

Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

FMDAC News Gram

United States Metal Detecting Association

January 2018

FMDAC News Gram

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FMDAC

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

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

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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.

News

General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

Other News

- The Historical Hearne-Gidden Home Coming Back to Life. [Article Link](#)
- Okanagan city digs in heels over metal detector in parks. [Article Link](#)
- Teen Makes Shocking Discovery While Metal Detecting (Photos). [Article Link](#)
- Help us find the owner of this 1978 class ring from Altus High. [Article Link](#)
- The tales and treasures of sunken shipwrecks, and why they make for priceless investments. [Article Link](#)
- 11 Times People Stumbled Upon Treasures In The Weirdest Places. [Article Link](#)
- An accidental treasure hunter: Bay Area man discovers pre-quake and Civil War relics. [Article Link](#)
- Stranger finds engagement ring in sea just in time for woman's wedding. [Article Link](#)
- 94-Year-Old 'Ten Commandments' Sphinx Unearthed in Coastal Dunes. [Article 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. [December News](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Association of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [December News](#)
- **JW Fisher Detectors** New Proton 5 Marine Magnetometer [December Press Release](#)
- **Lost Treasure E-Magazine** [December Issue](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [December News](#)
- **White's Discover** [November Magazine](#)

U.K. News

Jewelry Returns

- Record year for UK's amateur treasure hunters. [Article Link](#)
- Taunton metal detector group find rare coffin in Ilminster field. [Article Link](#)
- Roman coins, Medieval gold ring and Tudor silver dress pin found by treasure-hunters in Cornwall. [Article Link](#)
- Night hawkers defile Cirencester's Roman amphitheatre. [Article Link](#)
- The tense truce between detectorists and archaeologists. [Article Link](#)
- Real-life Detectorists' treasure finds to go before inquest. [Article Link](#)
- Rare Iron Age ring uncovered. [Article Link](#)
- Young Guns dig great hobby. [Article Link](#)
- Anglo Saxon treasure found by student valued at £145,000. [Article Link](#)

- It's under there somewhere: Teenage Shropshire metal detectorist finds wedding ring hidden in snow. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detector scores wedding ring missing in lake for 14 years. [Article Link](#)
- Moment engagement ring lost on beach three months earlier is returned to couple. [Article Link](#)
- Stranger finds engagement ring in sea just in time for woman's wedding. [Article Link](#)
- Lacey Man Finds Class Ring, Unearths

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

- Rise of the detectorists: how to hunt for treasure . [Article Link](#)

A Piece Of A Family's Past. [Article Link](#)

W.W. Meteorite News

North America Archaeology News

- Alien Minerals Discovered at Ancient Meteorite Strike Site in Scotland. [Article Link](#)
- UFOs SAVED Earth from DEVASTATING meteor strike, claim conspiracy theorists. [Article Link](#)
- Scientists finally know why meteors explode just before hitting Earth. [Article Link](#)
- Police Dashcam Captures Fireball Streaking Across New Jersey Sky. [Article Link](#)
- Bronze Age Elite Forged All Their Best Weapons and Jewelry From Meteorites. [Article Link](#)

- City halts work after earth-movers grade Tucson's birthplace site. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists Uneasy as Trump Shrinks Bears Ears Monument Lands. [Article Link](#)
- An archaeological dig unearths one of the earliest slave remains in Delaware. [Article Link](#)
- Swamped: Rising seas to leave thousands of historical sites in the Southeast underwater. [Article Link](#)

Other news

Detectorists has returned for third and final series. The first two season can be found on Netflix.

Season Number Three
[Episode One Video Link](#)
[Episode Two Video Link](#)
[Episode Three Video Link](#)
[Episode Four Video Link](#)
[Episode Five Video Link](#)
[Episode Six Video Link](#) Final Episode

The final episode of Detectorists is "one of the most satisfying conclusions ever" There is so much love for Detectorists. On any day of the week, just type in its hashtag and you'll find posts like "one of the finest shows ever written", "the antidote to Trump, Brexit and reality TV" and "please don't let it be the last series". Sherlock actor Amanda Abbington is among its famous fans, calling it "glorious television comedy at its best". [Article Link](#)

FMDAC - We need YOUR help to support the mission of the FMDAC. Through your support YOU can make a difference by [donating today](#)

Public Lands for the People - A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization [PLP Press Release](#) Dear PLP Supporter: Dave McCracken distributed this important message to the mining community recently. The PLP Board is more than happy to pass this along to our recipients with the confidence that most of you will read the detailed message and take the appropriate action. This will take some time, so please set aside a few hours and do your part. We just found out that the Solicitor General has submitted a briefing to the U.S. Supreme Court which completely misrepresents what is at stake in the Rinehart case, and presents a completely false explanation of why the Supreme Court should not review the Rinehart case. This is hugely alarming since the Solicitor General is supposed to be on the side of "Making America Great Again." Here is just one more reminder of how deep and pervasive the deep state is -- or "the swamp" as it is commonly referred to. [Full Article Link](#)

Western Mining Alliance [Press Release](#) On December 6th the Solicitor General of the United States issued a reply briefing to the U.S. Supreme Court recommending they not review the Rinehart Case. Had the Solicitor General supported the petition the odds of acceptance by the Supreme Court would have been 70%. The odds have now dropped to 30%. You can find our letters, and the briefing on our web page: [Full Article Link](#)

Featured article for this month: Thoughts on Responsible Metal Detecting

by Lee Wiese @ Metal Detecting Hobby Talk

The term Responsible Metal Detecting can be found in the *Code of Practice on Responsible Metal Detecting in England and Wales a May 2006 publication*. However, the term Responsible Metal Detecting in the U.S. is rarely used or defined. I have used the term in a number of articles but have never really thought about what this term encompasses. This short article will be an attempt to provide some definition for Responsible Metal Detecting.

Responsible Metal Detecting is to:

- Know and Follow the Law.
- Gain Permission.
- Apply the Metal Detecting Code of Ethics.
- Join a Metal Detecting Club and National Metal Detecting Association.
- Understand the Potential Cultural Value of Your Find.
- Volunteer Your Services to the Hobby.

Know and Follow the Law means that one should read and understand the American Antiquities Act of 1906 and Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979. Archaeological resources are part of our Nation's heritage and these two acts cover archaeological resources and their recovery on public and Indian lands.

The two acts cover all national public / Indian lands and in many cases also have been adopted either wholly or in part by many states to cover state lands. There are also additional regulations that have been developed by the USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the National Parks Service.

Most states also have laws that cover just state parks, beaches and recreation areas. States usually have a specific web-site where you can find out almost everything you need to know. Some states do not allow metal detecting under any situations, while most states require either verbal, written permission or a permit.

Then there are the county, city and school district laws. Each of these entities may also have laws regulation metal detecting on their specific lands. Contacting the authorities for these public entities should yield the information you need.

A good rule of thumb is if it is national, Indian land or is a historical site it is off limits to metal detecting and other lands require permission.

Gain Permission to search both public and private land. Permission should be acquired in writing when ever possible and cover the following: owner's name, property address (Street, City, State, Zip) with description of the area on the property to be searched, purpose of access to the land, liability wavier, ownership of items found, property conditions after the search, start / end date and time of the search with signatures of all parties. Otherwise gain verbal permission by contacting a public authority in person or contacting a private property owner in person and obtaining verbal permission to enter the property. This form of obtaining permission should cover the same terms as outlined in the written permission section above.

Apply the Metal Detecting Code of Ethics. The metal detecting code of ethics is meant to re-enforce the national, state, county and city laws. The code of ethics also covers gaining permission, property damage, tampering with structures, equipment, gates and being an ambassador for the hobby. These are important ethics statements and following them may be difficult but very important in meeting the public's perception of how the hobby must and should be practiced.

Join a Metal Detecting Club and National Metal Detecting Association, is a commitment to metal detecting excellences. By joining you are committing your time to learn more about the hobby or to contribute your expertise / knowledge to others who may be less senior in the hobby. By joining a club and getting involved generates hobby centralism. This centralism can impact many laws that are drawn up in states and cities which in the past have had no voice from those in the metal detecting hobby. If there is no voice or involvement from people in the hobby laws are created - many times with a negative hobby impact. So joining a club at the local level provides a local hobby voice and joining and getting involved with a national organizations starts to generate the necessary centralism for national support of the hobby.

Understand the Potential Cultural Value of Your Find is practiced in England but not practiced well in the U.S. at least not in an acceptable matter for most hobbyists. The reason to characterize your find for its culture value is to understand if it may be part of our American Heritage. If one is following the law and not detecting on historical, national lands or Indian lands there should not be a problem in getting advice on cultural value. However, having said that one must use caution by including others for their opinion / expertise since this could cause a litigation situation. But in the end it is everyone's responsibility who metal detects to ensure whether or not a find may be part of our American Heritage and should be treated as such.

Volunteer Your Services to the Hobby. This could be in the form of starting a metal detecting club in your area, volunteering to be a club officer or a specific club chairperson. Today more than ever clubs need volunteers to handle officer duties / responsibilities, chairmanships for membership, hunt masters, club involvement projects, evident recovery teams, public relations, newsletters, etc. Many of these chairmanships are important and without them the club will not grow or become an involved part of the community. As the local club needs volunteer support and expertise so does a national detecting organization. People who have been with the hobby for a while should look in the national leadership direction and move their experience to the next level.

There, now you have my thoughts on **Responsible Metal Detecting** and how you must fit as a metal detector hobbyist. Responsible Metal Detecting is for everyone who puts a detector in his / her hands and starts a search for treasure which may be under that next coil swing.

[Download the Complete Article](#)

Metal Detecting & Gold Prospecting Events.

Now is the time to start planning and getting your club's 2018/19 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.

- **January 21, 2018** (One Day)
Belmar, New Jersey
CABIN FEVER HUNT
East Coast Research and Discovery Assn

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)
[Select here to View](#)
[the Complete Event Details for December](#)

- February 09, 2018 (Three Days)
Quartzsite, Arizona
Quartzsite Gold Show
- **February 17, 2018** (Two Days)
Monroe, Washington
2018 Gold, Gem & Mineral Show
Washington Prospectors Mining Association
- **February 18, 2018** (Two Days)
Tucson, Arizona
2018 Gold & Treasure Show
GPAA-Gold Prospectors Assn of America
- February 24, 2018 (One Day)
Galveston, Texas
All Token Hunt
TEXAS ASSN OF METAL DETECTING CLUBS
- **February 24, 2018** Event: (One Day)
Galveston, Texas
36th Annual Open Beach Hunt
Houston Archeology Recovery Clubs (HARC)
- **February 24, 2018** (Two Days)
Pomona, California
2018 Gold & Treasure Show
GPAA-Gold Prospectors Assn of America