

# OKANAGAN

## TREASURE HUNTERS

### CLUB

#### APRIL 2018

#### NEWSLETTER



The Okanagan Treasure Hunters Club meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of every month. They are held at Penticton Museum & Archives 785 Main Street, Penticton BC, V2A 5E3 at 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

#### WELCOME BACK TO THE FOLD



Cheryl Harris  
Wayne Harvey

#### Clues To Find The Club Coin

As of the April 17, 2018 meeting, the Club Coin had not been found. Dianne provided a New Clue and a Silver Quarter was added to the prize.

##### Original Clues

- South of "Grizzly Bear", this place was incorporated as a city in 1948.
- This park was named after an Okanagan Band Chief in the early 1800's.
- Now, stand in the middle of the white "X" and walk north-west 120 steps.
- From "No Thru Road" walk 50 steps north to find the Club Coin.
- You will need a "cwmpawd" to help you out.

##### New Clue:

- The Park can be found on a Penticton Tourist Map

When you find the coin, please leave something detectable for the next member(s) so they know they had the right spot and that the coin was found. Then call Dianne McKeown 250-490-4885.

A special thank you to Syd and Jo-Anne for the coffee and the delicious snacks at the April 17, 2018 Club meeting.

## Club Hunts at the Fairview Ghost Town in April 2018

Three separate hunts on April 7th, 14th and 28 took place on the abandoned site of the once bustling townsite of Fairview, BC. Fairview was established during gold mining activity in the area in 1887 and by 1893 became known as the largest city north of San Francisco. In 1897 the Fairview Hotel was constructed, (also know as the Big Tee Pee), but burned down in a fire in 1902. By 1906 mining activity came to a standstill and by 1919 the townsite was essentially abandoned. Today there are no buildings left but over the years numerous coins, pieces of jewellery and other items have been detected and sifted out of the soils in the area.

The area contains quite a bit of metal trash and junk, as some of the photos show, but we also found some pretty interesting (and astounding!) finds! In fact a few of the “Finds of the Month” came from Fairview. It is likely that there will be more Fairview finds entered at the May meeting contest. This is definitely a site we should all return to in the fall, after the rattlers and ticks have gone into hiding.





## April 22, 2018 Club Hunt at Powell Beach

It was a beautiful sunny day at Powell Beach in Summerland for our April Club Hunt on April 22, 2018. Hunt master, Syd Birch, came up with a very fun and entertaining seeded hunt whereby participants were asked to bring \$2 in coins or equivalent for prizes. The coins were then placed on a board displaying a full 52 card deck of mini playing cards as shown on the photo in the top right. Tokens were wrapped in 78 mini playing cards - 52 cards plus another 26 - and seeded throughout the beach area. As the tokens were swept, contestants had to decide between continuing to find as many tokens as possible or to run back to the prize table to collect their prizes since 50% of the card tokens were doubles.



Rob ran his world famous silver coin draws and raffled a number of items Syd had brought for hunt prizes.








# FINDS OF THE MONTH – April 2018

## COINS

		
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> :Brett Johnson</b> <b>1905 Cdn Dime</b> <b>(Fairview BC)</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup>: Syd Birch</b> <b>Dutch Silver Coin</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup>: Ralph Hodge</b> <b>Eight 10 Pence Coins</b>

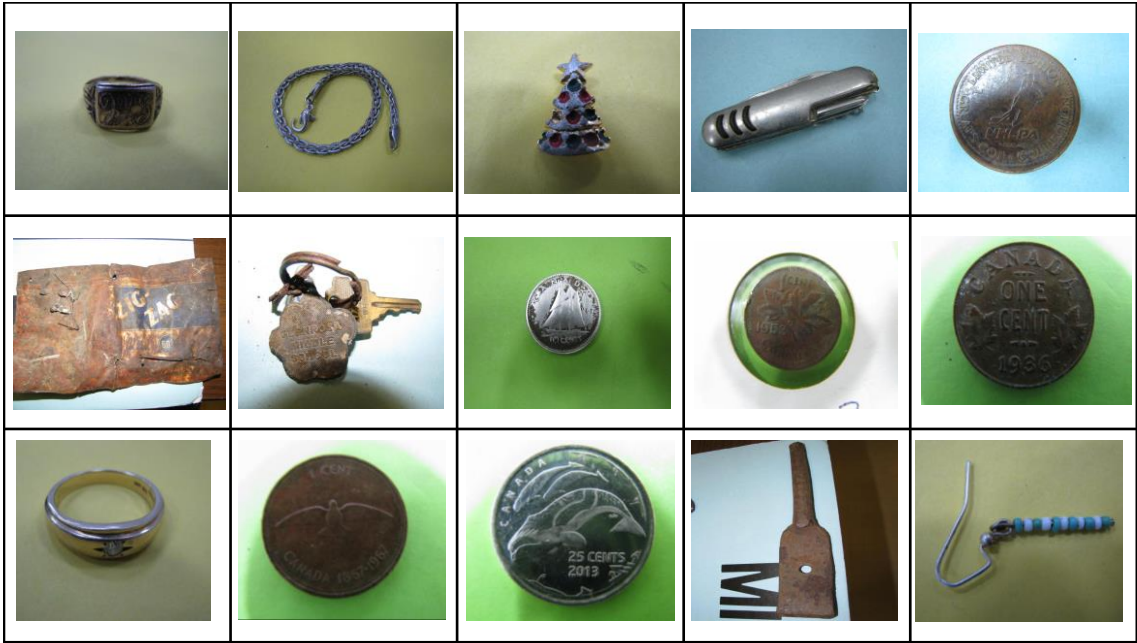
## JEWELRY


		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> : Chris Bilocerkowec</b> <b>14 Kt. Gold &amp; Diamond Ring</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> :Paul Snider</b> <b>Ladies Gold &amp; Diamond Ring</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup>:Brett Johnson</b> <b>Heart Locket with Watch</b>

## MISC.

		
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> :Brett Johnson</b> <b>1915 Firearms License</b> <b>(Fairview BC)</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup>: Chris Bilocerkowec</b> <b>1882 Tin Plate</b> <b>(Fairview BC)</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup>: Syd Birch</b> <b>Wood Splitting Wedge</b> <b>(Fairview BC)</b>

OTHER GREAT FINDS



	<p><b>Winner of the “Non-Winner’s draw”</b> (for entering an item in the Finds of the Month, but did not win 1st, 2nd or 3rd) <b>Jacques St-Hilaire</b></p>
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The Finds of the Month Standings as of April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018:

Brett Johnson – 15 Syd Birch – 13 Chris Bilocerkowec – 12 Hank Vodarek – 10 Paul Snider – 9 Rob Blackie - 7 Samantha Tarbet – 6 Elef Christensen – 5 Maggie St-Hilaire – 5	Carole Snider – 4 Annette Estey – 2 Karen MacKenzie – 2 Dianne McKeown – 2 Ralph Hodge – 2 Cheryl Harris – 2 Jacques St-Hilaire – 2 Michael MacKenzie - 1
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	<p><b>SILVER HALVES WINNERS</b></p> <table><tr><td>Jo-Anne</td><td>Syd</td><td>Brett</td><td>Jacques</td></tr><tr><td>Syd</td><td>Ralph</td><td>Maggie</td><td>Brett</td></tr><tr><td>Michael</td><td>Wayne</td><td>Samantha</td><td>Wayne</td></tr></table>	Jo-Anne	Syd	Brett	Jacques	Syd	Ralph	Maggie	Brett	Michael	Wayne	Samantha	Wayne
Jo-Anne	Syd	Brett	Jacques										
Syd	Ralph	Maggie	Brett										
Michael	Wayne	Samantha	Wayne										

# **Okanagan Treasure Hunters Club**

## **Super Scavenger Hunt 2018**

### **Main Items:**

1. Knife or Spoon	8. Junk Ring	15. Jewelry, Not a Ring
2. Beer Bottle Cap	9. Loonie	16. Car or Truck Key
3. Pencil-End Eraser	10. Toy Car or Truck	17. Silver Coin
4. Canadian Nickel	11. Foreign Coin not US	18. Silver Ring
5. U.S. Nickel	12. Toonie	19. Gold Ring
6. U.S. Dime	13. Token	20. Nail
7. Quarter	14. Pull Tab - Small	

### **Bonus Items:**

1. Pocket Knife	3. Pen	5. Dog Tag
2. AA Battery	4. Tent Peg	

### **Rules:**

1. The hunt begins at the March meeting and ends at the May meeting.
2. All items must be found while metal detecting
3. Rings returned to their owners will qualify
4. Any item may also be entered in find of the month

### **Prizes:**

1. The person who finds all twenty items and the five bonus items wins a silver half.
2. The person who finds just twenty items wins a silver quarter.
3. The person who finds fifteen of the 20 main items wins a silver dime.
4. In the case of a tie, or multiple winners, all winners will receive a prize.
5. There will be a draw for all participants.
6. The Huntmaster will announce the draw prizes at the May meeting.

Paul Snider is the organizer of this hunt.

# Competition Hunting With a Metal Detector

By Syd Birch

## How To Find a Few More Good Targets:

### Equipment:

Use the detector that you are most comfortable with but in an all day competition try to choose a detector that is not too heavy. If your detector has a frequency shift feature, this can be very helpful in a crowded field where other detectors are using the same frequency. Use good quality earphones even if it's not required. They help to cut down on all the noise. For sand hunts you also need a fast sifting scoop with a comfortable handle length. You will need a good size pouch with an open mouth. Hold the mouth open with wire or insert another container. This is very important. Do not take pinpointers, knives, or other diggers to a sand hunt. You don't need any of those as they will slow you down. Wear good shoes. At times you will be digging with your feet. For grass hunts you will need a small digging tool like a screwdriver and a pinpointer but use them only when necessary. The pros will find most targets with just their fingers because it's faster.

### In the days before the hunt:

Practise your technique. If it's a beach hunt, go to the beach and spread a few coins around. See how long it takes you to find them all. Keep trying until you have your best time. If it's a grass field hunt, practice pinpointing with your detector. Try to find every coin without using your pinpointer. Have your pinpointer with you but if you have to use it for every coin it will slow you down. Keep practicing until you feel that you can compete with the best. Remember that competition hunting is not like your usual relaxed detecting in the park or on the beach. All the best athletes train for game day.

### The day before the hunt:

Check your equipment. Buy good quality new batteries for your detector or make sure that your detector is fully charged. Test your new batteries but take an extra set just to be safe. Some pros take an extra detector as a backup and it's a good idea if you have one.

### Game Day, the day of the hunt:

Get to the hunt early and study the beach or the field. Is the field damp or dry? How deep are the coin planters leaving the coins? Look for a good place to be standing when the hunt starts. It's important to know how the game is played, so go to the opening ceremony and ask the hunt chairman how many tokens will be in the hunt. This information is usually given out at the opening ceremony. The reason that you want to know how many tokens will be in the hunt is because you already know the size of the field, and you can be sure that the token planter will distribute them evenly throughout the field, then you can calculate the distance between the tokens. More on this later.

### The hunt is about to begin:

Find a good place to start. If the field is square, stand near the middle of any side. Do not stand in a corner as there will be too much traffic when the horn blows. If the field is a rectangle, stand near the middle of a long side. Watch where the pros are standing. They always choose a good place to start.

### Your strategy:

You know how many minutes you will be allowed to detect. Most targets will be found in the first third of the hunt so if the hunt is 45 minutes, you have 15 minutes to find most of your targets. One other consideration is that in some hunts there will be one special prize like a gold coin or a detector and this will be on a special token, perhaps a different color or shape. It's a good bet that the hunt chairman will place this token near the center of the field to give everyone an equal chance so your path should take you to the center of the field where you will scan as widely as possible.

### The horn sounds to begin the hunt:

Take a few steps go get ahead of the crowd. Scan left and right moving in a zig-zag motion always moving towards the center of the field. Every time you scoop or dig a target take a quick look at it. If it's a clad coin just dump it in your pouch, you're only looking for tokens. Don't pick it out of the scoop, just dump it in your pouch. When you find a token, take a quick look at it to note the color and see if it's the same metal as all the other coins, like a painted nickel, or is it something else.

At one time, hunt organizers would use special tokens like brass but they've mostly stopped doing that because it became too easy to "cherry pick" the tokens. If the token is brass you might have a way to find more while ignoring nickels so take a quick look. This also applies where the hunt contains silver coins mixed with other coins. Quickly drop the token in your pouch. Now, remember that you have previously calculated the distance to the next token. The next token will never be beside the one that you have just found. Move away to the location of the next token, always moving away from the crowd or towards the center of the field. When you find the next token, stay with your plan. Always move to new territory or away from the crowd. Always watch the contestants around you to see if they have missed some ground. When the hunt is half over, most of the targets will have been found. If the hunt is in sand, you might see the pros scan the edges of the field. This sometimes produces a few targets because everyone takes a step or two when the hunt begins. If the hunt is on a grass field, and there is some taller grass, I have had good success by using the last third of the hunt to scan the tall grass. Others will avoid that area early in the hunt, as you should too. Always scan the easy ground first.

### The horn blows and your pouch is full of tokens:

Cash in your tokens then enjoy the break between hunts by visiting with new friends. These events are all about making new friends and having a good time. If that hunt didn't produce as many good finds as you had hoped, don't get discouraged. You're doing everything right, and luck does play a part. The next one could be the big one! Note: This Tip and others can be found on our website: [www.othc.info](http://www.othc.info)