

# Uncompahgre Treasure Club

**Newsletter Vol. 18 No.4, April, 2018**

**Website:** <http://www.UncompahgreTreasureClub.com>

**Club Meeting:** Lions Park Clubhouse April 9, 2018, 7:00 PM

**Board Meeting:** Time and place of meeting will be decided at club meeting

## **President's Message:**

Hi, Everyone, I hope you all had a nice Easter Sunday. I can't believe how fast the year is going, and just how nice the weather has been. Hopefully, everyone has had a chance to get out there and detect. I sure have. I want to commend the members who came out and took part in our Metal Detecting 101 class. We all learned more about our hobby and detectors and plan to have more classes like this in the future. I'm also thinking of a Prospecting 101 class in the near future. REMEMBER, there is a Night Hunt on the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, so bring your detectors and a sweater just in case. I hope we will have a start on our monthly treasure hunts. I'm looking into its progress and hope to have some news soon. Thank you for the comments in the suggestion box. They bring concerns to light and that's a positive note. Please feel free to respond to our answers and comments as our ears are always open. The idea of a comment about your finds turned out well and we will continue to do the same. Hope to see everyone Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> .....take care. Don

## **Secretary's Report:**

Meeting of March 12, 2018

President Don Rodarte called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Duane Renfrow.

Secretary Sandy Bliss read the Minutes of the February 12, 2018, meeting. No changes were noted and the Minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer Judy Kuntz read the Treasurer's Report. No changes were noted and the Report was approved as read.

Don welcomed guests: Bill Rye, and Ben and Paula Crain.

Don reported that four items were submitted last month in the club's suggestion box and these were reviewed by Board members.

1. A suggestion that we contact a local archaeologist as a possible guest speaker and offer our assistance. Don said his efforts to do this in the past have resulted in little interest and added, "They really don't seem to want our help". He said as an alternative, he will contact local police and sheriff's departments and let them know we are available to help when needed.
2. A suggestion for members: Be aware of "treasure hunter's fever". This fever causes a person to risk everything! This has happened to at least one hunter who died while searching for Forrest Fenn's treasure.
3. A suggestion regarding the Finds Table: Allow more time for the winner of each category to tell where the item was found and what brought the person to that particular area. After the Board's review, it was suggested that the finder write on the back of the entry form where it was found. Don said if time allows, the finder can explain more about the item.
4. A suggestion was received about one member of our club whose treasure hunting success seems to qualify him as a "professional". Don said the Board had a lengthy discussion about this individual and the situation, and came to the following conclusion: This member is not a professional, however he is totally dedicated to metal detecting and is always willing to help others when he can. It is not this person's goal to beat any of us in a hunt, rather we can all learn from his skills. This member gives each of us a challenge....to go out every day, learn all you can about your machine and practice constantly. Judy pointed out that this member enters only items that he finds when he's in this area. And Dave (Mr. Detector) added that this person is a great example of making your own luck. It takes a lot of skill and he does it every day.

Don encouraged members to continue using the Suggestion Box for submitting ideas and voicing concerns. Suggestions can be completely anonymous.

Don said knowing everything you can about your machine will result in more success, so he suggested we have a training session for those interested. After a show of hands, the date was set:

**Sunday – March 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at Lions Club**

**Bring your detector and digging tool.**

Don introduced our guest speaker, Ben Crain, who lives in Grand Junction, and is the State Director for GPAA. His job is to teach how to find and file claims. Ben recommended the use of Google to locate old mining trails, which can be great places to find gold. He also said to

look for the black sand in the rivers then follow up and down the river. Ben said he's planning a trip to his claim soon and invited members to join him. He said it is a 2.1 mile hike up and 2.1 mile down on a pretty rugged trail that starts at 8,000 feet. He suggested we check out a site on Facebook: [www.westernslopeprospecting.com](http://www.westernslopeprospecting.com). He said by May 1<sup>st</sup>, the water begins to go down, which makes it ideal for fishing, and you can pry off pieces of bedrock in your search for gold, as long as you stay 2 feet away from any vegetation along the river. For the sake of safety, Ben recommends you always carry a sidearm when hiking in remote mountain areas, since plenty of bears and lions are in those areas. He said there are two areas designated for recreational mining: One is upstream from the Pinion Bridge and another is upstream from the Nucla Bridge.

You can contact Ben at 970-773-0585 or Paula Crain at 970-773-0614.

Their email is: [crashcrain@gmail.com](mailto:crashcrain@gmail.com)

Deb Hyatt suggested we look at the school in Nucla as a possible site for a club hunt. Don said we would first need to get permission from the school's principal, and Ben Crain said the Nucla school principal had actually contacted him. The principal was hoping Ben could give a lesson to all the kids on how to metal detect. Don will look into this possible opportunity.

Garry Melugin asked about the status of the club's plans for a pot luck for the veterans and local law enforcement personnel. Don said June is currently scheduled for this event.

Following a break, Duane and Don conducted the club raffle.

Henry announced winners of the Finds Table.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

**NEXT MEETING - MONDAY, APRIL 9th**  
**Night Hunt**

**Birthdays in April:**

Donald Dodds

Darlene Howell

Betty Richburg

**Pull Tab Summary:**

NAME	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	TOTAL
Lon Helmick	40	30										
Sharon Dodds			195									

## Find of the Month Scoreboard:

Numbers in red denote find of the month winner

NAME	Dec. 2017	Jan. 2018	Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2018	May. 2018	Jun. 2018	Jul. 2018	Aug. 2018	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2018	TOTAL
Joshua Burkholder												
Nancy Burkholder												
Sandy Bliss												
Earl Bryan												
Stephanie Carroll												
Tony Carney												
Jack Carson		2										
Mitch Collum			2									
Peggy Culver												
Rick Culver	8	4	5									
Rick D'Ambrosio												
Tom Davis												
Don Dodds		2	3									
Sharon Dodds		3	2									
John Forrey												
Dennis Freed												
Ben Golden												
Eileen Golden		4										
Julie Anne Helmick												
Lon Helmick	10	7										
Harold Hillis												
Darlene Howell												
Deb Hyatt												
Henry Kuntz		1	2									
Judy Kuntz												
Dave Lehmann		3	2									
Jan Letterly												
Jerry Letterly												
James Lowe	1	1	1									
Rosie Lowe			2									
Garry Melugin			1									
Tina Melugin			2									
Marlene Mitchell												
Bob O'Donnell												
Carole O'Donnell	2											
Jerry Paul												
Dyllan Pittman												
Betty Pichburg												
Don Rodarte												
Shelly Rodarte												
Andy Roesch												
Gary Shier												
George Shiflet												
Merlene Solis												
Karla Waltz												
James Waltz												
Marry Warner												
Steve Warner												
Jim Waugh			2									
Karla Waltz												

## Find of the Month Winners:

February, 2018		
Category	Winner	Description
<b>A US COINS</b>	Tina Melugin	1958 Wheat Cent
<b>B FOREIGN COINS &amp; TOKENS</b>	No Entry	
<b>C JEWELRY (SILVER &amp; GOLD)</b>	No Entry	
<b>D JEWELRY</b>	Don Dodds	Cremation Jewelry
<b>E TOYS (ALL)</b>	Rosie Lowe	Captain America Toy
<b>F Miscelaneous</b>	Mitch Collum	Comic Book
<b>G RELICS</b>	Rick Culver	Top of old pepper shaker
<b>H MODERN METALLIC</b>	Dave Lehmann	Bullit
<b>I MINERAL SPECIMENS</b>	Jim Waugh	Green Quartzite
<b>J DISPLAYS</b>	Sharron Dodds	Display
<b>FIND OF THE MONTH</b>	Don Dodds	Cremation Jewelry

## **Events Calendar 2018:**

April 9th -- Club meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> night hunt, 7:00 pm, Lions Park Clubhouse

May 14th -- Club meeting, 7:00 pm, Lions Park Clubhouse (possible May hunts: Baldwin, CO; Riverside school; Tonopah, NV)

June 11th -- Club meeting, 7:00 pm, Lions Park Clubhouse (also June veterans pot luck including police and fire personnel)

July 9th -- Club meeting, 7:00 pm, Lions Park Clubhouse (possible July outing to gold claim)

August 13th -- Club meeting, 7:00 pm, Lions Park Clubhouse (possible August outing to gold claim, also annual summer T-hunt and pot luck)

September 10th -- Club meeting, in house fundraiser auction, 7:00 pm, Lions Park Clubhouse

October 8th -- Club meeting, nomination of 2019 officers, 7:00 pm, Lions Park Clubhouse

November 12th -- Club meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> night hunt, election of 2019 officers, 7:00 pm, Lions Park Clubhouse

December 10th -- Club meeting, Christmas party and pot luck, 7:00 pm, Lions Park Clubhouse

## **Wisdom:**

Just about anything can be dug ... just about anywhere.