

MDMDC Chronicle

A monthly publication of the recent activities and
upcoming events of the Mount Diablo Metal Detecting Club

WWW.MDMDC.COM

May 2022 Vol. 05-22



Tonopah!

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On the front cover: Club newsletter editor and webmaster, Dan DiCarlo, sports the latest Tonopah dump fashion, with a durable plastic eyewear over a sleek traditional Tyvek headdress.

The Mount Diablo Metal Detecting Club's first dedication is to treasure hunting in all its forms and to use and enforce the treasure hunter's Code of Ethics. The second dedication is to community. We complete this dedication through the use of our trained Community Assistance Team and our support of the Relay for Life of Diablo Valley.

Who are we?



We are the Mount Diablo Metal Detecting Club, (MDMDC) currently based out of Concord, CA, and established in 1979.

The club has never ceased to protect the hobby, and encourage good habits, and good sportsmanship.

Are you interested in metal detecting or finding buried treasure? You are welcome to join us at one our monthly meetings to learn more about the club, and the people that make it up.

We usually hold our monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM at the Contra Costa Water District Office Building, 1331 Concord Ave., Concord, CA.

Since the office building is currently closed, please watch for emails from the club letting you know the date, time, and location of the next monthly meeting.

If you know of another location, located in Concord, that is free, please send me an email to MDMDCEditor@gmail.com.

You will find more information about the club at our website: MDMDC.COM.

May Hunt!

It was another beautiful day for metal detecting in Walnut Creek, CA as club members struggled to find a place to park at the picturesque Walden Park. Luckily, I got there early enough to snag a parking space and as I reached the first grassy knoll, I was greeted by recent members David Rook and Dan Cullen. They pointed out our illustrious Hunt Chairman, Neil Andre, who was busy seeding the hunt field.

It seemed like the day would turn out to be a hot one, so the hunt started a little earlier than planned. Hunters rushed out onto the hunt field, eager to find those elusive targets, before the Hunt Chairman had officially started the hunt. After reigning in the hunters, the hunt was on!

As the hunters wandered seemingly aimlessly throughout the hunt field, I was approached by 2 people who were interested in joining the club. I spoke to them about the club, our trip to Tonopah and they both asked for applications and business cards. Hopefully we will see these folks at our next hunt/meeting as new members!

I am going to venture to guess that our hunts need more planted targets as folks came up to me about 1/2 hour into the hunt, and asked how many targets were planted as they hadn't found any signals in a while. I recalled past hunts where hunters would need the full hour, and sometimes longer, to find all of the planted targets. I would assume that our club members are getting really good at knowing their machines and finding the targets. The club will need to adjust accordingly!

Prizes included silver dollars, silver half dollars, silver quarters, and silver dimes. Other prizes included V nickels, buffalo nickels, and Indian head pennies.

Thanks Hunt Chairman Neil Andre for planning this hunt!

*Next month's hunt: Sunday, June 26
Location is Clayton Community Park, 7411 Marsh Creek Road,
Clayton, CA.*

May Hunt Photos!



May Meeting!

The May MDMDC club meeting had a total of 24 members in attendance. Two new club members joined the club prior to the mini-hunt, and 2 recent members attended their first meeting.

President Gary Collier spoke about metal detecting in Golden Gate Park, and the treasure trove of items that can still be found in the park. He also talked about detecting on the ski slopes, where downhillers lose their wallets, coins, and other personal items when they wipe out.

Treasurer Ken Housfeld gave his report.

Newsletter editor/webmaster Dan DiCarlo informed the club that if they weren't getting the newsletters or emails about club events, then it was probably because Dan did not have the member's current email address. He asked that members supply him with their email addresses after the meeting.

Treasurer Ken Housfeld also mentioned that the club had T-shirts available for purchase.

Kim Adams won the Silver Dime Raffle.

Beth Stockholm won the attendance raffle.

The meeting was adjourned and Dan DiCarlo conducted the Newsletter Secret Word drawing. All members who completed the Secret Word Contest (there was only one person) received a drawing ticket. Janie Schryer's ticket was drawn, and she won the prize of five silver dimes!

The main raffle was started.

Prizes included Morgan dollars, Barber half dollars, silver half dollars, Walking Liberties, Franklin half dollars, barber and Mercury dimes, a wire-rim dime and Indian head pennies.

T-shirt sales were brisk and the club soon ran out of merchandise. A new order will be placed, and hopefully received in time for the next meeting.

Our website, MDMDC.COM, has old newsletters, the club bylaws, photos of past events, and much more!

May Meeting!



Tonopah!

Several former club members made the trip to Tonopah this year, and while the pickings were slim, there were a few items of interest found.

Attendees were Rich Davidson, David Grube, Dan DiCarlo, Brian Severn, Bobby Whitworth, John Fabris, and Ray and Julie Romeo.

The group started out sifting and metal detecting in the Tonopah dump. The wind was rather strong though, and so several members either called it quits early or switch to metal detecting where the dry sand was not so fierce when picked up for sifting.

After a couple of days of trying their luck at the Tonopah dump, Rick, David, and Dan drove over to the old Nivloc Mine, a silver mining camp from the early 1900's. The site included the mine's office, headframe, part of the old mill, and plenty of mining shafts. Some artifacts were found there; while interesting, I am not sure I would recommend searchers make the hour long trip just to check it out. I would suggest travelling to the other ghost towns such as Blair or Candelaria.

After leaving the Nivloc Mine, the trio headed to the Goldfield dump to hook up with Brian, Ray and Julie. The winds were still fairly strong however, and that group had decided to call it a day before Rich, David, and Dan arrived in Goldfield. Still, the trio then used metal detectors in the hopes of finding tokens or coins amidst the plethora of trash and discarded metal at the dump. Rich was able to find a barber quarter, a picture of which is included in the following pages.

He also found a bakery token from Progress Bakery, and another token marked Richelieu in the Tonopah dump.

I needed to cut this trip short and head home as my wife was called out of town, and I was needed to look after my daughter at home.

Overall, it was good seeing the usual Tonopah crowd, and while the finds were not as plentiful as in prior years, the new slots at the casino paid out somewhat regularly, and the company was great!

Tonopah!



Nivloc Mine!



Goldfield Dump!



Findings!



Rich's Finds!



Interview with a Detectorist

Q; How long have you been metal detecting?

A: “Since 1966. My best friend’s dad bought him one, and together we went detecting. We found a 1917S Walking Liberty half dollar within the first 1/2 hour.”

Q: What detector do you prefer using?

A: “Fisher F75 or any Fisher. Have used White’s in the past. First machine was a D-Tex. Have won a number of detectors in the 70’s.”

Q: Where do you do most of your metal detecting (parks, beaches, schools, etc)?

A: “I prefer water hunting.”

Q: What are some of your more interesting finds?

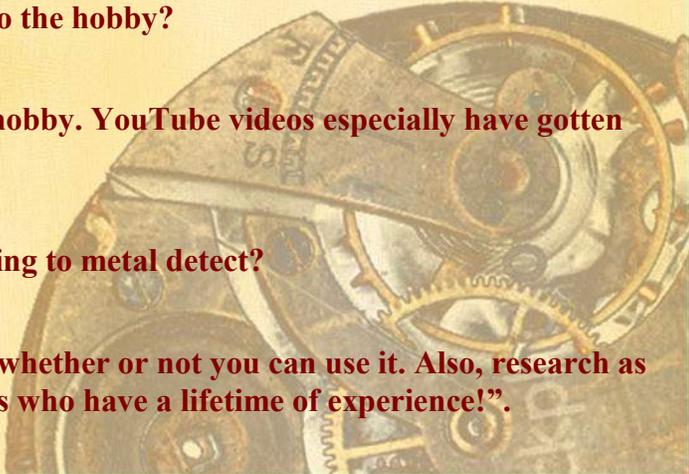
A: “I once found a buried metal detector. I have found belt buckles from a Civil War battle that may be traced back to the original wearer of the buckle. I have also found 2 4-foot cannon tubes. I find more historical items than coins.”

Q: What are some of your ideas to introduce young people to the hobby?

A: “Movies and TV have sparked occasional upticks in the hobby. YouTube videos especially have gotten young folks into the hobby.”

Q: What advice would you give to someone who is just starting to metal detect?

A: “Learn your machine. It is not the cost that matters, but whether or not you can use it. Also, research as much as you can. Lastly, join a club and talk to the members who have a lifetime of experience!”



As always, the award-winning newsletter of MDMDC is FREE with your paid membership!

Possible Buried Treasure!

Old Marsh Creek Springs

According to our Hunt Chairman Neil Andre, this place is usually available for weddings, and they will let you do metal detecting on the grounds.

Just stop by the office to let them know, and they will usually say “yes”.

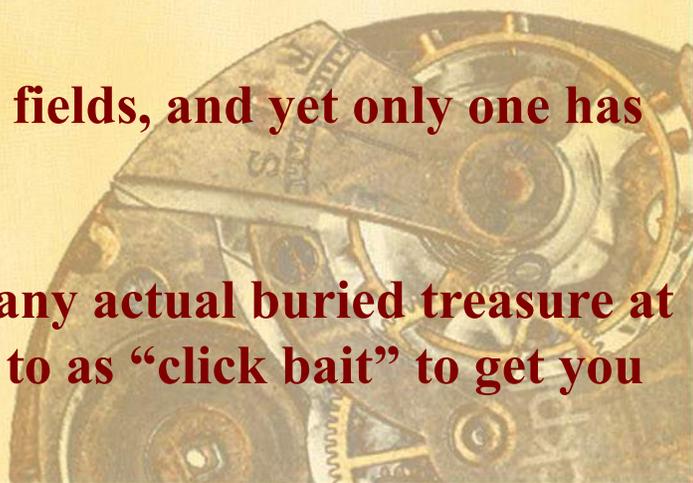
The old baseball field is across the bridge and has been hunted in the past, but who knows?

Go to this site for more information about the place:

www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=94657

Historical websites lists 3 baseball fields, and yet only one has been located so far.

Disclaimer: There is no record of any actual buried treasure at the site. I used what I like to refer to as “click bait” to get you to read the article.....



Since I won't be at the hunt on June 25, the secret word contest is not happening with this issue. Thanks for reading this little blurb though; your thoroughness is appreciated!

Monthly Meeting Location

The club has historically met on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM at the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) office building. The address is 1331 Concord Avenue, Concord, CA 94520.

Because of the pandemic, this office building has been closed for meetings, and so the club has been meeting at a local park on a Sunday afternoon.

With the pandemic lessening, we anticipate returning to the CCWD buildings sometime in the near future. When and if that happens, we will let you know as part of our regular monthly meeting email.

We have several new and exciting ideas and changes for the club once we return to the CCWD building, so stay tuned!

The Mount Diablo Metal Detecting Club meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm at the Contra Costa Water District Office.

The address is: 1331 Concord Avenue, Concord, CA 94520.

Merchandise!

The club has T-shirts for sale!

If you are interested in purchasing one of these once-in-a-lifetime items of clothing, please see a board member at one of our monthly mini-hunts/meetings.

These shirts are perfect for long walks on the beach, formal or casual events, your Tinder profile picture, night shirts, or anywhere else where you need to be dressed.



The shirts come in a variety of colors, as long as you order a Royal Blue shirt, and has our world-famous logo on the left chest and back areas.

The vendor we use to print the shirts also has hoodies, sweatshirts, hats, and tank tops available with our logo for purchase. We would like to monitor the sales of the T-shirts before purchasing these other items.

We would also like your opinion about what items you would like to buy to guide our item purchasing. Please let us know, either through an email or at our meetings, what types of merchandise you would like us to purchase for resale.

Our website is free to view: MDMDC.COM

Mount Diablo Metal Detecting Club Membership Application

Membership # _____

This will be your assigned membership number once your application is approved.

Membership Type: (check your preference below)

Single Membership \$24.00/year: _____

Family Membership \$30.00/year: _____

Date: _____

Name : _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip code: _____

Cell Phone #: _____ Home Phone # _____

E-mail Address: _____

Owned Detector Type: _____

Would you like run for a club office?

Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___

Dues paid for year (please check which year(s) you are paying for:

2022 ___ 2023 ___ 2024 ___ 2025 ___ 2026 ___ 2027 ___

2028 ___ 2029 ___ 2030 ___ 2031 ___ 2032 ___ 2033 ___

Please mail this completed application along with your check/money order to:

Mount Diablo Metal Detecting Club

C/O Ken Housfeld

900 Hamilton Drive

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Please allow 2 weeks for your application to be processed.

Membership News

On behalf of the board and current membership of the Mount Diablo Metal Detecting Club, we would like to welcome and acknowledge our newest members:

Leonardo Del Toro Novato

Gini Graham Scott San Ramon

Welcome to the club!

We look forward to meeting you at one of our hunts or meetings. Please join us if you can!

The Mount Diablo Metal Detecting Club was mentioned in a 2015 Western and Eastern Treasures magazine article.

Check out the MDMDC.COM website to read the article!!



East Bay Regional Park Permit

A permit is required to use a metal detector in the Regional Parks. Use of metal detectors is limited to beach areas, lawns, and other developed park areas.

Metal detecting is **NOT** allowed at Contra Loma Regional Park or in natural parkland areas, wilderness areas, or regional preserves. There are other restrictions.

For more information, and to obtain a permit, please call the Reservations Department at 1-888-327-2757, option 2. This \$20 permit is good for 2 years and is non-refundable.

You can also obtain a permit online:

- Create an account online at EBParks.org/Register (or login to your existing account)
-
- Purchase Metal Detector permit.
- Your permit will be mailed to you within 48 hours of purchase.

www.ebparks.org/rentals-and-permits/permits/metal-detector

No one is above the law! Avoid the pain and suffering of getting a ticket or possible jail time. Get your permit today!

Donate It or Sell It!!

We are always looking for, and willing to accept items of value without having to pay for them.

If you have anything that you don't need, consider donating the item to the club.

We will take coins, detecting equipment, metal detectors, and any metal detecting related items and include them in our monthly raffles.

If you would like help selling your items, we can do that also. Please feel free to contact me through my email address, and we can work together to get your item sold. You'll be glad you did!

Contact: Dan DiCarlo

Email: MDMDCEditor@gmail.com

*The Mount Diablo Metal Detecting Club has a Facebook page.
Please join us at
www.facebook.com/MountDiabloMetalDetectingClub*

For Sale—Whites MX Sport!!



*If interested, contact
Dan DiCarlo
MDMDCEditor@gmail.com*

For Sale—Garrett AT Pro!!



*If Interested, contact
Dan DiCarlo
MDMDCEditor@gmail.com*

For Sale—White's MXT All Pro!!



*If interested, contact
Dan DiCarlo
MDMDCEditor@gmail.com*