

Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

FMDAC News Gram

United States Metal Detecting Association

January 2020

FMDAC News Gram

Volume 2 Number 27



FMDAC

[Website](#)
[FaceBook](#)
[Forum](#)

[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

South Region: **Art Di Filippo**

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

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

We hope you had a very good Christmas season and received every metal detecting related item you wished for. One can never have enough metal detectors. I once had a friend ask me why I had so many. He is a wild game hunter. I ask him how many guns he has. He just shook his head in agreement and changed the subject!

We are still in process of getting the account set up with Sue Race as the treasurer. I did not know what it takes to remove a person who has passed away but it can be frustrating. Hopefully it will all be completed within the next month.

The situation in Savannah, Georgia has gone the way it was expected. The archaeological ordinance has passed. It was virtually unchanged from the original version. Those pushing it put on a grand show full of misleading information. In a presentation to the council that was recorded, a council member ask a question. He had met with what I believe are members of the local detecting club. He voiced their concerns that detecting would be banned. He ask that very question. Her statement was that it is not banned that they just need to get a permit. That satisfied the councilman who thought his question was answered. What he did not realize was that he just received a ration of BS. There should have been a follow up; What are the chances of getting that permit?

She also stated that they had met with all the "stakeholders" and incorporated their concerns in the draft. More BS on both accounts. She even inferred that the developers agreed with their stance. Yeah Right! Now there will be a committee to look at implementing the ordinance and deciding on what the next step is on the march toward including private property. The biggest joke is that there will be a representative of the metal detecting/bottle digging community on it. I wonder who gets to choose the person. And if the person is actually an advocate for the hobby will they have any say at all. My opinion is that the whole committee is just a big ruse to give the appearance that the public has any say.

The same issue is happening in Charleston, SC. If it goes like this one, and we have no reason to believe otherwise then it is a done deal before it starts. It will be rubber stamped by the council. When private property owners start getting hit with ridiculous costs and delays and maybe some of those who thought it was a great idea get bit then it will change. It would be really interesting to see one of those council people or one of the people who pushed this end up on the receiving end of the financial windfall for the archaeologists.

We will keep you updated.

Mark Schuessler, FMDAC President

Mary Benjamin, Producer, Prometheus Entertainment.

I am one of the producers for a new series for the History Channel called OAK ISLAND PRESENTS WORLD'S GREATEST TREASURES. I have been producing documentaries for TV for many years including THE STORY OF GOD WITH MORGAN FREEMAN for 4 years for National Geographic.

We're researching stories now for a new series which focuses on Treasure Mysteries. One of the stories we're doing is the legend of the Silver Madonna, which occurred in southern NH at the time of the French Indian War. We'd like to find a detectorist who we might be able to include in the story.

If you're interested, we'd like to speak to you about the story after January 6th. So let me know if you are interested and we can set up a time to talk the week of January 6th.

Many thanks and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best,

Mary Benjamin [EMAIL](#)

Hobby Related News

General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

- Are Volusia beaches narrower than in the past? [Article Link](#)
- Toulon man finds WW I dog tags. [Article Link](#)
- Man says he has discovered Forrest Fenn's treasure. [Article Link](#)
- Missing class ring helps feed those in need after it's returned to its owner. [Article Link](#)
- The best Garrett metal detector. [Article Link](#)
- Mother looking for necklace with son's ashes. [Article Link](#)
- Saving the comics: Local shop owner helps collectors evaluate their stash. [Article Link](#)
- Minelab Makes Its Debut At Dick's Sporting Goods With The Mighty VANQUISH. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detecting hobbyists back in action after permit process passes. [Article Link](#)
- Diving into a mystery: Local teacher part of team that found sunken warship. [Article Link](#)
- The Curse of Oak Island: Team uncover 200-year-old shaft and learn of possible Spanish treasure on the island. [Article Link](#)
- 80-year-old man heartbroken over lost wedding ring. [Article Link](#)
- Charleston's amateur relic hunters dig up signs of Lowcountry's history. [Article Link](#)
- Kalamazoo Resources discovers zone of gold nuggets at DOM's Hill Gold Project. [Article Link](#)
- Couple loses wedding ring at Enchant Christmas, the world's largest Christmas maze, in St. Pete. Hope to find it before their first wedding anniversary. [Article Link](#)

U.K. News

- Boy's metal detector Christmas gift uncovers bombs on beach. [Article Link](#)
- Metal Detectorists Looking for a Lost Ring Discover a Rare Fortune From the 1500s. [Article Link](#)
- The metal detectorists adding to Scotland's history one treasure at a time. [Article Link](#)
- Iron Age treasure. [Article Link](#)
- UK's 'oldest Iron Age gold' is revealed. [Article Link](#)
- 227 treasure troves dug up in Oxfordshire. [Article Link](#)
- A battered ring that could be more than 800 years old... not what you'd expect to find in Stockport. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure-hunter, 50, who unearthed 99 silver Anglo-Saxon coins in farmer's field in Suffolk is 'amazed' when 1,000-year-old hoard sells for £90,000. [Article Link](#)

Other Media News Sources

- **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. [Pod Cast Link](#)
- **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. [Hour Long 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. [December News](#)
- **Coin World** - Numismatic and Coin Collecting [Coin News](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [December News](#)
- **Minelab** [December Newsletter](#)
- **PLP** [December Press Release](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [December News](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [January Newsletter](#)

Jewelry Returns

- Man finds woman's high school ring missing for nearly 50 years. [Article Link](#)
- Ring lost in field near Oswestry 61 years ago back with owner. [Article Link](#)
- After 34 years, Hempfield grad reunites with lost class ring. [Article Link](#)
- Friendship forged from finding a ring. [Article Link](#)
- Army veteran, South View graduate is returned a class ring he thought was lost. [Article Link](#)
- After Reading Random Facebook Post, Hikers Retrieve Lost Wedding Ring From Snowy Mountain Trail. [Article Link](#)
- Ring, lost and found on a Maine beach, returns to its rightful owner after 49 years. [Article Link](#)
- Man with metal detector finds ring lost in sand for 50 years. [Article Link](#)

North America Archaeology News

- Archaeologists discover remains of vast Mayan palace in Mexico. [Article Link](#)
- Discovery of iron anchors raises hopes of finding Hernán Cortés's ships. [Article Link](#)
- Working in Clark County: Elaine Dorset, National Park Service archaeologist. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists uncover 12,500-year-old site in Avon, showing evidence

W.W. Meteorite News

- Turkey's third-largest meteorite found in Çorum. [Article Link](#)
- STROKE OF LUCK Massive Friday the 13 asteroid skirts safely past Earth at 18,000mph. [Article Link](#)
- Museum in small Maine town home to one of world's best collections of meteorites, much more. [Article Link](#)
- Two gigantic 'Christmas asteroids' are heading for Earth, sa reveals. [Article Link](#)
- How a Meteorite Ruined an Alabama Woman's Afternoon 65 Years Ago. [Article Link](#)

- of the earliest known population in Connecticut. [Article Link](#)
- FBI And Archaeology Institute Team To Recover Stolen Artifacts. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeology shock: Experts discover US Civil War soldiers dyed their hair to 'look better'. [Article Link](#)
- Mysterious stone structures in North Carolina's rivers linked to prehistoric people. [Article Link](#)
- Council says no to Archaeological Research on Cemetery Property. [Article Link](#)
- Research team to take fresh look at delicate artifacts. [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

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

- **January 18, 2020** (One Day)
Quartzsite, Arizona
2020 Super Hunt
Quartzsite Metal Detecting Club

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

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

Windsor - CBC News Metal detecting hobbyists back in action after permit process passes [Weblink](#)

Metal detector users in Windsor can finally get back to doing what they love after city council voted to move forward with a permit process.

In 2018, Windsor city council directed the parks and recreation department to work with the Sun Parlour Treasure Seekers for a permit process that worked for both parties. Jack Lewis, former president of the group, said those conversations seemed like they were making progress.

An insurance requirement was the most recent hold up in the process.

"Despite having a permit process ready in place, our members have not been able to use the parks for metal detecting since 2017," said Lewis, adding that members are frustrated with how long the process has taken.

In March, the group learned they would have to get insurance for their activities. Though the group was required by the city to obtain a permit, the city wouldn't provide them with insurance.

"Detecting organizations in the U.S. and U.K. were contacted and none had ever heard of requiring individual insurance," said Lewis. The group contacted a number of insurers, but were declined coverage by most of those groups.

Lewis said many other users of city parks, including cyclists and bike park users are not required to obtain their own insurance.

Dana Paladino, deputy solicitor for the City of Windsor, said it's typical to ask for insurance anytime someone is potentially "disturbing" city property. Administration said they expected it would be a "nominal" cost for the group to obtain insurance.

The metal detecting permit is free but does require proof that the metal detecting user has training and will adhere to a code of ethics, which includes making sure no lasting damage is done to city parks, in addition to requiring insurance.

During Monday's council meeting, Ward 1 Coun. Fred Francis said the entire process has been a "solution looking for a problem."

"I don't know what to ask administration for moving forward," said Francis. "I'm all sorts of confused. It's something we've always done and it's never been an issue."

Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens said council could choose what level of risk to accept, including accepting all risk if they wanted.

Council voted to move forward with the permit process without insurance restrictions attached during Monday's meeting.

More than 90 of the city's parks have "high archaeological potential," which means there's a high likelihood that archaeologically-significant material might be found in those parks, according to the city.