

Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

FMDAC News Gram

United States Metal Detecting Association

December 2020

FMDAC News Gram

Volume 4 Number 38



FMDAC

[Website](#)
[FaceBook](#)

[How To Join](#)
[Hunts & Events](#)
[Member Clubs](#)
[Organization](#)
[State Park Regulations](#)
[Target Recovery Methods](#)

President: **Mark Schuessler**

Vice President: **Ed Burke**

Treasurer: **Sue Race**

Secretary: **Frank Colletti**

Legislative Officer:
Position Open

Membership Chair:
Scott Manahan

Website Maintenance:
Trinna Pitts

North Region: **Debbie Buxton**
Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Canada

Central Region: **Don Hayes**
Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland

The Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc. (FMDAC) was organized in 1984 as a legislative and educational organization and incorporated, as a non-profit, non-commercial, non-partisan organization.

The Mission: The FMDAC is dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and protection for the hobby of recreational metal detecting and prospecting.

The Purpose: To unite, promote and encourage the establishment of metal detecting clubs. To preserve the sport / hobby of recreational metal detecting and prospecting. To make available to FMDAC clubs and Independent members information pertaining to the hobby and to keep members informed as to active legislation.

The Goal: is to Educate and inform the public as to the merits of recreational metal detecting.

What is a News Gram? The news gram provides a brief look into news events for the past month. The intent of the news gram is to provide you, the FMDAC reader, with news clips on what took place last month in the hobby. The News Gram is configured like a webpage and must be read online for the article links to work.

Mark Schuessler, FMDAC President's Message

M

E

R

R

Y

E

H

R

T

S

T

M

A

S

Well 2020 is just about over. I can honestly say I have not seen a more screwed up year in my 6 decades on this planet. Hopefully when the clock strikes 2021 it will be all over. A reset to a new year. Yeah I know I am dreaming. But maybe this has all been a really bad dream!

The issue in Fairfax, VA has come to fruition. The city council voted unanimously to prohibit metal detecting. It took place at the council meeting at the end of October. Somehow it flew under my radar. It WAS NOT advertised as was stated by one of the council members. I could find it nowhere that it was mentioned. Furthermore I could not even find the actual written regulation that they passed. It did pass and with no opposition at the meeting. It was an internet meeting that I watched after the fact. I say that as I had no advance notice of it. I can only surmise that the reason there was no opposition at the meeting is due to all their lack of "advertising".

The slate of officers starting the new year will be Myself - President, Ed Burke - VP, Sue Race - Treasurer and Debbie Buxton - Secretary. As Debbie was the Northern Region Director we must appoint a new director to take her place. We do have an individual who has agreed to take the position but he must receive board approval before a formal announcement is made.

Now for a reminder that annual membership dues are due. Our Membership Chairman has a short introduction below. Dues should be sent to the FMDAC Treasurer, Sue Race, [Link to Sue's address](#). Please fill out the [FMDAC Applicable Membership Form](#) and send it along with the membership due. You will receive your FMDAC Membership Card from Scott.

I hope you have had a great year of finds. I have not done so well but that is probably because of the limited times I was able to get out. So hopefully 2021 will bring a "New Year". Let's leave this one behind and not look back.

And lastly we wish everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hey it has to get better!

Mark Schuessler, FMDAC President

H

A

P

P

Y

N

E

W

Y

E

A

R

South Region: **Art Di Filippo**
California, Hawaii, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida

Scott Manahan, FMDAC Membership Chair Message

Hi everyone my name is Scott Manahan I am the FMDAC Membership Chair. I live in the very small town of New Albany in Northeast Pennsylvania.

I was metal detecting before it was popular. My wife Laura is very understanding of my addiction. In fact she goes out with us and enjoys digging my beeps! I detect a lot with my brother Charlie and my nephew Skyler.

We have a YouTube channel called [Digging History Pennsylvania](#) check it out.

Scott Manahan, FMDAC Membership Chair

Hobby Related News

General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

- Mysterious shipwreck that may date back to 1800s emerges on Florida beach. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detecting season not over yet. [Article Link](#)
- Gangster Dutch Schultz's \$150 million treasure is supposedly buried in New York. [Article Link](#)
- 50 of the greatest archaeological discoveries of all time. [Article Link](#)
- Crime Watch: Old man gets mad at older man for metal detecting in King Park. [Article Link](#)
- Three arrested, suspected of stealing antiquities from Tel Megiddo. [Article Link](#)
- Man discovers lost treasures at bottom of Springfield pond. [Article Link](#)
- 100 people hunt for buried treasure at Boyertown farm. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detection a magnet for young Australian fossickers digging up history during COVID-19. [Article Link](#)
- Metal Detectorist Shows All the Gold Rings He's Found in a Local River. [Article Link](#)
- Engagement Ring Slips from Guy's Hands into an Abyss — Watch Viral Video Showing Awkward Moment [Article Link](#)
- Mystery military locket found in Gulf Shores, search for owner begins. [Article Link](#)
- Use a drone to help you find buried treasure! [Article Link](#)
- Metal detecting not welcome in Oshawa parks, bylaw officers tell hobbyist. [Article Link](#)
- Jersey Proud: Woodbridge girl finds rare 1875 dime. [Article Link](#)
- Invent Help Inventor Develops Underwater Exploration and Treasure-Hunting Device (PIT-1123). [Article Link](#)
- Hitting the jackpot: Sooke man finds niche audience by gold-panning on YouTube. [Article Link](#)
- Couple removes dangerous objects from playgrounds [Article Link](#)

U.K. News

- Trio of metal detectorists uncover secret Jacobite hoard on shore of Lochaber loch. [Article Link](#)
- Shropshire field gives metal detectorist 'one-in-a-million' find. [Article Link](#)
- School medal belonging to Liverpool seaman found buried in Sussex after 100 years. [Article Link](#)
- Historic Louth GAA medal found buried in Kilkenny field. [Article Link](#)
- Dover-Foxcroft collector finding treasure in Piscataquis River. [Article Link](#)
- The metal detectives aiming to unearth a fortune. [Article Link](#)
- Rare and important' ring found in a Fenland field is up for auction. [Article Link](#)
- Village man finds stash of 17th-century coins after falling off his bike while looking for mushrooms. [Article Link](#)
- Silver coin found by Yorkshire metal detectorist sold for nearly £30,000. [Article Link](#)

Other Media News Sources

- **American Digger Relic Roundup.** For diggers and collectors of history. An hour long program every Monday Night at 9:00 PM eastern standard time. Join your hosts Butch Holcombe, Jeff Lubbert and Heath Jones as they explore the past. Learn more about Metal Detecting, Treasure hunting in all it's forms, and the preservation of history. [November Pod Cast Link](#)
- **Archaeology and Metal Detecting Magazine** present the BIG metal detecting podcast. A weekly show bringing all areas of history together with our guests, news and much more. [November Pod Cast Link](#)
- **Coin World** - Numismatic and Coin Collecting [November News](#)
- **Garrett Searcher** [November Issue](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [November News](#)
- **Minelab** [November Newsletter](#)
- **The Archaeology and Metal Detecting Magazine** The Archaeology and Metal detecting magazine are one of the lead online sites in their genre. Offering multiple platforms for Archaeological, Historical and metal detecting news, articles, research areas and much more. [November News](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [December Newsletter](#)

Jewelry Returns

- Metal detecting W'haven resident tracks down owner of '50s jewelry. [Article Link](#)
- Public Works Crew Rescues Wedding Ring Flushed Down Toilet Months Earlier. [Article Link](#)
- Stranger helps 93-year-old man find lost wedding band. [Article Link](#)
- Engagement ring lost in surf at Cairns beach found using metal detector in dead of night. [Article Link](#)
- Auburn High grad gets class ring back, 40 years after graduating. [Article Link](#)
- Bristol WWII evacuee reunited with ID bracelet found near Bath. [Article Link](#)
- Marion County man reunited with Marine ring passed down from his father and uncle. [Article Link](#)
- Quebec man reunited with lost class ring 40 years later. [Article Link](#)
- Finding the ring was an amazing experience' Treasure hunter returns wedding ring lost 15 years ago. [Article Link](#)
- Playing detective with a metal detector helps man reunite owner with lost ring, 40 years later. [Article Link](#)
- Beachcomber reunites elated wife with diamond ring lost

- Metal Detectorist Finds 2000 Year Old Gold Torc in a Norfolk Field. [Article Link](#)
- months ago in Mossel Bay. [Article Link](#)
- 'A day I'll remember forever' - Teen metal detectorist's ancient coin sells for thousands. [Article Link](#)
- [W.W. Meteorite News](#)

North America Archaeology News

- Archaeologists in Colonial Williamsburg uncover more findings at First Baptist Church site as Phase 1 of the dig ends. [Article Link](#)
- Anthropology professor to discuss Chaco jewelry finds. [Article Link](#)
- Home of Harriet Tubman's father could soon be unearthed by archaeologists in Maryland. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists discover 300-year-old slave quarters at Newtowne Neck State Park. [Article Link](#)
- What Archaeology Is and How to Become an Archaeologist. [Article Link](#)
- The Indonesian meteorite which didn't sell for \$1.8m. [Article Link](#)
- Man becomes a multi-millionaire when a meteorite lands in his garden. [Article Link](#)
- Werner Herzog's new documentary Fireball captures humanity's fascination with meteorites. [Article Link](#)
- New Mineral Discovered in Lunar Meteorite: Don Wilhelm site. [Article Link](#)

Hunt Events and Shows

Metal Detecting & Gold Prospecting Events.

Now is the time to start planning and getting your club's 2021 hunt information on the web. The sooner it is out and available to the metal detecting community the greater the chance for people to see it and give your event some consideration.

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

Other Hobby Related 2020/21 Show Calendars

- [Antique Bottle Show](#)
- [Coin Shows](#)
- [Numismatic Coin Shows](#)
- [Insulator Shows](#)
- [CFMS Society & Club Shows](#)
- [Club-Sponsored Mineral Shows](#)

No Events Schedule for December.

Check out your event before going it may have been postponed or canceled.

[Select here to View the Complete Event Details for December](#)

Our Canadian Neighbors

Metal detecting not welcome in Oshawa parks, bylaw officers tell hobbyist
 By Reka Szekely, Oshawa This Week [Web Link](#)

An Oshawa resident who says he's picked up hundreds of syringes, nails and screws in local parks while engaged in a metal detecting hobby was recently upset to learn the activity is not welcome in local parks.

"I know I'm not killing the grass. I've literally planted millions of rolls of sod in my career, I'm not hurting anything ... you literally cannot see where I've been."

Resident Larry Kozak received a used metal detector for Father's Day last year and said he's had great success with it, taking it into parks, fields, trails and on to private properties with permission of the land owner.

Brenda Jeffs, director of municipal law enforcement and licensing services in Oshawa, said while there's no specific rules against metal detecting in Oshawa, the parks bylaw prohibits digging.

"I've always been interested in history and relics and it's been amazing," he said. "It's almost hard to comprehend the things that are just an inch below your feet."

"The parks bylaw speaks to damaging of city property and it includes removing the soil, that sort of thing so it is an offence under the parks bylaw to disturb the ground or remove the soil and we do enforce it consistently when we come across it," said Jeffs.

He's found lost wedding rings and managed to return a couple. In fact, he has an ad on Kijiji right now looking for the owner of a lost ring that has an inscription on it.

Kozak argues that the parks bylaw as its written states that soil and sand can't be removed, but he's not removing it, simply moving and then replacing it and so are kids digging on the beach, he said.

Kozak explains that he was a Boy Scout and following the rules is important to him, so he checked with any authority he could think of about his hobby including police, the Oshawa Museum, the bylaw department and more.

But Jeffs said it's simply not allowed.

"I called and checked with everyone, and everyone told me it was OK if I wasn't digging holes in the ground and not filling them in," he said, adding that he's by no means the only person to pursue the metal detecting hobby in Oshawa as he regularly runs into others who do the same.

"It can seem harmless enough but these things are always written because something did occur so he may be diligent in replacing the divots that he's taking, maybe not everyone is. It can create trip hazards and it can also affect the vegetation, the roots of the grass and whatnot."

But he ran into trouble recently when he was metal detecting in the Connaught Park area in central Oshawa near Ritson Road North and Adelaide Avenue East.

Jeffs said the penalty for contravening the parks bylaw is \$125.

Kozak said he's pulled a large amount of metal garbage from the park and was surprised when a bylaw officer approached him and said he couldn't dig a hole and told him he would If bylaw won't budge, Kozak said he will stop metal detecting in

receive a ticket if he continued.

parks.

A landscaper by trade, Kozak said he digs a four-sided plug when he's removing something from the ground and replaces the plug without damaging the sod once the metal item has been taken out. In fact, he said he has a tools he uses to make sure he can easily cut plugs. "I just won't go to parks anymore," he said. "The shame with that is it's guys like me that pull all the sharps out of playgrounds."

FEDERATION OF METAL DETECTOR AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL CLUBS INC FMDAC HOME PAGE <http://www.fmdac.org>