

Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs Inc.

FMDAC News Gram

United States Metal Detecting Association

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FMDAC News Gram

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FMDAC

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 to all members and non-members. Please read the announcement below.

Target Recovery Certification Program

The Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs will be conducting its first target recovery course at Treasure Week at Fox Den Acres Campground, July 14 - 21, 2018. This will be our kickoff for the program that we intend to take nationwide. This is an effort to teach proper recovery techniques and stem the tide of sloppy habits that we are seeing becoming prevalent in many areas including the internet. It will take place on the first weekend at a specific times to be announced on Saturday morning.

This course will be conducted in 4 parts. The first is a sit down "classroom" talk. Proper ethics will be discussed along with a discussion of target recovery tools and accessories. Part 2 will be demonstrations of different recovery techniques that will be shown as many times as necessary. Part 3 will be practice time. Participants will practice the techniques with any needed assistance from instructors. When they feel confident of the techniques then the final phase will be the test. They will have to demonstrate each of the techniques to the satisfaction of the instructor with no prompting or assistance. After successful completion each person will be given a certification card.

This is a "hands on" course. The reason is quite simple. There are handouts showing proper techniques which we have been distributing for years. Manufacturers talk about it in their instruction manuals. There are places on the internet that you can watch target recovery videos. You can even get a certificate after watching them. These are all good as it does show proper techniques. However they in no way insure that the person can actually do it properly. It only shows that the person can read or click a mouse! Although this course does not insure that any particular individual will use the techniques and do them properly, it DOES show that they have demonstrated that they can do them properly. We will be placing videos on the internet in the near future but they will not take the place of the course.

This certification card can be used when asking permissions. It can also be incorporated into permit systems or used to help reverse or stop detecting bans from happening. The course will be a work in progress. We will make changes as necessary to streamline and improve it. It will also be a 2 way discussion. There are many, many people who are great at recovering targets and can add to the discussions and may have some things to add to our course. There are many who may be able to go straight from the demo stage to the test phase with no problem at all.

The course is not meant or intended in any fashion to point fingers and no one should be apprehensive about taking part. It is 100% intended to be educational. We also realize that the techniques may need to be modified for different areas of the country according to the ground conditions. This will take place as necessary.

If you will be at Treasure Week on the first weekend then consider sitting in on the course.

The hobby you help save will be your own!

News

General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

Other News

- The wards of the ring find historic piece embedded in tree. [Article Link](#)
- It's miserable outside, so, what the hell, let's watch a guy go metal detecting in Washington Park. [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. [April News](#)

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[State Park Regulations](#)
[Target Recovery Methods](#)

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Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland

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

- Excitement as 'Wits-style' gold is discovered in iron-ore hub, but geologist urges caution. [Article Link](#)
- Cedar Rapids man finds rare saloon token from 1915. [Article Link](#)
- Buried treasure: French vet finds long-lost link to Ravenna. [Article Link](#)
- Chardon Township man probes for pieces of history at Madison Township park. [Article Link](#)
- Chance find in Germany touches Vinemont veteran's family. [Article Link](#)
- History's mysteries. [Article Link](#)
- Bridgeville historical group talks finding history through metal detectors. [Article Link](#)
- They 'Pound the Ground' in search of history. [Article Link](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [March News](#)
- **JW Fisher** Celebrates 50 Years of Innovation and Service [April Press Release](#)
- **Lost Treasure E-Magazine** [April Issue](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [April News](#)
- **White's Discover** [March/April Magazine](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [May Newsletter](#)

Jewelry Returns

- 50-year-old ring finds its way back to its owner. [Article Link](#)
- Kentucky treasure hunter unearths Ohio woman's long-lost class ring. [Article Link](#)
- Journey to return a 1993 military graduation ring to unknown owner. [Article Link](#)
- Military ID bracelet lost 70 years ago returned to Port St. Lucie woman. [Article Link](#)
- Five-generation priceless ring lost at sea recovered. [Article Link](#)

U.K. News

- 'Council clamp down on metal detecting on the Curragh. [Article Link](#)
- Oldest gold in Britain' bought at an Oxfordshire car boot sale. [Article Link](#)
- The Willingale ring will show at Epping Forest District Museum. [Article Link](#)
- This 13 Year Old Helped Find Viking Treasure In Germany. [Article Link](#)
- A Bronze Age settlement and an American P-51D Mustang – what NDR excavations revealed about Norfolk history. [Article Link](#)
- Anglo-Saxon coin found in Norfolk field sold for £5,000 at auction. [Article Link](#)
- Post-medieval silver ring found on farm is ruled as treasure. [Article Link](#)
- The fisherman who has found bullets, gun barrels and even a crossbow in the canals. [Article Link](#)
- 800-year-old coins dug up by detectorists near Oswestry. [Article Link](#)

North America Archaeology News

- US, Mexican Archaeologists Unearth Sonoran Desert's Past and Present. [Article Link](#)
- The mystery of the mummy's head: how the FBI helped crack a 4,000-year-old case. [Article Link](#)
- Montpelier Archaeologists Employ New Technology to Reveal Slave Experience. [Article Link](#)
- Ella Axelrod '19 UnCOVERS Artifacts and Passion for Archaeology. [Article Link](#)
- Oldest Human Footprints In North America Found On Canadian Coast. [Article Link](#)

W.W. Meteorite News

- Scientists hunt meteorites in Antarctica with metal-detecting snowmobiles. [Article Link](#)
- Piece of Michigan meteorite doesn't get a single bid at auction. [Article Link](#)
- Massive Missing Meteorite Impact Crater Hunt Narrows After Glassy Debris Uncovered In Antarctica. [Article Link](#)
- The Meteorite Hunters Who Trade in Precious Space Debris. [Article Link](#)
- Meteorite hunters of the Gobi. [Article Link](#)

Ed Burke, FMDAC Vice President's Message

Hello All.

Having been involved in our wonderful hobby for close to 40 years, I am still excited with the prospect of discovering a long forgotten virgin hunt site. Even more enticing would be having that site be a location where the largest battle of the American Civil War was fought. If you haven't already surmised, I am referring to the battle that occurred in Gettysburg PA on the first three days of July 1863.



This dream is not as far fetched as you might think. This great battlefield was open to treasure hunting at one time. The window was open well into the 1970's and heaven only knows what treasures were recovered and preserved. When you do the math, there were approximately 170,000 soldiers engaged in that horrific battle. Those hunters who were fortunate enough to detect the battlefield were truly living a dream!

Unfortunately, that dream ended abruptly when all relic hunting was banned by our government. If this appears to be a radical movement, I agree, until an evaluation is made. Why did the battlefield suddenly become off limits to all relic recovery? The answer is simple. Those relic hunters who reaped the rewards of hunting such a desirable site were the culprits who failed to respect the hallowed ground they were hunting. They failed to close gates that were designed to keep farm animals corralled, left holes open so animals could step in and injure themselves, and totally failed to remove their trash.

In reality, we are our worst enemy. Having respect for the property of others should be a given, it is disgraceful to behave in

such a callous manner. There is a code of ethics that all hunters need to follow. It is a list of commandments for all of us to respect.

The FMDAC is an organization founded in 1984, run by volunteers, and designed to protect and preserve our hobby. When there are parks and other public areas closed to detecting, we have stepped in and in many cases, a favorable resolution resulted.

Perhaps if code were followed in earlier years, we all would be as excited as those early hunters!!

The photo on the left is from Gettysburg, one of many signs that was placed along Seminary Ridge. It is signs like these that truly upset me. As the descendant of a federal soldier engaged at Gettysburg, I would love to find a relic that he might have once owned.

Hunt Events and Shows

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.

Other Hobby Related Show Calendars

- [Antique Bottle Show](#)
- [Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors](#)
- [Coin Shows](#)
- [Numismaster Coin Shows](#)
- [Insulator Shows](#)
- [CFMS Society & Club Shows](#)
- [Club-Sponsored Mineral Shows](#)

- **May 05, 2018** (Two Days)
Boise, Idaho
2018 Gold & Treasure Show
GPAA-Gold Prospectors Assn of America
- **May 05, 2018** (One Day)
Pageland, South Carolina
Carolina Coin & Token Shootout
Sandhill Metal Detecting & Relic Club
- **May 05, 2018** (Two Days)
Sapulpa, Oklahoma
32nd National Open Hunt
Three Forks Treasure Hunters Club
- **May 06, 2018** (Two Days)
Seymour, Indiana
Wray's 50th Anniversary Hunt
Wrays Treasure Shop

- **May 11, 2018** (Three Days)
Benton City, Washington
30th Treasure Hunt - The British Invasion
Southeast WA Assn of Treasure Hunters (SWATH)
- **May 15, 2018** (Five Days)
Scott Bar, California
2018 Scott Bar Outing
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **May 19, 2018** (Two Days)
Ocean City, New Jersey
9th Annual Hunt CLOUD NINE HUNT
ECRDA - East Coast Research & Discovery Assn
- **May 20, 2018** (One Day)
Cordova, Illinois
Minelab FBS Bootcamp
Minelab & Andy Sabisch
- **May 20, 2018** (One Day)
Hoyt, Kansas
Open National Hunt
Topeka Treasure Hunters
- **May 23, 2018** (Five Days)
Huntington, Oregon
2018 Outing: Common Dig "Dirt Party" at Blue Bucket
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **May 25, 2018** (Three Days)
Stanwood, Washington
2018 May Fest theme
Pilchuck Treasure Hunting Clubs
- **May 26, 2018** (One Day)
Albany / Cohoes, New York
XP Deus Boot Camp
Instructors: Andy Sabisch & Tom Johnson
- **May 26, 2018** (One Days)
Huntington, Oregon
2018 Open Detector Hunts: Kids to Pros at Blue Bucket
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **May 26, 2018** (Two Days)
Sapulpa, Oklahoma
47th Annual Indian Territory
Treasure Hunt
Indian Territory Treasure Hunters Club
- **May 26, 2018** (Two Days)
Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada
2018 Southern Ontario Hunt
Rainbow's End MD Assoc, Thames Valley MD Club, Canadian Heritage Seekers & Chatham MD Club
- **May 27, 2018** (One Day)
Albany / Cohoes, New York
Minelab FBS Bootcamp
Minelab & Andy Sabisch

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

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

Florida's New Law (May Impact Beach Detecting)

New Florida law affects public access to private beaches

Gov. Rick Scott signed a bill that could soon affect all beach-goers.

The new law bans cities and counties from adopting 'customary-use' ordinances that give public access to private beaches. Only three Florida counties have done so, none in Southwest Florida.

"Collier County, we've tried to get an open beach ordinance for years, but the county attorney is worried the beach front owners will rise up and throw lawsuits against us," said Collier County beach advocate Graham Ginsberg.

Sen. Kathleen Passidomo supports Gov. Scott on the issue because "it comes down to property rights."

Sen. Passidomo says she would rather have the courts decide because "it is appalling that local government could simply take away property" just so people can walk or sunbathe on the beach.

"There's 54 units in the building — half of them come down and enjoy the beach on a weekly basis," said Bonita Springs resident Bob Haberstroh. "They do enjoy seeing the public down here — in activity out here. It's an enjoyable thing."

Many tourism agencies say the law could affect the number of people coming to Florida to enjoy the beaches.

"We have to learn to deal with it now, and work with the beachfront owners," Ginsberg said. "We aren't creating any more beaches and there's more and more people coming down because it's our mountain range — our Sierra Nevada — it's our great attraction."

The new law doesn't change Florida's constitutional law that requires the state to ensure "the public's right to reasonable access to beaches."

But some beach front homeowners say they like seeing others take advantage of their beach.

The new law goes into affect July 1. [Article Link](#)

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