

Calgary Metal Detecting Club

THE BUZZER

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Great Day for a Hunt!

This photo was taken at the CMDC Fall Wind-Up near Sundre on September 12, 2015.

See Article on page 5

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.

BUZZER CONTEST

Send in a story or article to "The Buzzer" and win a silver dollar

We have a new Buzzer Contest for CMDC members. We want to hear from you with a story or article about our hobby. With winter closing in, this is the perfect time to sit down and write down a great story about your metal detecting experiences. There are two available options for the Buzzer Contest.

Option one is to write a story about a favourite Metal Detecting recovery – in any year, or any category. You could also write a story about your most memorable hunt experience. The story only has to be two or three paragraphs, although longer is just as welcome. Provide a photo if you have one.



Your other option is to write an article passing on information about our hobby. It could be a write-up of tips for newbies, or about a special technique to help out others in the hobby. In the past we have had articles about cleaning coins, and historical research tips. Write an article to pass on information, and help out others in the hobby.

Every person who sends in a story or article before December 15th, 2015 will have their name entered into a draw for a 1971 Canadian Silver dollar. That's right - you could go home from the January meeting with a beautiful silver dollar!

The winner will receive the silver dollar prize at the January 2015 CMDC club meeting. Send your story or article by email to kempp@telus.net with Metal Detecting Story in the subject line.

Caution! There is an ulterior motive to this contest. The editor is not providing this contest out of the goodness of her heart. There is a purpose for this contest. As you may suspect, anyone who enters the contest will likely find their story published in some future issue of the Buzzer. Could there be a more dastardly and nefarious scheme for increasing Buzzer content? Remember, you have been warned!

Final date to make an entry is December 15th, 2015.

HMS Victory Medallion



In Edmonton this summer two Medallions were recovered made of copper from the HMS Victory. The Victory was Admiral Lord Nelson's flagship during the Napoleonic War. He was killed on that ship at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805.

100 Years later the HMA Victory was retired, and the ship was refurbished. Copper was removed from the ship, and used to create many Memorial items in honor of the Centenary. The items, including these medallions created by the British and Foreign Sailors society, was used to fund the restoration. Contributors of one shilling would receive these small medallions, like the ones recovered in Edmonton. The requested amount was not as small an amount as it might seem. The equivalent of a shilling in 1905 would have the approximate worth today of 16 pounds (around \$30.00 CAD).

Returned Stanley Cup Ring

The last time the Toronto Maple Leafs won the Stanley Cup was in 1967. It was an exciting year, and leads to an amazing ring recovery story. Former Maple Leaf Jim Pappin had a great hockey season with the Leafs in 1967. The culmination was winning the Stanley Cup. During the playoffs, Pappin led all scorers with seven goals and 15 points during the 12-game playoff run

Pappin was surprised and bitter when at the end of the 1967 season, the Leafs traded him to the Chicago Black Hawks. He gave the Maple Leaf championship ring as a gift to his first wife's father, Peter Kyrzakos. Instead of representing an amazing victory, it had become a reminder of betrayal to him. "I was traded to Chicago in '68. I hated (Toronto general manager and coach Punch) Imlach, I hated everything to do with the Leafs so I gave the ring to my father-in-law," the 67-year-old Pappin told the Toronto Star in 2004.

But Kyrzakos, who had a home in Vero Beach, Florida, lost the ring at a beach sometime during the 1970s. "He never told me he lost it," said Pappin, who scored the Cup-winning goal in 1967 as the Leafs defeated the Montreal Canadiens in six games. "He hired people, got divers and everything, to look for it for two days."

Unable to find the Stanley Cup heirloom, and distraught over the loss, Pappin's father-in-law asked to borrow former teammate Eddie Shack's ring and took it to the same jeweller who crafted the original to have an exact replica made.

Pappin only found out about the missing ring in 1982 after divorcing his wife, when Kyrzakos explained the story and gave the replica ring back. The two maintained a close relationship until Kyrzakos died three years ago of throat cancer at age 82.

Never thinking he'd see the original again and happily wearing the replacement, Pappin forgot about the ring. One of the few ties to the last Leafs Cup remained buried somewhere in the ocean. That's until treasure hunter Mark DesErnia and a cockatiel named Reno showed up.

Three weeks ago in Clearwater Pass, Fla., DesErnia – who carries Reno on his shoulder when searching – found himself neck-deep in the Gulf of Mexico. The underwater metal detector told him he had scored.

"When I saw the Stanley Cup (on the ring) it looked like the Virgin Mary to me, so I thought it was another religious artifact," said DesErnia, from Sarasota, Fla.

DesErnia recently put down \$2,000 (all figures U.S.) for a new home – a camper-van – in order to devote more time to his "full-time job" searching for valuables on Florida's many public beaches with his metal detector. He says he doesn't have a lot of money, but wants to do the right thing in returning the ring to Pappin.

"I've been wearing (the ring) and trying to put myself in his shoes," said DesErnia, who has been learning about Pappin's career. "I've been thinking, 'What did he go through to win this ring?' I thought what a great moment that must have been for him and the team."

DesErnia says he contemplated putting the ring on eBay and took it to a sports memorabilia collector who offered him \$20,000 on the spot. Pappin's current wife, Peggy, was surprised when contacted by the Star with the news his ring had been found. She had never known it was missing.

"That is so unbelievable. The world has a way of coming around." When interviewed in 2004, Pappin said he'd love to have the ring, a reminder of his former father-in-law, back. Especially since his daughter M.J., who was very close to her grandfather, was getting married next weekend in Sudbury.



**This news story was published in the Toronto Star in 2007 -
t only goes to show that those special treasures are still out there waiting to be found.**

Two WWII Medal Stories

With Remembrance Day this month, it seemed a good time to pass on a couple of wonderful stories of Metal Detectorists volunteering time to return lost medals to veterans and their families.

Detectorists search for lost World War II Medals

In England, a World War II veteran was devastated when he lost the set of medals that he received for his service during the war. Early in October Donald Nicholson, 93, initially thought he lost them on the way to the unveiling of a Bomber Command memorial in Lincoln. The former flight engineer, who flew 31 bombing missions, put out a request to the metal detecting community to ask for their help.

About 80 volunteers with metal detectors searched a field near the Bomber Command memorial on Friday afternoon, after a week-long search in other areas. The ground was hunted well, but there was no luck. After two hours, the search was called off. Both the detectorists and Mr. Nicholson were terribly disappointed.

Fortunately, the veteran will be wearing his medals on Remembrance Day. They were located in a car-park, and turned into the police. Soon afterwards Mr Nicholson had his treasured medals back in his possession. He was thrilled to have his medals back, but he still expressed his gratefulness to all the people who volunteered hours of their time, and took part in the search.

Priceless World War II Medal returned after being lost in 2011 Tornado.



After a tornado passed through Holt on April 27th, 2011, Margaret Krallman prayed for a miracle to help find her mother-in-law's lost possessions. Her mother-in-law, Thelma Bennett Krallman, died in the storm at the age of 89 when her house was blown off its foundation and scattered across a block-wide area. The only remains from where the house once stood are the front steps.

Two items that were lost during the storm were a Purple Heart medal awarded to Staff Sgt. George H. Krallman for his service in World War II and the folded American flag awarded to his family after his death. These items meant more than anything else to the family and they sifted through the debris for weeks after the storm in search of these items. They even used a metal detector to try and find the military medal.

After a few weeks passed without any luck they began to lose hope. "Everyone had given up, but I said as long as there was dirt, I wouldn't stop," Margaret said. "My husband said he couldn't dig anymore, but I felt like I was supposed to go," she said. "I reached for what I thought was one of her jackets, and the flag just fell into my hand. It was wet and came unrolled, and it was the prettiest red and white you've ever seen. The plaster and dirt was pounded into it on the outside, but we brought it home and just started scrubbing it."

However, the medal was still missing. Some time passed, but in February while walking the lost, still in search of the lost medal, a man who was driving by waved at her, then stopped to ask what she was looking for. Margaret explained the story and that the Purple Heart was still missing. The man, whom Krallman knows only as "Mr. Washington," said he had found a Purple Heart in the dirt a few miles away. He brought it to the Krallman's the next day and the family was once again in possession of that treasured item. What was once thought to be lost forever, was found.

CMDC Sundre Seeded Hunt and BBQ

On September 12, 2015; members of the Metal Detecting community from the CMDC and EMDC metal detecting clubs made their way to Jerry Leussink's rural property outside of the community of Sundre for the CMDC Fall Wind-Up and Barbeque. Approximately 34 hunters took part in the hunt, and a few spouses showed up to help out and to show support. The fun began earlier in the week when several CMDC members made their way to Jerry's property to seed the area with silver, tokens and jewellery. The area was grassed, so this was much more difficult than our seeded beach hunts. Each of the buried items had to be dug in.

Early on Saturday morning, hunters began arriving. Everyone was excited about the event, and by 10:00 in the morning, eager Metal Detectorists were arriving - all looking forward to a day of fun and fine recoveries. After a pre-hunt photo shoot (see front page) the day was about to begin. The hunt was split up into two areas, and within moments of the go ahead - people were busy swinging coils and digging targets. About 45 minutes later, the call was made to switch areas - and hunters traded hunting areas go looking for that amazing find.



The target identification contest followed immediately after. There were many buried targets around Jerry's swimming hole. Most were buried as a test garden, with buried items having a description of what type of target was there - to help people learn their detectors. There was also a contest, with a buried target, and NO description. The hunters were supposed to listen to the targets, and write down their best estimate of what object might be located there. The person who had the most correct answers won a prize.

While individuals were competing in the target identification, others were permitted to return to the morning hunt area to search for more of the various seeded items. Then the hunters all moved a lovely shaded area with a fire pit and picnic tables for a delicious barbecue lunch. Bonna-Jean Campbell and her helpers really outdid themselves. The meal was great! The Edmonton & Calgary club members got a bit of time to spend chatting with others who enjoy the hobby, swap a few treasure stories, and to put a face and voice to a few friends met over Facebook. It was a great time.

After lunch, the numbered-tokens recovered during the morning hunt were awarded with a table full of hunt-prizes donated by sponsors. Our thanks go out to Heather Roy and GPS Central for the donated treasures from Minelab and Garrett. One of the prizes was an amazing "Go-40" Go-Find collapsible metal detector, won by Gunter Pusch. What an exciting group of prizes provided by a very community oriented retailer. There were also numerous other prizes donated by the club, and by various members of the CMDC, including metal detecting tools, and silver coins. After the token prizes were all claimed, key chains and donated jewellery items were brought out. Members of the hunt who participated but did not recover a prize token were able to claim of those items.

This success of the Fall Wind-Up is due to the hard work of volunteers from the Calgary Club. Thank you to Jerry Leussink and his wife, Marina, for providing such a beautiful location for the Fall Wind-Up location. I also want to express a resounding "Well done!" to Andy Coward, Bonna-Jean Campbell, Jerry Leussink, Willie and Jude, Bill Jones and all the other members of the CMDC for creating an excellent weekend of fun, friendship and finds. Thanks for arranging an absolutely amazing day. This was one of the best days this summer!

CMDC Sundre Hunt Photos



Gunter Pusch, winner of the Go-Pro donated by Minelab.



Thank you to Jerry & Marina for the great location and wonderful time!



David, Willie & Bonna-Jean - working hard



Club Members enjoying some good food



Donated Prizes by GPS Central and Minelab



Token prizes waiting to be claimed



❄️❄️ Winter CMDC Meetings ❄️❄️

The Calgary Metal Detecting Club continues to meet during the winter months, to share some coffee and conversation about this hobby we all love. From May until November we have our "Finds of the Month Contests", but that isn't something we can really continue during the winter. From December until March the CMDC has monthly themes for displays. Club members are encouraged to bring items they have found through-out the year - or even in past years - that fall into that category: Remember to look at your finds and see what you think others might find interesting.

DECEMBER ~ MILITARIA MONTH – Bring any items found during the year that have a military theme.

JANUARY ~ TOYS MONTH – Bring all those great toys discovered through-out the year, 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.

MARCH ~ FINDS OF THE YEAR VOTING - March is reserved for voting of Finds of the Year. Each club member is entitled to choose their best finds of the year to display. Each member can enter one item in the four basic categories of Relic, Trinket, Treasure, and Coin for best "Find of the Year". The CMDC club members will cast their votes, and choose the best find in each category.

APRIL ~ ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET - The Finds of the Year voted for at the March meeting are displayed again. The winners of the March vote for *Finds of the Year*, will be announced and prizes presented at our April awards banquet.



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



"Could you help us sir? We've dropped our keys somewhere and can't seem to find them!"

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