



winner, John Quinn, went home with a one ounce silver round. It seemed as though everyone had a good time and it was a good way to end a successful year of club meetings.

**JANUARY MEETING:** It has been established that our club meetings will continue to be held the third Thursday each month at the Sharp Civic Center in Jennings in 2016.

Should something unexpected occur within the Jennings City Council that would prevent us from meeting there, I will provide information in a timely manner to all members. The January meeting will be used to develop club plans for this year such as meeting themes, informal hunt locations, the spring and Fall Hunt plans, and incorporation of any ideas and suggestions that members may have to make the club more enjoyable for all and to grow our membership. Come to the meeting prepared to provide input as to what you want to see the club do and what you would like to get out of the club. Perhaps you want to see a presentations committee formed to improve the content of our meetings with formal presentations. Do you want to see the club library resurrected by having a member volunteer to serve as club librarian – there is plenty of existing material available to have a very useful research library for members to use and other things we can do such as information research and feedback, treasure magazine subscriptions, and perhaps digital information. Do you have thoughts about extended trips on weekends to locations out of the immediate St. Louis area for group hunts or maybe just visiting historic sites? Are there some locations you know of or would want to look into to add to our informal group hunt schedule instead of going to the same locations we have used in past years? Maybe you have some suggestions for creating a different type of hunt for our annual spring and fall hunts. Your thoughts

and ideas are greatly appreciated by the Board members and we look forward to hearing your suggestions and working with you to incorporate them into our club activities. I will work on some other items of interest for the meeting and as was voted on last year, the finds-of-the-month contest, the silver coin raffle, and the 50/50 raffle will remain the same as it was last year.

**CLUB DUES:** Club dues for 2016 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 WEBSITE:** The upgraded new club website: [www.midwestcoinshooters.com](http://www.midwestcoinshooters.com) is up and running. If you have a good metal detecting story you would like to add to the website, send me an email with the write-up and it will be added to the website.

**INFORMAL GROUP HUNT:** No hunt is planned for January. A schedule and locations will be developed and provided on the club website and in a future newsletter. Location ideas are appreciated.

**FMDAC:** Membership into the FMDAC for 2016 will be accepted at the January meeting and future meetings. If you wish to become a member-cost is \$5.00 again for this year. The FMDAC convention was held at Gettysburg, PA on October 24/25 in conjunction with the Civil War Show and following is a synopsis of the event results presented by FMDAC President, Mark Schuessler on the website. More details and winners of event prizes can be found on the website.

## **FMDAC 2015 Convention Gettysburg Wrap Up:**

For those of you who missed the gathering in Gettysburg you missed a good one. The weather cooperated and coins and prizes were plentiful. On top of that the historic setting is beyond words. The weekend started off with a hunt on Saturday morning right outside the events center. There were a lot of coins in the field and when I heard some of the totals I was wishing that I would have been swinging a detector. After the hunt the Civil War Relic show was open for business. We had a table set up and talked to a lot of people over the two days. There were so many fantastic relics that it was hard to take them all in. The hall as filled with relics some of which you only see in pictures. I am sure I drooled on more than a few cases. In the evening we got together for an informal pizza dinner. We had a couple of raffles and gave away some prizes. Everyone seemed to enjoy this laid back atmosphere so we will probably go in this direction in the future. Sunday morning saw us back at the hunt field. The table inside was manned by Sue Race and Peggy Hayes. The two hunts went off practically without a hitch. Well except for the fact that someone (myself) managed to not bury some of the tokens in the second hunt. They got separated from the rest and didn't make it into my pouch. We handed out a ticket to everyone and drew for the "unclaimed" prizes. Toward the end of lunchtime we held an open meeting, answered a few questions and divulged our newest venture with that being a target recovery certification program. This is in the beginning stages and will be a hands-on course. Face to face instruction followed by a test. The test phase will involve having to demonstrate proper recovery techniques in front of the instructor. This will jump the gap from someone watching or reading about it

and actually doing it. This course could come in useful if an area is experiencing problems with bad recovery. Hopefully we will be able to get this off the ground in the coming year.

We would like to hear everyone's feedback on this event. How did you like it? Let us know so we can make adjustments. I did not hear of anyone getting carried off by ghosts but hopefully there were a few sightings. A Big thank you goes to all who helped with the event and especially to the detector manufacturers and magazines. Without their assistance this would not have been possible. (From Mark Schuessler)

### **FINDS OF THE MONTH WINNERS:**

Oldest US Coin:

1875 Seated Liberty Half dollar

Mike Moutray

Most Valuable US coin:

No date Large Cent

Rick Moore

Most Valuable Item:

14K Gold Ring

John Quinn

Oddity:

14K Gold Ring

Pam Popp

Consolation Prize:

WWI Uniform Button

Susan Kuenzel

Silver raffle winners:

Dan Forth, A. J. Phillips, Eric Yeager, Bobby Lewis, Doug Bierce, John Quinn, Jake Carroll, Cathy Simon, and one other winner

50/50 winner: Rick Moore

Five members won silver dimes in the door prize drawing.