

Calgary Metal Detecting Club

# The Buzzer

Volume 46 – issue 3    May 2017

---



Calgary, Calgary, quite Extraordinary, how does your Treasure Grow?  
With Silver coins, and Golden rings, and Detectors all in a Row!

---

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).

## CMDC AWARDS BANQUET

The Calgary Metal Detecting Club Annual Awards banquet was held on Saturday April 8th, 2016. The dinner took place at the Danish Canadian club, with doors open at 4:00 pm, followed by the CMDC awards dinner at 5:30 pm. Club members brought various "recovered items" to display, as well as the items that had been submitted for the "Finds of the Year" voting. After Dinner, our favourite CMDC Country Musician, Randy Poirier entertained the CMDC members and guests for the evening with his guitar and singing.

The "Finds of the Year" for the 2016 Metal Detecting season were displayed and voted on during the March CMDC Club meeting. The winners were tabulated after the meeting, but everything was kept secret until the banquet. At the Banquet the 2016 CMDC "Find of the Year" Winners were announced, and were awarded a plaques. FOTY Second Place winners were also recognized.

Our thanks and appreciation go out to "Bucars RV Center", and all the others who donated items for door prizes. In addition, CMDC guests were presented with a bottle of wine. There was a special draw for a raffled Garrett Ace 400 Detector, and the new Garrett Z Link wireless system, won by Mary W. and John B. Jude McQuillan won the 50/50, and took home almost \$100.00.

Every CMDC member took home at least one door prize, and most took home more than one. Overall, the whole evening was a fun night out. It was a grand way to join together as a club, honour our members, and remember those spouses/significant others who are silent observers of this great hobby. The banquet was a great way to start off the 2017 metal detecting season! We are all happily looking forward to all the recovered treasures to come in 2017.

And now for the moment, we've all been waiting for. Here are the winners of the CMDC Best Finds of the Year for the 2016 metal detecting Season. Congratulations to all of the winners! Thanks and appreciation go out to everyone who helped arrange this great event!

### ***Treasure FOTY:***

**Find of the Year - 22K Gold Ring, found by Ian Paterson**

**Second Place - Gold Coin Pendant, found by Jose Chong**

### ***Coin FOTY:***

**Find of the Year - 1883 Barber Dollar, found by Tracey Neal**

**Second Place - 1905 5-Cent Piece (fishscale) found by Clayton Blancher**

### ***Trinket FOTY:***

**Find of the Year - Merry Widow condom case, found by Iain Paterson**

**Second Place - Maple Leaf Pin, found by Jeff Budd**

### ***Relic FOTY:***

**Find of the Year - Military Identification Tag, found by Jose Chong**

**Second Place - 1916 RCMP Badge, found by Iain Paterson;**

**Member of Year: Peggy Kemp**



# Metal Detecting - From a Female Point of View

This article was found on the webpage detectingdiva.com. Our club has a fair number of female detectorists, and so it is fun to look at this tongue-in-cheek look at our hobby from a female perspective. The article has been edited for size

\*\*\*\*\*

*“Oh, hey Sheila, when you’re done with that red nail polish, can I borrow it? Oh, and by the way, have you seen the new XL 550 Super detector that they came out with? It’s got some awesome new technology, and we can go check it out tomorrow, after we’re done shopping the mall for those cute new shoes you’ve been talking about”.*

A conversation like that just doesn’t happen between two women. Metal detectors aren’t something you sit and chat with your girlfriends about. I find it sad that I can confide in my girlfriends about so many things, yet the thing I am most passionate about, most of them don’t even understand. Being a woman involved in a mostly male dominated hobby, has its experiences. So guys, here are some things a woman “detectorista” must deal with:

**Frustration:** What usually happens is, I tell my girlfriends how much fun detecting is, and how much I love it, and they laugh at me because I’m so excited about it. A few have expressed a brief interest, and one actually went and tried it for a few minutes. They all say “I’ll go with you,” but that never happens. What is it with these women? Have they never fished, camped, climbed trees, hiked a trail or made Mud pies? I suspect a few of them secretly wish they could do what I do, but are too afraid to let their femininity become vulnerable.

**Hygiene:** Nails, nails, nails—and I’m not talking about the rusty metal kind-I’m talking about fingernails. All summer my fingernails are full of dirt. I wear rubber coated gloves, scrub with the nail brush, manicure - but they still look dirty. It’s just not very attractive to have metal detecting nails. My girlfriends look at my hands in an odd “I can’t believe she goes around like that” sort of way. On occasion I look longingly at their perfectly manicured and polished nails....but it’s a short-lived , because metal detecting is so much more fun than painting my nails!!!

**Bathrooms:** “Where are the bathrooms?” I actively seek out female friendly sites. Many times I’ve suggested a site, to the obvious dissatisfaction of my hunting buddy (Dad), which is close to home-just in case. I admit to scoping out a hunt site for facilities in the area before hand. I laugh when I think how as the tree cover at my favorite hunting site became thinner through the fall months, so did my detecting trips there. Where would I hide in case of an emergency “nature call”? Hey...maybe that’s why my girlfriends don’t want to go with me? Nah, we would just leave the site and go to the bathroom together... a mystery men will never understand.

**The significant other:** Keep them happy while you are out detecting, and are so into it, you have no clue or care in the world about cooking meals, cleaning and food shopping. My typically clean home can fall apart, and I could care less when I have my detector in hand. I usually come back to my senses when I get home and realize I’ve just tracked “site mud” through the house. If my cell phone has signal when I’m detecting, the frequent “when are you going to be home?” calls can put a damper on the day. Metal detecting can be addicting. Those that don’t enjoy it (sometimes our loved ones), can become jealous, especially if we give our machines nicknames like “Honey” and “BFF”. I learned the hard way, and this season, I’m going to TRY to set time limits for myself. Wish me luck....

**The expense:** How do I, as a female, justify spending money on a shovel to my friend who insists I need the latest Aigner handbag, or my boyfriend who thinks my detecting supplies are a waste of money? If anyone knows, please tell me. I’m not a beach hunter, so I can’t defend my hobby with found diamonds and gold.

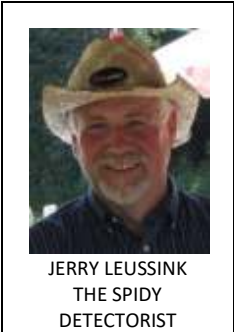
**Weight control:** When my friends are discussing the latest diet they’re on, I just go detecting. Not only is great weight control, but it’s good for my blood pressure and sense of well being too. Metal detecting is the best method of losing weight I’ve ever found. I’m not so worried about the 6 pounds I gained over the winter, because I know as soon as I get out there, it will disappear without even trying.

So fellas, —When you spot a “detectorista”, (i.e. a cheerful girl with dirty nails and mud on her shoes), walking out of the local public restroom and she asks to borrow your cell phone (because she “accidentally” smashed hers with a shovel while in the woods), be nice to her, she could be your next detecting buddy

# RECOVERIES - NOT ALWAYS SIMPLE OR EASY!

Jerry Leussink supplied this story for the Buzzer Contest in December 2016. Jerry has done a log of public-service hunts over the years, and as he says - not all recoveries are simple or easy. This hobby is always surprising, especially what shows up under your coil.

\*\*\*\*\*



I've had a few strange requests over the years. Searches for lost items can include all types of jewelry, but also other items such as keys, cell phones & other electronic personal items. Pipes or cables can also be located with a detector if they are large or not too deep.

I know some of our members do recoveries on a regular basis through the Ring Finders. I've personally done 8 ring recoveries as well as several key & cell phone recoveries. There have also been some searches that no recovery has been made. Sometimes the person asking for help is not certain of the location an item was lost, but others are sure of the area within a few feet!

Another service I have performed for folks is property pin or survey pin locating with 100% success on 4 occasions. I once had a request to pinpoint a ring in a sofa. Another time I was asked to help search in a home for a lost ring. I did coach the person over the phone to carefully think back over their day & retrace their steps. They remembered cleaning out the fire place & this resulted in a recovery.

One search was in -20 degrees with blowing snow, while another was 3 hours long enduring two rain showers. One of the more memorable & interesting recoveries happened when I was asked to hunt for a wedding ring lost in the Elbow river at Stanley park. The young man had only been married three days, and to add to his distress was the fact the ring had once belonged to his brother who had passed away. The challenge was accepted, and after finding another silver ring & a number of coins & trash in the space of two hours we were losing faith in a recovery.

The Spidy detective I am or just being a stubborn Dutchman I was not yet ready to give up & while standing in the two feet of water said to him, it has to be here !!! He was also in the river with me about three feet away, when I said that! Just then I noticed a glint in the river almost at my feet,! (No kidding) I took a small step, reached down to the bottom & plucked the ring up in one try! The rest of the story is about relief, smiles, joy, and a very happy couple! Twice while detecting for lost rings, I found them with the naked eye!

People loose things in many ways, pockets with holes, tending children, bending over, playing various sports etc.

Someone recently posted an article on line about why & how people loose rings and I want pass this on! Ring too large/ cold wet hands/intentional removal/ pulls off with glove/ beach & lotion/ sports/ cooking/ children/ animals.

When I first joined the CMDC Club I did a survey of as many people as I could, asking if they had ever lost a ring or some other personal item. The result was it seemed over 50 % remembered losing something in the past. This is not all that surprising when we see how many rings & other things are found by our club members, especially by the one we all know as the Ring Master. I believe many rings etc. could still be recovered by talking to people that may remember where they lost them. In the past people just didn't know about detectors & gave up on ever seeing the lost item again. Of course some recoveries are near impossible such as at the bottom of a very deep lake or a deep fast river.

Above all, keep asking, keep trying & have fun. HAPPY HUNTING!

The Spidy detectorist - Jerry Leussink

\*\*\*\*\*

## BLAST FROM THE PAST - 2004

Jerry's story above reminded me of a couple of "Blast from the Past" stories from the October 2004 Buzzer. These stories were submitted for the Buzzer by CMDC member Don Hladky. The first is one of those "strange, but true" experiences that make for a great story.

\*\*\*\*\*

This is an absolutely true, unbelievable story - and a story that I will remember for a long time. I was detecting Sikome Lake on a hot Sunday afternoon in 2003. 2 young girls, about 12 years old, in bathing suits came up to see what I was doing. I explained that I was using a metal detector and looking for money. The little red-headed girl ran ahead a bit, and put on "X" in the sand. For lack of anything better to do, her friend and I went over to the "X". About 3 feet away I found a dime.

The red-head continued to put "X's" in the sand. After about the 10th consecutive dime, her friend asked her "How are you doing that?!?". The red-headed girl just laughed, and continued to put more "X's" in the sand. Finally the red-headed girl decided to go back to her family. But here is the scoop - strange but true.

The red-headed girl put 17 "X's" in the sand. Each "X" had a dime. She was never spot on, but a dime was found never more than 3 feet away. No other coins or trash was found. I left for home in disbelief. How can someone guess that well where the dimes (and only dimes) were? And no trash found at Sikome Lake???? She could not have been carrying 17 dimes, as both girls only had swim suits on.

\*\*\*\*\*

On another detecting expedition to Sikome Lake (where I hunt 90% of the time), I found a man's wedding band. The ring was unique because it was 15 K gold, had 5 diamonds, and was engraved on the inside. Very seldom does one find a ring in the sand, but that is where this one lay.

I checked with the Park office, and sure enough, a man had reported losing an engraved wedding ring. We phoned him from the lake, but nobody was home, so I left him a message with my phone number.

Later that evening he called, described the ring, and told me what the engraving was. We made arrangements that he pick up the ring the next day at my place of employment. He asked me what sort of reward I would like. He was a bit shocked as I told him to buy me a Tim Horton's coffee some day.

The next day when he showed up to get his ring, he gave me a full Tim Horton's stainless steel thermos, and a Timmie's \$10.00 gift certificate.

\*\*\*\*\*

## QUICK TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL HUNTING

Some sites can be extremely busy at times. Work out when your preferred sites are being used and aim for the quiet times so that you are free to swing wherever you want. For example sports fields are often used for Saturday morning sports events, or for training in the early evenings. Try heading out early in the morning, or before supper to hunt your preferred site when others are not around.

Cover the site from multiple angles. An experienced treasure hunter will cover the same ground many times from many angles if they believe that there may be a coin cache beneath. Different angles will give off different signals and ensure that you fill any gaps that were missed when you were trying to overlap swings.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ANOTHER AMAZING UK DETECTING FIND



The BBC News in 2009 reported that a rare Roman lantern was found in field near Sudbury, England. The lantern was found in a field near Sudbury in Suffolk. A metal detecting enthusiast has found what is believed to be the only intact Roman lantern made out of bronze ever discovered in Britain.

Danny Mills, 21, made the find in a field near Sudbury in Suffolk. The area was dotted with plush Roman villas and country estates in the second century. The object, described as a rare example of Roman craftsmanship, has been donated to Ipswich Museum where it is now on display.

In the autumn of 2009, Mr Mills, a metal detector user, found a large bronze object whilst metal detecting in a field near Sudbury. He was taking part in a metal detecting "rally". He immediately reported the discovery to Suffolk Archaeological Unit, who called it a 'Magnificent object'. A Colchester and Ipswich Museums (CIM) spokeswoman said: "It turned out to be the only complete example of a Roman lantern found in Britain. "Only fragments of similar lanterns are held in the British Museum and the closest complete example is from the famous Roman site of Pompeii."

It was found on land belonging to Mr and Mrs P. Miller who donated it to Ipswich Museum, said the CIM spokeswoman. Emma Hogarth, conservator at Colchester and Ipswich Museums, said: "It has been a pleasure to work on such a magnificent object."

Mr Mills said: "It was an amazing feeling. It took a while to dig down to see anything and once we found it, we had to go really carefully around it to get it out of the ground. "It took the best part of an hour. I looked it up on the internet on my phone and matched it up with some others from Pompeii."

The lantern dates from between 43 and 300 AD. It is like a modern hurricane lamp and the naked flame would have been protected by a thin sheet of horn which had been scraped and shaped until it was see-through. The horn is an organic material that did not survive as it will have rotted in to the soil. The flame would have been produced by placing a wick into olive oil in a holder at the base of the lamp, not unlike a tea light holder.



*"We'll find the money for that. My guy is on it right now."*

# 10 Tips for Beginning Detectorists

Once you've made the decision to buy a new metal detector and get home with it, you no doubt can't wait to get started with some detecting. Here are some of the most important tips how to start metal detecting and avoid mistakes! Metal detecting is a lot of fun, and depending on what you find, can also be somewhat interesting (if you're into the history). For the most part, you will learn from your errors, but there are some helpful tips that will make life a little bit easier right at the beginning.

**Tip 01. – Expect to find more trash than treasure.** You will probably encounter a lot of junk. You'll find a lot of cans and trash, and we mean a lot. But don't give up! This is part of a hobby.

**Tip 02. – Dig everything.** When you're just getting started, it's nearly impossible to know if a signal is a trash or treasure so dig everything. You don't want to miss something good! A common rookie mistake is to only dig on strong signals, but don't skip those faint sounds because they could be great finds hidden at greater depths.

**Tip 03. – The more you search, the more you will find.** Persistence is key when you are using your first metal detector. The more time you spend searching, the more likely you are to find something nice.

**Tip 04. – Slow down.** If you are moving too fast, you might miss something important. Don't try to dig your signal too fast, you can damage the relic. Also, you can hit some live ammunition or ordnance with your shovel. (not so much around Calgary).

**Tip 05. – Keep the coil parallel to the ground.** Sometimes you might have the tendency to accidentally lift your coil at the end of a sweep, but be careful to avoid this, as you are losing potential targets.

**Tip 06. – Clear the surface before you dig.** If you hear a signal, take a second to clear away the top layer of dirt before you start digging. Once the top layer is moved, use your metal detector to do another sweep. If the signal is gone, it was probably a small piece of trash or mineralization in the dirt and you need to move on. Sometimes it does happen that small relics like buttons are on the surface hidden in the foliage, as you remove debris - scan it.

**Tip 07. – One find often means two.** If you dig up something interesting, then spend some time searching in that area. Oftentimes, one good target indicates that people were there, and a careful hunter will locate other nice finds there.

**Tip 08. – Look for the local hot spots.** Search on Google.com, read some books about history, and talk to local people – elders to find out about historic places in your city and then start searching there. Use your imagination – anywhere people are likely to have left things behind, you are likely to make good finds!

**Tip 09. – Hunt after rain.** Wet ground is much better suited for metal detecting and it will make it much easier to find what you are looking for. Wet ground allows your detector to locate deeper targets, and will clear-up scratchy signals.

**Tip 10. – Be respectful.** Cover up your holes after you are done digging. Don't leave any trash behind. Be careful to respect the people and the land or you might find that you are no longer welcome to hunt in your favorite areas. When you dug up trash, take it with you and don't leave it behind. It will be one less false signal to worry with later.





This Article was discovered on [www.militaryfinderteam.com](http://www.militaryfinderteam.com) There are some other great articles and photos of World War era relic recovery on this site that also provide excellent reading.. The article has been edited for size, and some content.

## 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; text-align: center;">  <p><b>Kevin Niefer</b> <i>See Below</i></p> <p><b><i>Finding Houses - Creating Homes</i></b> 403-720-9501</p> </div> <p><b>Your RE/MAX Realty Professional</b></p> <p><b>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</b>  <b>Email: <a href="mailto:kniefer@calgaryrealestatepros.com">kniefer@calgaryrealestatepros.com</a></b></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BONNA-JEAN CAMPBELL</b></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 <b>METAL DETECTING STORY</b> in the subject area.</b></p>

\*\*\*\*\*