

MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER CHATTER

Mid-Atlantic East Coast Chapter

President-Vic Kamer

Vice President-Lenny Cooper

Treasurer-Terry Taylor

Secretary-Cheryl Kamer

Chatter Editor-Cheryl Kamer

It looks like Spring has finally arrived. At least where I live anyway. The daffodils are popping out of the ground and starting to bloom. I have even gotten out detecting a bit, which sure feels good. I found a silver dime a couple of wheaties and some other coins in my neighbor's yard. I have lived beside them for almost 30 years. I just never bothered to look there. Just goes to show you, you never know what might be right under your nose. I will be going to my first hunt of the year in Winfield, Pennsylvania in 2 weeks and then on to a hunt in Texas the next weekend. I am so looking forward to going and seeing old friends I haven't seen for a while and catching up on things. It is always a good time when we detectorists get together. I am looking forward to seeing many of you soon. May this year be the year you find that "special" treasure. Vic

Lancaster Research and Recovery Club

The club presented the newly elected officers to the membership. The FOTM 2007 winners were announced. They are: 1st place-Dan Wilkerson, 2nd place-Steve Wilson, 3rd place-Dale Martin, 4th place-Denny Benkert, and 5th place-Mike Race. The rest of the winners were-Ann Long, Tom Shirey, Paul D. Means, Dook Bomberger, Ron Fruth, George Hickman, Steve Crnkovich, Neil Giesel. Congratulations to all! The Club voted in Alice and Dave Bertzfield, Paul D. Means Jr., and George Hickman as Life Members. The Club will be holding their

annual Spring Club Hunt on June 1st. This is always a great event. The Lancaster Club is one of the largest clubs in the Mid-Atlantic Chapter, and for good reason. They are an active club, a well organized and friendly club. They do work hard to make it that way. That is why I am a member. They also are sponsoring an Open Hunt on October 25th at the Lancaster County Park, which is being changed from a 2 day to a 1 day hunt. However the Mid-Atlantic Chapter is having a Chapter Hunt the next day at the same location so you can still attend a 2 day event. Hope to see many of you at both.

Washington County Metal Detectors Club.

The Washington Club is planning many brown bag hunts and is looking for new areas to hunt. They have done several at a farm where they are trying to find a lost ring, but they have not had any luck thus far. They are also went to an old football stadium in late March. President of the club, Al Crow, met with Kenny Russell, whom many of you know and approached him about speaking to the Club about a two week metal detecting trip he took to The UK. Also on the line-up for Speakers Is Norm Hainer who did a lot of detecting for French and Indian War relics in Western Pa. Al Striker, owner of the "NICKLE TRADER" in McMurray, PA. was quest speaker at the March meeting. He spoke on the verification of coins, reputable and non-reputable coin dealers, and the American Numismatic Assoc. which publishes the Red Book which gives the retail prices of coins. Al Concluded the program by donating a 1898 Columbian Exposition Half Dollar to be used by the club as a raffle or prize. These types of speakers make for an interesting meeting and most people with something to share like to come to meetings and tell their tales. Keep that in mind when planning your next meeting. The club is planning to set up the Wal-Mart program sometime this Spring. Club member Dan Ketzell is setting up a trip this summer to York Count Pa. to pan for gold. He is asking club members to come along. He also has plans for a trip to a ghost town in the Pennsylvania Mountains sometime in October. The town is called Landrus and was an old mining town that

died out in the late 1800's. It is isolated and not well known. The roads have pretty much been swallowed up by forest. Supposedly there are many old stone foundations to explore.

Butler County Treasure Hunters Club

The Butler County Treasure Hunters Club does not hold meetings in January and February. Their first meeting of 2008 was held on March 20th. President of the Club Jack Barrett was still sunning himself in Florida but plans to return for the April meeting. The club is entering its 32nd year and is still going strong and gaining in membership. Bravo. The success of the Club is due to the members and their search for interesting and fun meetings, great quest speakers, good hunts and a warm friendly atmosphere. Guests are always welcome at meetings and usually end up joining. The Club is preparing for their annual Spring Club hunt on June 14th at club members Terry Taylor's Rolling Acres. The hunt includes a picnic and a free hunt for anyone there sponsored by Terry. In the past this free hunt has been the highlight of the day's activities. Thanks Terry!

Mid-Jersey Research & Recovery Club

The Club is planning a scavenger hunt. They found a great location for the hunt to be held at Nashamity State Park off Street Road in Pennsylvania. Tentative dates are May 18th or June 8th. The Club is also seeking volunteers to attend and help out at The Earth Day Celebration at Mercer County Park on April 19th. It is a fun event and is good PR for the club and the hobby and may even draw some new members. The club has a website now thanks to club members Tom Brunner, Jack Mount and Jim Panzitta. Thanks guys. A website opens up a whole new world for the club, as many of you other clubs know. Good Luck with it. This club has a point system set up, sort of like find of the month. At the end of the year there will be four prizes awarded. They also get points for service to the club and two prizes will be awarded for that. The point system winners for February were as

follows; Best Jewelry-silver earring-Russ Balliet, Most Valuable-1864 Indian Head-Dan Tuckman, Oldest Coin-1796 Large Cent-Dan Tuckman, Most Coins-305-Russ Balliet, 144-Dan Tuckman, 100- Betty Sullivan, Most Wheaties-59-Dan Tuckman, Most Eating Utensils-3-Dan Tuckman, Most weapons-3-Dan Tuckman, Most foreign coins-6-Russ Balliet, Display Winner-Jack Moun. Sounds like Dan Tuckman was a busy guy! Great job people.

Susquehanna Valley Metal Detecting Club

This club set up a display area at the Outdoor Expo at the Kingston Armory on January 4th-6th. The Club's annual Open Hunt is April 19th, and 20th in Winfield, PA. The Club was having a hunt outing at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds on April 5th and 6th. They are hoping to make some good finds, not only from the fair goers, but because the area was used by the Federal troops during the Fishing Creek Confederate Campaign. I am looking forward to hearing about all their wonderful finds. The Club has also added some new members to their roster. It is great to see our clubs growing. Let's keep up the good work.

South Jersey Metal Detecting Club

This Club also volunteers at the Earth Day Celebration in Mercer Count Park on April 19th. Our Federation President Duane Biller and his wife also attend this event where he runs a trout pond for the kids there. The more exposure we as Metal Detectorists can get, the better for us. Of course I mean positive exposure, not negative exposure. This Club also collects pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House, which several of our clubs do as well. Our clubs should not only be concerned with metal detecting and the laws which hurt or help us, but also do some form of community service. Most of our clubs do. For that I thank you! Cliff Stefens is in charge of the Finds contest for the club. He will have someone else do this job for him in March as he is having surgery. As he so eloquently put it,,,,, he is adding a "Rothman" knee to his growing collection of spare body parts. I just had to share that with

you all because it made me chuckle. Good luck with that new knee Cliff. February's meeting produced twelve displays. Seven prizes were won .Prizes were won for six buttons, a 1916 dime and a rusty screwdriver. Bob Petrilli won while skiing out west. Someone brought his display in for him. Point is, they want you to bring your finds no matter how big or how small. It may have been Winter but no one told Larry Eichman it was too cold to hunt. Living in Ocean City, he was able to take advantage of every fluctuation of tides and or weather. Larry displayed 14 rings, one 8k ring, six silver rings, and a 14k gold pendant. He also had a silver chain, a 2x4 inch cross, 12 earrings, 2 bracelets, 2 religious medallions, and \$64.35 in beach coins. Not bad for the OFF season. Jim McHale displayed old coins, including an 1865 two cent piece, 1868 Spanish Escudo, 1907 and 1916 Barber dimes, a Mercury dime and seven Indian Head cents. Bob Petrilli found lots of stuff in the woods such as knives, forks, spoons, buckles, buttons and keys. He also found a 1906 Barber dime, two silver Rosies, 1899 and 1906 Indian Head cents, 34 Wheaties, six Buffalo nickels including a 1923 and 1928 Buffalos. Diane Toogood had piles of coins, artifacts, sinkers, buckles,and a pile of jewelry. Her best finds were a 14k gold pendant and a watch. Dave Tucker had a large beach display. Lots of coins, sinkers, buckles, jewelry, plus a watch and a 14k gold ring. Tom Bruner had a small display of coins. Jack Mount had a pile of coins and a good luck token. Richie Faunce also had a display of coins. Donna Winzinger displayed a buckle, fishing lures, and coins. Henry Winzinger had an unusual find, a rusty double barrel shotgun barrel. He also had one "bucket display" and found over \$60.00 in coins. He had jewelry, buttons, and sinkers. He also found four siler coins, a Half Reale and a gold ring. It pays to live close to a beach. Great finds people!

Tidewater Coin and Relic Club

Winners for the 2007 Finds of the Year were announced. They are Mike Preziotti-Coin-1/10 Ounce African Krugerrand, Wesley Jacobs, Jewelry-Gold and Diamond ring, Steve Warren-Relic-1840 Wm.

Henry Harrison Campaign Button, Tied with Louis Biro-War of 1812 Naval Button, and Ina Finn-Other-Brass Buffalo. All winners received a Ben Franklin Half. Congratulations all! This club also welcomed several new members. Way to go! The club is busy planning for their Open Hunt to be held May 17th 2008 The February meeting speaker was Barry Merrill. He is the President of the Hampton roads Recovery Society. He talked to the club about taking the club into the world wide web. A special thanks to Mike Preziotti for the wonderful job he did on the website. Since the site has been up, we have had over 1000 visitors. March finds of the Month are as follows; Coin-Ina Finn-1880 Indian Head Penny, Relic-Steve Warren-Civil War Button, Jewelry-Wesley Jacobs-14k gold wedding band, Wild card/car parts-Bob Combes-License plate, Table-Norm Franz, and Other-Norm Frantz-small fake phone. This club is growing so fast they are looking for a new meeting place, somewhere larger. This is great. Keep up the good job.
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As many of you may already know the FMDAC Spring Festival/Convention in Antlers Oklahoma has been cancelled. There are several reasons, but number one was low registration. This is probably due to the rising cost of gas as well as other reasons. It would have been a large expense to get all our board members there as well. Look for upcoming information on a Fall convention and Hunt , possibly in the southeast and most probably on the beach. Nothing has been decided yet, so if you have any suggestions contact an FMDAC officer.

A new website for travel to use to support our hobby- www.ytbtravel.com . You can book your flight, hotel, rent a car. The prices are pretty good. After booking your travel, payment, and confirmation, the site asks you whom you are affiliated with and you simply type in FMDAC. Yes, they are sponsoring the sight. We can make money for the FMDAC this way. One of our members has used it and saved money. So keep this in mind when making your future travel plans. Thank You!

UPCOMING HUNTS \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

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April 19-20-Susquehanna Valley-Winfield, PA

April 26-27-Great Beach Shootout-Daytona Beach FL

May 10-Central PA Club-Plainfield, PA

May 17-Tidewater Coin and Relic Club-Open Hunt Virginia Beach

May17-18-Uniontown, PA

May 24-25-Ontario Canada

June20-22-Treasure Fest-Lancaster County Park Lancaster, PA.

July12-19-Treasure Week-Shreve, Ohio

Aug 2-3-Black Diamond Hunt-Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Aug 17-18-Buckeye Hunt-New Concord, Ohio

October 25-Lancaster Open Hunt-Lancaster, PA

October 26-Mid-Atlantic Chapter Hunt-Lancaster, PA.

Thank you to all the clubs who sent me their newsletters. I wish I heard from more of you. Have fun metal detecting this summer, be it on your own somewhere in the field, on the beach, in the wood, or at an organized hunt. May your finds be many and your disappointments few. Your Chapter President-Vic Kamer

P.S. Please make copies of this newsletter and share it with your fellow club members. Thanks!