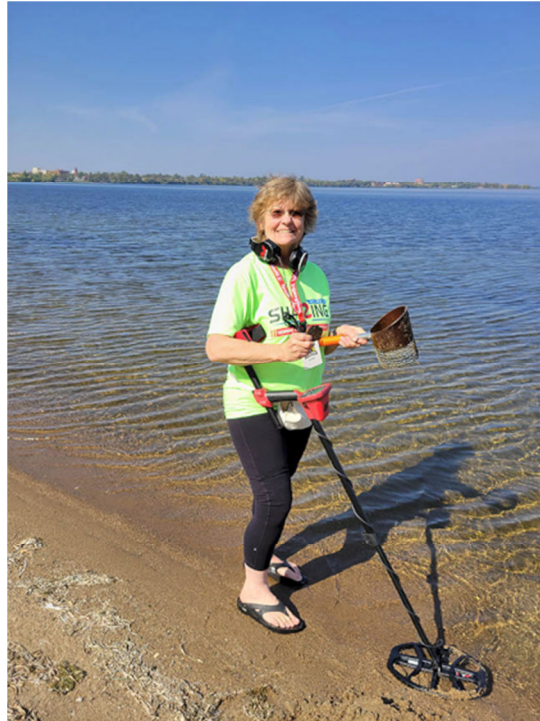


From: "Traditions Media, LLC" <leslie@traditionsmedia.com>
Date: 10/10/23 3:57 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: eyewrite4u@aol.com
Subject: OUTDOOR DISCOVERY: A New Detector is Born

MINELAB Metal Detectors

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Deb Weil with new Minelab VANQUISH 540, and sand scoop on beach.
Deb Weil with new Minelab VANQUISH 540, and sand scoop on beach.



Gaining a New User

Fresh detector enters the sport with personal instruction and a Minelab swinging the turf.
Chicago, IL (October 10, 2023) - Late September found my wife, Susie, and I attending the

annual conference of the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers, this year held in Bemidji, Minnesota. The event was attended by around 150 of some of the best outdoor writers in the country and their significant others.

The conference supplied attendees with three great meals a day and we often sat with different groups of people at the evening meal. One evening, there were several raffles and auction items being offered. Minelab donated two of their detectors to the conference. One was a [VANQUISH 540](#) and the other an [EQUINOX 600](#). That evening, the VANQUISH was being raffled off. One of the ladies at our table mentioned she would really like to try a detector, but she had never used one and wouldn't know how to operate it. Jokingly, I told her if she won it, I would give her free lessons. She bought two tickets. I didn't know her, but I had seen her many times before at these events. My wife knew her from assorted spouse trips. Her name is Deb Weil.

Well, of course, her ticket was drawn on the raffle. When she quit hollering and jumping up and down, her first words were, "When are you going to show me how to work it?" She was ready to go immediately, but it was already evening, so we scheduled the lesson for the next afternoon. Outside was a long narrow beach, so we had an excellent place to begin. At lunch the next day, Deb asked me when we were starting.



Deb searching in the sand scoop for a target.

As always, Susie and I had brought our detectors with us. We never leave home without them. We both have the VANQUISH 540, while I also have an EQUINOX 600 and a Minelab CTX 3030. We took our machines to the beach and told Deb to meet us there. I figured she would have her new detector out of the box and assembled. But, no. It was still in the box. I couldn't remember if it came with batteries, but I knew I had extras in the truck with us.

I unpacked the machine and it did come with batteries, but they were rechargeable and they weren't charged yet. Fortunately, the machine will use four AA regular batteries, too. Deb went to her room and took some out of one of her electronics and put the supplied ones in the charger. I

installed them in the detector, placed the cover back on the battery compartment and hit the power button. It powered up like a charm and we were ready to begin the instruction. I led her through the various icons on the display screen and explained what each one meant. I had a pocket full of assorted coins and trash to show Deb how the items showed up on the display screen. The numbers were the easiest. I explained a 13 usually meant a nickel. I pulled a nickel from my pocket, ran it over the coil and a 13 appeared on the screen. She was excited. Next, the Minelab registered a 20. Usually, a penny, 1982 or newer, probably already so corroded it often didn't even look like a penny. She soon found out there were a lot of these on the beach.

The Minelab VANQUISH 540 can tell the difference between the new zinc pennies and older copper ones. Number 25 on the screen was often a copper penny. But certainly not always. It can also be a dime. A quarter will usually read 30 on the screen, while if you are fortunate enough to find a half dollar, it shows as a 33. At our club hunt a few days ago, I found 10 of the large Eisenhower dollar coins. They were all buried straight up and down on edge and read 36. These numbers are all only indicators. Many other items will read close to these numbers. If the area is not very trashy, I will dig everything just to find out what it is.



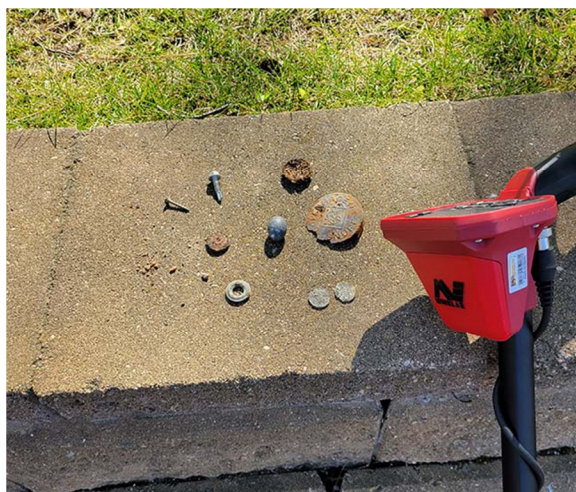
[Minelab VANQUISH 540](#)

It was time for Deb to start detecting. The hardest part when teaching a newcomer how to detect is the proper swing. Most have the coil a foot off the ground. I teach them to put the coil down until it touches the sand or grass, then swing it back and forth keeping it on or very near the ground even at the end of the swing. Then, the correct speed is important. In a competition hunt, faster is better. When hunting alone, an easy back and forth keeps the user from getting tired too soon.

Under my instruction, Deb improved her technique as we walked the beach. Luckily, I had brought a couple sand scoops so recovering the targets was easy. After almost three hours, I turned her loose on her own. I'm sure we have started her on a long hobby with her new Minelab VANQUISH 540.

On another note, Minelab donated an [EQUINOX 700](#) to the recent East Central Indiana Treasure Hunters club hunt. We put the machine on a raffle. The person who won it probably deserved it more than anyone else there. He gives detecting seminars at our club meetings, takes other detectorists out to his field sites, and does many other things to promote the hobby. A couple years ago, Brant Jones had a severe foot injury. For over a year, he was only able to get around with his leg on one of the leg scooters to keep his foot off the ground. He still hunted corn and beans fields when the crops were off, dragging his scooter across the field while he detected.

Several months ago, the foot injury became infected and traveled up his ankle and leg. They amputated his left leg just below the knee. He told everyone not to worry, he would be back in the field soon. Just a few months later, he came to the meeting with his new leg attached. No longer on his knee scooter, he is walking the fields with his Minelab again. He is no longer able to be a firefighter like he was before, but he is still a great ambassador for the metal detecting hobby.



Assorted finds on a northern Minnesota beach.

Story by Rich Creason

#minelab



ABOUT [MINELAB](#):

Minelab is an Australian, multi-award-winning business that has successfully scaled world markets to command global leadership in its key areas of operation. Based in Mawson Lakes, South Australia, with regional offices in Cork, Ireland; Dubai, UAE; Monterrey, Mexico; Itajai, Brazil; and Chicago, U.S.A., the company specializes in advanced electronic technologies. Since its origins in 1985, Minelab has been the world leader in providing metal-detecting technologies for gold prospecting, treasure hunting and landmine clearance. Through devotion to research and development and innovative design, Minelab is today the major world manufacturer of handheld metal detector products. Over the past 30 years, Minelab has introduced more innovative and practical technology than any of its competitors and has taken the metal detecting industry to new levels of excellence. Minelab is a Codan Limited company (ASX: "CDA"). To learn more about Minelab, visit minelab.com.

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