

# The Buckeye Searcher

Established: June, 1982

Buckeye Searchers Association of N.E. Ohio

President: John Pacanovsky; Vice President: Terry Stahurski

Secretary-Treasurer: Tammy Kepler



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April, 2006

## Club Hunts to Begin

### Rising Silver Prices Force Adjustments

The first club hunt of 2006 is set for **10 A.M. on Saturday, April 29** at Beford Glens. *Check the back of this page for a map. And check for additional hunt dates on the last page under "Important Dates."*

As we reported previously, the club has been severely hurt by the steep rise in the price of silver. In mid February the cost of a typical hunt was \$111.90. As we write this, the cost stands at \$117.80.

**Something had to be done.** President John Pacanovsky suggested that the number of silver coins be reduced to 80 dimes, 4 quarters and 1 half. That is a face value of \$9.50 compared to the previous \$15.50. In addition, the club also voted to increase the hunt fee from \$3.00 to \$4.00.

**Will that fix the problem?** Let's check a typical hunt:

**Cost: \$72.20.** (Not the previous \$117.80. *Assuming no further rise in the price of silver.*)

**Income: \$52.00.** Four dollars each from the typical number of hunters (13).

**Result: A loss of \$20.20.**

Still a problem - but far better than the previous loss of \$65.80.

**Another way to solve the problem:** More hunters! The "break-even" point is 18 hunters. **Is there enough interest in these hunts?**

**Also.** There was support voiced at the meeting suggesting that those who hunt at the picnic also pay the \$4 fee. That would go a long way to solve the severe financial crunch caused by the climbing silver prices.

**Note:** Source of silver coin prices: [numismaticproperties.com](http://numismaticproperties.com). Click **silver** in the upper left corner of the screen. (Look at the price for **90% silver bullion**, not the price of pure silver.)

**Note:** Average daily temperatures in April are 11 degrees warmer than in March. Time to get that detector out!

## March Auction Notes

### Big Turnout

The March auction attracted a large crowd. In fact, it was probably the largest turnout that we have had in at least a year (not counting the annual Christmas party).

As a result, the club enriched its coffers, while successful bidders got bargains galore. Further details, including financial gains, will be published in the next newsletter

## Counterfeits

### Foreign-made US Coins

Modern counterfeits of rare coins began to appear in the US a few years ago. Veterans of on-line auctions see them all the time. In addition, offers are spammed to millions of e-mail users.

According to an article in the Feb, 2006 issue of the Numismatist, a number of mass-produced fake coins have flooded the internet market. These coins include U.S. Trade dollars, Seated Liberty dollars and the ever-popular 1804 dollar.

When offered, these look like great bargains. But, remember: If it looks too good to be true, it's time to beware.

Thanks to Terry Stahurski for this item.

April 13 Meeting

## Cleaning Coins & Identifying Unknown Objects

What do you do with all the change that you find during the year? Most of it is badly stained and would be embarrassing to actually spend.

Although this was covered in a meeting about a year ago, it stimulated lots of interest - indicating the need for further discussion.

Veteran hunters, Jim Blackburn, Bernie Benewiat, and Terry Stahurski with show/discuss tumblers and other methods of cleaning coins.

Especially important is the handling of the special old finds that fall apart if improperly cleaned. *(I will also bring in my "white out" method of "showing off" old coins. People keep asking me.)*

**In addition:** Do you have an old token? Unknown object? that you want to have identified? Bring it in. Someone is likely to be able to help.

For example, I received a phone call about a commemorative medal inscribed with some foreign words and the dates: 1410-1910. What was it?

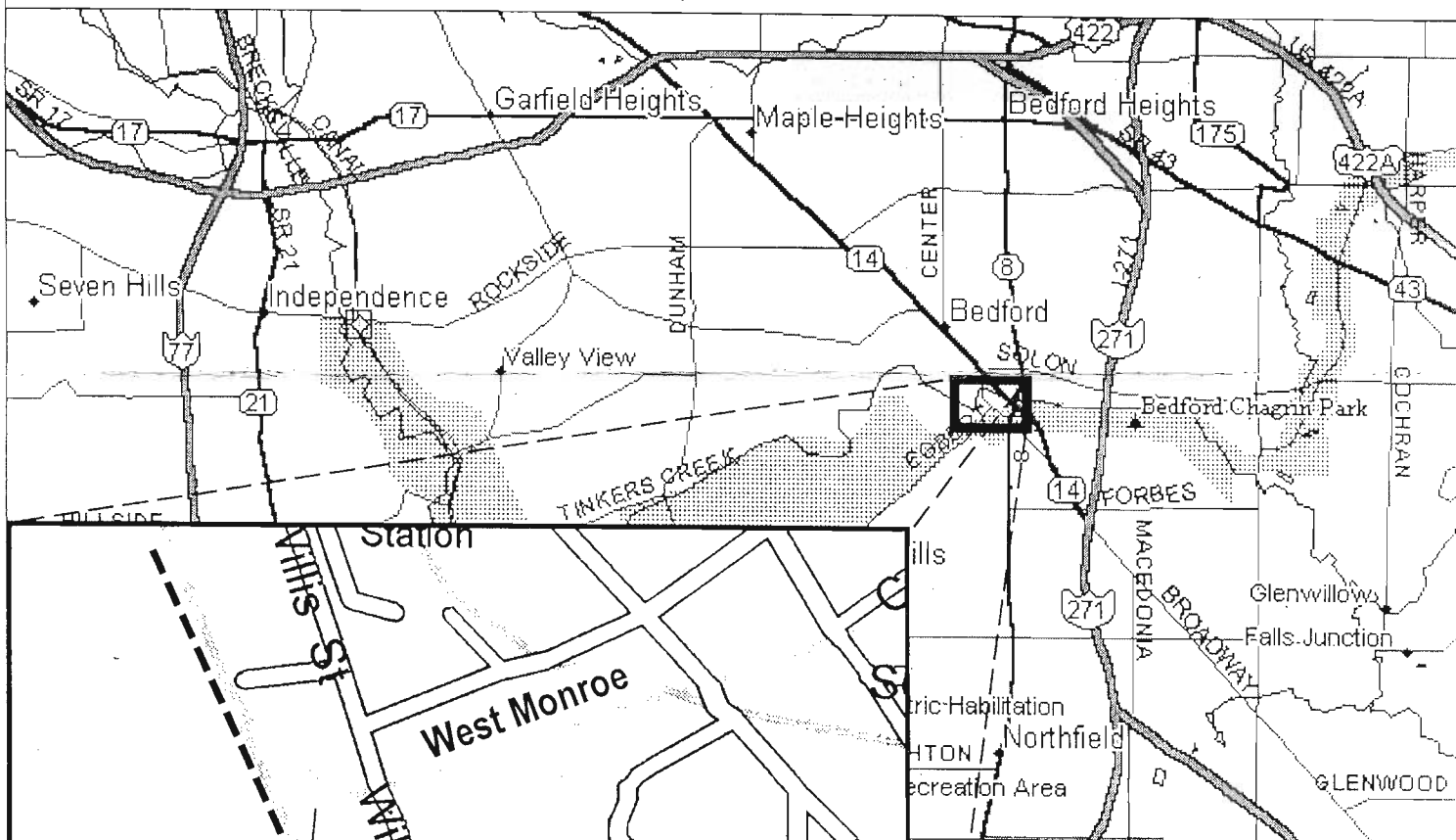
Answer: It dealt with the 1410 **Battle of Grunwald**, (as named by the Polish); or the **Battle of Tannenberg**, (as named by the Germans). Great find! Great history!



*"You know something! - I truly admire the way you cope with your guilt feelings."*

# Club Hunt at Bedford Glens

Saturday, April 29, 10:00 am



## Close-up of Bedford Glens

### How to ID the Age of a Home

If you decide to hunt an old home site, how do you determine its age?

Of course, we are not concerned with the exact year in which it was built; just if it was built in the 1800s vs (for example) a 1950s house.

We have space to focus on only one method, but it is a very handy and easy method. Look at the foundation of the house. Of what was it made?

#### Foundations

1. Sandstone blocks. Great! That guarantees an 1800s house.
2. Reddish glazed tile. Early 1900s. Looks lousy but was cheap.
3. Sculpted concrete block. Used from the early 1900s to about 1920.
4. Regular concrete block - used since then.

## Club Hunts to Begin!

Check these maps to locate Bedford Glens. The Cleveland Park authorities generously allow us to use the parks for our hunts. Please respect their rules. (Especially rule #1 below.) Other rules follow.

**1. NO DIGGING TOOLS PERMITTED.** Use just a probe and/or screwdriver. If you pinpoint carefully, you will not need anything else. The coins are shallow. **Park rules prohibit digging.**

**2. Please use headphones.** It is just a matter of courtesy to others.

**3. There is a \$4.00 fee** required of all who participate. (*This is a real bargain, as most days, the average "take" is more than \$5.00 in silver.*)

**4. No seeded coins are eligible for FINDS-OF-THE-MONTH contests. This applies to ANY seeded hunt, especially major competition hunts where Barber and even older coins are seeded.**

**NOTE FOR HELPERS.** Please arrive at 9 am to help seed the fields and mark the boundaries of the hunt area. Your help is much appreciated.

# Finds of the Month: March

Coin (Non-Silver)	Coin (Silver-Gold)
Jim Blackburn - 1906 "V" nickel (52) T. Stahurski - 1916 Canadian ct (41) Al Friedl - 1916 wheat cent (25) Tom Hobson - Euro 2-cent piece (23) J. Franchino - 1936 nickel; 2 cts (21)* Bill Akers - 1954 cent (12) Jeff DeLuca - 1907 Indian cent (9)	Jim Blackburn - 1924 quar, 1917 dime(77)* J. Franchino - 1952 quar, 1960 dime (35)* Terry Stahurski - 1919 dime (25) Al Friedl - 1918 dime (19) Tom Hobson - 1944 quarter (13) Jeff DeLuca - 1942-s dime (10) Bill Akers - 1944 dime (9)
*Found in a single hole	*Found in a single hole

Jewelry	Miscellaneous
Rick Culp - 14 K gold "hand" ring (55) Al Friedl - silver ring with stone (46) Bill Akers - silver ring (43) Tom Hobson - ring (25) T. Stahurski - silver plated ring (17)	Joe Franchino - 1857-70 button (44) Jim Blackburn - 1915 expo badge (43) T. Stahurski -1890s silver vets pin (41) M. Offenhartz - 1902 silver spoon (35) Al Friedl - concho medallion (12) Jeff DeLuca - old lock (7)
Note: 5 points for each category entered.	

## March FOTM Notes

Winter let up just in time! Although the hunting days were limited, we received no fewer than 25 entries in our March contests. Terrific! Jim Blackburn lead the way by taking top honors in the two coin categories. He found two silver coins in a single hole, which included a stellar 1924 standing liberty quarter.

As most veteran members know, the SL quarter, though one of the most beautiful coins, was notorious for quickly wearing away the date. Jim's coin still had a full and clear date.

Another excellent entry was the 14K gold "hand" ring by Rick Culp. That is, a ring with an image of a hand on top.

The Miscellaneous division had a host of excellent entries. It was truly difficult to pick just two entries to vote for.

## Civil War

### Union Regimental Number

Shown here is an image of a regimental number worn by union soldiers in the Civil War. The number is about 1 inch tall. Let's hope you can find such an old relic.



**TAX DAY: APRIL 17**

"Do you realize that we are playing the first 5 innings for the government?"

## Baseball History Tidbit

The new baseball season is underway and we repeat a bit of history that we published last year. It is just too good to skip. It is a comparison of modern pitchers with those of 100 years ago.

Today, a pitcher gets credit for a "game" if he completes 5 innings, and a good pitcher will generally go 6 or 7 innings per start. Seldom will a pitcher go all 9 innings.

How times have changed! Here is what pitchers did a hundred years ago:

Sept. 1, 1906: *"The Philadelphia Athletics beat the Boston Red Sox 4 - 1 in 24 innings. Jack Coombs of the Athletics and Joe Harris of the Red Sox pitched all 24 innings. Coombs fanned 18."*

## FOTM Rules and Notes

We print these rules for the benefit of our new members - as well as a reminder for veteran members.

1. Only paid-up club members may enter.
2. Must be found with a metal detector.
3. Contents must be **from a single hole**.
4. Only items found **since the last contest** may be entered.
5. You **must be present** to enter an item.
6. Categories: COINS, *excluding* tokens; JEWELRY, *including* watches; MISCELLANEOUS, *including* tokens, and all other items.
7. Scoring is based on 3 points for a first-place vote, and 2 point for a second-place vote. (plus 5 points for entering)
8. Vote **only once for any item**. Do not give an item both your 1st & 2nd place votes.
9. Coins found at competition hunts are **NOT** eligible for the FOTM contest.

## Protecting Lawns

With warmer weather returning, it is time to give our annual reminder to respect private and public property. Most people are very considerate, but a few cause trouble for all.

### How to cut a plug in a grassy area:

1. **Cut a "U-shaped" plug.** Leave one side uncut so that it can act as a hinge.
2. **Cut straight down.** Otherwise, you will cut the roots along the fringe of the hole and that grass could die.
3. **As you pry up the plug,** it *should* have lots of soil with it. This leaves the roots undisturbed in the clump of soil.
4. **If you remove additional soil,** put it on a piece of plastic; not on the grass.
5. **Closing the hole.** After returning the plug, a slight gap will show around the edges. It was caused when you pried up the plug. **Now reverse the procedure.** Use a screwdriver to pry the ground back toward the plug.  
*If you do it right, nothing shows.* Happy hunting!

Next meeting: Thursday, Apr 13, 2006, at 7:30 PM at the Solon Historical Society. Doors open at 7 PM.  
Located at the corner of Bainbridge Road and Route 91.

**Dealer Who Supports Our Club**  
**Silver Eagle & Gold Coin Shop,**  
(Jose Ortiz) 4979 West 130th, Cleveland, OH 44235 Ph: (216) 267-6760

### Important Phone Numbers

John Pacanovsky (President) (440)232-1719  
(Please no phone calls after 9 P.M.)  
Terry Stahurski (Vice President) (216) 573-0761  
Tammy Kepler (Sec-Treas) (440) 306-0152  
Bob Richards (Hunt Master) (216) 651-6029

### "Love Tokens"

Ever so often members of our club find what is known as a "love token." What are they? Most are coins that have been altered and presented by a man to his girl friend. It's purpose was similar to that of an engagement ring today.

Hundreds of years ago, they were fairly common and actually appeared in the writings of William Shakespeare and Robert Burns.

Unlike good luck charms, which were usually bent through the center, tokens were bowed or cup-shaped or often contained engraved initials or messages.

It is believed that these tokens first appeared in the 16th century England, and the custom crossed to the US, where the practice endured until the 19th Century.

Source: Numismatist (& Terry Stahurski)

### Important Dates

- Apr 13. Meeting of the **Buckeye Searchers**. Details above.  
Apr 22-23. **Susquehanna Valley Hunt (PA.)** Contact: Ed Buck (570) 287-5022  
April 29. **Club hunt.** (Saturday), 10 AM, Bedford Glens  
May 5,6,7. **FMDAC Spring Convention and Treasure Expo.** Niagara Falls, NY.  
Entry forms and info at the FMDAC web site (shown below). Or contact: Jill McFeeders, 7025 Dover-Zoar Rd, Dover, OH 44622.  
May 20. **Club hunt.** Saturday, 10 AM, Garfield Park.  
May 19, 20, 21. **Old National Pike Treasure Hunt.** Contact Duane Biller, (FMDAC Pres) Ph: (724) 439-1380

**June 25, Buckeye Searchers Annual Picnic. Longwood Park, Macedonia.**  
**Mark your calenders for this super event!**

- July 8-15. **TREASURE WEEK**, Shreve, OH, Contact: Jim McFeeders at this e-mail address: [jseeker@core.com](mailto:jseeker@core.com)  
July 23. **Club hunt.** Sunday, Lowe Park  
Aug 13, **Club hunt.** Sunday, Mentor Headlands.  
Sep 16, **Club hunt.** Saturday, Polo fields

### Web Sites

- Federation of Metal Detecting & Archeology (FMDAC): [www.fmdac.com](http://www.fmdac.com)  
Lost Treasure Magazine: [www.losttreasure.com](http://www.losttreasure.com)  
US Patent Office Search site (for information about - and dates of - old patent numbers): <http://patft.uspto.gov/netahtml/srchnum.htm>  
North - South Hunt info: [thetreasuredepot.com](http://thetreasuredepot.com)  
Treasure Hunt Fliers: [silverseekers.com](http://silverseekers.com)  
Button dates: [www.detectingfun.com/buttondates.htm](http://www.detectingfun.com/buttondates.htm)

## Membership Form - through July 2006

Applicants agree to abide by club rules and show good fellowship and to participate in club activities. No member will do anything to harm or degrade the club's name or reputation and will work toward the preservation of same.

Name: (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

OK to publish your phone and e-mail address (among members only)? OK \_\_\_\_\_ Prefer not \_\_\_\_\_ FMDAC? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Check type of membership: Individual (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_ Age 70 or over (\$5 discount) \_\_\_\_\_

Eligible family members include spouse and minor children living at home. Please list their names here: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Tammy Kepler and bring this completed form to the next meeting - or mail to Tammy at 39064 East River, Elyria, OH 44035