

The Scoop News
1161 Hillview Dr.
Hastings, MI 49058



The Scoop Southwest Michigan Seek and Search Club

July 2024 - Edition

When: The Third Tuesday of Each Month at 7 P.M.

Who: Meetings are open to the public

Where: Kalamazoo Rod & Gun Club
7533 North Sprinkle Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49004

How: From U.S. 131 come North to D Ave. take D Ave. East to North Sprinkle (road curves right and heads south), club is .25 miles on the right from int. of D. Ave. and Sprinkle.

Or

Take U.S. 131 South to D. Ave. exit, take D. Ave. East to N. Sprinkle (directions from here same as Northbound (above)).



June 2024 - Finds of the Month

WINNER...#1 Rick S.



JEWELRY

Entries:

1. 10K gold ring - Rick S.
2. Cool ring, water find - Keith P.
3. Dinosaur ring, etched "I love you" - Mike W.
4. Small ladies ring, from farm field - John M.

WINNER...#3 Rick S.



COIN

Entries:

1. 1916D Buffalo nickel - Mike W.
2. 1824 King George IV sterling silver one shilling - Kerry S.
3. 1857 Flying Eagle cent - Rick S.

WINNER...#1 Tom H.



FOB, BADGE,
TOKEN

Entries:

1. Love token made from 1888 Canadian silver nickel - Rick S.
2. 1863 CW patriotic token "Our Country" - Kerry S.
3. The Crossroads Carousel token - John M.
4. Swift token, 1918 - Mike W.
5. MI Buggy Company, Kalamazoo tag - Tom H.

WINNER...#2 Terry Y.



MOST UNUSUAL

Entries:

1. Union Metallic Cartridge Co. shotgun shell - Rob K.
2. Copper Dutch oval snuff box lid - Terry Yax
3. (moved to Fob, Badge & Token)
4. Horse bridle rosette - Kerry S.
5. CW era sword hanger - Rick S.
6. Antique hewing axe head - Mike W.

FOM notes:

- All items must be found or acquired since the last meeting.
- Multiples must be found in the same hole.
- One entry per category per member.
- Must be a paid member to enter find of the month.
- Write your name on the back of the entry slip.
- Do not look at names on the back of find of the month slips.
- Check with the President or Vice President if you have any questions as to what category to put an item in.

June Mtg.

Election voting took place:

- 1.) Motion made to vote all sitting members to remain for following term as they were running unopposed and no nominations for new candidates made - motion made by Rob K.
- 2.) Motion seconded by - Logan D.
- 3.) Voted to accept this motion as made and seconded, all members voted "Yay" ..except for one person of course, Keith P., he voted "Nay".

July Mtg.

Don't Forget!!!!

Buy, Sell, Show, Trade night!!!

**- Feature Raffle -
3 Silver Eagles!! - 3 Winners!!**

July Free Hunt:

The July Free Hunt is planned (tentatively providing it isn't too hot) for Saturday the 20th at 1:00 PM at Kindleberger Park, at 122 N. Riverview Dr., Parchment, MI 49004.

Please check club FB and Email leading up to Saturday as there is a slight chance this could be called due to excessive heat that day.

Please bring plenty of water and dress accordingly providing the hunt still happens, better safe than sorry.

****Raffle Tickets must be purchased before the beginning of the meeting.***

*****You don't have to be a member to purchase tickets for the Silver Dollar or the 50/50 raffles.***

SWMSS CLUB MEMBER BENEFITS

1. Find of the Month Entries
2. Find of the Year Entry
3. Door Prizes
4. All Raffle's & the Feature Raffle
5. Newsletter, Mail and / or Email
6. Participate in Seeded Hunts
7. * Voting Rights
8. * Fish Bowl Prize
(drawing every meeting)
9. Perfect Attendance (Jan. through Dec.) prize
10. To Sell or Trade at the "Buy, Sell & Trade Night".
Exception: *These items are not extended to associate members.

An "Associate" membership is extended to a paid member's spouse, their children and grandchildren. Anyone 18 years and older are considered an adult and will need to purchase their own membership.

A new member can enter their finds in the "Find of the Month" after 1 full month's membership.**

A "new" member is someone that has never been a member before.

Renewal Memberships

Are due before the meeting starts to participate in the "Find of the Month".

Club Membership is \$25 for the calendar year. (January Through December)

Members, Please, "Sign in" at every club meeting. The "sign in book" is used to keep record of perfect attendance for the year. The sign in book is on the table with the name tags.

Be sure to renew your membership before the meeting starts to get in on the drawings and raffles.

****Please note:**

To be guaranteed a photo in the slide show for "Find of the Month", there is a 6:45 cut off time.

Please be mindful of this as Anne and Bradley our photographers most months has 60+ photos to take and incorporate into the slide show for judging. We need to maintain this cutoff if we are to finish in a timely manner and ensure everyone has a chance to compete.

*** If any club members would like to be added to the SWMSS Club Facebook group, please contact Mike Walker or Brian Tobias



Look us up on the web
www.mytreasureclub.com

What to do when NOT detecting??

As a continuation from last month's article, I wanted to focus on a somewhat related activity or hobby in of itself, cleaning and attributing old uncleaned Roman Coins!

What is that you might say? Well over the winter I kept seeing YouTube videos of people that have bought lots of old Roman or Greek coins. They then detail how to go about cleaning these in the videos and honestly just watching these videos is calming, relaxing and cathartic to use a big fancy word.

These coins are most often found by detectorists in Europe and the UK by detecting, and some are even retrieved from the waterways and oceans. Also, they typically are the better part of 2000 years old!!

Because of this they are uncleaned and covered by what can best be described as the toughest dirt I've ever picked off a coin. Seriously. But here is the thing:

- 1.) The patina under this dirt is extremely well protected and intact in most cases
- 2.) Water for the most part is not going to hurt them as a result and I'll get to that further in a moment.
- 3.) They are cheap to be honest.
- 4.) For the most part cleaning these is not shunned in the same way coins from the US are, there are not hordes of natural clean 2000-year-old coins in collections or dresser drawers or banks the way our coins today exist so they are looked at a bit differently.

Purchasing:

This to me is the hardest part to be at peace with starting out, where to buy and who to trust to even be able to comfortably buy them. There are really 2 main companies in Europe that specialize in the brokerage sale of such coins, they are the most reputable:

<https://www.romancoinbank.com/>

<https://www.nerocoins.com/>

There are others but I've personally vetted these two. To let everyone in on a secret, the owner of Roman Coin Bank is a good guy and he actually puts lots up for sale on a Facebook Group:

Ancient Coin Cleaning and Preservation or the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/472616981238070>

I'd start small and buy smaller lots to get your feet wet, I bought my first lot of 200 and haven't done 50% of those yet...it is time consuming.

Cleaning:

You are going to want to soak (I realize this is going to go against everything you know about coins) them in distilled water for a couple of days to weeks ahead of time.

Then you can gently scrape away the dirt that is left with a couple of things:

- Dental picks
- Dental diamond studded pins in a pin vise.
- Self-supporting magnification whether it be a magnifying glass or scope.

The dental picks are less than 2 dollars at any ACE hardware store or on line

The pins and vise you can pick up for a bit over 20 dollars.

You may want to buy a coin vice to hold them also while cleaning...and that is it.

It is up to you, but some people will coat them with paraffin wax or a good product like Renaissance Wax when cleaned to protect them from the air. There is some debate if that is a good practice or not.

I am linking a good video tutorial below to get you started but the important thing is to do everything light and slow. A cleaning done right may take hours or days but it is worth it. Most of the time the underlying patina on bronze (most of them are bronze alloy) is amazing and in WAY better shape than our US coins lost in the ground less than 200 years ago.

Give it a shot, this has been a rally fun hobby to get into that relates to detecting well.

I'll cover the process of "attributing" in the next installment. Basically, attribution is determining date minted, where minted and who is on the coin and was the ruling individual of the time. Thanks everyone!

Tutorial videos:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLNgr4_ESSduE4slwz_1a9QOA77bMjegB2



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