

The Buckeye Searcher

October 2025

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Club Established: June 1982 and Celebrating our 43rd Anniversary

Buckeye Searchers Association of Northeast Ohio

Celebrating our 43rd Year Anniversary

President: Bernie Benewiat 440-232-4247
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Hello Buckeye Searchers-

The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 9th, 2025, 7PM at Ellenwood Recreation Center, located at 124 Ellenwood Ave in Bedford. Many thanks to Terry Stahurski for giving a presentation at the September meeting of his recent metal detecting adventures in Norwich England.

Agenda for the October meeting:

- 1. Donation auction to raise money for the club. Members should bring metal detecting and hobby related items. There will be at least one metal detector, coins, magazines, diggers, etc., so members should be prepared to bid, bid, bid.*
- 2. Member Drew Browning will give a presentation on early Spanish and Mexican coins, especially those that circulated in the early days of the US. Please bring any early Spanish or Mexican coins (Cobbs, Reales, Pieces of Eight, etc.) you have recovered with your metal detected for Drew to id. There may also be some old Spanish coins added to the monthly raffle! This will be an interesting and informative presentation!*
- 3. We will have the coins for the Special Raffle which includes five uncirculated pre-1900 Morgan Silver Dollars and one Gold Mexican 2 Peso Coin. Once we sell enough tickets to make a profit for the club, we will have the raffle (see pic below).*
- 4. Discussion of our December Holiday Party - it's coming up fast!*
- 5. It was decided at the September meeting that the seeded hunts are poorly attended and resulted in a loss for the club. They will be discontinued. The annual picnic will be our only seeded hunt.*
- 6. Silver and gold prices have been skyrocketing lately so it will be more expensive to obtain coins for the picnic hunts and raffles. We may have to resort to other types of prizes.*
- 7. We hope you can attend the next meeting and bring a friend. Please enter the Finds of the Month competition, buy raffle tickets, and enjoy the excellent snacks and drinks.*

Good luck on your hunts, Bernie, Terry & Tammy



2025 Special Raffle Coin Prizes:



Notes from the Editor:

If you are interested in Minelab equipment, Richard Walsh recommends dealer Ron DeGhetto (The Gold Digger). He is a Minelab dealer who will give club members a 5% discount and free shipping for orders over \$200. He can be reached at 908-595-9933 or email ronnie@thegolddigger.com.

Coin Show News: The Cleveland Coin Expo's next monthly show is Saturday October 11th at St. Michael's Woodside in Broadview Hts. Click the below link for more info:

<http://www.clevelandcoinexpo.com>

September 2025 Finds of the Month

Non-Silver Coins

1. Terry Stahurski 1675 British Farthing (49)
2. Jim Blackburn.....1866 Two Cent Piece (45)
3. Jeremiah Bukovinski1891 Indian Head Cent (18)
4. Paul Regel.....1963 Canadian Cent (12)

Silver Coins

1. Jim Blackburn.....1901 Barber Dime (48)
2. Terry Stahurski.....1929 British Six Pence (37)
3. Jeremiah Bukovinski.....1911 Barber Dime (32)

Jewelry

1. Jim BlackburnSilver Ring (51)
2. Joe Franchino.....14 K Gold Earring (49)
3. Paul Regel.....Bling Earring (26)
4. Jeremiah BukovinskiTop Of Ring (11)

Miscellaneous

1. Jim BlackburnCrotal Bell (44)
2. Paul Regel1930s-40s Lead Toy Soldier (27)
3. Jeremiah BukovinskiSterling Silver Thimble (21)
4. Joe Franchino.....Flashlight (17)
5. Terry Stahurski..Part Of 1700s British Snake Buckle (14)
6. Brenda Christian.....Lead Fishing Weight (5)

This month we had 17 entries, which is two less than our July meeting. It is a little surprising that more finds were not entered, since we didn't meet in August. Maybe the hot and dry weather and vacations kept people from detecting.

First place In the Non-Silver Coin category went to Terry Stahurski for a 1675 British Farthing he found in England. A farthing is a quarter of a penny and this was from the reign of Charles II, who was king from 1660-1685. Second place went to Jim Blackburn for an 1866 Two Cent Piece. Two Cent Pieces were minted for a short period, from 1864-1873, with 1873 stuck only in proof condition for collectors of that era. Jeremiah Bukovinski took third place for an 1891 Indian Head Cent. The only other Non-Silver find was a 1963 Canadian Cent.

Jim Blackburn took first place in the Silver Coin category with a 1901 Barber Dime. Too bad it wasn't a 1901-S coin, which is very collectible since slightly less than 600,000 were struck. This tells you that mintmarks make a difference! Terry Stahurski took second place with a 1929 British Six Pence he found in England. This features King George V, grandson of Queen Victoria who ruled from 1910 – 1936. Third place went to Jeremiah Bukovinski with a 1911 Barber Dime.

First place in the Jewelry category went to Jim Blackburn with a Silver Ring. Joe Franchino took second place with a 14K Gold Earring. Third place went to Paul Regel with a Bling Earring. The other jewelry finds included the top, or stone & bezel portion, of a ring.

Jim Blackburn took first place in the Miscellaneous category with a large Crotal Bell. These bells were used for centuries and typically were attached to domesticated animals to better locate them and later to horses pulling wagons, carts, and sleds as a warning system for passengers and other vehicles. Second place went to Paul Regel for a 1930s-40s Lead Toy Soldier. These toy soldiers have been popular for centuries and enjoyed their heyday in the 18th and 19th Centuries. WWII and the use of plastic drastically reduced their production, although many are still made today, primarily for collectors. Jeremiah Bukovinski took third place with a nice Sterling Silver Thimble. Silver thimbles are relatively rare, with most being brass or aluminum. The other Miscellaneous finds included a Flashlight, Part of a 1700s British Snake Buckle and a Lead Fishing Weight.

Thanks to all who entered and who helped set up and take down the FOTM bins. A big thank you once again to Paul Regel for tabulating the scores and announcing the results. Paul mentioned that at least 12 votes had to be eliminated since they were in the wrong category. Be sure to check your tokens before putting them in the bin! Help is always needed for the finds competition including collating the tokens, so please volunteer if possible.

The recent rain and cooler weather should help with detecting by making digging easier and reducing the number of bugs. It is still a good time to go water and beach hunting but take a friend if you do. Remember to bring your finds to the meeting, even if you think they are not too good, since you will get points for the end of the year total.

Key Club Dates – Mark Your Calendar

2025

Oct	09	Thu 7PM	Club Meeting / Auction Fund Raiser
Nov	13	Thu 7PM	Club Meeting
Dec	11	Thu 6PM	Christmas Party and Mega Raffle

2026

Jan	08	Thu 7PM	Club Meeting
Feb	12	Thu 7PM	Club Meeting
Mar	12	Thu 7PM	Club Meeting
Apr	09	Thu 7PM	Club Meeting / Auction Fund Raiser

[Additional seeded hunts that are **NOT** hosted by Buckeye Searchers:](#)

46th Annual Buckeye Championship Treasure Hunt: August 16 & 17, 2025: Tammy says this is a good one. They don't have a website but they do have a group page on Facebook where the flyers for next year's hunts will be posted. I will attach the flyers to the newsletter email when they are published.

Treasure Week 2025: July 12 thru 19: at the Fox Den Campground in New Stanton, PA. Eight days of hunts with each day having a different sponsor.

- **If you are thinking of selling your silver coins, please remember to contact club VP Terry Stahurski. He will pay cash for circulated coins at a higher rate than you will get at the typical coin shop. He will consider paying more for higher quality coins at his discretion. The club is usually looking to buy silver coins for raffles, hunts and prizes.**
- **If you have a detector or accessory you would like to sell you may bring it to any of our meetings and display it for everybody at the meeting to see and buy. All transactions will be responsibility of the buyer and seller.**
- **Please be aware you can now purchase raffle tickets using 90% silver coins! The exchange rate is: Silver Dollar – 25 tickets, Silver Half Dollar – 10, Silver Quarter – 5, silver dime – 2. These will be used for prizes/hunts so please no damaged or extremely worn coins.**
- **We want to say a BIG THANK YOU to Fisher, Teknetics, Bounty Hunter, Minelab, and Garrett for supporting our Anniversary Picnic and Club activities. Please say thank you to them whenever you get the chance. Remember these companies when you are shopping for detectors and accessories.**



<http://www.fisherlab.com/>



<http://www.garrett.com/index.htm>



<https://www.minelab.com/metal-detectors>

Treasure Hunting News Seen on the Web

[First up are some finds featured on the Garrett Metal Detectors Facebook Page:](#)



Congratulations to our International Favorite Finds winner Molea S. from Europe!

She went on a hunt with her husband, which turned into a true adventure. In the rainy hills, Molea's ACE Apex gave a powerful 67 signal. Digging nearly 14 inches deep, they uncovered something extraordinary. They found a medieval cavalry lance! She writes, "knowing these lands were once crossed by Michael the Brave made the discovery even more meaningful. Holding this piece of history in our hands was nothing short of magical. Forever grateful for moments like this and for Garrett making this incredible machine."

Favorite Find

▲ US August Winner



Congratulations to our US Favorite Finds winner Matthew S. from Wisconsin!

After 18 years of countless hours detecting, Matthew discovered his find of a lifetime! He has been using the Garrett machines for a while starting with the ACE 250, then upgraded to the AT Pro. On this day, he took his AT Pro out to his local construction spot in Wisconsin and found three US gold coins. He found one \$20 gold coin and two \$10 gold coins! He writes, "At first glance, the \$20 piece looked like just another token... until it revealed its true shine. Proof that patience, persistence, and passion pay off in this hobby. Thanks, Garrett, for awesome machines over the years."

[Next up is a story about the discovery of a gold treasure hoard found in Czechoslovakia from earth.com:](#)



09-10-2025

Hikers find a hidden treasure of gold coins dating from 1808 to 1915 in a stone wall

By [Adrian Vilellas](#) - Earth.com staff writer

Two hikers on a winter walk in northeastern Czechia stumbled onto a stash that turned out to be one of the country's most unusual modern treasures.

Dates on the coins spanned the years 1808 to 1915. Specialists say the hoard was probably buried after 1921 because several pieces carry tiny countermarks, official stamps added to coins after minting in the former Yugoslavia during the 1920s and 1930s. The hoard was dominated by French issues and there were no coins from Germany or Czechoslovakia, a pattern that already raises fresh historical questions.

The investigation is being led by Miroslav Novák at the Museum of East Bohemia in Hradec Králové. His team includes a museum numismatist, an expert who studies coins and currency.

What was found

The hoard sat in two containers tucked into a man made stone wall on the southwest slope of Zvičina Hill. The aluminum jar and a nearby metal box were separated by about 3 feet (0.9 meters).

Inside, were 598 gold coins arranged in stacks and wrapped in black fabric. There were also sixteen snuff or cigarette cases, ten bracelets, a fine wire mesh purse, a comb, a chain with a key, and a powder compact.

Curators estimate the total weight at roughly 15 pounds (7 kilograms), with the coins alone making up about 8 pounds (3.75 kilograms) of gold. The museum has placed the assemblage under controlled conditions while technicians document each object.

Finders turned everything over in February 2025 during routine fieldwork by staff. The museum later presented the hoard to journalists, but the emphasis remains on careful study rather than spectacle.

Why coins get stashed away

Modern hoards are not just curiosities. They are time stamped records of stress, wealth, and movement.

“The list of potential reasons for which it was likely buried is fairly clear,” said Novák.

Across archaeology, deliberate burial of valuables shows up from prehistory into recent centuries. Scholars now use hoards to probe how people responded to upheaval. A recent analysis considers the reasons for deliberately hiding valuables and covers finds from the Mesolithic through the twentieth century. It highlights the role of ritual acts, crisis events, and private safekeeping in different eras.

In twentieth century Central Europe, reasons could include pre-war tension, wartime flight, or later monetary reforms. This case fits that broader picture, but the exact story will depend on archival research and the technical study that is now underway.

Clues in the coin markings

Those small countermarks are the first major clue. They indicate that some coins circulated in the Balkans after World War I, before the hoard was concealed.

“It was deliberately hidden because it was precious metal,” said Vojtěch Brádle, numismatist at the Museum of East Bohemia.

The composition is striking, with most pieces being French and the rest largely Austro-Hungarian, Belgian, and Ottoman. Specialists note the total absence of German and Czechoslovak issues, which is atypical for finds in Czechia of similar age.

How scientists will study the hoard

First comes documentation, then non-destructive testing. For the yellow metal items that are not coins, Czech authorities will determine alloy composition to guide conservation.

A core tool is X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy, a non-invasive technique that reveals an object's elemental makeup without sampling. Conservation scientists rely on this method to analyze metals, jewelry, and other cultural materials in situ, often with handheld instruments.

Results will steer how conservators stabilize each object. If the bracelets and snuff cases are not all gold, different cleaning and storage protocols will apply, to prevent corrosion or stress cracking.

Technical data also sharpen the historical picture. Specific fineness standards and trace element signatures can narrow down where and when an item was made or modified.

Law, ownership, and rewards

Czech law treats finds like this as archaeological heritage. Finders must report them, and authorities decide on custody and study which, in this case, sits with the regional museum.

Under the law on the protection of monuments, rewards can be granted to finders up to the material price for precious metal finds or up to ten percent of the cultural historical value for others, a law that balances private incentive with public stewardship.

Any future display will follow conservation, cataloging, and provenance checks. That keeps the focus on information as much as on spectacle.

What the hidden treasure can teach

Coins can tell us about exchange rates, trade routes, and savings habits in a way few other sources can. They track how gold moved across borders even when official currencies changed.

The Yugoslav countermarks connect this trove to a specific post-war monetary story. That link invites targeted searches in shipping manifests, bank records, and local registries.

Small details matter. A chain link style, a purse weave, or a bracelet clasp can tie objects to a maker or a city, and that narrows the range of owners and motives.

A modern treasure with human stakes

The site sits in a borderland region with layered twentieth century histories. People there lived through quick political shifts that often forced rushed choices about family assets.

Museums do not guess. They test, compare, and follow the paperwork where it exists. That takes time, but it is how conjecture becomes evidence.

Whatever the final backstory, this hoard already shows how modern deposits can be as revealing as ancient ones. It also shows why careful reporting by finders helps everyone learn more, faster.

To close out the newsletter this month, I present to you some interesting historic photographs:



THE GREAT SERPENT MOUND

The Great Serpent Mound is located in Adams County, Ohio, in the southern part of the state. It was built over 2,000 years ago by Native Americans and is the largest serpent effigy mound in the world. The Great Serpent Mound was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1966 and is currently located in a beautiful park with a charming gift shop.

19th century photo.

Obviously, you cannot metal detect here but just imagine what all those tourists have dropped throughout the years!



The Garfield Memorial [Lake View Cemetery] Cleveland Ohio



N.O.T. & L Gorge Dam, built above the Big Falls on the Cuyahoga River, soon after completion in 1914. Akron and Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.



Soldiers and Sailors Monument, • Cleveland, Ohio. Circa 1900.



The homes that Rockefeller JUNIOR built in East Cleveland (Brewster Rd).