

GMDC NEWS

September 2017



“Can you dig it? We can!”

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detectinghistory@
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Club Officers:

President
Susannah Kriegshauser

Vice President
Mackie Douglas

Treasurer
John Westermayer

Secretary
Pat Reece



President's Corner



By Susannah

Hello fellow dirt fishers!

Golly, it's been a tough summer of little rain. Some of you still managed to find some nice items, but I know we are all longing for the fall rains to give us some soil moisture.

Hopefully, by the time of our upcoming Mystery Hunt, October 7, we will have had some long, soaking rain showers so we can find those nice, deep objects. The hunt is one hour away in southern Illinois. Parts of this site are very trashy, so choose your equipment wisely.

By the time you read this, our 2nd annual club BBQ will have taken place. The forecast was for a beautiful day, with lots of fun games and good food, prizes galore, and neat cars. Who could ask for more? About half of our club will be there, so I can see there's going to be some fierce competition at the games!

We are still awaiting word on whether or not the Wildwood Historical Society dig will take place. We were asked to this site by someone who was not connected to the board, and the board made it known that they would have to vote on it. As of this writing, their meeting had not yet taken place. We will keep you informed.

We will be bringing part of our library to next month's meeting. This is a very under-utilized resource that the club offers. Rather than buying a lot of research books yourself, why not take a minute to look through our offerings? To see how this works, just go under the "Club Talk" section of the website to see how you can check out a book.

We have had a wonderful year of hunts, but the officers are already working on next year. Now that you've seen some of the kinds of hunts we do, let us know about those sites that you are aware of that would be fun for the club. If you have any questions, just ask any officer. And remember that after the BBQ, we start a whole new volunteer contest to win a Garrett AT Pro detector. Giving us a viable hunt site means you get four entries in the contest.

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.
Wilmore 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.
Susan Rd.

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: **Mystery Hunt.**

Nov 07: GMDC meeting

Nov 11: GMDC hunt
TBD

Dec 05: GMDC meeting

**NO HUNT IN DECEMBER
NO MTG OR HUNT IN JAN**



Monthly Meeting Notes

We had **38** members who attended the August club meeting, which was the largest group this year. Our current membership stands at **nearly 70** enthusiastic detectorists!

A big THANKS was given to everyone who has provided hunt site suggestions this year, donated time to help with the club or Community Assistance Team (CAT) activities, or donated materials.

We're glad everyone is wearing their club tee shirts on club hunts, Mystery Hunts, and CAT calls. Doing so helps to identify us and makes an impact (plus, they really help with making some great photos for the newsletter!).

Please continue to submit pictures for the Interesting Finds page on the website, and stories for the newsletter. If you research an item, feel free to submit your research findings and a photo for our new "Researched Treasures" section in the newsletter!

We also need volunteers for the "In the Loupe" section where you can introduce yourself to the other club members, provide a little background information about how you got into detecting, pictures of favorite finds, other hobbies you're interested in, etc. Please contact us, or we'll contact you... 😊

In appreciation of our Kirksville hunt, we sent our hosts a \$50 Amazon gift card in recognition of their efforts in supporting our hunt.

Attendance prizes: Tony Sanders – 1937 Buffalo nickel, John Quinn – 1942 Washington quarter, Rick Gaut – 1942 Mercury dime.

50/50: Larry Von Behren – \$47.00.



*Look for details
and pictures in the
October newsletter.*

IN THE LOUPE...

by Julie Wheatley

Hello my name is Julie and I enjoy finding treasures of all kinds, whether they're found rock hunting along a river bank, hiking a trail, or out walking the dog.



My start in metal detecting was sparked when I found a class ring while on a float trip three hours from home. Incidentally, I didn't have a metal detector at the time. I was hunting for rocks

when I noticed a shiny, beautiful ring. I picked it up and noticed it was a 2016 class ring from a high school near my home!

The hunt was on finding the owner who, I'm sure, was distraught in losing such a personal treasure. So with care I wrapped it up and put it in a safe place until I could start the search when I returned home.

I began by calling the high school. Unfortunately, they were not a lot of help. Like a good treasure hunter, I kept my hopes up and pressed on. Luckily, someone at the school where I work knew someone at the school district who put me on the right track.

With some effort and luck I was able to get the owner's name and phone number! A quick phone call brought some much needed relief to a very happy and stunned owner. She was generous in offering a reward, which I declined; my satisfaction came in seeing her joy and the hunt of finding her.

As it turns out, a friend at work enjoys metal detecting and hunting for treasure, too. Through his experience, he was able to suggest many different brands of detectors and websites for further information. With that, I got the bug and bought my first metal detector. I purchased a Garret Ace package

that included the detector, pin pointer, and digger, along with several other items.

My coworker friend also invited me to a metal detecting club meeting. I was instantly hooked and joined the club. Since October 2016, I have only missed one meeting. Otherwise, I'm out there on the club hunts or at the meetings, and enjoying every minute of it.

It's great to be part of such a diverse group of people that enjoy the same thing. Everyone is so helpful and friendly. I've learned a ton over the past year and always have fun. For me metal detecting is a lot like fishing...it takes perseverance and patience, but sooner or later you are going to hook a lunker!

ANOTHER C.A.T SUCCESS STORY!

Club member Jack Kountz made a resident at Innsbrook Resort very happy when he was able to locate her diamond wedding band that had been

lost in one of the resort's lakes. Jack found the ring in about 20 minutes, off the beach in about three feet of water using a Minelab underwater detector. Jack thinks she was shocked that he found it, but this isn't the first time he's had success there...he found another ring there for another woman about 10 years ago!



Innsbrook is a private community where you have to have written or verbal permission to hunt the lakes there. Jack gave Carolyn our club card, which she said she would pass on to the committee.



ELECTROMAGNETISM

(oh my)

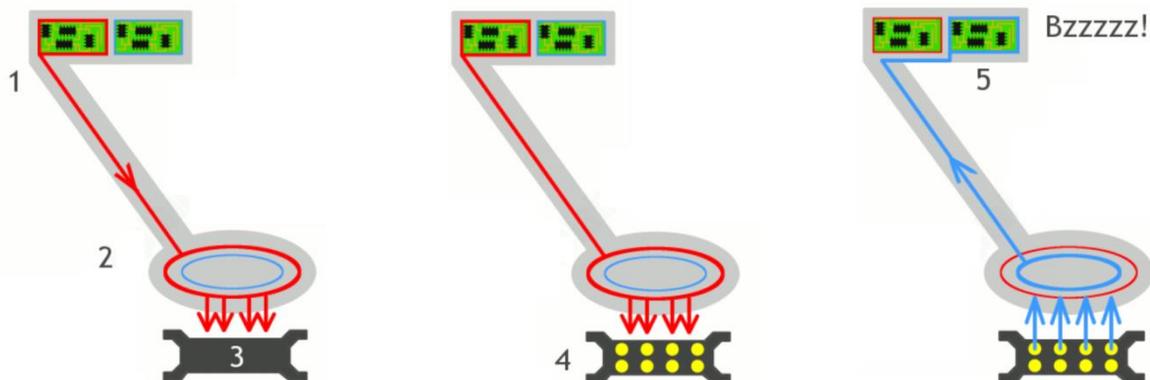
Bleep bleep! Bleep bleep! Who doesn't love that sound, but do you really know how your metal detector works? The short answer is electromagnetism. Whenever there's a changing electrical field, there's a changing magnetic field...and vice versa. The simplest metal detectors contain two wires in their search coils; a **transmitter coil** and a **receiver coil**. When electricity (supplied by batteries) flows through the transmitter coil, a

magnetic field is created all around it. As you sweep the detector over the ground, you make the magnetic field move, too. If you move the detector over a metal object, the moving magnetic field affects the atoms inside the metal, and changes the way the electrons (tiny particles "orbiting" around these atoms) move.

As electricity moves over a piece of metal, it creates a magnetic field around the metal. It's this second magnetic field that the detector picks up in the second coil of wire. This receiver coil is connected to a circuit that transmits sound. The closer you move the transmitter coil to the piece of metal, the stronger the magnetic field the transmitter coil creates in it. The stronger the magnetic field the metal creates in the receiver coil, the more current that flows in the loudspeaker, and the louder the sound.

Here's a diagram of the process, and why it's important to keep your detector moving:

1. A battery in the top of the metal detector activates the transmitter circuit (red) that passes electricity down through a cable in the handle to the transmitter coil (red) at the bottom.
2. When electricity flows through the transmitter coil, it creates a magnetic field all around it.
3. If you sweep the detector above a metal object (such as this gray object), the magnetic field penetrates right through it.
4. The magnetic field makes an electric current flow inside the metal object.
5. This flowing electric current creates another magnetic field all around the object. The magnetic field cuts through the receiver coil (blue) moving about and above it. The magnetic field makes electricity flow around the receiver coil and up into the receiver circuit (blue) at the top, making a loudspeaker buzz and alerting you that you've found something.



Source: <http://www.explainthatstuff.com/metaldetectors.html>

FINDS OF THE MONTH

Oldest Coin



Pat R.: 1962 D Rosie Dime
Prize: 1889-1905 Indian Head Pennies

Most Valuable Coin



John Q.: 1944 Washington Quarter
Prize: 1926 Buffalo Nickel

Oddest Artifact



Eric H.: 1893-1942 Post Office Button
Prize: Sterling silver sombrero pin

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. **Finds must be from the 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**.

THAT “FIRST SILVER” SMILE!

We all have our bucket lists of what we’d like to find, and it usually takes a while for even the most dedicated and accomplished detectorists to mark things off those lists ...even for Bill Siebel!

Although Bill has had some great finds in the past, this summer he finally found that first silver coin that was eluding him. He is now the proud owner of a 1960 Rosie dime, and on to another item on his list.



August Mystery Hunt!

32 club members attended our first out-of-town Mystery Hunt! While the unmarked Civil War battle site proved somewhat elusive with the detection of only a few era finds, we still had a wonderful day in the sunshine and shared camaraderie. It was also great to see the “cooperative” detecting approach, with people calling or texting each other with updates!

Our hosts had determined three areas on their property which they thought might be our best options. Then throughout the day, they shuttled us to and fro on their four-wheelers and truck, and opened their hunting lodge for our use. With many hundreds of acres, the owners were very gracious in giving us their time and help. We thank them sincerely!



Top: Club members parked at one of the designated hunt sites.

Left middle: A group of the club members getting ready for the day.

Left bottom: Matt Huntman scores big with a dropped and squashed three-ringer!

Right middle: John Quinn and Susannah K. deciding if a very dry spot was too hard to dig.

Right bottom: One of our hosts and club members discussing strategy.



Top: Kirk and Suzanne Gaut taking turns investigating their targets.
Left middle: Jim Hammond's pistol ball was a great find!
Left bottom: Rob Willett is ready for any and all relics.
Bottom middle: John Quinn was lucky enough to locate a dropped three-ringer in great condition.
Right middle: John Westermayer on the move to greener pastures.
Right bottom: Tom Rother found a horn weight and other farming equipment.

Gateway MD Club

222 Worth Road
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CLASSIFIEDS

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

detectinghistory@yahoo.com

**Club tee shirts are available
for \$15.00 in L, XL, and XXL
sizes. Patches can be purchased
for \$2.00. See a club officer.**

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

