

Suncoast Research & Recovery Club

February 2019 Newsletter



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Howard Metts - Vice President

Tom Killian - Treasurer

Pete Hatzilias - Secretary

Dimitur Alipiev - Board member

Rob Clark - Board member

Tom Jones - Board member

Ed Osmar - Board member

Mike Shuler - Board member

February Meeting on the 25th at 7 pm

Our club meetings are on the fourth Monday of each month except December. Location is Bill Jacksons Shop for Adventure at 9501 US 19 N, Pinellas Park Florida. We will have a guest speaker and guests are welcome to attend. Meeting starts promptly at 7 pm!

From the President

It was great to see so many returning members and guests at the January meeting.

Our speaker discussed old coins from the colonial times to the 1960's. If there is only one thing you remember from this presentation, it's "Don't clean your coins!"

With the water temperature around 60 degrees, not many swimmers are at the beach. It's time to hit the parks...

Don't forget to bring in your finds for the competition table. It looks like another year with the tally's being close.

This month our speaker will give a presentation about manatees.

Joe Szemer



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Notes from your VP

Our 2019 treasure hunting season has begun! Please read the treasure hunters code of ethics which is included on the last page of each newsletter.

Remember we are ambassadors for our hobby and want to project a good image to those who see us on the beaches or in the parks. Always pickup any trash dug and properly dispose of it. Fill in your holes and offer to help anyone that asks you to recover a lost item. Let's have a great 2019!

Howard Metts

SRARC Ringfinders Return!

LOST RING RECOVERED ON SIESTA KEY

Tyler and his wife came down to Siesta Key from Omaha for a break from the winter weather. On Friday evening they went into the gulf for their last swim before returning home on Saturday morning. They stopped to rest for a moment and as they stood in waist deep water Tyler watched as his wedding ring slipped from his finger. They searched without finding the ring and finally had to give up. They flew home the next morning and Tyler searched for help and found SRARC. He contacted Joe Szemer and a hunt was organized. After Mike Shuler and Mike Miller hunted on Monday and Tuesday mornings the ring finally turned up in Mike Miller's scoop. We're happy that we were able to find and return Tyler's ring and wish he and his wife all the best.

Great Job Mike!



Items of Interest



An amateur metal detectorist has compared finding a 6th century Anglo-Saxon pendant in a muddy field to 'winning the lottery'.

The shiny piece of gold was originally mistaken to be a 'chocolate coin' due to its immaculate preservation but experts proved it is a gold pendant from 1,500 years ago.

Rachel Carter, 41, was searching a Kent field with her partner and her metal detector when she stumbled across the find.

After showing the coin to her partner they realised what she had mistook to be a 'piece of junk' was in fact an authentic piece of British history.

Ms Carter said: 'As soon as I put the detector down, I got a signal that was going mad so I dug down and pulled out this pendant.

'It was only about five inches down and was so perfect and gold and new-looking that at first I thought it was a bit of junk - you'd think you could unwrap it and eat the chocolate from inside.

'I went over to Ricky and said 'do you reckon this is anything?' and he was like "oh my God."

Ms Carter and her partner, Ricky Shubert, say it was a sign from her mother who passed away nearly a year before the discovery.

She restarted the hobby after caring for her elderly mother and made the find at Christmas.

'Some people in my club have been digging for 50 years and they say they've never seen anything like it.'

Using her partner's metal detector, Ms Carter briefly scanned over a section of earth at her friend's farm before setting off to tackle the far side of the field.

But her partner told her she had missed a spot and told her to take another look.

She said: 'Ricky said 'hang on you said you wanted to try this part' and he encouraged me to come back and have another look.

'My mum always said to me "one day you'll find something really special."

'All I ever wanted was to find something gold and religious for her - because she was Catholic - and then I did.

'It's like she sent this as a sign, saying "see? keep going."

'We've been back a few times since then, and haven't found anything.

'Usually you find caps, coins, that sort of thing - but we've found absolutely nothing since. It's really weird.'

The pendant was reported to a Kent Finds liaison officer and could be displayed in a museum with Rachel's name underneath it.

She said: 'It would be lovely to see it in a museum, with my name underneath it

'But to be honest, I'd rather keep it because it's absolutely amazing - finding it was like winning the lottery, without having known what the ticket was worth.'

The couple hope to find out how the pendant came to be at the farm near Marshside and more about the area's history.

Andrew Richardson, outreach and archives manager at Canterbury Archaeological Trust, said it is a 'significant find.'



Ring Finders Update

Ring Finders contributions to the club for January 2019 was a total of

\$270

Great job and thanks Ring Finders for volunteering your time to help both the club and those who lost items.

SRARC Tee-Shirts

Our new club Tee-shirts will be available for pickup at our next meeting on February 25th.



Competition Table Top Five

1. Tom Carrol- 12 points
2. Rob Clarke- 9 points
3. Mike Shuler- 7 points
4. Tom Killian- 7 points
5. Alex McCabe- 6 points

Treasure Hunters Code of Ethics



I WILL respect private property and do no treasure hunting without the permission of the property owner.



I WILL appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources, wildlife and private property.



I WILL fill all my excavations, remove and properly dispose of all trash that I find.



I WILL use thoughtfulness, consideration and courtesy at all times, leaving gates as I found them.



I WILL assist law enforcement and other government agencies or private citizens as needed.



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

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