some old and some new.

Kevin Niefer is one CMDC member with several videos on YouTube. Although most of Kevin’s videos are a few years old, he has some great videos. He shows local hunt areas, and some ring-recoveries near Calgary. Two that I remember are a white-water ring rescue near Cochrane, and a mud-pit recovery near Sundre. For the Sundre recovery, Kevin made a video about the two hour drive northwest to recover a wedding ring lost by the groom during a “mudball” fight with his new wife. The video is well worth the watch – even just for the gorgeous scenery.

Another CMDC member with a youTube channel is Wayne May. Wayne has been working hard on his videos. His channel opened within the past year – and he operates under the youTube identity of “Treasure Earth”. Wayne has multiple videos with metal detecting around Calgary, Southern Alberta, and of our 50th Anniversary Sundre Club Hunt in September 2022. Some videos show recoveries along local creeks/rivers with some unique historic finds, both metal detecting and magnet fishing. Another video is about a late fall hunt in a local Calgary Park where he recovered some cool relics, and a beautiful gold ring.

Kevin and Wayne’s videos provide some local color to the metal detecting video scene, including areas along the Bow and Elbow River, in Ogden and other Southern Alberta locations. I want to remind people that it is important to support local YouTubers. You can “like and subscribe” to both channels. This is important, as the more subscribers a channel has, the more often the videos come up on searches. Note that when a YouTuber gets enough subscribers, YouTube will monetize the channel. There are a few other local YouTubers, including one of the ring-finders – but it is great to find someone local digging up finds that we can recover locally. Thanks to both Kevin and Wayne using this medium to present our hobby in a positive manner!

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### ❄️❄️Winter Detecting❄️❄️

Our Metal Detecting hobby doesn’t have to stop when the snow flies – a few members will do their winter detecting in warmer climates, but for some hardy souls – this hobby continues all year round. Winter is our cold season, but the temperature is not always below freezing. If you get a few warm days or a nice chinook, you might be able to take advantage of the change in weather and enjoy a short detecting trip.

Don’t forget to dress for the weather – layer-up and make sure your clothing choices are waterproof. Thick winter socks and gloves are important because hands and feet are usually the first organs to be affected by the cold. You definitely don’t want frostbite. Also – the biggest heat loss during winter is through a bare head – so make sure you have a good warm hat.

In Calgary, some winter detectorists recommend hunting a south facing hill. During a chinook, this is the ground that warms up the most. You might be able to actually dig your target – but most other areas are impossible to dig, with ground is as hard as cement, and frozen solid. If you think the target sounds good you may want to use a GPS marker and come back when the ground is soft. You don’t want to cause damage to your fantastic find as you wrestle it out of the ground. Another area that might be soft enough to dig is under trees or in forested areas. Leaf litter is usually softer to dig, even in the middle of winter.

As a side note, as winter weather allows, when that metal-detecting urge hits – you might want to consider a trip to detect the steep slopes of a toboggan run. This chilly weather fun can provide a bonanza of lost coinage falling out of pockets, not to mention lost jewellery from a spill or tumble down the hill. Another possible winter hunt area that some hardy detectorists try is the snow piles at shopping mall parking lots, or the snow or seating spots around winter skating areas.

## Calgary Historic Parks – Shaganappi Park

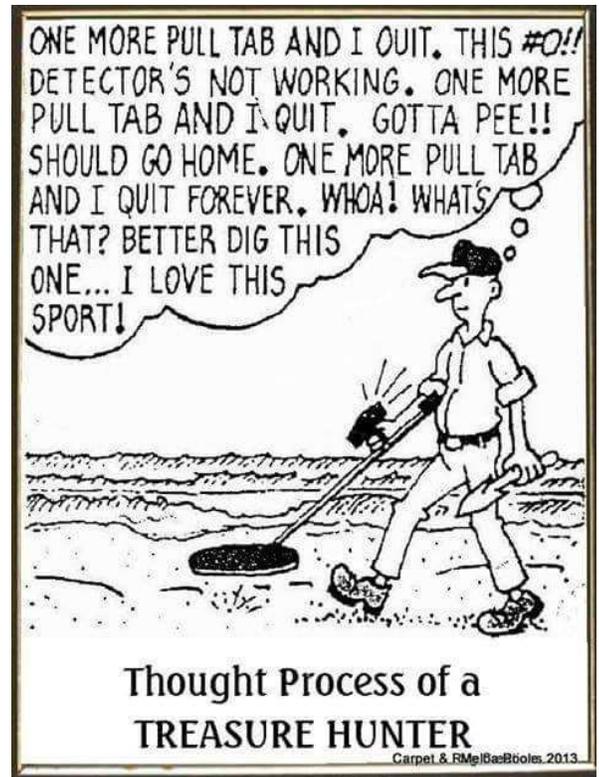
One Calgary Park that is often overlooked because of its size in Shaganappi Park. Shaganappi Park is on a bluff overlooking the Bow River valley, and is just south of Bow Trail. Shaganappi Park features tennis courts, skating rinks, and a sledding hill. A library is not far away. The park currently contains a dog off-leash area, a playground, a natural gully (coulee), as well as the Shaganappi community hall.

The Shaganappi area was annexed by the city in 1910 and maintained the indigenous name for the area from Cree, meaning “rawhide thong or lacing”. These thongs were used to build red-river carts and travois sledges. At one time indigenous and Metis nomadic communities gathered in Shaganappi, who used the area as a winter camp area, around the area of the old stone quarries. Although Shaganappi was annexed in 1910, development did not begin until after World War II. The community of Shaganappi was established in 1949, and in 1955 the community association was built. The park has been in active use since that time.

With its scenic vistas of both down-town and the mountains – Shaganappi Park has been a well-used location over the past 70 years. Many in the community used Shaganappi Park for picnics and relaxation. As the park was accessible via public transport, originally by streetcar, people from outside the community also came to the area for outings. CMDC members have hunted the area in the past. Club members reported finding silver coins, 1940s era jewellery, cap guns, and assorted toys in the area around Shaganappi Park. With both skating rinks and playground areas in place for over 70 years – there is a possibility of finding both mid-century metal detecting finds, and more recent losses.



"I think he misinterpreted the metal detector analogy in your 'seek and ye shall find' sermon!"



## LOCATION AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Although in person meetings are being scheduled for the upcoming months – we will not be holding them in our usual location. Due to limits in meeting size, the CMDC will be moving to the Forest Lawn Legion. The meeting dates will be monthly, but we are unable to obtain our usual “First Tuesday” timeframe. The meeting dates will be published on the CMDC.org website calendar, on the CMDC Facebook group page, and emailed out to the group. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

### PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

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| <p><b>GPS Central &amp; RadioWorld Central</b></p> <p>Metal Detectors, GPS Units, Radios, and other electrical equipment &amp; tools. Visit them on the web at <a href="http://gpscentral.ca">gpscentral.ca</a> , or the store at:</p> <p>#8, 711 - 48 Avenue SE Calgary<br/>         AB Canada T2G 4X2<br/>         403-239-1400</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The CMDC's yearly dues are:</b></p> <p><b>In-town membership:       \$30.00</b><br/> <b>Out-of-town membership: \$25.00</b><br/> <b>Family Membership           \$45.00</b></p> <p>Contact the Calgary Metal Detecting Club (CMDC)<br/>         c/o 6201 Penedo Way SE<br/>         Calgary, Alberta T2A-3N2<br/>         email: <a href="mailto:cmdc.club@gmail.com">cmdc.club@gmail.com</a></p>                                                                                                                                       |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CIR Realtor – Relocation Specialist</b></p> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">  <p><b>Kevin Niefer</b><br/> <i>See Below</i></p> <p><i>Finding Houses - Creating Homes</i><br/>             403-968-1496</p> </div> <p>To find out more information send Kevin an email @ <a href="mailto:kevin@kevinniefer.com">kevin@kevinniefer.com</a>, or give him a call at 403-968-1496</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>YOU COULD BE A PUBLISHED AUTHOR!</b></p> <p>Do you have an interesting story, idea for an article, or a comment that you would like to see in “The Buzzer”. Write it down and email it to <a href="mailto:kempp@telus.net">kempp@telus.net</a> with <b>METAL DETECTING STORY</b> in the subject area.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <p><b>SMI PROSPECTING &amp; ELECTRONICS</b></p> <p>The SMI Prospecting &amp; Electronics web site offers a wide range of products to metal detectorists, gold-panners, prospectors, and other outdoor enthusiasts.</p> <p>Based out of Langley BC, SMI Prospecting provides an on-line presence. Visit them on the web at</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><a href="http://smi-elec.com">smi-elec.com</a></b></p>                                                                                                                                                                               | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ANDY COWARD</b><br/> <b>Custom Coin Jewellery</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>COINS2RINGS</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Facebook - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/coins2rings2">coins2rings2</a><br/>             IG - <a href="https://www.instagram.com/coins2rings">@coins2rings</a><br/>             Email <a href="mailto:coin2rings2@gmail.com">coin2rings2@gmail.com</a></p> |

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