



# The Scoop News

March 2011

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## *A Night in Whoville* By Brian M.

How many of you remember the Christmas classic "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"? Remember at the end when the Grinch's heart grew twelve times its size and he returned to Whoville with everything he had stolen? The last scene was of the Grinch sitting at the head of the table carving the Christmas roast beast and serving it to all the Whos. Did you every notice that the roast beast never got smaller? I mean, there had to be enough Whos sitting around that table to over-populate Japan and that roast beast never got smaller!

And now I can say I have seen a similar sight in person. But let me start from the beginning. At the last club meeting John W. invited all the men to a game dinner at his church. There would be vendors, displays of mounted trophies and food. Not farm raised steroid injected mass slaughtered and processed food, but to quote the great Ted Nugget "kill and grill it" food.

So some of us curious epicurians (food lovers to the un-educated) decided to take John up on his offer. I took my brother-in-law Harrold along and met Mike and Tommy there to see what this was all about. Upon arrival we were greeted with appetizers galore. Cubed, jerked, baked, roasted, toasted and crusted. You name it and it was there on a plate. Venison (yes little Bambi on a stick), fish, elk, bear and rabbit (missed that, have to get there earlier next year). The Deer Barn from up in Plainwell was there with various summer sausages made from venison. That

alone was enough to stress test the last notch on your belt.

We wandered around to see the displays and the vendors. Our very own Al with his vast array of detecting equipment was among them. Some of the mounted trophies were quite impressive, definitely some critters I would not want to meet without a gun. Mike was drooling over some deer with 25 points. I thought deer like that was as common as a house cat, but I guess I was wrong.

So after an hour of noshing (that's high society speak for stuffing your face) the Pastor called for order, had everyone find a seat, gave a blessing for the meal and turned us loose in an organized version of chaos. Alice might have her Wonderland, but tonight we had Whoville. There had to close to a couple hundred guys there. Big beefy meat-eating hungry guys. The hallways were lined with tables groaning under the shear weight of food piled atop. This time it was sliced, diced, minced, chopped, roasted, broasted and filleted. There was stew, chili, tenderloin, meatballs, cubes of fish, and one of my favorites: Sloppy Does. Yet that roast beast never got smaller. At one point Pastor called out the seconds were available. Quite the sight to see grown men cry at the thought of eating more food.

There was a tenderloin of venison in a raspberry chipotle sauce that was excellent. Another crowd pleaser was Swedish meatballs made from elk. Yum, Yum, and

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## **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!**

*A reminder that if you have not yet paid for your 2011 membership, please do so at the beginning of the March meeting. You must do this if you want to be eligible for the club benefits such as FOTM entries, door prizes, seeded hunt, etc.*

*One benefit that goes along with a paid membership is receiving this newsletter! If you have not renewed by the end of this month's meeting, , this will be your last issue, so be sure to renew!*

*Whoville* (continued from page 1)

plenty to be had; if you left there hungry it was your own fault!

After dinner, the Pastor delivered a hunting story riddled with the Gospel message. Then onto the door prize drawings. They out did themselves for door prizes. Everything a hunter or fisherman could ever need or use. I won the chance to pick something from the small item table. I picked a "smaller" folding hunting knife that Rambo would have been proud

of. I gave it to Harrold. I would never carry one like that around, besides I always have the one in the heel of my shoe. Just kidding.

What does this have to do with SWMSS club anyway. Well one of its members invited other members to check out something important to him that wasn't metal detecting related. We had an opportunity to get to talk with John and get to know him better. Mike was invited back to give a metal detecting demonstration

blended with a Gospel presentation. Mainly to was a chance for members to get to know each other better by spending some time together sharing different interests.

I can't wait for the next person to issue an open invitation to an event that interests them and not related to metal detecting. It is a great way to forge new friendships, especially if food is involved.

Hey Al - what is the bottle club serving at their next meeting?

*Club Shirts*

We would like to get the new club shirts ordered after this month's meeting. These will be pre-order only. They will either be navy blue or grey.

T-Shirts \$15.00

Polo Shirts \$20.00

Hoodies \$28.00

If you would like to order any of the available items, please complete this form and turn it in with payment to Brian at the front table at this month's meeting!

Shirt Style	Size	Cost
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Total Amount Due: \_\_\_\_\_

*Winter Banquet* By Mike W.

Well it all started with the weather man trying to scare us into staying home. So I started making calls and sending emails to see what the rest of the board thought about canceling the dinner. Turns out most wanted to go ahead and have it, so we did. We had 23 in attendance at the banquet. The numbers were down some, I am sure due to the weather, but as always it was a lot of fun!

We had great fellowship and good eats, and ended the evening with a fun trivia game. The questions had to do with all types of treasure hunting: gold, diamonds, the Civil War, detectors, and more. The questions were tough, but we still gave away 5 prizes to the folks with the highest scores. The best score went to Tom L. Congrats Tom and the others who won!

Thank you to all who were able to brave the February Michigan weather. The roads were pretty slick on the way home but we took our time and made it there safe. Maybe next year we will have it in March to see if we can have better weather. Please always remember if you ever feel the least bit worried about the roads then you should stay home. No meeting is so important that one should put themselves in danger of a car accident.

So here's to a fun time at the winter banquet, and to an even bigger turn out next year!

*Find of the Month Winners***Jewelry**

(no entries this month)

**Coins**

1. \$3.90 in coins found in a 10" square area on a sledding hill  
- 11 quarters, 9 dimes, 5 nickels (Tim P)

That was the only entry and it received enough votes to win.

**Most Unusual**

1. Camcorder or camera mount for a tripod found on a sledding hill (Mike W.)

That was the only entry and it received enough votes to win.

Looks like sledding hills were the place to hunt in February!

**Fob, Badge & Token**

(no entries this month)

*Congratulations!*

*Keep finding all those great items!*

***Winners!***

Our Fishbowl Silver Cache winner was Jerry L!

Our silver dollar winners were Rick B & Tim J!

Our 50/50 winners were John N & Dick L!

And the winner of the 1784 El Cazador Shipwreck 8 Reale was Doris A!

**Congratulations, everyone!**

Our next coin raffle will be another 1784 8 Reale from the same shipwreck recovery. Raffle tickets will be available during the break at the March meeting.

**A Hobby That Pays! By Ace C.**

The group up front likes Minelabs. Those over there favor the Fishers. That guy goes for the Garretts. She's looking to tame the Tesoros. No matter who you talk to, everyone has his or her favorite detector to use, even though they all will find metal. This guy though, he wants to use the Whites! Why? It came in the form of customer appreciation. I was simply out enjoying this great hobby with a White's machine and happened to get a few good finds. I decided to share how my day went with the local White's community and sent in my story so that others could enjoy my day as well. Who knew that my stories would want to be published by the manufacturer!

I received an e-mail from one of their staff members notifying me that they wanted to use my stories and that they would send me gift certificates for them. About a week later two \$100 certificates showed up in the mailbox that could be used toward any accessories that White's had in stock. With \$200 dollars in hand I was ready for a shopping spree and wasted no time finding upgrades for my detector. I had to spoil my machine because it had helped earn me this award. One coil later and a protective, weather resistant covering for my control box gave my White's M6 the glory that it deserved!

No matter what company you decide to go with, you will surely enjoy the fruits of the hobby. The exploring that is had, the friendships that are made, the preservation of history, and in this case the reward for an enjoyable day out in the form of dollar signs! It certainly is no career, well... not yet ☺, but it is a wonderful hobby to have for years to come. I encourage you to seek out what your favorite manufacturer may offer for an enjoyable day out and see what rewards you can find. Just remember that if you decide to spoil your machine with them, you may have to give your detector a name and save a spot at the dinner table for it!

March 2011

The Scoop News  
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**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...*

The Spring Seeded Hunt  
May 21-22

At the Flywheelers in  
South Haven

We will follow the same schedule as at previous hunts with fellowship on Saturday and seeded hunts on Sunday.

More details will be available at the April meeting!

Do you know someone who might be interested in sharing their "treasure" hobby with our club sometime? If so, please see either Mike W. or Ron J. and give them the person's name, hobby and contact information.



REMEMBER to move your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday night (March 12). Daylight savings time begins at 2:00 a.m.!