

Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

FMDAC News Gram

United States Metal Detecting Association

March 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 to all

We have a new membership chairman. Scott Manahan from New Albany, PA will be taking on the position effective immediately. It will take a little while for him to get up to speed and go thru Mike's files. Please be patient while we make this transition. It may take a bit of time to get membership cards out.

Also due to the situation renewal notices did not go out. Please send your renewals to our treasurer John Howard. We do have some that have been received and will work to get those out soon as we can.

There is one legislative issue that has just popped up. You may have seen it on facebook. It is a bill in Ohio that deals with Native American Burials. But once again it seems to go way over the top and is vaguely worded and is 25 pages long. It appears to be another attempt to disguise an all out attack on the collecting communities under the guise of protecting burial grounds. We have seen this many times before. Once the word gets out to the developers, home builders, real estate, and farming communities they usually go down in flames. I have not been able to dig into this one yet as it has just come to light. Please keep a watch and I will get the word out soon as I know more about it.

With spring around the corner we are all thinking of getting that detector out of the closet and firing it up. Well at least those of us who have been locked into this cold and white stuff that just will not seem to go away this year. I ask everyone to please re-evaluate your target recovery techniques and insure that you are doing the best job you can. We will hopefully be teaching our course a few times this year and will let you know when and where that will happen. If you are interested in having us do it for your club then please contact me to set it up.

In addition we will be starting to put some videos online highlighting the course. We must all promote the proper methods of target recovery. To that end we are tweaking our code of ethics to reflect that. The two main points that we are adding/modifying is to adjust your hunting to the ground conditions. Not digging when it is either too wet or too dry. The other is to use the proper tool. A shovel is not the proper tool for a park, school or other public area. I hope to have those changes available for the next News Gram.

I will also announce that our Northern Region will be hosting an open hunt again this year. It will take place in the same location as last year. At Earls Country Park in Chaffee, NY. That's located an hour south of Buffalo, NY. The date is September 14 and 15, 2019. Mark it on your calendar and plan to attend. Debbie Buxton is the Huntmaster and she always has a good time for all with lots of surprises. Flyers should be out shortly.

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

- Wedding ring lost off Auckland's Waiheke Island found by diving metal detectorists. [Article Link](#)
- Lost wedding ring found on Valentine's Day. [Article Link](#)
- Armed with his metal detector, B.C. resident reunites lost jewelry with their owners. [Article Link](#)
- Class ring returned nearly 50 years later. [Article Link](#)
- After 35 years, local woman recovers lost. [Article Link](#)
- Ring Rescues' Sean Boddie finds Scarborough man's lost wedding ring 10m off City Beach. [Article Link](#)

Hobby Related News

General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

- Top 10 Places to Go Metal Detecting. [Article Link](#)
- Discovering untold stories in a Louisiana pasture. [Article Link](#)
- Local El Paso group searches for hidden treasures beneath our feet. [Article Link](#)
- Numismatics goes viral in the United States: The coming Great American Coin Hunt. [Article Link](#)
- Choosing the Right Detector. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunter finds possible Roman coins on Bay Area beach. [Article Link](#)
- Did Knights of the Golden Circle bury treasures in the South? [Article Link](#)
- 'Treasure' hunters are searching California beaches for new and unique items unearthed by recent storms. [Article Link](#)
- Jacksonville treasure hunter unearths memories of the past. [Article Link](#)
- Family searching for lost wedding ring after sledding in Gabriel Park. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunting on Lido Beach can make you rich. [Article Link](#)
- Oyster farmer calls for ban on metal-detecting in bay. [Article Link](#)
- Is it a sign? Huge wooden cross washes ashore on Fort Lauderdale beach. [Article Link](#)
- Hobbyist shares archaeological finds. [Article Link](#)
- Bronze baby Buddha found off WA's north coast could be Ming treasure. [Article Link](#)
- 25 Real-Life Treasure Hunts That Turned Up Millions In Loot. [Article Link](#)

U.K. News

- German beachcomber finds box of 30 WWII pistols after storm (PHOTOS) [Article Link](#)
- Medieval gold ring found near Ludlow is declared treasure. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detector group finds 17th Century coins worth £5,000 in Malvern field. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist makes two 'explosive' beach finds. [Article Link](#)
- Alert as detectorist finds bomb on Dovercourt beach. [Article Link](#)
- Anglo Saxon pendant from 6th century found by Whitstable metal detectorists near Marshside between Herne Bay and Canterbury. [Article Link](#)
- Anglo-Saxon gilt silver sword pommel engraved with a SWASTIKA by its owner in the 6th Century when the symbol represented peace is set to sell for up to £3,000. [Article Link](#)
- Viking arm ring fragment is declared treasure. [Article Link](#)
- A cautionary tale for would-be UK treasure hunters. [Article Link](#)
- Anglo-Saxon find in Eberston field for metal-detecting enthusiast. [Article Link](#)
- Historic Shropshire gold pendant find is one of UK's most significant ever. [Article Link](#)
- Pembrokeshire chariot burial finds ruled as treasure. [Article Link](#) [2nd Article](#)

Other News Sources

- **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. [February News](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [February News](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [February News](#)
- **PLP -Public Lands for the People Website**
- **1715 Fleet Society** [February Newsletter](#)

North America Archaeology News

- New archaeology sites documented in county. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists getting closer to figuring out what happened to 'Lost Colony,' expert says. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists Work at NY Site Where Human Bones Were Found. [Article Link](#)
- Some of the rarest US coins ever found are hitting the market, thanks to NC shipwreck. [Article Link](#)
- At Florida's gateway to space, archaeologists are in a race against time. [Article Link](#)
- Ancient Native American canal discovered in Gulf Shores. [Article Link](#)
- Cobblestones at Poplar Forest Carriage Circle Revealed. [Article Link](#)
- Dig Uncovers Details of First General Assembly Meeting Spot. [Article Link](#)

W.W. Meteorite News

- NASA asteroid WARNING: 500-metre meteorite barreling towards Earth THIS AFTERNOON. [Article Link](#)
- Large meteor streaked across Florida, into Atlantic Ocean, scientists say. [Article Link](#)
- Meteor fireball shoots through sky above Kent and seen from FIVE countries. [Article Link](#)
- Was that a meteor? Space Coast residents buzz about green streak, bright flash in the sky. [Article Link](#)
- Coloradans report seeing "fireball in the sky" across the state Thursday night. [Article Link](#)
- Meteorites strike western Cuba. [Article Link](#)
- Rare heart-shaped meteorite up for auction ahead of Valentine's Day. [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](#)

- **March 02, 2019** (One Day)
Longview, Texas
8th Annual Piney Woods Relic Hunt
East Texas Treasure Hunters Assn
- **March 02, 2019** (Two Days)
Phoenix, Arizona
2019 Phoenix Gold & Treasure Show
GPAA
- **March 08, 2019** (Three Days)
Pomona, California
California's Natural Treasures
Pasadena Lapidary Society
- **March 09, 2019** (Two Days)
Fresno, California
GPAA Gold & Treasure Show
GPAA

- **March 09, 2019** (One Day)
Wabasso, Florida
32nd Annual TCAS Hunt
TCAS - Treasure Coast Archaeological Society
- **March 16, 2019** (One day)
Harlingen, Texas
9th Annual Hunt
Rio Grande Valley Metal Detecting Club
- **March 16, 2019** (One Day)
Baker City, Oregon
Porch panning
Eastern Oregon Miners & Prospectors, Inc.
- **March 16, 2019** (Two Days)
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
20th Annual Gold Prospecting & Treasure Show
Northwest Gold Prospectors Assn
- **March 16, 2019** (One Day)
MORRISTOWN/WICKENBURG, Arizona
2019 Common Gold Dig
AAGP - Arizona Assn of Gold Prospectors
- **March 19, 2019** (Five Days)
Johannesburg, California
2019 Duisenburg Outing
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn

- **March 23, 2019** (One Day)
Johannesburg, California
2019 Open Detector Hunts: Kids to Pros
Gold Prospectors Assn of America & the Lost Dutchmans Mining Assn
- **March 23, 2019** (One Day)
Manassas, Virginia
XP Deus Boot Camp
Instructors: Andy Sabisch and Hugh Campbell
- **March 23, 2019** (Two Days)
Puyallup, Washington
2019 Washington Gold & Treasure Show
GPAA
- **March 29, 2019** (Two Days)
Jefferson, Texas
Charles Garrett Memorial Hunt
Garrett Metal Detecting and Texas Assn of Metal Detecting Clubs
- **March 30, 2019** (One Day)
Woodbridge, New Jersey
Spring Bunny Hunt
Deep Search Metal Detecting Club
- **March 30, 2019** (Two Days)
Portland, Oregon
2019 Oregon Gold & Treasure Show
GPAA

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

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

Treasure Finds Reach Record High Jessica Brown-Swinburne, Museums Association Website

Portable Antiquities Scheme records 1,267 provisional cases in 2017

Treasure finds in England, Wales and Northern Ireland reached record levels in 2017, according to the latest annual report for the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS).

The provisional number of treasure finds - defined as gold and silver objects, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork over 300 years old - was 1,267 in 2017, the report showed. It was the highest number of treasure items recorded for the second year running. Wales also reported its highest number of treasure cases yet, with 40 items listed under the scheme.

Significant finds cited in the report include a 3,500-year-old gold bulla and gold lock rings sealed in lead, which were found in a field in Shropshire. It is hoped that many of the treasure finds will end up in public collections.

In total, 78,000 archaeological finds were recorded by the PAS in 2017, with metal detectorists responsible for 93% of these.

Major discoveries include a number of new archaeological sites, such as a prehistoric wetland in Shropshire and a post-medieval kiln site in Wiltshire. Another recently reported object was a 2,000-year-old Roman statue of the goddess Minerva, which was kept for a decade in a margarine tub after mistakenly being identified as a modern copy.

The discoveries have been added to the PAS database, where they sit alongside previous finds such as the Staffordshire Hoard, discovered in 2009, and the Frome Hoard, discovered in 2010. The database now features more than 1.3 million findings dating from the Palaeolithic era onwards. Most items are returned to their finders after being recorded on the database.

The PAS, which is overseen by the British Museum, works in partnership with a network of 119 national and local partner museums to promote archaeological understanding. It encourages those with an enthusiastic interest in the past and metal-detecting to carry out their hobby responsibly and record their finds.

Hartwig Fischer, the director of the British Museum, said: "We're delighted to have worked with so many passionate organisations and individuals over the past year to ensure that the PAS continues to go from strength to strength."

Meanwhile, the 2016 annual report for the Treasure Act, which was released alongside the PAS report, showed that 363 of the 1,116 treasure cases reported that year were acquired by museums, with 91% of those acquisitions going to local museums. Norfolk recorded the highest number of treasure discoveries in 2016, with 130 finds.

One of the most notable treasure finds that year was a cache of four gold torcs found in Staffordshire, thought to be the oldest iron age gold discovered in Britain. Julia Farley, the curator of British and European Iron Age Collections at the British Museum, described the discovery to BBC news as a "unique find of international importance". The jewellery, which consists of three necklaces and a bracelet, has been acquired by the Potteries Museum and Art Gallery in Stoke-on-Trent.

The growing public interest in archaeological finds has led the British Museum to create a new exhibition on treasure, which is touring the UK. Hoards: A Hidden History of Ancient Britain is at the Salisbury Museum and will travel to sites including the Ulster Museum in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Buxton Museum in Derbyshire and the Ferens Art Gallery in Hull.

