

# Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

## FMDAC News Gram

## United States Metal Detecting Association

February 2020

FMDAC News Gram

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FMDAC

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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 in the hobby last month. 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

**Hello Everyone.**

have been looking at the calendar and marking in the days. If you like seeded hunts then now is the time to start planning for the year. There are many to choose from. Just depends on how far you wish to travel. I have noticed over the last decade that a few hunts have closed up shop. That is the ebb and flow of all things. However it seems that other new hunts pop up to fill in the gap. There are several new hunts in my general region of travel in the last few years.

One small issue has come to my attention in the last week. It initially is a positive item that forces are trying to turn back around. I was contacted for some advice with an issue of a beach being opened up to detecting. This was done at the request of the parks department. It required a change in an ordinance that did not allow detecting. The change was unanimously approved to allow the director to decide if detectors could be used on the beach. Simple enough right? Wrong!

The forces that oppose us are yelling foul. They have succeeded in having a meeting scheduled for them to oppose it. Now the final wording did not specify the beach. It said "No person shall use any type of electronic metal detecting device in any recreational facility, except in areas designated by the Director". It is a very historical area so I can pretty much guarantee that there are already protections for all the historical sites they are worried about. A quick check of the parks listed on the county website did not show any of them as historical areas so they are creating a big deal where it appears nothing exists.

I am sure they are seeing this as a foot in the door but it can go no further then the director allows. Bottom line is that they want to be the only ones that have a say so. Not the director nor the county board and definitely not the people.

**Mark Schuessler, FMDAC President**

### Jewelry Returns

- Amateur metal detectorist unearths an 18-carat gold ring from 1834 on a beach in Sussex and uses Facebook to unravel the tale of its owner who had it made to remember his beloved wife. [Article Link](#)

### South Region: Art Di Filippo

California, Hawaii, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida

- Lost something? Tell the ring master!. [Article Link](#)
- Hopewell woman reunited with stolen pendant: 'You can't replace this'. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist reunites great-grandfather, 79, with gold signet ring he lost working on a farm more than 60 years ago. [Article Link](#)

## Hobby Related News

### General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

- Israel finds 232 ancient coins in thief's home. [Article Link](#)
- A Shipwreck Off Florida's Coast Pits Archaeologists Against Treasure Hunters [Article Link](#)
- Discover the Truth: Finding the Right Metal Detector For Beach and Land Detecting. [Article Link](#)
- In One Ear: Dirt fishin' find. [Article Link](#)
- Destrehan alum unearths history through his hobby. [Article Link](#)
- How metal detecting is helping people find their lost valuables. [Article Link](#)
- Meet Your Neighbor: Wilsons 'dig' searching for lost treasures. [Article Link](#)
- Local family finds CSA belt buckle in backyard. [Article Link](#)
- Old land mine found on beach in Indian River County, sheriff's office says. [Article Link](#)
- Minelab Returns to CES With Host of Expedition Unknown and Unveil New Treasure Metal Detector. [Article Link](#)
- Kids probe beach with new holiday gift. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detector treasure hunting. [Article Link](#)
- Matt Hastings - a treasure hunter at Whangamatā Beach. [Article Link](#)
- Lost a ring? Someone might be able to find it. [Article Link](#)
- Ancient 'piggy bank' of gold coins uncovered at dig in central Israel. [Article Link](#)

### U.K. News

- This medieval ring was found in a North Staffordshire field - and now it's been declared as treasure! [Article Link](#)
- Viking Ring Found in Polish Stronghold is Actually Rare Christian Artifact. [Article Link](#)
- Five historic artefacts declared treasure at Oxford Coroners Court. [Article Link](#)
- Which little girl lost this purse at guide camp outside Edinburgh 55 years ago? [Article Link](#)
- Metal Detecting Tours Near Europe's Oldest Town in Eastern Croatia: Fascinating! [Article Link](#)
- Review – Berryfields: Iron Age settlement and a Roman bridge, field system and settlement along Akeman Street near Fleet Marston, Buckinghamshire. [Article Link](#)
- Metal-detecting Americans pay £1,500 to hunt for buried treasure on holiday in UK. [Article Link](#)
- Illegal to use detector for objects of archaeological interest'. [Article Link](#)
- Metal pollution will hide British treasures forever, detectorists warn. [Article Link](#)
- Nighthawkers continue to threaten Suffolk's heritage. [Article Link](#)
- Payday for metal detectorists as average treasure find now worth £2,671. [Article Link](#)
- Medieval monument in Rotherham damaged by illegal metal detecting. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist finds chemical mortar rounds at Farlington Marshes in Portsmouth. [Article Link](#)
- 'It's a misconception' that license are always needed to operate metal

### Other Media News Sources

- **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. [Pod Cast Link](#)
- **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. [Pod Cast Link](#)
- **American Mining Rights Assn** is not a gold club but rather an advocacy group for miners and public land users to preserve and maintain their rights as they pertain to access to their public lands. [January News](#)
- **Coin World** - Numismatic and Coin Collecting [Coin News](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [January News](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [January News](#)
- **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. [Web Link](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [February Newsletter](#)

### W.W. Meteorite News

- Fire From Above: Did a meteorite leave a crater on Anna Maria Island? [Article Link](#)
- 'Like you could reach out and touch it:' Man's dashcam captures meteor over Richfield. [Article Link](#)
- Crater of largest known meteorite to ever hit Earth 790,000 years ago found. [Article Link](#)

### North America Archaeology News

- Artifact found at Civil War site may be a 'witch bottle' used to ward off evil spirits. Really. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists studying Chinese mining sites on Malheur National Forest in Grant County. [Article Link](#)
- Remains of Downed World War II Pilot Recovered in France. [Article Link](#)
- Saratoga County Sheriff: Meteor likely cause of widespread Sunday night explosion reports. [Article Link](#)
- More Than 3,500 Copper Coins Repatriated to Mexico. [Article Link](#)
- 5 Big Archaeology Discoveries to Watch for in 2020. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeology breakthrough: Researchers crack the secrets of Native American astronomy. [Article Link](#)

detectors on farmland. [Article Link](#)

### Hunt Events and Shows

#### Metal Detecting & Gold Prospecting Events.

Now is the time to start planning and getting your club's 2020/21 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.

#### Other Hobby Related 2020 Show Calendars

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

- February 07, 2020 (Three Days)  
Quartzsite, Arizona  
Quartzsite Gold Show
- February 14, 2020 (Three Days)  
Albany, Oregon  
Willamette Sportsman Show
- February 15, 2020 (Two Days)  
Pomona, California  
SoCal Gold & Treasure Show  
GPAA Gold and Treasure Shows

- February 29, 2020 (Two Days)  
Monroe, Washington  
2020 Gold, Gem & Mineral Show  
Washington Prospectors Mining Association
- February 29, 2020 (One Day)  
Galveston, Texas  
Satellite Hunt Texas Assn of Metal Detecting Clubs
- February 29, 2020 (One Day)  
Galveston, Texas  
38th Annual HARC Open Beach Hunt  
Houston Archeology Recovery Club? (HARC)

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

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

### A Metal Detecting Finds Research Story

By: [Jim Meaney, Librarian - Massachusetts Treasure Hunting Association \(MTHA\)](#)

Hello Metal Detectorist,

Six or seven years ago, my neighbor Mary, who speculates in real estate, bought a house in Wellesley, Mass, a few towns from me. She told me the house dates to the early 1900's. It wasn't fixed up or rented yet so she gave me permission to detect on the property.

Below is a link to a story I just wrote up for the Friendly Metal Detecting Forum, in a thread where forum users were posting photos of their found military wings.

I had misplaced the silver wings for a few years in the basement. They were in a box of other items found at the same site, in Wellesley, Mass.

[Friendly Forum](#)

Within a minute of turning on my detector, I located a 1949 Dog Rabies tag. A while later, I got a watch fob with a submarine pictured on it. Then in a trashy area, a large iffy signal turned out to be a large rusting and red painted toy airplane, with a wingspan of about 10". Not far from that, I dug the WW II Sterling Bombardier wings, with it's pin broken off [Select [Web Link](#)]. Also got a copper 1933 Chicago World's Fair Chrysler souvenir ashtray, but in bad shape.

As I worked my way to the front yard, an older guy who had been sitting in his vehicle across the street in his driveway, approached and asked if I'd had any luck. I told him I was there with permission of the new owner. I showed him a few items from my pouch, including the Bombardier wings. He immediately said that "this is where David Pohl lived. He was one of the Doolittle's Raiders who bombed Japan". After thanking him for sharing that information, I went to my car and wrote down that name, so I could research it further. I do a lot of genealogy research, so it wouldn't be hard to confirm his story.

Sure enough, David W Pohl entered the Army Air Corps in 1940 right out of High School. His family had indeed lived at that address. On April 18th 1942, he was on the 8th B-25 to take off from the USS Hornet for a bombing run in Japan (with the other Doolittle's Raiders crews) See link to his bio at Veterans Tributes here: [Web Link](#)

His younger brother, Donald A Pohl, two years younger than David, also enlisted in the Army Air Corp, but in 1942 and served for twenty years. The Bombardier wings were very likely once owned by David or Donald, but I may never know. I am planning to contact their niece, who is also a genealogist. She or another family member would probably love to have the silver Bombardier wings.

Here is a link to the Citation for the Distinguished Flying Cross awarded to David W Pohl -[Web Link to Citation](#)

Update: Jim has contacted David Pohl's niece by email and is hoping to stay in contact after her initial reply.

Jim Meaney, Librarian: Massachusetts Treasure Hunting Association (MTHA) (also an Air Force Vet) [EMAIL](#)