

The Scoop News  
3017 East E Ave  
Parchment, MI 49004



# The Scoop September 2014

## Southwest Michigan Seek and Search Club

**When:** The third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

**Who:** Meetings are open to the public.

**Where:** Plainwell Community Center  
798 East Bridge St., Plainwell, MI

**How:** From U.S. 131, take exit 49A and go east on M-89. Go through three traffic lights, then another 1/8 mile. Turn right into the drive just before the second set of railroad tracks. The building is near the road on the south side of M-89. Parking is in the rear of the building. Enter on the west side.

# August Finds of the Month

## Jewelry



1. Earring...John M
  2. Designer "Monet" Earring...Mike W
  3. Catholic Pendant...Ron S.
  4. .925 Lady's Band 1917...Hal D
  5. 14k Gold Ring 1912...Mark C
  6. 1922 Richfield Hs Classring 10k...Rick B
  7. 14k Gold Ring W/11 Diamonds...Ace C
- Winner #4...Hal D**

## Coin



1. 1906 Barber Dime...Tom
  2. Uganda 500 Shilling... Lynn W
  3. 1856 Large Cent...Hal D
  4. 2 Eisenhower Dollars...Mark C
  5. 1803 Large Cent...Mike W
  6. 1829 Large Cent...Ron M
  7. 1943 Canadian 5c Piece...John M
  8. 1940 Wheat Penny...Ed K
  9. 1945p War Nickel...Ace C
  10. 1936 Buffalo Nickel...Rick B
- Winner #5...Mike W**



### **Our best finds of the day.**

*These are the recent water finds from 3 outings at 3 state parks in Michigan. Some of the broken glass was visible and some was "scooped". Best finds of the day? Yes! Could have been our grandchildren or even your grandchildren who were the "finders" Beware! Please wear your water shoes when in the water.*

## FOB Badge & Token



1. Michigan School Band & Orchestra Badge...John M
  2. Shell President Token, Benjamin Harrison...Mike W
  3. Good for 5c At The Bar, Maverick Token...Mark C
  4. Red Ryder Lucky Coin 1940's Bonus...Dave D
  5. #5 Mich. Millers Mutual Ins. Co. Pin 10k 2.9 Gr...Rick B
  6. Handmade Tag "W Dempsey Athens, Mich."...Chris A
  7. The Burdick Hotel Fob & Key ...Tom H
- Winner #7...Tom H**

## Most Unusual



1. Mr. Magoos' Glasses...John M
  2. 1960's Tootsie Toy Jaguar...Ron M
  3. Lure From G.M. Skinner, Clayton NY 1874's... B
  4. Keys....Ace C
  5. Ornate Victorian Buckle...Mike W
  6. Very Small Toy Cap Gun...Neil K
  7. Old Brass "Bullet Pencil"...Steve J
  8. Late 1880's Illinois Steel Co. Button...John D
  9. Country/Western Belt Buckle ...Anne K
  10. Iron Ore Chunk "Iroquois Mine"...Ron
  11. Old Lock 1860-1890...Kurt N
- Winner #11...Kurt N**

September Feature Raffle

**1853'0, One dollar gold Coin!**

It will be given away at the September meeting.

August Raffle Winners

Feature Raffle  
5 OZ Silver Bar!  
Dave W

Silver Dollars (3)  
Dave W, Keith P &  
Brent S

Fish bowl  
Tracie O (absent)☹  
Tom L

50/50  
Darryl W & Dan P

# Lettered Edge Coins

- Mark Crawford

A few months back and a couple of meetings ago, our club raffled off two Bust Half Dollars. I myself was not lucky enough to take one of these home with me, but did get a good look at them. What I noticed on the coin, that many of you may have missed, was the definitive lettering around the edge of the silver half dollar.



I was shockingly surprised. I thought that only the recent Native American and Presidential Dollar Coins were the only United States coins that had this kind of procedure. I, of course was wrong.

It turns out that this treatment of coins has been around for quite some time.

Many of the coins we come across every day have smooth edges, or reeded edges. But it is not every day we find coins which have letters and words imprinted on the edge.

Presidential dollars struck from 2007 through 2008 contain the date, the coin's mint mark, the motto "E PLURIBUS UNUM", and "IN GOD WE TRUST", along with 13 stars.

While coin edge lettering may seem, to some, like a new innovation, edge lettering on U.S. coins dates back to the 1700s. In fact, some of America's earliest coin edges have lettering on them.

Early-type half dollars (like the two SWMSS raffled) which are those made in the U.S. from 1794 through 1836 — have edge lettering which contains the following words "FIFTY CENTS OR HALF A DOLLAR."

There are several design variations of the early half dollar with edge lettering:

- **Flowing Hair half dollar (1794-1795)**
- **Draped Bust half dollar with small eagle reverse (1796-1797)**
- **Draped Bust half dollar with heraldic eagle reverse (1801-1807)**
- **Capped Bust half dollar (1807-1836)**

The early silver dollar is another coin that contains edge lettering. Silver dollars minted during the years 1794-1804 contain the following inscription on the coin's edge "HUNDRED CENTS ON DOLLAR OR UNIT."



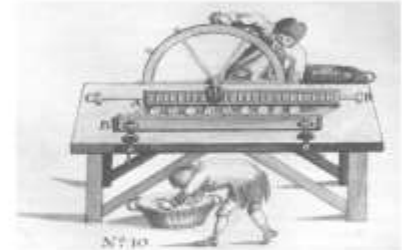
The 1793 Liberty Cap half cent features a lettered edge stating TWO HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR.

How is it that the mint was able to create the lettered edge coins

without today's technology. This was what I set out to find.

Information on edge coin minting is limited. However, what I did find surprised me.

Below is artwork from the 1800's showing how this process worked. Using rolling mills (not to be confused with the diderotrimming machine which would imprint the obverse and reverse of the coin) workers would load coins on edge in one end, and hand crank a large



wheel with the appropriate inscription die loaded. As coins would make their way through the mill each coin would be inscribed and then fall out the opposite end into a basket. Given this information, and the amount of coins produced (750,000-6.5 million) per year, Think of the hours of hard manual labor to produce these kinds of numbers. Many machines were put into production all using different dies which is why there is a large variety of these type of coins. Of course, in later years the steam engine vastly increased production time and consistency.

Look us up on the web!  
[www.swmss.org](http://www.swmss.org)

# Coming Events & Announcements

## **SWMSS Club Fellowship**

### **Pig Roast**

Saturday, October 25th  
Country Christian Church  
9286 S 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Scotts, MI

Our Club will provide table service,  
coffee, lemonade and pig.  
Rain or Shine-Indoor & Outdoor Event  
Playground available for the kids  
Starting at 4pm, Eat at 5pm  
Bring a dish to pass  
Come join in for a time of fellowship  
(detector free)  
Coin Drawings (free-all give away)  
Please no alcohol

### **Hats and Shirts**

Last chance to order and purchase hats,  
shirts with the club logo. See Mike  
Walker at the September meeting.

### **Regarding the new rule about having someone else enter your find in the New Find of the Month.**

As Mike talked about at the August  
meeting, you must be present to enter  
your find in the FOTM. No one else can  
enter your find for you.

If you entered an item earlier this year  
and someone else entered it for you and  
you want to enter the same item in the  
Find of the Year (in January), you must  
be present to enter your find.

## **Announcements**

We have our **own library!** The  
books are available for you  
during the break.

Take a look, we have a really  
good selection. Reminder, if  
you borrowed a book from the  
library please return this month,  
so others can use it.

### **Kids 12 & Under**

Kids will receive a treasure  
chest when they attend their 1<sup>st</sup>  
club meeting.

Each meeting thereafter, they  
can draw a prize to add to the  
treasure chest.

Keep bringing in your  
collections of detected finds to  
share at the club meetings.  
There were about 12 cases on  
display last meeting! I noticed a  
lot of people looking.

Others are interested in what  
you have found and you may  
have some pointers to help  
them improve their skills in  
metal detecting, too. And  
everyone who shares their finds,  
knowledge and  
encouragement😊

The newsletter is sent to all  
members. If you are interested  
in **becoming a member**, dues  
are \$25 per calendar year, per  
individual or per family. See

John W. or Leslie B.

The newsletter team; Linda S,  
Mark C, Anne K and Leslie B.

## **Next Meeting**

**September 16, 7p.m.**

**Fall Seeded Hunt**

**September 19, 20 & 21**  
(Friday, Saturday & Sunday)

Calhoun County

Fairgrounds

Marshall, Mi

**Saturday, Sept 20**

Fellowship Hunt at the

fairgrounds & Potluck

Dinner

**Sunday, Sept 21**

Breakfast 8:30 am

Sunday Service 9 AM

11:00 Kids Hunt

(\$5 for each child, 12 yrs.  
and under)

12:00 Pot Luck Dinner

1:30 Adult hunt A

3:00 Adult hunt B

(\$40 per adult for both A &  
B hunts or \$25 for hunt B  
only) Right after last hunt,

we will draw for door prizes.

There will be silver dollar  
raffle tickets available for  
purchase too.

Overnight camping is \$18  
per night.

If you plan to take part in  
the seeded hunt you need  
to preregister & pay hunt  
fees before the end of the  
next meeting. If you don't  
want to take part in the  
seeded hunt please come  
and join in on the  
fellowship, pot luck and the  
other activities

*If you would like to donate  
prizes, please bring to the  
September meeting or the  
day of the seeded hunts.*

*Look us up on the web!*

*www.swmss.org*



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