

Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

FMDAC News Gram

United States Metal Detecting Association

October 2019

FMDAC News Gram

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FMDAC

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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**

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.

The end of the detecting season is in sight for many of us. It may be real close in some areas and of course there are those in the always good weather areas who never have to shelve their detecting gear and wait for favorable weather to return. Some of us are looking forward to the last part of the detecting season as that is when we can once again get into the fields that were covered with crops.

If the few times I have been out this year are an indicator of the last part of the detecting season then I will do well. Even if I do not I will still chalk up a good year. My times out were few but most of them produced some nice targets. I sincerely hope that each of you has had some success this year.

We will be conducting two target recovery courses on the second weekend of October for two Ohio clubs. The Buckeye Searchers and the Tri County Club. and we are gearing up to take this course nationwide. It will be tweaked as we go forward and gain more instructors. We have many more classes to schedule as time and instructors permit.

EPA Rule Change

The EPA is set to revoke a rule that was put into effect under the previous administration whereas The Clean Water Act was modified. The wording was changed from "navigable waters" to "waters of the United States". This gave the government control of said waters. Several bills intent on doing that failed to pass congress even under the previous administration. So the previous president just directed the EPA to do it anyway. In my opinion it is technically illegal as it did not pass congress. This was to modify a previous congressional passed law. Its legality has been challenged in the courts and was only partially implemented at this point.

The problem with this is it would give the government control over all water in the US. Not just lakes and rivers but every pond, creek, ditch, trickle, wet spot and pothole. Anyplace water is or is seasonally or temporarily with private property not excepted. If you dig a ditch and there is water in it at anytime then it would be under control of the government along with anything you do that effects it. How far would you have to stretch for them to say that your well (for those in rural areas) is government controlled. After all it is "waters of the US". If you want to control the population then control the water.

Now the naysayers are yelling foul. That we will now have polluted water. That farmers, who vehemently opposed this, will now be polluting the water and factories will now be dumping pollutants in the water. All hogwash. The laws pertaining to pollution do not change. You could not pollute before and you still cannot. If anyone thinks that farmers want to pollute the water where they and their families live, and their cattle lives, the water they and their livestock drink and that waters their crops then you need to think about that. This is not about pollution it is about control.

So how would this have effected the hobby? It could very easily have been used to curtail and prevent water based activities. This type of action has already been used to curtail dredging in some states. It is not far fetched to say that activities that disturb the bottom would no longer be allowed or seriously regulated. Such as diving or detecting in the water. Now remember that this is "all waters" which includes private property. So having permission from the owner

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

would be worthless. In essence this would take control of a lot of private water/land all across the country. If you think I am stretching this then consider what happens all the time with even well meaning legislation. It is later corrupted and twisted to make it anything the accuser wants.

Lastly, by the time you read this the deadline for our election nominations will have passed. If there are challengers in any positions then ballots will be sent out. At this point I do know we have some nominations for some "new" people but do not know if the people presently serving in those positions will continue or step down.

Mark Schuessler , FMDAC President

Hello a Message from the Southern Region:

It has been quite hot in the Carolinas this summer with extreme temperatures. I would say the water hunters would have the better advantage. I'll be reaching out to the other southern states for inputs to this FMDAC newsletter. Currently there are only 3 FMDAC clubs in the southern region which encompasses a total of 15 states.

September 10th, 2019 - Charleston South Carolina had an eye-opening story. On the Island of Folly Beach. Something very interesting, a young couple stumbled by 2 civil war cannon balls while walking along the beach. Also, metal detectorists were just short of 5 minutes before the young couple eye-balled the cannon balls. Please click on the link for the full news story video clip.

[Civil War cannonballs found on beach after Hurricane Dorian](#)

The Equinox 800 seems to be one of the hot detectors at the moment. Minelab has done an excellent job on this detector. My appreciation to Minelab Metal Detectors.

Minelab offers a 15% military discount to Military Veterans and Active Duty soldiers. This discount applies to most Minelab Metal Detectors and does apply to Minelab Accessories.

- The discount is only applicable for the individual listed on accepted document.
- - DD-214
- - Driver's License – Some states have begun to note "Veteran" on License
- - Certificate highlighting branch of service
- - Any other form of ID must be approved by Minelab first
- * A Military ID is not an acceptable document. It is illegal to make a copy of a military ID.
- Receipt and registration must be in the name of the individual.
- Only 1 detector may be discounted per individual.
- The discount is applicable for 1 detector per year.
- Minelab Go-Find series metal detectors are NOT included in the 15% Military Discount Promotion. All other Minelab detectors are.

Upcoming in January 2020

South Carolina Low Country Civil War Show and Sale is a 2-day event being held from 4th January to the 5th January 2020 at the Omar Shrine Temple in Mount pleasant, USA. This event showcases artifacts like civil war related products, civil war relics, Indian artifacts, antique bottles, historic art & prints, WWI & II militaria old coins & currency muskets/swords metal detectors, old newspapers historical books antique curiosities and much more etc. please check here for details <https://10times.com/low-country-civil-war-show>.

Art Di Filippo, Southern Region

Hobby Related News

Other Media News Sources

General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

- In Oklahoma, metal 'detectorists' find treasure and history. [Article Link](#)
- Mystery Jesus plaque washes ashore near Melbourne Beach, thanks to Hurricane Humberto waves. [Article Link](#)
- Secret Places: Hidden Confederate Treasures in Brooks Co. [Article Link](#)
- Club searches for hidden treasures. [Article Link](#)
- Buried treasure not the only benefit of hobby. [Article Link](#)
- Most Important Features for Metal Detector for Coin Shooting. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure in Lone Butte: woman discovers time capsule while metal-detecting. [Article Link](#)
- Couple Finds Civil War Cannonballs on Beach After Hurricane Dorian. [Article Link](#)
- 'Every ring tells a story': Manitoba treasure hunter starts lost jewelry service. [Article Link](#)
- Man unearths treasure trove with metal detector. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectors uncover local artifacts, history. [Article Link](#)
- These metal 'detectorists' find lost rings — and memories. [Article Link](#)
- How to Start Metal Detecting Correctly – Useful Tips. [Article Link](#)
- Six Winners in PCGS First Discovery 2019-W San Antonio Quarter Quest. [Article 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 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. [September 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](#)

- If you've lost a treasured item in Lake Michigan, who you gonna call? Yohei Yamada. [Article Link](#)

U.K. News

- Two caught illegally metal detecting at Shoreham Fort. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist finds 'priceless' pure gold snake necklace from 200AD. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist unearths a stash of 99 immaculately preserved Anglo-Saxon coins worth up to £50,000 dating back to the reign of Ethelred the Unready 1,000 years ago. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist sentenced for not handing over Trefeglwys gold coin. [Article Link](#)
- 'Mudlarks' unearth the past on London's riverbanks. [Article Link](#)
- Church sues metal detector for share of £2,000,000 Viking treasure find. [Article Link](#)
- Kirk to sue treasure hunter claiming he reneged on promise to share proceeds of £2 million Viking hoard found buried on church land. [Article Link](#)
- Rare piece of jewellery found in farmer's Thaxted field has a real ring to it! [Article Link](#)
- Gold ring found near Loch Lomond makes £14,000 at auction. [Article Link](#)
- Man With Metal Detector Stumbles Across Largest Hoard of Viking Treasure Ever Found in UK. [Article Link](#)
- After the Wem hoard: Call for landowners to help uncover Shropshire's history. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detector enthusiast uncovers amazing trove of coins on ancient, bloody battlesite. [Article Link](#)
- Grandmother Claims She May Have Found William Shakespeare's Ring. [Article Link](#)
- Meet the finder of the lost wedding rings. [Article Link](#)
- One of rarest Dark Ages finds - the Wem hoard - is declared treasure. [Article Link](#)
- Buried gold ring with a 300-year-old tragic past could fetch £10,000 at auction. [Article Link](#)
- How history is being unearthed and rewritten by metal detectorists with a deep understanding of the past. [Article Link](#)

W.W. Meteorite News

- August meteorite likely fell near Camrose, say scientists hunting for space rock. [Article Link](#)
- China's meteorite hunters: The adventurers hoping to get rich from. [Article Link](#)
- What's the Difference Between Asteroids, Comets and Meteors? [Article Link](#)
- Meteorite or 'meteowrong': Don't be fooled by that rock that looks like it's from outer space. [Article Link](#)
- Chinese customs seize huge haul of meteorites. [Article Link](#)
- Fireball blasting across central New York State skies was most likely meteor slamming into atmosphere. [Article Link](#)
- Videos capture bright object streaking across Alberta skyline. [Article Link](#)

- **Kellyco** - The Complete Guide to the Best Metal Detectors of 2019. [Article Link](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [September News](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [October Newsletter](#)

Jewelry Returns

- Late World War II veteran's lost dog tag recovered. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detector hobbyist finds long-lost class ring in Vermont field. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detective reunites woman with lost ring. [Article Link](#)
- Man finds lost Grimsley High School class ring, tracks down woman who lost it nearly 50 years ago. [Article Link](#)
- Lost class ring found after 30 years. [Article Link](#)
- Necklace and locket containing ashes of Sunbury woman's son found at Knoebels. [Article Link](#)
- Diver Discovers Class Ring Lost in a Pond 60 Years Ago, Then Tracks Down, Returns it to Owner. [Article Link](#)

North America Archaeology News

- Cumberland beach dig reveals relics of ancient residents. [Article Link](#)
- Scientists hunt for remains, artifacts at luxury condo site where skeleton was found in Indian River Shores. [Article Link](#)
- Space Archaeology: How long lost ancient Mayan cities discovered from space? [Article Link](#)
- A digital archaeologist helps inaccessible collections be seen. [Article Link](#)
- CDOT says archaeological sites can't be saved [Article Link](#)
- Treasure trove of artifacts discovered near this Colorado city. [Article Link](#)
- 15,000-year-old Idaho archaeology site now among America's oldest. [Article Link](#)

Hunt Events and Shows

Metal Detecting & Gold Prospecting Events.

Now is the time to start planning and getting your club's 2019/20 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](#)

- **October 05, 2019** (One Day)
Annapolis, Maryland
Silver Frenzy V Open Hunt
Maryland Artifact Recovery Society (MARS)
- **October 05, 2019** (One Day)
Fort Worth, Texas
35th ANNUAL HUNT & PICNIC
Cowtown Treasure Hunters Club
- **October 05, 2019** (One Day)
Cullman, Alabama
46th Annual Deep South Treasure Hunt
SWarrior Basin Treasure Hunters Assn
- **October 09, 2019** (Five Days)
Tamassee, South Carolina
2019 Digger's Dirt Party: 5-Day Common
Dig Outing at Oconee Camp
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **October 19, 2019** (One Day)
Oregonia, Ohio
2019 Fall Treasure Hunt
Ohio Detectorists Association (ODA)
- **October 19, 2019** (Two Days)
Puyallup, Washington
Bedrock Gold Show
Bedrock Prospectors Club
- **October 19, 2019** (Two Days)
Puyallup, Washington
Bedrock Gold Show
Bedrock Prospectors Club
- **October 26, 2019** (Two Days)
Louisville, Tennessee
Knoxdrt First Annual Open Sport Of
Metal Detecting Rally

- **October 03, 2019** (Five Day)
Stanton, Arizona
2019 Digger's Dirt Party: FALL Common Dig
Outing at Stanton Camp
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **October 05, 2019** (Two Days)
Chazy, Rhode Island
Pound the Ground Adirondack Coast
Rhode Island Relics
- **October 05, 2019** (One Day)
Fort Worth, Texas
Satellite Hunt
Texas Association of Metal Detecting Clubs
- **October 12, 2019** (One Day)
Tamassee, South Carolina
2019 Swing Dancing Detector Hunts: Kids
to Pros at Oconee Camp
Gold Prospectors Assn of America & the
Lost Dutchmans Mining Assn
- **October 12, 2019** (One Day)
Brownwood, Texas
Annual Fall Open Competition Hunt
Central Texas Treasure Club
- **October 15, 2019** (Five days)
Nebo, North Carolina
2019 Digger's Dirt Party: Common Dig
Outing at Vein Mountain
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- Knoxville Detectorists Recovery
Team.
- **October 26, 2019** (One Day)
Lincoln Park, West Seattle,
Washington
Moonlight Hunt
Cascade Treasure Hunters
- **October 26, 2019** (One Day)
Irving, Texas
45th Annual Open Hunt
Lone Star Treasure Club

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

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

[USDA United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service
Web Link](#)

Metal Detecting Policy

The restrictions to metal detecting on public lands are to protect historical remains.

The Code of Federal Regulations, (36 CFR 261.9) states, "The following are prohibited: (g) Digging in, excavating, disturbing, injuring, destroying, or in any way damaging any prehistoric, historic, or archaeological resources, structure, site, artifact, or property. (h) Removing any prehistoric, historic, or archaeological resources, structure, site, artifact, property."

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA, 16 U.S.C. 470cc:) also prohibits these activities, stating, "No person may excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface or attempt to excavate, remove, damage or otherwise alter or deface any archaeological resources located on public lands or Indian lands unless such activity is pursuant to a permit..." ARPA exempts the collection of coins for personal use if the coins are not in an archaeological context. In some cases, coins may be part of an historical-period archaeological site, in which case they would be considered archaeological resources and are protected under law. These laws apply to all National Forest System land and do not vary from state to state.

Four forms of metal detector use are recognized.

- 1.- Searching for treasure trove: Treasure trove is defined as money, uncounted gems, or precious metals in the form of coin, plate, or bullion that has been deliberately hidden with the intention of recovering it later. This use requires a special use permit.
- 2.- Prospecting: Using a metal detector to locate gold or other mineral deposits is permitted subject to the General Mining Law of 1872. A Notice of Intent (36 CFR 228 A) is required for prospecting, and metal detectors may be used in this activity. Prospecting that involves land disturbance also requires the filing of a mining plan of operations. People who use metal detectors for this activity should bear in mind that many of the mineralized lands within the NFS have been "claimed" by others who have sole right to prospect and develop the mineral resourced found on the claim. A search of County and Bureau of Land Management records should be made prior to prospecting to determine if an area has been claimed.
- 3.- Searching for historic or prehistoric artifacts: Using a metal detector to locate archaeological or historical remains is subject to the Antiquities Act of 1906 and the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 as amended and requires a special use permit. Such permits are granted for scientific research only.
- 4.- Recreational pursuits: The most common form of metal detector use is searching for lost coins, jewelry, and incidental metal items having no historical value. Such use is common in developed campgrounds, swimming areas, and picnic areas and requires no permit. However, one must assume personal responsibility to notice if the area may indeed contain archaeological or historical resources and if it does, cease metal detecting and notify a Forest Service office. Not doing so may result in prosecution under the Code of Federal Regulations or ARPA.

The metal detecting policy on public lands is fairly restrictive to protect our valuable, non-renewable historical resources. However, recognizing the universal interest in archaeology and history and the vast public knowledge of such resources, the USDA Forest Service sponsors a public archaeology program through which metal detector enthusiasts and others can help. Passport In Time is a national program inviting the public to work with agency archaeologists on historic preservation projects. We have done numerous projects through PIT in cooperation with metal detecting clubs and individuals. The cooperation has been beneficial for both the detectorists and agency's archaeologists. Locating archaeological sites becomes a joint endeavor and we learn a great deal. If you would like more information on this program, call 1-800-281-9176 or visit www.passportintime.com