

November 17th, 3rd Thursday

FINDS OF THE MONTH WINNERS:

Oldest US Coin:

1928 Buffalo Nickel-Sam Monroe

Most Valuable US coin:

1968 Roosevelt dime (mis-strike on date)-Tim Mcniff

Most Valuable Item:

Strange Ear Ring-Jim Russell

Oddity:

Austrian Trigger assembly for 19th century rifle-Tom Miller

Consolation Prize:

Silver Mexican 10 Centavos-Sam Allard

Silver raffle winners:

Jim Colgrove, Jerry Ganahl, Kathy Crowell (2), Sam Allard (2), Lois Tobin (2), and Larry Hardester

50/50 winner: (Didn't get the name)

Five members won silver dimes in the door prize drawing.

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 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.

FMDAC: Even though it is getting a bit late in the year, membership into the FMDAC for 2016 will be accepted at future meetings or you can mail payment to treasurer, Kelly Faust, at the address above (check made

out to Midwest Coinshooters). Remember that you do need to be a member of the FMDAC if you want to participate in the Fall Convention they hold. If you wish to become a member-cost is \$5.00 again for this year. If you want to learn more about the FMDAC and its activities, you can check it all out at their website: www.fmdac.org .

INFORMAL GROUP HUNT: The informal group hunt will be held Sunday July 21st at two parks fairly close to each other. We will start out at Marquette Park at Compton and Osage and continue later in the day at Mt. Pleasant Park at Michigan and Dakota Streets. Old coins have been found in this park in the past and there may still be more waiting for us to find. This is a good opportunity for the newer members to work with those with more detecting experience to hone their skills. Come as early as you wish and stay as late as you care to.

KANSAS FAMILY REUNION STORY: Every three years Mary and I travel to Parsons, Kansas to attend the Pruitt Family reunion. This year we spent about a week there with the first couple of days working with other family members to make sure all things were in order for the reunion to be successful. One of these tasks is to ready the one room school house a few miles outside of Parsons which is one of the main gathering sites for the almost 100 family members as there is a cemetery with several family members graves there and we honor their memories in a special ceremony. This year included a live animal petting zoo and pony rides, a ride in an actual covered wagon pulled by a team of horses, many games for the kids such as gunny sack races, water bucket races using water from the original well that still works, and several other fun activities. The school was built in 1877 and has been maintained all these many years through donations from the family and hard work put in to make sure

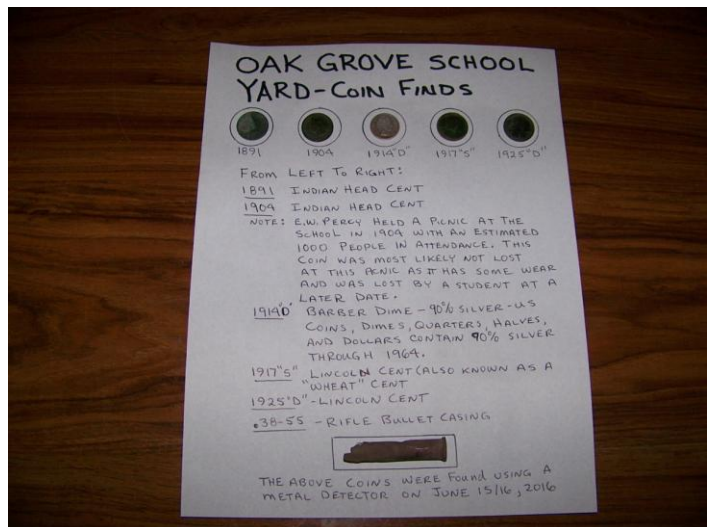
the building survives for many for years to come. There has been an Eagle scout project by a family member Boy Scout leader and his scouts to build wooden benches to put in the school, donations by various people, some of who attended school there have been received, for display in the school, and this year through a massive effort by one of our family members, Roger Pruitt from Texas, the school was officially put on the Kansas State list of historic sites and also was made a Federal Historic site. This year with electricity recently installed at the school, we were able to set up three air conditioners which provided great relief for everyone from the +100 heat index which was happening while we were there. With the family all gathered at the school, with Kansas state historic site officials in attendance, with several people who attended school there including two teachers who taught there, an official ceremony took place with the dedication and naming the school as a state historic site. This included have several children from the family participate in the process of mounting the plaque on the front of the school indicating it is now a historic site. I even managed to metal detect the grounds and found an 1891 and 1904 Indian head cent, a 1914D Barber dime, and a 1917S and 1925D Lincoln cent which I made a simple display of and left with the school. This was a really nice family reunion with family members getting together to share family memories and stories, learning about the history of the family, discovering interesting facts such as the Osage Indians trail most likely passed right through the school ground yard where I took the first picture below, and visiting historic sites in the area. The last class at the school was the 1959-1969 class and it is only through the dedication and hard work of Pruitt Family members and local residents that the school still exists and is there to remind all of what took place in past years.



Oak Grove School, Parsons, KS-1877



Roger Pruitt with official historic site plaque



Coin finds made at Oak Grove School

