



The Prober

Newsletter of The Michigan Treasure Hunters Club

Volume XXX • Issue 8

September 2003

MTH Website: <http://home.att.net/~ross.soderberg/index.html>

MEMBER OF THE FMDAC

Privy Digger to Speak at September's Club Meeting

By Riley Saylor

Treasure hunting can mean different things to different people. MTH members think of treasure hunting as metal detecting for gold and silver, or relics from the past that have been lost in the ground. Some people may think treasure hunting is what valuables you can

find at a flea market or estate sale. Others may search for sunken treasures in the ocean.

Our speaker for September, Scott Colf, finds his treasure digging old outhouses or privies. While the thought of digging up an outhouse may sound repulsive, many treasures from the past can be excavated there. Old bottles, chinaware, coins, porcelain dolls and other relics from the past can be found. Scott recently found a bottle valued at \$7,000 and indicated he will display it at the meeting.

Scott Colf has a great deal of experience privy digging and has kindly agreed to share some of his knowledge at our meeting. He has a website displaying some of his finds at privymaster.org. Check it out. If you've ever wondered about finding treasure in old outhouses, this meeting is for you. So come and enjoy a very informative evening with Privy Master Scott Colf.



Our Fish Bowl Hunt will take place on Sunday, October 5th, at Rotary Park located on Six Mile Road, between Farmington and Merriman roads, in Livonia.

The Club will provide hot dogs and some great prizes. You've paid your money to the Fish Bowl all year, so come out and recover it at this exciting hunt.

The hunt will begin at 1:00 p.m. Arrive at noon to check out your equipment and prepare yourself for a treat that can't be beat.

If you have any prizes that you would like to donate, please bring them to the September meeting or with you to the hunt.

The field preparation will begin at 11:00 a.m. and anyone that would like to help plant coins is invited.

Tom Sniezek and Fred Klemm are huntmasters for this event.



The September Token Hunt will be another east-side event. It will be held on Saturday, September 20th at 2:00 p.m. The hunt will be at the following location:

On your _____, get set go!

East is east and west is west and never the _____ shall meet.

"It's _____

_____, my dear Watson."

_____ days,

dear old golden rule days.

More specifically, the location is 30601 Calahan, Roseville, south of 13 Mile Road, between Hayes Road and Groesbeck Highway.

Any questions, call Norm Kerr at 586-771-6439.

Detector Raffle
to be held at
September 23rd
Club Meeting

Here's the totals thus far from the Fish Bowl collections:	
July 200322.82
August 200323.71
Total\$259.51

“Message from the President . . . FRED KLEMM”

Wow! It's been an exciting month since our last Prober. First of all, we had a great auction at our August meeting, led by Mr. Sells-A-Lot (Bill Whitman). We didn't have quite as many items as I remember from past years, but it seemed to me that we had some better quality items and some real bargains for the successful bidders.

Then, many of our members were at the various metro parks around the area as they opened to detectorists the day after Labor Day. I didn't get any gold rings this year, but did manage two silver rings and a gold ankle bracelet. I did see a few gold rings from some of the members, however.

Finally, the Milan Fall Hunt was held on September 6th. What a successful hunt it was. We had 90 people detecting and a number of folks who just came along to watch the events and enjoy the day. The weather was perfect and everyone really seemed to have a good time. This is the first time in a few years that I have made it to the Fall Hunt, and I had not been involved in all the work that goes on behind the

scenes before. I was amazed at how organized and orderly everything ran, thanks to many of our members who have done this event for so many years that it has become second nature to them. The planting of the coins and tokens, organizing the prizes, registration, selling raffle tickets, the children's hunt, etc., were all performed with the efficiency of a well-oiled machine. Congratulations to all those folks who put in such an effort to make this hunt a success. I would like to name them all, but I am sure I will miss somebody.

Now, about the fact that I didn't find even one token at the hunt ... well, I'll save that for some other time.

See you at the meeting.

Upcoming Events ...

September Token Hunt
Saturday, September 20th
2:00 p.m.

Club Meeting
Tuesday, September 23rd
7:30 p.m.

Fish Bowl Hunt
Sunday, October 5th
Rotary Park - Livonia
1:00 p.m.



Autumn Weekend
October 10th-12th

Club Meeting
Tuesday, October 28th
7:30 p.m.

Club Meeting
Tuesday, November 25th
Holiday Party - 7:30 p.m.

No Club Meeting in
December

Autumn Weekend
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
October 10, 11 and 12, 2003
Cost: \$75.00 per person

The park is approximately 80 plus years old. The agenda will be very similar to the other hunts that Larry and Sharon Prested have organized in the past. Both land and water hunting are allowed.

This is an adult, members-only weekend.

As in the past, there will be no meals or hunting allowed on Friday, October 10th. As always, no alcohol is permitted.

Space is limited to have 40 people go on this outing. Get your application in early. The deadline for applications is Saturday, October 4th.

Make checks payable to MTH and indicate Autumn Weekend. Send to: Barbara Whitman, 29135 King Road, Huron Township, MI 48174. If you have any questions, please call Larry Prested at 810-744-0471.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone Number: _____

Member No. _____ No. Attending _____

Amount Paid _____

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Congratulations to the winners of the FIND OF THE MONTH for AUGUST.

MILITARY

- 1st** Jim Abercrombie
Civil War Era Michigan Infantry Button
- 2nd** Tim Standish
Musket Bullet

JEWELRY

- 1st** Fred Klemm
.95 Carat Diamond Platinum Ring
- 2nd** Rick Cleveland
14K Gold Rope Bracelet
- 3rd** John Jaynes
Gold Friendship Ring

Other Entries:

- Ernie Herring10K Clown Ring
Tim StandishSilver Horseshoe Ring
Mark BrantonSterling Necklace
Ross SoderbergCopper Ring
Ann LaChanceTimex Watch
Nate LarsonGold Medal in Copper Box
Cathy SoderbergSilver & Gold Scrolled Ring
Sharon StandishSnake Ring
Jim AbercrombieVictorian Garnet Ring

Refreshments for September Meeting

Dianna Kerr
Roger Scott

TOKEN

- 1st** Pat Saylor
1868 U.S. Grant Campaign Token
- 2nd** Mark Pietka
Canadian Half Penny Bank Token
- 3rd** Bob Chomontowski
Statue of Liberty Centennial Token

Other Entries:

- Jim AbercrombieLights Golden Jubill Thomas Edison

Mystery Find of the Month Drawing

By Riley Saylor

This year the MTH board of directors decided to add a little extra to the Find of the Month contest. In addition to winners receiving ribbons and plaques for their entries, we decided to add a new twist.

Not everyone is going to find a "find of finds" that is going to win a ribbon or a plaque in the Find of the Month contest. So, they won't even enter it. To encourage you to display your treasure, no matter how insignificant you think it is, we started a Mystery Find of the Month Drawing.

One hundred items covering all the categories of the Find of the Month were put on poker chips. These items go from some of the simplest things found from each category; for example, a wheat cent, earring, toy car, etc., up to rarer and more valuable finds, like a civil war belt buckle.

Each month after the regular Find of the Month is completed, a poker chip will be drawn. If you have entered the item listed on the chip in the Find of the Month, you will be rewarded a silver round. So don't hesitate to display your monthly treasures. You may not win a ribbon or plaque, but you may win a silver round. Good luck!

COIN

- 1st** George Timmerman
Two Cent Piece
- 2nd** Tim Standish
Variety One Walking Liberty Half Dollar
- 3rd** Nate Larson
Ching Dynasty Chinese Coin

Other Entries:

- Virginia Chojnowski . . .1935D Mercury Dime
Sharon Standish1912 Wheat Cent
Lorraine Haas1891 Indian Head Cent
Fred Klemm1914 Barber Dime
Sara JonesLooney Dollar
Waylon1874 Indian Head Cent
Jim Abercrombie1915D Buffalo Nickel
Pat Saylor1937 Walking Liberty Half Dollar
Bob Chomontowski . . .5 Rand - South African Coin
No Name1942 Walking Liberty Half Dollar
Don Hornaoff1944 Centavos Coin
Mark Branton1881 Indian Head Cent
Larry Ciarrocchi1950 Dime

RELIC

- 1st** Primo Veggian
French Family Crest
- 2nd** Tom Sniezek
Model T Hub Cap
- 3rd** Tim Standish
1875-1888 Toledo Bottle Works Bottle

Other Entries:

- No Name1993 Hot Wheels Racer
WaylonKey Chain
Dan AlliOld Horseshoe
Virginia Chojnowski . . .Weeblos Slide
Fred KlemmOld Pipe
No NameWindow Weight
Riley SaylorBarbie's Dentures

Club Meeting MINUTES

*Respectfully Submitted,
Lorraine Haas, Secretary*

The meeting was called to order by Fred Klemm at 7:35 p.m with 76 people in attendance. He introduced the officers and board members. Two guests were present. Building rules and raffles were explained. A \$5 gold piece would be raffled at this meeting. The Club library was not open and new Club merchandise was available for sale. Name tags can be ordered for any member.

Barbara Whitman gave the treasurer's report.

Tom Sniezek passed around the Fish Bowl for donations.

The August token Hunt was put on by Virginia Chojnowski and she received her gold coin. She reported that it was held at an elementary school and the token was found by Norm Kerr.

The Ladies' Hunt was held and Riley Saylor gave a report on the outcome. A nice hunt was enjoyed by 12 participants and approximately 200 targets, along with prizes, were hunted.

The hunt that is coming up will be the Milan Fall Hunt. Larry Prested gave a report. There will be one more committee meeting to be held next week. Bonnie Klisz had a display of jewelry for the Diamonds Are Forever Hunt held at the Fall Hunt.

Riley Saylor held the final Coin Cache Hunt on Sunday, August 24, 2003. John Jaynes found the cache of coins within a short time. He was then presented a gold coin and thanked Riley for arranging this type of hunt.

Be aware that nominations will be taken in the upcoming months. The

Club could benefit from a good participation.

FMDAC raffles tickets continued to be sold.

There was a large display case outside the building to be included in the auction.

A privy digger will be the guest speaker at the September meeting.

There was a sign up sheet for next month's refreshments.

Barbara Whitman took applications during the break for the Milan Fall Hunt and Autumn Weekend.

Larry Prested gave details about the Autumn Weekend. Space is limited so be sure to register early. Several questions were answered.

Ray Koski spoke about the Milan Fall Hunt. He told how profitable it is to hunt with all the prizes and coins.

A break for refreshments was held from 8:05 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

The annual auction was then held with Bill Whitman as the auctioneer. He asked all those who could participate to do so.

There were also free items available from the church.

Find of the Month awards were presented by Larry Prested.

The 50/50 Drawing was won by Marie Hornaoff and Larry Ciarrocchi. The Silver Drawing was won by Joni Rundell, Robert Ponchart, Dave Picard and Erin Biscup. No one won the Mystery Find of the Month Drawing. The Membership Draw was won by Earl Hansen. The Gold Coin Raffle was won by Marvin Johnicki.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

The next board meeting is to be held on Wednesday, August 27, 2003, at 7:30 p.m.

at the
BOARD MEETING ...
Respectfully Submitted,
Lorraine Haas, Secretary

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, August 27, 2003, at 7:40 p.m.

Clarence Herberholz and Ken Brown were absent.

Topics discussed:

- Treasurer's Report
- Committee and Job Assignments
- Coin Status
- Milan Fall Hunt
- Speaker for September Meeting
- Detector Raffle for September
- Fish Bowl Hunt— October 5th
- Nominations at Upcoming Meetings
- Autumn Weekend – October 10th-13th
- Agenda for October Meeting
- November Meeting – Holiday Party
- January Meeting – Potluck – at Faith Lutheran Church
- Deadlines for Newsletter

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

The next Club meeting will be on Tuesday, September 23, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.

Michigan Treasure Hunters

2003 OFFICERS

President Fred Klemm
 Vice President Ken Brown
 Secretary Lorraine Haas
 Treasurer Barbara Whitman

Board of Directors

Clarence Herberholz, Chairman
 Larry Ciarrocchi Tom Sniezek
 Riley Saylor Tim Standish

Next Club Meeting – Tuesday, September 23, 2003 - 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$18.00 PER YEAR WITH AN INITIATION FEE OF \$5.00
MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES ALL CLUB FUNCTIONS, MEETINGS AND A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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The M.T.H. Club meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
The meeting is held at:

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SEPTEMBER 2003

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Our Deepest Sympathy

The Club would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Club member Fred Christensen. Fred's wife, Joan, passed away in early September. We would like to remember her for all that she contributed to the Club. She will be sadly missed.



Support Your Club

Visit our merchandise table. We have some new T-shirts in different colors and some have pockets.

Welcome New Members
Rob and Sharon Jenkins

If you have any articles to submit for the The Prober, please contact Lorraine Haas at 248-437-9915 by the first of the month.

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