



Delaware



Maryland



North Carolina



New Jersey



Pennsylvania



Virginia



West VA

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the FMDAC Newsletter

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Presidents Message

The MAECC fall hunt was held on October the 2nd, 2005.

It was a beautiful , sunny, warm and a very comfortable day. We had a reasonably good attendance considering that there were two other hunts that weekend, with one the same day, just up the coast a bit. But that is the nature of the east coast. There are close to 30 clubs in the Chapter area and the result is a hunt or two on just about every weekend.

The fact that it was an open hunt helped a little. I believe opening the hunts will provide an increase in hunters and the membership.

The Chapter officers that were there were Ed Burke - Vice President, Terry Taylor - Treasurer and myself. The Chapter Secretary could not get time off to attend. But she will make the convention later this month.

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(Presidents Message continued)

As usual Mike Race the Hunt Master did an excellent job, but a lot of that credit goes to his wife Sue for the tremendous job she does.

We are looking into finding a new site and time for next years hunt. We would like to make it an earlier in the year month. Than we are thinking of moving to another site such as further north or south. Perhaps further inland and doing a land hunt. If anyone has a suggestion please respond to me via email or on this forum.

There is also the possibility of having it in conjunction with the GPAA convention in Lynchburgh,VA in October 2006. At this time it is being researched mainly because we are to hold a FMDAC event in conjunction with the GPAA at that time. See “ Rambling – On”.

I would like to thank all those who attended and supported the Chapter. My biggest thrill is meeting some people who I have read about & heard about but just needed to meet them.

That’s the real treasure of this hobby.

I also wish to thank both Vic Kamer and Pat Bidding for doing the walk-around raffles.

Without these guys extra efforts the hunt would not have been as successful as it was.

Thanks Guys
You are appreciated!!

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GRACE UNDER FIRE

On September 19th 2005 I received an email from Rick Lank, one of the organizers of "Grace Under Fire", Williamsport & the Retreat from Gettysburg," It took place on the 8th and 9th of October in Williamsport, MD. It also includes activities in Williamsport at Saint James School and on Falling Waters Road. (MD). He was requesting the FMDAC Mid-Atlantic East Coast Chapter to participate in this event and promote our organization.

Rick is an amateur metal detectorist, in a region that is rich in history from colonial times through the Civil War. Rick researched our FMDAC Website to find the closest chapter to Williamsport, MD. He even went as far as to check the calendar to see if I had that date open on the calendar.

After several phone calls to Rick I decided we could do this. Especially since he had did a lot of research on the FMDAC. As the days passed I got together some displays and photographs of different things we do the promote ourselves and the hobby. Since this was to be an over night stay I left early the day before to check out the site and meet with Rick. I found that this was a reenactment of April 5 1863 the day after the battle of Gettysburg when General Robert E Lee ordered General Imboden to take a wagon train of the seriously wounded, dead or dying southern troops down to Virginia. Thus it became to be known as the "Wagon Train Of Woe". His wagon train stretched an incredible 17 miles in length. There were 4000 teamsters and Wagoner's involved. The wagon train stopped in Williamsport MD, a pro Union town of 1000 people for ten days because the Potomac River was flooded. The whole town became a field hospital and the Union troops caught up with them. There was a great battle, which is not really recorded well in our history due to the battle of Gettysburg.

To learn more about this "Wagon Train Of Woe" go on to this web site www.grace-under-fire.us and read through the history of Williamsport, MD. I guarantee you will enjoy it. Don't be afraid to click on the different button links, as they will take you to many exciting places.

We arrived at the park where the events were to be held and checked over things. It turns out the park was originally to be the site of the white house at the start of our nation but the Potomac River was too shallow so it was put in Washington D.C. The next day everything was set up and it was than I started to meet several prominent people from that area. One of which was a man who was considered the best metal detectorist in Western Maryland. He had an enormous display of Civil War relics. Of course the Maryland State Governors aide attended and the Mayor of Williamsport was there also.

When I first arrived I spoke with the park manager and asked if I could setup a small area to demonstrate metal detecting. He graciously said I could not. First because it is not permitted on a historical site, secondly if he granted permission for this event it would create precedence and open a big bag of worms. I agreed with him and I thanked him for his explanation. As with many other Civil War towns this is normal and expected.

Since I was not permitted to detect off the pavilion the Chapter Secretary manned the booths so I was able to spend some time visiting with the local people who came to the show. It was a great experience and the FMDAC was now well known to the people of Williamsport. We were treated especially well, had a very gracious host and we are looking forward to the event next year. Rick has already asked us back for this month but having three events and a trip to our convention I was unable to attend.

As a side trip I was able to visit a cemetery in Middletown, Maryland where many of my ancestors are buried. So the trip to promote the FMDAC was triple event for me. I promoted the FMDAC and our hobby, I got to visit a part of my family's history and I learned about the events of 1863 in and around Williamsport, MD.

2005 FALL CONVENTION

Our 2005 Fall Convention was held this year at Panama Beach City, Florida. We arrived early Thursday afternoon to a bright, hot & sunny day. My wife and I had the pleasure of sharing a suite with Bob Clark the FMDAC Industry Representative and his wife Thelma.

Thursday was a day to renew old friendships and prepare for the meetings on Friday. The numerous metal detecting dealers, and the magazine promotions were setting up that day. There was Bill Babb's with his excellent sand scoops, Bob Sprately and Bill Durance with that terrific display of their Conquistador armour, pikes and other treasures of the 1500's also there were displays of very old knives and daggers. Western & Eastern Treasures had a display as did the new American Digger Magazine.

Odyssey Marine had a great display of the treasures that they recovered from the SS Republic. They had some beautiful jewelry made from some of the treasures they found. Of course there were wives drooling over these pieces but many of us can only dream of such treasures,

Friday started off with a meeting of the Chapter Presidents and Jim Beyers the FMDAC Vice President. We all gave a brief report of our chapters followed by our suggestions for improving the FMDAC.

After this meeting there was the main Board of Directors meeting.

Many of the suggestions brought up in the Chapter Presidents meeting were discussed and acted on. The main thing agreed upon was that the Presidents will have to be more aggressive in their communication with their state reps and the clubs if we want returned communications from them. The Board meeting was delayed a bit when our new Webmaster Marilyn Lakes and her Husband Blair arrived.

(Continued)

(Convention continued)

Marilyn had just arrived from Canada and came directly to the meeting. She was introduced to each of us and finally got to put a face on those who she has been working with on the FMDAC Website. The meeting resumed and after a day of hard work we adjourned to the display room and got ready for the Friday night hunt.

The Friday night hunt went off quite well although with all the hotel beach lighting I would have called it a Twilight hunt.

Saturday started off with a hunt followed by the display room and the lectures. I got to visit a few and I was most impressed with the SS Republic lecture and came away with some helpful hints from the Fisher Metal Detector lecture.

That evening I was introduced to a famous crab house called "Dirty Dicks". Of course they had to drag me away from all that southern Sea Food, Barbequed Ribs, Pulled Pork and chicken all on one platter.

Saturday night there was a cocktail hour and the main Banquet. Bob Sprately gave an excellent keynote address. Many people were honored for their work and dedication to the hobby and the FMDAC. This has to be one of the most enjoyable and entertaining Banquets I have attended.

Sunday we awoke to a beautiful sunny day full of expectations of finding a top token.

Due to beach erosion from the storms the hunt fields were well spread out. It was a pleasure to have a change from the standard square hunt sites. It was a site to see from the balcony of the hotel room. Check out the website for photos.

I would like to thank all those who worked so hard to bring a successful convention to the Florida coast.

A special thanks to Wally Swartz, the S.E. Chapter officers and the various clubs who contributed their time and efforts.

MID-ATLANTIC EAST COAST CHAPTER

Treasurer Report for 3rd Quarter of 2005

Emlenton Bank Balance as of Sept 30, 2005	\$6,066.60
Chapter Expenses during July 2005	\$435.00
Chapter Expenses during August 2005	\$97.57
Chapter Expenses during September 2005	\$000.00

Income Received

From 07-7-2005 (chapter hunt)	\$659.00
From 08-5-2005 (chapter hunt)	\$1,650.00
From 08-12-2005 (chapter hunt)	\$225.00
From 09-7-2005 (chapter hunt)	\$1,215.00

MAECC TREASURER

TERRY E. TAYLOR

2005 Fall Convention Winners

Grand Prize

Duane Biller Pennsylvania

1st Prize

Bret Worden Indiana

The Betty Weeks Clock

Jim Bozeman California

Metal Detectors

Ed Burke PA Garrett metal detector

Jo Ashley PA Tesoro Metal detector

Linda Pavlischak PA Minelab Metal detector

Sue Race PA Fisher Metal Detector

There were treasure chests, gold & silver coins, books, sand diggers, all kinds of hobby orientated prizes awarded for found tokens.

An award of special appreciation went to Marilyn Lakes for volunteering to create and manage the FMDAC website.

She has been working with a bunch of strange people (FMDAC Officers and Board Members) who have many different ideas. Marilyn has managed to gather this groups ideas together and work them into a fine website that she and the members can be proud of.

For this we all appreciate her and her efforts.

2006 Spring Convention

The 2006 Spring Convention will be held May 5th, 6th, & 7th 2006 at the Days Inn At Niagara Falls, N.Y. The hunts will be held on Beaver Island State Park.

For more information go to the FMDAC Website.

You can get a preview of the falls and attractions at in and around Niagara.

<http://www.infoniagara.com/attractions/fa/flash/american.html>

<http://www.infoniagara.com/attractions/fa/flash/canadian.html>

See you there

Rambling – On

As usual the communications problem will not go away. If your club can not give up an email address of at least two people than there will not be very much communications between us.

Your newsletter stories can become part of this newsletter. Please email your newsletters to:

harryjn@comcast.net

We need to have the email addresses of at least two club contact people in each FMDAC member club for communications. Two is needed because sometimes one does not relay any info at the club meetings. Several reasons are: the club president omits the FMDAC report to save time for other parts of his agenda, The FMDAC club contact person forgetting to bring in the info, the report is boring and finally just to busy to address FMDAC issues.

As co-editor of the Quest I need newsletters, emails of events and stories of finds and local promotions for the hobby.

I also manage the FMDAC website calendar. If you have a special event coming in 2006 please send me the details or a link to your flyers and I will place them onto the calendar. You must be a member club to have your events posted or you must a very strong non-member supporter of the FMDAC.

The National GPAA has invited the FMDAC to participate in four of their conventions in 2006. one of the conventions will be in the city of Lynchburgh, Virginia. We intend to have tables set up in the Armory and possibly have the 2006 Chapter hunt in conjunction with the GPAA convention. Planning is in the early stages and just because we have 12 months to go doesn't mean we have to sit back awhile. There are two of these events coming up in February and March 2006 so we are lucky to have a such a large planning window.

Don't forget the convention in Niagara Falls, it is drivable for many in the Chapter area. See You There.

Harry Niemeyer – President
MAECC

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.

Mid-Atlantic East Coast Chapter
C/O Harry Niemeyer - President
73 McGovern Boulevard
Crescent, PA 15046

Mailing Address