

# Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

## FMDAC News Gram

## United States Metal Detecting Association

June 2019

FMDAC News Gram

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FMDAC

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President: **Mark Schuessler**

Vice President: **Ed Burke**

Treasurer: **John Howard**

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**

First off I want to apologize for the membership cards not being sent out yet. They are actually being printed now and should start going out within the next week. Thank you everyone for your patience. Our membership chairman Scott Manahan has had to start from scratch as he could not open some of the files or did not have the necessary programs. He also has had knee surgery and is mending well.

With the really screwy weather we are having all over the country we hope you are getting out when you can. We also send our thoughts and prayers to anyone who has been affected by the flooding and tornados.

After announcing our first target recovery course, well that would be the first stand alone course, we have received positive response from many people. Along with more requests to teach it. Right now we have 7 to schedule. As we progress forward we will need to certify instructors in areas around the country. Without that it will become cost prohibitive with the travel involved. We do not want to have to charge any more than a membership fee so this is one stumbling point we need to work out.

This course is not a for profit venture. It is educational and hobby preservation oriented. However we cannot loose money on it either. So by having a network of instructors we will be able to reach far and wide. We will be looking at individuals in each course to see if there are experienced people with the necessary skill level that would make a good instructor.

For everyone's information I have recently learned that we have an ally in the US House of Representatives. The former Mayor of Knox County, TN and a former TN state legislator was elected to the House in the last election in November, 2018. Tim Burchett is a fellow metal detectorist and should prove to be a good ally when the need arises. The former Mayor Burchett was instrumental in our holding an event near Knoxville a few years ago.

The one snag with attempting to do anything to our benefit at this point in time is that with the very toxic atmosphere in the halls of government right now, nothing is being accomplished. So anything benefitting the metal detecting hobby is way down on the list.

#### **Happy Hunting**

**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

### Other 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. [Hour Long Programs](#)
- **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. [May News](#)
- **Coin World** - Numismatic and Coin Collecting [Coin News](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [News](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [May News](#)
- **PLP -Public Lands for the People** [News Release](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [June Newsletter](#)

### Hobby Related News

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

- Treasure Hunts In B.C., Alberta Have People Hoping To Hit Gold. [Article Link](#)
- Florida man finds 'Mom' necklace with ashes in ocean. [Article Link](#)
- Lost Heirloom Discovered After Nearly 20 Years in Oakland. [Article Link](#)
- A metal detector, a hat, and plenty of water — is it really that easy to strike gold? [Article Link](#)
- Australian finds A\$100,000 gold nugget using metal detector. [Article Link](#)
- Greencastle man searches for buried history. [Article Link](#)
- Lincoln woman uses metal detector to help others. [Article Link](#)
- Australian family finds \$24G gold nugget on family walk with dog named Lucky. [Article Link](#)
- 'It could change everything': coin found off northern Australia may be from pre-1400 Africa. [Article Link](#)
- Collectors Corner: Coins in the News, Spring 2019. [Article Link](#)
- Mystery of the Spanish coins that predate Christopher Columbus by 200 years and have been found deep in the Utah desert. [Article Link](#)
- Buried treasure: Long lost Steamboat Malta found under Missouri farm land. [Article Link](#)
- Thieves seen on camera stealing metal detector equipment from store in The Woodlands. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunter finds ancient Roman coin in Maylands park. [Article Link](#)
- Detecting club showcases items. [Article Link](#)
- Coleman Area Library now lending metal detector, energy monitor. [Article Link](#)

#### U.K. News

- Treasures uncovered in our midst. [Article Link](#)
- Medieval 'jetton' found in Rylstone is declared treasure at inquest. [Article Link](#)
- Beach closed after unexploded bomb discovered - live update. [Article Link](#)
- 'Biggest ever' treasure trove of Roman coins found in Britain. [Article Link](#)
- Your treasure may be closer than you think. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure find man unearths rare brooch in Norfolk. [Article Link](#)
- Detectorist Find Medieval Coin Hoard of King Edward Silver, Gold Nobles. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunter finds £20k bracelet with metal detector. [Article Link](#)

#### Jewelry Returns

- After 27 years, class ring discovered in city sewer. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detector near West Felton finds wedding guest's lost ring. [Article Link](#)
- Care home resident reunited with lost wedding ring. [Article Link](#)
- Titan alumnus reunited with his high school grad ring 35 years later. [Article Link](#)
- Lost wedding ring returned to owner after three months. [Article Link](#)
- Metal Detectorist Finds Heirloom Ring Lost At Brewer Hannaford. [Article Link](#)
- Man with a metal detector finds N.J. woman's missing ring, 25 years later. [Article Link](#)

#### North America Archaeology News

- Archaeologists on Water Street project unearth the old so Vinik group can raise up the new. [Article Link](#)
- Sign up for an archaeological dig. [Article Link](#)
- The Last American Transatlantic Slave Ship Has Been Found. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeology Center discovers vandalism at protected Cornville site. [Article Link](#)
- Ancient burial site off Manasota Key is 1,000 years older than estimated. [Article Link](#)
- Thieves breach, loot Utah's Danger Cave. [Article Link](#)
- Veterans are digging up new careers. [Article Link](#)
- Drone deployed to map southeast Colorado World War II internment camp site. [Article Link](#)
- Toppled Trees in Florida Reveal 19th-Century Fort. [Article Link](#)

#### W.W. Meteorite News

- A MASSIVE fireball with the power of a nuclear bomb has crashed off the south coast of Australia, NASA has confirmed. [Article Link](#)
- 100-year-old Egyptian mystery solved, famed 'desert glass' was formed by a meteorite. [Article Link](#)
- This Asteroid Won't Hit Earth, But It's Coming Pretty Dang Close. [Article Link](#)
- Shimmery Meteor Illuminates Night Sky Over Chicago. [Article Link](#)
- NASA head issues meteor warning, calls for cooperation to meet threat. [Article Link](#)
- Pow! A Meteorite Slammed into the Moon at 38,000 MPH During Lunar Eclipse. [Article Link](#)

## Hunt Events and Shows

### Metal Detecting & Gold Prospecting Events.

Now is the time to start planning and getting your club's 2018/19 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 2019 Show Calendars

- [Antique Bottle Show](#)
- [Coin Shows](#)
- [Numismaster Coin Shows](#)
- [Insulator Shows](#)
- [CFMS Society & Club Shows](#)
- [Club-Sponsored Mineral Shows](#)
- **June 01, 2019** Event: (Two Days)  
Grand Rapids, North Dakota  
20th Annual Hunt  
Minnkota Artifact Recovery Group
- **June 01, 2019** Event: (One Day)  
Shawsville, Virginia  
28th Annual Open Hunt  
Roanoke Valley Coin & Relic Club
- **June 04, 2019** Event: (Five Days)  
Cleveland, Georgia  
2019 Digger's Dirt Party: 5-Day Common Dig  
Outing at Loud Mine  
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn

- **June 07, 2019** Event: (One Day)  
Palmer, Alaska  
th Annual Metal Detecting Hunt  
MatSu Dirtfishers Assn
- **June 08, 2019** Event: (One Days)  
Cleveland, Georgia  
2019 Swing Dancing Detector Hunts: Kids  
to Pros - Loud Mine Camp  
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **June 08, 2019** Event: (Two Days)  
Bellville, Ohio  
Nighttime Metal Detecting Hunt  
Ohio Buckeye Chapter of the GPAA
- **June 08, 2019** Event: (Two Days)  
New Stanton, Pennsylvania  
7th Annual Silver Seekers Open Treasure  
Hunt  
Silver Seekers
- **June 14, 2019** Event: (Three Days)  
Athol, Idaho  
47th Annual Treasure Hunt  
Northwest Treasure Hunters Club
- **June 15, 2019** Event: (Two Days)  
Utica, Nebraska  
45th Annual Hunt  
Nebraska Land Treasure Hunters
- **June 15, 2019** Event: (Two Days)  
Alleghany, California  
10th Annual Gold Show  
Underground Gold Mining Museum
- **June 21, 2019** Event: (Seven Days)  
Nome, Alaska  
Minelab Week Alaska  
Akau Gold & Minelab
- **June 21, 2019** Event: (Three Days)  
Mancos, Colorado  
2019 WWATS Rendezvous  
WWATS - World Wide Association  
of Treasure Seekers
- **June 29, 2019** Event: (One Day)  
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania  
XP Deus Boot Camp  
Instructors: Andy Sabisch and  
Hugh Campbell
- **June 30, 2019** Event: (One Day)  
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania  
The Minelab Bootcamp  
Minelab & Andy Sabisch

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

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

## Treasure Hunts In B.C., Alberta Have People Hoping To Hit Gold. By Melanie Woods of HuffPost [Website](#)

Three chests with \$100,000 worth of gold each are buried in Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver.

It's a fantasy straight out of a children's novel. Get the map. Follow the clues. Find the buried treasure. Seems simple, right?

According to the Edmonton-based company GoldHunt, finding \$100,000 in solid gold and silver buried in your city could be that easy.

In a plot straight out of Treasure Island, the company says it has buried three chests containing \$100,000 in gold within the city limits of Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. Participants can sign up for the treasure hunt online for a map containing clues, riddles and hints. The maps, which cost \$25, will be released on June 1, at which point the hunt will begin.

"We believe that \$100,000 is kind of that magic number that could really make a huge difference in someone's life," GoldHunt spokesperson Chris Cromwell told HuffPost.

The prospect of a real-life treasure hunt has residents buzzing and preparing. But what kind of supplies does a treasure hunter need?

Heather Acker lives in Stoney Plain, just outside of Edmonton and she signed up for the Edmonton hunt. Her must-have treasure-hunting list includes a metal detector, a shovel, a brand-new pirate hat just for the occasion, and plenty of helping hands.

"A couple of friends of mine are going to help, and my husband and my daughter and her boyfriend. So anything I can't figure out, they're going to help me," she says.

Acker says her group is already brushing up on knowledge of Edmonton's

In response to questions on their Facebook page, GoldHunt organizers assured interested participants that the treasure is real.

"The initial treasure has been secured in trust with our lawyer's office," organizers said.

But despite DeWolfe's skepticism, she said the prospect of a real-life treasure hunt was enough to spark her interest.

"We really like puzzles and escape rooms and it seems like one of those things — a real-life escape room," DeWolfe says. "So if at the end of the day if I paid \$50 to basically just chase after and solve some puzzles, it'll be a fun day.

Cromwell says the company has followed all of the proper legal protocols to operate in Alberta and B.C. There will be a limit to the maps sold for each city to prevent overcrowding, and participants are encouraged to contact Alberta One Call or B.C. One Call to submit a request before digging.

"We obviously discourage people from doing anything that's outside of their current skill level, or anything that could potentially be dangerous," Cromwell says. "We are doing our best to mitigate, I guess, the safety concerns that may come as part of this adventure."

### Different strategies

Some participants are getting in on the action early. While GoldHunt is offering a deluxe map with additional hints and clues for \$45, some participants are getting creative to get a step ahead.

Edmonton resident Scot Guignon says that while the map hasn't been released yet, he's been tracking the GoldHunt organizers on social media to hopefully devise some early hints.

history and locations, and plans to have some people out in the field during the hunt and others back home, helping to solve the clues.

“Somebody’s got to find it,” she says. “And if it’s us, that’d be great.”

### Questions of legitimacy

Since quietly launching in mid-March, GoldHunt has sparked online curiosity around its funding, legality and if there are actually chests of gold buried in these three cities.

Medicine Hat resident Ally DeWolfe signed up for a map in Calgary. She says that while she has concerns about the group’s legitimacy, she thinks the hunt will still be fun — whether or not she finds \$100,000 at the end.

“I think a lot of people are still not sure if it’s a legit thing,” she said. “If it was, you know, a big company that back something like this, I think people would be a lot more confident. Nobody really knows who’s organizing it — it just kind of popped up.”

We’re ultimately just a group of passionate individuals who wanted to put together something that’s really fun that has the potential to change someone’s life. Chris Cromwell, GoldHunt

Cromwell says the organizers of the GoldHunt are a “group of gold and silver enthusiasts,” and that the \$300,000 in gold was funded by an anonymous investor in Edmonton.

“We’re ultimately just a group of passionate individuals who wanted to put together something that’s really fun that has the potential to change someone’s life,” he said.

“I’m watching every location that [Cromwell] is going to [when he was] on CTV News,” Guignon says. “I saw the park [on social media] that he was sitting in his car in doing a radio interview this morning. I saw the signs in the background. I know exactly where he was.”

I would hate to be that person that found the treasure and arrived at the end and, like, forgot a shovel.

Acker says that despite moving to the city seven years ago, she plans to brush up on her knowledge of Edmonton.

“My husband’s getting me a city atlas and maps and everything so we can strategize,” she says. “It’s going up on the wall with little pins on what we know and what we don’t know.”

One thing Acker, DeWolfe and Guignon agree on is that the most important strategy is to bring a shovel.

“It’s the most obvious thing” DeWolfe laughed. “I would hate to be that person that found the treasure and arrived at the end and, like, forgot a shovel.”

And if they find the treasure? DeWolfe says she’ll invest it into her business. Guignon says he’ll use it to pay off some debts. And Acker?

“Oh my gosh, I’ll just have a party probably,” she says. “A big barbeque — with Alberta beef.”