

MIDWEST COINSHOOTERS 2014 FALL HUNT RESULTS

The annual Fall Hunt was a great success this year due to the hard work of many of our club members, their generosity, and their dedication to the hobby especially on hunt day. This year's event began with the burying of the targets on Saturday with thirteen club members putting over 2000 targets in the ground and helping to set up the area. A huge thank you goes to Tim and Pam Popp, Bill Mathews, Drew Smith, Dan Forth, Andy Anderson, Kelly Faust, Mike Tiemann Jeff Gates, Jessica Mathews, John Quinn, and Jerry Ganahl on Saturday. Sunday, hunt day, dawned with bright sunshine and warm temperatures as sixty members along with fourteen family members signed up for the day's activities. Early arrivals might have had the opportunity to see some of the wild deer and turkey that frequent the hunt fields at the site. The park is surrounded by woods and the deer come out to feed on the chestnuts found in the area. Thanks go to those who helped get the registration done and sell raffle tickets. The first hunt of the day, the Numbered Coin Hunt, started at 10:00 AM with 43 members participating in the hunt. They were given a half hour to search for forty \$5.00 prize tokens and one Garrett pinpointer token among 900 buried targets. Rick Moore found the pinpointer token and six members found three prize tokens, six found two tokens, and ten found one token. At 11:00 the Surprise Hunt began with all members hunting for coins caches, jewelry, watches, rings, silver coins, tokens and many other items including a pinpointer token which was found by Burt Thompson. After the Surprise Hunt, it was time for the potluck picnic lunch for which the club provided hamburgers, hot dogs, and sodas with the cooking being handled by several members including Jim Simon, Susan Kuenzel, Roger Horrom, Tim Popp, and Amberly Brown-a big thank you to each of you for helping with this very HOT job. Tim McNiff and many others helped to get the picnic area set up with the many food items brought by members for the day's meal. There were many good dishes and a lot of good desserts available for consumption. The food item voted best of the day, and providing her a silver coin prize, was for the cinnamon roll up dessert brought by Amberly Brown. The food was great and there was plenty for everyone so a big thank you goes to everyone for bringing so many good dishes. During the day, Drew Smith, held four mini-raffles with prizes of a silver dollar, a Barber half, quarter, and dime with sixteen winners taking home the various coins/ Following lunch, the Main Hunt took place, consisting of all silver coins from dimes to dollars, over 100 prize tokens, a pinpointer token, and a special Charlie Guthrie token prize donated by Charlie's family in memory of their father. Leonard Maierhoffer found the pinpointer token and Drew Smith found the Guthrie token and was presented with a nice early 1800's coin. Following the Main Hunt, members that found prize tokens turned them in and collected their prizes. This is a major task with Lisa Smith handling the effort very efficiently as she collected the tokens, recorded the winners names, and handed out the prizes. Lisa generously offered help throughout the day volunteering to sell raffle tickets, keep track of the money collected, and with her effort, took on much of the work of the day. Her husband Drew also stepped up to help with the registration process, he ran the four mini raffles held throughout the day, and handled the Main Raffle prize handout. I want to thank both of them for the generous donation of their time during the day that makes it so much easier on me. The various raffle drawings took place with Drew winning the 50/50 drawing, Elmer "Duke" Hardester won the Garrett AT-Pro detector, and Nicholas Valera won the Garrett Pinpointer. I know I have left out a lot of names of those members who generously gave of their time to help out on hunt day, donated many prizes (special thanks goes to Libby Truetken for all his donations), and have provided support throughout the year with purchase of raffle tickets at club meetings and especially on hunt day. In summary, the weather for the day was perhaps the best we have ever had, the turnout was exactly as expected, everyone enjoyed the food in the pot luck picnic, everyone pitched in throughout the day to help, especially at the end of the day when everything had to be gathered up, the area grounds policed, and the building put back the way we found it upon arrival. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and went home with at least a few silver coins, some special prizes, and the memories of a great time shared with many others who enjoy the hobby of metal detecting and the opportunity to share in the comradery of our annual Fall Hunt. It makes all of us look forward to next year's hunt and the chance to participate again. I will have some photo cd's at the next meeting for those of you who wish to see the pictures I took during the day. I will include the wonderful group photo taken by member A. J. Phillips.