

GMDC NEWS

April 2017



“Can you dig it? We can!”

Club Email:
detectinghistory@
yahoo.com

Club Officers:

President
Susannah Kriegshauser

Vice President
Mackie Douglas

Treasurer
John Westermayer

Secretary
Pat Reece



President's Corner



By Susannah Kriegshauser

Hello fellow dirt fishers!

Our monthly meetings have sure been growing, and this month was no exception with 37 in attendance. With club membership standing at around 50 so far in just two months, that means that almost everyone in the club is excited to come and share a good time with fellow club members. We as officers try very hard to keep things interesting and lively, and also informative for new members. We thank all our membership for making our new members' first experience a friendly, comfortable one.

We have a new vice-president, Mackie Douglas. While new to detecting, Mackie is not new to organizing groups. Welcome, and thanks for stepping up to help our club!

Our Community Assistance Team (CAT) has been getting a workout lately, and another call came in the day after our club meeting. We are hearing that some calls have been a direct result from people who had previously used our services, and recommended us to others. So our fame is growing as a responsible organization. Kudos to all.

One thing that sets our club apart is the Mystery Hunts. We would like to have three a year, but it won't be possible without your help. Since our club is back to a manageable size, we are looking for a site that can accommodate 20-25 people. We all need to keep our eyes open for these sites, so we can continue to offer this unique opportunity. Several people have indicated that they might know of one. Your assistance with firming up these sites soon is greatly appreciated as we continue to plan out the year.

We have several presentations lined up, and it's been a bonus having our new projector. So if you would like to talk about a hunt, or an aspect of detecting (like maybe beach hunting), or about equipment, or actually--well, anything detecting related--we would love to hear you!

Happy Hunting!

CALENDAR

Feb 07: GMDC meeting

NO HUNT IN FEB

Mar 07: GMDC meeting

Mar 11: GMDC hunt.

(Cancelled)

Mar 25: Metal Detecting

Basics Class

Apr 01: CW Park Day

MO CW Museum

Apr 04: GMDC meeting

Apr 08: GMDC hunt.

Willmore Park

May 02: GMDC meeting

May 06: GMDC hunt.

Mystery Hunt.

May 27: Metal Detecting

Basics Class

Jun 03: Metal Detecting

Basics Class

Jun 06: GMDC meeting

Jun 10: GMDC hunt.

TBD

Jun 19: Metal Detecting

Basics Class

NO JULY MEETING

Jul 03: Metal Detecting

Basics Class

Jul 08: GMDC hunt.

TBD

Aug 01: GMDC meeting

Aug 05: GMDC hunt.

Mystery Hunt

Sep 05: GMDC meeting

Sep 09: GMDC **BBQ**

Oct 03: GMDC meeting

Oct 07: GMDC hunt.

TBD

Nov 07: GMDC meeting

Nov 11: GMDC hunt

Mystery Hunt

Dec 05: GMDC meeting

NO HUNT IN DECEMBER

NO MTG OR HUNT IN JAN

Monthly Meeting Notes

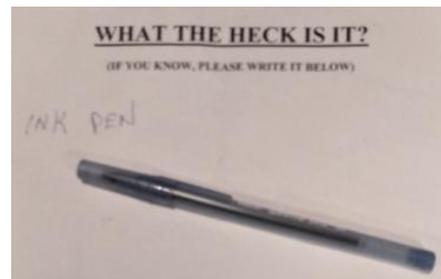
The third meeting of the year was called to order at 7:00 pm. We welcomed new members Erica Calhoun, Chris Cole, and Michael Ives, and thanked Bobby Lewis, Dave Steck, and Michael Steimel for their club renewals.

We're always looking for articles for the newsletter and for people to introduce themselves to the club through the "In The Loupe" section. Articles can be just a few paragraphs, and pictures are also always welcomed. We will help with article length, grammar, and punctuation. For each published article, you will receive two entries for our Volunteer Contest.

The club has donated \$177.00 to the museum fund so far in 2017, which will be used toward a special display of Civil War items found through metal detecting. If you have items you'd like to donate for the display, please see the club president.

Hunt sites, hunt sites, hunt sites. The club needs locations that hold promise for artifacts, and can handle a group of 20-25. Talk to a club officer if you think you have a possibility. May 6th will be our first Mystery Hunt for the year.

We are **extremely** grateful to one of our members who stepped up and successfully identified the mystery item in our new "What the Heck Is It?" feature.



Howard Hesketh, ably assisted by his wife Kathy, provided a unique and informative presentation on "Making a Wireless Headphone".

Attendance prizes: Charlie McCarthy spoon – Carl Boekemier, 1877 Seated Liberty dime – Marvin Gilliam, 1910 V Nickel – Pat Reece

50/50: Pat Darian, who kindly donated \$51.00 back to the club!

IN THE LOUPE...

by Rob Willett

I have always been curious about the people you see wandering up and down the beach with their metal detectors, so when my father-in-law invited me to attend a metal detector club meeting, I thought it would be a good way to find out if it was something I



would be interested in doing.

After the first couple of meetings I decided to invest in a Fisher F-22 metal detector. It has turned out to be a lot of fun because with every trip to the

park, beach, and with the club there seems to always be something just waiting to be discovered.

I have found a lot of interesting things including men's wedding rings, silver dimes, more sets of keys than I can count, a set of miniature praying hands, and coins...LOTS of coins!

My favorite place to detect is on the beach, just before sunrise while the rest of the world is just waking up. My metal detecting bucket list



includes a trip to England to dig for ancient artifacts that have yet to be found.

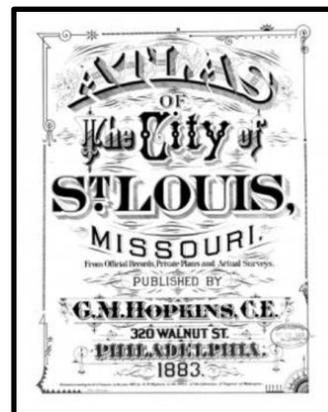
Happy Hunting!

RESEARCHING MISSOURI COUNTIES

A good way to research possible hunt sites is through plat books and county atlases. Plat books are a public record of maps which show the division of land into blocks, lots, and parcels representing land ownership. Atlases are a collection of maps.



The Missouri Digital Heritage website (link below) is a state-owned resource that provides online access to Missouri county atlases and plat books published from 1875-1930. All information available is within the public domain.



In the plat books you will find familiar streets and landmarks

which allow you to compare the past with the present, and may help in identifying good hunt sites.

Missouri Digital Heritage Website:

[http://cdm.sos.mo.gov/cdm/landingpage/collec
tion/mocoplats](http://cdm.sos.mo.gov/cdm/landingpage/collec tion/mocoplats)

Or, click [here](#) and bookmark the website.

FINDS OF THE MONTH

Oldest Coin



Pat R.: 1910 Lincoln Wheat Penny
Prize: 1853O Seated Liberty half dime

Most Valuable Coin



Mike S.: 1919S Standing Liberty Quarter
Prize: 1915S Barber Quarter

Oddest Artifact



Matt H. – Railway baggage tag
Prize: Paris souvenir bottle opener

FOM Contest Rules:

1. Fill out an entry form at the meeting, and hand it to Bill or Rick.
2. Only one entry per category, per person, is allowed. **Find must be from previous month ONLY!**
3. You can enter each category, but can only win one (determined by the FOM committee).
4. Submissions should only include **new finds** found between the monthly meetings (honor system).
5. Everyone making a submission will receive one point. Category winners will receive two points.

Points will be recorded and tallied by the FOM committee. At the end of the year, the winner will receive a **FABULOUS prize**.

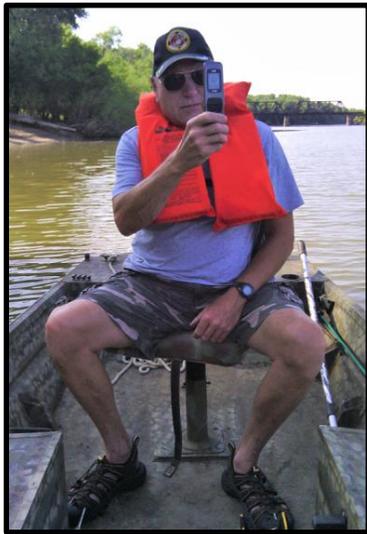
“BAD DAY AT BLACK ROCK”

by Lee Nunnally

Everyone has seen the great 1955 movie, "Bad Day at Black Rock" with Spencer Tracey. This is my version. In July of 2014, my neighbor asked for my help. He had seen me metal detecting in my yard the previous year. Dan, who is an avid outdoorsman, told me that last year while he was bow fishing on the Meramec River, he lost the trigger mechanism to his bow. He stated that the trigger was stainless steel and had cost him \$250 and when it was lost, he'd recorded the location on his GPS device. Since the river water level had gone down, he thought the area was accessible by foot. I told him that I would help him find the trigger.

It was a hot day in July with triple-digit temperatures forecasted when Dan called to tell me he was ready for the search. When

we left around 6:00am in his pick-up truck with a bass boat hitched behind, it was



already hot. We arrived at the river, backed down the slip, and pushed the boat into the water. Dan handed me a life vest and we headed down the river. The sun was already bearing down

on us and the heat was intense. I felt whipped and exhausted before we even started, and wondered what I had gotten myself into.

On the way down the river something suddenly jumped out of the water across the front of me and soaked me. As stunned as I was, Dan laughed and said, "That was an Asian carp...they can fly". Dan had neglected to tell me that he hunts Asian carp when he bow fishes. I began to think I was in way over my head.

We arrived at the dock, anchored, and tied-off. As we walked along the shore line, I didn't know if I was soaking wet from the carp splash or from profuse perspiration. I tried to put sun screen on but it just ran off into my eyes.

When we arrived at the spot Dan had recorded on his GPS, I observed that the location was about the size of a football field with all black silt where the river had receded. As I began to walk in the silt, my boots sank above the ankles. I HAD DISCOVERED MY "BLACK ROCK". Dan pointed to a section about the size of an end zone on a football field and I began to

detect, but only found lures, weights, and hooks. After about an hour-and-a-half, I moved out of the end zone, up to the 20-yard line. I then began to grid search the whole football field.

After three hours and two beers I was approaching the 50-yard line. It was there I observed something moving in the silt. I thought it might be a beaver or an otter, but to my surprise a head popped out and it was a huge snake coming straight towards me. I didn't know if the snake was black or black from the silt. As exhausted as I was, I ran through the silt like Ezekiel Elliott of the Cowboys running for a touchdown. I had to get away from that serpent.

When I got my breath back, I yelled at Dan who was over by the dock, drinking cold beer. I began to feel faint and thought maybe Dan had made this whole thing up because he was trying to kill me. After all, Dan was from Romania and I could barely understand him. Also, Dan's real name was "Demetrius" and, come to think of it--I really did not know him very well.

After another beer, I re-grouped and decided to try the other side of the field. After all, I am a former Marine and Marines do not give up. After another half hour, I got a huge hit. I dug down four inches and found something that turned out to be the trigger! The mechanism was in perfect condition, even after being in the river for eight months. Dan was ecstatic...I was suffering from heat exhaustion.



When I finally arrived home, all I could do was lie in the driveway and hose myself off with cold water to cool off. I spent the rest of the day and night in air conditioning, glad I'd survived my day at "Black Rock".

Civil War Park Day Cleanup

The GMDC was well represented on Saturday, April 1st, when 17 of our members showed up to participate in the Civil War Trust cleanup day at the Missouri Civil War Museum. Each year volunteers at more than 130 sites in 30 states participate in the annual Park Day to help preserve historic sites nationwide. Our day started with a huge pile of mulch, and ended with well-groomed landscaping, trash-free grounds, and a spotless tour bus at the museum.



Other volunteer organizations also participated in the cleanup. The Civil War Trust website says "it is an organization devoted to the preservation of America's hallowed battlegrounds. Although primarily focused on the protection of Civil War battlefields, the Trust also seeks to save the battlefields connected to the Revolutionary War and War of 1812."

Civil War Trust website:
<http://www.civilwar.org/>

Or, click [here](#) to access the site.



Gateway MD Club

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"Can you dig it? WE can!"

CLASSIFIEDS

If you want an ad in the
CLASSIFIEDS or **HUNT
BUDDIES** sections, please send
them through

detectinghistory@yahoo.com

Additional patches can be
purchased from the officers for
\$2.00

HUNT BUDDIES

Anyone needing someone to hunt with can
put an ad here.

WHO WE ARE

We are a group of detecting enthusiasts
whose aim is to get out there and have fun,
find fellowship, and find and preserve our
nation's history. We dig responsibly, act
respectfully, and operate legally. We invite
you to join us. You won't be disappointed!

MEETINGS

We meet on the first Tuesday of every
month at:

Missouri Civil War Museum
222 Worth Road
St. Louis, MO 63125

at:

7:00 pm
(Doors open at 6:30 pm)

Open to the public

