

The Soundoff

EUREKA! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc.
Denver, Colorado



Vol. 48 Issue XII

December 2020

Search With Care!

Visit our Club on the Internet at <http://www.eurekathc.org>



*Best wishes to all for Peace and Joy during
this trying holiday season.
The end, though perhaps distant,
is at least in sight.
Think positive. Test Negative.*



The Prez Sez

by Chris Davis

December 2020

It looks like the pandemic is still with us. As feared, we are getting a jump in cases during the cold weather. Hopefully, with some vaccines coming out, things will calm down a bit in the future. Of course, we are still holding our monthly Club Zoom Meeting. **As an incentive to attend the Zoom Meeting, we will be giving away 3 silver coins to individuals among the at-**

tendees, by drawing. At the November Zoom Meeting, silver coins were won by Marcus Lieberman, Laura Lewis, and Jane Reed.

Following strict precautionary rules, we will still be having two Breakfast Club outings a month, and Historical Artifact Recovery Team (HART) activities as they come up. The excellent publications, the Eureka! Newsletter *Soundoff*, and the *Corner Booth* are helping people keep in touch and keeping up the interest in detecting.

We will be having our **Officer Elections** this month. Nominations for officer positions will be accepted until the end of our Zoom Meeting on Dec. 11th. Following this meeting I will prepare a ballot of candidates. This ballot will be sent to each paid member by email. Club members will vote for the candidates of their choice, then send me their selections by email **No Later Than Dec. 31st**. I will cut and paste each vote ballot I receive onto a master list and submit a complete copy to the Secretary.

As far as voting goes, our Bylaws state:

Single Adult Membership: Age of 18 or older, one vote per membership.

Family Membership: Two adults and/or a single parent with any children under the age of 18 residing in the same house in a domestic situation, one vote per legal adult.

We still have not found anyone who has volunteered to serve as Newsletter Editor. This is a critical position, especially in these trying times when we are limited in what we can do. The Newsletter keeps us all in contact and informed on what is going on. If no-one volunteers to take this position, we will have to stop having a newsletter, much to the detriment of the Club.

If you would like to nominate someone for an office, talk to them, get their approval, and send Nancy and I their name and the position they are being nominated for. If you are interested in a position, it is more than acceptable to nominate yourself. Give some serious thought to running for office. The Club needs new ideas, skills, energy and people who can think outside the box. We need YOU.



Eureka Rescues Holiday for Man From Florida

by Bruce Morton

A young man, Mike J., visiting Denver for the first time from Florida had brought his wife here “because I’d never seen snow before.” While walking about downtown near his hotel, he took time to throw some snow balls, bare handed, only to discover a bit later that his wedding ring was missing.

[Yes, we all know better, but Mike can be forgiven, being from Tampa an all.]



He did the right thing and contacted Ring Finders who put him in touch with a representative from Colorado Springs who, because of the distance, called Chris Davis. Chris contacted Bruce Morton who arranged to meet Mike on Sunday morning at the location (Speer Boulevard at Lawrence Parkway.)



The area was a small, perhaps 20 feet by 30 feet area of snow covered grass in front of a tall commercial building. Bruce

planned to grid search the patch vertically and horizontally, but was able to find the ring under 3 inches of snow on only the fourth pass.

Mike was extremely happy to have the large, thick, gold ring back on his finger and later said the value was around \$2000.

While giving him a ride back to his hotel, Mike shared that he was pleased and gratified to find that “everyone I’ve been in contact with in Colorado is so nice.” Bruce assured him that it’s just that kind of place. Mike plans to return for a visit with his kids... and wear gloves.



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Joining Eureka!

Membership Dues

Yearly dues are \$33 per individual or \$42 for a family membership.

Please go to:

Eurekathc.org

Download and complete the application form under the *About* tab. Membership dues can be paid to the Treasurer at the regular monthly



Who's New



Marianne Mann actually joined Eureka in August of this year, but Covid interruptions prevented her introduction until now. She has joined us on multiple Breakfast Club outings and is doing well as a new detectorist, with her Garrett AT-Pro. She selected that model after significant internet/YouTube research and is enjoying it.

Marianne moved to Colorado from Michigan in 1998, and to Denver from Colorado Springs 7 years ago. She found Eureka in a Google search and has been interested in detecting since accompanying her grandfather as a child detecting beaches in Michigan.

She works as a Senior Operations Supervisor at the Staples distribution center in Brighton. Besides detecting, she also enjoys being a genealogy researcher, bowling (many tournaments around the U.S.), and was also a SCUBA diver in Virginia, North Carolina, Texas, and Michigan.

Welcome, Marianne, to Eureka. We'll have more fun soon, we promise. 2020 was a tough year to join.

TREASURE HUNTER'S CODE OF ETHICS

- I WILL respect private property and do no treasure hunting without the owner's permission.
- I WILL fill all excavations.
- I WILL appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources, wildlife, and private property.
- I WILL use thoughtfulness, consideration, and courtesy at all times.
- I WILL build fires in designated or safe places only.
- I WILL leave gates as found.
- I WILL remove and properly dispose of any trash that I find.
- I WILL NOT litter.
- I WILL NOT destroy property, buildings, or what is left of ghost towns and deserted structures.
- I WILL NOT tamper with signs, structural facilities, or equipment.



Small Find, Big History, and a Bit of Mystery

by Bruce Morton and Alan Bravo



We all know how good Alan Bravo is at finding artifacts and tokens on property that's been "scraped off" for new construction. Well, this story starts there; at the site of a home built in 1896. Alan received permission to hunt the property and promptly discovered a brass watch fob measuring about 1-1/2 inches x 1 inch with an interesting scene engraved on its face. It shows a bi-plane flying near a tower with a beam of light emanating from it and has lettering which reads "DENVER - U.S. AERONAUTICAL LIGHT." So, the quest was on to learn if such a tower really existed and was it actually related to flying in the post WWI period.

Alan, with his knowledge of Denver and real estate background, was able to make a probable determination that the tower was from the Daniels and Fisher Building at 16th Street and Arapahoe in Denver. The D&F tower, which completed construction in 1911, was the tallest building in Denver (a title it retained for almost 40 years) and one of the tallest in the U.S. at the time. It was designed to draw shoppers to the D&F department store. It is modeled after the Campanile of St. Marks Cathedral in Venice, Italy (also pictured below) and actually 7 feet taller. The rest of the building was demolished in the 1960's but the tower was preserved and is still in use today with an events venue at the top and a cabaret in the basement.

So, what about the aeronautical light?

We contacted **Chuck Stout**, the curator of **Wings Over the Rockies Museum**; here's his very informative reply: Based on what I see in the photo you sent, I would date this to the period between about



2021 and 1929, but it could be as much as 3-4 years older. The tower seems to be the Daniels and Fisher Tower, and the ray of light shining out to the right is likely a rotating white beacon.

I chose the first date based on the configuration of the (generic) biplane and the development of aeronautical lighting. Before

Left: the Daniels and Fisher building in Denver
Completed 1911
Right: the Campanile in St. Mark's square, Venice
Rebuilt, after collapse, 1902



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World War I, biplanes often had control surfaces to the front and rear of the wings, and seldom flew between cities or at night, so a beacon to guide pilots would have been more of a novelty than a necessity.



After World War I, as people began experimenting with airmail and the commercial possibilities for aviation, the Department of Commerce began standardizing aeronautical lighting and building chains of light beacons to link cities. They built the first transcontinental lighted airway in 1923

-24, but it went through Cheyenne, not Denver. Denver Municipal Airport opened in 1929, and I would guess that its airport beacon would supersede a light in downtown Denver. (Denver Municipal eventually became Stapleton International Airport.)

So, now we know that the D&F tower beacon, if it existed, was not part of the transcontinental lighted airmail route. So we turned to **Alison Salutz, Director of Community Programs, Historic Denver, Inc.**, who contacted some associates. One of those, **Brian Trembath, the Special Collections Librarian, Western History & Genealogy, Denver Public Library** supplied some very important information. He found a photo dated **1911-1915** by **Louis Charles McClure, 1867-1957**, showing a beacon shining from the D&F tower. The photo could be interpreted as having been manipulated in the printing process, but that raises the question why would such have been done if the beacon was not actually present? Most likely it was done to emphasize the dim light beam and dramatize the photo, a common practice in black & white photography printing (called dodging or burning.)

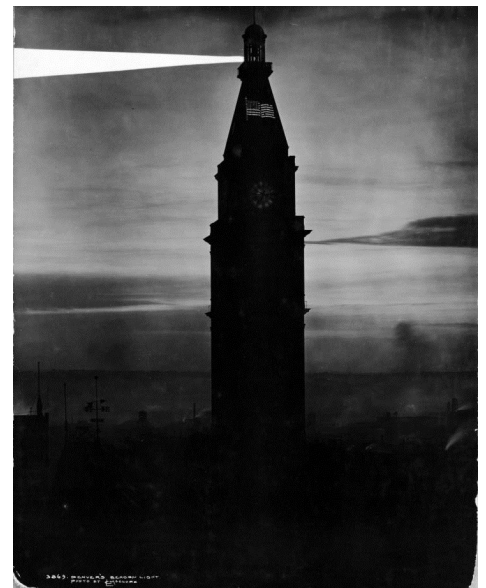
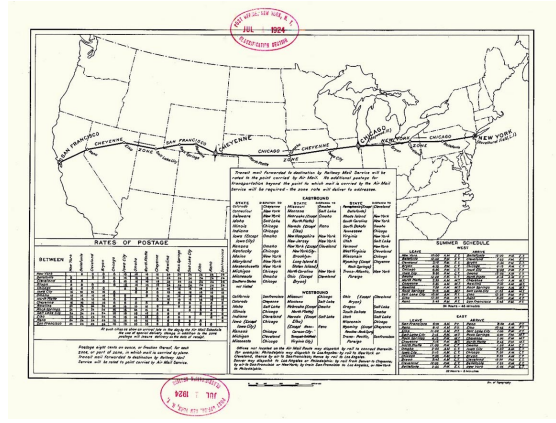
To complete our investigation, Ms. Salutz referred us to **Richard Hentzell, Esq., D&F Tower Manager**. He reports:

Yes, there was a beacon installed at the top of the Tower just below the bell. It was installed in 1928. A Denver Post article at that time stated as follows:



The Tower would be the site of "One of the largest airplane beacons in the country. The beacon will be seen seventy-five miles in all directions on an ordinarily clear night. It is a twenty-four inch light, burning a 1,000 watt incandescent lamp." It cost \$2,000 and was to make two revolutions per minute every night of the year. Its purpose was to help guide early aviators to Denver.

When the beacon was installed, the clapper to the bell had to be cut off to allow the beacon to fit under the bell. That clapper



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was never used since the bell was mounted in a stationary position. The bell was rung by a clapper mounted on a beam and struck the bell from the outside. The controls for the beacon are still installed just below the hatch leading up to the bell.

So, what did we learn?

1. There was certainly a beacon atop the Daniels and Fisher building tower.
2. A beacon may have been present in the tower in the earliest days, if the date attributed to the photograph is accurate (1911-1915.)
3. A beacon was definitely in place the year before Denver Metropolitan Airport opened in 1929.
4. The scene engraved on the watch fob was accurate, but the date may be tough to verify.
5. The watch fob would have been a candidate for Find of the Year; Artifact in any year but 2020.
6. We need to tour the D&F Tower!

The authors express sincere appreciation for the contributions of:

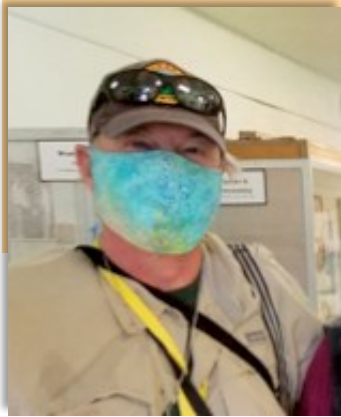
Chuck Stout, Curator, Wings Over the Rockies Museum

Alison Salutz, Director, Community Programs, Historic Denver, Inc.

Brian Trembath, Special Collections Librarian, Western History & Genealogy, Denver Public Library

Richard Hentzell, Esq., Daniels and Fisher Tower Manager





Breakfast Club

by Chris Davis



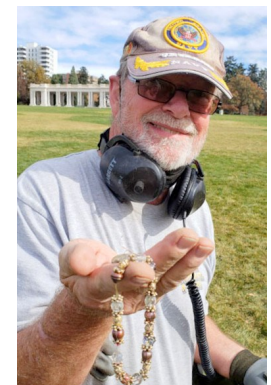
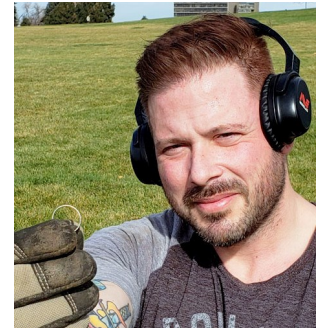
Friday, November 6th

Clements Park was selected for our November 6 Breakfast Club outing. It was a very nice day.

The day's high temperature was 73. It was a fine day to be out. We had a

new member attend, Will K, but the only machine he had was one of those junky Minelab Eqinox's. Well, you work with what you have. I think it is safe to say we had a good hunt. Ten rings were found by Mike M, Marcus L, Roy N, Chris D, Mary S, Will K, Bob H and Jeff M. Brice Y. found a bracelet and a wheat-ear penny. Marcus had a small silver ring, an earring, a 20 Cent Euro and 3 tokens. Mike M. dug up a nice cigarette lighter and 2 rings, one a nice, but badly bent turquoise. Jeff M. also had 2 rings, a religious medallion and two earrings. Bob H. did best on change with \$7.45, followed by Jeff M. with \$4.45.

We had a tie for best item found on the hunt. Randy S. picked up a WWII Army Air Corp collar/hat insignia. Roy N. countered with a Captain America Ring, a loupe and a silver chain. When I first saw a picture of the Captain America Ring, I just assumed it was a cheap aluminum kiddie ring. This was not the case. It was a well made ring for a large adult. I am guessing it is stainless steel. Roy is obviously a pretty tough individual if he can beat up Captain America and take his ring.





Saturday, November 21st

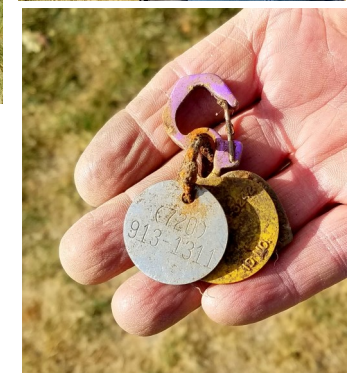
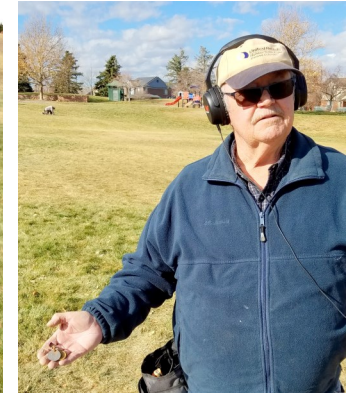
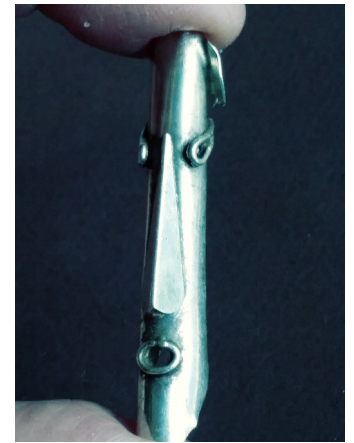
The Eureka! Breakfast Club made a hunt on November 21, 2020. Weather conditions were great. Temperatures ranged into the high 40's. When the clouds rolled over, it was cool, and everyone put their jackets on. When the sun shined thru, it was hot, and everyone took their jackets back off. We went to Crescent Park in Denver for our hunt.



I managed to leave the house without my cell phone camera, so Bruce had to do photo duty. No sooner than we got to the park, Randy ran into a woman who had just lost her hearing aid. We spread out, and found it in no time. Marcus was awarded his silver half dollar from the meeting drawing. As has become the norm, Bob H. came in first in the coin category with \$6.47. I came in second with \$5.02. Jeff M. came in third with \$4.67, which I would say was very good, considering he spend half his time helping John L. and Len S. learn their new Equinox machines. Roy N. did best in rings taking "Best Ring" and also "Worst



Ring", as he found the only 2 rings. One of his rings was rather interesting. You know what an expandible wristwatch band looks like? That is what the lower part of his ring had. I never seen one like it. Rafi got a flash-light (which worked). Randy S. found what, if I was in England, I would have called a "zoomorphic". It appeared to be a small stainless steel tube with eyes, ears and a nose. But, it was actually silver. Randy also got an earring. Mary S. picked up a very interesting Denver International Airport Coin. It was about the size of a silver dollar but twice as thick, with high relief outlines. I recovered a similar bronze Star Trek pendant. Jeff M. dug up a very nice 1947D Wheat Ear Penny. We had a good hunt.



Eureka! 2020 Calendar

December 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

December 2020

- 11th- General Meeting 7:30 p.m. (remote)
- 19th- Breakfast Club (with appropriate restrictions)
- 24th - Soundoff Deadline
- 30th - January Board Meeting

Contact Chris Davis if you need emailed instructions for joining the Zoom meeting. It provides a method for getting assistance with training if needed.

Watch the Soundoff and your email for updates of scheduled events in January and beyond.



CURRENT INFORMATION

GOLD-N-DETECTORS
is Open for Business!

Face masks still required.

Note: The Email address is temporarily unavailable. Please call Bill at 303-278-6622.



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Upcoming Events

NEXT EUREKA! MEETING

For in-person meetings, bring:
Nametags ~ thanks for wearing them to all Eureka! functions
Cash ~ for drawings, hunts, and Eureka! merchandise
Finds ~ to share
Ideas ~ for speakers and outings

Friday, December 11th at 7:30 p.m.

A remote meeting will be held via Zoom. If you need training in using Zoom, contact Chris Davis, Bruce Morton, Alan Bravo, or Nancy Faires.

Speaker: John Olson
Civil War finds

UPCOMING EUREKA! EVENTS

Breakfast Club (with restrictions)
Saturday, December 19th

Contact: **Chris Davis 225.235.2642**
for details or to get added to the email list.

LINKED WEB SITES

www.mdhtalk.org Detecting Hobby Talk

www.fmdac.org Federation of Metal Detector & Archaeological Clubs

www.spreaker.com/admrr

Relic Roundup Radio Show (hosted by Jeff Lubbert, 7pm Mondays)

TenaciousTreasureTracker.com

See Brian Henry's website for the TTT Hunt clues, and new merchandise available.

www.Youtube.com/AdventuresInDirt

Compilation of the best weekly metal detecting channels and finds, by Ken King (Eureka! member). See his **Weekly Dirt** show at 3:00 PM on Sundays (and available thereafter)

www.Youtube.com/5280Adventures

A variety channel of metal detecting, coin hunting, and other outdoor activities by Tony Frangella (Eureka! member) with his son, Caden.



A special THANKS to KG and Ringy for being speakers at our November meeting, during which they shared very interesting stories and anecdotes about their lives as reality TV and Youtube stars. It was great fun, guys.



Secretary's Notes
by Nancy Faires



Club Meeting November 13, 2020 conducted via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER Time: 7:31 PM

The monthly Eureka! THC Club meeting was held Friday November 13th via Zoom. There were 36 "logged-in" participants.

Welcome – Chris Davis

Thank you to Alan and Laura for the use of their unlimited ZOOM version.

There were no guests present.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we will continue our monthly Club meetings via Zoom (2nd Friday at 7:30 PM), Breakfast

Club (1st Friday and the 3rd Saturday) monthly and HART (as scheduled).

TREASURER'S REPORT – Linda Kibler

The Board approved \$500 donations each to Food Banks during November and December.

REPORTS

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club visited Rocky Mountain Park and Clement Park Oct 17th and Nov 6th since the last meeting.

The next scheduled is Nov 21st.

Bruce Morton and Chris Davis were interviewed on Oct 22nd by Ken King for his radio show, *Relics Radio* (Thursdays 8 PM Eastern).

Speakers: KG, George Wyant & Ringy, Tim Saylor, *DiggersTV.com*. They told stories and answered questions from our Club members. **Thanks to Jeff Lubbert for arranging these speakers.**

The December speaker will be John Olson speaking about detecting Civil War sites in the East.

The January speaker will be Robert "Relic Bob" Painter. Mr Painter is one of the organizers of the North South Traders Civil War Seminars held annually in Orange, VA and a computer consultant for the *North South Traders Civil War Magazine*.

2020 Elections

Next month we will be electing a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, 3 Board members and Newsletter Editor.

Current nominations:

President – Roy Neys, Jeff Lubbert

Vice President – Kevin Llewellyn

Treasurer – Linda Kibler

Secretary – Nancy Faires

Board – Marty Stone, Ken King, Alan Bravo

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Newsletter Editor –

No additional nominations were presented tonight.

Our elections will be held by email vote after the December Zoom meeting. Chris will send an email to all paid Club members with a ballot to be emailed back to him. A deadline for the return emailed ballot will be included. The ballots will be copied and sent to the Club Secretary, Nancy Faires.

HART – must be a paid Club member for at least one (1) year and fill out the required HART application to join. Talk to Norm Ruggles for more information.

Members are encouraged to continue sending in photos and stories of their hunts for inclusion in *The Soundoff*, *Corner Booth*, and *Show-N-Tell* at our Zoom Meetings.

There was a Show-N-Tell presentation of items found during the previous month.

Attendance Drawing (you must be a paid member and “virtually” present to win)

Jane Reed – silver dime

Laura Lewis – Washington quarter

Marcus Lieberman – Walking liberty half

Next meeting: December 11th at 7:30 PM via Zoom. The ZOOM email invite will be sent out at approximately 7:15 PM.

ADJOURN Time 8:49 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Faires

Secretary, Eureka THC



December Speaker:

John Olson

Hunting Antietam and Gettysburg

[Here are some sample images]





Eureka! Club Member Services Directory



Spyderco
www.spyderco.com

GSA

820 Spyderco Way • Golden, CO 80403

byrd knife
www.byrdknife.com

Construction Services & Supply

Kitchen/Bath Remodels * Basements * Tile Work

Terry Weatherly 303 748 7288

12010 W 76th Dr, Arvada, CO 80005
Constructionservicesandsupply@gmail.com
Fax 303 420 8548

ADVENTURES -IN- DIRT

Ken King
Detecting Hobbyist
970-420-8278
ken@adventuresindirt.com

www.youtube.com/adventuresindirt



American Digger Magazine - Relic Roundup

Co-host - Jeff Lubbert

www.relicroundup.blogspot.com
Phone: 678-439-1863
Skype: AmericanDigger

Monday nights 9:00 pm EST
(7:00 pm Mountain Time Zone)

Personal contact:
coindigr@hotmail.com
Phone: 303-487-0438
Cell: 303-618-5179
Skype: jeff.lubbert

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Contact List

Officers	Name	Phone	E-mail
President	Chris Davis	(225) 235-2642	aggiefan55@gmail.com
Vice President	Boots Lewis	(303) 941-6251	lazyheartranch1889@gmail.com
Secretary	Nancy Faires	(303) 368-1356	photo518@msn.com
Treasurer	Linda Kibler	(303) 517-1189	rikibler@outlook.com
Board 2021	Alan Bravo	(303) 809-0784	aebravo303@gmail.com
Board 2021	Tom Peeples	(720) 351-7309	t_peeps@msn.com
Board 2021	Linda Erickson	(720) 231-8080	linda.erickson@comcast.net
Board 2022	Jeff Lubbert	(303) 618-5179	coindigr@hotmail.com
Board 2022	Brian Henry	(720) 771-1883	Brian@tenacioustreasuretracker.com
Board 2022	Roy Neys	(303) 936-9540	coilsearch@hotmail.com
Board 2022	Kevyn Llewellyn	(303) 931-9582	snowsurferkev@hotmail.com
Newsletter			
Editor 2021	Bruce Morton	(720) 363-5869	eureka.bmorton@gmail.com
Web Site			
Webmaster	John Lambe	(303) 840-8094	jlambe@earthlink.net
Volunteers			
PERT	Chris Davis	(225) 235-2642	aggiefan55@gmail.com
HART	Norm Ruggles	(303) 877-2734	normruggles@gmail.com
Hunt Coordinator	Boots Lewis	Welcome Table	
Finds Table	Brian Henry	Nametags	Linda Erickson
		Drawing Table	
		Orientation	
Speakers	Boots Lewis	Coin Purchases	
To be notified of updates/changes in schedule, contact Chris Davis to join the email notification list			



About Soundoff

Soundoff is the official newsletter of the Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc. (Eureka!). Mailing Address: PO Box 101385, Denver, CO 80250-1385.

Opinions expressed in **Soundoff** are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the club or its members. Publication of information in **Soundoff** constitutes no guarantee of accuracy. Use of any information found in this publication is at the sole risk of the user. Neither Eureka!, nor its officers, nor **Soundoff**, nor its editors or contributors assume any liability for damages resulting from use of information in this publication. **Soundoff** is typically placed on the club's website the evening of the first Friday of the month.

Submissions

Articles, letters and short items of interest on prospecting, detecting and treasure hunting topics are welcomed and encouraged. All items submitted for publication are subject to editing. Submittals for publication or correction of errors may be made by e-mail in ASCII text format or MS Word. All article submissions must be received by the editor no later than the deadline of the month (see calendar) for inclusion in the next month's issue. Include publication information on articles clipped from other publications. **Let's hear your story, ideas or tips - contact your **Soundoff** editor.**

Copyright

Unless otherwise noted, other nonprofit groups may reprint or quote from any articles appearing in **Soundoff** without prior permission, provided that proper author and publication credits are given and that a copy of the publication in which the article appears is sent at no cost to Eureka! at the above mailing address.

Advertising

Classified business-card-sized text advertising is free to members for non-business ads. Commercial display ads are available to anyone at the following charges: business card size, \$6.00 per month; 1/4 page, \$12.00 per month; 1/2 page, \$24.00 per month; full page, \$48.00 per month. Advertisers are encouraged to take out ads for 12 months and receive a 3-month discount. No other discounts apply. The treasurer must receive any required payments for commercial ads prior to their inclusion.

About Eureka!

Eureka! is a Denver-based, Colorado nonprofit organization established in 1973 for the enjoyment of metal detecting, electronic prospecting and treasure hunting. Its purpose is to provide an educational and social forum of mutual benefit for members. Eureka! holds a monthly meeting and conducts various special presentations, hunts and seminars. Members have voting privileges. Membership includes access to all general meetings, selected seminars and outings. Annual dues run April to March and are \$33 for single adult membership, \$42 for a family membership and \$15 for Junior membership. Pro-rating of dues are done for new members joining the club after the April 1 dues date. Club meetings are held on the second Friday of each month, 7:30 p.m., at the Clement Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood, Colorado. Come early to socialize.

Next Club Meeting

**The December 11th meeting
will be held remotely, via
Zoom, at 7:30 p.m.**

The emailed invitation to join the session should reach you by 7:15 p.m.

www.eurekathc.org

