

# Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

## FMDAC News Gram

## United States Metal Detecting Association

May 2020

FMDAC News Gram

Volume 3 Number 31



FMDAC

[Website](#)  
[FaceBook](#)  
[Forum](#) **My Treasure Spot forums, which hosts the FMDAC forum, is shutting down May 20th.**

[How To Join](#)  
[Hunts & Events](#)  
[Member Clubs](#)  
[Organization](#)  
[State Park Regulations](#)  
[Target Recovery Methods](#)

President: **Mark Schuessler**

Vice President: **Ed Burke**

Treasurer: **Sue Race**

Secretary: **Frank Colletti**

Legislative Officer: **Position Open**

Membership Chair: **Scott Manahan**

Website Maintenance: **Trinna Pitts**

North Region: **Debbie Buxton**  
*Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Canada*

Central Region: **Don Hayes**  
*Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland*

The Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc. (FMDAC) was organized in 1984 as a legislative and educational organization and incorporated, as a non-profit, non-commercial, non-partisan organization.

**The Mission:** The FMDAC is dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and protection for the hobby of recreational metal detecting and prospecting.

**The Purpose:** To unite, promote and encourage the establishment of metal detecting clubs. To preserve the sport / hobby of recreational metal detecting and prospecting. To make available to FMDAC clubs and Independent members information pertaining to the hobby and to keep members informed as to active legislation.

**The Goal:** is to Educate and inform the public as to the merits of recreational metal detecting.

**What is a News Gram?** The news gram provides a brief look into news events for the past month. The intent of the news gram is to provide you, the FMDAC reader, with news clips on what took place in the hobby last month. The News Gram is configured like a webpage and must be read online for the article links to work.

### **Mark Schuessler, FMDAC President's Message**

**Hello Everyone.**

Hope everyone is faring well during this really strange time. I sincerely hope that none of you or your families or friends has been adversely affected by the virus. I have not heard of anyone but I am certain there are probably a few in this hobby who have contracted the virus. Hopefully they have recovered.

As we are finding out now with the antibody tests that are beginning is there are a lot of people who have had the virus and did not know it. This is something I thought from the start and it is now playing out. As this testing takes hold it will hopefully accelerate the reopening of the country. We are already seeing, this week, that some states are beginning to open back up. Some however and especially some cities will take a lot longer. Just remember this. When you are allowed to go back to somewhat normal then please be smart about it so we don't just start the whole mess all over again.

Working from the general game plan as it looks now we are going full speed ahead with the Northern Regions open hunt. The flyer is attached to this newsgram. You do not need to be an FMDAC member to enter. We may however have an extra activity for members only. The event will take place (tentatively) the last weekend of August (29 & 30). The location is Beaver Meadow Campground in Java Center, NY. This is the location that the Genesee Valley Treasure Seekers used for their open hunt for 20 years until 2 years ago when it ended.

Plans are underway to make it a great weekend. The hunt committee is composed of Northern Region director Debbie Buxton, VP Ed Burke and myself. All of us are veteran hunt masters with a lot of hunts under our belts. With the help of the other FMDAC members and hobby friends we intend to make it a good time. We plan on having some extra activities that are not on the schedule. We also ask that you bring along a display of your finds. Your choice as to what you bring but limit it to one case the size of your choosing. So let's see what you have been finding. Impress us! We will give out some awards for the finds. So mark the date on your calendar and make plans to attend. We will hold all entries received early on until we know for certain that it is a go.

Take a look at the article that Lee has included below. It does not appear that it actually affects the hobby. It is designed to go after money laundering through the trafficking of world antiquities to fund terrorist's activities. It's a long and convoluted read. But these are the bills we must look at to insure they are not doing us harm in the process. I do not see that in this revision. If anyone does read it to our detriment then please give us your take on it.

Happy Hunting Be Safe.

**Mark Schuessler, FMDAC President**

### South Region: Art Di Filippo

California, Hawaii, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida

### Jewelry Returns

- The journey of a lost wedding ring comes full circle. [Article Link](#)
- Debenham detectorist strikes gold and returns missing ring after 20 years. [Article Link](#)
- Woman reconnects with deceased grandfather while trying to return stranger's rings. [Article Link](#)
- Husband reunited with missing wedding ring 20 years on. [Article Link](#)

### Hobby Related News

#### General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

- Offers on lost wedding ring include buy one get one. [Article Link](#)
- Navy vet finds remains of 1700s shipwreck in Bordentown. [Article Link](#)
- Local woman finds grenade while gardening. [Article Link](#)
- Did Union soldiers ever camp in Church Hill? [Article Link](#)
- YouTube Restoration Videos: Preserving Or Destroying History. [Article Link](#)
- Rocky Neck State Park in East Lyme. [Article Link](#)
- Spending isolation unearthing buried treasures. [News Video](#)
- What's open and closed this week? Trails, parks, beaches in Southern California. [Article Link](#)
- Coronavirus New Jersey: Wildwood Beaches, Boardwalk Closed Until May 1 Due To Pandemic. [Article Link](#)
- Coronavirus self-isolation activities should not include gold prospecting, officials say. [Article Link](#)
- 'The Curse of Oak Island': Rick and Marty Lagina Get Taste of Treasure as Centuries-Old Ring Unearthed? [Article Link](#)
- Mum finds Mule Dollar Worth Thousands in Daughter's Piggy Bank. [Article Link](#)

#### U.K. News

- Rare silver penny found by detector sells in London auction. [Article Link](#)
- Derbyshire: Auction of historic treasures remind us royal rivalries and traumas of long ago. [Article Link](#)
- Police stop driver after making non-essential trip to Filey from Lancashire to go metal detecting. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detecting group on a mission to share historical finds. [Article Link](#)
- Bored mum finds 500-year-old gold coin worth £2,500 in back garden using son's metal detector during lockdown. [Article Link](#)
- Police stop Grantham metal detectorists on their non-essential trip. [Article Link](#)
- 'Struck gold!' How archaeologists made 'extremely rare royal find' in Suffolk. [Article Link](#)
- UK Citizens Found More Buried Treasure Than Ever Last Year, Including an 1,100-Year-Old Brooch and an Ancient Gold Ring. [Article Link](#)

#### W.W. Meteorite News

- Meteorite spotted off I-77 ahead of Lyrid meteor shower this week. [Article Link](#)
- Own a Rare Slice of the NWA 5000 Meteorite for \$250,000 USD. [Article Link](#)
- Fireball video: Huge fireball shoots over Europe 'I thought it was going to strike'. [Article Link](#)

#### Other Media News Sources

- **American Digger Relic Roundup.** For diggers and collectors of history. An hour long program every Monday Night at 9:00 PM eastern standard time. Join your hosts Butch Holcombe, Jeff Lubbert and Heath Jones as they explore the past. Learn more about Metal Detecting, Treasure hunting in all it's forms, and the preservation of history. [April Pod Cast Link](#)
- **American Mining Rights Assn** is not a gold club but rather an advocacy group for miners and public land users to preserve and maintain their rights as they pertain to access to their public lands. [March News](#)
- **Archaeology and Metal Detecting Magazine** present the BIG metal detecting podcast. A weekly show bringing all areas of history together with our guests, news and much more. [April Pod Cast Link](#)
- **Coin World** - Numismatic and Coin Collecting [April News](#)
- **Garrett Searcher** [April Issue Release](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [April News](#), [March Newsletter](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [April News](#)
- **The Archaeology and Metal Detecting Magazine** The Archaeology and Metal detecting magazine are one of the lead online sites in their genre. Offering multiple platforms for Archaeological, Historical and metal detecting news, articles, research areas and much more. [April News](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [May Newsletter](#)

#### North America Archaeology News

- Archaeology: Saga of giant Mound Builders is a tall tale that won't go away. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists verify Florida's Mound Key as location of elusive Spanish fort. [Article Link](#)
- Graduate research: Archaeology goes high-tech with LiDAR. [Article Link](#)
- Rare silver penny found by detector sells in London auction. [Article Link](#)
- Researcher Believes He Has ID'd Shipwreck in Maine. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeology? What's its relevance in crises-filed world? [Article Link](#)

#### Hunt Events and Shows

##### Metal Detecting & Gold Prospecting Events.

Now is the time to start planning and getting your club's 2020/21 hunt information on the web. The sooner it is out and available to the metal detecting community the greater the chance for people to see it and give your event some consideration.

##### Other Hobby Related 2020 Show Calendars

- **May 09, 2020** (One Day)  
Longview, Texas  
9th Annual Piney Woods Relic Hunt  
**Canceled**  
East Texas Treasure Hunters Assn
- **May 12, 2020** (Five Days)  
Huntington, Oregon
- **May 22, 2020** (Three Days)  
Richland, Washington  
32nd Treasure Hunt  
Southeast WA Assn of Treasure Hunters (SWATH)
- **May 23, 2020** (Two Days)  
Sapulpa, Oklahoma

- [Antique Bottle Show](#)
- [Coin Shows](#)
- [Numismatic Coin Shows](#)
- [Insulator Shows](#)
- [CFMS Society & Club Shows](#)
- [Club-Sponsored Mineral Shows](#)

- **May 02, 2020** (One Day)  
Beaver, Pennsylvania  
Beaver County Detecting Club Open Hunt  
**Postponed**  
Beaver County Detecting Club
- **May 02, 2020** (One Day)  
Virginia Beach, Virginia  
33rd Annual Hunt **Postponed**  
Tidewater Coin and Relic Club
- **May 02, 2020** (Two Days)  
Columbus, Ohio  
Ohio Gold & Treasure Show **Canceled**  
GPAA Gold and Treasure Shows & Lost Dutchman's Mining Assn
- **May 09, 2020** (One Day)  
Pageland, South Carolina  
3rd Annual Carolina Coin & Token Shootout  
Sandhill Metal Detecting & Relic Club

- 2020 Outing: Common Dig "Dirt Party" **Postponed**  
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **May 16, 2020** (Two Days)  
West Allis, Wisconsin  
Midwest Gold & Treasure Show  
**Canceled**  
GPAA Gold and Treasure Shows & Lost Dutchman's Mining Assn
- **May 16, 2020** (Eight Days)  
Stanton, Arizona  
2020 Desert Mayhem Week #1  
The Lost Dutchman's Mining Assn
- **May 16, 2020** (Two Days)  
Ocean City, New Jersey  
11th Annual Hunt  
ECRDA - East Coast Research & Discovery Assn
- **May 16, 2020** (One Day)  
Raidersburg, Montana  
17th Annual Rick Radke Memorial  
Metal Detector Hunt **Postponed**  
Headwaters Chapter of the GPAA
- **May 17, 2020** (One Day)  
Hoyt, Kansas  
Open National Hunt **Canceled**  
Topeka Treasure Hunters

- 49th Annual Indian Territory Treasure Hunt **Canceled**  
Indian Territory Treasure Hunters Club
- **May 23, 2020** (Two Days)  
Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada  
21th Anniversary Southern Ontario Hunt  
**Postponed for this year**  
Rainbow's End MD Assoc, Thames Valley MD Club, Canadian Heritage Seekers & Chatham MD Club
- **May 23, 2020** (Eight Days)  
Stanton, Arizona  
2020 Desert Mayhem Week #2 The Lost Dutchman's Mining Assn
- **May 23, 2020** (Two Days)  
Columbus, Georgia  
Southeast Gold & Treasure Show  
**Canceled**  
GPAA Gold and Treasure Shows & Lost Dutchman's Mining Assn

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

[Select here to View the Complete Event Details for May](#)

**Check out your event before going it may have been postponed or canceled.**

**The Regulation of American Archaeology**  
by Mark Nakahara, The Regulatory Review [Website](#)

"It belongs in a museum!" So says the young Indiana Jones in one of the hit movies from the 1980s after observing the unauthorized excavation of an important artifact.

But the question of who has the right to artifacts found in the United States depends on a number of factors. Government agencies, Native American tribes, and private property owners may all have a claim to artifacts depending on where they were found.

The first and most significant federal law governing archaeology is the [Antiquities Act of 1906](#). This act was the first to establish penalties for illegal excavations, damage, or appropriation of American antiquities. These penalties, however, only apply when the illegal action takes place on land "owned or controlled" by the federal government. The act also authorizes the President to declare historic landmarks as national monuments.

In addition, the Antiquities Act lays out a permitting process for archaeological excavations on government lands. The power to grant a permit lies with the federal agency that has jurisdiction over the lands in question. In most cases, the U.S. Department of the Interior is in control, but for excavations taking place in forest reserves or on military bases, the permitting authority is the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Army, respectively. The act also grants these agencies rulemaking power for historic and archaeological sites within their jurisdictions.

Although the Antiquities Act plays an important role in regulating archeology in the United States, it suffers from weak penalties and lax enforcement. To build on the act and focus further on the protection of archaeological sites, Congress passed the [Archaeological Resources Protection Act \(ARPA\)](#) in 1979.

The Antiquities Act protects any "object of antiquity" but does not define the term or give examples. ARPA addresses the ambiguity over what is protected by defining the term "archaeological resource" to include "any material remains" of archaeological interest. It also provides numerous examples, such as pottery, weapons, tools, structures, and human remains. ARPA does not consider items under 100 years old, or paleontological items such as fossils, to be "archaeological resources."

ARPA expands on the Antiquities Act in two other ways. First, it sets forth a more detailed permitting process for archaeological excavations on public lands. Applicants must describe the "time, scope, and location and specific purpose" of their proposed work to the head of the relevant agency. Native American tribes, however, are exempt from these requirements when excavating on their tribal lands.

Second, ARPA expands both the prohibited activities and the penalties laid out in the Antiquities Act. It prohibits trafficking in artifacts excavated illegally under either state or federal law. ARPA also increases the maximum criminal penalty for violations to \$10,000 or up to one year in jail, and it imposes even higher penalties for repeat offenders or if the value of the archaeological resources exceeds \$500.

ARPA grants rulemaking authority to the secretaries of Interior, Agriculture, and Defense. One of the Interior Department's major rules provides further details of the permitting process, limiting the recipients of permits to "reputable museums, universities, colleges, or other recognized scientific or educational institutions." Other regulations outline the process for storing excavated items and arranging exchanges with museums and universities.

The patchwork of laws governing archeological finds in the United States contrasts with the approach taken in other countries where the government asserts that it owns any object excavated within its borders. When it comes to artifacts found in other countries but brought into the United States, the U.S. Department of State's Cultural Heritage Center oversees customs enforcement under agreements it has reached with these other countries.

The smuggling of antiquities across borders continues to be a serious issue in the art world. Museums in dangerous areas have lost thousands of artifacts to looting and subsequent sales on the black market.

Several groups within the [State Department's Cultural Heritage Center](#) work to counter these threats. The [Cultural Property Advisory Committee](#) negotiates with other countries to make bilateral agreements restricting the import and export of antiquities. The Cultural Heritage Coordinating Committee works with diplomats and law enforcement to combat looting and smuggling. The Cultural Antiquities Task Force trains customs officials and law enforcement officers to identify smuggled artifacts and to enforce the laws concerning these items. These various groups also work with other agencies such as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Federal law on antiquities could be changing. In 2019, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Coordinating Oversight, Upgrading and Innovating Technology, and Examiner Reform Act of 2019. *The bill focuses on bank security and money laundering but recognizes that archaeological looting has links to financial crimes. It includes a provision that would compel the Secretary of the Treasury to study "the facilitation of money laundering and terror finance through the trade of works of art or antiquities," a tactic attempted by ISIS and other regimes.*

The House bill is currently under consideration in the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. [Bill HR 2514 Web Link](#)  
SEC. 211. Application of Bank Secrecy Act to dealers in antiquities.

**FMDAC NORTHERN CHAPTER OPEN HUNT**  
[Select This Link to Get the Complete FMDAC Chapter Hunt Flyer](#)

**Federation of Metal Detector & Archeological Clubs**

**FMDAC NORTHERN CHAPTER OPEN HUNT**

**AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> 2020**

BEAVER MEADOW CAMPGROUND

1455 Beaver Meadow Road, Java Center NY 14082

**3 HUNTS A Day**

Saturday		Sunday	
8:30-9:30	Registration	8:00-9:00	Registration
10:00-11:00	Fun Hunt	9:00-10:00	Fun Hunt
11:00-12:00	Seminar	10:00-11:00	Silver & Tokens
12:00-1:30	Lunch-Pizza	11:30-12:00	Raffle Draws
1:30-2:30	Silver & Tokens	1200-1:00	Main Hunt
2:30-3:00	Raffle Draws		
3:00-4:00	Main Hunt		
6:00	Dinner		
9:00	Night Hunt		

[Select This Link to Get the Complete FMDAC Chapter Hunt Flyer](#)