



# Soundoff

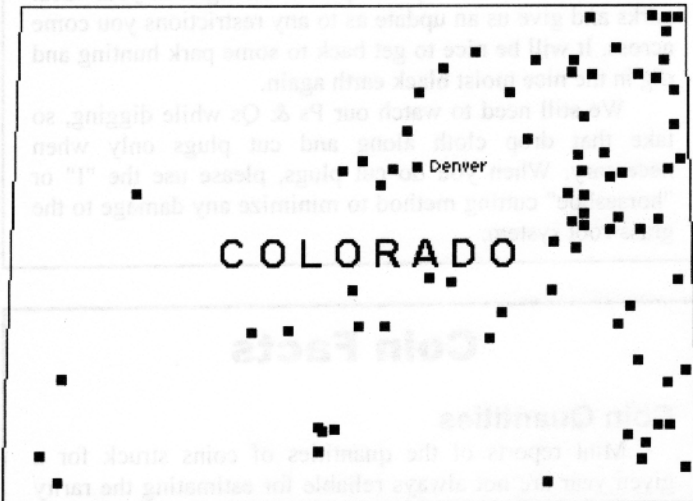
Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc.



Vol. 30, No. 4

Search with Care!

April 2003



COLORADO METEORITE DISTRIBUTION  
After Matt Morgan and Bill Peck

## Next Club Meeting

2nd Friday, April 11, 2003, 7:30 p.m.

The Glendale Community Center

999 S. Clermont Street, Glendale, Colorado

Hotline: (303) 595-5448 <> [www.geocities.com/Eureka-thc/](http://www.geocities.com/Eureka-thc/)

## More Finds Inside

- 2 The Prez Sez
- 2 Coin Facts
- 4 An Interview with Matt Morgan
- 5 March St. Patrick's Day Hunt
- 6 Buffalo Soldiers
- 7 Bylaws Changes
- 8 Upcoming Eureka! Meetings and Events
- 8 Rush to the Rockies
- 9 February 2003 Finds of the Month
- 9 Secretary's Notes
- 9 Membership Fees are Due!
- 10 Dean's Doodles
- 10 Doug's Corner
- 10 Happy April Birthday!
- 10 April Flea Market/Swap Meet
- 11 Advertising
- 12 Officers and Board
- 12 Coordinators and Volunteers
- 13 Refreshments!
- 13 Greetings!

## Extraterrestrials

### Collecting Meteorites as a Hobby

So you've found a rather nondescript "hot" rock that registers in your headphones. Before you chuck it aside, consider whether it could be a meteorite! A "meteorite," as we all learned in grade school, is a meteor (a "shooting star" or "bolide") that reaches the surface of the Earth without being completely vaporized. A rock with any significant amount of nickel-iron probably means that it is a meteorite, as nickel-iron is rarely found in native Earth rocks.

Meteorites are of three kinds, iron, stony, and stony-iron, based on the amount of nickel-iron they contain. Iron meteorites have an interior that is dense and silvery whereas the inside of stony meteorites is rock, also dense, with silvery specs. Only one in ten is of the iron type, although virtually all meteorites contain some amount of iron. While tons and tons of meteoritic material make it to the Earth's atmosphere every year (that's some 20,000 meteorites!), meteorites themselves are rare. Meteoritic material, especially the softer stony type, tends to burn up in the atmosphere.

Some folks spend their entire metal detecting time searching just for meteorites. They may be collectors or sell their material to scientists, museums, schools, and other private collectors.

Older metallic meteorites may be covered with a weathered, smooth, dark brown coating. Metallic meteorites are heavier than Earth rocks of similar size, and they tend to ring like a bell if struck with a metallic object. Stony meteorites that are newly fallen usually have a thin, black, glassy fusion crust.

There are five basic meteorite types:

- **Achondrite**, similar to terrestrial basalts, are believed to have originated on the Moon and Mars.
- **Carbonaceous Chondrite**, whose composition is like that of the Sun without its volatiles, is similar to type C asteroids.
- **Chondrite**, is similar in composition to the mantle and crust of the terrestrial planets, and comprise the largest number of known meteorites.
- **Iron**, primarily iron and nickel, is similar to type M asteroids. Iron meteorites contain approximately 98% nickel-iron.
- **Stony-iron**, with mixtures of iron and stony material, is

(Continued on page 3)

## The Prez Sez

by Jeff Lubbert



the Rush to the Rockies 2003 meeting held last month. Things are moving along at a brisk pace for this event but we could still use some help from more of our members. One of the things you can do to help out the club if you have some pre-1940 coins that you would like to sell, we are in need of

Indian head pennies and buffalo nickels and any pre-1940 silver. Please gather up what you would like to get rid of, make a list of what you have, contact me or **Joe Carter**, and let's see what kind of a deal we can achieve. If you would like to help out with the hunt or preparations for the hunt, please contact **Ron Erickson**.

Part of the deal when we allowed members to pay deposits to hold your spot in Rush to the Rockies 2003 was that you pay in full by the first deadline, April 15. Please pay the remainder of your balance for your hunt, if you haven't done so already.

This coming month we will be voting on bylaw changes that will allow for absentee voting by members. Please see the proposed bylaw changes in this newsletter.

We are trying to get more organized with our monthly speakers and hunts. You will notice that the upcoming events column is filling in quite nicely. We are going to try to restart our "fun hunt" for the summer months once again. Last year, MiMi tried to get them going with little support from our clan. These hunts will be non-competition hunts, more like gatherings of hunters to scan area parks. There will be people there with much experience and knowledge to share. Those of you who are new to the club or hobby and are just not sure how to work an area or your machine, these will be great little opportunities to get a good start in the hobby and the club. As for you members who are a little longer in the detecting tooth, this will be a great opportunity to share your knowledge and maybe even get

your keister kicked by a newbie. I am sure that some of these "fun hunts" will turn into more of a social event than a hunting event, but that is what happens sometimes.

Who was the one asking for snow? If you would like to come over to my place, there is plenty here for you to play in. In all seriousness, this last dumping should ease the park restrictions. Please keep an eye on the signs at your local parks and give us an update as to any restrictions you come across. It will be nice to get back to some park hunting and dig in the nice moist black earth again.

We still need to watch our Ps & Qs while digging, so take that drop cloth along and cut plugs only when necessary. When you do cut plugs, please use the "I" or "horseshoe" cutting method to minimize any damage to the grass-root system.

## Coin Facts

### Coin Quantities

Mint reports of the quantities of coins struck for a given year are not always reliable for estimating the rarity of coins. In the early years of the Mint, dies of previous years were often used until they became worn or broken. Also, quantities reported, particularly for gold and silver, cover the number of coins struck and may not have direct reference to the quantity reaching actual circulation because many issues were deposited in the treasury as backing for paper currency and were later melted!

### Silver Coins

From the earliest days of the Mint, silver was regarded as the chief metal for coins. Coin and bullion values, however, have fluctuated widely over recent years. Silver was traded for as much as \$50.00 per troy ounce on the bullion market in early 1980 but as of early 2003 is being traded for just over \$5.00 per troy ounce. Dealers who purchase silver coins for their "melt value" normally pay 15% to 25% less than market price as a handling fee.

**Soundoff** is an official publication of the Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc., a Denver-based, Colorado nonprofit organization established in 1973 for the enjoyment of metal detecting, electronic prospecting, and treasure hunting. Club meetings are held on the second Friday of each month, 7:30 p.m., at the Glendale Community Center, 999 S. Clermont St., Glendale, Colorado. Annual membership fees for people age eighteen and older are \$30 for a single membership, \$35 for a family membership, and \$15 for a Junior Membership (or a Newsletter-only Membership). Half-year fees may be paid by any new member joining the club after the October meeting. Non-commercial business-card-sized classified text ads for members are free of charge. Commercial display ads must be detecting, prospecting, or treasure related and are available to anyone at a modest charge: 1/8 page (approximately 2" h x 3.5" w business card size) - \$6.00 per month. 1/4 page (approximately 4" h x 3.5" w) - \$12.00 per month. 1/2 page (approximately 4" h x 7" w or 8.5" h x 3.5" w) - \$24.00 per month. Full page (approximately 8.5" h x 7" w) - \$48.00 per month. Advertisers are encouraged to take out ads for 12 months for a 3-month discount. No other discounts apply. **Soundoff** is open to and gladly accepts submission of information and articles. All article submissions must be received by the editor no later than the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue. The treasurer must receive any required payments for commercial ads prior to their inclusion. Include publication information on articles clipped from other publications. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions. Bulletin editors may print any article from this newsletter with credit given to the newsletter and the author. Contact: **Soundoff** Editor, Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc., P.O. Box 101385, Denver, CO 80250-1385. E-mail:



(Meteorites - Continued from page 1)

similar type S asteroids. Stony-iron meteorites contain approximately 50% nickel-iron.

A meteorite witnessed by someone as it falls from the sky is called a "**fall**." One that has not been witnessed and the meteorite has been found after the fact is called, appropriately enough, a "**find**." Approximately 33% of meteorites are witnessed "falls."

In the United States, meteorites are the property of the person upon whose land they are found. If a meteorite is found on federal lands, then government officials would consider it to belong to the government and, under an interpretation of the 1906 "Antiquities Act," meteorites found on federal lands belong to the Smithsonian Institution. The government, however, has chosen not to write the meteorite ownership "law" into the Code of Federal Regulations and, in fact, has split meteorite finds with finders.

#### Meteorites may be found:

- In a dry climate conducive to preservation of meteorites, which keeps minerals from oxidizing.
- Where the surface of the land has been exposed for a long time.
- There is little or no vegetation to cover the meteorites.
- The color or texture of the land and rocks (light) contrasts with meteorites (dark).
- Where other meteorites have been found, especially if known meteorites have broken apart in the atmosphere--typical of stony meteorites. Because in Colorado (unlike Spain?) the rain falls mainly in the mountains, the meteorite find distribution is mainly in the plains where the dryer climate is less conducive to causing the metallic iron to rust.

#### To increase your chances of finding a meteorite:

- Know what meteorites look like (peruse books or websites devoted to meteorites).
- Use a metal detector, which not only works well for iron meteorites but also for most stony meteorites that contain significant metallic iron.
- Use a magnet on a string to test for metallic iron in prospective candidates.

#### To know if you've found a meteorite, try these tests:

- Is it attracted by a magnet (even only a slight deflection)?
- Does it have a black outer layer (brown, if weathered)?
- Does it lack crystals (when broken or sawed)?
- Is the metal content high?
- Is it solid (as opposed to lava, which is porous)?
- Does it weigh more than other rocks of similar size?
- Does it possibly show some signs of rust?

**To see the Widmanstatten pattern** in an iron meteorite you can cut it with a lapidary saw (ordinary metalworking tools are not as hard as the material and become dull quickly). Iron meteorites are very hard on diamond blades of conventional lapidary saws, so some cutters use carbide blades. Finishing or refinishing a cut meteorite surface can easily be accomplished with a belt sander for coarser sanding and very fine 500-grit wet/dry sandpaper for final finishing.

**To etch a cut meteorite**, immerse the surface in a solution of 5% nitric acid and 95% alcohol for one to five minutes to

properly etch a surface, depending on the meteorite, the potency of your solution (which will decrease as you etch), temperature, etc. Etching is an art that requires much experimenting and experience. Detailed instructions may be found in an appendix of the book *Rocks From Space: Meteorites and Meteorite Hunters* by O. Richard Norton and Dorothy S. Norton. Once you are satisfied with the etching, immerse the meteorite in distilled water for a few minutes to neutralize and dilute the nitric acid. If you leave acid in surface fractures, the meteorite will oxidize. Next soak the meteorite in alcohol for up to three days (but no less than three hours) to remove water from any cracks or imperfections in the surface. Then heat the meteorite to 150 degrees Fahrenheit to remove any remaining alcohol or water and immediately seal the cut surface to keep it from rusting.

#### There are several ways to seal the cut surface of a meteorite:

- **Lacquer:** Perhaps the majority of people who finish meteorites to inhibit rust do so by using lacquer. This technique is described in an article in *Meteorite!* magazine (<http://www.meteor.co.nz/>). De-grease the surface of the meteorite with acetone, soak it in alcohol to remove water, and spray on a good quality lacquer.
- **Wax:** A nice finish on rough, tumbled, or etched surfaces may be obtained by dipping meteorites in melted paraffin. Heat the meteorite to 150 degrees and dip it in the melted wax. Let the excess drip off or shake it off or even blot it off. Because the meteorite is hot, the coating will be quite thin. This surface is esthetically pleasing and can be renewed by simply heating and re-dipping the meteorite.
- **Rig:** Etched surfaces can be protected by application of "Rig" grease--a rust-preventing grease available in gun shops. Heat the meteorite to 150 degrees Fahrenheit and apply Rig to the surface.
- **Oil:** Rough Iron specimens may be sprayed with WD-40 or similar oils to ward off rusting for a limited time. WD-40 evaporates, so you will need to repeat this process every couple of months. If you want to remove the oil, rinse your meteorite in acetone.
- **Containers and Desiccant:** For temporary storage, place your meteorite into a box with one or more silica gel desiccant packets, although this method is not very successful in humid climates.

In order to appreciate meteorites for the rare and special items that they are, invest in display stands. These come in various types, such as acrylic cubes and stands, caliper holders, and glass domes.

## References

*The Handbook of Colorado Meteorites*, by Matthew L. Morgan. Denver: Colorado Geological Survey, Division of Minerals and Geology, Department of Natural Resources, 2000. (Colorado Geology Survey Special Publication 49.) Bibliography, color photos. 49 pages. 5-1/2x8-1/2 inches. \$7.00 softcover. May be purchased from the Colorado Geological Survey, Room 715, 1313 Sherman, St. Denver, CO 80203-2239.

(Continued on page 4)

## An Interview with Matt Morgan

Author of *The Handbook of Colorado Meteorites*

**Soundoff:** Eureka! is a metal detecting club. Some members are interested in finding meteorites. Where would one go in Colorado to optimize a metal detector search for these rare space visitors?

**Matt Morgan:** Any location where meteorites have been previously found is a good target. Meteorites tend to break up in flight and disperse over an area, usually shaped like an ellipse. The ellipse can be several miles long by a mile or so wide. The largest pieces tend to fall out last, so look for those down range of the ellipse. Most meteorites in Colorado are found on the eastern plains. Not because they fall more in this area, but the landscape and climate is conducive to their preservation and location. The plains tend to be dry, flat, and only lightly vegetated. Farming tends to turn up meteorites as well; there are many meteorites with gashes where a farmer's plow struck it over a period of years. Most of the meteorites located on the plains were found by a single person named H. H. Nininger. He was a famous meteorite collector/hunter during the 1930s and 1940s who traveled from town to town giving talks on meteorites to local communities. Education is the best way to find them! If I were to go and search "cold turkey," the plains or the San Luis Valley would be the best targets. Again, because the climate and vegetation in those areas are best suited for meteorite preservation.

**SO:** What is the Widmanstätten pattern and how is it formed.

**MM:** The Widmanstätten pattern is the "basket weave" configuration that is common to most iron meteorites and is visible on a cut surface that has been brushed with a dilute solution of nitric acid (Nitol). The pattern is actually the octahedral crystal faces (two four-sided pyramids with bases together) of the minerals kamacite and taenite. Brushing nitric acid over the face of an iron meteorite "etches" the crystal faces, causing them to pop out and become visible.

**SO:** In the United States, meteorites are the property of the person upon whose land they are found. Are people who locate such meteorites expected to report their discoveries to the government?

**MM:** I think that is up to the individual person. If a meteorite was found on their land, they should have it classified by a university laboratory (to be sure it IS a meteorite and for scientific purposes). After classification, the meteorite is given a name and a piece of it is deposited into the meteorite reference collection at the Smithsonian Institution.

**SO:** If a meteorite is found on federal lands, government officials would consider it to belong to the government and, under an interpretation of the 1906 "Antiquities Act." If a detectorist finds a meteorite on public land and wants to take it, how does he go about obtaining special arrangements from a governing agency?

**MM:** Contact the Smithsonian Institution and ask about their policies on meteorite recovery and ownership. They may be

open to sharing the specimen with the finder.

**SO:** When a meteorite is found, detectorists know to record the date found, the county where found, the total known weight, and the latitude and longitude coordinates. Is it necessary for detectorists looking for meteorites to carry GPS units to record any discovered meteoric locations?

**MM:** I think it is wise to carry a GPS and record as much data as you can if you locate a meteorite. This is important for a couple of reasons: First, you can easily go back and search the area again if you have the coordinates and second, it is helpful for scientists to map the distribution ellipse of a meteorite fall. For instance, the Gold Basin, Arizona, meteorite was found by a prospector in 1995. Now, years later, they have mapped in detail a "strewn field" that is 200 square kilometers, and still they have not found the limits! In addition to the latitude and longitude coordinates, depth of burial and soil characteristics are important (see <http://meteorite-recovery.tripod.com/goldbasin/metsocgb.htm>).

**SO:** Coordinates for meteorite locations are sometimes given as the front step of the nearest post office. Why is that?

**MM:** Either the exact location of the find was not known; the meteorite may have been in a family for many years and the person that found it has passed away. Or, the finder wants to keep the exact location a secret. Remember, most people think that all meteorites are worth more than gold, when in fact, only a very small percentage actually are.

*(Meteorites - Continued from page 3)*

### **Mile High Meteorites** (Lakewood, Colorado)

Sells *The Handbook of Colorado Meteorites*, \$10.00 postpaid.  
See <http://www.mhmeteorites.com/>

### **The Meteorite Market**

A place where beginning and experienced collectors could purchase rare and exotic meteorites. Includes the page "Meteorite Collecting Is a Hobby," the source for much of this article (and used with permission). <http://www.alaska.net/~meteor/>

### **ESRI Map Book Vol. 17, Guide to North American Meteorites.**

By Bill Peck. A wall map featuring more than 1,250 meteorite and crater occurrences, which can also be viewed in your browser (click Volume 17, Cartography, Philmont, select the map, then click to center and zoom). <http://www.esri.com/mapmuseum/>

### **Meteorite Magazine**

International Quarterly of Meteorites and Meteorite Science  
<http://www.meteor.co.nz/>

### **The Meteorological Society**

An international group formed to promote the study of extraterrestrial materials and their history.  
<http://www.uark.edu/campus-resources/metsoc/index1.htm>

**Rocks from Space.** by O. Richard Norton. Missoula: Mountain Press Publishing Company, Inc., Second Edition, 1998). Bibliography, appendices, glossary, index, 45 two-color illustrations, 33 color photographs, and 240 b/w photographs. 467 pages. 6x9 inches. \$32.00 paperback, \$55.00 cloth.

### **International Meteorite Collectors Association**

Meteorite collectors who also sell or trade meteorites.  
<http://www.meteoritecollectors.org/>

*Article courtesy of Dick Oakes, [www.PhantomRanch.net](http://www.PhantomRanch.net)*





## March St. Patrick's Day Hunt

by Dean Adams

Once again, **Doug Cohn** and I confirmed it is as much or more fun to conduct a hunt as it is to participate in one.

With great effort, we summoned up a perfect day in the high 60s with scattered clouds to prevent sunburn. A sandy school playing field at 200 S. Pearl provided a most excellent hunt site. We had 35 hunters, which is believed to be a record attendance at a five-dollar hunt.

The festivities began with a fun Best of the West pinpointing game conducted by **Gary Keim**, who had seen an article in *Lost Treasure* magazine about this kind of hunt (without details, however). Five 32-by-32-inch cardboard sheets with a silver dime and one or more pull tabs taped to the bottom side were nailed to the ground. Contestants were given push-pins to stick in the cardboard where they pinpointed the coin with their detectors within 30 seconds. Able assistants **Ada Keim** and **Nancy Carter** removed pins and labeled the holes with the contenders' names. The next series of contestants then pinpointed the coins. When all hunters had tried their luck, judge **Bill Chapman** determined the five most accurate hunters. These were **Dennis Eberhardt**, **Bob Gilbert**, **Don Green**, **Roy Neys**, and **Glen Spencer**. Prizes were awarded to these semi-finalists after which they pinpointed against each other in a shoot-out. **Roy Neys** was winner and was awarded a silver round donated by Gary, who has other ideas if huntmasters would like to use them.

All hunters then assembled in the middle of the hunt field for a group picture by our able photographer and news editor **Dick Oakes**. With a shotgun start, the one-hour St. Patrick's Day Hunt began. When time was up, hunters counted the number of items of junk or trash and natural finds. Prizes were awarded to **Ron Erickson** as champion junk finder (113 "finds") and **Roy Neys** for runner-up (96 "finds"). Dick, the official hunt judge, awarded prizes to **Stu Pritchard** for the best natural find of a 1904 Indian head penny, and to **Ada Keim** and **Caroline Brewer** for 1st and 2nd place as the best St. Patrick's Day green attire. Prizes were also awarded to **Ron Erickson** and **Ralph Pendell** for finding tokens. Doug, Dick, and I donated the prizes.

It is believed that a silver dollar and a couple of halves were left in the ground as well as the native gold coin that **Bill Chapman's** extra-sensory perception indicates is still at the site. A good time was had by all.



March Hunt Huntmasters  
Dean Adams and Doug Cohn

Best of the West Hunt  
Front: Huntmaster Gary Keim. Winners:  
Roy Neys, Don Greene, Glen Spencer,  
Dennis Eberhardt, Bob Gilbert. Center  
Back: Huntmaster Ada "Vana" Keim.



March Hunt Winners  
Back: Ron Erickson, Ron  
Neys, Stuart Pritchard  
Front: Caroline Brewer,  
Ada Keim



## Buffalo Soldiers

From a presentation to the Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club  
**Friday, March 14, 2003**  
 by Lieutenant Mitch Bart  
 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers, Inc.

On June 28, 1866, an Act of Congress authorized the creation of several regiments of Black cavalry troops (the 9th and 10th) and four infantry regiments (24th, 25th, 38th, 39th, 40th, and 41st, later to be combined into the 24th and 25th infantry regiments). While the term "Buffalo Soldier" was originally bestowed on the men of the 10th Cavalry Regiment, it was eventually given to all of the Black regiments. These troops went on to play a major role in the history of the West, as the "Buffalo Soldiers."



### 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry

"Buffalo Soldiers," partly because of their dark hair and skin color, but mostly because, like the mighty buffalo, the Black soldiers fought ferociously to the end. The troopers accepted the title and wore it proudly because to be associated with the fighting spirit of the Indian's sacred buffalo was a measure of respect. The motto of the 10th Cavalry is "Ready and Forward."

The 9th, headquartered in Greenville, Louisiana, and the 10th, formed on September 21st, 1866, by Colonel Benjamin Grierson, headquartered at Leavenworth, Kansas. The two cavalry units were destined to become the most decorated of all U.S. Military Regiments during the Indian Wars period. Thirteen Congressional Medals of Honor were presented to Buffalo Soldiers during the western campaigns.

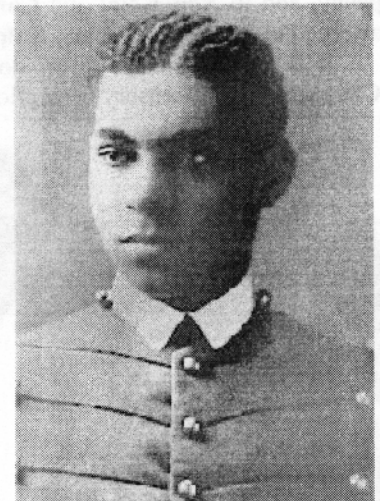
For more than 20 years, the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments served on the frontier from Montana to Texas, along the Rio Grande in New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and the Dakotas. They built forts; constructed roads; strung telegraph lines; protected railroad crews; escorted stages and trains; protected settlers and cattle drives; controlled mobs; pursued outlaws, cattle thieves, and even Mexican revolutionaries along the border; mapped uncharted wilderness areas; pinpointed water holes; and fought Comanche, Ute, Kiowa, Shoshone, Cheyenne, Bannock, Kickapoo, Sioux, Apache, and Blackfoot warriors (the Crow fought on the side of the army). On one occasion, a unit of 30 Buffalo Soldiers lost only three men when they were attacked by 300 Cheyenne Indians. The Indians couldn't understand why the Blacks, who had been slaves, would fight for their country. It was because they wanted to

prove themselves. Dangers such as cholera and rabid wolves, however, sometimes took more lives than Indian warfare.

The Buffalo Soldiers had the lowest desertion rate in the army, though their army posts were often in the worst country in the west yet official reports, show these soldiers were frequently subjected to the harshest of discipline, racist officers, poor food, poor equipment, and poor shelter. Buffalo Soldiers, starting with the trooper, received \$13.00 a month in wages, plus food, clothing, and shelter, as compensation for their military service. In the field, they had to live on Uncle Sam's beans, black coffee, saltless hardtack biscuits, jerky, whatever wild game they could obtain, and infrequently, salt pork. They received cast-off Civil War Sharps rifles, ill-fitting McClellan saddles, tack, sabres, revolvers, and spurs. Army cavalry had always been given the finest of horses, but not the Buffalo Soldiers. Although they received the crippled and sickly horses left from the Civil War, they quickly learned that sometimes your horse could be the difference between life and death and cared for their gentle horses better than they cared for themselves.

In 1866, Cathay Williams, a Black woman who wanted to make her own living and not be dependent of relations or friends, hid her female identity and joined the army as William Cathay. The army surgeon might have examined Cathay superficially, or not at all, and the new army recruit was declared "fit for duty." Private William Cathay of the 38th U.S. Infantry, ensured her place in history as the only documented female Buffalo Soldier. During a bout of sickness, she was finally examined by a doctor, found out to be a woman, and was discharged in 1868. She settled in Trinidad, Colorado, and ran an orphanage. She died at the age of 82, the only documented Black woman who served in the U.S. army prior to the 1948 law that officially allowed women to join.

Henry Ossian Flipper was West Point's first Black graduate (May 25, 1873) and America's first Black officer. He was stationed at Fort Elliott, Texas in 1879. Flipper was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and was assigned to frontier duty with the all-Black 10th U.S. Cavalry at Fort Sill, Oklahoma (Indian Territory). In 1880, Lt. Flipper was transferred to Fort Davis with his company where he became the post quartermaster and the acting "commissary of subsistence," which meant that he was in charge of housing, supplies, and equipment for the fort. On Sundays, Lt. Flipper and Mollie Dwyer, a white woman from town, joined other officers and their ladies chasing coyotes and jackrabbits on the plains. Almost immediately after one Colonel Shafter took over command of the fort, he stripped Lieutenant Flipper of his quartermaster duties. Shafter then asked Flipper to move the



(Continued on page 7)



(Buffalo Soldiers - Continued from page 6)

commissary funds from the quartermaster's safe to Flipper's quarters. The chief commissary of the Department of Texas contacted Shafter, asking why July's money had not been deposited as usual in the bank in San Antonio. Later that evening, Shafter accused the army's only Black officer of embezzling government funds and arrested him. A court-martial, convened on September 17, 1881, in the Fort Davis chapel, lasted until December, when the court found Flipper not guilty of embezzlement but guilty "of conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman," and sentenced him to be "dismissed from the service of the United States." It was a harsh sentence, particularly in view of two prior cases involving white officers who were found guilty of embezzlement in which neither officer was dismissed nor dishonored. Flipper was dishonorably discharged on June 30, 1882. On February 19, 1999, President William Clinton awarded a pardon to Lt. Henry Ossian Flipper.

The valor and exemplary service of the Buffalo Soldiers did not end on the Western Frontier. They went on to serve



with Teddy Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders" as they stormed up San Juan Hill (contrary to political publicity of the time which had them "prodded" up the hill). The Buffalo Soldiers served

with distinction under Harry Truman. Some went on to become famous, such as John J. "Black Jack" Pershing who served with the Tenth Cavalry as a young lieutenant. Because Lt. Pershing fought with the 10th Cavalry and respected his men, he was given the nickname "Black Jack" (the nickname was meant to be a slur to Lt. Pershing but he accepted it with pride). They also fought and died in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean Conflict.

The all-Black, and ever-proud 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments were integrated in 1952, eighty-six years after being commissioned. Many of the members of the 10th Cavalry Regiment settled in the Denver, Colorado, area. It was the end of an era and the end of an important saga of American History. On July 25, 1992, a bronze statue of mounted 9th and 10th Cavalry troopers was unveiled at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

The purpose of the latter-day 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers, Inc., of which **Mitch Bart** is a member, is to educate the public, especially youngsters, about the true history of these worthy soldiers and their sacrifices and heroism and to show that the United States is the best country in the world.

The group holds re-enactment battles and have even "fought" a group of Indians in four re-enactment battles. They have "Drill and Ceremony" that includes a sabre drill in which melons atop posts are sliced in half at full gallop. Riders also try to snag three brass rings from horseback with their sabres.

Because the Buffalo Soldiers wore the same uniforms as the rest of the U.S. Army of the same time period, so do the members of the group. Their uniforms are of heavyweight wool and they wear high-topped cavalry boots. The officers, for example, wear eagle-head with winged-strap spurs, black "slouch" hats, white gloves, sky blue trousers with yellow striping, dark blue coats, and all other accoutrements that would

have been worn during the campaigns.

The group is composed entirely of ex-military personnel. Most are combat veterans and most are retirees. Mr. Bart, for instance, was a master sergeant. Some members were extras in the film "Buffalo Soldiers" starring Danny Glover. Mr. Bart hopes to have his website ( <http://www.10thuscav.org> ) on the World Wide Web around June of 2003.

The Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club president, **Jeff Lubbert**, presented Mr. Bart with a certificate of appreciation at the end of his presentation.

*For further information about the Black troops in the early West, read Buffalo Soldiers by William H. Leckie, University of Oklahoma Press. This article was compiled and edited by Dick Oakes.*

## Bylaws Changes

### To be ratified at the April 2003 meeting

The following changes were proposed by the Bylaws Committee for ratification at Eureka!'s April 2003 meeting.

Club members at the March meeting showed overwhelming support for changing the bylaws to allow members who would not be in attendance at an election meeting to cast their votes by other methods.

Double underlined text is to be deleted. **Bolded text** is to be added.

#### Article IV

##### Executive Board

Should a position become vacant during the year, a special election shall be held at the next General Membership meeting to elect and fill the vacant position.

A simple majority vote from the members in attendance at an election meeting shall elect that nominee to office.

**A simple majority vote from the members in attendance at an election meeting and properly submitted absentee votes or ballots shall elect a nominee to office.**

**Should a position become vacant during the year, a special election shall be held at the next general membership meeting to elect and fill the vacant position, provided sufficient time has been allotted to allow for submission and counting of absentee ballots.**

Duties of the Executive Board are as follows:

Secretary

**5. The Secretary shall be responsible for receiving absentee votes or ballots and determining that all votes or ballots are valid.**

#### Article VII

Amendments to Bylaws

A. EUREKA! TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB, INC. bylaws may be changed only by a quorum vote of the membership, herein defined as a simple majority vote of the total club membership in attendance **and submitted absentee votes or ballots.**

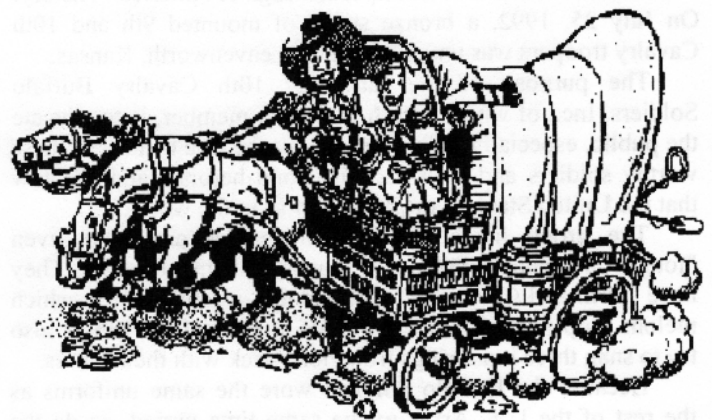
C. The cost of copying and distribution of the proposed amendment shall be the responsibility of the person making the amendment proposal or bylaw change.

## Upcoming Eureka! Meetings and Events

Date	Meeting/Event	Host - Details (Some not yet confirmed)
11 Apr	<input type="checkbox"/> General meeting	Speaker TBD
13 Apr	<input type="checkbox"/> In-town hunt	Matt Williams✓
16 Apr	<input type="checkbox"/> GPR 2nd Annual Flea Market and Swap Meet	Hosted by sister club, the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies✓
26 April	<input type="checkbox"/> Fun Hunt	Joe & Nancy Carter
4 May	<input type="checkbox"/> Fun Hunt	Ron Erickson
9 May	<input type="checkbox"/> General meeting	Speaker TBD
18 May	<input type="checkbox"/> In-town hunt	Barna Wesley & Melissa Welch✓
1 June	<input type="checkbox"/> May 32nd Out-of-town hunt	Cliff McGaughey✓
13 Jun	<input type="checkbox"/> General meeting	Speaker TBD
20-22 Jun	<input type="checkbox"/> Rush to the Rockies 2003 National Hunt	Pickle Gulch Campground, Black Hawk/Central City, Colo.✓
11 Jul	<input type="checkbox"/> General meeting	Speaker TBD
13 Jul	<input type="checkbox"/> In-town hunt	Mark Mais✓ (Mark will be donating his own silver and rings)
24 Jul	<input type="checkbox"/> Naked City Night Hunt	Cliff McGaughey✓
8 Aug	<input type="checkbox"/> General meeting	Speaker TBD
10 Aug	<input type="checkbox"/> Beach Hunt	Cliff McGaughey & MiMi Pechon✓
17 Aug	<input type="checkbox"/> Fun Hunt	Bryan Macheel
12 Sep	<input type="checkbox"/> General meeting	Speaker TBD
14 Sep	<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Wild West Hunt	Joyce Keith & Don Baca
Sep	<input type="checkbox"/> Fun Hunt	Host TBD
10 Oct	<input type="checkbox"/> General Meeting	Speaker TBD

## RUSH TO THE ROCKIES, JUNE 20-22, 2003

**Rush to the Rockies  
2003**



### The Eureka! Club's National Open Hunt

See the club's website

(<http://www.geocities.com/Eureka-thc/>)

for hunt schedule, entry form, maps, and other information about our National Hunt,  
or send us a note and we'll mail it to you!

**Reserve early! This hunt is limited to 150 entrants!**



FEBRUARY 2003 FINDS OF THE MONTH

Winners listed

GOLD CATEGORY

- Barbara Sanders..... 14k walexandrite and diamonds
- Bernice Ortiz..... 14k gold ring
- Roy Neys..... Gold locket w/chain
- Doug Cohn..... 14k gold button
- John Brower..... 18k waring w/diamond

JEWELRY CATEGORY

- Roy Neys..... Sterling silver w/antique ring
- Don Greene..... Silver cuffs
- Caroline Brewer..... Stud earrings
- Matt Williams..... Sterling silver ring

COIN CATEGORY

- Carl Johansen..... 1896-D Morgan dollar
- Eldon Smith..... 1907 Liberty bell
- Matt Williams..... Chinese coin
- Ron Erickson..... 1899 Indian head cent
- Carl Johansen..... 1867 nickel Liberty bell
- Bill Magette..... 1903 Barber's nickel
- Jeff Lubbert..... Chinese coin
- John Brewer..... 1897 dime

TOKEN CATEGORY

- Jeff Lubbert..... 1907 nickel
- Linda Erickson..... 1907 nickel
- Roy Neys..... 1907 nickel
- Carl Johansen..... 1907 nickel
- Carl Johansen..... 1907 nickel
- Jeff Lubbert..... 1907 nickel
- John Brewer..... 1907 nickel

ARTIFACT CATEGORY

- Jeff Lubbert..... 1907 nickel
- Matt Williams..... 1907 nickel
- Cliff McGaughey..... 1907 nickel
- Roy Neys..... 1907 nickel
- Roy Neys..... 1907 nickel
- Carl Johansen..... 1907 nickel

GOLD DRAWINGS

- Linda Nearth..... 1907 nickel

CHRISTMAS CARD DRAWINGS

- Jeff Lubbert..... 1907 nickel

GENERAL DRAWINGS

- Roger Petrella..... 1889 Kennedy half dollar
- Charles Chapman..... 1866 1 cent piece
- Roger Petrella..... 1898 1/2 gold coin
- Ronal Garrison..... 1867 1 cent piece

- Roy Neys..... 1867 1 cent piece
- Gary Keim..... 1921 silver dollar
- Nancy Carter..... 1923 silver dollar
- Roy Neys..... 1908 1/2 gold coin
- Bryan Woodard..... 1921 silver dollar
- Theresa Richards..... 1921 silver dollar

MEMBERSHIP DRAWING

- John Smith..... 1921 silver dollar

Secretary's Notes

General Meeting of March 14, 2003  
By Matt Williams

GUEST SPEAKER

Mitch Barr spoke on the history of the Buffalo Soldiers.

MINUTES

There were 31 members present with 9 guests (George and Ronni Garrison, Terry Patton, Dan Pierson, Rick Tourville, Darrell Stenzel, Doc Watson, Nancy Loftness, and Steve Barry).

Snacks were again provided by Gary and Ada Keim.

Bylaw changes will be voted on at the April meeting.

President Jeff Lubbert spoke about last month's hunt and trivia contest.

Rush to the Rockies fees must be paid in full by April 15 or the price goes up. Sign-up sheets for Rush to the Rockies volunteers were available.

Cliff McGaughey stepped down as Hunt Coordinator. Nancy Carter graciously volunteered to fill the position.

Membership Fees are Due!

Renew before the April Eureka! meeting

It's that time of year again . . . membership fees are due and payable to our Treasurer, Nancy Carter. Enclosed with the postal mailing of this newsletter to our members is the membership renewal "packet," which includes a 2003 Membership form, the Eureka! bylaws, and the club's Treasure Hunter's Code of Ethics.

These three documents also are available on the club's website; select About from the navigation bar. To renew your membership, you must again agree to abide by the bylaws and ethics statement of the club.

Please send in your Membership Form to arrive no later than the day before the April meeting so you can be counted as a continuing member in good standing!

## Dean's Doodles

by Dean Adams



mind past metal detecting experiences. **Dick Oakes'** serialized Moffat Road story in the February and March issues of Soundoff brought to mind a trip former club member and hunting companion **Clyde Smith** and I made some twelve years ago.

We had read about the town site of Arrow or Arrowhead through the Needle's Eye and over the pass as described in Dick's article. It had a Harvey House with "Harvey Girls" as described in Judy Garland's movie *The Harvey Girls*.

Because the Needle's Eye was closed, we had to go east from US 40 on the other side of Berthoud Pass. It was a great trip, great scenery, pleasant weather, and a nice chat with a representative of the Denver Water Department, owners of the site at that time. We were standing about where the man is in the photo next to the Dining Room.

So what did we find? Kowing me, you probably guessed it--zip. It wasn't until just a year or two ago that I found a possible reason for my empty pouch (except my detecting incompetence, of course). The Eureka! club had a two-day campout and hunt there 30 years ago and again 29 years ago. Also, from the newsletter archives, I found notes about individuals going there later. It seems I remember someone finding a \$5 gold piece there, too.

I recently found an interesting page on the Internet. It's about a type of treasure hunting I have been interested in since I was a boy. It probably has something to do with things we ate during the depression. Devin Starlanyl, M.D., has this to say: "Let's face it, treasure hunting is fun. There is nothing I know that resembles treasure hunting as much as foraging for wild mushrooms."



*Always keep your words soft and sweet,  
just in case you have to eat them.*

## Happy April Birthday!



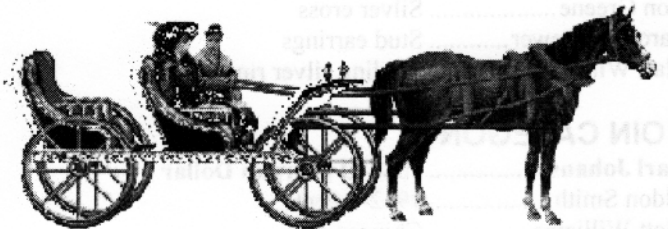
David Barnett, Jerry Case, Josephine Johnston, Dannette Longo, Jim Ryder, David Sanders, Butch Turner, Pam Turner, and Barna Wesley.

## Doug's Corner

### Carriage Lots

by Doug Cohn

I just discovered a whole bunch of potential detecting spots in NW Denver. In a neighborhood newspaper, the writer described how the Denver Parks and Recreation Department is converting a few of the old carriage lots into neighborhood parks. Carriage lots are city owned reserved areas in the centers of quite a number of blocks where residents could park their horse-drawn carriages. I do not know where the horses went.



I had never heard of carriage lots, but using the directions in the article, Dean Adams and I drove the Highland area and found the two already converted to parks. Then we figured out how to find more of them.

Blocks with carriage lots have two alleys! All the ones we found are located in blocks where the alleys ran north and south. There may be some east and west, but we did not find any. While not in every block, many blocks from 32nd Avenue to 36th Avenue and from Zuni to Federal have them. There may be some east of Zuni and in other areas of Denver, but we did not have time to look.

Some of the lots have been leased or sold to private parties and one owner at 32nd and Clay came out to see what we were doing in his garden. He was a very nice fellow and allowed us to detect his yard. We did not find any keepers either in the yard or garden. Others are vacant lots with lots of trash and old cars. Most have gray stone 10- to 15-bay garages with a fair amount of bare ground around them. Some are paved over and are used for parking lots.

We did not find any treasure in the two bare lots we detected, but my suspicion is there may be a goodly amount

## April Flea Market/Swap Meet

Finish getting your old, unused prospecting equipment, detecting equipment, camping equipment, fishing stuff, or anything else that would be used for outdoor recreation (no guns please) for our sister club's 2nd Annual Flea Market / Swap Meet. The Gold Prospectors of the Rockies (GPR) will host it on April 16, 2003, 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM at the Lloyd G. Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow Street, Lakewood, Colorado. 10% of your sales goes to the GPR.



## ADVERTISING

\$ 3 per column inch (2-columns per page)

### Commercial Ads

Business Card Size .....	\$ 6
Quarter-Page .....	\$ 12
Half-Page .....	\$ 24
Full-Page .....	\$ 48

### Non-commercial Classifieds

Non-business Classifieds .....Free to Eureka! Members

Please send ad copy to:  
The Editor, Soundoff0302@yahoo.com

Deadline: 20th day of the month prior to publication

## Eureka! Member Classifieds

### For Sale

**Fresh Arizona Pistachios**  
One pound for \$4.50 or 3 pounds for \$12.00. Contact Doug Cohn. 303-762-8873. dougscnr@msn.com

### Free Puppies

These beautiful little long-haired blonde pups are 1/2 cocker spaniel and 1/2 sneaky neighbor's dog.

### For Sale

**Classified ads**  
Members, your non-commercial classified ads can appear here!

### Your classified

Not only that, but for members, it is three dollars cheaper than putting it on eBay!

Please support your Eureka! Soundoff Advertisers.

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Office: (720) 377-1750  
Fax: (720) 377-1724  
Home: (303) 368-0495

## Member Classifieds

Eureka! club members are entitled to place classified, non-commercial ads in Soundoff free of charge. While a member's name need not be included in the ad copy, the member's full name must accompany the ad copy. Ads will be run for three months, unless the Editor is notified that an ad is no longer need (for example, if the item has been sold). Please contact the editor at the end of a three-month ad run to let the Editor know that an ad should be extended. The Editor (or the board of directors) reserves the right to alter or delete any request for free member classifieds.

## Commercial Advertising

Please contact the Editor if you are interested in advertising your metal detecting-, electronic prospecting-, or treasure hunting-related product or service. Ads may be customized for you. All ad sizes and placement within Soundoff are approximate and may be resized by the Editor for page-layout purposes. Eureka! reserves the right not to accept any advertising.

DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD

TO GAIN A MINUTE

YOU NEED YOUR HEAD

YOUR BRAINS ARE IN IT

Burma Shave

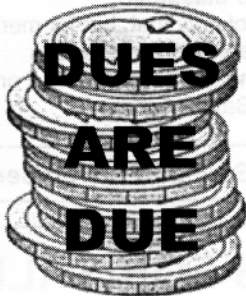


Eureka! Treasure Hunters Club, Inc.

### Soundoff

P.O. Box 101385  
Denver, CO 80250-1385

**Dated Material**  
Please expedite.



**FIRST CLASS**

### Officers and Board

President .....	Jeff Lubbert
Vice President .....	Ron Erickson
Secretary .....	Matt Williams
Treasurer .....	Nancy Carter
Newsletter Editor .....	Dick Oakes
Board (2-years).....	John Brewer
Board (2 years).....	Bill Chapman
Board (2 years).....	Joe Carter
Board (1 year).....	Bryan Macheel
Board (1 year).....	MiMi Pechon
Board (1 year).....	John Steele
Board (1 year).....	Jim Wojciechowski
Mascot .....	Chelsea Chapman

### Coordinators and Volunteers

Drawings Table .....	Bob Ciencin / Bryan Macheel
Finds Table.....	Eldon Smith
Greeters .....	John Steele
Historian .....	Dean Adams
Historical Artifact Recovery Team.....	Jeff Lubbert
Hunts .....	Nancy Carter
Nametags .....	MiMi Pechon
New Member and Guest Orientation.....	Ron Erickson
Physical Evidence Recovery Team.....	Joe Carter
Publisher .....	MiMi Pechon
Refreshments .....	Joe & Nancy Carter
Speakers .....	Ron Erickson
Website .....	Barna Wesley

### Refreshments!

For the months of April and May, **Joe and Nancy Carter** are going to be hosting our Refreshments Table, taking over for those two months from **Gary and Ada Keim**, who will host June and July. Contact **Nancy Carter** to volunteer during the remainder of the year to make sure the vittles, java, and punch are available at our meetings.

### Greetings!

Who was that friendly person standing at the door and greeting our guests as they arrived and pointing them toward the table with the guest buttons? There wasn't one! Well, that's changing as **John Steele** assumes the Greeters Coordinator position from our extremely busy VP, **Ron Erickson**. Look for our greeters this month!