



Federation of Metal Detecting & Archaeology Clubs

Volume 27

Winter Issue

January 2011



Presidents message; I hope that everyone had a Great Holiday Season and is looking forward to an outstanding 2011.

2010 was a difficult time for the officers of the FMDAC. There was controversy with a few members and even a couple board members. It all started when we decided to cancel the spring festival in Apache Junction, AZ for lack of attendance. With the deadline fast approaching we only had 6 people signed up for the event and when the deadline hit we only had 7. We decided to cancel and our problems started internally. A couple of the officers were upset that the decision was made, and thought that we should go through with it even if we lost thousands of dollars. There was no way we were going to allow the organization to lose that kind of money, so the decision was made. Because of the cancellation, one of the officers threatened to turn us into the IRS for helping the Wisconsin Clubs to raise money to fight the state on new laws that were being considered. I thought that our job as an organization was to help however possible, to fight for our rights, but I guess this officer thought different and wanted the IRS to pull our 501-C3 tax status. It didn't happen. We thought our problems were over but when the same officer found out that he wasn't eligible to run for National Office the waters were stirred once again. Our by laws are very specific when it comes to running for National Office and he didn't qualify. Since that time he has resigned as officer and as a member of the organization.

Hopefully our troubles are behind us and we look forward to a fantastic 2011. Memberships have been coming in steadily, both Clubs and independents. We are looking at Myrtle Beach in Oct. for our annual convention which will have many changes to our regular routine that will add excitement to the event.

This year is also the year we elect Chapter Officers so if you are interested in running you can contact Mike & Sue Race to get all the info on what to do. Also I want to welcome Frank Colletti back as National Secretary which he has held in the past and Wally Swartz as our new Quest Editor. I look forward to

FMDAC Quest is published quarterly and is the information of current events, upcoming hunts and Legislative action that you need to be aware of.

Articles regarding Club news or planned events, from the clubs, are welcomed to be published.

Wally Swartz

Quest Editor

Send info to

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working with both Frank and Wally along with all the Officers. And as always if you need help on an issue or have any ideas to benefit the organization feel free to contact me anytime.



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"Site to Site,
Season to Season"

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Ed Burke's Pondering; I would like to wish FMDAC members a happy and healthy New Year. Let's hope that all of those elusive targets become a reality in 2011. With current silver prices above \$30.00 an ounce and gold at \$1400.00, your accumulated hordes are growing in value daily. Unfortunately, for those who attend and run organized hunts, the future looks challenging. I have been involved with the organization of these hunts for several decades and fondly remember those 100 silver coin days with entry fees in the \$30 to \$50 range.

I fear that those days are gone. That does not necessarily mean the demise of these events, it does, however call for some careful planning. There are several avenues of thought to be considered. Perhaps the hunt masters could look into running prize heavy hunts that feature token prizes and a lighter number of silver coins. Also there could be an entry price increase to attempt to maintain the type of hunts we have become accustomed to. Lastly, it has been proposed that the hunts could be changed from all silver to a format that includes clad coinage. I realize that none of these ideas will satisfy everyone, but we are all limited in our options.

On the brighter side, in yesteryear, it might have taken over 100 silver dimes to cover your entry fee--- now it will take far less! I sincerely hope that,

you, our members, continue to attend and support these hunts. They are a great way to make new friends and renew old acquaintances.

Chapter reports;

Southwest; As many of you know my attempt to run for President of the FMDAC has been postponed. The FMDAC bylaws state that before someone can run for National Office they must have been an ELECTED Chapter officer. I, like many others in this organization was appointed to my current position of President of the South West Chapter and also to my previous position of Vice President of the South West Chapter, which excludes me from seeking a position as a National Officer at this time. It is very important that others in this organization that have been appointed to chapter positions be sure they are nominated by a club and then placed on the ballot for 2011. Even if you run unopposed you will be considered ELECTED. I plan to pursue this next year so I will be prepared for the 2012 National Officers elections.

Thank you for all the support I received from all over the country. Please do not be discouraged and do not give up on the FMDAC. We need to stay united and focused on fighting the negative legislation and rules against our hobby. I ask you all to continue to support the FMDAC and its officers.

Thanks for your continued support,
Don Vickers
President
FMDAC SW Chapter

Northwest Because of our very large area I would like to invite any person with questions or concerns throughout our chapter to feel free to contact me any time. We will do what we can to help or guide you through any situation that may occur.

Serving: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, North & South Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming.

Mark Jenkins
Northwest Chapter President

Central Well it's the start of a new year, and a time for new starts. I have been the President of the Central States Chapter for a little over a year now and have heard many comments about how the FMDAC officers (National & Chapter) are not doing what we should be doing. I only have one thing to say to that, and that is, tell us what you think we should be doing for you. In the past year a I think I have only heard from 2 people about problems they were having in their state. I did what I could to help but never heard back from them if I helped or if they needed more from me. I need to hear from you! I want to hear of the local problems you are having and what you think the FMDAC can do to help. I also want to hear about your successes and ways you worked to keep public lands open to hunting. These things might work for someone else. This is what we are here for. This is your organization, so don't say we didn't help unless you ask. We're here for you but we also need your help.

Now I will step down from my soapbox. I am happy to be in an organization that works hard to protect my hobby and I am happy to do whatever I can to help. I have been metal detecting since the mid 70's and I have had a great time doing it and have meet many great people. Some of which are my closest friends. So I look forward to meeting many more of you over the next year and let's start right now on working to protect our hobby together.

Don Hayes
Central States Chapter President

Northeast I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I also want to congratulate Frank Colletti as the new FMDAC National Secretary. Frank has held this job before and I'm sure he will do a bang up job. This is the time of year that a lot of clubs have their elections for officers. I would like to congratulate and welcome all the new officers and welcome back those that were re-elected.

The Northeast Chapter was the sponsor of the FMDAC Convention at Niagara Falls in

October,2010. It was well attended by our Northeast Chapter members with approximately 40+ members and spouses.

The Seminars were top notch, given by: Ed Blowers, member of the Niagara Frontier Relic Hunters Assoc., and President of the Buffalo Numismatic Assoc. on Care, Grading, and Preservation of Your Coins and Tokens. Butch Holcomb, Publisher of American Digger Magazine on A Guide To Getting Your Story Published.

Jim Bucki, member of NFRHA, on Detecting Awareness, Taking Full Advantage of your Surroundings While Metal Detecting.

Mark Schuessler, member of Genesee Valley Treasure Seekers, and Vice President of the Northeast Chapter, on Putting your thoughts On Paper.

I thank all of you for the excellent and informative seminars.

The Banquet was very good, and Butch Holcomb was the Guest Speaker. His message was "I metal detect and I vote", meaning vote for politicians that are friendly to metal Detectorists.

The prize winners for the Detector raffles were Arty Dowling-Whites MXT 300, Jim Kemp-Garrett Ace 250, and Jim Bujinowski-Garrett Ace 250. All 3 winners were Northeast Chapter Members. Congratulations to all.

The winners of the top eight were:

Ed Davis-2 peso gold

Ed Andrus-\$500.00-Top Prize

Frank Cookerly-2 Peso Gold

Janet Whitelaw-2 Peso Gold

Rick Culp-2 Peso Gold

Eugene Paige-2 Peso Gold

Rob Cziraki-\$300.00-2nd Prize

Don Hayes-2 Peso Gold

Remember to get your FMDAC dues sent in to Jill McFeeders. The paper work can be downloaded from the FMDAC website. If you have a problem getting them, e-mail me and I will send them to you.

Best Wishes for a great New Year

FMDAC/Northeast Chapter

John Howard-President, Mark Schuessler-Vice President and Ken Gudernatch- Treasurer

Southeast: 1.) At the end of 2009, I ran a membership contest for the most new FMDAC memberships in 2010. Dennis Cox President of **Low Country Metal Detector Club** has accomplished this. They are a club in Summerville SC. Dennis added 10 NEW memberships during this time. I am awarding Dennis with a plaque and a 2009 silver eagle for his efforts. Thank You Dennis!

2.) Carolina Coin and Relic Association, an FMDAC club in Goose Creek, SC held a treasure hunt of sorts for food items and personal items for two local charities; They are **Helping Hands of Goose Creek** (a local food bank) and an organization called **My Sister's House**. (for personal care items) They are an organization for abused wife's. The contest was to see how many items could be collected for the support of these two organizations and the most collected was awarded with \$100.00. That prize went to **Larry Ham**. Larry is our upcoming Vice President for Carolina Coin and Relic Association this year.

3.) One of the biggest concerns I have is within the SE Chapter there are 5 states that do not have any FMDAC Clubs (Or possibly they are not yet updated, I tend to believe the earlier) They are: Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee. As far as the requirement to become an FMDAC Club it is only 5 members according to Jill. I have been to several different areas on the web and managed to locate several clubs in these states that have active metal detecting clubs. It probably true that some of these states at one time were affiliated with the FMDAC. Wally, I am going to reach out to

the other clubs throughout the remaining year and try to recruit a few of them into the FMDAC or try to bring back a few we may have lost. I'm not sure of the outcome, but I will never know if I don't try. This will be my new years resolution for the federation. I would like to ask other chapter presidents to see if there may be other clubs in their area that would be able to support the FMDAC. I believe with a little extra effort, we can increase the FMDAC membership significantly.

4.) In closing, if any clubs have notable events or club functions, found any items that were able to be returned, community Kudos, please call me at (843) 330-0016 or email me at southcalaky@yahoo.com we can have these added to the news letter as well. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to "EVERYONE" throughout the FMDAC organization for their combined efforts and support. Thank You, Art Di Filippo SE Chapter Pres.



In the news; This month I found several very interesting news articles in the W&E Treasures magazine that were sent to them by readers. For the benefit of those that don't get the magazine here are two good articles that easily fall into the "**It should have been me**" category.

Four year old, James Hyatt, using his grandfather's metal detector was out working a field like he had so often seen his grand dad do. Grand dad and James father, Jason, were along supervising his efforts.

Buzz Lightyear fan, James said: "I was holding the detector and it went beep, beep, beep, beep". Then we dug into the mud and there was gold there. Jason pulled it from the ground and could see it was a religious pendant and was quite old.

Jason, a web designer, from Billerica in Essex, UK said that his son is one of the luckiest people. If we went to the doctor's office he'll put his hand down the side of the cushion and come up with a tenner.

Jason further stated that James was too young to realize just what he had found other than it was gold. His stroke of luck turned out to be from the early 1500's and due to the quality of the piece it is believed to have belonged to a high ranking clergyman or a member of the Royal Family.

The British Museum who now has possession and is evaluating the item indicated a similar one, not in as good shape, sold for 38,000 pounds recently but this one should go for a higher price!

Just an old Chinese Vase; that had been in the family for 80 years. The owners are the sister and nephew of a deceased elderly woman in the West London suburb of Pinner, The vase had been in the family since at least the 1930's, though they don't know how it was acquired.

The vase was described as a 16", painted sky blue and imperial yellow and adorned with medallions depicting leaping goldfish and dating from the Qing Dynasty, a time when Chinese porcelain making was at its pinnacle.

The vase was made for the personal collection of Emperor Qianlong and bearing the Imperial seal, it was an exceptional piece, experts said.

Still no one expected what happened when the delicate enameled vase went on the block!! It was handled at Bainbridge's, a small suburban London auction house by auctioneer Peter Bainbridge. Estimated at around \$2,000,000 it sold to an Chinese bidder for \$83,000,000 on behalf of an anonymous buyer.

The sale beat the previous record for Chinese art. A 45 foot long, 11th century scroll elaborately decorated with calligraphy sold for almost \$64,000,000 in Beijing last June.

I become very inspired when I read of these unsuspecting people that unknowingly acquire vast riches through no effort of their own. My lineage goes back several centuries in this country but I can't find anyone, all the way back, that possessed anything more valuable than DIRT!.....Oh well.



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www.ytbtravel.com/fmdac

Each and every time you do, the FMDAC will receive a portion of the Travel commissions.

You get the same low rates offered by other travel Websites



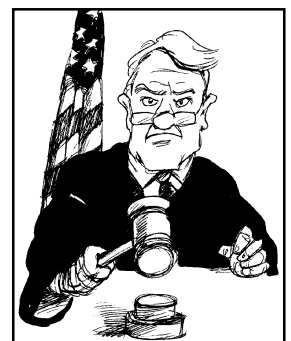
FMDAC MERCHANDISE

4' Stickers \$1.50	3" Stickers \$1.00
Patches \$3.00	Lapel/ Hat pins \$4.00
S&H \$1.00	Hats \$12
T-shirt s \$15	

Contact Jill McFeeders jcseeker@core.com

Year End Recap from the Legislative Desk By Mark Schuessler

There are three ongoing issues that have seen no change this year. The ban on detecting in two New York City parks remains in place. The ban on detecting in the city of Louisville, KY parks is still in effect. A bill was submitted in the KY



legislature in an attempt to lay the groundwork to correct the problem. A bill was also submitted to the Wisconsin legislature to reverse the closures of state lands and waters to relic hunting. Neither bill has made it to the floor, but hopefully both will be resubmitted in the next session.

Several new issues surfaced. One was in South Carolina where a new law adds extra penalties if caught relic hunting while trespassing. Now we do not in any way condone trespass but this law goes way too far. It singles out relic hunting from all other activities. With the main problem arising from the fact that someone could be charged when they either accidentally wandered over a property line or were lost. Time will tell how this law is enforced.

Washington state has seen a call to action with three situations. The first being the Washington permit bill. This is similar to the Kentucky permit bill that has also been reintroduced this year. Like the KY bill it would require a permit from the state to dig on private property. Number 2 was the closing of several state parks. This is a sticky situation which involves federal property that the state has been administering as parks. The third deals mainly with prospecting but also with any activity that effects water, such as metal detecting in the water (boating and swimming excepted). Each person would have to purchase and carry with them a "Gold and Fish" book. Since each person has to buy the book it equates to a form of a permit system. The catch is that this book would cost \$700.00!

I have said it before and here it comes again. Sooner or later it seems that they will get around to your area. Help out your fellow detectorists when the need arises. They will in turn help you when problems arise in your area. It WILL affect you. It's just a matter of time.

Watch the website for updates on these and other issues as they arise.

N **Niagara Falls October Convention;** By Mark Schuessler

I would like to thank everyone who helped out in any way with the Niagara Falls Convention. Whether it was a donation, advertising, manual help, seminars etc. I will list them here in no special order. My sincere apologies if I have missed someone. It takes many people to put on an event. Every little bit of assistance helps.

Whites Electronics

Butch and Anita Holcombe - American Digger Magazine

Ed Blowers

Jim Bucki

John Wacienga

Mike and Sue Race

Debbie Buxton

Ed Burke- Burkes Pot o Gold

Genesee Valley Treasure Seekers

Niagara Frontier Relic Hunters

Lancaster Research and Recovery

Northeast Chapter

Southeast Chapter

Northwest Chapter

Mid Atlantic Chapter

Susquehanna Valley Metal Detecting Club

Silverseekers

Rainbows End Metal Detecting Club

Joe Cartonia - J C Coins

Art DiFilipio - Ye Ole Fashioned Ice Cream

Brian Trietley - Coin Dealer

Western & Eastern Treasures magazine

Lost Treasure magazine

Suncoast Research and Recovery Club

Wheatfield American Legion

The FMDAC Board of Directors

And a special thanks to Mary at the Days Inn who went far out of her way to make everything run smooth and tend to our every request.



FMDAC

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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 REMOVE ARTIFACTS FROM FEDERAL PARKS OR STATE PRESERVES.