MIDWEST COINSHOOTERS AND HISTORICAL CLUB

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Member FMDAC

Club Website: http://www.midwestcoinshooters.com

NEWSLETTER- MARCH 17, 2016 VOLUME 32, ISSUE 3

MEETING LOCATION: Tharp Civic Center (Jennings),

8720 Jennings Station Road <u>Time:</u> 7:30 PM- 3rd Thursday (Except December)

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 17, 2016 MEETING-Next Meeting: APRIL 21, 2016 Attendees: 31 plus 3 board members

Club Officers: President/Newsletter Editor; Roger Horrom; 12683 Shepherd Drive, Florissant, MO 63033;

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Vice-President: Bill Mathews; 1024 Amsterdam, Ballwin, MO 63011

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Treasurer: Kelly Faust; 512 Shepards Crossing; Ballwin, MO 63021

636-394-9604 Email: kellysfaust@yahoo.com

MEETING MINUTES: There was a good turnout for the meeting with first time attendees, Michael Sass, Eric Hanewinkel, Leo Kourtesis, Chris Allard and his son Sam, and John Moreland all welcomed to the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer, Kelly Faust read the Treasurer's Report and it was accepted as read.

MARCH MEETING: At the March meeting discussion was continued with members on our upcoming plans for meetings, group hunts, presentation ideas, meeting themes, and other items that members want to see accomplished to make the club interesting and rewarding for them. The informal group hunt schedule has been developed with the Spring Hunt being held May 22nd at Benton Park. I gave a presentation on "Lost and Found-Coin Hoards and Treasures" from stories provided in a book by the same name written by Q. David Bowers.

APRIL MEETING: One of our newer members asked about methods for cleaning his metal detecting finds, so at our April meeting I will have information and do demonstrations on various methods for cleaning and preserving coins, artifacts, and other items found while detecting. If you have a favorite method you use for making your finds more presentable and some examples, bring them to the meeting and tell us all about your process. Also, if you have some things you would like to try cleaning and just want to see them look better, bring them to the meeting as there will be materials available to do so. As always, remember that the value of certain items, especially coins, can be reduced if they are cleaned and cleaning should never be done if it is thought that the coin is of numismatic importance. Other items will be discussed and as always, should you have a good story to tell, we welcome you to do so.

LOST RING RETURNED: I sent out the following story to our club members with email addresses, but wanted to include it here for those who get U.S. mail copies of the newsletter. From club member, David Guthrie: On February 2nd of this year, while hunting along the Hinkson Creek in Columbia, I found a beautiful man's gold class ring from Linn High School, class of 1959 with the initials E.S. on it. To find who E.S. was, I first tried the Linn H.S. Alumni site, but only the alumni had access. Then I called the High School and asked if anyone could help me find E.S. The school librarian took my number and said she would look at the yearbooks and get back to me. A week passed and I still had no word. Fortunately, my wife's boss just happened to be a Linn H.S. grad and her sister still worked at the school. With that connection, I finally received a name and a number of someone from the class of '59 with the initials F.S. and last they heard of him, he was living south of Chicago. I crossed my fingers, and called the number. Eugene S. answered and I asked him if he was, in fact, a 1959 grad from Linn High School in Missouri. He said yes!!! Then I asked him, if he had ever spent some time at Hinkson Creek, located in Columbia. He answered, all the time! Then I told him, i think I found something that belongs to you, and I would like to return it to you. Did you lose your class ring??? He said "I don't know!" As it turned out, that Eugene dated a girl back in '61-62, and he gave her his class ring. They went their separate ways, but she never gave the ring back. So it was her who either lost or threw the ring away. So Eugene and I think the ring had been in the ground since 1962. He was very happy and surprised I was returning the ring to him. He wanted to know what I wanted for finding the ring, I told him I just wanted the ring to be returned to where it belonged after all these years. Eugene was kind enough to send me a picture of him wearing the ring, after being

returned to him more than 50 years later.



Eugene S. with his ring after 50+ years

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.

<u>CLUB WEBSITE:</u> 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: 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). 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.

FINDS OF THE MONTH WINNERS:

Oldest US Coin:

1834 Capped Bust 5 cent-Eric Hanewinkel Most Valuable US coin: 1895S Barber Half-Dan Forth Most Valuable Item: 14K Gold Ring-Sam Monroe Oddity:

Miniature Brass Dragon-Tim McNiff Consolation Prize: Civil War GAR Medal-Leo Kourtesis

<u>Silver raffle winners:</u>

Carl Boekemeier (2), Tom Miller (2), Pat Milligan, Jerry Ganahl, Michael Sass, Bill Dalton, and Sam Monroe Bonus Silver Round donated by Ben Neff: Mike Heisler

50/50 winner: Gabe Young

Five members won silver dimes in the door prize drawing.

INFORMAL GROUP HUNT: The informal group hunt will be at Spanish Lake Park on Spanish Pond Road off Bellefountaine Road in north St. Louis County. Good coins have been found here in the past and, perhaps, a few more can be coaxed from the ground. The hunt last month was impacted by snow

falling in the morning and I am not aware if any of our members attended-I did not. Come as early as you want to these hunts and stay as late as you wish. It is a good opportunity to learn from others who may have more experience.

CHECK THOSE PUDDLES: In the last Lost Treasure Magazine newsletter I emailed to members was a story about finding surface coins on parking lots, along roadsides, and other locations. Here is my recent experience that this method works. A few of us in my subdivision gather to clean a roadside ditch of trash once or twice a year just to keep the "neighborhood" looking tidy. I arrived early for this effort a couple of weeks ago and began picking up paper scraps and trash in a grassy area behind a local business. I was near the corner of a shopping center parking lot that sloped downhill next to the grassy area. I glanced over to the blacktop of the parking lot and noticed a puddle about 10" in diameter and I saw a quarter lying in the water. Seems the puddle was formed just below a drop off in the broken edge of the blacktop in a gravel runoff area. I reached into the puddle and retrieved the coin and, now being closer, I saw more coins in the puddle. With each time I scraped my hand along the bottom of the hole, I came up with more coins. When I finally completed this process, I had recovered \$2.76 in quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies and even one Spanish coin. In surveying the area, I determined that during heavy rains, this entire large parking lot floated coins along the surface and downhill into this "natural gathering area", the puddle at the edge of the blacktop. I am not sure how long these coins may have been collecting there, but I know I will be back to check it out after the next big rainstorm. Some of my detecting outings haven't produced as well as this one 10" puddle.