

were there to show us. I know several of you have told me such a trip is something you might be interested to doing sometime and that you are looking forward to hearing about someone who has actually taken such a trip. This is a meeting you do not want to miss and I know that Jack, Burt, and Mary will do an excellent job and may whet a few of our appetites to think about taking such a trip ourselves.

FALL HUNT SUMMARY: The Fall Hunt was held on September 20th and a summary of the results is provided in this newsletter. Big thanks goes to all who helped so much on hunt day to make it the great success it was.

SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS: Our club was asked to give a metal detecting presentation at two different schools and one of these will be done on October 6th at Flint Hill, MO. Tim McNiff, Bill Mathews, and I will be giving these presentations which will include the history of the metal detector, operation and controls of a detector, and how to hunt safely. We will have display items such as detectors, finds, retrieval equipment, and safety equipment. I will provide a follow-up report on how the first presentation went in a future newsletter.

MEETING LOCATION UPDATE: As I mentioned above, we were unable to use the Tharp Civic Center for our last meeting. I have since contacted Jennings officials and have worked with them to allow us to use the Center for our October 15th and November 17th club meetings. They have told me that they are reorganizing their system of city building use under the new Mayor and will have everything worked out by the first of next year. I will be keeping in touch with them to see how this all plays out as to whether the building will still be available for us to use. It may be that a fee for use will be put into place and hopefully we can work

out a price with them that we can afford. I will discuss this more at the next meeting with members and it may be that we will need to seriously consider a new location to hold our monthly meetings. Give this some thought and should you have any ideas for a new location, be prepared to talk about it at the October meeting.

WHERE IS THE CLUB HEADING?: As we near the end of another successful year, I want to ask all of you a question-where do you want to see the club head? We have just completed a successful Fall Hunt where we saw a larger than expected turnout-who could pass up such a hunt for the cost of a mere \$5.00? Our treasury is in good shape following this hunt due to the generosity of all who have bought raffle tickets throughout the year at club meetings and on hunt day. I know the club, our meetings and informal group hunts, and the camaraderie we all share when together are important to all of us; however, is this how we all want to continue? I know those who attend the meetings enjoy having the chance to win a silver coin in our raffle, win the 50/50 cash, or show off their "find of the month" for a silver dime reward, but I am not certain the "meeting content" is always up to par with what many of you might want to see. Sure the membership dues and raffles income builds our treasury allowing us to put on the annual Fall Hunt, but all this is accomplished at a large expense to many of us in the form of cash layout, time, and effort. I guess I am asking if there is another way to go about all this. My thoughts include keeping the structure of the club, i.e. dues, meetings, newsletter, website, and informal hunts, but perhaps changing the Fall Hunt to a "fee to enter" type hunt. Such a hunt could be conducted similar to the one held this year for about a \$100 entry fee based on 60/70 hunter participation. While I know this might represent a hardship on some of you, think

about how much many of us spend throughout the year at the meetings while others get the same hunt benefits without so much cash outlay. We can discuss the details at future meetings and should you have some ideas to offer, let us know.

FMDAC: The FMDAC website can be looked at to check out upcoming activities: www.fmdac.org. The FMDAC National Convention will be held at Gettysburg, PA on October 24/25 in conjunction with the Civil War Show. There will be an open hunt on Saturday and two hunts, some seminars, and other activities on Sunday. You must be an FMDAC member to participate and for more details and the registration form, go to the website.

FINDS OF THE MONTH WINNERS:

Oldest US Coin:

1853 Seated Liberty Quarter

Mike Moutray

Most Valuable US coin:

1905 Indian Head cent

Ed Meyer

Most Valuable Item:

1890 "S" Barber Dime

Gabe Young

Oddity:

Lead Military soldiers

Mike Heisler

Consolation Prize:

1911 St. Louis County Fair token

Eric Yeager

Silver raffle winners:

Roger Horrom (2), Bob Teich (2), Dan Forth, Sherry Tompkins, Jerry Ganahl, Kathy Simon, And Glen Czarnecki

50/50 winner: Jerry Ganahl

Five 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 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.

CLUB DUES: Club dues for 2015 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.

INFORMAL GROUP HUNT: The September group hunt was at Creve Coeur Park. We had a good turnout and most members found several modern coins. If I remember correctly, a couple of silver dimes were found, a silver quarter, a few wheat cents, and a sterling silver ring by various members. The informal hunt for October 18th will be held at Carondelet Park at Highway 55 and Loughborough. Good coins have been found here in the past and there may be some more just waiting to be found. 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. Come to these hunts as early as you wish and stay as late as you want. Most are in an area where you can visit a local eatery for lunch or you may bring your own sack lunch. We ask that members act in a professional manner and follow the Treasure Hunter's Code of Ethics when participating in these informal group hunts.

FOLLOWING IS THE FALL HUNT RESULTS:

2015 FALL HUNT RESULTS: The annual Fall Hunt was held on September 20th with the day dawning clear and mild at Turner Camp Park. The day before, volunteer club members Bill Mathews, Jessica Mathews, Kelly Faust, Drew Smith, Leonard Maierhoffer, Tim and Pam Popp, John Quinn, Dan Forth, and Paul Cordes buried the targets in the three hunt fields and prepared the area for the next day's activities—a big thanks to all of them for their help. As 76 excited hunters and 14 family members arrived to register, raffle ticket sales for the detectors, the silver rounds, and the 50/50 commenced. Also arriving was member Mike Heisler in his 1968 bright red Chevy Bel Air "Memory Automobile". Mike has included items such as a drive-in theater speaker, a drive-in restaurant food tray, his own parking meter, and many other items of the time period. Members enjoyed seeing this car and thanks to Mike for bringing it to our hunt and for all the work he has put into helping us remember those great days of the 1960's. Detectors and equipment was retrieved from member's cars and readied for the upcoming hunts. Registration ended about 10:00 AM and the Cash Payout hunt started with all 76 registered hunters participating. For each of the 100 yellow pennies found a five dollar cash prize was awarded to the finder. Also to be found was a token good for a Garrett Pro Pinpointer which was found by Leonard Maierhoffer and a gold coin token found by Drew Smith. At about 11:00 AM, Hunt #2 which consisted of painted penny targets good for either a silver half dollar or silver dime and tokens for another pin pointer and gold coin, commenced and you could almost hear the "giant sucking sound" created as hunters removed the targets from the ground. Rick Moore found the pinpointer token and Mary Thompson took home the gold coin. Earlier in the morning, volunteers Tim and Micha Popp, Doug Bierce, and myself cooked the hamburgers and hot dogs to be served for the pot luck picnic lunch which began about noon. There was a plethora of good food brought by members to share with many casseroles and wonderful desserts. Members later voted for their favorite food item and Marge Guthrie's Orange marmalade dessert won her a silver half dollar first prize and Amberly Brown took home a silver quarter and second place with her sweet potato casserole. Drew Smith ran four mini-raffles during the day with four silver coins awarded to various winners in each of them. With the picnic lunch complete, Hunt #3 began about 1:15. Seventy six hunters searched aggressively for targets good for a Morgan silver dollar, a one ounce silver round, a silver quarter, a prize from those donated, and the final pinpointer and gold coin. Ted Parker took home the gold coin and Austin Wilken now has a new pinpointer. Pam Popp was awarded the 1835 half-cent donated by the Guthrie family in memory of long time member, Charlie Guthrie. Following each hunt, members turned in their painted penny targets at the redemption center for the actual silver coins and it ended up only one silver dime, two silver quarters, and one silver round were not claimed out of the 1129 total targets (turned out that Don Joeckel found the red cent in his pouch the next day and will be given the round). The drawings for the various raffles began after the last hunt and in the Garrett products raffle, Kelly Faust won the Garrett AT Pro detector, Jerry Ganahl took home the Ace 250 detector, and Roger Horrom received the Pro Pinpointer. Many other members won the headphones, digging tools, carrying cases, back packs, and other great Garrett products. The number of tickets sold determined how many one ounce silver rounds would be given away and that turned out to be thirty-seven of them. Chris Heimsoth was the lucky winner of a nice cash prize when his ticket was drawn in the 50/50 raffle. With all the drawings complete, members gathered up their equipment, collected their belongings and lunch leftovers, and the area was returned to its original clean condition as we found it on Saturday. I have had good feedback from several members that they enjoyed the hunt and I hope that everyone went home with at least a few silver coins or prizes and that they feel the five dollar cost to enter was well worth it. I want to thank everyone that pitched in to help during the day as without their help, the Fall Hunt would not have turned out to be the great success it was. After all, this is your club and the enjoyment you receive from it depends greatly on your generosity in the raffle ticket sales and the time and hard work you put into it. I hope that our hunt next year can be as successful as this year's, and, as usual, I know with support from all our members, it can and most likely will be.

