

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.

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 . The FMDAC President, Mark Schuessler, did announce earlier this year that there would be no FMDAC National Convention this year siting 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:

Only three items were turned in so the extra two silver dimes went into the door prize raffle.

Oldest US Coin:

1890 Indian Cent

Roger Horrom

Most Valuable US coin:

1935 "D" Walking Liberty half

Bobby Lewis

Most Valuable item:

None submitted

Oddity:

300th Anniversary Jamestown Landing token

Dan Forth

Consolation Prize:

None submitted

Silver raffle winners:

Dan Forth, Doug Bierce, Bob Teich, Pam Popp, Roger Horrom, Tim Mcniff, Tim Popp, Gerald Ganahl, and One unidentified

50/50 winner: Carl Boekemier

Seven members won silver dimes in the door prize drawing.

CLUB WEBSITE: The upgraded new club website: 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.

WEDDING RING FOUND: I was contacted in January by DeAnne Powers who was asking for help to find her husband's wedding ring. With the weather so nice on the day she contacted me, I went to her home that same day. I arrived at her home and she showed me the backyard where the ring had been lost. The yard was "L" shaped and not all that large and had a pretty good layer of leaves covering it. She pointed out an area in the center of the yard where she thought it was most likely the ring could be found. I spent some time grid hunting the area, and even though I knew the ring would be right on the surface, I got a few good signals that I couldn't pass up digging which I did with her permission. I didn't dig a lot of signals as I was most interested in finding the ring, but the first signal I dug turned out to be a 1907 Barber dime which I showed to DeAnne and gave to her four year old daughter who was watching me

look for the ring. I told her it would be a good start for the daughter's coin collection. I had been hunting about 30 minutes when DeAnne came back outside and mentioned to me that they were on the patio which faces out into the yard when her husband had thrown something and she had seen the ring fly off and heard it hit something, perhaps the garage which was at the side of the yard. Based on this new information, I revised the area I had been hunting and started gridding the area past and behind the garage. It was just a short time later that I got a signal that I was pretty sure was the ring and upon clearing away the leaves, there it lay. I immediately knocked on the door of the house and asked DeAnne if this was the ring she was hoping I would find, and, of course, she confirmed it was. I had her hold the ring as I took a picture of her and her two year old child and you could tell by the smile on her face, she was quite happy. I am always glad when I am successful in finding someone's lost wedding ring (she said this one was Tungsten though I think she maybe meant titanium) and I just wanted to share my story with you.

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.

THE GARRETT SEARCHER: I just received the winter 2015 publication, The Garrett Searcher, which is produced by Garrett Metal Detectors. It is about 30 pages long and includes stories and photos of treasure finds made using Garrett metal detecting equipment. The finds are made all over the world and include such finds as coins recovered from a Russian Ghost Town, a small bronze female statuette from the 3rd century found in Germany, and an 1890-1917 Prussian button found by a man in Poland. A look at this publication makes one realize the many treasures that are being found throughout the world using a metal detector. Included in the many stories are old, rare coins, all sorts of jewelry items, tokens, medals, and some really amazing "oddity" type items. Included in this issue was the announcement of the new Garrett Pro-Pinpointer AT which has many new and useful features when compared to the current Garrett Pro-Pinpointer. Garrett customers had contacted Garrett with comments and suggestions on what they would like to see in the way of improvements to the Pro-Pinpointer and Garrett responded to their wishes with the new Pro-Pinpointer AT. I will have the publication at the February meeting for members to look at and I will go over the description of the new pinpointer in case you might be interested in buying one.