



# THE SCOOP NEWS

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**SAK** By Anna M.

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When was the last time you “SAKed” someone?

No, I’m not talking about firing someone or putting them in a paper grocery bag or even taking down the quarterback. I’m talking about simple acts of kindness. You know, doing something kind for someone “just because.” It can be holding the door open for a stranger, encouraging a co-worker that is having a bad day, letting someone with 2 items go in front of you in the grocery line when you have 2 carts full of groceries... things like that.

A few years back, there was a company that made commercials showing people doing simple acts of kindness to strangers. The results of that? People who observed this, went out and did their own simple act of kindness, which was observed by others who went out and did their own simple act of kindness, which was observed by others who went out... I don’t remember the name of the company who made these commercials, or even what they were advertising, but the commercials left an impression on me. By doing little things, we can impact our world in a big way.

Now just imagine how much better our world would be if people would put aside their pride and gave of themselves. Doing small things for others really can make the world a better place. Why not hold the door open for a stranger or shovel your neighbor’s driveway or sidewalk when we get the next big snowfall or say hello to a small child or actually pay attention when someone is talking to you or pay for the drive-thru order of the car behind you or, well, the list is endless.

Did you know that there are people who perform simple acts of kindness at our club meetings every month? There is someone who comes early to set up tables and chairs before we meet, and someone who sets out the food and beverages for our break time AND cleans up after break is over, and someone who stays after to vacuum the two rooms that we use, and someone who records all of the submitted finds so that I can post them in our monthly newsletter. That’s just a few - there are many others who do numerous other things to help make our club wonderful to be a part of. There are a couple someones who often donate coins or detectors for raffle prizes or seeded hunts. There are many someones who bring food for the break time or door prizes each month.

So, think about it - what are some simple acts of kindness that you can do to make someone else’s world just a little bit better? Try it. Just go out and do something kind and unexpected for someone you don’t know and see what happens. It’s contagious. Just like the commercial shows - when you do something kind for someone, it gets noticed and encourages someone else to do something kind for someone.

While out Christmas shopping this year, I came out of the Meijer’s on Westnedge and while heading to my car, saw a lady just putting the last bag from her cart into the back of her van. I stopped and told her I would put her cart in the cart corral for her. When she realized that I was just going to put it away and didn’t need it for myself, she said, “Oh! You’re doing a simple act of kindness.” People get it and appreciate it.

So... I’ll ask you again: when was the last time you “SAKed” someone?

## *Find of the Year*

At the January meeting, we will have opportunity to vote on the "Find of the Year." For an item to be eligible, it must meet the following criteria:

- You must have a current paid club membership
- You can only enter one item in FOTY
- The item must have been entered in one of the Find of the Month competitions during 2011, though it did not have to be a winning entry

As a club, we will vote for only one winning entry, it will not be by category.

Some previous Find of the Year winners:

1852 silver 3 cent piece

14K gold ring with diamond and ruby

14K gold ring with diamond

\$5 gold coin

Confederate button

18K gold ring

Militia belt plate

14K gold watch

## *FOTM Categories*

As you will recall, the club voted last winter to cancel the Miscellaneous Category, whereby it could not be brought up again until at least September. Since that time has passed, a club member has asked the Board to bring it up for discussion again.

Some of you may be wondering what the Miscellaneous Category is. Well, it is non-detected items that have come into your possession during the time between club meetings. It could be something you found, purchased or received as a gift. However, it is not items that you previously had that were stored away in the attic or a basement and found when you were looking for something else - that was still

in your possession.

As a result, we will discuss the following options at the January meeting:

The first option is to just leave everything as is, with only the Coin, Jewelry, Token Fob & Badge, and Most Unusual categories.

The second option is what was proposed by this club member. Because there are many in the club who no longer actively detect, the Miscellaneous Category is the only way they are able to participate in FOTM. Also, with the frozen ground and snow during the winter months in Michigan, most people have to

travel to warmer states to be able to detect and therefore enter in the established FOTM categories, so there are many people who are not able to participate because they do not travel.

What this club member has proposed is that during the winter months of December, January & February, we cancel all regular categories and have only the Miscellaneous Category.

Be prepared for discussion and possibly a vote on this at this month's meeting.

## *Find of the Month Winners*

### Jewelry

1. Antique toy ring (Mike W)
2. 14K gold man's wedding ring (Lester R)
3. Silver cross (Gerald L)
4. 14 K gold ladies' ring w/diamonds, 4 stones (John A)

The winner was the ring found by John A.

### Coins

1. 1935D mercury dime (John D)
2. 189? Canadian penny (Brian N)
3. 1866 3 cent piece (Keith M)
4. 1867-1967 Canadian centennial penny (Hal D)
5. 1849 large cent (Anne K)
6. 1902 V nickel, 1901 barber dime (Jason W)
7. 1869 Indian head penny (Rick B)
8. 1844 large cent (John A)
9. 1905 Indian head penny, 1917, 1935, 1918, 1919 wheat pennies, 1920 Canadian penny (Mike W)
10. 1941 walking liberty half (Tracy O)
11. 1913 2 cent piece (Shawano)
12. 1913 barber dime (Mark C)
13. 1938 mercury dime (Myrl M)

The winner was the coin found by John A.

### Fob, Badge & Token

1. Bronze "no cash value" token (John W)
2. 1844 Canadian half penny token (Keith M)
3. US Army WWII marksman badge (Lester R)
4. Heads & Tails soccer token (Gerald L)

The winner was the badge found by Lester R.

### Most Unusual

1. 1845-1865 US Navy button (Keith M)
2. Dog figuring w/blue ribbon (Anne K)
3. 1890-1900 bell buoy (Stephen J)
4. Key chain fob (Jason W)
5. Skeleton key (Rick B)
6. 1870 Post Office dept button (Mike W)
7. Harness bell (Ron M)
8. CHI button (Shawano)
9. Absorbine Jr. bottle cap (Mark C)
10. 1830's rifleman militia button (John A)

The winner was the button found by John A.

*Congratulations!*

*Keep finding all those great items!*

## *Winners!*

Our Fishbowl Silver Cache winner was Alex !!

Our silver dollar winners were Lester R & Dianne J!

Our 50/50 winners were Keith M & Mark C!

Turkey winners were Dianne J & Justin N!

The winner of the 1812 bust half dollar raffle coin was Doris A!

**The coin for our next raffle will be another shipwreck coin. We should start selling tickets at this month's meeting. Be sure to stop by the front table to see the coin and buy your tickets. Remember, tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and you must have a currently paid membership to be able to purchase tickets for the raffle coin.**

The Scoop News  
6692 Whitehorse Ave.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49048



*Look us up on the web!*

*[www.swmss.org](http://www.swmss.org)*

The Scoop News is the official newsletter of the Southwest Michigan Seek & Search Club. The newsletter is edited by Anna M.

The club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Plainwell Community Center.

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.

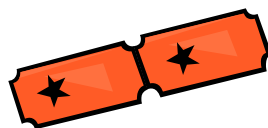
Meetings are open to the public.

## *Things You Should Know...*

*Our annual club banquet will be on February 26. This year it will be held at the Plainwell Community Center and will be a potluck format. Plan now to attend!*



A reminder that tickets for the silver dollar and 50/50 raffles are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 for each category. Tickets can be purchased



before the meeting starts and during the break.

**The board decided to have speakers in the next few months that are focused on the hobby of metal detecting. At our February meeting members of our own club will be teaching us about electrolysis. This is an excellent way to clean some found items. Make sure you come to hear what they have to say and even see a live demo of the process!**

