

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.