

Newsletter of the Pilchuck Treasure Hunting Club

THE DIRTY DIGGER

AUGUST 2020

PTHC Member Recovers Lost Wedding Ring

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Events

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PTHC Events > August, September, October

No club events have been planned. Club president, David Label, is hopeful we can return to regular monthly meetings this fall. He's also working on a modified Second Saturday Hunt for September 12th.

Other Clubs & Orgs

The **Cascade Treasure Club** will host it's annual Moonlight Hunt on October 24, 2020. More information to be announced later.

Board News

No PTHC Meetings

We will be unable to have formal club meetings until the Everett Firemans Hall is open for business. I have no idea when that will happen. I am planning a modified Second Saturday hunt for September 12th. Details will be upcoming. I will be making up Covid19 rules for the hunt to provide to members in August."

- Club President, David Label

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This Month's By-Law

ARTICLE IX

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1.

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, shall govern this club in all cases not inconsistent with these By-laws, Articles of Incorporation, or Special Rules of Order.

Section 2.

If any provision of these By-laws shall be declared invalid or inoperative, by any competent authority of the executive, judicial, or administrative branch of Federal or State Government, the Executive Board, subject to the approval of the membership, shall have the authority to suspend the operation of such provisions during the period of its invalidity and to substitute in its place and stead a provision which will meet the objections to its validity and which will be in accord with the intent and purpose of the invalid provision. If any Article or Section of these By-laws should be held invalid by operation of law or by any tribunal of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of these By-laws or the application of such Article or Section to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it has been held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

The Board makes a copy of the PTHC By-Laws available at each meeting.

Contact Info

PTHC Executive Committee

For now, email all inquiries to pthc.news@gmail.com

President > Dave Label

Vice-President > Randy Ruoslata

Treasurer > Ray Desy

Secretary > Vacant

PTHC Executive Board

Sergeant-at-Arms > Ben Trower

Program Chairman > Dave Label (acting)

PTHC Officers

Newsletter Editor > Vaughan Douglas > pthc.news@gmail.com

Copper Cache:

FOUND!

Saturday, July 25th. PTHC member Vaughan D. found the “Copper Cache 2” - and the bonus coins - buried at the base of a tree in Woodland Park at Seattle, WA.

The copper plate is to the right and on the opposite page, the area where he found the items is enlarged, as well as a photo of the extra coins that member Scott J. hid along with the copper plate.

The hunt started out a week earlier when my wife Darlene said she'd take the day off and go along on the hunt. Not to look for the cache (she's not a club member nor that interested in metal detecting), but to have a nice outdoor yoga session. Fast forward to the morning of the 25th, Darlene and I reviewed the clues and the map. Based on the clues Scott provided, I was confident I'd find it at the Lower Woodland softball fields (former stomping grounds of ours back in our co-rec softball days). She thought it would be found closer to the baseball fields. We both had zeroed in on “take me out to the ballgame” in the clues.

However, the “buy me a Deluxe 5 blocks south” threw us a curve ball. Dick's Drive-In is not *precisely* 5 blocks south from either of those fields. Is it literally 5 blocks? Is it merely a reference to 45th being 5 blocks south of 50th? We decided Meridian Park on 50th is a reasonable starting point. Since neither of us have been there (ever before or a very long time ago - we couldn't remember) maybe that has something to do with “North Star” and “Venus”.

Meridian Park was a bust. Didn't even need to unload the gear. We walked around and after a few minutes realized none of the clues point to this quaint neighborhood park. On the way back to the car - next stop the softball fields - I re-read Clue #2: “Half way to 99, looking toward the North Star, you can find Venus playing on your left, trying to win her way out of love.” Darlene excitedly snapped her fingers and said, “Venus Williams! The tennis courts.” “Yes!,” I agreed, “trying to win her way *out* of love. Clever.” Now we had it - the cache is buried between the tennis courts and the baseball field along 50th. Off we go!

We found a nice free parking spot on 50th across from the tennis courts; she grabbed her yoga mat and I got all my gear together. If you look at the satellite image insert on the map, the little silver dot is where I started searching. Darlene went north a hundred yards or so for her session. It's 08:55, and a lovely Friday morning. A minute in, my Xterra 705 gives a nice strong signal. Rats! Just a damn screw. I stand up and remember the 3rd clue said “...search higher ground”. That's in front of me (looking north) and just a little left. But I like to hunt



Please note: this contest is open only to active PTHC members. If you'd like to become a member, you'll find membership info here: <https://thepthc.wixsite.com/pthc/members-corner>

around the base of trees and I can't pass up going around this nice big one right here (circled in yellow above). Just a couple minutes later, a strong signal from the 705 along the south base of the tree, a little digging in what I could tell was a filled-in hole, and there it is - the Copper Cache “2”! It's 09:04. That was fast!

Remembering that Scott had included old coins in this challenge, I snap a couple of photos of the “2”, get all my gear back in order, and continue along the base of the tree. Sure enough, I find them on the north side of the tree (see image below). It's 09:10. I have a chuckle at how unexpectedly quick this adventure turned out to be and head over to Darlene, along the way adding a cent to the day's haul.

Now that I've found the cache, it's my turn to hide it and provide clues. I'll get cracking on that within the next couple of weeks, as well as talk to Scott J. about claiming the other prizes he offered: a silver Thaler and a 1oz. copper round.



Coins to be Found 6



Email pthc.news@gmail.com if you find any of these coins to claim your prize at the next regular monthly meeting.

Presidential Dollars

No new issues of Presidential Dollars until a former president of the U.S. dies.

Hayes P / Garfield P / Arthur PD / Cleveland PD / Wilson PD / Taft PD /
T. Roosevelt PD / McKinley PD / Harding PD / Coolidge PD / Hoover P / FDR PD /
Truman PD / Eisenhower D / Kennedy PD / Johnson PD / Nixon PD / Ford PD / Reagan PD

Sacagawea Dollars



2011 P / 2012 P / 2013 PD / 2014 PD / 2015 PD /
2016 PD / 2017 PD / 2018 PD / 2019 PD

National Parks Quarters

These are in the America's National Park quarters series (2010-2021)

American Samoa P / Virgin Island P / Mount Hood P / Hawaii Volcanoes P /
Grand Canyon P / Acadia P / / International Peace Memorial P /
White Mountain P / Great Smokey Mountains P / Voyageurs P /
New York Fort Sumter National Monument Site P /
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore P / Cumberland Island National Seashore P



New 2019 Quarters

Lowell National Historical Park in Massachusetts PDW /
American Memorial Park in Northern Mariana Islands PW /
War in the Pacific National Historical Park in Guam PW /
San Antonio Missions National Historical Park in Texas PW /
Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness in Idaho PW

Be the first club member to find, with your metal detector, one of the New 2019 quarters with the mint mark "W", and claim a special prize of a silver half dollar. Keep an eye on your finds pouch!

Coins found to date

Other recent finds:

- *Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness Idaho "D" 2019 (found by Stan S., July 26, 2020 8AM)*
- *Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Dollar "P" 2011 (found by Stan S., July 13, 2020 2AM)*
- San Antonio Missions National Historical Park in Texas "D" (found by Lloyd M., February, 2020)
- Frederick Douglas National Historic Site in the District of Columbia "P" (found by Kari D. Sept. 30, 2019)
- War in the Pacific National Historical Park in Guam "D" 2019 quarter (found by Mike K. Sept. 30, 2019)
- American Memorial Park in Northern Mariana Islands "D" 2019 quarter (found by Mike K.)

7 Scavenger Hunt

Ron A. compiled this scavenger hunt exclusively for PTHC. This hunt's end date has changed from April 15 to the day of the next regular monthly club meeting.

Pilchuck Treasure Hunting Club 2020

Scavenger Hunt 1 January 16 - ~~April 15~~

Three highest point totals receive silver prizes as well as all the participants. Please bring Bonus point items to the April club meeting.

Any questions contact Ron Aldridge at 206-818-2197 or ron.aldridge@comcast.net

Eyeball / Scooping Finds	Coins & Tokens	Detecting / Scooping	Misc. Finds	Detecting/Scooping
1. feather	1. birth year coin	1. Buffalo nickel (no date)	1. safety pin	1. safety pin
2. clam or oyster shell	2. Buffalo nickel (no date)	2. Canadian coin	2. junk jewelry	2. junk jewelry
3. marble	3. Canadian coin	3. tax token	3. hinge	3. hinge
4. button (any material)	4. tax token	5. 1976 Bicentennial quarter	4. tooth paste type squeeze tube	4. tooth paste type squeeze tube
5. tree nut (chestnut, acorn, etc)	5. \$4.00 in dug U.S. coins (accumulated)	6. \$4.00 in dug U.S. coins (accumulated)	5. hair barrette	5. hair barrette
6. wad of foil	7. V Nickel	7. V Nickel	6. 5 toy cars & trucks	6. 5 toy cars & trucks
7. pavement penny	8. silver Washington quarter	8. silver Washington quarter	7. gear wheel from watch or toy	7. gear wheel from watch or toy
8. pavement dime	9. 15 Wheaties	9. 15 Wheaties	8. suspender piece	8. suspender piece
9. pottery shard	10. no date Wheatie	10. no date Wheatie	9. metal toy wheel	9. metal toy wheel
10. bead (any material)	11. transit token	11. transit token	10. blue jeans button	10. blue jeans button
11. bobby pin	12. "Good For" token	12. "Good For" token	11. military button	11. military button
12. bubble gum wad	13. Mercury dime	13. Mercury dime	12. copper tubing	12. copper tubing
13. old bottle (pre 1960)	14. silver Roosevelt dime	14. silver Roosevelt dime	13. whistle	13. whistle
14. U.S. paper money	15. silver war nickel (1943 thru 1945)	15. silver war nickel (1943 thru 1945)	14. bell	14. bell
15. pull tabs (3 different colors)	16. 1919 Wheat penny	16. 1919 Wheat penny	15. harmonica part	15. harmonica part
16. rubber band	17. 2 foreign coins (non Canadian)	17. 2 foreign coins (non Canadian)	16. pencil eraser	16. pencil eraser
17. glove or mitten	18. 1909-S thru 1915-S Wheatie (one only)	18. 1909-S thru 1915-S Wheatie (one only)	17. shell casing	17. shell casing
18. sock	19. 1940 thru 1959 Wheatie (one only)	19. 1940 thru 1959 Wheatie (one only)	18. bullet head	18. bullet head
19. glasses (sun or regular)	20. Barber coin (one only)	20. Barber coin (one only)	19. key	19. key
20. plastic toy	(1892-1916 10c, 25c or 50c)	(1892-1916 10c, 25c or 50c)	20. fishing weight	20. fishing weight
			21. spoon	21. spoon
			22. lead soldier piece	22. lead soldier piece
			23. fork	23. fork
			24. silver ring	24. silver ring
			26. copper wire	26. copper wire
			27. ace bandage clip	27. ace bandage clip
			28. tire weight	28. tire weight
			29. thimble	29. thimble
			30. old fuse	30. old fuse

Bonus Items (3 pts) Detecting / Scooping

1. exhibition or worlds fair item
2. ring with inscription
3. auto key (maker marked Ford, GM, etc.)
4. item w/ patent date between 1895 -1919
5. gold ring (10k+)

Members' Corner

Wedding Ring Recovery

In early July, pthc.news received a request for help to find a lost wedding ring. Several PTHC members accepted the mission.

Initial message: Tuesday July 7
From PTHC Member, Pam M.

A person posted in our local neighbor page that he lost his wedding ring at or IN Silver Lake. We accidentally left our detectors in our motorhome which is presently at Camping World in Phoenix (reason we couldn't make the hunt this year!) Is someone interested in giving me their phone number so I can pass it on to him? Good PR for our group!

Contact Made: Thursday July 9
The gentleman, Seth, called. He'd been out swimming in Silver Lake, at Everett, WA. When he finished, he noticed his wedding ring had slipped off his finger. His swimming "lane" started at the small alcove by Emory's restaurant to 200' straight out. Description of ring provided. I'm (Vaughan D.) going out tomorrow to look.

First Attempt: Friday July 10
No ring recovered. During the search found a wheatie and a dime, and cleaned the shore area of July 4th debris.

Message to PTHC Members: Monday July 13
We received a request for help to find a lost wedding ring. The ring is tungsten and the gentleman who lost it was swimming on July 4th. It's reportedly lost in Silver Lake between the shore and 200' out. My search was the beach area and 4' out. Minelab Xterra 705 is not fully submersible.

This area is by Emory's restaurant at Everett, where the upside down boat rests. Park at

Hauge Home-
stead Park. Per-
haps one of our

PTHC members can search the lake farther
out than 4 feet.



The alcove



Silver Lake

Bad News Call: Tuesday July 14
I called Seth to tell him I had no luck finding the ring. He thanked me for trying. I told him there will likely be more PTHC members heading out to look and I'd be in touch.

Second Attempt: Saturday July 18
PTHC Member Mike C. heads out to Silver Lake. Summer weather finally showed up

this week and it's the hottest day of 2020 so far. (Nice day to be in the water.) For this search mission, Mike used his Garrett AT Pro (waterproof to 3 meters), a long-handled sand scoop, and a snorkel and mask.

He searched the shallower part of the area and didn't recover any rings. As he trudged his way toward deeper water, things got a little, shall we say, "murky". With every step and scoop, the soft silt on the bottom of the lake was released, making for poor visibility beyond a short distance beneath the surface. This forced Mike to use an unusual - yet clever - method: hear a signal; get the target in the scoop; bring the scoop basket up to the surface; with the mask and snorkel in place, put his face in the water and search the scoop basket for the target. The trickiest part of this system is he can't wear his glasses while he has the mask on!

After about an hour, he's become comfortable with the search method and has made good progress: he's 75 feet from shore and the water level is up to his neck. He hears a strong signal from his metal detector, gets it in the scoop, brings the scoop up to the water's surface, takes a deep breath through the snorkel, and puts his face in the water to search the basket. There it is! The ring!

And just as described: Tungsten, two gold channels, the word "TRITON" on the inside.



Mike calls me to share the news of the successful recovery. And texts a couple photos of a Mercury dime he scooped up - his first silver coin.

Good News Call: Sunday July 19

I contact Seth to tell him the good news. He's grateful and thrilled and grants me permission to share his contact information with Mike to arrange for the ring's return. Coincidentally, it turns out they both live in the same town!

The Return of the Ring: Thursday July 23



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If you have a treasure hunting story or finds to share, submit it to pthc.news@gmail.com.

I was not surprised when a shallow midtone resulted in a stainless band, and



- Woody

JULY Finds



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