

# CALGARY METAL DETECTING CLUB

# THE BUZZER

Volume 46 – issue 2 MARCH 2017

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## FINDS OF THE YEAR VOTING -



Dale Downing - Trinket of the Year 2003  
Hubley Derringer & Bullet



James Belke - Treasure 2008  
Mother of Pearl Cameo with gold chain



Kevin Niefer - Treasure of the Year 2010  
Gold & Diamond Lion Head Ring



Dale Downing - Coin of the Year 2003  
1881 Victorian Dime



Kevin Niefer - Relic of the Year 2008  
Ships Commerce Token



Ian Paterson - Treasure FOTY 2012  
22 Kt Gold Pendant



Trinket of the Year 2005



Wayne Teske - Coin of the Year 2012  
1921 Fishscale 5-cent piece

## AT THE MARCH CMDC MEETING

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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](http://www.cmdc.org).

## **FINDS OF THE YEAR VOTING**

March is always an exciting meeting for the Calgary Metal Detecting Club. We vote for our best "Finds of the Year" and there are always some pretty amazing items to view and vote on. With the number of great finds that club members have recovered during the 2016 Metal Detecting Season, I am expecting this to be a great year for the "Finds of the Year" voting.

Remember to attend the March meeting, and to bring your best finds for voting. Each Club member can display their best find from the 2016 in each of the basic categories of:

**Best Relic - CMDC Find of the Year**

**Best Treasure - CMDC Find of the Year**

**Best Coin - CMDC Find of the Year**

**Best Trinket -- CMDC Find of the Year**

The votes are tallied after the March meeting, but the results kept secret until the annual awards dinner scheduled in April.

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## **Canadian Metal Detecting Code of Ethics**

Now that the 2017 Metal Detecting season has started, I thought it might be a good idea to remind our membership about the metal detecting "Code of Ethics". The future of our hobby is affected by public perception of it. If we all abide by these basic "common sense" rules, metal detecting will be around as a hobby for our enjoyment for a long time.

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I WILL respect private property and WILL NOT trespass without the land owner's permission.

I WILL NOT destroy property, buildings or what is left of ghost towns and deserted structures.

I WILL NOT litter, always pack out what I take in and remove all trash dug in my search.

I WILL leave all gates and other accesses to land as found.

I WILL appreciate and protect our heritage of natural 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

The Annual Buzzer Contest was won by Judy Taylor, with the great article below. The contest rules were that any person who submitted a story to the Buzzer between October 1st and December 15th, 2016 would be entered in a draw for a chance to win a silver dollar. Judy received her 1961 silver dollar in early February. The article was written about a prize-fund Judy recovered at the GPS Central/Radioworld seeded hunt and BBQ in early October. This great story about how one object from the past can hold so much history is worthy of the win. Congratulations Judy!

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## Canadian History in a Pocket Watch

By Judy Taylor

Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> was a little cold and wet, but any day is a good day for a seeded hunt.



Thanks to the generosity of Radioworld and GPS Central, the third item I dug up was a silver pocket watch that is a little worse for wear having been stabbed three times by my hori hori knife. But it is still a beauty nonetheless.

Once I took the time to have a really good look at my treasure, I noticed that the only words printed on the watch face were “J.T. Stemshorn, Regina, N.W.T.”

The fact that Regina has not been part of the Northwest Territories since September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1905 meant that it was indeed an antique. That is when I decided that it warranted some further research. I Googled J.T. Stemshorn and was delighted when numerous links to information appeared.

One link was courtesy of Silver Forums at 925-1000.com and consisted of copy of an advertisement from 1882 for John T. Stemshorn, Watch & Chronometer Maker, and importer of watches, clocks, silverware and jewellery. His shop was located at Miss Lawson’s Old Stand, 141 Hollis Street, Halifax, N.S. I also found a copy of the advertisement in the Belcher’s Farmer’s Almanack for the Province of Nova Scotia at [https://archive.org/stream/cihm\\_29690#page/n27/mode/2up/search/Stemshorn](https://archive.org/stream/cihm_29690#page/n27/mode/2up/search/Stemshorn).

John Theodore Stemshorn was born on December 10, 1857 at Schleswig, Holstein making him 25 years old at the time of the advertisement. He had moved to Halifax with his parents and married Sarah Jane Tompkins who was born in Listowel, Ontario.

Another link added a little more mystery because it was to the Sessional Papers of the Dominion of Canada. One was the Annual Report of Regina Immigration Agent (Mr. J.T. Stemshorn) dated 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1889, and I also found a second report from 1891. It appears that John and Sarah felt the lure of the west, and they moved to Saskatchewan sometime between 1882 and 1889.

A link to the Geni site (<https://www.geni.com/people/John-Theodore-Stemshorn/6000000000478482247>) provided information that John and Sarah had eight children, that his occupations included jeweller, florist and Immigration Agent, and that he died of prostate cancer on December 16, 1934 at Regina, Saskatchewan.

I was hoping that the watch I have was his, but I found a link to Canadian private label watches (<http://ihc185.infopop.cc/eve/forums/a/tpc/f/5656047761/m/745103698/p/11>), of which there were many, and it included a picture of a pocket watch produced by John T. Stemshorn. The watch I have is one of many that he produced, but it is special to me because of my work as a Trade Compliance Officer with what used to be called Canada Customs and Immigration.

## ❄️❄️ MWWI Medal Return ❄️❄️

A postman with a metal detector in Great Britain has reunited a pensioner with her soldier father's lost silver First World War medal after more than 60 years. Mick Wells, from Luddenden Foot - is a Postman, and also is a "Medal Detector". He was using his metal detector to look for lost and forgotten treasures in Rishworth (in West Yorkshire) when he stumbled across a silver campaign medal from the First World War belonging to Private Joseph Hinchcliffe.

After a bit of detective work with help from a friend he managed to track down the medal's rightful owner,. Pte. Hinchcliffe's daughter, Mary Turner. On finding the medal, Mr Wells said: "I thought 'that's silver! God knows how a medal like that turned up in the ground in Rishworth'. "I was elated, it was like winning the lottery. I went straight to find the landowner."

After his find, Mr. Wells, 53, and his friend Jason, followed the trail to Mrs. Turner who was able to fill in some of the gaps of the her father's story. Mick Wells related that "In a way in it brings a life back, I can almost see him in my mind's eye. He might have wearing it working on Sunday and it dropped off. It was an amazing to find something like this, and return it to Mrs. Turner. It was good to bring it home."

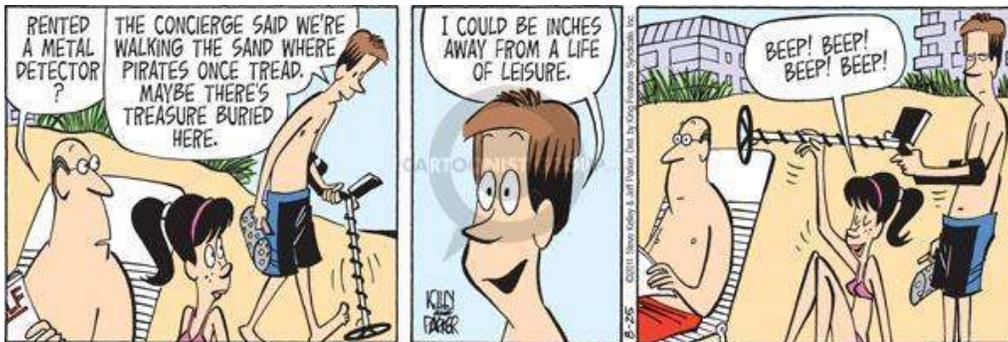
Mr. Hinchcliffe worked as a farmer and lived in the house near where the medal was found until he died in 1945. Mary. Turner told Mick Wells that her father died when she was nine, and that she did not know him very well. She said his hand was injured during the war, and that he used to wear a glove. Her father recounted that a fellow soldier was killed in front of him, but did not speak about the conflict beyond that.



Mick Wells, with Mary Turner holding Medal

The recovered silver medal formed a pair with another from Private Hinchcliffe's military days, which Mrs. Turner still had in her possession.

A service book with the medals is dated February 16, 1916. Pte. Hinchcliffe's age in it is listed as 19.



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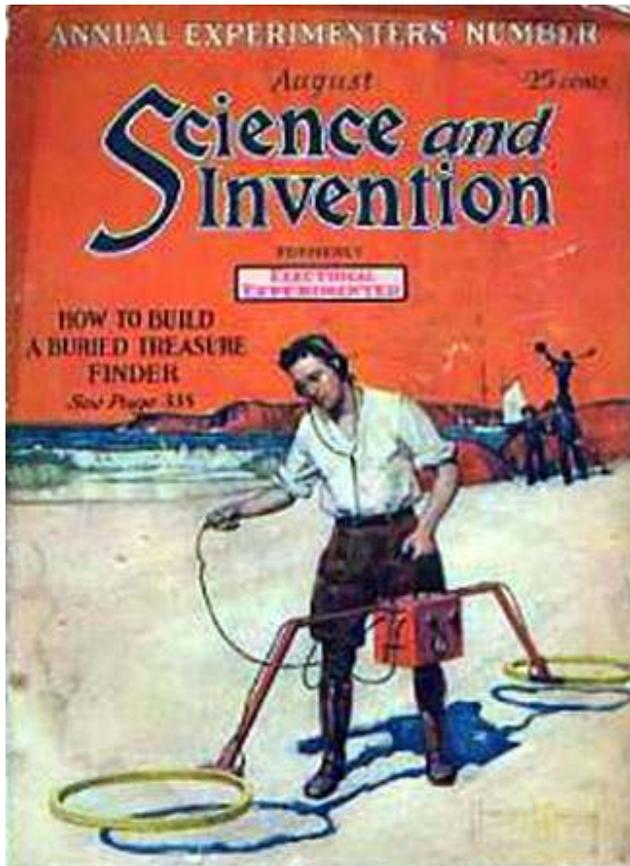


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# Metal Detecting - History through Advertising

Alexander Graham Bell, the developer of the telephone, is also credited with the invention of the first metal detector in 1881. However, the metal detector did not become commercially viable until the 1930s. At that point in time it was used only for mining and commercial use. It wasn't until the 1960s and 1970s that metal detecting became a well-loved hobby. Here is a brief history of metal detecting in the 20th Century, as viewed through magazine pictures and advertising.

1921 Metal Detector Magazine Article



POPULAR MECHANICS 205  
BURIED SHELLS FOUND BY INDUCTION BALANCE



This Instrument Detects the Presence of Shells or Other Metal Buried in the Soil, Thereby Enabling the Farmer to Remove Them before Tilling a Field

1917 article about using a metal detector to remove shells from battlefields.

**FIND UNDERGROUND MINERALS and METALS with M-SCOPE**

New sensational lightweight models, unsurpassed efficiency  
Low prices. Time-payment plan. Write for free 16 page booklet.

**FISHER RESEARCH LABORATORY, INC.**  
PALO ALTO CALIFORNIA

1930s Metal Detector advertisement

**DREAMING?**

**Finding Buried Treasure Is No Longer a Dream . . . It's a SCIENTIFIC FACT with a RELCO DETECTOR**

Now find buried gold, silver, out-of-circulation coins with a modern Relco detector. Used by successful treasure hunters and coin collectors everywhere.

- ★ Sensitive enough to detect even a single coin. More penetrating power than ever before.
- ★ Works through earth, vegetation, wood, rock, water, etc.
- ★ Excellent for beach combing, searching ghost towns, old battle sites, abandoned buildings, caves.
- ★ Fully transistorized, weighs only 3 pounds, 2 year guarantee.
- ★ Powerful speaker signals when object is detected.

**FREE** only **\$1995**  
Send for free catalog and treasure hunting tips. to \$198.00

**RELCO** DEPT. D-230, BOX 10839 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77018

FREE! WRITE FOR FREE CATALOG AND BOOKLET ON TREASURE HUNTING.

1960s

**Star Trek metal detection probe 24.97**

Explore parks, playgrounds, wood lots, build sites, country, public area control, unattended search coil, wide phone cabinet Star Trek (patent) set case and coil. Uses 9V battery (not included). 30 in. long. 6 in. diameter. Discontinued item for replacement. M2L 198 1-20457-1) Inc.

**PlaidStallions.com**

1970s

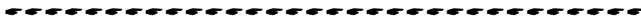
**GARRETT**

Metal detectors find your treasure!

1980s

## Celebrity Metal Detectorists

Metal Detecting has been a popular hobby for decades. Recreational metal detecting has been around as a hobby since the 1950s. Over the decades many people have tried their hand at it, and have recovered amazing treasures. It is not surprising to find that a few celebrities and stars have been bitten by the metal detecting bug over the years.



Bill Wyman holding recovered coin

Bill Wyman is the former basist for the "Rolling Stones", and is an avid detectorist. He even collaborated with "C-Scope" on the development of a light-weight detector when he couldn't find one that his young daughter could use to join him in the hobby. Bill Wyman says that he has always been interested in archaeology and early cultures. When he bought a manor house in Suffolk in 1968, he kept finding fragments in the grounds which interested him. After he retired from the Stones in the early 1990's, he brought a C.Scope metal detector. With it he helped uncover the site of a Roman homestead on his land. He has been a serious detecting enthusiast ever since.



Hank Williams Jr.

Hank Williams Jr. is another musician - this time from the Genre of Country & Western. He is a well known detectorist around Nashville. It may be a bit of an exaggeration, but it is claimed that Every detectorist in the Nashville Tennessee area has either hunted with Hank, or heard stories of his detecting exploits. Hank is an accomplished detectorist and has detected the Civil War battlefields of central Tennessee for years. He has taken other musicians out to show them the ropes on his favorite pastime, including Eric Church and Kid Rock. Hank Williams Jr. has an extensive collection of Civil War era finds he has recovered with his metal detector.



Mackenzie Crook

Mackenzie Crook, who plays Andy on the British comedy series "Detectorists", has been a part of the metal detecting community for years. Mackenzie has used some of his own real life experiences in the development of the series, which he also directed. Mackenzie doesn't get out detecting very often, but enjoys the hobby when he does. He says that over the years a silver sixpence, a Georgian shoe-buckle, and musket balls were probably his best finds. "They're not going to make the British Museum, but it was exciting to unearth them."



Chuck Connors

Chuck Connors is an actor in television and movies. His most famous roles were starring in the 1960s Western TV series "The Rifleman", and "Branded", but he has taken part in more than 50 TV shows or movies over the years. Chuck Connors used to metal detect old ghost towns and stage coach routes around the Southwest United States. At one time Chuck was the narrator for a show called "Treasure Search", which had episodes on searching for lost treasures.



Sterling Marlin

Sterling Marlin is a Nascar driver - and grew up in Columbia, Tennessee. He says that he grew up in an area with a lot of history, and that when he was a kid he could go about a mile down the road and find areas where soldiers camped during the Civil war. Sterling says he "would use metal detectors and find buckles and buttons from their uniforms - things like that." Marling says that he has found civil war relics on farmland around Mechanicsville and Cold Harbor, Tennessee.

## Hunting a Trashy Area

If you find yourself in a location where the soil itself or the surface is covered in litter you need to adapt your strategy. First of all, recognize that most urban areas are trashy - but if you have a hot spot that you think will yield results it may be worth the effort.

In a trashy area it is a good idea to screen out iron and other non valuable metals on your detector. You can select this on your detector keypad. Most detectors can discriminate out iron, and most low frequency metals. Unfortunately some pull tabs are in the same range as gold rings and bottle caps often overlap with some silver coins. Every detectorist will dig some amount of trash on every hunt. Don't be discouraged. Keep at it!

It may be a good idea to turn the sensitivity way down. Very often metals that you have screened out will still register due to varying compositions, especially if the sensitivity dial is cranked to the max. This may also lead to a false reading even if the detector recognizes this as a screened out metal. Take sensitivity down and you will get less false readings.

Make use of a smaller search coil or even a "Sniper coil", if you have one. These are smaller coils that allow you to focus on smaller patches of earth beneath the coil, and limit false readings. If you were using a larger coil for example, a diamond ring, 3 bottle caps and a doorknob could all be underneath the coil at the same time. Using a smaller coil will allow you to focus on each individual item and prevent the detector getting confused by the numerous targets presented in trashy soil beneath the coil.

Of course, there is the old adage - clean out the trash and the treasure will come. If you've done the research, and think the area is worth it - dig out the top layers of trash. Remove some of the trash sounds from the hunt. It may take a few visits, but once those annoying trash tones are gone, the treasure may sound through.

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## Other Metal Detecting Tips

- If you don't have a pinpointer yet, there is another method on marking your "dig spot". You can "X" the target area. Swing the coil from left to right and from top to bottom over the target area. Loudest point is center of the target. Then swing again at a 90 degree angle. This should allow you to center in on your target. Where the two swings meet is the "X", and the find should be close to the center of the X.
- When coin-shooting never dig a full circle plug. Cut a half round plug and hinge it up and over to retrieve the target. After tamping the half round plug down, jab the coin probe in the plug a few times so when it rains the water has a place to go instead of surrounding it like a moat and leaving a dead spot.
- Do not dig when the ground is dry. Even cutting a half round plug will kill the grass. If you must hunt when the ground is dry, try cutting a slit in the grass. (CMDCC Note - This is especially true around Calgary!)
- Use a probe to locate coins three inches or less AND use the probe to pry them up out of the ground if they are clad. If you are in an area where you suspect there might be silver - dig a small half-round plug instead. Use your pinpointer to locate where you have to dig, and make your plug as small as possible.
- Use headphones with your detector. Headphones will enhance battery life (they do not drain the battery as much as a speaker). In noisy areas they eliminate background noise, and allow you to hear whisper tones indicating a small or deep treasure. Also, using headphones in a park or urban area is considered good manners. You will not draw attention to yourself as compared to a speaker blasting out. You can enjoy your hobby without disrupting someone else's enjoyment of an area.

## LOCATION AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The club meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in the auditorium of the Brentwood Co-op store which is located just off Crowchild Trail between Charleswood Drive and Brisbois Drive N.W. You have to enter the store and go down-stairs (door by the Bakery) to find the meeting room.

### PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

<p><b>GPS Central &amp; RadioWorld Central</b></p> <p><b>Metal Detectors, GPS Units, Radios, and other electrical equipment &amp; tools.</b></p> <p><b>4120 8th Street SE Calgary AB Canada T2G 3A7 403-239-1400</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The CMDC's yearly dues are:</b></p> <p><b>In-town membership :       \$25.00</b>  <b>Out-of-town membership:   \$20.00</b>  <b>Family Membership            \$40.00</b></p> <p><b>Contact the Calgary Metal Detecting Club (CMDC) c/o 6201 Penedo Way SE Calgary, Alberta T2A-3N2</b></p>
<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 10px;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Kevin Niefer</b> <i>See Below</i></p> <p><i>Finding Houses - Creating Homes</i> 403-720-9501</p> </div> </div> <p>Your RE/MAX Realty Professional</p> <p>To view Kevin's listings visit him on the internet @ <a href="http://www.kevinniefer.com">www.kevinniefer.com</a> - or give him a call at 403-720-9501          Email: <a href="mailto:kniefer@calgaryrealestatepros.com">kniefer@calgaryrealestatepros.com</a></p>	<div style="background-color: #800080; color: white; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;"><b>TIRED OF BEING TIRED?</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Find out how thousands of people, just like you, learned how to stop simply surviving and are now THRIVING!</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="font-size: 0.8em;"> <p>Bonna-Jean Campbell Le-Vel Independent Brand Promoter 403-660-0350 <a href="mailto:Thrivewithbjc@gmail.com">Thrivewithbjc@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://Thrivewithbjc.le-vel.com/">http://Thrivewithbjc.le-vel.com/</a></p> </div>  </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weight Management *</li> <li>• Cognitive Performance *</li> <li>• Supports Healthy Joint Function *</li> <li>• Calms General Discomfort *</li> <li>• Antioxidant Support *</li> <li>• Lean Muscle Support *</li> <li>• Digestive &amp; Immune Support *</li> </ul> <div style="border-top: 1px solid white; padding-top: 5px; font-size: 0.8em;"> <p><b>ADD DFT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weight Management</li> <li>• Mental Acuity</li> <li>• Supports Appetite Management</li> <li>• Derma Fusion Technology</li> <li>• Supports Energy &amp; Circulation</li> <li>• Increased Bioregulation</li> </ul> </div> </div> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; text-align: center;">* These statements have not been evaluated by the Canadian Drug Administration. This product is not intended to cure or prevent any disease.</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;">  </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">BONNA-JEAN CAMPBELL</p>
<p><b>Cochrane Dental</b></p> <p>311 1 St E, Cochrane, AB T4C 1Z3  <b>403-932-5498</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Dwayne Hinz</b></p> <p>Find us on the web at <a href="http://cochranedentists.com">cochranedentists.com</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>YOU COULD BE A PUBLISHED AUTHOR!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Do you have an interesting story, idea for an article, or a comment that you would like to see in "The Buzzer".</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Write it down and email it to <a href="mailto:kempp@telus.net">kempp@telus.net</a> with METAL DETECTING STORY in the subject area.</b></p>

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