



Simon, Rick Moore. The prize for the sixth game was a one ounce silver round and John Burke was the winner. I believe everyone enjoyed the Bingo and I have never heard a meeting as quiet as this one while the games were being played.

**JANUARY MEETING THEME:** I am working on getting a set of themes arranged for the 2015 meetings and if you have ideas for presentations you would like to see done, if you would like to give a presentation, or know someone we could invite to do a presentation, please let us know by email or at a meeting. I have a couple of potential presentations which include a member from the Falconer's Club and another from a club member who is into model railroading. For this first meeting of the year I will have some information to present on various topics and I want to firm up some our club plans for the upcoming year. I want to finalize who will be serving on the Fall Hunt committee and see if we can come up with some additional meeting themes. As usual, we need to be thinking about some sites we can use to develop a schedule for this year's informal group hunts and we might discuss if anyone is interested in developing plans for a two day weekend metal detecting excursion to a location some distance from St. Louis. Also, if you were lucky enough to have Santa bring you a new detector or a special detecting tool for Christmas, bring it to the meeting and tell us all about it.

**FMDAC:** Payment of \$5.00 is now being accepted to join the FMDAC for 2015. Just make payment to Kelly, our club treasurer at a meeting or by mail, it will be submitted to the FMDAC, and you will receive your membership card for 2015 when we get it from the FMDAC. The FMDAC website is now currently up to date, you can check out the goings on at their website: [www.fmdac.org](http://www.fmdac.org) . The FMDAC President, Mark Schuessler, did

announce earlier this year that there would be no FMDAC National Convention this year sifting decreasing attendance in recent past years. They have announced that they are now on Facebook for those of you who use that social media.

**FINDS OF THE MONTH WINNERS:**

Oldest US Coin:

1819 two Reale

John Webb

Most Valuable US coin:

1900"O" Barber dime

Mike Tiemann

Most Valuable item:

1800 eight Reale cut

Mike Moutray

Oddity:

1823 Capped bust dime

Dan Forth

Consolation Prize:

Old trail button

Joe Wyhs

**Silver raffle winners:**

Mike Smith, John Burke, Doug Bierce (2), Bob Teich, Mike Moutray, Rick Moore, and Andy Anderson

**50/50 winner:** Bob Teich

Five members won silver dimes in the door prize drawing.

**CLUB WEBSITE:** The upgraded new club website: [www.midwestcoinshooters.com](http://www.midwestcoinshooters.com) is up and running. If you have a comment or idea you would like to provide about changes to the site, send it to me via email or bring it to a meeting and we will see if we can incorporate it.

**CLUB DUES:** Club dues for 2015 will remain at \$25.00 for individual membership and \$10.00 for each additional family member living at the same address. Dues are due during the

month which you joined the club. I will continue to send a notice of dues payment with newsletters (via email or regular mail). Pay at a meeting or mail your dues payment to our treasurer, Kelly Faust, at the address at the beginning of this newsletter.

**CLUB HUNT FLYERS:** We receive hunt flyers from various clubs from time to time-here is info from a couple for 2015:  
4<sup>th</sup> Annual Piney Woods Relic Hunt sponsored by the East Texas Treasure Hunter's Association in Longview Texas. This is a one day open hunt on Saturday March 7, 2015. I will have the flyer with complete details at the January meeting.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> New England Treasure Hunter's Week will be held in Keene, NH area 22-25 April, 2015 sponsored by the Professional Treasure Hunter's Historical Society and Streeter's Treasure Hunting Supply of Marlborough, NH. Three natural detector hunts, three dinners, a Saturday hobby show, with clubs, businesses, and hobbyists and a gold panning contest and workshops. Sunday \$6000 seeded hunt for kids and adults with free \$1000 treasure chest drawing. Money is being raised for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and the Wounded Warrior Project. For more details: [www.streeter.org](http://www.streeter.org) or George Streeter: 603-876-4443.

**INFORMAL GROUP HUNT:** As you know, informal group hunts are held the Sunday following each meeting to help some of our newer club members who can learn a lot from members with more experience. A schedule with dates and locations will be developed and provided via a future newsletter and also posted on the club website. The first one will be held once the weather conditions improve and will probably be in the March or April timeframe. As mentioned earlier, if you have a suggestion for a new location that we could

put on the schedule let us know. Keep in mind that proper permission should be obtained if it is private property and that the property owner will allow several members at a time to be there. If you know of an old park or location that is some driving distance from St. Louis and metal detecting is permitted, let us know as it may be time we start considering sites other than those in the local area. We have used many of the St. Louis parks for several years now for our informal group hunts, and while they still produce a few good coins, maybe it is time to expand our range a bit.

**WINTER BLUES:** If you have the winter blues because you aren't able to be out metal detecting due to the cold weather and other conditions, here are some ideas of what you can do to take advantage of your available time. 1. Do a thorough examination of all your detecting equipment and clean, test, replace batteries, review your owner/operating manual, and in general, make sure everything is up to snuff and ready to go once the weather improves. 2. Head to your local library and do some valuable research on potential metal detecting sites. Take notes, dig through historical records of the local area, study maps, and develop a plan so you are ready to head for potentially productive hunt sites come spring. 3. Organize your existing notes, articles, and other treasure lead information you have collected over the years and establish some specific sites to explore in the coming year that you have been putting off. 4. Use this time to go out on the road to check out potential detecting sites and make contact with land owners for gaining permission to hunt there in the future. Doing these activities will help you to pass the time, survive the winter blues, and improve your chances of having a more successful detecting year in 2015.

