



## History in the Palm of your Hand



The recent finds by CMDC member Al Cotterhill of a 1939 Royal Visit Token and a 1927 60th Jubilee of Confederation token bring us back to another time and place in history.

In May of 1939, King George VI and his wife Queen Elizabeth (later familiarly called "the Queen Mum") embarked on an unprecedented visit to North America. This was the first visit of a reigning monarch to Canada and to the United States, and helped solidify Canadian and American support for Britain. Even at that time the turmoil in Europe was bringing about fears of a second World War. The Royal Tour ended in June. By September, the world was at war.

To commemorate the visit, the Royal Canadian Mint struck three series of commemorative medallions. There were bronze and silver 38 mm medallions for sale to the public, and a 25 mm bronze medallion which was distributed to Canadian school children. The Obverse featuring the conjoined profiles of King George VI and his wife was designed by Percy Metcalf (that profile was also used on the 1937 British Coronation Medal). The reverse, designed by Emanuel Hahn, shows a map of Canada and the route followed by the royal couple during their visit.

The 1927 60th Jubilee of Confederation Medallion was presented by King George V to schoolchildren across Canada. The brass medallion obverse held the profiles of King George V and Queen Mary, with the reverse showing The Heraldic Shield of Canada. The Shield reflects the royal symbols of Great Britain and France, as well as a sprig of three Canadian maple leaves representative of Canadians of all origins. The Latin phrase "A Mari Vsque Ad Mare" (translated "from Sea to Sea") is near the bottom of the coin.



Al Cotterhill's 1927 medallion showing profile. The reverse is not from the same coin.

These medallions were valuable to many school-children, and remain a tangible and important part of Canadian history.





## CMDC / EMDC Fall Extravaganza

On September 20, 2014 members of the Metal Detecting hobby from all over Alberta made their way to the tiny hamlet of Rochon Sands on Buffalo Lake for the EMDC/CMDC Fall Extravaganza Hunt. It was a gorgeous day for a hunt, with the sun shining and one of the nicest Fall days imaginable. Approximately 60 hunters took part in the hunt, and a few spouses and friends showed up to show support.

The fun began early on Saturday morning, with members and volunteers getting together to seed the playing area. The beach was seeded with silver coins, prize-tokens and a multitude of foreign coins (especially British two pence coins). Over 1000 coins and prize-tokens were placed in the sand of the beach for the hunters to recover. By 10:00 in the morning, eager Metal Detectorists were arriving at the beach and looking forward to a day of fun and fine recoveries.

Hunters were each provided with Minelab caps, totes, and other loot, provided by Minelab Canada, as well as a Minelab Xterra 305 as a prize. After a pre-hunt photo shoot (below) the day was about to begin. The beach hunt started at 11am, with the blare of an air-horn. Within minutes sand was flowing through the scoops & sifters, and Silver coins and prize tokens were being retrieved and socked away. Hunters were amazed by the sheer number of non-silver coinage popping out of the sand. At 11:45 the air-horn blared out again, and the morning competition came to a stop.



Then the hunters all moved to the Rochon Sands community hall for a delicious beef on a bun lunch. Dana Wiley and the Edmonton club put the lunch together, and they really outdid themselves!. The meal was great! There was plenty of time to eat, and for hobbyists from all over the province to swap a few treasure stories, and to put a face and voice to friends met over Facebook. It was a great time.

The afternoon hunts were held from 1:30 until 2:30 pm. There was a second seeded Adult hunt, as well as a Junior (children's) hunt,. Both hunts were held at the same time, but on different areas of the beach. The adult hunt consisted of coins and tokens, with many of the seeded coins being pre-1936 silver. The children's hunt had silver coins, tokens and jewellery, as well as buried toys and bags of candy. Everyone had a blast.

After the hunts ended everyone proceeded back to the Community Hall for some more visiting, and more food for anyone who was hungry. When everyone arrived at the hall, the hunters got the chance to redeem their tokens for prizes. The numbered-tokens recovered during the event beach hunts were exchanged for a full-table of prizes.

## Fall Extravaganza 2014 (continued)

There were over 100 token-prizes donated by multiple sponsors, including Minelab, Garrett, Radioworld Central, The Canadian Metal Detecting Forum and Northgate Stamp and Coin shop. There were also numerous other prizes donated by various club members. Two special token hunts were included in the afternoon hunt. One was a for a special "Treasure Chest" for Edmonton club members, and another a token for a special coin award for Calgary and other areas of the province. It was great to see that every hunter had a chance to go home with a great prize, and a wonderful day filled with memories and new friendships.



The 2014 Fall Extravaganza Metal Detecting event concluded with a beach full of people making sure that no coin was left unturned, and seeing what else had been left behind by years of activities on the beach. Although the area has been well hunted, a few Edwardian through George VI coins were still recovered from areas of the beach that had not been seeded.

Leon Kemp took many photos of the Fall Extravaganza, which have been placed in albums on the Facebook ABMDhunt group page. Join the ABMD group to keep in the loop on next year's event..

This success of the 2014 Fall Extravaganza is due to the hard work of volunteers from both the Calgary and the Edmonton Metal Detecting Clubs. I want to express a resounding "Well done!" to Mike Carey, James Belke, and all the other members of the Edmonton organizing committee for creating an excellent weekend of fun, friendship and finds. Thanks to the members of both Clubs who volunteered to make this event an absolutely amazing day. This was one of the best days this summer!

Plans are already in the works for next year's Fall Extravaganza.

# SURVEY RESULTS

by Andy Coward - CMDC Vice President

Well it's been a while since I did any kind of article for the Buzzer but I thought it was important to share the result of my voluntary Survey that I sent out to the Members not long ago. Besides trying to get an idea from the Members as to what machines they were running and what type of hunting they liked to do, I also asked for some feedback from the Members as to what, if anything, they would like to share with the Executive of the Club. I didn't share the comments with the rest of the Exec but instead have decided to share them with your Peers by publishing them here.

OK so here they are unedited from my Survey Results....

- nametags at meetings
- We are doing everything right!!!
- All good keep up the great work we need more people like yourself
- It's all good. Just unfortunate it's so far away :-)
- Outside of Calgary club hunts
- Weekly or bi-weekly Club Hunts would be nice. An online map dedicated to past Club Hunt locations (i.e. before I joined) would be beneficial when I'm looking for a quick/handy hunt location.
- sorry for not being around much, too many losses but very thankful. for metal detecting and the quiet time that comes with it. Plan on being around. more in the future. Thank you Jim.
- I joined in the spring of 2013 and must say I have found the members and executive approachable, friendly and helpful.
- Need more people to fill existing positions.
- Great Hunts!
- More Club Hunts - every two weeks or more often during our very short hunting season
- Doing a great job well done
- The club is great. I like to see a members classified/for sale section on the website
- everything is good
- everything is good
- I think we are doing an Ok job - but would like to see a bit more club volunteerism, and would like to see a scheduled club hunt date.
- Everything is great
- Everything is great!
- doing a great job
- We need more volunteers.

Well, as you can see there are a few repetitive themes. First, it appears that the Exec are doing things fairly well. That's reassuring! Secondly, it appears that more volunteers would help things out even more! So True! Come on folks - as I always say - you get out of it what you put into it!

Next it appears that Club Hunts are a BIG component to the Member experience and some small changes would be nice including doubling the frequency, setting dates more firmly in advance and possibly doing some out-of-town hunts. Good comments ALL but the ability to implement some of these would be dependent upon point number two above. Volunteers to organize stuff!

Survey Results (continued)

Finally a few smaller items...

Name Tags at Meetings - I think this would be a good idea since we have so many new members that sometimes you just don't know the name of the person you are talking to! Great Feedback!

Online Map of past CMDC Club Hunts - I think this is a great idea and I take partial responsibility for this NOT being accomplished at this point in time. As Past Hunt Director, I have a list of sites we have been to, but have not merged these with sites that are posted on the current Hunt Director's Google Map. This will be done soon though - Stay Tuned!

Classified Section on the CMDC Website - This is a great idea but in reality, this will not occur until such time as the Website itself is upgraded to a newer more User Friendly format. Once again this comes down to Volunteers to take the ball and run with it! Our Web Site Admin is doing a great job with the tools that are available but this task will really take a committed amount of time and that is something that the current Exec is missing. In the MEAN time, there are many online Classifieds that currently serve this function depending upon the Forum you choose to frequent.

Well That's IT from me for now! I hope the feedback has been eye-opening for you. Lots of good ideas! It would be great to have them all implemented and hopefully, with more help from the Members, we'll eventually get there!

THANKS! for Reading - Happy Hunting!



SEPTEMBER HUNT & RADIO WORLD CENTRAL EVENT

On September 26th, 2014 the CMDC held their monthly club hunt. It was a great event, but even more fun was soon at hand. Minelab and Radioworld Central chose the Calgary CMDC September Club Hunt for the Minelab SDC 2300 Launch party. There were over 50 people in attendance to hear about the newest machine coming out of Minelab, one-on-one conversations with Jack Summers of Radioworld Toronto, and Minelab expert., Miguel Valle, and the chance to test out some very cool Minelab detectors. Congrats to Jeff Budd, who won the draw for a new X-terra 305.

Radioworld Central provided lunch, T-shirts and some cool swag. They also arranged for a seeded hunt in the afternoon that included 4 one troy ounce silver coins, over 20 silver half-dollars, and a gold coin..



Thanks to Jack Summers, Heather Roy and Radioworld Central for a great event. See the CMDC facebook group page for many more photos of a fun afternoon.



## 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.

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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

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