

give a short presentation or talk on themselves, their machines, and favorite finds was held. This would be a great way for the club members to get to know each other better.

Additional presentations are being put into to place as plans and details of arranging them are worked out. Inputs from members was requested as to what they want to see take place at meetings and should any member wish to do a presentation or knows of someone that would be willing to do a presentation, can inform Tim McNiff, Programs and Presentations committee chairman, or one of the Board members. Suggestions for informal hunt sites or other special hunt events can also be provided to Board members.

MARCH HUNT:

It was decided to hold the March Hunt at Marquette Park in St. Louis. Numerous people showed up for the day, despite the cold beginning. A gold charm, a solid silver proof State Quarter (shows you anything can be found!), a 1917-S Mercury Dime, and numerous wheat pennies and several rings were found by members.

APRIL HUNT:

The April Hunt will be held at TBD. We are always looking for new areas and ideas.

TRADE/SWAP/SELL:

We are starting another new aspect to our meetings! Bring your extra detectors, detecting equipment (hats, pouches, headphones, etc.), finds (coins, tokens, etc.) For those interested in trading, swapping, or selling, show up 30 minutes early (6:30-7:00) to meet with other members. How many of us have extra gear to trade or sell? How many folks collect coins, but are missing a relatively common date and have extras of other dates? If members are interested, this

will become a monthly thing!

NEW "SCAVENGER HUNT" CONTEST FOR 2017!!

The club has decided to host a "Scavenger Hunt" for 2017. The hunt begins 20 January and will end at the November Meeting. Prizes will be for the first, second, and third place winners. Below is the list of things to find and the rules:

ITEMS TO FIND: (must be detected)

1. National Park US Quarter
2. Metal Toy – Soldier, Cowboy, or Indian
3. Box or Open-end wrench
4. Red, Green, and Black pulltab
5. Brass hinge, architectural knocker, knob, or drawer handle
6. Ammunition
7. Pocket knife
8. Pre-1970 Dog License or Vaccination Tag
9. Token, not a Tax Token (see #16)
10. 2 Foreign Coins
11. 1958 Wheat penny
12. Skeleton Key
13. Gold Ring with Stone
14. Religious Item
15. Old Car or House Key
16. State Tax Token
17. Silver Charm
18. Knife, Fork, AND Spoon
19. Button with Maker name
20. A RED Die cast or Matchbox-type vehicle

RULES: Member with the highest number of finds is the winner. A found item can be used in only one category and only one item per category. A tracking sheets are at each meeting, and a summary is below. The Honor System will apply, but it would be interesting if the items were brought to the monthly meeting so we can keep a status of who is currently leading and what items were found. Tie breaker will be by date. Prizes are 3 silver rounds (or free membership and 2 silver rounds) for first, 2 silver rounds for second, and 1 silver round for third. Please contact a board member if you have any

questions.

CURRENT STANDINGS as of Mar Meeting:

NAME	POINTS
Richard Thies	4
Eric Hanewinkel	5
Tom Miller	12
Sam Allard	2
Andrew Machens	3
Sam Monroe	2
Tim McNiff	1
John Quinn	7
Jerry Gawahl	1
Jim Russell	1
Christine Zika	3
Chris Koehler	1
Carl Boekmeier	1

FINDS OF THE MONTH WINNERS:

Oldest US Coin: 1866 Indian Head Penny – Mark Avery

Most Valuable US Coin: 1964 JFK Half – Mike Heisler

Most Valuable Item: Tungsten ring – Christina Zika

Oddity: Sterling Silver Bellreive Country Club spoon – Jim Russell

Consolation Prize: 1871 Indian Head Penny – Andrew Machens

Silver raffle winners:

Doug Bierce, Ed Meyer, Jim Russell, Bill Dalton, Kelly Faust, Mike Heisler, Duke Hardester, Mark Avery, and Andrew Machens.

Five members won silver dimes in the door prize drawing.

CLUB DUES: Club dues for 2017 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. Notices of

dues payment will continue to be sent with newsletters (via email or regular mail). Pay at a meeting or mail your dues payment to our treasurer, Kelly Linder, at the address at the beginning of this newsletter.

CLUB WEBSITE: The club website:

www.midwestcoinshooters.com is still in place. As this year begins, Roger will serve as webmaster and update the site as necessary with help from the new officers. If you have a good metal detecting story or another item you would like to add to the website, you can email him at rhorrorm@charter.net with the write-up and it will be added to the website.

FMDAC: Membership payments for the FMDAC for 2017 will begin at the January meeting. If you want to learn more about the FMDAC and its activities, you can check it all out at their website: www.fmdac.org. It is assumed the membership cost will again be \$5.00 for 2017 and the new officers will bring you up to date on this early next year. The club treasurer will accept payment and mail payment off to the FMDAC and new membership cards will be distributed once received. It takes five members to become an “official FMDAC club” and currently our club is not listed on the FMDAC website as there are not five members who joined last year.

INFORMAL GROUP HUNT: As the new year begins, an informal group hunt schedule will be developed with dates and locations provided. It will be posted on the club website and in a future newsletter with hunts starting in March or April pending weather conditions. Inputs for sites to hunt are welcomed and members were asked if they know of sites large enough to allow up to 20 hunters. As in the past, these hunts provide new inexperienced members and the more experienced members to get together to

share comradery, provide guidance, share tips, and provide a teaching experience. Detector machines can be compared as well as retrieval techniques, new types of equipment and technology can be demonstrated, and finds can be compared and enjoyed by all. These hunts are, as the name implies, completely informal with starting time and quitting time at the attendees' discretion. Hunt sites are determined by their potential chance to provide older, historic finds and are available with proper permission for a group of members to hunt. These sites include older parks, school grounds, or even private property.

MINELAB EXPLORER XSE FOR SALE: John Webb, 636-293-2299, has a Minelab Explorer XSE for sale for \$600. This detector comes with a built-in pin pointer, the manual, a DD coil on the detector, an additional 15-inch coil, and an additional 8-inch coil. Please contact John if interested.