



F.M.D.A.C.

The FEDERATION of METAL DETECTOR & ARCHAEOLOGICAL CLUBS, INC. Est. 1984

WESTERN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Volume 25, Issue 1

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Hello from the President's Desk,

Well another 3 months have gone by and we are moving forward! First, thank you to all the members that have renewed their membership, numbers do count when we approach our legislators. Over the past three months we have implemented several programs to benefit our members and the metal detecting community. One of those is the FMDAC travel website which will put money into the treasury. The FMDAC gets a commission every time it is used. More information about this program can be found on page 3 of this newsletter. Another program that got started last fall is helping school systems set up "History" classes by using metal detectors. The Chicago Public School system is the first and some of our Chapter members have donated a detector to the class to get them started. This is a low-income area school so all assistance is appreciated.

Our Chapter held a metal detecting hunt on February 10th and the list of winners is on page 2. We have gained in the number of entries and prizes every year for this event. Please support the stores and manufacturers that donated to this event.

I am still looking for a few good members to help the Chapter fill positions such as the VP and State Representatives. Each position only takes a few hours each month of your time. Please consider volunteering for these spots. Dick King from Albuquerque volunteered for the New Mexico State Rep position. If you are from New Mexico and have questions about the FMDAC please contact Dick at diandju@comcast.net.

The FMDAC has been contacted about a few legislative bills and petitions in the past 3 months that need our attention. Please go to the FMDAC website for more information on this matter.

Mike Smith
Western Chapter President
www.fmdac.org

Western Chapter Hunt Winners February 10th, 2008

Major Prizes Winners:

White's MXT (Referb) (White's Electronics) - Brent Gutierrez – Tempe, AZ
25 OZ Silver Bar (White's Electronics) - Brent Gutierrez – Tempe, AZ
25 OZ Silver Bar (White's Electronics) - Dale Witter – Newport, WA
Garrett Ace 250 (Garrett Metal Detectors) – Ann Costello - Roseville, CA
Tesoro Compadre (Jobe Wholesale) - Lorayne Christensen – Apache Junction, AZ
US Treasure Atlas Set (Jim Straight) – George James – Glendale, AZ
Hammered Penny 1100 AD Period (Mitchell French) – Becky Richards – Lincolnville, ME
Koss E-9000 HP (White's Electronics) – George James – Glendale, AZ

We had 54 donated prizes worth over \$3000 in retail value plus \$1300 in silver coins and \$250 in nuggets to be won in this hunt.

Weekend Big Nugget Winner (108 grains) – George James – Glendale, AZ

Thank you to the following donators of prizes:

White's Electronics (OR), Garrett Metal Detectors (TX), Jobe Wholesale (OR),
Miners' Keepers (OR), Reno Prospecting Supply (NV), Pro Mack South (AZ),
Gem Guides Book Co (CA), White's of CA (CA), Jim Straight (CA), The Gallery (AZ),
Belda's Detectors (OR), Western & Eastern Magazine (CA),
Lost Treasure Magazine (OK), American Digger Magazine (GA) and the
Gold Prospectors Association of America (CA).

Western Chapter Clubs & Independent Members Report

Arizona Treasures Unlimited Oldest coin found for this quarter was an 1880 penny by John Moody. Jim Wafflard found located a Prescott A.T. & Puntenny Token. This club held its Annual Holiday Hunt on January 26th with Byron Porretta winning top prize of a 1886 Five Dollar Gold coin. Many nice prizes were won at this hunt. Members are gathering foreign coins and tokens to donate to the East Texas Children Open Hunt.

Silver State Detecting No newsletters received.

Sacramento Valley Detecting Buffs Several members traveled to AZ to attend the Chapter hunt in February. Member Ann Costello won a detector at this event. Lee Wiese conducted a metal detecting class on the use of discrimination for the club members at the January meeting. This club has 125 members.

Coinshooters of San Diego Frank Trutta won "2007 Best Find of the Year" with a gold cross and chain. Jim Walker once again won the "2007 Treasure Hunter of the Year". Congratulation to all, for their excellent finds! This club has a planted "mini hunt" every month with about 20 people attending.

Siskiyou County Relic & Recovery New Officers stepped up to lead the club with John Pryshepa as President. "2007 Treasure Hunter of the Year" was awarded to Richard Cousins. Eddie Rettmann won the "2007 Youth Treasure Hunter of the Year".

Gold Coast Treasure Hunters No newsletters received.

West Coast Prospectors & Treasure Hunters The West Coasters will be sponsoring "Rendezvous 2008" April 25th, 26th and 27th at the Rancho Jurupa Regional Park in Riverside, CA. These hunts are open to everyone with a metal detector. For more information go to www.westcoasters.org or call Ralph Crowther at 949-588-2922.

Vickie Hayes won the "Best Gemstone" category with a 2.6 Carat diamond on a platinum ring for January. John Forrey located an 1854 Half Dime this quarter.

Albuquerque Metal Detecting This club puts out a very informative newsletter and highlights club members each month. For February, they highlighted Dick and Julie King. Dick and Julie started detecting in 1980 when they lived in Colorado.

Several rings were returned to their owners this past quarter. Good Job AMDA members!

FMDAC Travel Program

We are excited to announce the addition of a new fundraising program for FMDAC. FMDAC now has its own travel website! This is a full featured travel website private labeled with the FMDAC name and logo. Go check it out! You can find it at: www.fmdactravel.org.

How it works: Every time travel is arranged through an online travel website, travel companies pay commissions for your reservation. When travel is booked on our new website, FMDAC will receive 60% of these commissions paid as royalties!

This is an exciting program that we have made available to our supporters. They can visit the website, book their personal travel and FMDAC will receive our share of the commissions. But, we also need to take advantage of the program internally to maximize the funding from this program.

Website Features

If you are familiar with booking travel online, you shouldn't have any trouble navigating the new website. The site functions in a similar manner to other travel websites such as Expedia[®] and Orbitz[®]. Some of the key features you will find on the website include:

- Air, hotel, car rental search and booking features
- Vacation packages
- Cruise packages
- Ordering flowers online
- Ordering event and sport tickets

Personal Travel

Just like our supporters, the website is available to you and your family to book your personal travel. Please help us increase our funding. Use our new website whenever you travel!

If you have any questions about this new travel program, please contact FMDAC National Treasurer Jill McFeeders.

Magazine Articles

The FMDAC has been mentioned in a couple of magazines outside the normal metal detecting magazines. Smart Money and Ancestry magazines had articles in their March/April issues that mentioned our organization. Smart Money sent a writer to the 2007 Fall Convention and Ancestry interviewed myself a few months ago. Look for these magazines in your local bookstores.

FMDAC - WESTERN CHAPTER 1ST QTR (JAN, FEB, MAR) 2008

1st National Bank Buffalo Wyoming

Balance as of 12/31/07 \$ **688.55**

Credits:

Hunt Entries plus 5 memberships	\$2613.00
Total credits	\$2613.00

Debits:

Check #1017, postage, hunt packets	\$44.60
Check #1018, printing 4Q newsletter	\$34.85
Check #1019, FMDAC - 2 new memberships	\$20.00
Check #1020, USPS postage (WY)	\$24.60
Check #1021, FMDAC - 3 Ind. Memb's + National Share	\$216.00
Check #1022, Burke's Pot O' Gold, (Coins for AZ Hunt)	\$1,302.00
Check #1023, Miner's Keepers (Nuggets for AZ Hunt/Raffles)	\$765.50
Check #1024, Copying & supplies	<u>\$14.00</u>
Total Debits	\$2,421.55

Balance as of March 31, 2008 \$ 880.00

Submitted by: Judy Stobbe Secretary/Treasurer

FMDAC Spring Festival Cancelled

With the sky rocketing fuel prices, \$3.39, here in southwestern Pennsylvania and the ridiculous prices that silver is bringing, the FMDAC Board of Directors had to make a tough decision.

Over the past few months only a few entries were received for the upcoming convention in Antlers, Oklahoma and this brought many questions to mind. I was able to talk to many of our regular convention attendees about coming to the convention and they informed me that because of both of these reasons they had to make choices and driving 1000 miles was out of the question. I figured that many people are feeling the crunch, which in turn is probably the reason for the low response.

So with all things in mind we decided to cancel the spring convention for this year and focus our efforts to this fall. This was a tough decision and everything and everyone was taken into consideration before this decision was made. I hope that our decision doesn't create hard feelings towards the organization, but when this decision was made we had the best for the organization in mind.

I'm sorry that this had to be done but I feel that with the economy going south, all our clubs will be feeling the effects. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions and we will keep everyone posted about any upcoming events. People who had sent in their reservations will be refunded their money.

Thanks
Duane Biller, FMDAC National President

Arizona Small Miners Petition

The Arizona Small Mine Operators Association, located in Tucson, Arizona is sponsoring and promoting the petition. We are doing this for several reasons. The main one is that HR 2262 is not completely dead. The U.S. Senate Natural Resource Committee is currently drawing up their own version of the bill and an effort will be made to merge the two bills. If any one part of 2262 makes it into law the future of domestic mining on federal lands is doomed. The second reason for the petition is to attempt to get enough signatures in an effort to get a concession out of McCain that he will not sign any new mining legislation if he becomes president.

Recently he has made several statements that refer to our culture having to be accepting when it comes to others political anti-mining beliefs.

Another is to be able to halt the mineral withdrawal legislation that Rep. Grijalva and Gifford's are pushing through congress and as we know every year Rahall introduces an anti mining bill.

To be a power we need to gather between 100,000 to 250,000 signatures. There are thousands on prospecting, mining and associated businesses out there with hundreds of thousands of owners and employees dependent on access to minerals on federal lands. They are our targets. Please click on this link and sign the petition in support of the 1872 mining law.

We need your full support to keep access to the public lands open. Under the proposed law few companies could continue to operate on federal claims, as the costs would be prohibitive. Domestic mining and associated industries would be devastated.

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/miningpolitics>

Glynn A. Burkhardt
President
Arizona Small Mine Operators Association

PLEASE FOLLOW THE CODE OF ETHICS AND ENJOY THE HOBBY

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 SAFE PLACES ONLY.

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

**FMDAC WESTERN CHAPTER
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