



EARTH

Metal Detecting Club of Central NY • Since 1990



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021

Earth Club of Central New York President's Message

Welcome to March 2021 and good riddance to a snow and ice filled February. If you like winter outdoor activities such as skiing, skating or ice fishing, then February was a good month, For the rest of us, we were forced to wait it out knowing the spring thaw was right around the corner.

After basically missing an entire year of monthly, meetings, club hunts and competitions, it looks like the pandemic is abating and activities will slowly be returning to normal as more and more people get vaccinated. The Earth Club and its membership did not go unscathed by the virus. Members have been lost, family members have been lost and many of our friends and family battled successfully and valiantly against the virus. Our sincerest condolences, thought and prayers go out to our membership and their families who have been so significantly and tragically affected by the virus.



David Lofgren
President

Cover Photo
Previous Proctor Park Club Hunt

Monthly Meetings

We plan on resuming our monthly meetings the last Monday of March at the Whitestown Vets Club. The Public Room at the Library is still not available for general use. Everyone should wear a mask to the meeting to continue to ensure the safety of all. For the March meeting we will collect club dues for the 2021 season (\$30 for a single membership and \$35 for a family membership), However, keep in mind that if you paid your dues in 2020, you do not need to pay again for 2021. Kathy Lenhart, our treasurer, has been tracking this so feel free to touch base with her if you are not sure of your status for 2021.

We will also be having the annual 2020 finds competition at the March meeting so bring in your best finds for the 2020 year only in the following categories:

Best Gold Ring,	Best Silver Ring
Best Iron Object,	Best Toy
Best US Small Cent,	Best Button
Best Jewelry (no rings),	Best Token
Best Foreign Coin,	Best US Large Cent
Best Overall Silver Coin,	Best Dime
Best Odd Denomination (2c, 3c, ½ dime, 20c)	Strangest find
Oldest Coin with Date,	Best Quarter
Best Military Item,	Best Advertising Item

The voting will be tallied as 10 points for first place, 7 points for second and 5 points for third. The overall winner will be the Treasure Hunter of the Year for 2020! This will also be a good way to whet our appetites for finds to come in 2021

We will also tally the 2020 Scavenger Hunt results (1st, 2nd and 3rd Place). Margaret Ferjet will be taking over the duties of tallying the Scavenger Hunt results (A copy of the 2020 Scavenger Hunt list is attached for reference later in this newsletter or if you need to complete it).

Pull Tab Challenge-2021

By Larry Ehlinger

When I first joined the EARTH club back in 1996 our club held contests to see how many ring pull tabs one could find in a season. Parks, playgrounds, schoolyards, and ball fields had a staggering number of these tabs buried. They are so numerous that most metal detectors have a “pull tab” icon on their displays. Detectorists have dug countless thousands of these little pesky nuisances over last quarter century, but it seems that we haven’t put a dent in their numbers.



As soon as the snow melts and the ground thaws, the EARTH Club will once again be holding a Pull Tab Challenge! Here is a list of the rules: (1) We will be counting ONLY complete vintage ring pull tabs. The “bever tail” section and the “ring” part, often found separately, cannot be counted. It must be a complete pull tab. The current square tabs that we’re all used to seeing today, which were designed to stay on the cans, will not be counted. We’ve even added a little twist to the game. At the start of the season, every member can submit a guess on the total number of pull tabs they think the entire club will find this year.

This contest is based on the honor system so we ask that you don’t team up with another member... it’s every man or woman for themselves. This will be fun and we’re anxious to see just how many tabs our little club can remove from the ground.

We will be awarding prizes down to at least 5 places and maybe all the way to the tenth place. The prize list has not been established yet but could include U.S. mint sets, silver rounds, Franklin & Kennedy halves, along with detector-related equipment. Members may turn in their Pull tabs at our November meeting or at our December Christmas Party when the awards will be handed out.

Club Hunts - 2021

During our February board/officers meeting club hunts were discussed for the upcoming season. Because hunts are held outside in spacious areas, the 6’ COVID distancing guidelines can easily be adhered to. If any club members don’t feel safe, he/she simply shouldn’t attend.

Springtime has always been the best time to detect and to hold these hunts. Several of these sites have been hunted for many years but they still produce, and the owners graciously invite us back. We don’t have firm dates yet but as soon as we do, we’ll pass them along to members via mass email. Some dates will be on a Saturday and some on Sundays. The member who finds and sets up the hunt will decide what day it is to be held.

We have been holding a “Detecting 101” event at Proctor Park in Utica as our kickoff event for the last 10 years or so. The primary reason for this event is to help newbies with all aspects of the hobby and for club veterans to loosen up their detecting arm and to clean out the cobwebs in their machines. Once again, we’ll be holding the Proctor Park Hunt as the first club event in 2021. Last year it was held on the weekend of April 6th and 7th so it will likely be right around that time again.

Other sites we have been working on are:

- Snow Ridge in Turin
- Woods Valley in Westernville
- Camp Kingsley in Ava
- West Canada Campground in Poland
- Lee Center Legion fields in Lee Center
- McCauley Mountain in Old Forge.















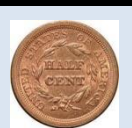
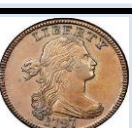
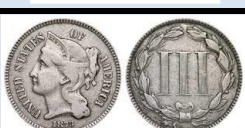























For those club members who often attended these events but have never organized one themselves we’re asking that you put forth the effort and find a suitable site for the club to hold a hunt on. Many hands make light work.

62020 Earth Club Scavenger Hunt

Objects Must be dug in the 2020 calendar year

Name: _____

Total # of Items Found _____

				
Pencil Eraser End	Any Farm Blade	Oil Lamp Part	Any 10K Gold	Any Bobby Dazzler
				
Bolt	Spoon	Community Svc	Batwing Buckle	Buffalo Nickel
				
Any Bottle Cap	Any Clock Key	Crushed Soda Can	Any Foreign Coin	Any Half Cent
				
Draped Bust Cent	3 Cent Nickel	Dandy Button	Ringed Bullet	Lead Item
				
Beaver Tail Pulltab	Tootsie Toy	Metal Spring	Colonial Copper	Franklin Half
				
Ox Shoe	Pocket Knife	Any 1870's IH	Any Silver Jewelry	Pre 1950 Dog Tag
				
Harmonica Reed	Any Drink Token	Silver Wash Qtr	Any Hinge	Aluminum Foil Ball
				
Shotgun Shell End	Watch Fob	Old Nail	Play Money	Old Compaq Case

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 is yellow and features 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, and NGC are also present.



DIGSTOCK

Digstock Events held its inaugural event in Tarboro NC the first weekend of March 2021. Owned and operated by Pete Sorrell, Matt Jones and David Lofgren, the hunt was a huge success. The event was held on over 2,000 acres of farmland that contained numerous homesites, a plantation that dated back to 1722, civil war activity, and revolutionary war activity. Participants (275) from over 30 states also had the opportunity to recover Native American artifacts such as arrowheads, spear-points and pottery. The variety of finds spanning the pre-Columbian era to modern times was stunning. The following are but a small sample of coins, artifacts and relics that were uncovered during this two day hunt.



1818 Large Cent



Early Navy Cuff Button



RARE "Eagle V" Button. Voltigeurs Regiment



Stunning arrowhead



Native American arrowheads and points.



**George Washington
Funerary Cufflink
1799**



**Seated Liberty Quarter, straight
out of the ground!**





Find of the hunt: Rev war patriotic Rattlesnake Button found by Riley Bryant



Signet Ring



1843 ¼ Franc



Mid 1800's Jug



Civil War Zuave Button



Aquachigger and Riley Bryant competing for prime arrowhead territory



1851 Large Cent



NY Civil War Officers Coat Button



Flying Eagle Cent and Enfield Bullet



Civil War Eagle I Button



Fireman's Badge from
Newport News VA



1870; 2 Reale



RARE- Confederate States
Navy Cuff Button

Junk Man's Corner

As many of us did a lot of detecting (while social distancing of course) in 2020, we must have a lot of junk to donate to Lori for delivery to the junkman, I know I certainly do. Please bring it to the next meeting and Lori can turn it into cold hard cash for the benefit of Camp Good Days and Special Times.

Lori recently made a donation from Junk metal proceeds totaling \$400. Lori received a very nice letter from the Camp thank her and the club for the very generous donation. We try to done abut \$500 per year, so all the junk metal really adds up and goes to a great cause.



Earth Metal Detecting Club of Central New York

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