



DIGGERS' GAZETTE

Volume 6 Issue 3

Fall 2015

This Date In Dayton Diggers History, August 15th 2009



This was the first Dayton Diggers Group Hunt, held at the farm of Ron Fulcher. About a dozen detectorists met at Ron's place. Ron gave everyone the tour and then Steve Greene had us introduce ourselves and tell about our detecting experience.

The first good find was by Tab McBlane a 1929-S Standing Liberty quarter. Terry Everly found a Mercury dime and

Steve then made a good find an 1876-CC Seated Liberty dime! Everyone gathered to look at Steve's find and to congratulate him. Manny Carillo dug a special prize token and won some prizes donated by Mike Haer and Steve Greene. Doug Schilling dug a special token that enabled him to a hunt at Steve's special honey hole site!

The weather was quite hot and so everyone was ready for a break, Ron fired up the grill and hamburgers and brats and cold drinks seemed to refresh everyone. We split up into two groups one group went with Tony Mantia to an old schoolhouse site he had permission on and the other group



hoped to get to go to another old farmhouse site, but that was not possible. Tony's group returned with no really good finds but a lot of trash! Most everyone then headed for home but Terry Everly, Steve and Ron.

Since it was cooler they decided to go to an alfalfa field that had just been cut and there is where the oldest coins were hiding. Terry Everly made the prize find when he found a four reales Spanish silver! Steve found an 1825 large cent! This hunt was the first of a Dayton Diggers tradition of group hunts and it all started August 15th 2009.

Upcoming Events

November 17, 2015 (Tuesday)

6:00 – 8:00 PM (NEW TIME)

Regular Meeting

Treasure Hunter Supply

1600 East State Route 73 Waynesville, Ohio 45068

December 15, 2015 (Tuesday)

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Treasure Hunter Supply

1600 East State Route 73 Waynesville, Ohio 45068

January 19, 2015 (Tuesday)

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Treasure Hunter Supply

1600 East State Route 73 Waynesville, Ohio 45068

President's Message

An Adventure

An exciting or dangerous experience, I have read several different accounts as to why people metal detect. And to me personally this is one of the aspects MDing. Yes I am sure there are some of us out there if we would admit it see ourselves. In our minds eye as an Indiana Jones or a Laura Croft or yet an Allen Quartermain, Mel Fisher, just to name a few among many. As we research an area and then finally grab our gear and head out the door. Little do we realize that the adventure could lead to comedy or answer the call of tragedy.

Comedy you say? Yes on not so long ago to distant foray with the Club I am reminded of a certain instance involving a Club member (who shall remain anonymous) who loved using their GPS. Well my party and I had arrived earlier in the day and had already scouted out where the area was and the best way to get there, and had passed on said info to the others when they arrived. When it was time to embark on our adventure, said Club member decided to go on his own using his GPS. Well needless to say our paths crossed we going one way and he with other cars in tow went another, and my passenger and I quizzically looking at each other and going "HUH". Well we found out later that he had taken his group on a tour of the local land fill. Tragedy you say? Yes early on in the Clubs history one our members was called on to see if they were able to retrieve a lost wedding ring. One of the Warren County Deputy Sheriff's was killed while answering a call to apprehend a possible criminal. In the ensuing aftermath the Deputy had lost his wedding ring and it was imperative to seek its return to the wife of the fallen Deputy. I am sure each of you could relate some story of your own. But what comes to me is that each time we go to practice our Hobby we never know what may happen or what we are called to do. So, as a Club and I hope as a family that we can work together to have some fun and also be able to bring comfort to those in need.

Roger Snell



Member Finds: A nice point found by Mark Ferguson on August 15, 2015.



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From the Editor

The newsletter is back and is in full swing, just in time before the fall hunt. I would like to encourage all members to participate in the newsletter, remember it is your newsletter. Share your stories, pictures and finds with all club members. You can email your articles to Daytondiggers@gmail.com and Hipo65@roadrunner.com. I would be delighted to publish them. The next newsletter will be December 30, 2015. Deadline for submission is December 15, 2015.

The Dayton Digger's Gazette is a quarterly publication for and by the members of the Dayton Diggers. We are a locally based organization specializing in historical research and recovery in and around Dayton, Ohio. The Dayton Diggers' Gazette is the property of and copyrighted by the Dayton Diggers. All request for reprint must be accompanied by the written permission of the author and approval by the Editor of the Dayton Digger's Gazette © 2015. Volume 6 Issue 3 Fall 2015.

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Elayne Snell
Nick Arnold

Hard Winter Happy Hunting

by Jared Shank

The harsh and cold winter we all experienced this year may actually help our hobby and your “hunted out” locations. There were many subzero days in the Miami Valley this year from cold weather systems and the Polar Vortex. In the previous few years the temperature hasn’t gotten quite so cold, so little ground effects have been noticed. However, this year’s heavy freezing lead to local news mentions of frost quakes and frost heaving. Frost quakes occur when the ground becomes frozen and splits from the expansion of freezing water. Frost heaving occurs when frozen water and earth actually push ground up very similar to a mole hole. Why is this important? These types of events and regular ground freezing can shift the ground dramatically even up to 1 foot according to some records in Canada. On average, it is to a lesser extent, somewhere in the 2-4 inch category. This means that the ground and all of its contents (the stuff we hunt for) has probably been shifted over the past few months. That coin that might have been on its rim and only gave a quick, faint signal might now be completely flat and have a really strong signal.

To test this theory, I returned recently to a 1900s house I have “hunted out”. Total yard size is around 1.5 acres. When I say “hunted out” at this location I mean I’ve been there around 15 times and easily over 40 hours. This house has yielded a ridiculous amount of coins and relics. Something like 9 silvers and almost 150 wheats and a handful of modern clad. I have dug so many iffy signals that there were not many more to dig. There is one particular spot (15ft x 4ft) behind the house that was probably a dump area because it is full of iron signals and broken china, pottery, etc. I have gone over this area many times in two-tone ferrous mode and found numerous coins and relics. I even went over it as recently as last November with no new finds. However, after all the freezing temperatures I decided to return. As soon as my coil touched the ground I was getting high pitched tones amongst the iron signals. I started finding wheats and 22 shell casings and other brass/copper items. I soon got a deep signal that rang up like a wheat penny, and rang up strong. I dug about a six inch plug (depth of the digger) and the object was still deeper. I carefully located the object with my pin pointer and dug deeper around it. At approximately 8 inches from the surface out popped a round silver object. It was crusted with dirt so I couldn’t see much detail, but thought I had found a nice aluminum token. Upon washing some of the dirt off I started to see the reverse eagle and a face on the obverse. It was a 1904 Barber Quarter! I was thrilled. I slowly started expanding my search beyond this trashy area to other sections I have hunted. Soon I had another strong signal. It actually made me think I might have a silver war nickel.

I carefully dug the plug and I saw a brass key. It was a really nice brass double clock key. I was thrilled because I have not found a clock key in my detecting career, only some old house keys.

My finds for the day totaled: a silver plated spoon and butter knife, prudential life insurance thimble, a couple buttons, a cuff link, old small buckle, 22 shell casings, a brass double clock key, 4 wheats, a barber quarter, and 16 cents in modern clad.

So, I challenge you to go out to a “hunted out” location that has been good to you in the past and see if the winter that gave you cabin fever might also give you some new history to uncover!

Metal Detecting And Time Travel

by Tony Mantia

A definition of time traveling is: Time travel is the concept of moving between different points in time in a manner analogous to moving between different points in space, either sending objects (or in some cases just information) backwards in time to some moment before the present, or sending objects forward from the present to the future without the need to experience the intervening period (at least not at the normal rate).

So how does time travel pertain to metal detecting? If we think of the article or coin that we dig up as having been forwarded to us from years and in some cases centuries ago to be presented to us today giving us a glimpse into the past. If we find a coin on an old home site and by research we determine who was living there at the time period it is almost as though they by “losing it” were sending it forward in time. Sometimes an artifact can be directly attributed to an owner; other times only by a logical assumption we can place it into the hands of a specific person. Quite often a find sparks us to do research on a person or place; tokens are a prime example of this. We seek to identify the owner or establishment that issued it and in some cases we can trace it to a living family member. Occasionally even commonly accepted historical “facts” can be corrected by our finds, as though the past was sending a message to us saying “you got it wrong”. Haven’t we all when finding something of particular interest wondered how it came to be there? We imagine the item being in some one’s hand or pocket a century ago. How did it come to be lost, who was it that held this item in their hand, did they miss it and searched in vain for it? We most likely will never know but that does not stop the wonder of our thoughts. Metal detecting and time travel...yes I see a connection, do you?

Secretary's Report

July 21, 2015

Jared called the meeting to order, Nancy read the Treasurer's report stating the dollar amount the club had on hand. Tony read the Secretary's Report and both reports were accepted as read.

The major topic of discussion was about key dates and the rarity of coins that we find. Tony led the discussion and valuable input came from several members about the value of coins. A major point of interest was on how the values are determined. There were several questions from the floor that were answered about this topic. Members who brought in examples passed them around for everyone to examine.

Jared made an announcement due to changing things in his life he will be stepping down from his office. Further information on this to come and a special election will be held if it is necessary.

The officers will meet and confirm the requirements of the bylaws. The fall hunt was discussed and it was announced that a date will be set by the next meeting.

FOTM Results

Best Coin

1st Place	Tony Mantia	1914 Barber dime
2nd Place	Steve Blair	1866 Two cent piece

Best Other

1st Place	Nancy Howard	Tungsten Ring
2nd Place	Mike Saunders	Statue of Liberty Token



Member Finds: 1872 Indian head cent, a semi-key date, found April 6, 2015 by Tony Mantia.



Secretary's Report

August 18, 2015

Jared called the meeting to order, Tony read the minutes of the last meeting and gave a total of cash on hand in Nancy's absence. Both reports were accepted as read.

The first order of business was the announcement of appointments made by the board in accordance with the bylaws. Jared was stepping down from the Chairman position due to changes in job and family situation. Roger Snell will fill Jared's term as Chairman which will be through the 2016 year. Two new board positions were created, Jared will assume duties as Historian and Elayne Snell will be the club newsletter editor.

The membership was requested to express their opinion on the type of hunts and other activities that they would like to see the club provide. Seeded hunts seemed to be popular and one will definitely be included with the upcoming fall hunt.

The fall hunt date was announced for October 17th, further details as to venue and times will be announced closer to the hunt date per usual protocol. Some of the raffle prizes were announced. A Fisher F75 and an Garrett AT-Pro were two of the major prizes, also Garrett pinpointer and many other Garrett items.

Members were asked to see if they can find other spots that may be available for a group hunt. The general consensus that members would like more hunts available.

Mark Ferguson said he is working on permission on an old fishing camp that has a lot of ground. People were asked what they would like to see in the newsletter a lot of support was of course for announcements of hunts and club functions, and a member spotlight.

Jared demonstrated his USB microscope for use in examining finds.

FOTM Results

Best Coin

1st Place	Wayne Wilder	1871 Indian head cent
2nd Place	Drew Altick	1957 Roosevelt dime

Best Other

1st Place	Mark Ferguson	Arrowhead
2nd Place	Drew Altick	Civil War button



Member Finds: Coins and a Girl Scout pin found by Nick Arnold on September 5, 2015.

Secretary's Report

September 15, 2015

The meeting was held at Wright State University so that the members could see a demonstration of Ground Penetrating Radar in action.

The reading of the minutes and Treasurer's report was not done because of the location and members were advised that the reports were on line on the Facebook page.

The demonstration was given by Dr. Ernest Hauser assisted by Jared. Dr Hauser went into detail on how the GPR works, explaining about different frequencies and how it affects depth that it penetrates the ground.

The unit was run over an area that had an old house site on it and Dr. Hauser explained what the images meant and how the objects in the ground affected the images on the screen. You could clearly see that the anomalies showed a foundational wall. Another element he showed was over an old cistern and again once it was explained you could see the shape of the cistern. Dr. Hauser took many questions about how the machine works, how the images were interpreted and the techniques involved in laying out a grid pattern of searching. When asked the cost he said such a unit ran between \$16,000 to \$18,000.



Member Finds: 1917
Standing Liberty quarter,
found September 6, 2015
by Steve Greene

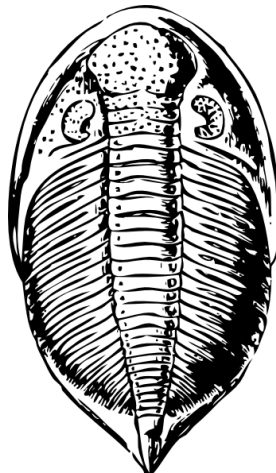
After the demonstration Roger was introduced as the new Chairman. Some announcements about the fall hunt site were given, Nancy got input on the type of food and drink to have.

The FOTM was not held but will be held at the fall hunt.



Fossil Hunt 2015

The fossil hunt took place on Saturday, September 12, 2015 at the Caesar Creek State Park. Thanks to all that took part in the fossil hunt. Great time was had by all.



DAYTON DIGGERS

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Treasure Hunters Supply was established in 2005 by owner Jerry Hoffmann, located at 1600 E. St. Rt. 73 Waynesville Ohio 45068. We are Ohio's premier store for all your treasure hunting needs. We provide in-house training for all detectors we sell.



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