

Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

FMDAC News Gram

United States Metal Detecting Association

October 2020

FMDAC News Gram

Volume 3 Number 36



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 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

Hello Everyone.

The proposed ban on detecting public property in the city of Fairfax, VA has not happened as of yet. The proposed ordinance was supposed to have been discussed at the council meeting last week. It was not on the agenda and so far I have not seen a draft of the ordinance. We will continue to watch this and let everyone know when there is any movement.

Our hearts and prayers go out to our fellow countrymen who are in the areas affected by the floods and fires. Without a doubt there are fellow detectorists who have been hurt. If you are able to lend a hand to anyone in recovering a few valuables and mementos then please do. And do not keep it a secret. Spread the word so all that are able can help out.

As we have stated for months. This is election year for President, VP, treasurer and secretary. Nominations closed on September 15. The election chairman has told me that we have one nomination for each office and one nomination that is not valid as it did not follow the rules as set forth in the by-laws. This issue is being addressed now and if an election for that office is necessary the ballots will be sent out.

A reminder that when sending in memberships they go to our treasurer Sue Race. Not to the membership chairman. Her address is on the website at FMDAC.org. Please fill out the membership form depending on which type it is, club or individual. We must receive the membership dues before a membership card can be issued. Thank you for your cooperation.

While looking at various internet detecting sites it appears that the virus has not slowed the hobby down. It looks to be going strong. It always amazes me the quality of finds that keep coming out of the ground year after year. With the hobby being around now for approximately 7 decades you would think that the finds would be diminishing. At some point they certainly will but as of now it doesn't seem to be letting up. Get out there and get your share!

Mark Schuessler, FMDAC President

Art Di Filippo, Southern Region Message

Southern Region 29 September 2020

Many of the local clubs have postponed their regular monthly meetings. However, there are some that are holding them now but ensuring social distancing guidelines from the CDC. Our club, Carolina Coin and Relic association have opted to continue to postpone until all of our members are comfortable.

Low Country Metal Detecting club has also opted to postpone their normal meetings. They have a Facebook page where they often have contests, as many other clubs do as well. I believe this is great and still promotes comradely as well. Carolina Coin and Relic is looking at doing the same, working out a few details.

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

All have noticed that there has been several club hunt cancellations. We all know to the COVID -19 issue that many restrictions are still in place varying from state to state. It is all of our obligation to ensure that we always do what is best for our club members and members of the FMDAC.

I have spoke to a few clubs and are anxiously waiting as to when we will be able to take advantage of the Metal recovery course that Mark Schussler is working with. I'm sure that the scheduling has been a bit of a challenge due to the COVID 19 issues

Please remember for those that are able to get out and detect to follow the FMDAC's code of ethics while detecting. [Ethics](#)

Art Di Filippo, Southern Region (843) 330-0016

Hobby Related News

General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

- Liberty Park's toppled trees give up secrets of the past. [Article Link](#)
- Old treasure chest brimming with coins unearthed on SC beach. Then came the bad news. [Article Link](#)
- Local metal detectors collaborate on new product. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detecting offers a connection to the past. [Article Link](#)
- Bomb disposal experts called after man finds 'suspected ordnance' on East Coast beach with his metal detector. [Article Link](#)
- Jamestown Beach metal detecting ordinance changed, beekeeping OK'd for residential areas of James City County. [Article Link](#)
- Local treasure hunter fishes WWII rifle out of river (VIDEO). [Article Link](#)
- Michigan treasure hunter starts every day saying, 'Beach better have my money'. [Article Link](#)
- What lies beneath: Man finds lost treasures at Grand Haven State Park. [Article Link](#)
- Unexploded ordnance found in Nashua River triggers Devens ban on 'magnet fishing'. [Article Link](#)
- Meet the Lancing metal detectorist helping reunite residents with their treasured possessions. [Article Link](#)

U.K. News

- Essex paddleboarder reunited with Go-Pro lost in Cornwall. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist unearths 1,150-year-old Viking board game. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunter finds giant artillery shell on Cleethorpes beach. [Article Link](#)
- 600-year-old axe heads used in hand-to-hand fighting in Battle of Grunwald found in field. [Article Link](#)
- Hampshire a top spot for treasure trails. [Article Link](#)
- Detectorist unearths Saxon 'treasure' on land near Swindon. [Article Link](#)
- Ancient Russian coins discovered in Cork. [Article Link](#)
- Northern Irish 10-year-old discovers ancient broadsword using his new metal detector. [Article Link](#)
- "Nationally Significant" Bronze Age Treasure Sword Discovered in Scotland. [Article Link](#)

Jewelry Returns

- Man returns lost class ring to DuBois woman 48 years later. [Article Link](#)
- Woman Who Lost Wedding Ring Shortly After Getting Married Rediscovered It Days Before 40th Anniversary. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist turns hero in desperate beach search for engagement ring. [Article Link](#)
- Brainerd High School class ring returned to owner 15 years after it was lost. [Article Link](#)
- Class ring lost 45 years ago returned to its owner. [Article Link](#)
- Seasoned Treasure Hunter Reunites Couple With Wedding Ring Lost on CT Beach. [Article Link](#)
- Merman Mike' scuba dives to retrieve people's lost keepsakes in Sacramento. [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. [September 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. [August Pod Cast Link](#)
- **Coin World** - Numismatic and Coin Collecting [September News](#)
- **Garrett Searcher** [September Issue](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [September News](#)
- **Minelab** [September Newsletter, 2nd Newsletter](#)
- **PLP - Public Lands for the People.** [September Press Release](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [September 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. [September News](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [October Newsletter](#)

North America Archaeology News

- Archaeological dig of Hagerstown cabin reveals African American history. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeological Digging Continues At US 50 & State Line Ahead Of Road Improvement Project. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists find War of 1812 artifacts on Horse Island, near Sackets Harbor. [Article Link](#)
- Many relics stored from past archaeological research on American Indian sites along the Roanoke River. [Article Link](#)
- Real-Life Archaeologist Reveals What Indiana Jones Gets Right And Wrong About The Field. [Article Link](#)
- Dig It: Exploring the archaeology of us. [Article Link](#)

- Found Wedding Ring Another Special Beach Moment for Longtime Surf City Resident [W.W. Meteorite News Article Link](#)
- Woman's long lost wedding ring found after 40 years buried in her garden. [Article Link](#)
- Weeding ring! Gardeners reunite pensioner, 65, with her wedding band 40 years after she lost it while playing catch with her son. [Article Link](#)
- Woman gets ring back nearly 20 years later. [Article Link](#)
- Stranger finds, returns lost engagement ring after fiancé takes to Facebook for help. [Article Link](#)
- Punta Gorda man's class ring returned after 48 years. [Article Link](#)
- Detectorist recovers lost ring of great sentimental value. [Article Link](#)
- Lost and found: Haverhill teacher's \$20,000 ring retrieved from drainage system. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detecting 'legend' saves tourist's holiday after finding ring in ring. [Article Link](#)

- The Benld meteorite: An ordinary space rock that slammed into a car. [Article Link](#)
- 100 Million-Year-Old Meteorite Crater Found While Drilling For Gold In Outback Australia. [Article Link](#)
- Scientists Say: Asteroid, meteor and meteorite. [Article Link](#)
- 'Space rocks': Hundreds of meteorite rocks worth up to \$26,000 rain down on Brazilian town. [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](#)

- **October 02, 2020** (Two Days)
Saunderstown, Rhode Island
Pound the Ground Adirondack Coast
Rhode Island Relics

- **October 03, 2020** (One Day)
Milton, Massachusetts
Yearly Hunt (**Canceled**)
Massachusetts Treasure Hunting Assn
- **October 06, 2020** (Five Days)
Tamassee, South Carolina
2020 Digger's Dirt Party: 5-Day
Common Dig Outing at Oconee
Camp
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **October 13, 2020** (Six Days)
Claremon, New Hampshire
BONE # 27
Streeter's - Treasure Hunting Supply

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

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

- **October 17, 2020** (One Day)
Kodak, Tennessee
First Annual East Tennessee Dirt Pirates
Silver Extravaganza
Double Trouble Detecting Club & River
Team Six Metal Detectors
- **October 17, 2020** (One Day)
Blacksburg, South Carolina
18th Treasure Hunt Of The Carolinas
(Canceled)
Joyce and Randy Gatchel
- **October 20, 2020** (Five Days)
Stanton, Arizona
2020 Digger's Dirt Party
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **October 23, 2020** (Three Days)
Culpeper, Virginia
All Natural Civil War Relic Hunt
Deep Search Metal Detecting Club

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

Jamestown Beach metal detecting ordinance changed, beekeeping OK'd for residential areas of James City County. By David Macaulay, Virginia Gazette [Article Link](#)

James City County's Board of Supervisors backed tighter restrictions on metal detection on Jamestown Beach Tuesday but allowed an extension of beekeeping in the county.

JJohn Carnifax, Parks and Recreation director, said the county amended its code in January to allow metal detection in areas he designated. He said the previous law stated "no metal detecting for any reason on any county park."

Carnifax said the relaxation of the regulation sparked concern in the community. The county set up a public meeting on Feb. 6 that attracted 33 people.

"The majority of the folks in attendance were opposed to the ordinance the way it was written," he said. The people at the meeting thought the change was too broad and gave the director too much authority to allow metal detecting, Carnifax said.

Carnifax said he received requests in the past from metal detectorists who wanted to use Jamestown Beach. On Tuesday, he presented an amended ordinance that would only allow approved metal detecting activities under the "direct supervision of James City County staff or a qualified archaeologist as defined in the James City County Archaeological policy." The guidelines affect metal detecting on the sandy, man-made beach portion of Jamestown Beach Event Park between October and April.

Mark Schuessler, FMDAC President

Attention to all.

The City of Fairfax, VA is drafting an ordinance to prohibit metal detecting on all city property. The actual written ordinance is not published as of today. Here is a [web link](#) to the work meeting.

Sounds like they no idea what they are actually talking about. Please listen to it and then contact the members. you can find them at this [web link](#).

In the video they state that a public hearing will be later this month. I am guessing that it will be via internet. If so then many can "attend" Do not know if anyone outside the city will be able to "attend" or speak.

We need to educate these people. Please be polite but firm. They have this idea that everyone is digging up all kinds of historical treasures. I would ask them exactly what they think those treasures are? Mostly clad coins and a mountain of trash!

[Facebook Link to Article](#)

Public Notice No. 5513

The Town of Lusk will have the third and final reading of the following Ordinances at their regular Council Meeting on October 6, 2020. They are as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 6-20-100, An Ordinance Prohibiting Metal Detecting and Digging or Probing the Ground on Public Property within the Town of Lusk, Wyoming.

Be it Ordained by the Governing Body of the Town of Lusk, Wyoming:

The Parks and Recreation Director said he was only aware of four people who were metal detecting on the beach before it was no longer allowed in April 2020. He said the metal detectorists sent him pictures of items they found; most of the items were debris, trash and coins.

Archaeologist Ethel Eaton told the public hearing she supported the amendment, “The concern for Jamestown Beach is it is within a listed archaeological district,” she said. Eaton warned digging has the potential to disturb important sites. She conceded some metal detection is necessary for areas like playgrounds to find dangerous items.

Supervisor Ruth Larson said she was aware of the pressure to allow metal detection on the beach. She questioned whether county staff would be available to police metal detecting.

The Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to restrict metal detecting.

Section One: a new Chapter 16 in Title 6 of the Lusk Municipal Code entitled “Metal Detecting and disturbing Public Property” is enacted and shall be inserted into the Lusk Municipal Code upon passage as follows:
6-16-100. Metal Detecting and digging, probing, or otherwise disturbing the ground on public property prohibited. It is declared unlawful for any person or persons to enter upon public property within the limits of the Town of Lusk, Wyoming for the purpose of using a metal detector to locate objects and to dig, probe or otherwise disturb the ground on said public property. Metal detecting, digging, probing, or otherwise disturbing the ground on public property except for municipal utility purposes is a misdemeanor punishable as provided in Ordinance 2-35-100 Lusk Municipal Code 2004.
ORDINANCE NO. 8-15-150, An Ordinance Amending Existing Ordinance No. 8-15-150 Deleting the Words “Dispensing Room” and “Brewing Area” and Inserting the Words “Any Area of the Licensed Building Where Alcohol is Served and/or Consumed.”
Be it Ordained by the Governing Body of the Town of Lusk, Wyoming:
Public Notice No. 5513. Published in The Lusk Herald on September 23, 2020.
[Complete Public Notice](#)