The Soundoff

EUREKA! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc. Denver, Colorado



Vol. 49 Issue 2

February 2021

Search With Care!

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

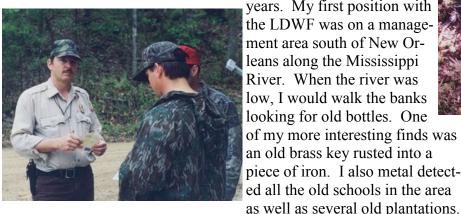


Metal Detecting Over the Years

by Chris Davis Eureka! Club President FEB 2017 - FEB 2021

I started metal detecting when I was in high school (back in the Dark Ages), but got more serious about it in the late 70's. By training and profession, I am a Game Biologist. I spent 32 year employed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF). I ran wildlife man-

agement areas, helped folks manage their deer and turkey populations and was also a commissioned law enforcement officer for 16



years. My first position with the LDWF was on a management area south of New Orleans along the Mississippi River. When the river was low. I would walk the banks looking for old bottles. One of my more interesting finds was an old brass key rusted into a piece of iron. I also metal detected all the old schools in the area

I regret to admit, I wasn't very good, did not have a clue what I was doing and did not find much exciting, but I had fun.

During the summers I would drive down to the Alabama and Florida coast and detect the beaches. I did the best when I was in the water. My first gold ring was found in 3 feet of water.

It had 7 diamonds. It must have been an awfully expensive ring, as it is very difficult to cut and mount those tiny diamonds you can hardly see. On one occasion I was out chest deep in the water detecting. A fellow waded out and asked if my machine (a Minelab Excalibur) was waterproof. I replied, "Oh my Lord! I never thought of that! I do not know!"





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One of the fun things about hunting on the Gulf Shore beaches is the bottomless sand. You get a hit, dig with your scoop, but miss it. The item sinks a little bit. You dig again, miss again, and the item sinks further. Eventually, you lose it all together. I expect a good number of my targets ended up on some beach in China. Some other fun things about detecting on the Gulf are the jellyfish and the waves. When you have an offshore wind, the waves hitting the beach can be 3 foot tall. You find a target and stick your foot down to mark it, only to be pounded off it by a series of waves. It is lots of fun. The last time I was in Panama City detecting, I was out in about chest deep water when I had 2 sharks swim by, one on each side of me. Decided I had better move in a little shallower.

I retired from the LDWF in 2011, and was having a great time hunting turkeys and metal detecting. So, how did I get to Colorado? In a nutshell, I discovered my half of the family vote was something less than 50%. The wife suggested we move to Colorado to be closer to the daughter and grandchildren. After a brief, but vigorous discussion, we decided I would much rather move to Colorado in pursuit of the wily and elusive grandchildren. And so it came to pass. I cannot complain. The scenery and wildlife diversity in Colorado are great. Just this year

I have seen a bobcat, a porcupine and a bear in my yard. Another of my hobbies is photography, and I have gotten some great wildlife shots. And, I have done quite well metal detecting since I moved to Colorado.

One of the things on my "Bucket List" was to pan for gold. So, shortly after we moved up to Golden Colorado, I went to Gold N Detectors, bought a pan, sluice and all the associated toys, and hit Clear Creek 2 or 3 times a week. In two months, I had found just about enough gold to fill a tooth. Then, I took the metal detector out



and hit a park. On my first trip out, I found an 18K/Platinum ring. So, as I stood there, holding my

gold flakes in one hand, and my gold/platinum ring in the other, it suddenly came to me how I was going to find the most gold. Gold panning (at least as I was doing it) was an awful lot of work for a minimal return. So, I started metal detecting in earnest.

One of the problems, as a newcomer, I did not have a clue where it was legal to metal detect in Danuary I street a let of time researching and celling variance.

One of the problems, as a newcomer, I did not have a clue where it was legal to metal detect in Denver. I spent a lot of time researching and calling various parks. Then, after I had been in Golden for about a year, I looked on the internet and discovered a metal detecting club in Lakewood. I think it was

called, the "Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club" and



talked to a lot of the members on where and how to detect in the area. I eventually wrote up an essay, "New to Metal Detecting in the Denver Area" to assist other folks new to the area and sport. Should any of you like a copy, let me hear and I will send you one. Prior to moving to Colorado, I had never found a gold ring on dry ground. Everything I had found had been in the water. In Denver, I found my first gold ring on dry ground next



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to a basketball court on one of the Breakfast Club outings, when Bill Abercrombie was running it.

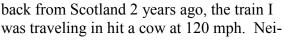
I have since done quite well. My career gold ring count is currently up to 61. I have been metal detecting in Hawaii. While there, I found a gold ring, a platinum ring and a

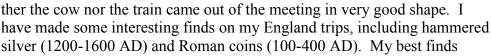
silver ring. These rings were also all found in the water. I would get a hit, then fan the area with my dive flipper, exposing the item laying on the lava, then pick it up with my fingers. I found all the rings on the Kaupulehu Beach in Maui. This just happened to be the location with the dubious distinction of having the highest number of



Tiger Shark attacks in the world. So, one day I was swimming around with my detector, and turned around to find a sea turtle had snuck up on me and was 6" from my nose. Had it been a shark, I would have been lunch, and never known it. I have made 5 metal detecting tours to England

(and one to Scotland). I had planned to go to both England and Ireland this year, but the pandemic made short work of those plans. On my way





were an Anglo-Saxon broach (400-1160 AD) and 2 gold coins. One of the gold coins was an 1849 Half Sovereign. The other was a hammered gold coin minted in the 1360's.

Pound for pound, there are quite a few better hunters in our Club. I am proficient, but my main strength is, I am persistent. I hunt a lot. And I have found, persistence pays. Even a blind hog can find an acorn if he stays at it long enough. Which is a silly saying, a blind hog still has an excellent nose and can easily find an acorn. The point is, the more you swing that coil, the "luckier" you will get. It is as statistical certainty.

Despite the pandemic, I have done quite well metal detecting this year. It appears, with the shutdowns and stay at home orders, everyone got cabin fever in a hurry. The orders allowed exercise, so everyone went to the parks. Lots of people out there to drop lots of stuff. I felt metal detecting was a valid exercise and safe. I never got within 50 feet of another park user.







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During 2020, I found 177 rings, 9,045 coins with a face value of \$744. Of the rings found, 7 were gold and 30 were silver. I hunt quite a bit on "tot lots" (woodchip playgrounds), parks and soccer fields. People frequently inquire as to what I am doing. I advise them I am looking for land mines. Other interesting finds this year (last year) included: an Indian Wars button, a .56-56 rimfire Spencer shell, a .58 caliber muzzleloader slug, 3 silver bracelets, a silver necklace, a silver fork, 3 silver pendants, a very nice glass dope pipe, a Gerber plier work tool, a gold bracelet, a free drink token for the Chicken Ranch Brothel and 3 silver quarters, one a Barber 1914D. I broke several personal records this year. In one stretch, I found at least one ring on 17 consecutive hunts. I found 33 rings in August, beating my previous high of 26 in one month. I managed to find 177 rings this year, beating my previous record of 107, and narrowly surpassing John H's record of 128. John is still handily ahead of me in American coin finds.



Among other wonderful coin finds, he has found an 1852-O Seated Liberty Half Dollar, a \$1 gold coin and a 20-cent piece. I also have all these coins, but I had to find mine at a coin show.

I have been a member of the Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club for 7 years. For 6 of those years, I have been a Club Officer. For the last 4 years I have been honored to serve as President and have really enjoyed my tenure, but it is time we got some new blood and ideas.

Take care, and good hunting!











2021RUSH TO THE ROCKIES

"The Motherlode"

NATIONAL OPEN METAL DETECTING EVENT





Visit us on Facebook at Eureka Treasure Hunters Club Questions? Visit EurekaTHC.org, email: eurekathc.sec@gmail.com

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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

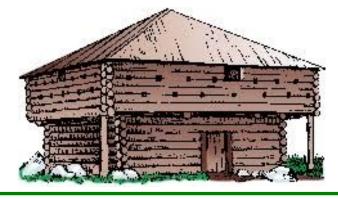
February Speaker: Susie Mireles

of the Austin Metal Detecting Club Austin, Texas



Susie and her husband Daniel, have been members of the AMDC for 22 years and Susie is a current member of the Board of Directors.

She will speak to us about the opportunity they had to detect a "Blockhouse" prior to it's being dismantled and moved to another location. They made contact with the Travis County Historical Commission and the architectural firm specializing in historical restoration, to get this permission.



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.



The Prez Sez

by Chris Davis

February, 2021

Election for most Club officers and Board Members was held in December. That election resulted in the creation of two vacant seats on the Board of Directors. These were filled by special election in January. Dan Pierson and Win Faires were elected to fill the vacancies. Dan will fill the two year term,

and Win the one year term. Congratulations to our 2021 Officers!

President Roy Neys

Vice President Kevyn Llewellyn

Secretary Nancy Faires

Treasurer Linda Kibler

Newsletter Editor Marty Stone

Board 1 Dan Pierson (2 year term)

Board 2 Alan Bravo (2 year term)

Board 3 Ken King (2 year term)

Board 4 Linda Erickson (1 year term)

Board 5 Brian Henry (1 year term)

Board 6 Jeff Lubbert (1 year term)

Board 7 Win Faires (1 year term)

The new officers will be installed at end of the February Zoom Meeting. I have been a member of Eureka! for 7 years. For 6 of these years, I have been an officer; one term on the Board, and 2 terms as President. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in office. I appreciate and thank all those who have helped and supported me and the Club during these trying times. These new officers will bring some great new ideas to the Club. I would like to thank all the present and past Officers for the time and effort they have expended to keep our Club the great organization it is.

Well, last month, for the Board Meeting notification, I inadvertently sent the Zoom invite out to the whole membership, instead of just the Board as normal. I apologize for any inconvenience or concerns this may have caused. But it did bring up something many of you may not be aware of. Any member of the club may attend a Board Meeting and be fully involved in all discussions. The only thing a club member cannot do is vote. So, if you ever have an issue you would like to personally present to the Board, or just want to attend, all you have to do is let the President know, and he will make sure you get an invitation. If you have a concern or issue you would like to be addressed by the Board, and are

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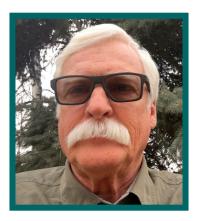
too shy to do so in person, you may ask any Officer to do so for you.

I finally got around to tallying up my finds from 2020. As most of you are aware, I am one of those morons who keep detailed records of days hunted, hours hunted, number of coins found, coins value and rings found. For me, 2020 was actually a very good year, from a metal detecting standpoint. During 2020, I hunted on 137 days, searched for 433 hours, found 9,045 coins worth \$744.01. My average hunt lasted 3.2 hours. I averaged 66 coins per hunt which had an average value \$5.43. I also found 177 rings. I averaged finding 1.3 rings per hunt. How is that for some worthless statistics? Want a few more? I found a gold ring for every 19.6 hunts, and a silver ring for every 4.6 hunts. The only thing these statistics prove, though I may be ugly, I am persistent.

I hope everyone has a great year!



Dan Pierson



Win Faires

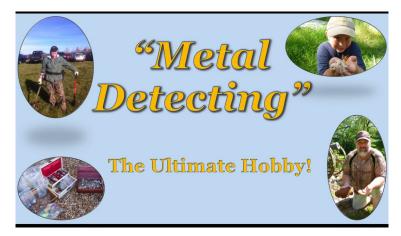


In Appreciation

A big thank you to our January guest speaker, **Robert "Relic Bob" Painter!** We enjoyed hearing from Bob about his experiences of "Metal Detecting, The Ultimate Hobby", from his home made first detector in 1972 through his recent adventures. We were glad to see his excellent PowerPoint presentation with detecting tips and some of his best finds! Thank you again Bob for your helpful and inspirational speech!

Kevyn Llewellyn, Vice President Elect





WHO'S NEW

by Bruce Morton



David (or Dave) Hess joined us in January 2021. He's been in the Denver area for three years after arriving from the Bay Area in California. Dave was in the Navy and served as an instructor in marksmanship and the security reaction force. He works as a diesel mechanic now. Having only been detecting for a couple of months, he found Eureka! through a Google search. He looks forward to learning from us. He has started with a Ricomax 1037 detector but has plans to pick up a Minelab Vanquish 540.

Dave's other interests include woodworking, computer gaming, and he's a guitarist for the Denver based metal band Sin Eater.

The Breakfast Club will be a good place to meet Dave.

Welcome aboard, David!



Jon Hawkins is also a new member. He started detecting year ago at age 10 but has been away from it for many years.

Born in Indiana, Jon spent 10 years of his youth in Arizona but the last 25 years he's called Colorado Home. Jon works as a trainer for Northwestern Mutual, but also has a DJ and Photo Booth business for weddings and other events. He also, during warmer months does sports with his kids.

Jon's new weapon of choice is a Minelab Equnox 800 which he is enjoying. And, like many folks, found us through a Google search. Jon is also interested in the Breakfast Club where he'll find some very knowledgeable Equinox user from which to learn.

We look forward to seeing you at Breakfast Club, Jon.

Eureka! 2021 Calendar

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

March						
Su	Мо	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	<u>31</u>			

April						
Su	Мо	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	

February 2021

12th- General Meeting 7:30 p.m. (remote)

20th- Saturday Breakfast Club (with precautions)

26th - Soundoff Deadline

March

3rd-Board of Directors meeting 6:30 p.m. (remote)

5th- Friday Breakfast Club (with precautions)

12th- General Meeting 7:30 p.m. (remote)

20th- Saturday Breakfast Club (with precautions)

26th- Soundoff Deadline

31st- April Board of Directors meeting 6:30 p.m. (remote)

Watch the Soundoff <u>and</u> your email for updates of events which may be scheduled in March and beyond.

GOLD-N-DETECTORS
is Open for Business!
Face masks required.
Please call Bill at 303-278-6622







Breakfast Club

by Chris Davis

Friday, January 22, 2021

After a month or so of cancelations, we finally managed to squeeze in an impromptu Breakfast Club Hunt just ahead of the next bit of snow and freezing weather. As far as I can tell, only 2 individuals noticed I put the wrong calendar date on the reminder. I fully expect to be impeached at the next meeting.



We all went out to City Park. City Park is big, and has a lot of trees. Much of the earth was too frozen to dig, but if you kept moving you could find some diggable ground. It was good to get out again. I had almost forgotten how to turn my machine on. I even recognized several of the folks who showed up. I couldn't remember their names, but they looked familiar.



We did okay. We have done better, but we have also done a whole lot worse. Bob H. saved the day by finding a silver ring. It was crushed, but, a ring is a ring.

I do not think we got any other jewelry, except for that fine cosmetic earring I snatched out of a lady's ear. Brice picked up 2 different RTD tokens. We did pretty



well on change. I regret to say, Bob's string of finding the most change on each of the last 6 hunts was finally broken by Jeff M. Jeff picked up a paltry \$6.77. Roy N. and I came in a distant 2nd and 3rd with about \$4.50 each. Cindy B. probably had the best find, outside of the ring. She found a very nice little UZI fixed blade knife, together with a pair of tweezers. I haven't the foggiest what someone would be doing



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with a set of tweezers at the park. Probably pulling nose hairs. Cindy and Jeff each found a wheat-ear penny. It was a good hunt on a fine day to be outside.

















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Upcoming Events

NEXT EUREKA! MEETING

For in-person meetings, bring:
Nametags ~ thanks for wearing them to all Eureka! functions

<u>Cash</u> ~ for drawings, hunts, and Eureka! merchandise

Finds ~ to share

<u>Ideas</u> ~ for speakers and outings

Friday, February 12th at 7:30 p.m.

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

Speaker: Susie Mireles

Austin Metal Detecting Club

Austin, Texas

UPCOMING EUREKA! EVENTS

Breakfast Club (with precautions) Saturday, February 20th

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)

<u>TenaciousTreasureTracker.com</u>

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.

Brice Young

was presented, with great pomp and circumstance in the parking lot of the Lookin' Good restaurant, the Silver Half Dollar prize won in a free drawing at a regular club Zoom meeting. Congratulations, Brice.

Moral of this story: You, too, should be attending.







Secretary's Notes by Nancy Faires

February 2021

Club Meeting, January 8, 2021 (Remote, via Zoom)

CALL TO ORDER Time: 7:31 PM

The monthly Eureka! THC Club meeting was held Friday January 8th via Zoom. There were 40 "logged-in" participants including several guests.

Welcome – Chris Davis

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

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

A \$500 donation was made to the Denver Free Rescue for our December Club donation.

REPORTS

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club was cancelled Dec 19th due to the frozen ground and snow and is cancelled for Jan 1st.

The next scheduled is January 16th.

Speakers - Robert "Relic Bob" Painter Metal Detecting, The Ultimate Hobby

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*.

February – none scheduled

2020 Elections

President – Roy Neys

Vice President – Kevin Llewellyn

Treasurer - Linda Kibler

Secretary - Nancy Faires

Board - Ken King, Alan Bravo

Newsletter Editor - Marty Stone

Linda Erickson was voted in for a 1 year Board position.

The new Board will be installed at the February Club Zoom meeting.

There are 2 Board positions open after the election: a one-year and a two-year. An email ballot will be sent to all paid Club members. There will be one week to vote. Whomever receives the most votes will take the 2-year Board position and the next number of received votes will take the one-year Board position.

Current nominees:

Marcus Lieberman

Dan Pierson

Win Faires

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, logged in with your name and present to win)

Walking liberty half – Jeff Lubbert

Standing liberty quarter – Alan Bravo

Washington quarter – Lorie Atencio

The prizes will be available at the Breakfast Club for pick-up or Chris will hold until our next face-to-face meeting.

Next meeting: February 12th, 2021 at 7:30 PM via Zoom. The ZOOM email invite will be sent out at approximately 7:15 PM.

ADJOURN Time 9:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Faires

Secretary, Eureka THC

Services Directory





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



Jeff Lubbert (Sales)



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To be notified of updates/changes in schedule, contact Chris Davis to join the email notification list							
Visit our club on the Internet: http://www.eurekathc.org or on Facebook							

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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.

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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 Members have voting privileges. seminars. 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 February 12th 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



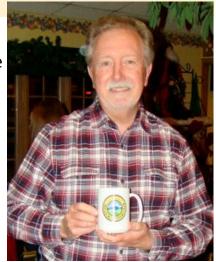




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Thank You

...for the honor of serving as your Newsletter Editor for the past three years. It's been a very rewarding experience, despite the hard work and long hours. The pay was excellent. And, I got some great instruction from Cindy. The best part of the job was that it forced me to meet people and learn about them, including their *names* (something I've always been terrible at.) As an introvert, I'm not really a people person and this job has benefited me more than it might most folks. I was doing so well... until Covid slammed on the brakes. So, the next time we



meet in person, if I stammer and fumble around trying to pull a name out of my dusty brain attic, don't take offense. I'll get better again, when we can meet in person, and socialize at hunts.

There are a handful of people in our group that provided me substantial support. I was going to name them, but they know who they are and how much it meant to me. Instead, I'm going to encourage you *all* to support Marty Stone as he assumes the position. There are many ways to contribute. Trust me, other people are more than interested in what you have to offer. If you need help writing something, I'm at your service.

I'm not going to disappear; I'll still be around guiding Marty though his first couple of months (as Cindy did for me.) And, if you allow it, I'd like to be sort of an editor-at-large. I've got a couple of presentation or stories I'd like to work on. I will continue to provide Marty the Who's New column, because meeting new members is way more fun than working.

So, thanks again for your patience, understanding, and support. Until we meet again, I bid you happy hunting. *Bruce Morton*