

September-October
2006
EDITION



THE FEDERATION OF METAL DETECTOR & ARCHAEOLOGICAL CLUBS, INC.

Volume 21, Issue 5

Established 1984

President's Message

I have just returned from a treasure hunt in Java Center, New York sponsored by the Genesee Valley Treasure Hunters. The event was very successful and while I was there I was able to meet with many hunters most of which were FMDAC members. Also attending the event were Ed Burke, Temporary National Vice President, John Howard, Northeast Chapter President, Vic Kamer, Mid Atlantic Chapter President, Jill McFeeders, National Treasurer, Mark Schuessler, Legislative Liaison, and Mike and Sue Race our Membership Chairman. It seemed that it was a small board meeting and we were able to discuss many item on the FMDAC's agenda. Many FMDAC Clubs were represented at the event including a couple of our Canadian clubs. I was able to have a one on one discussion with many of the members and some good ideas were presented.

Mike and Sue Race, who also serve as our election committee, informed the officers that the nominations have been closed for National Office and only one office will have candidates seeking election. Dave Perry the Central States Vice President from Indiana will be challenging Frank Colletti for the office of National Secretary. All the other National Officers are unopposed and the ballots are going out. Even though Frank and Dave are the only two running for office it is important for every club to vote.

The FMDAC Fall Convention in Myrtle Beach, Virginia is just around the corner so if you haven't made plans to attend yet you still have time. Early entries indicate that we should have a large turnout for the event, so don't be left out. Activities will start with a free Friday evening beach hunt, which is sponsored by many of the Chapters. There will be hunt on Saturday morning followed by seminars and workshops and the event will conclude with the 2 big hunts on Sunday. We also expect to have a few manufacturers on hand and several dealers will have displays. If you need any info on the event you can either get it on the website or give Jill or me a call.

In the spring the FMDAC will be heading west to Mesa, Arizona where the Windermere Hotel will host our convention. Mike Smith from Apache Junction will organize the event. Mike has many surprises for the event including a natural hunt on Friday morning and a cowboy cookout on Friday evening. The convention will be held on the first weekend in May of 2007 so mark your calendars now.

Planning ahead we are looking at New Jersey for the fall 2007 convention and the Texas-Louisiana area for the Spring, 2008 convention. I know that there are still many areas of the country where we could have conventions but we need clubs or individuals to head them up. If you have a site for a future convention please let me know and we will look into it.

Once again this is your organization and if you have any ideas or comments please contact me either by e-mail, mail or phone.

Duane Biller
National President

Club Evidence Search Team

by Lee Wiese, VP Western Chapter leewiese@excite.com

The article is about creating and promoting a Metal Detecting Evidence Search assistance team for law enforcement. There are law enforcement organizations (Police Departments, Sheriff Departments, State Agencies, etc.) that from time-to-time need help from people who know how to operate / use metal detectors in the search for evidence. This is a great opportunity by which clubs can achieve public service recognition that may be leverage able towards other community endeavors.

The very first thing a club needs to do is **select an evidence search leader / chairperson to head up the effort**. This person should have a strong interest in this type of activity since he will be the primary contact between law enforcement agencies and the club. The club leader will also be responsible for the development and implementation of the evidence search plan that will be used by the search team.

Once the chairperson has been selected the following steps should be taken:

contact and discuss the idea with your local law enforcement agencies,

identify club volunteers and establish contact list for the evidence search team,

develop a search method and identify tools that will be used by the team members,

practice the selected search method with the club search team,

promote your final plan to law enforcement agencies,

update the plan / contact list quarterly and have the chairperson report on activities at club meetings.

Let's take the first item **contact** your local enforcement agency. A good idea would be to develop a preliminary outline as to what your club can provide when called upon to assist in using metal detectors for an evidence search. In your preliminary outline take a look at how many searchers you may have available and what the club's reaction time for a request to assist would be. Make sure your law enforcement contact is involved in criminal matters and explore the club's idea with them to get their reaction. Gather their thoughts on the subject, their level of interest and who the agency contact will be in the future. If you note a good degree of interest from the various agencies proceed to the next step.

A very important next step in the club's evidence recovery assistances plan is to **identify** club members that are interested in this public service. These members should have their own equipment, be familiar with target identification, know proper recovery techniques and be available on short notice. The list should be divided into two sections:

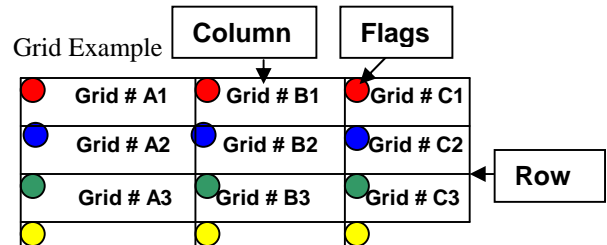
those that can be available on very short notice (at least six persons),

those that can be available to help but can not commit to short notice or a specific time period.

Now **develop** the method that will be used to provide a through search of a given area. There are a few issues that as chairperson should consider.

All evidence search members should be trained in proper search methods (i.e.: detector swing speed, ground coverage or overlap, coil height, and detector setup.)

The recommended search method to use is a grid search pattern. Each club member should be assigned to a specific grid element or elements and reassigned once their portion of the grid has been searched until the object is located.



It is also recommend that you go to a home supply store and purchase 6-10 sets of colored 15" Sprinkler Flags to outline / setup the search grid. Use the flags to highlight the grid elements on the ground being searched by using a different color for each column or row.

The grid should be documented on paper with each searchers name and where the evidence or item was found, this may become important later if the data is required during a court proceeding.

The target recovery method to be used should be discussed before the search starts so as not to damage the evidence upon recovery. Use plastic tools and gloves - do not handle the evidence directly. Before you start also give consideration to having a sample of the evidence available so that members may calibrate / check their metal detector again the sample. There should always be a law enforcement contact on site during any recovery assistance operation and follow their direction / input for the recovery method if they suggest one.

Once the method of search has been selected have the club team **practice** on some land. Plant objects such as bullets, shell casing and other small objects in the grid. Assign searchers to the grid elements and began the practice session. Continue this process until each member has found the assigned object on their first pass for their assigned portion of the grid. **Practice, Practice, Practice.**

Promote your Evidence Recovery assistance team by creating a Club Flyer or Club Brochure and personally distribute this Flyer or Brochure to your law enforcement contacts. Follow up with your contacts frequently so as to maintain visibility of the club program with them.

Update your process quarterly, by verifying availability of search members, review experience gained from actual evidence searches and continue to **practice** the process with team members.

This type of club promotion can be very rewarding for law enforcement, the involved club members and the club.



Board of Directors Chapter Presidents

Mike Smith

Western Chapter: AZ-CA-CO-NV-WY- UT

1000 West apache Trail,#106

Apache Junction, AZ, 85220

Email: promack@quik.com

Phone: 480-983-7011

Lyle Thomas

Northwest Chapter: AK_ID-MT-ND-OR-SD-WA

4308 Hayden Lane, Pasco, WA 99301

Email: treasjoe@aol.com

Phone: 509-545-5144

Ron David

Central Chapter: IA-IL-IN-KY-MI-MN-OH-WI

2211 West 9th St. Anderson, IN. 46016

Email: redlegron@aol.com

Phone: 765-643-1121

Fax: 765-643-1121

John Howard

Northeast Chapter: CT-MA-ME-NH-RI-VT-NY

Address: 34 Bayberry Lane, Rochester, NY 14616

Email: JWHoward@localnet.com

Phone: 585-663-7368

Vic Kamer

Mid-Atlantic Chapter: DE-MD-NC-NJ-PA-VA-WV

106 Elm St, Sarver, Pa. 16055

Email: kamer@zbzoom.net

Phone: 724-295-3046

Wallis Swartz

Southeastern Chapter: AI- FL- GA- MS- SC- TN

7791 55th Street N. Pinellas Park, Fla. 33781

Email: wdsthr@tampa.rr.com

Phone: 727-647-2216

Terry Smith

South Central chapter: AR-KS-LA-MO-NE-NM-OK-TX

P.O.Box 455,Judson, TX 75660

Email: termar@texramp.net

Phone: 903-734-7682

Board of Directors National Officers

Duane Biller

National President

184 Grange Road

McClellandtown, PA 15458

Phone: 724-439-1380

Fx: 724-439-2558

Snakemandb@earthlink.net

Ed Burke

National Vice President (Pro Tem)

84 S. Atherton Ave

Kingston, PA 18704

Phone: 570-331-0600

Potogold1@verizon.net

Jill McFeeders

National Treasurer

7025 Dover Zoar Road, N.E.

Dover, Ohio 44622

Phone: 330-364-1608

jcseeker@core.com

Frank Colletti

National Secretary

1439 Stephen Marc Lane

East Meadow, NY 11554

Phone: 516-481-9244

Fx: 516-481-1845

treashunt@optonline.net

Non-Board Positions

Bob Clark

Manufacturer Industry Representative

102 Beechwood Drive

Mechanicsburg PA 17055

Phone: 717-766-3383

Fx: 717-766-8970

Mike & Sue Race

Membership Secretary

603 W. Main Street

New Holland, PA 17557

Phone: 717-355-0691

Fx: 717-355-0691

Mark Schuessler

Alliance Liaison

1464 Graff Road

Attica, NY 14011

Phone: 585-591-0010

Kesmas@localnet.com

Quest editors

Frank Colletti

TREASHUNT@OPTONLINE.NET

Harry Niemeyer

HARRYJN@COMCAST.NET

EMDAC 2006 Fall Convention and Treasure Expo

November 10, 11 & 12, 2006

Bay Watch Resort

North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Seminars

Two
Main Hunts
Sunday

Workshops

Displays

Free Kids Hunt

Prizes

Banquet

**SATURDAY
SILVER
HUNT**



**FREE FRIDAY NIGHT
BEACH
BASH
HUNT**

For More Information
Phone

Duane (724) 439-1380 or Jill (330) 364-1608

ACCOMODATIONS

The rooms are all suites. There is 1 bedroom (which sleep 5) and will rent for \$75.00 per night; 2 bedrooms (which normally sleep 6) will rent for \$98.00 per night and 3 bedroom suites will rent for \$124.00 per night. These rates will apply from Thursday, November 9th thru Sunday, November 13th, 2006. For reservations call 1-800-845-9700 and tell them you are with the FMDAC. Reservations must be made by **October 9, 2006** to guarantee the discount.

CAMPING

There are plenty of campgrounds close by. You can go to www.myrtlebeachcamping.com on the web or call North Myrtle Chamber of Commerce (1-800-980-BEACH (2322))

ATTRACTIONS

There is plenty to do in Myrtle Beach for the whole family. You can check out all of the attractions at www.northmyrtlebeachchamber.com.

SEMINARS AND EXHIBITS

We will have displays by manufactures and dealers, clubs and individuals. Seminars on a variety of topics will run on Saturday. The display area will be open Friday from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm and on Saturday from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm.

OPEN MEETING

There will be an open FMDAC meeting after the exhibit area closes. Please plan on attending.

BANQUET

The banquet will start off with a cash bar at 6:30 pm followed by a buffet dinner at 7:30pm. After the dinner we will have a guest speaker.

HUNTS

There will be a free fun hunt on the beach on Friday evening at 5:30 pm for all registered hunters.

A warm up hunt will be held on Saturday morning promptly at 8:00am. Registration will be at 7:00am. The two main hunts will be held on Sunday at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm, with registration starting at 8:30am. They will be held rain or shine. You must be an FMDAC member to enter the hunts. We will have all silver coins in the paid hunt fields. The hunts will be held on the beach at the Bay Watch Resort.

There will be a free kids hunt between the two main hunts on Sunday.

TRAVEL

If traveling by plane you should fly into the Myrtle Beach Airport. The hotel is about 20 to 30 minutes from Bay Watch Resort.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need any more info or have any questions then please contact Duane Biller at 724-439-1380 or Jill McFeeders at 330-364-1608.

The Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs is a 501C not for profit organization.

ENTRY FORM

USE ONE ENTRY PER PERSON (COPY IF NECESSARY). This entry or a copy of this entry must be sent in with a check or money order, along with a self addressed, stamped envelope.

Canadian members must pay with a US Money Order.

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

1. Registrants at the time of registration must present their current FMDAC membership card.
2. Please fill out the form COMPLETELY, including the FMDAC club to which you belong. Your signature is very important. If you do not sign the release, you will not be permitted to hunt.
3. There will be \$25 returned check fee.
4. Pack your tickets early. NO TICKET - NO ENTRY.
5. Hunt will be held rain or shine. NO REFUNDS. Please complete the form and make your check/money order payable to the FMDAC and mail to:

JILL MCFEEDERS
7025 DOVER ZOAR RD.
DOVER, OH 44622

DON'T FORGET YOUR SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE – (Tickets and info will be sent back to you.) If you do not send it, your tickets will be held.

=====

I am a member of the FMDAC in good standing and I wish to participate in the following events.

SATURDAY HUNT

(Until 10/1) \$40_____ (10/1 to 10/15) \$45_____ (After 10/16) \$50_____

BANQUET

(Until 10/1) \$30_____ (10/1 to 10/15) \$40_____ (After 10/16) \$50_____

SUNDAY HUNTS

(Until 10/1) \$85_____ (10/1 to 10/15) \$95_____ (After 10/16) \$105_____

DO NOT MAIL AFTER 10/31, 2006. PAY AT THE CONVENTION.

I have enclosed a check/money order (US FUNDS) in the amount of \$_____

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP_____

CLUB_____

PHONE_____ e-mail_____

I acknowledge that I WILL NOT hold the FMDAC, or Bay Watch Resort responsible for any injuries or accidents I may incur while participating in any of the above events.

Signature_____ Date_____

Editors Notes

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Do you like what you see here? Is there something that you would like to see? We will never know unless you drop us a line. Suggestions are welcome, or consider writing up something to share with others.

Please keep in touch with us.

Frank Colletti
Phone: 516-481-9244
treashunt@optonline.net

Harry Niemeyer
Phone: 724-457-0720
HARRYJN@COMCAST.NET

####

Advertising

Your Advertisement could be right here! Please contact Jill McFeeders, National Treasurer, Frank Colletti or Harry Niemeyer for advertising rates.

Your ad will also be included in the Quest that is sent to members and on our web page at www.fmdac.org

####

I collect Red Book and Blue Books: The Guide Book to United States Coins.

I am interested in buying many different editions, especially early editions pre-1955. Also all error printings and signed editions. Please write to me at:

Treashunt@optonline.net

Frank Colletti

KIDS ESSAY CONTEST: Fall 2006

Topic/Question: If you could find anything with your detector, what would you most like to find?

Same rules as always: The essay contest is open to all children (and grandchildren) of FMDAC members from the ages of 5 to 15. The entry must include the child's name, address, age and parent's name and club name (or make independent), for FMDAC membership.

Please include the child's sex (boy or girl). Any entries that do not include the above information cannot be accepted. Because of the wide range in ages, parents may help the children with their entries.

We are giving away two detectors, one for the boys' entries and one for the girls' entries. Each child may only win one detector, and their parent must be a current member of the Federation. Thanks to Bounty Hunter for allowing us to continue this tradition.

All entries must be received by November 8th, 2006, the day that I leave for the Convention.

Please forward all entries to:

Frank Colletti, 1439 Stephen Marc Lane,
East Meadow, NY 11554 or e-mail them to:
treashunt@optonline.net

Travis County, Texas considers reversing metal-detector ban. Enthusiasts say they're being unfairly picked on.

By Marty Toohey
AMERICAN-STATESMAN STAFF
Tuesday, September 05, 2006

After an outcry from metal-detector enthusiasts, Travis County may reverse its recent ban on the devices in county parks.

At last week's Commissioners Court meeting, members of the Austin Metal Detecting Club said they are being unfairly blamed for the looting of archaeological items.

"I'm concerned we're being singled out as the culprits," Scott Hegel said. "We're just an easy target because we carry metal detectors with us."

But reopening the parks to metal detecting could put undiscovered archaeological sites at risk, cost money to regulate and even be against state law, representatives from several government agencies said.

Mark Denton of the Texas Historical Commission's archaeology division said most people who use metal detectors are responsible.

"But the fact of the matter is, there are some people with intentions of collecting objects and destroying cultural resources on public lands," he said.

The county commissioners banned metal detectors in June. County Judge Sam Biscoe, chairman of the Commissioners Court, and Commissioner Gerald Daugherty said that when they did so, they thought they were just following an innocuous staff recommendation embedded in a larger set of rules curtailing drinking in county parks.

"I didn't know there was more than maybe one person who did it," Biscoe said.

The ban put county parks in line with state, Austin and Lower Colorado River Authority rules. Denton told commissioners that there are exceptions to the rules, such as when someone loses a wedding ring or other personal item.

But he said allowing wider use of metal detectors would require costly park surveys to ensure that the county finds and protects any significant artifacts, as well as a permit system for metal detecting. He said those steps still may not keep people from digging up historical sites.

Denton also said reversing the ban might violate state law, which prohibits private collection of historical artifacts on state, county or city property.

Assistant County Attorney Tom Nuckols questioned that legal interpretation, saying that most county parks have already undergone archaeological surveys, which presumably means there were no artifacts there to collect. But Denton said those surveys were not specific enough to ensure that metal detectors would be sweeping areas without artifacts.

Daugherty was skeptical.

"Come on," he said, "we know that the overwhelming majority of the people doing this are doing it in a strictly benign manner. . . . That no one can do this on public land is just onerous. And I think if you went out and talked to the average Joe in this state, they'd think it's ridiculous, as well."

Larry Vickers, a club member, said most of the metal detecting takes place in parks in eastern Travis County, particularly Richard Moya Park. Ray Knowles, another metal detector enthusiast, told the commissioners that he was introduced to the hobby by a deacon in his church.

"After I found my first quarter, I was hooked," he said.

"Judge Biscoe, the reason this has not been on your radar is because we obey the law," Knowles said, adding that he does not search areas that are undisturbed by people.

The commissioners said they need several weeks to do more research and delayed making a final decision.

Submitted by Jim Beyers

A few comments that were posted to the newspaper's web site:

By Grumpy old man: Do these things emit radiation? We sure don't need any more of that around.

By Tiger: This city comes up with the dumbest things to ban, regulate, or debate about. Everything from the stupid Salamander, to dogs being able to eat outdoors with their owners at restaurants, to the No helmet law and Taco Truck Stands. This city is infested with hippies..

By Lyn: Do something important! Shorten traffic light time to keep traffic moving and reduce ozone level and fuel costs. Allow the detectorists to walk on public lands in the land of the free!

By Frank Cookies: They have to do something to justify their existence. They could ban everything, but then they would have to go home, so they ban one thing at a time and the job lasts forever. Only in America!

By Jed Bob: I can't believe that the government wants to ban metal detectors at parks. I think that is the only way to keep the terrorists out of the parks. I mean, if it works at the airport, why not at the parks as well? I can understand the ACLU getting upset over placing metal detectors at public parks. They probably will cite unfair profiling of park-goers. But I say, if it keeps our parks safe, do it!

By Scott: The metal detecting ban of public parks is an example of a few "intellectual" government bureaucrats/archaeologists running unchecked. They know metal detectorists do not go after historically significant items. Metal detectorist look to find coins, lost rings, jewelry not pre-historic camps or burial grounds. I can only conclude that these bureaucrats have an elitist's view of what is really public property.

By rocco: An area the law needn't go . Because someone might break the law these people are prohibited from doing something that gives them pleasure? Get a life!

By Victor: When was the last historical or any kind of discovery made by the use of a metal detector? Is this some kind of a joke?

By Val: Some artifacts would never be pointed out or dug up and handed over to historians if it hadn't been for responsible citizens...yes, let's just leave history buried where it will never be studied and understood....Why would you try to put a ban on something because there might be unscrupulous people in the world...you can't ban everything that has potential for misuse.

By Andy: The head of parks at Travis County was asked by Judge Biscoe, in an open meeting, if people using metal detectors have caused any problem. His reply was no. That says it all in this dispute!

By Glenn

This is a yet another ridiculous thing to legislate when there are SO many more important things to be doing with their (our!) time. I've owned a detector for years and have just about broken even with finds just paying for batteries even though I've kept every coin and piece of jewelry I've ever found. True hobbyists are responsible and historians by nature, they would gladly turn over anything really important to local history in return for the recognition. Calling us looters is just stupid.

My Personal Favorite:

By Brian R.

I've been Director of a major Historical Museum in Texas, and a metal detecting ban in parks and other public places is absurd, a perfect example of lawmakers barking about a problem that does not exist and then bravely "doing something about it." Easily, 99% of people with a metal detector search, find, and return the ground to its original state. Compare that with graffiti, vandalism, trash, and more damage done by users of parks, and the suggestion is to deal with the real problems.

For more comments or to post your opinions go to: http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/talk/2006/09/04/should_metal_detectors_be_bann.html#comment-651361

Policeman's long-lost ring resurfaces after 30 years

Friday, September 22, 2006

By Benjamin Schulz, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

More than 30 years ago, retired state police Sgt. Stanley Szymanowicz was cutting grass in Erie when his prized retirement ring slipped off his finger. Sgt. Szymanowicz, who died four years ago, looked often for the ring but never saw it again, and his loved ones assumed it was gone forever.

But on Wednesday, in a ceremony that touched all involved, an Erie man handed the ring to Sgt. Szymanowicz's son, James. The event followed a remarkable stroke of luck and weeks of detective work.

"My dad is complete now," said a teary-eyed Mr. Szymanowicz.

Sgt. Szymanowicz, who enlisted in 1937 and rose to commander of the Meadville barracks, received the ring upon his retirement on Aug. 22, 1962. It had the dates of his enlistment and retirement as well as his initials engraved in it. He lost the ring while he was cutting grass at Edison School in Erie, near his home. His son didn't remember exactly when, but recalled that it was sometime between 1964 and 1967. "He looked for the ring for years," Mr. Szymanowicz said. "Whenever he walked to the store to buy the newspaper, he kicked around the grass and looked for it. To be honest, I figured it would never be found."

In June, Michael Wyant of Erie was out with his children, using a metal detector to sweep for lost valuables. Close to Edison School, Mr. Wyant tracked something. "My detector told me right away that it was a ring by indicating a specific number on a display. That's how I knew it was worth digging."

The spot where Mr. Wyant found it was just 30 feet away from Sgt. Szymanowicz's former front door. The ring, which looked like a class ring with a centered blue stone, was buried under seven inches of soil. Because of the engravings, "I knew this was something that needed to be returned," Mr. Wyant said, "so I took it to the state police barracks."

Finding the rightful owner turned out to be difficult. "We went through all the department archives," said Cpl. Mark Zaleski of Troop E in Erie. The searches weren't successful. Then, a request was sent to the Retired State Police Association of Pennsylvania. Retired Trooper Walter Knaus of New Kensington had a listing of four people who retired on the date listed on the ring. One of them was Sgt. Szymanowicz.

About two weeks ago, James Szymanowicz received a call from police communications operator Eric Johnson. He told Mr. Szymanowicz that a ring had been found and that he needed further information for his investigation. At the end of last week, Mr. Szymanowicz received another call that the ring was actually his father's. "I was really excited," he said. "My dad treasured the ring. It was very special to him. He loved his job, and he loved the state police. The ring was almost as important to him as his wedding ring."

On Wednesday, Mr. Wyant presented the ring to Mr. Szymanowicz and his wife, Marsha, both of Erie. Capt. Kevan Dugan, commanding officer of Troop E, also attended.

"It was unbelievable, a really happy moment ... It was very touching that Mr. Wyant and the state police would do all this for a ring," Mr. Szymanowicz said. In his part, Mr. Wyant said he was "touched big-time. It made my heart drop."

The ring "is in almost immaculate shape," Mr. Szymanowicz said. "It is in the curio cabinet with other special things we have and that's where it's going to stay."

Submitted By: Harry Niemeyer

ARKANSAS STATE PARKS

In a meeting on Thursday, September 21, 2006 with the SPRTC Arkansas State Parks, Recreation & Tourism Committee it was voted unanimously to end the two year pilot program which allowed recreational metal detecting at nine of the parks under the control of the Arkansas State Parks System.

In return, it was also decided by the SPRTC that the parks system and the recreational metal community could in fact co-exist in a manner consistent with other activities controlled by the park officials. Therefore, the SPRTC voted to make it policy to allow metal detecting in nine of the state parks that were listed in the pilot program. The new policy is consistent with the rules and guidelines that governed the pilot program.

The Arkansas State Parks that now allow recreational metal detecting are Crowley's Ridge, Daisy, DeGray, Lake Catherine, Lake Charles, Lake Dardanelle, Lake Ouachita, Village Creek and Woolly Hollow. Metal detecting is to be confined to swimming areas that have beaches.

As with the pilot program, metal detecting will be permitted from the day after Labor Day until the weekend preceding Memorial Day between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Sunday through Saturday. Detectorists will continue to be required to register at the park visitor center, complete a registration form and follow the same rules and procedures as have been in place during the pilot program.

The Arkoma Coin & Relic Club of Siloam Springs began working to get metal detecting allowed in the Arkansas State Parks back in 1998 and with the assistance of Mr. Greg Butts (Director of the State Parks system), we have finally reached this milestone for our hobby.

Our hobbyists can consider this a big step in overturning a state parks directive dated July 1975 which prohibited the use of metal detectors on any portion of state park property.

Jim Beyers, Secretary
Arkoma Coin & Relic Club of Siloam Springs
Siloam Springs, AR.

Bomb squad detonates device

A beachgoer with a metal detector uncovers a suspicious-looking object.

By JEFF OVERLEY and LARRY WELBORN
The Orange County Register

Be careful what you wish for.

Ken McNeil brought his metal detector to Huntington City Beach on Thursday morning with dreams of rare coins and jewelry. Instead, police say, he stumbled on an apparent pipe bomb buried in the sand.

"I found something I didn't expect to find," said McNeil, 56, of Upland, who found the device shortly before 10 a.m. near Tower 14, close to 15th Street.

Lifeguards and police roped off a large section of beach after being notified of the object, described as a pipe wrapped in duct tape with a fuse on one end, said lifeguard Lt. Mike Baumgartner.

Resident Mike Flister was surfing when he was ordered out of the water as a safety measure. "I wasn't about to stick around," Flister said.

The Orange County Sheriff's Department Bomb Squad launched a projectile at the bomb to disable it at about 12:30 p.m. There were no injuries, and no suspects were identified.

Bomb squad members combed the beach looking for other devices without success, Baumgartner said.

Officials from the FBI and Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives assisted in the investigation, he said. The beach re-opened about 2 p.m.

About a year ago, three pipe bombs exploded in Huntington Beach, one at Pacific Coast Highway and 12th Street, a few blocks from where Thursday's bomb was found. Police Sgt. Craig Bryant said there was no apparent link between the incidents.

For McNeil, it was the second time his metal detector wound up attracting police attention. About a year ago, while combing through an empty lot in Claremont, he said he came across three marijuana plants and notified police, who removed the contraband.

In addition to countless pennies and one silver dollar, McNeil once found a high-school class ring he was able to reunite with its owner.

But the pipe bomb, McNeil said, "was definitely one of my best metal-detecting finds."

Submitted by Jill McFeeders



National Elections For the FMDAC NATIONAL OFFICERS

It is now that time of the year when we elect
**OUR
NATIONAL OFFICERS**

There have been no candidates nominated
for President, Vice President, or treasurer.

Two candidates have been nominated for
the office of National Secretary.

Frank Colletti from New York
Dave Perry from Indiana

DAVE PERRY
Candidate for National Secretary

Married 33 years to wife Carol, 4 children
and 9 grandchildren.

Treasure hunter since 1983, member of
FMDAC since 1985, editor of the Central
States Newsletter since 1999 and Central
States Vice-president since 2000. I have
been very active in the FMDAC since the
mid 80's and will work to protect the future
of our hobby. I would like to see an
expanded Quest, also the inception of an
"eQuest" to communicate stories and
information to the members and a national
program to induct more young people into
this great hobby.

Your support will be appreciated

Dear Fellow Members of the FMDAC:

I know that I have met many of you over the course of the past eight years, or so, and I look forward to continuing to work hard for the membership for the next two years. During the time that I have been associated with the Federation, I have volunteered to perform any duty that was asked of me, or simply saw something that needed to be done, and did it. As an example, I have edited and prepared the Quest for the Federation for the past eight years, although it is not a part of the Secretary's duties, and have greatly enjoyed communicating with the membership.

In addition, as different officers have retired I have also acquired other responsibilities, which include working on the annual "Kids Essay" contest, which has been one of the most enjoyable parts of the job, being able to work with the kids and presenting their essays at the annual Fall Treasure Expo. Then, I just took over the responsibilities, as for the Quest in 1998; then, co-ordinating, editing and updating the Federation's by-laws; maintaining a presence on the FMDAC.org forum, and answering all correspondence as quickly as possible, or forwarding the request to the appropriate individuals.

During the time that I have been associated with the Federation it became apparent that we, as an organization, needed to have a clear method of operation, and I was able to draft and helped to institute the FMDAC National Board Policy and Procedures Handbook, a clearly worded manual that enables newly elected Board members to understand their responsibilities and the requirements of their office.

Copies of the Board of Directors' minutes have been promptly distributed, and the procedure of distributing the minutes by e-mail was instituted, in order to save time and expenses for the membership.

Additionally, at the same time, we have enabled the Quest to be posted to the web page for all to be able to enjoy, along with the five yearly mailings. The Quest has also been made available to all prospective members via e-mail and we have enjoyed an increase in membership as a result.

During the last nine years we have instituted the following:

- 1) Procedures manual;
- 2) Codification of the Code of Ethics;
- 3) Worked with various Chapter Presidents in any manner requested;
- 4) Reestablished the Federation's position as a primary source of guidance and information for the hobby;
- 5) Worked with publicity and helped to develop the FMDAC handout that is distributed at hunts and conventions;
- 6) Wrote for Lost Treasure and Western & Eastern Treasures promoting the semi-annual Treasure Expos; and
- 7) Created and wrote for Lost Treasure under the Civic Patrol, which promotes the good deeds that treasure hunters have performed, often without recognition. This column recognizes the good deeds of individuals and promotes good will for their clubs.

Although there are many other projects that I have been involved in, the most important accomplishment is the fact that the Federation is stronger and more active than ever before. I hope to be able to continue to bring you many more years of active service for the Federation and for the membership.

Thank you for your time and for your vote.

Frank Colletti

FMDAC
C/O Duane Biller
184 Grange Rd
McClellandtown, PA. 15458

THE FMDAC'S CODE OF ETHICS

I WILL ALWAYS CHECK FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY AND LOCAL LAWS BEFORE SEARCHING. IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO "KNOW THE LAW".

I WILL RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY AND WILL NOT ENTER PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT THE OWNER'S PERMISSION. WHERE POSSIBLE, SUCH PERMISSION WILL BE IN WRITING.

I WILL TAKE CARE TO REFILL ALL HOLES AND TRY NOT TO LEAVE ANY DAMAGE.

I WILL REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF ANY AND ALL TRASH AND LITTER THAT I FIND.

I WILL APPRECIATE AND PROTECT OUR INHERITANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, WILDLIFE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.

I WILL, AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR THE HOBBY, USE THOUGHTFULNESS, CONSIDERATION AND COURTESY AT ALL TIMES.

I WILL WORK TO HELP BRING UNITY TO OUR HOBBY BY WORKING WITH ANY ORGANIZATION OF ANY GEOGRAPHIC AREA THAT MAY HAVE PROBLEMS THAT WILL LIMIT THEIR ABILITY TO PEACEFULLY PURSUE THE HOBBY.

I WILL LEAVE GATES AS FOUND.

I WILL BUILD FIRES IN DESIGNATED OR SAFE PLACES ONLY.

I WILL REPORT TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES ANY INDIVIDUALS WHO ENTER AND OR REMOVES ARTIFACTS FROM FEDERAL PARKS OR STATE PRESERVES.