

# The Tinfoil Times

October, 2017  
Volume 42 Number 10

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Dues are \$35 per year. New members pay an initiation fee of \$5, plus:

\$35 if joining between Jan 1st through the end of June, or \$17.50 if joining between July 1 and December 31. \$5 extra for FMDAC membership.



Gold Coast Treasure Club, Inc.

Our code of ethics: Have permission and do no harm

Our next meeting will be  
7:00 PM, October 12, 2017  
South Florida Science Center  
Garden Club Building  
4800 Dreher Trail North  
West Palm Beach, FL 33405



## October News

We're back to business with the October meeting. Hurricane Irma had other plans for us in September, so this issue of The Tinfoil Times will be a little scant as a result.

## Ahoy, ya scurvy dogs!

For the next meeting, come dressed as a pirate! The top three best costumes will win cash! If you don't want to be a pirate, that's ok. Come dressed in any costume you like. You'll still be eligible for prizes!



## Featured Speaker for October

We are looking forward to our featured speaker for the month of October, Mr. Brian Portmann. He provided us a brief bio, which you will find on page 2.

## October Birthdays

Karl Bennett (10/9)  
Laurie Haire (10/24)  
Kurt Herring (10/2)  
Jerry Laur (10/18)  
Ed Mitchell (10/4)  
Mary Quinones (10/16)  
Jan Smirnow (10/27)  
James Smith (10/31)

Join us before the meeting at 5:15 for dinner.

Flanigan's back room  
330 Southern Blvd  
West Palm Beach

Please RSVP by noon  
October 11  
Laurie Haire  
(954) 593-4800  
Dutch treat

### Minutes of the General September Meeting:

The meeting did not come to order, since no one was there. President Frank wasn't able to make any bad puns, and the Tall Tales Table sat empty. There were no Best Finds for the month.

No birthdays were celebrated, The Mystery Prize Stumper went unclaimed yet another month, and no snacks were consumed. Fortunately, there were no pictures taken.

Aren't you glad you weren't there?

### Brian Portmann Bio

I attended a Gold Coast Treasure Club meeting back in '89 and met with Mike Richter, who was the president. The guest member speakers were Bob Weller and his wife Margaret.

I ended up buying a used Garrett XL 500 from Mike Richter. I also purchased my first books, "Sand and Sea" by Garrett and "Sunken Treasure" by Bob Marks.

Once I became proficient with finding modern jewelry primarily in the water, then I looked for a way to find bigger returns. That evolved into the shipwreck salvage industry, becoming one of a handful who did marine magnetometer surveys here in Florida. I've worked exploration leases E99, E100, E101 and several others including other sites from the 1715 fleet to the Atocha.

I had to sort out who was primarily honest from the majority of less than ethical in the shipwreck industry, including the Florida State Authorities. I've worked with the full gambit of real treasure salvors as well as those that are self-proclaimed salvors that live off other's reputations and investments.

Sadly, the shipwreck industry is all but dead thanks to the bureaucracy, legislation, and outright obstruction of the state of Florida themselves. Still I consider a day spent with a detector in hand on a beautiful beach finding gold is a day in my life well spent.

## How well do you know Florida?

### See how many of these questions you can answer.

**The answers are at the bottom of this page. No peeking!**

1. How many lakes larger than 10 acres in Florida?
2. How many islands greater than 10 acres?
3. How high is the highest point in Florida?
4. What city in Florida is the largest in the US by area?
5. What is notable about the Withlacoochee River?

**Answers to the Florida Quiz**

1. 7,000  
 2. 4,500  
 3. 345 ft. in Britton Hill  
 4. Jacksonville  
 5. There are two. One in Madison county, and one in central Florida. They have nothing in common but their name.

Do you find this monthly quiz interesting? If so, please let me know—Jack



GCTC, INC.

C/O FRANK NASH

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**Upcoming events:**

**Club meeting October 12, 2017**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:**

**<http://www.apex-ephemera.com/gctc/>**