

Storm Watch

The Official Newsletter for the Nor'easters Metal Detecting Club!



Volume 4

[HTTP://WWW.NOREASTERS.NET](http://www.northeasters.net)

February 2010

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The Metal Detecting Creed

By Jessie Thompson

We are Metal Detectorist. Venturing forth in search of relics lost to time, only to be discovered and secured for future generations.

Diligent in our endeavors to detect, we will not trespass on to posted lands and will always obtain lawful permission in advance.

Detecterist are protective of earth's creatures, natures landscapes and tributaries. We close all gates and leave no refuse in our wake.

When requested, we will endeavor to assist in the recovery of lost items of sentimental value to the best of our ability.

History being the tie that binds us, any item recovered of a singular significant historical value will be reported to local historians.

Remember Metal Detecting is to be conducted in a respectful and courteous manner; we are the ambassadors of our hobby to all who may survey us.



While putting together this Valentines Day issue of our newsletter, I was moved by all the stories I found of returned engagement and wedding rings.

Whether you've gotten into the hobby for exercise, profit, or just the thrill of the hunt, returning a lost treasure to it's owner has it's own reward.

Imagine the look of gratitude upon returning a long lost token of love and affection.

I'm convinced metal detectorists play a valuable role in many peoples lives, and I hope one day I'll be able to return such an important item to it's owner.

Never underestimate the value of your hobby. ~Allyson



For those of you who missed the February meeting:

Club dues are due

If you also wish to join the FMDAC, it's an extra \$5.00 to join through the club. You also have the option of joining yourself as an Independent Member.

Why should you join?

If you join the FMDAC (*the Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs*), you'll be joining a group that fights for our rights.

They are dedicated to preserving, promoting and protecting the hobby of metal detecting, as well as promoting and encouraging metal detecting clubs.

You can visit their website at www.fmdac.org

For more information

Meeting Notes in Brief:

- *The club is shooting for Mid-March for the first hunt of the Spring. Details and updates will follow as they are known.
- *Jessie will be posting links to emails for the VP, Huntmaster and Newsletter on the website.
- *Posting a link to the site where you can obtain a Permit Holder was also mentioned.
- *Pete Bondi is working on opportunities for hunt sites for us.
- *Options for the clubs insurance will be investigated (i.e. for a member to be insured for a hunt for one day).



A stranger with a metal detector recovers the wedding ring of a couple married 68 years

By [Bridget Hall Grumet](#), Times Staff Writer (St.Petersburg Times)

In Print: Monday, June 15, 2009

PORT RICHEY

The grass around the bus stop bench was thick and overgrown, the long blades scratching Mary Marzec's legs. So with one brisk motion, the 88-year-old woman swatted the grass away from her knees — and accidentally flung her wedding ring into the field along Embassy Boulevard. The diamond-studded gold ring, which Mrs. Marzec had worn for nearly 60 years, had loosened as her fingers shrank with age. Now she was on her knees, patting the earth, praying to find her ring. She went into a nearby Chevron station and borrowed a pair of scissors. Then she got back on her knees and chopped away at the grass, crying, hoping. But she couldn't find it.

"My husband said, 'Come on, let's go home. I'll buy you another one,' " Mrs. Marzec recalled. "I said, 'I'm not going until I find my ring!'"

Mary and Ed Marzec led parallel lives for years before they'd met.

Both were born in Detroit to Polish parents. Both went back to the old country as small children. Both returned to America in 1937, two years before Hitler invaded Poland.

Mary was 19, living with her sister in New York City, when a mutual friend introduced her to Ed, a laborer who was four years her senior.

Four months later they married.

"My sister said, 'What are you doing? You don't know how to cook. You don't know how to do anything,' " Mrs. Marzec said. "But I said, 'Don't worry, Ed knows how to cook.' "

Life together was simple and frugal. Two years into the marriage, when Mary was pregnant with her first son, Ed's weekly pay got bumped up from \$29 to \$31.

"He carried me up two flights of stairs" to the apartment, Mrs. Marzec remembered. "We were so happy with \$2."

In time the couple had two sons: Richard and Bob. Ed cut their hair and pulled their teeth. Mary made their clothes.

"We never felt poor," she said. "The boys went to Catholic school. The rent was paid. We always had food on the table."

For 12 years, Mary wore the plain gold band that Ed had given her on their wedding day. But when she got a job as a seamstress working alongside other women with flashier rings, she wanted a nicer ring for herself. And why not?

"I was working," she said. They could afford it.

So they bought a double-gold band that framed 15 small diamonds in diamond-shaped settings. It was pretty, not showy.

And that ring stayed on her finger over the years — as she fed countless bolts of material through the sewing machines for famed New York designer Adolfo, as she sewed the red coat and hat that Nancy Reagan wore at her husband's first inauguration, as she knitted blankets and welcomed grandchildren and great-grandchildren and buried a son — until it sailed off her finger a few months ago at the Embassy Boulevard bus stop just east of U.S. 19.

A sheriff's deputy happened by the gas station that afternoon and saw Mrs. Marzec frantically searching for her ring. In his pocket was the business card for George Kollmer, a treasure hunting enthusiast who owns a couple of metal detectors.

Kollmer, 75, came out to the field with his trusty Teknetics 7700B coin computer. A dial on the metal detector indicates whether the item below is, say, a dime, a quarter — or a ring.

"It's 99 percent right," said Kollmer, a retired auto mechanic who lives in Port Richey. "It's never failed me."

The Marzecs had already left — they had to catch their bus back to their Port Richey home — when Kollmer arrived. He asked the gas station clerk where the ring had been lost, and the attendant waved out toward the bus stop bench.

In a patch of overgrown grass between the sidewalk and a utilities box, Kollmer's detector got a hit for a ring.

"Within 10 minutes," he said, "I had it in my hand."

He called Mrs. Marzec, then drove straight to their house with the ring.

Mrs. Marzec was in tears, and pressed \$50 into Kollmer's hand.

The ring from her finger belonged with her heart.

"If you promise yourself to someone," she said, "that's for life."



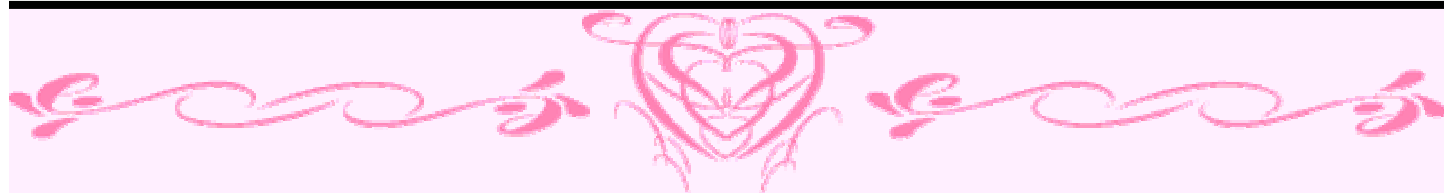
Mary Marzec, 88, gives her husband, Ed, 92, a kiss. She was 19 and living in New York City when a mutual friend introduced them.



This is the best find
I ever found.
I used the new two eyed
and brain machine with
a 12 " coil ,yep, gave
the machine away after
this find.

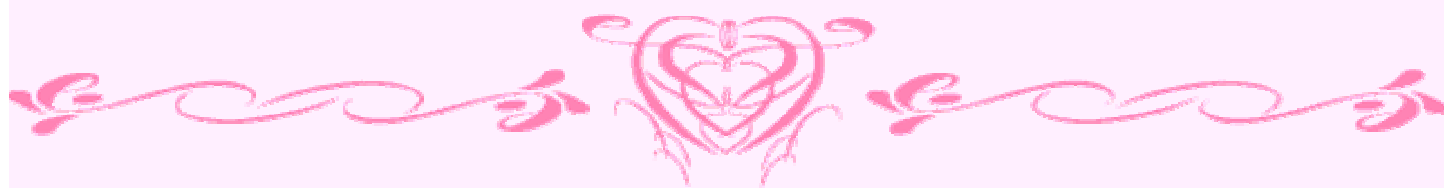
Happy Valentine's Day-

Pat



Valentines Day Trivia

- February 15th was the date of the Roman festival of Lupercalia - where young men held a lottery to decide which girl would be theirs.
- During Medieval times, girls ate unusual foods on St. Valentine's Day to have a dream of their future husband.
- In the middle Ages, people believed that the first unmarried person of the opposite sex you met on the morning of St. Valentine's Day would become your spouse.
- In the middle of the 17th century even married people took a Valentine - not always their legal other half!
- Alexander Graham Bell applied for his patent on the telephone, on Valentine's Day, 1876.
- In Wales, love spoons of wood were carved and given as gifts on February 14th. Hearts, keys and keyholes formed the favorite theme of decorations on the spoons, which together symbolized- "You unlock my heart!"
- It wasn't until 1537 that St. Valentine's Day was declared an official holiday. England's King Henry VIII declared February 14th a holiday in 1537 for the first time.
- Some people believed that if a woman saw a robin-flying overhead on Valentine's Day, it meant she would marry a sailor and if she saw a sparrow, she would marry a poor man and be very happy. If she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a very rich person.
- The Taj Mahal at Agra, India is perhaps the most splendid gift of love. It was built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his beautiful wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Work on the Taj began in 1634 and continued for almost 22 years. It took the labor of 20,000 workers from all over India and Central Asia.
- In England, the Romans, who had taken over the country, had introduced a pagan fertility festival held every February 14. After the Romans left England, Pope Gelsius, who established St. Valentine's Day as a celebration of love in 496 A.D abolished the pagan ritual.





To the only girl I could imagine being stranded on
a Desert Island with.

My girl Kim.

I love you!

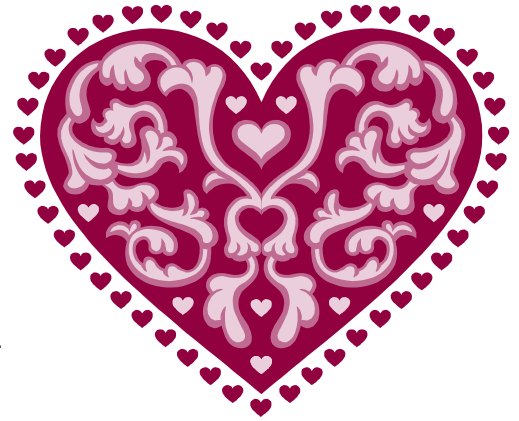
AnuMonulkiBoBo

Jessie

Hutto, Texas

Charlie's Wedding Ring: An early Valentine's Day Story.

On February 9, 1946 a spry, wiry young man, Charles E. Hanstrom, Jr. married his beautiful bride, Clarice (Anderson). As part of the wedding ceremony, Clarice placed a gold wedding band that she had purchased for him on his left hand as a token of her love. Charlie had recently served his country in the United States Army Air Corp beginning in 1942 and through the remainder of World War Two. After the war, Charlie had returned to his hometown to resume his profession of running the water works for the people of Hutto and working as the local plumber. Charlie's father, Charles E. Hanstrom, Sr., had been one of Hutto's most prominent citizens starting the water works in 1910, the ice company, the electric company and a cotton gin. Charlie had run the family business beginning in January of 1939 as his dad had died years much earlier in 1928. Life was good in Hutto following WWII. As this young Swedish couple shared their first married Valentine's Day their future was very promising...



On February 15, 1946, Ada May (Lockett) Farley was a widow lady in need of help with a plumbing problem at her 305 East Street Victorian home. And of course, Charlie came to her rescue. Ada had lived in this house for many years with her husband, Halley A. "Hal" Farley, who had died nearly seven years prior on July 1, 1939. The Farleys did not have any children, but many relatives. The Farley families had been amongst the earliest settlers of the Hutto community. Ada's home was a house built in 1896 in the Railroad Addition of Hutto that had been established after the Great International Northern Rail Road had come through the area in 1876. James Emory Hutto, the man that the town site was named after, had sold fifty acres of land, reserving five acres for the railroad and selling forty-five acres to the New York and Texas Land Company that in turn had been subdivided and sold the land on which the Farley's home was built.

Cold wet and muddy after finishing the plumbing repairs; Charlie crawled out from under the wooden pier and beam foundation that kept the Farley house off of the ground. It was not until later that he looked at his finger on his left hand. It was naked; his wedding ring had been swallowed by the black gumbo clay soil at the Farley house.

Just six days after Clarice and he had married, Charlie had lost his new 14K gold wedding band. Clarice, of course, still had her diamond wedding ring set. Charlie was distraught and looked over and over for his lost ring, but it was not to be found.

Time passed on Charlie and Clarice had three children; Charles Thomas "Chuck" Hanstrom, Aleda (Hanstrom) Crislip, Marilyn (Hanstrom) Boehm. Life was good and they both worked very hard. Charlie worked for 39 years with the city water works and even longer as a plumber. Clarice worked in banking for 28 years in Round Rock. Through the years, Charlie and Clarice were involved in community good on so many levels through their church, the Hutto Lions Club, their work, friends and family.

(Cont'd.)

History and events are oft interrelated. In October 19, 1965 Ada Farley died in Taylor and later in 1966 the home was sold to Lester Carter who lived there with his wife, Nell (Gainer) Carter. The Gainers are another longtime Hutto family. Lester and Nell raised their son and daughter in this home.

In the fall of 2003, Charlie shared the story of his lost wedding ring with Mike Fowler who was then Mayor and very interested in local stories and the history of Hutto. In the late summer of 2004, Mike Fowler bought the Farley-Carter House from George Carter and told Charlie that he was welcome to renew his search anytime that he wanted.

Almost fifty-nine years later, an interesting sequence of events took place. Priscilla Stroud, Hutto City Councilwoman Florence Winkler's daughter, was friends with a member of the Austin Metal Detecting Club and asked him to call Mike Fowler for potential sites to metal detect. When called by Art Tiemann, the President of the Austin Metal Detecting Club, Mike Fowler remembered Charlie's story and suggested that a search take place for Charlie's wedding ring.

At 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 15, 2005 as previously arranged the Austin Metal Detecting Club met with Mike Fowler at Henrietta the Hippo on the east side of East Street in the downtown area. (No story about Hutto is complete without at least the mention of hippos.) Mike had told Charlie that the search was on for Saturday morning and he was there as well. Charlie recanted his tale to the Austin Metal Detecting Club members and everyone proceeded to the Farley-Carter House. Mike let the members know that anything that they found on the property was for them to keep, except if Charlie's ring was found.

Hundreds of items were detected and retrieved by this enthusiastic group of sixteen people replete with the proper metal detecting equipment to undertake the job. On average metal detectors detect to a depth of 6 to 8 inches; with the majority of items found in the top three inches of soil. Detecting Club ethics require that disturbed soil should always be left in as undisturbed condition as possible. Most of the items found were junk metal. However a 1914 Maltese Cross, a 1905 Mexican centavo coin, many old and newer coins with emphasis on pennies and an 1890's ornate iron door lockset minus the knobs were found.

At about 10:30 a.m. Clarice came to the Farley-Carter house to check on the progress. Her hands were unadorned of jewelry. Clarice's own wedding ring was in need of repair ;having cracked from age and almost sixty years of wear. At very close to 11:00 a.m., Blaine Nelson, the Secretary of the club, called out: "I've found it" and indeed she had. Like many years before, Blaine was now the hero and had come to Charlie's aid as he had helped so many others. A bright gold ring in pristine condition stamped 14K was in her hand. The ring did not quite fit on Charlie's finger, battered by many years of hard work, any longer and would need resizing. After celebration and digital pictures, it was Clarice who walked away wearing the newly found treasure of their past with full intent of seeing it back on Charlie's wedding ring finger in the near future. On Sunday, January 16, 2005, Charlie Hanstrom wore his wedding band to church services at Hutto Methodist Church for all to see and the basics of this story were told from the pulpit. It doesn't take much to see how connected are people and events. Much history of personal and global impact had occurred over the past six decades while Charlie's ring was buried in the Hutto dirt, now it was time to shine brightly once more.



Albert-

Your still so cool when you ride the Quad, but I bet you'd look cooler with a metal detector in your hand.



Thank-you for being there
and for being you.

Love you-
Allyson

WISHING ALL OF YOU A VERY
HAPPY VALENTINES DAY
...SPRING IS COMING!





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