The Scoop News
1161 Hillview Dr.
Hastings, MI 49058



The Scoop

November 2026 - Edition

Southwest Michigan Seek and Search Club

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

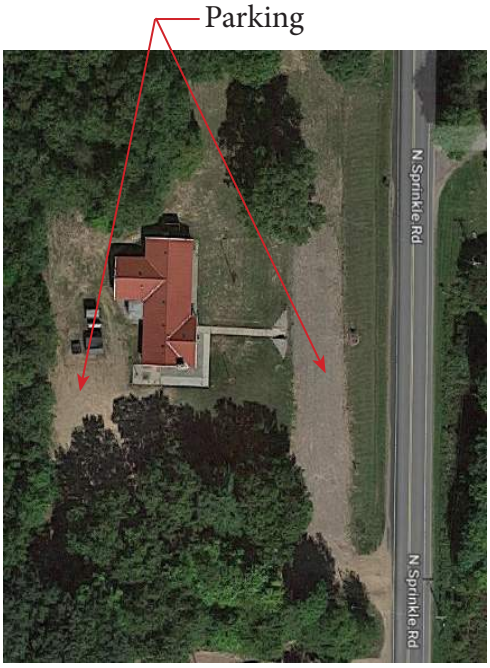
Who: Meetings are open to the public

Where: 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).



October 2026 - Finds of the Month

Jewelry



Entries:
1. Sterling Silver Bracelet – Keith P.
2. Men's 10k Gold Ring with Smokey Quartz Stone – Tom H.

WINNER...#1, Keith P.

Coin



Entries:
1. 1887 and 1892 IHC's both found in one hole - Keith P.
2. 1897 Barber Quarter – Tom H.
3. 1942 Wheat Cent – Mike W.
4. 1852 Three Cent Silver Piece – "Trime" – Brian T.
5. 1953-D Wheat Penny – John M.

WINNER...#4, Brian T.

F. B. & T



Entries:
1. Pallet tag found in "Tot lot", came off chipped up pallet – John M.

WINNER...#1, John M.

Most Unusual



Entries:
1. Part of Old Suspender Buckle – Keith P.
2. Later 1800's Brass Railroad Ticket Punch - Brian T.
3. Replica of SWMSS board member's personal jet, Matchbox – Mike W.
4. Old Axe Head – Michigan Axe Style – Sue P.

Winner: #2, Brian T.

FOM notes:

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

Look us up on the web
www.mytreasureclub.com

Southwest Michigan Seek & Search Club

November Meeting

- Cool old Coin (or Type Set)!!!
- Turkey give away (4 available)

December Meeting

- 100 Dollars!!!
- Turkey give away (4 available)
- Don't forget to bring food if possible for an expanded Christmas snack break :)
- Christmas gift!!!



Club Notes

With the beginning of daylight savings time (Sunday, November 1st) this year, the Miscellaneous category begins again.

The November 17th meeting will be the first you may enter in this Miscellaneous category, remember:

- This is a non-metal detecting category, items can be metal but do not have to be metal and can not be found with a detector. Must be found/purchased/given to you since last meeting.
- This category is during the winter months only.

We will be discussing the possibility to open this category up to a year round category for FOM at our next meeting. More to come!!!

***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 (must be legally married), 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 one full month's membship.**

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 have 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**

Reflections of a treasure hunter - coming to grips with it all

Something started to settle into my brain on the trip to my 54th revolution around our sun last week. My birthday being November 6th makes me a bit of an unfortunate soul on the even years. Every 4 years my birthday is right around a presidential election, many years the day of. Then I also get to celebrate midterms between. So much imbalance today.

This is not going to be political so please nobody check out. The relevance to this story is there is a lot going on at these even year integrals around my birthday so in an effort to escape an endless news cycle and constant political advertisement bombardment I find myself tuning out of it all, turning the TV or the car stereo off and listening to the silence. Unfortunately my brain generates too much noise for that and so most days I just dive deep into thought.

This year I found myself contemplating time, more so than any year previous. Time spent, time wasted, time that I might have left. So, I thought about what I will do with the time I still have left, should I be blessed with another month, another year, 10 more, 20?

Anyway, I started to think about how many years I've been at this hobby or just treasure hunting in general. Before the metal detecting bug bit me I started as an 11 year old walking back and forth in muddy often recently plowed fields looking for an arrowhead or spear point or some other Native American artifact lost maybe thousands of years earlier. Seems like my treasure hunting has always kept my head facing downward to the ground. So I've now been looking down at the ground trying to find things lost by some other soul now for 43 years! Now I realize this is probably far fewer years than a lot of members of our club, a newbie by comparison to some...but still 43 years, that is probably older than some of Al's jokes, just barely but still older (just kidding Al, I love your jokes).

Then my brain goes to what have I found? What haven't I found? The later question can become quite discouraging for some. Personally if I'd found everything already I don't think this would be fun any longer. Like Mike says, every hole is like Christmas, you never know what you are going to dig up. I think that unknown anticipation is what feeds the addiction of this hobby. Our brains push our bodies to dig just one more hole, one more target. I feel it is a healthy addiction compared to most, but everything in balance.

Still, fall comes and the drive to go swinging my machine has to work into the ever-shrinking amount of weekends which become filled with raking leaves, putting things away for the winter, deer hunting (if you are a hunter), planning family holidays and on and on. Balance. So, I find myself looking at an already heavily filled curio cabinet, Ryker cases full of finds and think, you know, I have enough "finds" enough "treasures," maybe I need to focus on looking up from the ground for a minute and forward to those folks and those obligations that should take precedence of my love of this hobby. Granted a lot of the folks I have grown to love as brothers and sisters transcend the hobby becoming family and the subjects of forward facing pursuits, of balance.

So, what are you saying Brian, get to it man! I am saying I love this hobby, but I find myself at 54 not wanting to endlessly search as much anymore. My knees right now are great; will they be in 10 more years...hard to say. I personally have come to the conclusion that I'm going to slow my roll as they say, do more for those around me, teach this hobby more, teach folks that want to know how to really research, help people figure out what they've found, what is the history of the thingy from the hole? The answers I seek should not be confined to the ground I've spent so much time staring down at. Detecting for me is less and less what F.O.M. entry I can discover and more the peace I gain out in the field swinging the machine and the conversations with good friends that join me.

I was blessed to be able to detect this last Sunday with an ex-member of our club. I had a great time, have not seen him in a year. No conversation at all about what transpired and why he's no longer with us. It was just a couple of guys enjoying the outdoors and anticipating the next find. I am looking for more of that treasure from here on out. Good luck out there friends. It is great to enjoy this hobby, to find treasures. It is also amazing to look up from the ground occasionally and remember why you love this hobby but more importantly what else matters. Just saying, it doesn't hurt. Balance.
B.T.