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*Club Established : June
1982*

***Buckeye Searchers
Association of N. E.
Ohio***

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Find of the month

The Buckeye Searcher

February 2007

Volume 2, Number 2

Last months meeting was very informative and taught us all allot about bottle hunting, digging and all about different types of bottles. Everyone was interested in what Joe had to say about bottles and Joe brought some of his collection to illustrate his talk. We learned that bottles date to at least the Egyptian times since bottles were found in the tombs of pharaohs, Joe explained how to get an estimate of age the of bottles, based on the location of the seam line. He also explained how different colors were made with cobalt blue being very collectable. Joe explained that there are over 100 categories of bottles: poisons, bitters, beer, soda, liquor, figural, milk etc. He explained that most bottles are not that rare or valuable but there are some that can fetch hundreds of dollars. He said that every bottle is a piece of history and that makes it valuable in its own right. If you missed the meeting and have a question about a bottle, Joe is the expert on bottles in our club. Thank you Joe for a Great Job.

FEBRUARY MEETING

This will be our "ID" meeting so please bring any coins, bottles, buttons, tokens and other finds to get identified. Our club member experts will bring reference materials with them to help id and value the pieces. Bernie is bringing his diamond tester and gold tester to check jewelry. If you have any jewelry to be tested, bring it with you to this meeting.

There will be a discussion on the dates for the seeded hunts and the picnic as well as proposals for some changes to the hunts. There will be a short discussion on club patches and possibly t-shirts with the club name. Finds of the Month – Please bring whatever you found since the last meeting.

Bernie is putting in a special request to all members. The club needs coins for the hunts and picnic (and raffle). We could really use dimes and some quarters as well as some half dollars and silver dollars. We will pay the current rate for silver.

We are interested in getting new members so please bring anybody who might be interested in joining. Let them see what we do and what we find to help spark interest in the hobby.

Terry called the people at Cleveland Metro parks and they told him that the fastest way for our members to get permits to metal detect would be for them to call in themselves. They should call **216-635-3200** and ask for "**visitor services**". They will need to provide **their name and address.** **If the member has a permit from last year all they need is the permit number.**

Treasure hunter of the Year Totals

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<u>Coins Non Silver Totals</u>	<u>Coins Gold or Silver Totals</u>
<u>Jim Blackburn- 329 pts.</u>	<u>Jim Blackburn- 392 pts.</u>
<u>Joe Franchino- 357 pts.</u>	<u>Joe Franchino- 301 pts.</u>
<u>Terry Stahurski- 235 pts.</u>	<u>Terry Stahurski-253 pts</u>
<u>Jewelry Totals</u>	<u>Miscellaneous Totals</u>
<u>Rick Culp- 285 pts.</u>	<u>Jim Blackburn-320 pts.</u>
<u>Jim Blackburn219 pts.</u>	<u>Joe Franchino- 323 pts.</u>
<u>Terry Stahurski-187 pts.</u>	<u>Terry Stahurski-235 pts.</u>

Finds of the Month January

<u>Coins Non Silver</u>	<u>Coins Gold or Silver</u>
<u>Terry Stahurski- 38 pts. Flying Eagle Cent</u>	<u>Jim Blackburn- 37pts. 1840 Seated Dime</u>
<u>Jim Blackburn- 37pts. Flying Eagle Cent</u>	<u>Terry Stahurski-26pts. 1916-D Barber Quarter</u>
<u>Jeff Deluca- 17pts. 2 Cent Piece</u>	<u>Orrie Papp –25pts. 1937 Half Dollar</u>
<u>Joe Franchino- 13pts. 1968 Swiss Coin</u>	<u>Joe Franchino- 10pts. No Date Standing Liberty Quarter</u>
	<u>Bernie Benewiat- 7pts. 1916 Mercury Dime</u>
<u>Jewelry</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
<u>Jeff Deluca - 38 pts. Silver Cross</u>	<u>Terry Stahurski- 34 pts. Silver Match Safe</u>
<u>Jim Blackburn-33 pts.2 Silver Rings</u>	<u>Orrie Papp – 19pts. Moon Landing Token</u>
<u>Terry Stahurski- 22 pts. Women's Broach</u>	<u>Joe Franchino- 19 pts. Antique Folding Key</u>
<u>Joe Franchino 11pts. Turquoise Ring</u>	<u>Ditter Carrico – 18 pts. Gold Padlock</u>
	<u>Bernie Benewiat- 12 pts. Wizzard</u>
	<u>Jim Blackburn- 12 pts. Sargents Lock</u>
	<u>Jeff Deluca – 9pts. 1896 Cleveland token Century</u>

Web pages of interest on

gold and diamond testing

<http://www.emporia.edu/u/>

earthsci/amber/go340/

[diamond.htm](#)

[http://wholesale-scales.com/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=](http://wholesale-scales.com/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=18&sort=20a&page=2)

[18&sort=20a&page=2](#)

[18&sort=20a&page=2](#)

[http://coins.heritageauctions.com/](http://coins.heritageauctions.com/?type=google+value+Tokens)

[?type=google+value+Tokens](#)

<http://www.ioelscoins.com>

[/bookfs.htm](#)

Upcoming Events

Diamonds - Real or Fake?

Buying a diamond for the first time is a very personal and exciting experience. Hands down, the first thing on the mind of the buyer will be: How can I know I am buying the real thing and not a fake?

If you have been given a beautiful diamond or heirloom and you want to be absolutely sure that your diamond is real, get a professional appraisal. This can be done by looking under "Jewelry" (Appraisal) found in your yellow pages. Call to inquire about their services and ask these two important questions:

1. Will I be able to accompany my jewelry at all times or will you take my jewelry to evaluate elsewhere? If they say they will need to separate your jewelry from you at any point, it would be wise to find another appraiser.
2. What is the fee? (\$50.00-\$75.00 is considered a good fee.)

If a professional appraisal is not within your limited budget, here are some other methods.

1. If you have access to a diamond tester, you can test for diamonds vs. simulants. (Beware, moissanite is the only stone than can fool the electronic diamond tester.)
2. The transparency test. Flip your diamond upside down and place it over some newsprint. If you can clearly read through the stone, it's not a diamond. (Beware, some low cut diamonds or stones such as emeralds can be read through.)
3. The fog test. Put your diamond in front of your mouth and fog it like you would fog a mirror. If it stays fogged for 2-4 seconds, it's a fake. A real diamond will disperse the heat instantaneously so by the time you look at it, it has already cleared up. Oil and dirt on the stone can affect reliability and the test is not accurate at all on doublets where the top of the stone is diamond and the bottom is cubic zirconia glued together.
4. Test for weight. The most popular diamond simulant (fake) is a cubic zirconia. C.Z.'s will weigh approximately 55% more than diamonds for the same shape and size. Use a carat or gram scale to see if the impostor tips the scales too much.
5. The U.V. test. Many diamonds will show fluorescence of blue if put under an ultra violet light or black light. 99% of all fakes don't do this; so, a positive identification of medium to strong blue would indicate a diamond. Diamonds with blue fluorescence can be as much as 20% less valuable; however, lack of blue fluorescence doesn't mean it's a fake; it could be a better quality diamond.
6. The under the loop test. With a magnifying lens, there are some things you can look for on the stone that might give away its identity:
 1. Look at your diamond from the top and see how the facets (the cuts on top of the diamond) are joined. They should be sharp but not rolled.
 2. Is the girdle faceted or frosty (yes, then it's a diamond) or waxy and slick (yes, then it's a fake.)
 3. Under magnification, look into your diamond for flaws (carbon, pinpoints, small cracks.) It's very hard to put inclusions into a fake.
 4. Look at the stamps inside the setting. A stamp of "10K, 14K, 18K, 585, 750, 900, 950, PT, Plat" indicates the setting is real gold or platinum. This gives a better chance that the stone in it is real as well. Look for any "C.Z." stamps. This will tell you the center stone is not a diamond.

Is There a Difference Between Tiffany, Costco Diamonds?

Oct. 9, 2005 — Diamonds are a \$30 billion a year business. You can buy a diamond at the mall, at a fancy boutique and even online. With so many merchants selling them, how can you be sure you're getting a good stone at a fair price?

"Good Morning America" shopped at both ends of the spectrum, buying one diamond ring at Tiffany & Co. for \$16,600 and one at Costco for \$6,600.

Tiffany & Co.

All diamonds come from deep within the Earth, but there are lots of different places you can go to get one. We started at Tiffany. We had thousands of diamonds and elaborate settings to choose from, starting at \$1,200.

Tiffany has a unique policy that allows you to exchange a modest ring for something fancier years later. Tiffany will also clean your diamond and make sure the setting is secure for the rest of your life.

The 168-year-old retailer is famous for educating its customers about diamonds, carefully explaining about the "4 Cs," which are carat weight, cut, color and clarity. The staff will even take you into a private room to examine different stones under a high-powered microscope.

Costco

After visiting the store everybody thinks of for diamonds, we went to the store that next to nobody thinks of for diamonds — Costco.

At the Costco store "GMA" visited, the employee who manages the jewelry department is also in charge of things like big screen TVs and computers.

There were 25 diamond rings to choose from, ranging in price from \$500 to \$23,000.

Continued from page 3

There's more variety on the Costco Web site, and you can always buy a diamond ring at the store and have it re-set somewhere else.

"We are not really a jewelry store, so we don't carry the best of the best, but we do try to carry top quality," said Juan, the sales clerk who was helping us.

Expert on Tiffany

So, the Costco experience was less romantic. But what about the diamonds themselves? Martin Fuller, considered one of the finest master gemologists and appraisers on the East Coast, carefully analyzed our purchases. Fuller had good news.

"You got exactly what they said you were getting," he said.

At Tiffany, we had bought a round diamond, just over a carat with very slight flaws and a color grade of "F" — meaning colorless. We paid \$16,600 for it, including the famous Tiffany setting.

Fuller consulted a standardized appraisers' guide and told us the same grade diamond would cost an average of \$10,500 at a no-name store, plus additional for the setting. Still, he thought we got a fair price because the special extras that come with the Tiffany name have a value.

"Anything that is brand name and has developed a reputation that Tiffany has developed, they've earned it over the years for quality control," Fuller said.

"You can go there [and] you don't have to think twice about your purchase. And you pay for that."

Expert on Costco

At Costco, we bought a round diamond with almost the same specs as our Tiffany diamond. It is just over a carat with very very slight flaws and a color grade of H, nearly colorless. At \$6,600, it cost \$10,000 less than the similar diamond we bought at Tiffany.

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Fuller said the average price for such a stone would be \$8,000, a price that doesn't include the setting.

"It's a little bit of a surprise," said Fuller of the high quality of the stone.

"You wouldn't normally consider a fine diamond to be found in a general store like Costco, but I'm pleasantly surprised, as well."

"It's a beautiful stone," he added.

Diamond Shopping Tips

No matter where you shop, here are three things to look for to make sure you get what you pay for.

- Look for a certified stone.

Buy a diamond that comes with a certificate from the Gemological Institute of America or the American Gem Society. That way, you know exactly what you're getting.

- Find out the refund policy.

Make sure the store has a written cash refund policy. Both Tiffany and Costco do.

- Get the diamond appraised.

Immediately after you purchase the diamond, take it to a qualified diamond appraiser.

Testing

You can also test diamonds yourself using a device that operates on AAA batteries. Consumer correspondent Elisabeth Leamy used a Presidium Multi Tester that retails for about \$250 to test diamonds on "Good Morning America."

The device measures how quickly the gem stone tested cools the heated tips.

Because diamonds are the best heat conductors in the world, they cool the tip of the device almost instantly. Other materials like moissanite — a man-made gem Cont. from page 7

stone with many properties similar to diamonds — will cool the tip more slowly.

ABC News consumer correspondent Elisabeth Leamy originally reported this story for "Good Morning America Weekend Edition."

HOW TO TEST GOLD

Using The Three Bottle Acid Kit

The Kit

Bottle 1 Marked 9 ct

Bottle 2 Marked 18ct

Bottle 3 Marked Silver

Step One To Test For Gold or Not Gold

Take item to be tested and with a file make a small but clear and flat file mark to be sure to file deep enough to get through any possible plating.

Step Two

Take the bottle marked 9ct and carefully unscrew the top.

Place a small drop of the 9ct acid on the file mark.

Step Three The Reaction

If the acid froths up green, the item is not gold

If the acid leaves a brown stain, the item is approx. 9ct.

If the acid does not react on item it may be gold and may be a higher carat.

Step Four To Test For Higher Carat Gold

Take the item to be tested and with a file make a small but clear and flat mark. Be sure to file deep enough to cut through and possible plating.

Step Five

Take the bottle marked 18ct and carefully unscrew the to.

Place a small drop of the 18ct acid on the file mark.

Step 6 The Reaction

If the acid leaves a brown stain (but was not stained by the 9ct acid) the item is 14ct gold approx. If the acid does not react, the item is 18ct gold or possible higher.

Possible Pitfalls When Testing

The acid will not react with all metals (such as steel) when testing be aware of how hard the metal is to file and if it is the same color where you have filed. Compare the surrounding area.

Keep some Hallmarked gold of each carat on hand so you can compare the way that item to be tested files and reacts with the acid, to the hallmarked piece. Practice testing the hallmarked items and get used to the reactions. If you are not sure **DON'T BUY IT!**

Don't forget to renew your memberships! Just send in the form on the last page or bring it with you at the next meeting.

Finds of the Year 2007

<u>Coins Non Silver</u>	<u>Coins Gold or Silver</u>
<p><u>Jim Blackburn-34pts. 1877 Indian Head Cent</u></p> <p><u>Terry Stahurski- 24pts. 1773 Virginia Half Penny</u></p> <p><u>Jeff Deluca – 21 pts. 1786 New Jersey</u></p> <p><u>Joe Franchino- 12pts. 1864 2 Cent Piece</u></p>	<p><u>Ditter Carrico-24 pts.1748 Silver Pistareen</u></p> <p><u>Jim Blackburn- 20pts. Silver 3 Cent Piece</u></p> <p><u>Joe Franchino- 18pts. 1907-0 Barber Half, 1907 and a 1905-s Barber Dime</u></p> <p><u>Bernie Benewiat 18pts. 1876-0 Seated Quarter</u></p> <p><u>Terry Stahurski-12pts. 1898 Barber Half</u></p>
<u>Jewelry</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
<p><u>Rick Culp- 41pts. Gold Nugget Necklace</u></p> <p><u>Jim Blackburn- 20 pts. Diamond and Sapphire Ring</u></p> <p><u>Bernie Benewiat- 13pts. Gold and Diamond Cross</u></p> <p><u>Joe Franchino -12pts. Sterling Silver Girl Scout Ring</u></p> <p><u>Ditter Carrico- 11pts. Eye Ring</u></p> <p><u>Jeff Deluca- 4pts. Silver Ring</u></p> <p><u>Terry Stahurski- 2 pts. Silver Snake Ring</u></p>	<p><u>Jim Blackburn- 41pts. Silver Military Medal</u></p> <p><u>Terry Stahurski- 29pts. 1700-1800 Wax Seal</u></p> <p><u>Joe Franchino- 15 pts. 1865 Civil War Token</u></p> <p><u>Jeff Deluca- 13 pts. Silver Spoon</u></p>



Happy Valentines Day!!!

Membership Renewal Form-June 2007

Applicants agree to abide by club rules and show good fellowship and to participate in club activities. No member will do anything to harm or degrade the Club's name or reputation and will work toward the preservation of the same.

Name (Print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (Area code included) _____

Cell Phone _____

E-Mail

Address _____

FMDAC MEMBERSHIP () Yes () No (\$5.00 Fee to join)

Ok to publish your home phone number and e-mail? () Yes () No

Type of membership: Individual (\$15.00) _____ Family (\$25.00) _____ senior over 70 (\$10.00) _____ Senior Family (\$15.00) _____

For a family please list your spouse and your children and their ages: _____

Please make check payable to Tammy Kepler and mail to 39064 East River Road Elyria, Ohio 44035 or bring to a monthly meeting.

Dealers who support our club
Silver Eagle and Gold Coin Shop
4979 West 130th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44235
Jose Ortiz Phone: 216-267-6760

If you anything you would like to sell or share with the club you can contact me (the editor)

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