

**WELCOME
TO THE
HOOD CANAL
DETECTORISTS
CLUB**

**FOUNDED
IN 1989**

**DIRTY KNEES
NEWSLETTER**

WEBSITE

<http://sites.google.com/site/hoodcanaldetectoristclub/home>

We're GLAD that you've decided to join the Hood Canal Detectorists' Club (HCDC), and hope you'll enjoy your time(s) with the rest of the members.

Here are a few things that may help us to get acquainted with you – if you have any questions, feel free to ASK!

MEETINGS:

Each meeting is held on the first Sunday of the month. There are several Holidays and long weekends. In some cases, on these days, the club decides to change its meeting day. It should be in your newsletter when that occurs. Meetings open at 2:00P.M. But you're welcome to arrive early to visit. Our meetings are usually fairly casual – so if you're a real stickler about “Robert's Rules of Order,” we may take some getting used to, however, we do try to keep them fairly orderly.

BOARD MEETINGS:

These are also held on the first Sunday of the month and start at 1P.M. All members are welcome. All that we ask is that if you arrive early, and the meeting is still going on, that things can be kept quiet enough for the business to be finished up. They usually last about an hour.

SPECIAL MEETINGS:

In August [H.C.D.C.](#) holds the meeting at a picnic site and we have no formal meeting. It's always a potluck and a good idea to bring your own lawn chairs. All information, including a map, is provided in the club's newsletter and at the previous meetings.

Our December meeting is strictly a Christmas party. Again, it's a potluck and the club provides the turkey and ham. Bring an appetite! If you like, you can donate items for the raffle at this time. This is not a request. Over the years, some of our more talented members have made Holiday decorations and started bringing them in. We have several volunteers each year to decorate the hall and help set things up early. There have been some wonderful table decorations and if you'd like to volunteer to help, thanks ahead of time.

GUESTS:

Your guest(s) are welcome at all meetings and Club Hunts. There are a few limits on some of the raffles and guests are asked not to join in the monthly "Find" competitions or to vote. More on the details in this pamphlet...

PURPOSE:

The Hood Canal Club was formed to help people enjoy the hobby of metal detecting. The world is changing fast and with more and more people there are always new regulations. Being in a metal detecting club can help us each to keep informed of these. It's always fun to metal detect with friends, too.

Rules pertaining to single and family memberships are in the club's by-laws.

All dues are due in the month that you joined the club. If for some reason you forget, there is a three month grace period before your membership is canceled and your newsletter stopped. You can always re-join, however your renewal time will remain the original month unless you've left the club for a very long time.

RAFFLES – COMPETITIONS – ETC.

At each regular meeting [H.C.D.C.](#) holds the following:

Here are some of the rules for them, too.

FIND OF THE MONTH: This competition is open to members in good standing only. (PAID MEMBERS). There are 3 categories plus a consolation. Prizes are silver quarters. You may enter only one item into each of the categories. These are: COIN, JEWELRY, AND MISC. You must enter your find or finds before the meeting starts. You must have found it in the month previous to the meeting. Your name **MUST** be on your ticket. All members in good standing can vote on the competition but only before the meeting starts and during the break. **PLEASE REMEMBER THE RULE ABOUT ENTERING YOUR FINDS BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS.**

At the February meeting, all items that won FIND OF THE MONTH can be entered into the FIND OF THE YEAR for the previous year. Same rules apply to this competition.

It's always fun to see what folks are finding, so don't be shy about entering! Even if you think it won't win, bring it in. You might be surprised!

POT OF GOLD RAFFLE: Each member has a club number. The person who takes care of this raffle puts EVERY member's number in the 'POT' and draws out the lucky winner. If it's you, you'll win a small cash prize. The 'POT' grows until a member wins. The catch is – YOU MUST BE AT THE MEETING TO WIN! NO EXCEPTIONS!

DOOR PRIZE: When you come into the meeting hall each month, be sure to sign in. There is a table to your right as you walk in. Sign in the member or guest row. During the meeting, this list is used to draw for the door prize! Good luck!

NAME TAGS: The member who volunteers to greet members at the door is supposed to check for your name tag each month. The rules are that if you FORGET it, and aren't wearing one, we fine you \$.50! A lot of us have been caught. It's all in good fun, but they are serious about collecting that half dollar! A name tag is given to each member when they join. If you need to replace it, it'll cost you a dollar or two. To buy more of these, see the club treasurer.

RAFFLE: This is a monthly raffle and you can purchase tickets at the tables set up for that purpose. At this time, they are three for \$1.00. Raffle is open to members and guests.

COIN OF THE MONTH: This is Jerry Davis' project. Each month he buys a very nice coin or coins to be raffled off. Tickets can be purchased for this at the tables and the winner is decided by your club number! You must be a member in good standing to enter this drawing. Jerry picks out some great things, so be sure to check it out.

The library for the club consists of MANY books and a few videos. You're welcome to check them out. This is free. The library is kept at Terry and Sue Wright's home. Just call or ask them at the meeting and you're welcome to stop by and see for yourself what information we have.

MONTHLY OUTINGS ETC.

Each month (with a few exceptions) the club members are invited to join us on a metal detecting trip for at least one day. [H.C.D.C.](#) has a great Research Department. That, plus lots of help from all of the members, usually guarantees us at least a few really interesting places to metal detect each year. Regardless of anyone's success at these hunts they're a lot of fun. We pick a place to meet and usually wait until a specified time to start detecting.

If you're familiar with your metal detector you may already know this, but if not, you need to know that leaving an area the way we find it and retrieving targets correctly can mean the difference between being allowed back or not. If you don't know for sure, please ask. Anyone in the club will be happy to help. Each of us wants you to learn the way to enjoy using your metal detector as much as we do.

Once in awhile the club puts on a metal detecting workshop. We generally wait until there are enough people who want the help to warrant it. YOU don't need to wait though. Just bring your detector to a meeting and during the break you'll be sure to find some help.

If you retrieve a target that is trash, please hang onto it. DON'T leave it in the ground or on top of it! (By the way - it's a good idea to save everything on the outings). You never know what may win you a small prize.

MORE HUNTS

In August or September, the club puts on a small MINI-THEME HUNT. There is usually a small fee and a potluck dinner or bar-b-que. There are prizes for best costumes and tokens good for prizes. Whether you hunt in them or not, they're fun to attend and once again the food is always great! This is NOT an open competition hunt. Your family or a guest are welcome though. Fees are generally a little higher for non-members.

In October there is another hunt - this one is a MOONLIGHT HUNT. No lights please and plan on metal detecting in the dark! It's cold, but there's always a fireplace to warm up next to. Same rules apply this time. Small fee and guests are welcome! It's

amazing what you can find out there after dark, so don't miss this one if you can help it.

OUT OF TOWN HUNT: This is a weekend long outing. We meet at various resorts and a weekend of metal detecting and getting acquainted is planned. Some years we have bar-b-ques or pot luck dinners. We can't guarantee the metal detecting will be great - but most of the members who join us say they just like the chance to metal detect and stay in a new place for a few days. Information about these hunts is available at the meetings. The reservations are best made early, but if you're just joining and it's close to June, we'll try to help you find a cabin or RV site. These hunts are casual, plans can change now and then because of bad weather or we simply find a hunt site after we get there that looks more interesting than the planned one. We TRY to let everyone know. It's a good idea to ask questions if you arrive late. Hope you'll join us!

FEDERATION OF METAL DETECTING & ARCHAEOLOGISTS, INC.

When the Hood Canal Detectorists' Club started, the members were active in the Federation (FMDAC) FMDAC. <http://www.fmdac.org/website/index.html>

They remained so for each year until the spring of 1998 when a vote of the membership was taken. They chose to stay out of the FMDAC for at least 1 year, until members felt that the organization was working on more than an annual national competition hunt.

The FMDAC was founded to help preserve the hobby. It made sense at the time and still does. However, many of its members are not happy with the difference between its stated goals and the reality of what they actually accomplish each year. HCDC decided to take a wait and see attitude.

You are welcome to join the FMDAC as an individual member. All you need to do is ask and someone in this club will give you information about it.

Members of this club have been essential in working with Washington State Parks officials and state lawmakers to keep metal detecting open in our state. These people intend to remain active in that work whether through the FMDAC or another type of organization. If you're interested, ask one of the club's officers about what you can do. We try to keep our meetings enjoyable and avoid too much controversy at them. Just because you may not hear about this work at a meeting, doesn't mean it's not going on. We can't say too often to JUST ASK!

M . D . A . W .

The **Metal Detecting Association of Washington** was started to promote, protect and preserve recreational metal detecting here, in the State of Washington. Some of the concerns related to detecting in this state are unique to the Pacific Northwest. As a group we strive to work with hobbyists, in clubs or not, who want to enjoy metal detecting, follow the rules set down about the hobby and in some cases help to change those rules. The MDAW works in cooperation with the Office of Historical and Archaeological Preservation of Washington State and Washington State Parks. <http://www.metaldetectwa.org/>

KNOW THE REGULATIONS BEFORE YOU START TO METAL DETECT

If you just purchased your metal detector and joined a club, please keep in mind that there ARE laws pertaining to the hobby. Most of them are about common sense. (For example – not many folks would interrupt a private picnic to detect under a table). However, there are a few that will surprise you if you're new to metal detecting. It's always best to know BEFORE you go out on your own. Believe it or not, some people have had their detectors confiscated and had to pay heavy fines for NOT KNOWING the law. Educate yourself – and pay attention to where you are when you take your metal detector out to use it.

HERE ARE A FEW OF THE REGULATIONS:

1. It is illegal to metal detect in ANY National Park. It's risky to even take it out of your car in a National Park.
2. Some Counties require a permit to use a metal detector in their parks. Find out which ones.
3. ALWAYS have written permission if you have ANY doubt about metal detecting in a park or on private property.
4. In the State of Washington, some State Parks are off limits to metal detecting. Thanks to some hard work by people right here in the state, the parks are still alright to hunt with some limits, but you must know where before you start. When you decided to join HCDC, you may have known this. The members will help you learn the rules, JUST ASK!
5. There are regulations about digging implements and depth of holes. Also lost and found of valuables in State Parks. You MUST wear ear phones while metal detecting in a State Park.

We're not trying to scare you off. There are too many places to try your metal detector to run out of these in a lifetime. It's fun and healthy. BUT, rules are rules. Some of them are frankly ridiculous, but we want you to know about them to help you enjoy the hobby and not be frightened off by some over-eager park ranger or

caretaker. Most people who work in the parks are friendly and realize that all they need to do is tell you the rules. Most detectorists are courteous too. This information is given in the best interest of everyone who metal detects.

OFFICES AND VOLUNTEERING

All elected offices in the Hood Canal Club are for one year with the exception of Board Members. These are for two. There are 6 members on the Board. These offices are staggered so that 3 new Board Members are elected each year, while 3 from the previous year remain. The president is asked to remain on the board for one year following holding that office.

All offices are voted on, in November, for that following year.

If you would like to volunteer to hold an office or to take on any of the jobs in the club, your help is appreciated and you're welcome.

[H.C.D.C.](#) has a newsletter and the editor is a volunteer.

Other jobs are as follows:

Door Greeter

Kitchen Helper

Monthly Host or Hostesses (Bringing in cookies)

Hunt Chairperson

Find of the Month table

Christmas Party

Out of Town Hunt

Club Historian

(Various other jobs that come up throughout the year)

There are several different versions of this printed in
Club newsletters and Treasure Hunting magazines.

Here are the basics:

CODE OF ETHICS

1. I will not trespass.
2. I will not destroy private or public property.
3. I will respect the privacy of others while metal detecting.
4. I will remove all trash found while metal detecting.
5. I will make it my responsibility to know and follow the regulations
pertaining to metal detecting in any given area.
6. When representing any metal detecting club,
I will do nothing to harm the reputation of that club
by my words or actions.