

Volume 37

Issue 12

December 2012

PR BE

Official Newsletter Of

YANKEE TERRITORY COINSHOOTERS

Website: www.YankeeTerritoryCoinshooters.com

MEMBER FEDERATION OF METAL DETECTOR & ARCHEOLOGICAL CLUBS, INC.

FOUNDED JANUARY 1976

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Yankee Territory Coinshooters
P.O. Box 1811
Hartford, CT 06144-1811

FIRST CLASS

MEETING PLACE:

EAST HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY 840 MAIN ST. TIME 6:30 PM BUSINESS MEETING 7:00PM

NEXT MEETING:
January 10, 2013

December 11th Meeting: YTC Christmas Party
January 10th Meeting: NEW TIME - NEW PLACE: Page 8

December

Minutes of Yankee Territory Coinshooters Meeting, November 13th, 2012

The monthly meeting was called to order at 6:38 with 47 members and 2 guest in attendance.

- A moment of silence for our troops was observed.
- Secretary's report as printed in the November Probe was accepted.
- Treasurer's report read by Vince, accepted by membership.
 - Beginning balance: \$1005.63
 - We had receipts of \$1,132.50 and Expenses of \$128.50
 - November 13, 2012 Balance: \$2,009.63
 - Silver coin inventory: \$22.90 Face Value with a purchase cost of \$401.21

Correspondence and Announcements:

- Ken Gudernatch spoke about the upcoming East Hartford Historical Society meeting on Nov. 14, 2012 and the Ct. Historical Meeting on Dec. 1, 2014

Old business:

- Chuck Anderson talked about the building renovations and the clubs need to find a new meeting place. Please forward any thoughts or leads to Chuck.
- Chuck Anderson talked about our recent auction and thanked everyone who participated.

New business:

- Chuck Anderson spoke about a roll of silver dollars that Vince purchased from Mike Russo for our upcoming raffles. A motion was made to buy these 20 BU Morgan Silver Dollars from Vince for \$650 and a vote was passed.
- Chuck Anderson talked about the Christmas Party next month. Come early and bring a gift for the gift game (minimum of \$10.00).
- Matt Dakin presented an Email deal for an Aluminum Sand Scoop - \$85.00 including Shipping. Email Matt for further Details: Webmaster@YankeeTerritoryCoinshooters.com
- Paul Flickner noted that we've been printing the newsletter ourselves for 7 months now and the equipment has paid for itself.
- Remember >> **NO Finds of the Month for December.** Finds made between November and January's meeting should be presented at the January meeting. **Challenge items** for 2012 are eligible only if found by the last day of 2012.

Speaker of the Month:

- Michael Russo - Jewelry / Precious Metals

Drawing / Raffles:

- Attendance Drawing - Paul Flickner
- 50/50 Raffle - Paul Wilander
- Silver Dollar Raffle - Chuck Anderson
- Barber Half Dollar Raffle - Tom Wiczkowicz

Bill Wright ran the FOTM activity

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm



December

YTC Officers

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Yankee Territory Coinshooters Code of Ethics

Respect the rights and property of others.
Never destroy historical or archeological artifacts.
Observe all laws, whether national, state, or local.
Aid law enforcement officials whenever possible.

Leave the land and vegetation as it was.

FILL IN ALL HOLES.

Remove all trash and litter, take it with you when
you leave.

Remember that all coinshooters may be judged by
the example YOU set. Always conduct yourself
with courtesy and consideration toward others.



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December



FINDS OF THE MONTH



Bold, italics indicates the category winner.

COINS

Gold/Silver	Pre 1900	Rich Walauski Ken Gudernatch John Cabral	1782 Spanish Reale 1854 Seated Liberty Quarter with arrows 1846 Seated Liberty Half Dime
Gold/Silver	Post 1899	Tom Wicekowicz Bruce Morris Paul Wilander Chuck Anderson	1920 Canadian 50 Cent Coin 1914 Barber Dime 1929 Mercury Dime High Grade Silver Mercury Dime
Other	Pre 1900	Roger Moyles Matt Dakin President's Award David Gregorski	1787 Connecticut Colonial Copper 1857 Flying Eagle Cent 1846 US Large Cent
Other	Post 1899	Bob Tomlin Chris Kutschker Bob Cwikla Mike Horan John Hart	1902 V Nickel 6 Quarters & 4 Dimes Stacked on Each Other 1902 Indian Head Penny 1921 S Coin 1903 Indian Head Penny
Token/Metal		Vince DiBattista	Jack & Charlie's Drinking Token

JEWELRY

Gold		Tom Wicekowicz Bob Tomlin Bruce Morris Richard Walauski Paul Wilander Everett Berube Ken Gudernatch	Platinum Ring with Diamonds Wedding Ring 10K Wedding Ring 14K Wedding Ring 10K 1957 Class Ring 14k Gold Ring 10K White Gold earring
Silver		Phil Skewes Mike Horan Dave Gregorski	Ring Made From 1961 Quarter ID Bracelet Sherman Nickens Sterling Serenity Prayer Medal
Other		Matt Dakin Vince DiBattista Chuck Anderson Roger Moyles John Cabral Richard Janak	Colonial Cuff Link With Fox Motif Large Junk Ring Costume Ring Pendant Fake Diamond Ring 1940's Pair of Swedish Airforce Cuff Links

RELICS

Toy		Tom Wicekowicz Ken Gudernatch John Cabral	Lone Ranger Badge Tread Track from Toy Tank 1937 - 1941 Manoil Oil Truck
Military		Matt Dakin Roger Moyles	1820 - 1850 U.S. Navy Militia Hat Badge Civil War Era Union General Service Button
Other		Bob Tomlin John Hart Bob Cwikla Vince DiBattista	Large Unknown Object from Ferry Landing 1939 Tag 1892 Thimble Old Door Knob

Continued on Page 6

CHECKBOARD REPORT

Rich Walauski: 1782 Spanish Reale – Rich was driving along when he spotted some torn up sidewalk. This was found along with a Buffalo Nickel.

Tom Wicekowitz: 1920 Canadian 50 Cent Coin – A nice beach find for Tom after the storm.

Roger Moyles: 1785 Connecticut Cent – A cellar hole find for Roger in Marlborough. This site has produced many nice finds for Roger.

Bob Tomlin: 1902 V Nickel – It took Bob awhile to figure out that he had found a V nickel.

Vince DiBattista: Jack & Charlie's Drinking Token – A beach find for Vince that also has a bar.

Tom Wicekowitz: Platinum Ring with Diamonds – Digging every target paid off nicely for Tom.

Phil Skewes: Ring Made From 1961 Quarter – A beach find for Phil. Turned out to be coin silver rather than sterling.

Matt Dakin: Cuff Link with Fox Motiff – A farm field find for Matt. It wasn't until it was cleaned that Matt realized what he had found.

Tom Wicekowitz: Lone Ranger Badge – Another digging every target find for Tom at 5 inches down.

Matt Dakin: 1820 – 1850 U.S. Navy Militia Hat Badge – Matt made this find near a stone wall at a house built in the 1700's.

Bob Tomlin: Large Unknown Object from Ferry Landing – It was a big chunk of rusted iron when found. Electrolysis revealed a nice design.

Dave Gregorski: Clay Pipe Stem – A schoolyard find for Dave where there once stood an old house.

Chris Kutschker: 6 Quarters & 4 Dimes Stacked on Each Other – Chris made this find at the elementary school he attended.

Dave Gregorski: 1846 Large Cent – This was found about 10 minutes after the clay pipe stem.





FINDS OF THE MONTH

Bold, italics indicates the category winner.

RELIQS	Paul Flickner	WWII Dog Tag
	Chuck Anderson	Lead Bullet
	Bill Wright	Colonial Bullet with Star
	Rich Walauski	Cupid Spoon
	Bruce Morris	2 Piece Copper Cannister
	Chris Kutschker	Acetylene Torch Tip
	No Name	Sinker
NON METAL	Dave Gregorski	Clay Pipe with Stem
	Chuck Anderson	Teddy Bear
	Tom Wiczkowicz	27 Plastic Pennies
	Roger Moyles	Rabbit Head
	Ken Gudernatch	Painted Unicorn Blown Glass
	Vince DiBattista	Plastic Coins

Respectfully submitted by **Bill Wright**

'Directionality' of Metal Detecting Targets

by Dave Gregorski- DGRookie@sbcglobal.net

You can't plan for this, unless you had X-ray vision and could see into the ground. (Though if you did, you wouldn't need a metal detector!) But this phenomenon can help explain why occasional good targets (old and/or deep) keep showing up at 'hunted out' sites.

For those newer to the hobby, I'll give some background, and hope others will bear with me. Most detectors have the ability to 'discriminate' good targets (what you want) from bad (what you don't want). Picture a screen with dark and light areas (which indeed is what higher-end machines give you). When a target falls in the light area, you'll get an audio response. A target in the dark area will not give a response, and on some machines the background tone will even go away (i.e., get 'nulled out'). Targets in the dark area have been 'discriminated out'.

So with a machine that has a range of pitches for an audio response, and say, with a high-end (good) target is in proximity of trash or iron (under the coil at the same time), the audio response will either be lost in the 'null' (no response), or the 2 targets will give an average tonal response, not a high pitched one. With the latter, you may think the target is trash

and not dig it.. (This indicates the advantage in 'digging it all'.) With a null, you'll have no clue a good target was there.

Now we come to the crux of this article. If the desired target is surrounded by trash/iron, walking from most directions will give you either no response or a compromised one when you swing over that target. But by luck, if you happen to approach the good target from the 'clean' direction...voila, you'll get the desired response and dig the goody! And you may think...how did I and all the others miss this one?

But there is a way to improve the 'luck factor'. On all sites that have produced well for me, and that are small enough that I can 'pattern', I always go back over the site at right angles from the first pass (at 90 degrees). Then I proceed from 45 degrees, and so forth. At some point, you may get 'lucky' and approach the good target from the right way. (At a small yard, maybe 30 by 80 feet, after 'cleaning it out' of mostly Indians and Wheaties, I went back over it at 90 degrees and got 13 more coins!)

So keep the above in mind in your detecting adventures. The 'direction factor' is just another reason why 'nobody gets it all'.

I'm Sold!

by Dave Gregorski- DGRookie@sbcglobal.net

My first deep silver came via an older Minelab, the Sovereign with the 15 inch WOT coil. Once I learned what to listen for, I fairly routinely unearthed dimes at 6-8 inches. Years later the same held true for the Minelab Explorer SE, using the 12X15 inch 'butterfly' coil. Of course, in the 'early days', there was much more silver around in the public areas I detected. But I had high expectations when in June I received the newest Minelab detector, the CTX 3030 with its 11-inch coil.

I won't detail the learning curve for this machine (I did give a talk on this), suffice to say that not knowing the previous Minelab E-Trac unit, I was at a disadvantage. (But I gradually learned features that make selective detecting easier than with any machine I've owned.) My plan was to test the new machine at sites where I'd had good luck pulling up silver, all of which have been hammered also by other detectorists.

My first silver coin was a Barber quarter at 6 ½ inches - not particularly deep, but gotten from amongst iron targets. This pattern kept on, to the point where my only 'complaint' was that I was not pulling up the deep silver I expected. But I raved about how I was getting silver in trashy/irony soil, which I and everyone else had missed.

What finally sold me on the CTX, was my recent trip to a site that has the most mineralized soil one could expect. Not only did the sandy soil contain iron (reddish hue), but being a coastal site, years of salt had also been deposited. Add to that the trash/nails of a heavily used area, it has been a challenge to come up with a target deeper than 5 inches. Not to mention that it is a popular detecting site where I myself had logged perhaps 40 hours with various machines.

I went first to a corner of a field that I've written about, where I recently pulled up a Barber half, Barber dime, and gold ring in the span of a couple of

hours with my Explorer. You might guess that I'd scoured that spot since, getting a few more silver coins. So this was a great test of the CTX. Because of the pulltab-type trash, I decided to dig only the high-end signals, above zinc pennies, and to keep my swing speed down to ~ 3 seconds one way.

The ground was saturated, giving the best possible target response – Minelabs love wet conditions. Well, my first dug target was a Merc! That set the tone – after 1 ½ hours, I added 3 Wheaties and 3 silver Rosies, plus an older silver earring. Feeling 'flushed' and satisfied, it was time to quit, figuring I'd save that area for another day.

Two-thirds of the targets gave a scratchy signal, a whisper of high-end sound hidden among lower pitch sounds. I did a lot of circling to determine where to dig. The deepest coin was a Wheatie at 7+ inches. (I've heard that the CTX likes pennies.) One Rosie came up from 6 inches. But imagine any circumstance, where you could have such a day at ANY site, in a 10X80 foot area! Never mind a hammered, heavily mineralized one.

I'm very happy with what the CTX has given me. (After the early learning, in perhaps 50 hours I've gotten 18 silver coins, all but one from 'cleaned out' sites.) I find my reliance on sound pays dividends, that being a more reliable indicator than the visual displays. And my quest for deep silver continues - in a year or so, I plan to add the 13X17 inch 'smart' coil to my collection. Guess those dig holes will be getting bigger.



Dave Gregorski

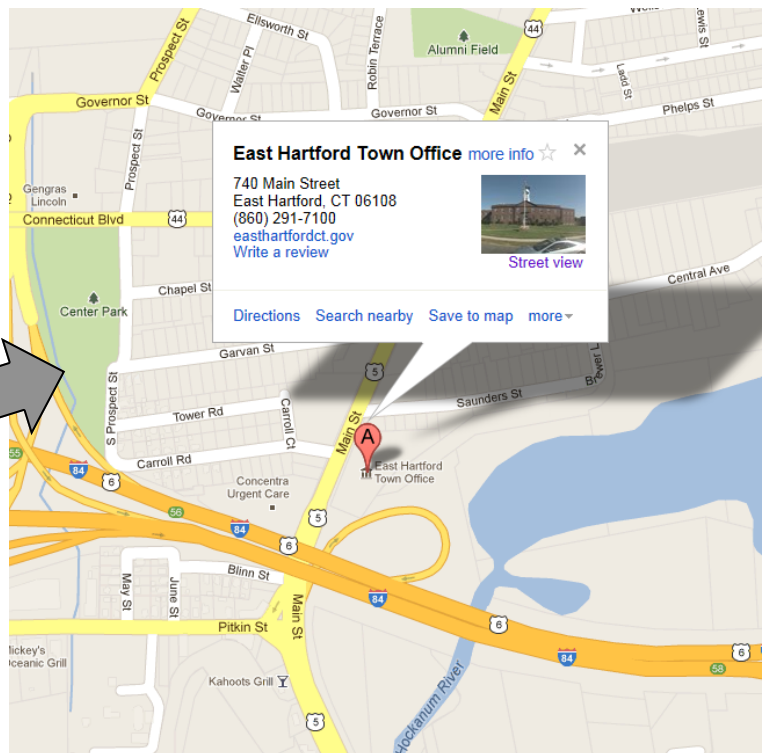
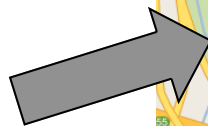
Y.T.C. Meetings – New Place, New Time!

by Dave Gregorski- DGRookie@sbcglobal.net

The library renovations are beginning, and our Christmas Party will be the last time (for awhile) that we'll meet there. Beginning in January, 2013, we will meet at the East Hartford Town Hall, on the second Thursday of each month.

The Town Hall is at 740 Main Street, about a block south of the library, same side of the street. Parking is in the rear, and you will enter via a rear doorway. Each month we'll be assigned a room, and it may differ.

So we'll see you for the January meeting at 6:30 on Thursday the 10th.



Over the River and Through the Woods

Information taken from Hometown Accounts.

Today, we take local/regional travel for granted. But prior to the 1800's, just getting across a river was a great feat. The original method of crossing the Connecticut River north of Hartford, was to use a ford. (No, not the car, but a place shallow enough to be crossed by wading.) The only possible crossing point was between Windsor Locks and Warehouse Point, and it was not an easy task even at low water. Only a few knew the exact location, and which turns to make. A small island, near the current Warehouse Point Bridge, was an indicator of the location. As with succeeding methods of crossing, currents, high water, flotsam and ice provided dangerous obstacles.

The ferry soon followed as a drier and more convenient way of crossing the river. In 1691, the first ferry crossed from Suffield to Enfield. The cost was two pence per man and four pence per horse. A later ferry crossed at the same location until 1892. The East Windsor ferry was established in 1783. It is likely that the original ferries were flat-bottomed boats, propelled by poles and/or oars. Low water could be a problem, and ferries commonly ran aground during the summer months. The steam ferry was introduced in 1824. They could carry up to 30 tons.

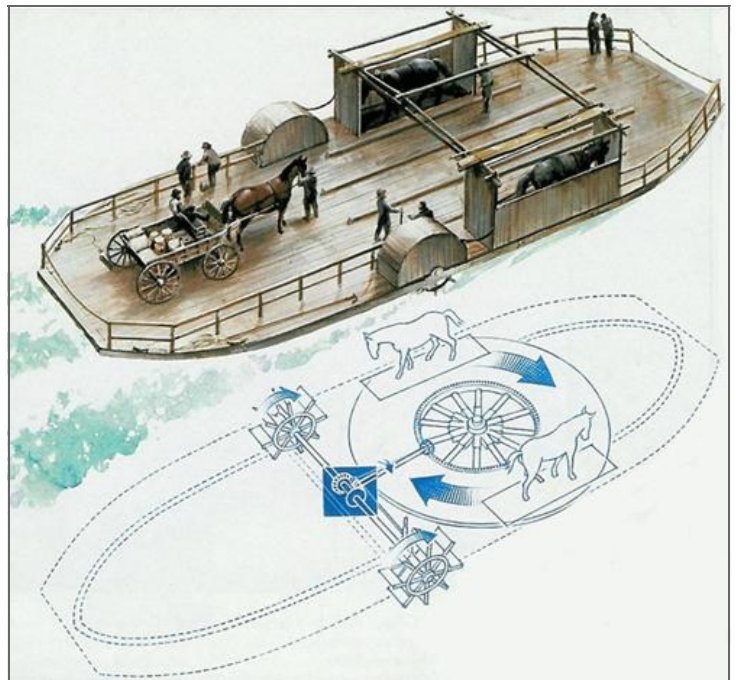
The first bridge over the CT river opened in 1809, and connected Suffield and Thompsonville. It quickly fell into disrepair (inferior lumber) and was replaced by another that lasted until 1869. Another was built in 1892. In the late 1960's the latter bridge was dismantled and replaced nearby by the route 159 four-lane modern bridge. The first bridge near the old Warehouse Point ford was built in 1886. It was a privately owned suspension bridge, and a toll was charged. In 1907, a bill was passed requiring all toll bridges to be purchased by the state, and the tolls removed.

In 1844 the first railroad bridge spanned the CT river, just north of Windsor Locks. Demand led to another railroad, connecting Hartford and Springfield, going through Suffield. It was called "The Huckleberry", because it had no turn-around, but was

required to run in reverse on each return trip. By the 1900's, it made 5 trips a day.

The introduction of the trolley and increased use of automobiles led to the 'demise' of passenger travel by railroad, and most railroad companies ceased operation. The initial trolley ran from Hartford through Suffield to Springfield. The whole trip cost 25 cents. It was a popular excursion on weekends and holidays during the summer. Eventually more highways were built, along with more reliable autos, and the trolleys were discontinued. Today, sitting in traffic jams, one might wish for the simpler means of travel of long ago.

Horse Powered Ferry Boat



Historical Trivia

In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall, and was used for dining. The 'head of the household' always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the 'chair man.' Today in business, we use the expression or title 'Chairman' or 'Chairman of the Board.'

For Sale



Golden Retriever, had for 9 months, has yet to retrieve gold. Should have just bought metal detector.

Framed into Fame

DAVID GREGORSKI

Month after month, year after year, Dave is always there. Contributing on the executive board, writing articles, tracking everyone's challenge list items, sending reminders, fielding questions and requests, running errands, handling correspondence, filling in and contributing in any areas needed.

Let Dave know how much we appreciate all that he does!