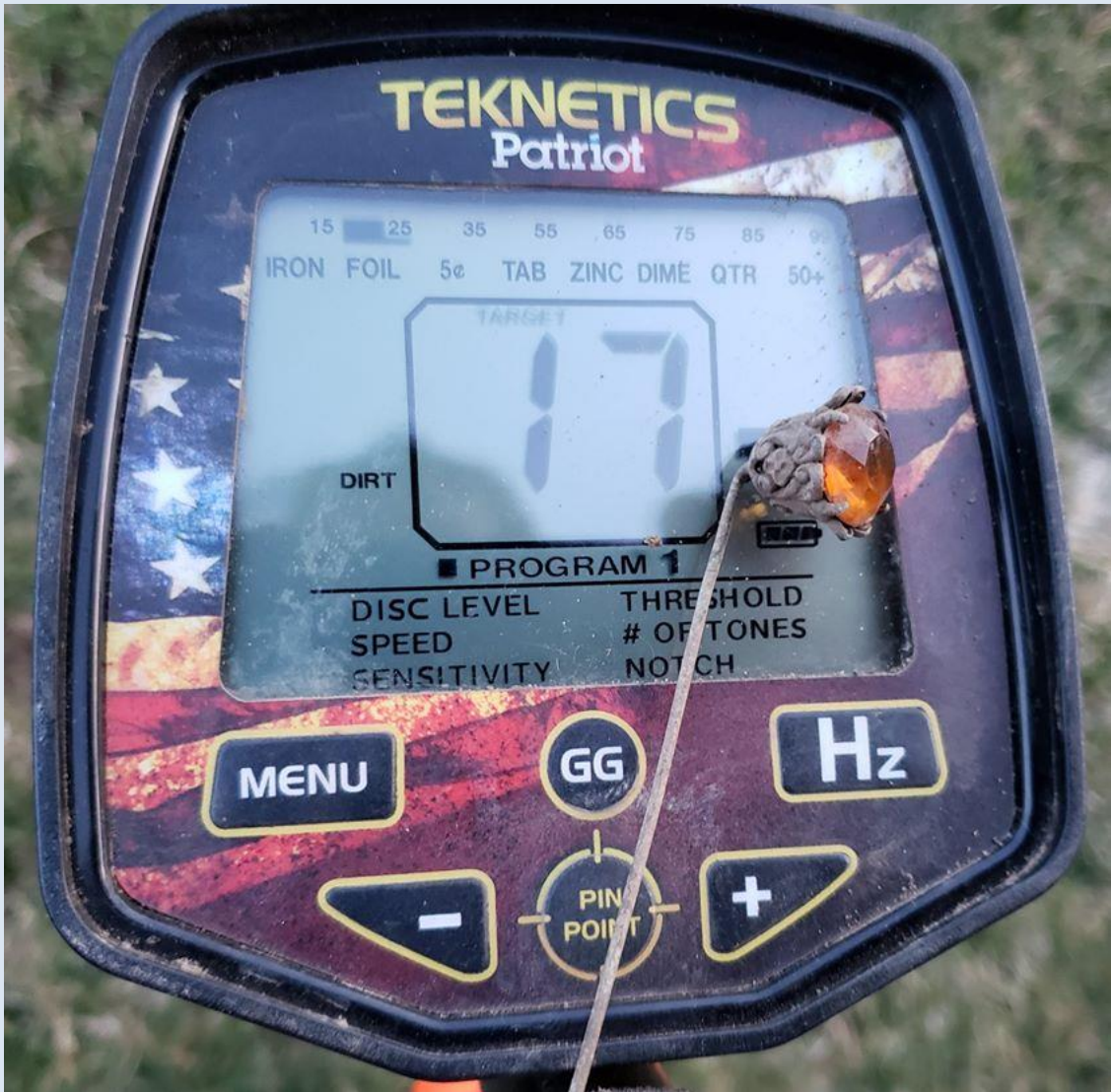




EARTH

Metal Detecting Club of Central NY • Since 1990



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020

Earth Club of Central New York President's Message

Hello all, I hope everyone is safe and sound amid the global crisis of Covid 19. The board members had a meeting to review where we are as a club for 2020 and how to move forward within the various phases of the re-opening of activities in New York State.

I spoke with the Library and unfortunately, the community room is closed for the summer, so no more meetings at the library this year. At this point, we would have to have a meeting outside (possibly the Pavilion in Trenton) as social distancing would not be possible inside). I also recommend that if you are not comfortable in a group setting and worried about catching or spreading the virus, then please do not attend. I know, I don't like it either, but let's be safe rather than sorry.

I spoke with Delta Like State Park officials who informed me that as of now, the community rooms and events are not allowed. Management continues to evaluate the situation on a weekly basis. With the resurgence of the virus, I would say it does not look good for early September.

On the dues front, they will stay the same (30 single and 35 for family) as our largest expenditures (the Picnic and Christmas Party) may still be incurred. Any savings we realize will be rolled into a lower cost per person for the Xmas Party. If the whole season gets cancelled, the dues already paid will roll over to next year.

For Club hunts, Mike Parker can arrange Camp Kinglsey and will get back to us with a date. Lori Fealy is looking at potential railroad related sites. Thanks again to Mike Wusic who identified a park in Utica that was under construction and several members attended a hunt last weekend with some notable finds made!!

I will continue to keep you posted as our circumstances evolve. Stay Safe!

David Lofgren
President

Cover Photo:
Dave Dylis "Bobby Dazzler"

Covid Finds of 2020:

Dave Dylis



Ken Price,
Confederate Buckle (WOW)



Dave Brown- 44 Silver!



**Dave Brown
Batwing Buckle**



**Matt Lehart
1805 Large Cent**



**Pete Sorrell
Civil War
Sword Belt Plate**

**Dave Lofgren
Seated Liberty Dime
1837 Webster/Van Buren**



**Matt Lenhart
1837 Webster Van Buren Token
Hard Times Token**



Between the Lines

By Mike Parker

Finding property a line marker isn't always the easiest thing with a metal detector as Larry Ehlinger knows. "Sometimes neighbors will move them, or pull them out and throw them," Larry told Susan Stockman from the South Trenton Cemetery.

Larry volunteered to help Stockman to find a property line stake for the cemetery association. She originally ask Mike Parker but Mike declined as he is often unsuccessful finding the markers so he asked Larry if he wanted to do it. Larry accepted the challenge and made the arrangements for the hunt.

The day was sunny and already getting hot by 10a.m. in the morning.

As it turned out the association had bought more property down the road from the main cemetery for expansion. However the reason they needed to know the property line was because a tree fell on a neighbor's house. They were unsure if the tree that had fallen was on the cemetery property or not.

Stockman also explained that when they bought the property they believed they were going to run out of room in the original cemetery, however the new trend has been cremation and the ashes of the dearly departed have been cast to the wind. This turn of events made the need for more land unnecessary

The property was less than 50 yards down the road from the main cemetery and in a few minutes Larry was swinging his coil in the location where the stake was thought to be.

Larry began pulling a few beer cans and aluminum foil out of the ground, and others of those items that you normally find on the side of the road. Before too long Larry had found the stake. They then asked Larry to look for the other stake further down the road but he was unable to find that one. Larry advised them that if they measured from the stake that he did find and the other stake would be easily found.

Larry gave Sue his metal detecting card and the mission was completed.



The 400

by Michael Parker

Living in the north country we get our fill of winter. On social media, all winter long, we see our southern friends posting finds that can make you jealous. You get to see them go metal detecting when you can't. We are used to waiting as every year as the snow slowly melts and as we wait for our turn to arrive. But this year was different as a pandemic, COVID-19, reared its ugly head, closing nearly everything. To take my mind off of the pending doom, I decided to go metal detecting. After all, there wasn't a lot to do.

My story "The 400" started with a box, a Dr. McGillicuddy's Limited Edition 4pk tin box that held four two-shot bottles. I like Dr. McGillicuddy's but I really bought it for the tin box. What better place to stash cool finds? I do that often, buy something for the container.

The winter and spring of 2020 had been mild and I was able to go out a few times collecting finds along the way. Even December was mild and I found a 1912D Barber half dollar. So here I was in early April with threatening clouds, and it was windy. I didn't want to try to get permission somewhere as with the weather like it was I wasn't sure if I would be able to stay out for very long. So I decided to go to the school yard and maybe find enough change for a cup of coffee, so to speak.

I hadn't search the school yard in years and I haven't found silver there in at least five years or more. The last silver coin I found was a Walking Liberty half dollar. Being April, the ground was easy to dig and targets were lighting up like Time Square on New Year's Eve.

It wasn't long before I found over 20 quarters, or more. But more important than quarters I was finding jewelry. I found a couple Sterling rings and a few interesting pieces of jewelry of no real value but fun to find.

This year I had been out hunting a couple other places and found that I now had over \$25 in quarters... that was 100 quarters. I noticed that those 100 quarters went from one side of the McGillicuddy's box to the other.

At this time I didn't have a goal of 400 quarters, but I was attracted by the rings. Normally I might find two rings in a year, but this year I had more than doubled that.

The next day, I went again to the middle school and found another ring and another 25 quarters. At the end of the day I again put the quarters in the box and I was impressed with the number of quarters I had accumulated, but I was still impressed at finding rings.

There are three schools in the district and I never found any rings at the other two schools, and I figured something magical was happening with rings. I next went to the high school where the gym classes meet to search for rings. There were more quarters. You really have to dig the quarters because Sterling rings can read as a quarter, and what the heck, a quarter is a quarter. That area produced at least another 50 quarters and one ring. This ring wanted to be silver but there was only a trace of silver as it was plated.

The elementary school was the next spot I went to look for rings. More quarters, another cheesy ring, and a nickel coin spill which produced nine of those Jeffersons in one hole. There were more quarters to add to ever mounting pile.

The schools kept me busy during the COVID-19 mess as there were a lot of targets. I would have asked someone to join me but hunts were only planned to be an hour here and an hour there. But it did start to develop into a feeding frenzy.

Then I went to the high school again but I thought this time I would go to the hill where spectators would stand to watch football. They remade the football field last year so the only area untouched by bulldozers was the lawn behind the bleachers.

"I will find a good ring yet at the high school," I thought.

I began to hit quarters, quarters galore. The amazing thing was that I didn't find just one quarter in each hole but the area was covered with coin spills. One coin spill had about a dozen quarters in it, so many in that hole, I lost count. I felt like a magician pulling rabbits out of the hat only it was quarters out of a hole. I also lost count on how many coin spills that I found. I am guessing that I found at least 25 coin spills, each producing at least two quarters (and other change). In one hole I found 11 dimes, one nickel and one quarter. When I added these quarters to the tin after a couple days of hunting there, it dawned on me that I was well on my way to 400 quarters!!

I was about 70 quarters away and it seemed like everywhere I was going there were quarters.

Then I remember there were two homes that I hunted in the past that had so many clad quarters that I left them there.

One site that I thought would add a contribution to my goal, the quarters were gone, someone else must have detected that spot after I left it years ago.

I went to the second location. I only had two hours to hunt and I soon I had found 46 quarters, a record breaker for me for one day of hunting. The owner told me that his son and his friends used to play the drinking game "Quarters". That is the game where you try to bounce a quarter into a cup and if you make it, you make someone else drink. If you missed then you would drink. Often the quarter would go flying into the lawn. Now I was only 26 quarters away so I went back to the school yard and to the village's ball field and found another 20 quarters, I needed six more so I returned to the where the game of quarters was played and found all the quarters that I needed.

I reached my goal and fit all 400 quarters into the tin Dr. McGillicuddy's Box (They fit with a little tapping of a hammer).

The spot behind the bleachers ended up producing over 170 quarters, a cheesy ring and a toy airplane. The reason why there were so many coin spills in that location was that was where all the young kids were playing football during the big boys game. Many times they would fall down catching the football and spill the contents of their pockets. You figure that the school opened in about 1970, and the kids played football at every home game (about 4 home games a year) for 50 years, that is a lot of falling down.

I guess one lesson here is that maybe it is time to hit your local school again, and look for where the kids played football wearing just their street clothes.

And no, I didn't not find any silver quarters.

News from England

From Paul Rainford

Portland Weymouth Metal Detecting Club



Gold Torcs and Bangles



Precious Metal Tester

Our EARTH Club has purchased a Gold, Silver, Platinum, and Diamond tester. I will have it at every meeting. If you are uncertain of a treasure you have, estate find, or even your own stash, bring it to the next meeting. We are only charging 50 cents an item. This money will be going straight to the club to help with Christmas Party, Picnic hunt or anything else we need. Thank you in advance, Kathie your treasurer.



EARTH Club Classified Section



If you are looking to buy or sell any coins, contact Vincent at Upstate Numismatics. The Club has been acquiring coins from this organization for the past few years. He is very knowledgeable, courteous and also a member of the local coin club.

A business card for Upstate Numismatic Services. The card has a yellow background with several coins at the top. The text on the card reads: "UPSTATE NUMISMATIC SERVICES", "Dealer in Coins, Currency & Precious Metals", "Vincent J. Tramacera, Jr.", "258 Genesee Street, Suite 505B, Utica, NY 13502", "315-733-4961 • 315-527-0832", and "www.uns-coins.com". Logos for ANA, PMG, NGC, and PCS are also present.



Junk Man's Corner

Hey all you hungry Earth Club members! I don't know about you but the anticipation for our next club meeting and future club hunts are just about killing me! I'm hoping we can pull this together for a reunion in July. 2020 is already half over and unfortunately we've missed our most productive spring season and now summer has arrived already bringing these 90° brutal heat waves which further limits us from playing in the dirt! I guess we should count our blessings as we have not yet heard that any of us are fighting THE VIRUS! I sincerely hope we all continue to stay healthy in the future! Anyway, just wanted to send you all a reminder that the junk man is still in business! I will gladly seriously clean out my van for all to bring me your metal salvage that's cluttering up your garages, garbage cans, bathtubs or anywhere else you might be hiding it! We still intend to send off a check to Camp Good Days this year despite the sad news that this year's activities have been canceled.

Hopefully our donation will be wisely used for probably much needed maintenance and equipment repairs for the 2021 season. We can just hope for the best and wait and see for now. I'm really looking forward to seeing all of you who can venture out for our next meeting and don't forget our first competition and show & tell table. Lots and lots of stuff!!!!!! See ya soon! Junkman Lori



Earth Metal Detecting Club of Central New York

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