



# THE CAROLINA THRESHOLD



August 2008  
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South Carolina Metal Detector & Relic Association, 915 Cherry Road, Rock Hill S.C 29732  
[www.scmetaldetectingclub.com](http://www.scmetaldetectingclub.com), Contact: Chris Watson 803-328-5764 or Jeff Kleparek 803-389-4178

## Club Meeting

By Jeff Kleparek

Greetings fellow treasure hunters. Happy Labor Day!! As we celebrate a day off of work on Monday hanging out with our family or getting in some much needed detecting time; let's give thanks to all the people who have to work. Metal detecting is a large hobby and it takes many hours of hard work to inform the public on the new advances in technology, techniques, major finds, etc., so on Monday I will keep in mind, and silently thank all of the people who make this hobby great. A few that come to mind are Eastern Western, Treasure Net, and all of our local clubs.

We would like to welcome Van Eyre as our newest member. Van brings much experience to the club as a Garrett dealer and hunter. We had a few visitors Marty Rawls, Raymond, as well as John Taylor from the Matthews NC club.

CLUB HUNT TIME!!!!!!

The Club hunt is set for Saturday October 11th. The fee is \$25.00. We all need to bring a covered dish, enough to feed your family and 5 other guests. We also need

## New U.S. Mint \$1 Coin Campaign Doomed to Fail

By Mike Unser on Aug 22nd, 2008 in [Coin or Numismatic News](#)

Americans are very familiar with the continual failure of dollar coins in every day use. In recent years, the Susan B. Anthony and the Sacagawea Golden Dollar have lost their acceptance battle.

Today, the new Presidential \$1 coins honoring U.S. presidents is failing. Over one billion of the coins have been minted since the series start in 2007. Yet, few are ever seen in daily use. The paper bill is the currency of choice.

The U.S. Mint hopes a new marketing campaign will change people's minds. They have selected four cities — Austin, TX; Grand Rapids, Michigan; Portland, Oregon; and Charlotte, North Carolina — as their testing bed.

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donations for prizes, drinks, paper products, or anything else that would help make the hunt an enjoyable one. Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday September 2nd, 2008 between 7-9pm @ our meeting place, Trinity Bible School, 915 Cherry Road, Rock Hill S.C, 29732. Hope to see you there, and don't hesitate to bring a friend or two, guests are always welcome.

Jeff Kleparek  
[woodcarver@comporium.net](mailto:woodcarver@comporium.net)  
389-4178



The latest campaign takes a "green" approach, marketing how paper dollars waste money and harm the environment. To help America, the four city residents will be told to use "100 percent recyclable" coins that last decades instead of 21 months, like a \$1 note's typical lifespan.

"This is the first program of its kind to inspire shoppers, diners and commuters to use \$1 Coins in their normal, everyday activities," said United States Mint Director Ed Moy. "When each of us spends the \$1 Coin, we make a difference for our country, because the \$1 Coin is durable and using it saves the Nation money. We hope our pilot cities lead the change!"

The U.S. Mint is required by law to promote the new Presidential coins, and their latest approach is perhaps one of the most unique ways to date. It rides the growing green train.

## What is a Troy Ounce? Troy vs. Avoirdupois Weight,

### Weighing Precious Metals

By Mike Unser on Jul 22nd, 2007 in [Collecting Coins](#)

Since many coins contain a precious metal, we expanded our website to include charts and spot prices of silver, gold and platinum ([found here](#)). In doing so, I was reminded of a common misconception many people have regarding the system of weight for precious metals. Many think an ounce of gold is the same "weight" as an ounce of beef. It's not!

When you step on the scale, you don't think of it but what's being measured uses the system of weight known as **avoirdupois**. If we've lost a few pounds, we'd say something like, "I lost 2 pounds!" We wouldn't say, "I lost 2 *avoirdupois* pounds!"

We've used the avoirdupois weight system in every day use for so long that we don't even use its silly-seeming name. We can even break the system down. For example, most of us know there are 16 ounces in a (avoirdupois) pound.

What many don't know or fail to remember is that silver, gold, platinum and other precious metals use the **troy** weight system. It's completely different. When comparing the two systems – apples to apples – a **troy ounce is heavier than an avoirdupois ounce** – about 10 percent more. Or, more clearly, 10 troy ounces or 10 American Silver Eagles weigh more than a 10 ounce cut of steak.

Yet, and this is what can add to the confusion or what is often times forgotten, one **troy pound weighs less than one avoirdupois pound**. What... How!? Well, that's **ONLY** because a troy pound has its own definition. One troy pound is defined as having **12 ounces** – not the 16 ounces as defined in an avoirdupois pound.

**This table may be useful:**

	Metric Weight	# Ounces as Defined per Pound	Use in Weighing
<b>Troy ounce</b>	31.10 grams	12	Precious metals, gemstones, etc.
<b>Avoirdupois ounce</b>	28.35 grams	16	Every day items

Knowing how coins containing silver, gold or platinum stack up

Knowing how coins containing silver, gold or platinum stack up against our "every day" weight system isn't super critical for a collector. But it doesn't hurt either! Especially when so many collectible coins these days contain a precious metal.



## Jackson Liberty First Spouse Gold Coins

Arrive Aug. 28



Jackson Liberty First Spouse gold coins will be available from the United States Mint on Thursday, August 28. The 1/2-ounce [proof and uncirculated](#) versions are priced at \$619.95 and \$599.95, respectively. Both versions have a face value of \$10, are composed of 24-karat gold, and have a total mintage of 40,000. The current prices are the same as the Louisa Adams and Elizabeth Monroe spouse gold coins, even though gold has come down in price recently. ([See live spot bullion prices.](#)) Ironically, the 2007 Dolley Madison proof and uncirculated versions are still available and priced at \$529.95 and \$509.95, respectively. Bronze medals bearing the likeness of the Jackson Liberty coin is also available for \$3.50.

Sales of First Spouse coins were red hot when the series initially started in 2007. The Martha Washington, Abigail Adams and Thomas Jefferson versions were sold out within hours of their release. Since, however, the popularity of the coins have diminished.

New mint products, and new coin series in particular, are generally more popular when first introduced. That helps explain the first three gold coin sellouts. Perhaps more important, gold prices and 2007 spouse coins were less expensive. The secondary market for the coins has diminished as well.

Only time can tell whether the trend will change

## Stolen Rare Coin Returned to Garage Sale Buyer, Not Likely Owner

By Mike Unser on Aug 26th, 2008 in [Canadian Coins](#).

In an unusual case, a judge decided that one of five stolen Swedish rare coins purchased at a garage sale — a Swedish 1632 Gustav II Adolf gold Dukat — would be returned to the daughter of the woman who bought them, and not to the owner's estate who received the other four.

**"This case raises squarely the conflict between two principles, protection of property and protection of commercial transactions,"** said British Columbia Supreme Court Justice Bruce Butler who ruled to split the coins.

To better understand Justice Butler's decision, background information provided in the case offers an excellent history of events.

### Coins purchased in garage sale

Marina Ovsenek was on her way to a cancer treatment with her daughter, Stephanie Manning, when they happened by a garage sale sign. They decided to stop, and Ms. Ovsenek bought a box containing five gold-colored coins and a brooch for \$5.

Ms. Ovsenek died four years later and her husband gave the coins to Ms. Manning in 2005. Her agent eventually contacted a coin museum in Sweden to inquire about possibly selling the coins. A short time later, West Vancouver police confiscated the coins and Ms. Manning learned they were stolen.

### Coins returned to Swedish collector

The coins were returned to Swedish collector Klas-Olof Algard, who passed away shortly after but had reported and provided a statement in 1994 to police that his briefcase with coins were stolen.

Court filings indicate Mr. Algard provided police information about the theft on at least three occasions, and then gave another statement after the coins were seized from Ms. Manning's agent. However, the statements contained conflicting information — to include differing quantities of stolen coins, ranging from seven to four and then five coins.



### Suit filed for return of coins

Ms. Manning initially sued the police in attempt to get the coins back. After learning they were given to Mr. Algard, her suit was modified to include his estate for their recovery, and the claim against the police was dropped.

"Ms. Manning says that her mother was a *bona fide* purchaser for value of the coins and that she is now the rightful owner of them."

"Mr. Algard's statements to the West Vancouver Police are hearsay and are not admissible in evidence. If that is the case, there is no way for the estate to prove that the coins were lost by or stolen from Mr. Algard, and Ms. Manning's claim to the coins must prevail" Mr. Algard's estate had a different perspective. "Mr. Algard's estate says that the coins were lost or stolen in 1994 and that he retained legal title to the coins at all times so that the estate remains the owner of the coins."

### Justice Bruce Butler rules

At issue, Justice Butler has to rule whether Mr. Algard's written 1994 and 2005 statements were admissible. And if so, who had better title over the coins — Ms. Manning or Mr. Algard's estate. The situation was further complicated given Mr. Algard's passing, making it impossible for him to clarify the discrepancies between statements. In the end and after weighing the evidence, Justice Butler decided the 1994 statement that indicated four coins were stolen was admissible, and the 2005 statement was not. With an absence of ownership proof and based on the 1994 statement, Justice Butler ruled. "I can infer that the [fifth] coin was lost with the other four coins. However, I cannot infer on the basis of the admissible evidence that it was owned by Mr. Algard," concluded Justice Butler. "There is simply nothing in the record that permits me to do that. Ms. Ovsenek purchased the coin in good faith and without notice of any defect in title. The estate has not been able to prove that Mr. Algard had title to the coin," Butler said.

In the end, Ms. Manning regained ownership of the rare Gustav II Adolf gold Dukat that her mother paid \$5 for in the garage sale.

# August 2008 Contest Board Results

Category	Place	Name	Item
<b>COINS: SILVER &amp; GOLD</b>			
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Randy Gatchell	1917 Mercury dime
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Donnie Brazell	1943 Mercury dime
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Scott Bradley	1940 Mercury dime
<b>COINS: OTHER</b>			
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Randy Gatchell	1890 Indian Head
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Ray Correll	1894 Indian Head
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Lanny Irby	Old Large Cent
<b>JEWELRY</b>			
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Randy Gatchell	Gold and Ruby Ring
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Mike Plyler	Silver Ring
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Jeff Kleparek	Diamond and green glass brooch
<b>RELICS: PRE-1865 (MILITARY)</b>			
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Donnie Brazzell	SC Cuff Button
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Bobbie Hallman	Carved Bullet
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Lanny Irby	Eagle cuff button
<b>RELICS: OTHER</b>			
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Lanny Irby	1885 10 cent token
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Donnie Brazzell	Large Rosette
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Mike Plyler	1949 Duke Power Transit Token
<b>BEST FIND</b>			
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Doug Kirkland	3 Rings in Baggie
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Bobbie Hallman	Spur
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Scott Bradley	Gold Charm
<b>EYE SPY</b>			
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Doug Grindstaff	14kt Gold Bracelet
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Donnie Catoe	Ladies Citizen Watch
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Scott Bradley	Shark Tooth w/h hole

Gatchel, Randy	43
Stiles, Bill	41
Plyler, Mike	38
Alexander, Frances	36
Irby, Lanny	33
Catoe, Donnie	23
Herring, Steve	22
Watson, Chris	22
Brazell, Donnie	19
Hallman, Bobby	18
Correll, Ray	17
Earnheart, Jimmy	13

**Treasure  
Hunter of the  
Year Rankings  
as of June  
2008**

Baker, Rick	10
Willis, Shaler	8
Jerry Greasman	8
Norris, Mark	7
Randall Wolff	7
Kirkland, Doug	5
Kirkland, Judy	4
Arnold Coinick	4
Ellman, Scott	3
Otterboug, Richard	2
Rogers, Rickie	2
Ron Montomerv	2

## Labor Day

### \$1 Gold Campaign from page 2

again. But then there are today's facts that starkly contrast against any campaign for dollar coins.

To name a few, banknotes are preferred, convenient, nearly weightless, don't jingle in the pocket, don't take valuable space, and are readily available — unlike dollar coins

Dollar bills bear little to no physical and mental burdens for anyone. Their reason for use outweigh the tangibles of every day transactions using \$1 coins. Marketing the coins as a green solution will not begin a viral surge to use them.

What will work? The history of previous dollar coin failures has already drawn up the successful picture.

Removing dollar bills from circulation is the only event that will cause Americans to carry \$1 coins in any significant quantity.

**Labor Day** is a United States federal holiday observed on the first Monday in September. The holiday originated in 1882 as the Central Labor Union (of New York City) sought to create "a day off for the working citizens". Congress made Labor Day a federal holiday in 1894.<sup>[1]</sup> All fifty states have made Labor Day a state holiday. Traditionally, Labor Day is celebrated by most Americans as the symbolic end of the summer. Labor Day has been celebrated on the first Monday in September in the United States since the 1880s. The form for the celebration of Labor Day was outlined in the first proposal of the holiday—a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations," followed by a festival for the workers and their families. This became the pattern for Labor Day celebrations. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civil significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement.



## Ancient gold treasure puzzles Greek archaeologists

ATHENS, Greece - A priceless gold wreath has been unearthed in an ancient city in northern Greece, buried with human bones in a large copper vase that workers initially took for a land mine. The University of Thessaloniki said in a statement Friday that the "astonishing" discovery was made during its excavations this week in the ruins of ancient Aigai. The city was the first capital of ancient Macedonia, where King Philip II — father of Alexander the Great — was assassinated. Gold wreaths are rare and were buried with ancient nobles or royalty. But the find is also highly unusual as the artifacts appear to have been removed from a grave during ancient times and, for reasons that are unclear, reburied in the city's marketplace near the theater where Philip was stabbed to death." This happened quite soon after the original burial; it's not that a grave robber took it centuries later and hid it with the intention of coming back," excavator Chrissy Saatsoglou-Paliadeli told The Associated Press. "It probably belonged to a high-ranking person. "The "impressively large" copper vessel contained a cylindrical golden jar with a lid, with the gold wreath of oak leaves and the bones inside.

"The young workman who saw it was astounded and shouted 'land mine!'" the university statement said. Saatsoglou-Paliadeli, a professor of archaeology at the university, said the find probably dates to the 4th century B.C., during which Philip and Alexander reigned." Archaeologists must explain why such a group ... was found outside the extensive royal cemetery," the university statement said. "(They must also) work out why the bones of the unknown — but by no means insignificant — person were hidden in the city's most public and sacred area." During the 4th century B.C., burials outside organized cemeteries were very uncommon. In a royal cemetery at Vergina, just west of Aigai, Greek archaeologists discovered a wealth of gold and silver treasure in 1977. One of the opulent graves, which contained a large gold wreath of oak leaves, is generally accepted to have belonged to Philip II. The location of Alexander's tomb is one of the great mysteries of archaeology. The sprawling remains of a large building with banquet halls and ornate mosaics at Aigai — some 520 kilometers (320 miles) north of Athens — has been identified as Philip's palace.

Aigai flourished in the 6th and 5th centuries B.C., attracting leading Greek artists such as the poet Euripides, who wrote his last tragedies there. The Macedonian capital was moved to Pella in the 4th century B.C., and Aigai was destroyed by the Romans in 168 B.C.

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Remember to provide your support of the club by keeping your dues up to date and inviting your friends to join us. Adults: \$15 (add \$5 for optional FMDAC membership) juniors \$5.00 If you are unable to attend the next meeting, you can mail your check made payable to SCMD to:

Frances Alexander  
43 Fairway Ridge  
Lake Wylie S.C 29710



We want to thank Scott Bradley for the Refreshments at the August meeting. We do not have any one signed up for September refreshments, so if you would like to help out and bring something we would appreciate it.

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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.scmaldetectingclub.com](http://www.scmaldetectingclub.com)

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Our next club meeting will take place on Tuesday  
September 2nd from 7-9pm @ Trinity Bible  
School, 915 Cherry Road, Rock Hill S.C 29732  
We hope to see you there.

SCMD&RA

915 Cherry Road  
Rock Hill S.C 29732



NOW!! A pull-tab... Circa 1970, I'd  
say

