

Calgary Metal Detecting Club

THE BUZZER

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Great Fun at the 2013 Alberta Fall Extravaganza Open Hunt!

These Photos were taken at Rochon Sands during the 2013 hunt, held on September 07th, 2013..

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.

Alberta 2013 Fall Extravaganza

On September 7th, 2013; members of the Metal Detecting community from different areas of Alberta made their way to the tiny hamlet of Rochon Sands on Buffalo Lake for the second Annual EMDC/CMDC Fall Extravaganza Hunt.

Approximately 55 hunters took part in the hunt, and a few spouses and friends showed up to show support. Hunters arrived from all over the province, including Edson, Grande Prairie, Edmonton, Calgary, Sherwood Park, Bonnyville, St. Albert, Thorsby and Fort McMurray.

The fun began early on a rain-drenched Saturday morning, with members and volunteers getting together to seed the playing area with silver coins, prize tokens and silver jewellery donated by the clubs. The beach was liberally seeded with silver coins, Pre 1952 nickels, jewellery and a multitude of "hunt coins". Close to 1000 coins and prize-tokens were seeded in the beach for the hunters to find.

By 10:00 in the morning, eager Detectorists were arriving at the beach and looking forward to a day of fun and fine recoveries. Hunters were each provided with Minelab hats and totes (donated by GPS Central and Touchwood Detector Sales - local Alberta companies that are Minelab vendors). After a pre-hunt photo, the excitement was ready to start. At 10:30 the contest began, and for the next hour there was a frenzy of activity as each person looked for the seeded items. The weather was a bit damp, but it made for excellent conductivity.



Other Photos of the 2013 Fall extravaganza are available on the Flickr photo-sharing site at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/87747855@N02/sets/>

After one hour, the seeded hunt concluded, and a BBQ hamburger lunch was provided - (out of the rain, in the Rochon Sands community hall). Thanks go out to Bonna-Jean Campbell (wife of CMDC president Andy Coward) for overseeing all the food for the weekend. She did an excellent job.

Event Sponsors donated Main Prize Draws, which included detectors donated by Minelab through GPS Central (XT 505), Garrett through Canadian Treasure Seekers (Ace250), and 2 pro-pointers - one donated by the EMDC and the other by Canadian Treasure Seekers (and Garrett) The Canadian Metal Detecting Forum Forum provided Gold and Diamond Testers to include in the draw. The Testers were won by an Edmonton Club member, who donated them to the EMDC for member use. Other items were donated by Golden Horseshoe Detector sales, and Neil of Touchwood Detector Sales (who attended the hunt, representing Minelab and Garrett). Drawn prizes also included a purchased Eurotech detector, Lesche and Minelab diggers, Minelab packs, provided by listed sponsors, and the Edmonton and Calgary Metal Detecting Clubs (EMDC & CMDC).



The 96 numbered tokens seeded on the beach were exchanged for great prizes - including beautiful handcrafted boxes, Calgary Stampede and detector related apparel, first aid kits, cinema tickets, silver and proof coins, water hunting gloves, treasure pouches and numerous detecting related hobby-items. Many of the token prizes were donated by CDMC and EMDC club members, and thanks go out to them. We also appreciate the numerous other items donated for token-prizes by the event sponsors mentioned in the previous paragraph.

There was a raffle of a 1935 silver dollar and a one ounce silver maple leaf - with profits (after coin purchase) donated to the community of Rochon Sands in appreciation for the use of the beach. After the lunch, drawn prizes, and token prize awarding - hunters exited the community hall into clearer and warmer weather and spent the rest of the day searching for treasures on the beach and in local parks. Unseeded area finds included George V coins, some jewellery, and toys. After a snack at 4pm, the event concluded.



All in all - it was an excellent event - and plans for next year are already in the works. Check out www.abmdhunt.ca for more information on next year's event. Mark your calendars for September 20th, 2014!



"Grand Prize Winner at the 2013 Alberta Fall Extravaganza was Linda Moman. Linda is a recent New Member of the Edmonton Metal Detecting Club (EMDC) and considers herself to be a Novice Detectorist. Linda's big Prize was the Minelab XTerra-505 courtesy of RadioWorld (Minelab Canada) and GPS Central in Calgary. The XTerra-505 is the perfect mid-range detector for Linda to move up to. Congratulations Linda! "



❄️❄️ Winter Themes ❄️❄️

The Calgary Metal Detecting season may be ending - although there are a few hardy souls that enjoy the detecting hobby every month of the year - even in the ****winter****. Don't forget that our club continues to meet during the winter months, to share coffee and conversation about this hobby we all love. From December until March we give up on "Finds of the Month." Instead the CMDC has monthly themes, and club members display items found through-out the entire year in that fall into that category:

DECEMBER ~ MILITARIA MONTH – Bring any items found during the year that have a military theme. It could be a cap-badge or military button – or that sweetheart bracelet or cigarette lighter with a military emblem on the side. Bring it on in.

JANUARY ~ TOYS MONTH – Bring those great toys recovered this year. They can be modern or ancient. In the past we have had cast iron horses, lead soldiers, cracker jack toys, up to modern "hot-wheels". We are talking childhood related items from any era.

FEBRUARY ~ SHOW AND TELL MONTH – Whatever your favourite finds were during the year, bring them on in and share them with the group. Some people will bring one or two special items, others will bring a box-full – it is all up to you.

MARCH ~ FINDS OF THE YEAR VOTING - March is reserved for voting of Finds of the Year. Each club member is entitled to choose one item for Club "Find of the Year" in the four basic categories of Relic, Trinket, Treasure, and Coin. We display them in March, when club members make their choice, and vote for Best Finds of the Year. The winners will be announced and prizes presented at our April awards banquet.

Call a Club Sponsor for that Next Purchase!!

by ANDY COWARD

As the Executive of the CMDC, one of the most frequently asked questions is "Where can I buy a Detector ?". Usually if you are a first time buyer, this question is followed by "Which one will be right for me?". The second question is often satisfied with some discussion with experienced hunters that you will meet at the club meetings. The first question however, might not be as easily answered as the newcomer might wish.

Fortunately, this is where our Club Sponsors come in. As an organized Club, we continuously develop relationships with equipment manufacturers and distributors which result in preferred pricing and special offers for our members. It is clear that it benefits our Members to take advantage of what our sponsors have to offer. You will get the best product selection, competitive pricing, and after sales support that you may not get with those "Big Box" providers.

The CMDC is very fortunate to have two outstanding Sponsors that will supply to our members locally and with great customer service. The following is a brief description of each along with contact information for those who are looking for that first detector, that mid-range upgrade or even that grand-daddy-do-everything-for-your-type-of-hunting machine.... Or maybe just some accessories for that old trusted workhorse. Take my advice, with either of these suppliers, you won't go wrong!

GPS Central - (*Detecting <> Orienteering <> GeoCaching*)

For MineLab detecting products and accessories as well as ANYTHING outdoor. GPS Central has just recently moved to a new distribution centre where they cater primarily to online orders. The beauty of this is that you can order your detector or other products through their online storefront and save the shipping by picking up your items locally. Their real world store front has an order desk where they are able to fill your order while you wait (provided the items are in stock) or have your item ready for pickup if you have ordered it online. GPS Central actively supports the CMDC and has recently sponsored our Annual Spring Banquet as well as the 2013 Fall Extravaganza held at Rochon Sands. A big thanks to GPS Central for their continued support! For all your outdoor hobby equipment, give GPS Central a try!

GPS Central
4120 - 8th Street. S.E.
Calgary, Alberta
T2G 3A7
1-800-585-9331
<http://www.gpscentral.ca/index.htm>

Touchwood Enterprises - (*Detecting <> Gold Panning <> Prospecting*)

For just about every brand of detector as well as prospecting equipment you can turn to Touchwood Enterprises. Touchwood is located in Edson, Alberta and has been an avid supporter of both Alberta detecting clubs as well as the local prospecting club. Orders are generally placed by phone or email and shipping for most equipment including detectors is included in the price. Shipping is pretty quick by today's standards and items almost always arrive when promised. Neil at Touchwood has been working hard at getting their new Web Site up and running and will soon offer online ordering. A big Hats Off to Touchwood for their continued support and their active participation in club activities!

Touchwood Enterprises
Box 7334
Edson, Alberta
T7E 1V5
1-780-423-2943
<http://www.touchwooddetectors.com/>

Lost Ring Found in Indus, Alberta

By BILL JONES



Bill Jones is a long-time Metal Detecting Hobbyist - and is a member of the RingFinders organization. Bill has used his years of experience, volunteered his services - and recovered many sentimental objects for people all over Southern Alberta.



White Gold and Diamond Wedding Ring lost for 10 months then recovered 10 inches deep.

This saga all started in January of 2013 when Mrs. P. was feeding the horses and threw some hay over the fence into the horse paddock and off came her wedding ring. When she realized it was gone they did a visual search of the amongst the hay and snow but no luck. Dismayed she felt it was gone forever, 6 months later Mr. P. was searching the internet and found The Ring Finders and called me to come out. I went and searched the horse paddock to no avail, all I found were iron signals, after questioning them they told me they had scraped all the manure off the paddock in May to use in their vegetable garden on the other side of the 4 acre property. We headed over to the garden area only to find that with all the rain we had this spring it was too muddy to get into without sinking knee deep. Sadly, I was not able to retrieve the ring.

The last few days of September are waning, and I received a call from Mr. P. asking if I would come out again and search the garden as the harvest was done and wanted to Rototill the ground but thought we should give it another try first, I agreed.

To my surprise when I got there he advised me that his Dad had been over and tilled the garden not once but 3 times since he called me and his Dad had all so spread some of the garden soil on another part of the property. I figured that I was in for a long hunt. I set to checking where the soil had been spread before going over to the garden area. Nothing but nails there, so off to the gardens here I got lots of deep iron signals and after 1 1/2 hours, I had searched 3/4's of the garden and got a deep mixed signal bouncing from an ID of a scratch 45 to 80 on the garrett AT PRO, this was peaked my interest so I started digging at about 9 inches I hit non-tilled hard soil, I checked with my Garrett Pin-Pointer probe and the item was still deeper, after another inch the item revealed itself! Yes, it was the long lost ring in all its gleaming glory. Mr. And Mrs. P. were thrilled to get it back and we celebrated of a refreshing beer.



Online Research Tips

By PEGGY KEMP

One of the tools that Metal Detecting hobbyists use for research is the computer. There are many resources available on the internet that can aid a Metal Detecting hobbyist in researching where to hunt. The internet can also be used to research and identify just what that “unusual” recovered item is. Some members who have been around for a while will recall that I often will share internet sites for I have found useful for research. Below I have listed some web-site addresses that I have used, and believe would be helpful to others in this great hobby.

The first web-site I would like to mention is <http://canadianmetaldetecting.com> . This is a metal detecting forum, but with a Canadian focus. It contains helpful information about everything from the best cleaning methods, iron electrolysis (to remove caked-on rust), to catalogues of buttons, coins, and military insignia. If you have found something you are not sure about, it also has a “what-is-it” section. If you upload a photo of that mysterious item, detecting hobbyists from all over the country are available with their years of “find knowledge” to offer information. The forum is home to many encouraging hobbyists, who freely provide tips and advice to new-comers to Metal Detecting.

One of my favourite sites for Alberta history and research is <http://ourfutureourpast.ca> . This is a site that has multiple uses, as it not only contains Aerial photographs, but hundreds of books about Alberta communities and history, and access to old newspapers, all in digitised form. The website was an Alberta Centennial project to digitize information and make it accessible to the public. The community books are searchable by word in chapter and in text. I have used both aerial photographs and community books to locate old parks, railway stations and church locations from early years of East Calgary history.

One of the best research web-sites available to discover information about a “recovered treasure” is the Canadian Archives site for old mail-order catalogues. This is a Government of Canada site, has a searchable archive, and can be located at <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/mailorder/index-e.html>. In early Western Canada, it was difficult to obtain merchandise. Only urban areas had stores of any size, and smaller centers carried only the basics. In the Calgary area, these smaller communities would include towns like Bowness, Renfrew, Forest Lawn, Albert Park, and Midnapore. Mail order became big business in Western society. Many items purchased in early Alberta history came through the mail. Easton’s and Sears catalogues were a common site in many Canadian homes, particularly around Christmas. This mail-order catalogue web-site lets you search by item, or by year, and shows digitized images of the catalogue pages. I was able to date a brass soap dish to the mid-1920s by its appearance in an Eaton’s catalogue from that time.

Sometimes old photographs will aid a hobbyist to discover where to hunt, or where not to hunt. I have found a great resource for finding old photographs by using the Glenbow museum photograph archives. These can be searched at <http://ww2.glenbow.org/search/archivesPhotosSearch.aspx> . The photographs date back to earliest Calgary history, but the available photographs also show other areas around Alberta. This archive was used to research where buildings stood at the Keith tuberculosis hospital (now Baker Park), as well as what areas were in use as parks in Inglewood 50 years ago.

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



GPS Central™
4120 8th Street SE Calgary AB Canada T2G 3A7
gpscentral.ca

1-800-585-9331 Mon-Fri: 9am - 5pm MST
Sat, Sun: CLOSED



Touchwood Enterprises ...Edson 780-723-2943
www.touchwooddetectors.com

Prospecting & Metal Detecting Equipment
Email: neilrd@telus.net



Kevin Niefer
See Below

Finding Houses - Creating Homes
403-720-9501

Your RE/MAX Realty Professional

To view Kevin's listings visit him on the internet @
www.kevinniefer.com - or give him a call at 403-720-9501
Email: kniefer@calgaryrealestatepros.com

The CMDC's yearly dues are:

In-town membership : \$25.00

Out-of-town membership: \$20.00

Contact the Calgary Metal Detecting Club (CMDC)

c/o 6201 Penedo Way SE
Calgary, Alberta T2A-3N2

YOU COULD BE A PUBLISHED AUTHOR!

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 kemp@telus.net with METAL DETECTING STORY in the subject area.