

**SPRING
2007
EDITION**



THE FEDERATION OF METAL DETECTOR & ARCHAEOLOGICAL CLUBS, INC.

Volume 22, Issue 2

Established 1984

Web-site: <http://www.fmdac.org>

NUGGETS!

GOLDFIELD GHOST TOWN



THARS GOLD IN THEM THERE HILLS!

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!



Board of Directors Chapter Presidents

Mike Smith

Western Chapter: AZ-CA-CO-NV-WY-UT-HI
1000 West Apache Trail #106
Apache Junction, AZ, 85220
Phone: 480-983-7011
E-mail: promack@quik.com

Lyle Thomas

Northwest Chapter: AK_ID-MT-ND-OR-SD-WA
4308 Hayden Lane,
Pasco, WA 99301
Phone: 509-545-5144
E-mail: treasjoe@aol.com

Ron David

Central Chapter: IA-IL-IN-KY-MI-MN-OH-WI
2211 West 9th St.
Anderson, IN. 46016
Phone: 765-643-1121
Fax: 765-643-1121
E-mail: redlegron@aol.com

John Howard

Northeast Chapter: CT-MA-ME-NH-RI-VT-NY
34 Bayberry Lane,
Rochester, NY 14616
Phone: 585-663-7368
E-mail: jhoward@rochester.rr.com

Vic Kamer

Mid-Atlantic Chapter: DE-MD-NC-NJ-PA-VA-WV
106 Elm St,
Sarver, Pa. 16055
Phone: 724-295-3046
E-mail: kamer@zbzoom.net

Wallis Swartz

Southeastern Chapter: AL-FL-GA-MS-SC-TN
7791 55th Street N.
Pinellas Park, Fla. 33781
Phone: 727-647-2216
E-mail: wdsthr@tampa.rr.com

Terry Smith

South Central Chapter: AR-KS-LA-MO-NE-NM-OK-TX
P.O.Box 455,
Judson, TX 75660
Phone: 903-734-7682
E-mail: termar@texramp.net

National Officers

Duane Biller

National President
184 Grange Road
McClellandtown, PA 15458
Phone: 724-439-1380
Fax: 724-439-2558
E-mail: Snakemandb@earthlink.net

Ed Burke

National Vice President
84 S. Atherton Ave
Kingston, PA 18704
Phone: 570-331-0600
E-mail: Potogold1@verizon.net

Jill McFeeders

National Treasurer
7025 Dover Zoar Road, N.E.
Dover, Ohio 44622
Phone: 330-364-1608
E-mail: jcseeker@core.com

Dave Perry

National Secretary
603 West State St.
Princeton, IN 47670-1347
Phone: 812 385-5676
Email: djperry900@peoplepc.com

Appointed Positions

Frank Coletti, CPA

Manufacturer Industry Representative
1439 Stephen Marc Lane
East Meadow, NY 11554
Phone: 516 481-9244
Fax: 516 481-1845

Mike & Sue Race

Membership Secretary
603 W. Main Street
New Holland, PA 17557
Phone: 717-355-0691
Fax: 717-355-0691

Mark Schuessler

Alliance Liaison
1464 Graff Road
Attica, NY 14011
Phone: 585-591-0010
E-mail: kemas@localnet.com

Lee Wiese

Website Manager
6017 Little Rock Rd.
Rocklin, Ca 95765
Phone: 916-780-7365
E-mail: leewiese@excite.com



It looks as if the FMDAC is finally heading in the right direction. Some of the Clubs that dropped from the ranks have come back. We have signed up several new Clubs and have several new Clubs trying to get started up. Jill has been receiving an average of one independent member per day. As officers, we have been trying to work closely with our Clubs and I think it is now starting to pay off.

Many clubs such as the Butler Club in Pennsylvania and the Tri-State Club in Cincinnati, Ohio have been doing outside projects such as the Wal-Mart Project and setting up an area at a local Hobby Show teaching kids under the age of 12 to metal detect and keep what they find. They also set up displays of finds by Club members and were available to answer questions in hopes of drawing in new members. This is one of the areas that the Board has been working on and we are very encouraged by the results. I would like to see more Clubs try some of these outside projects. The board is more than willing to give Clubs help in this area.

After a very cold and snowy winter I look forward to heading west to Mesa for the FMDAC Spring Convention to be held at the Windemere Hotel in Mesa, Arizona. Mike Smith has been working very hard on this project and has set up some special and unique activities for those of us who will be attending this event. Mike and his crew are willing to take early arrivals out to the desert prospecting for gold. This will happen on both Thursday and Friday mornings. If you are interested in doing this you must let Mike or one of the FMDAC officers know so that arrangements can be made for you to do so. Friday evening about six o'clock we will have a fun hunt at the corral at the Goldfield Ghost Town followed by a Cowboy Cookout on the back porch of the old Saloon. We will also have entertainment by a real cowboy band, maybe even some square dancing. Sounds like fun, right! Put on your blue jeans, your boots, your cowboy hats and settle back and watch the sun go down on the Superstitious Mountains.

We will start off Saturday with a special gold nugget hunt in Goldfield, followed by seminars and

displays back at the hotel. The day will end with our FMDAC Banquet, also at the hotel. Good food, good friends, good conversation. What more could you ask for?

Sunday morning we will be back in Goldfield for our two big hunts. These hunts will be held in a natural setting among the brush, cactus and scrub trees of the area. It is rough terrain but this should add up to an interesting hunt. It sounds like this is going to be a really unique Convention and one you won't want to miss.

If you have not visited the FMDAC website in a while, take a peek. Lee Weise has completely redone it and I think it is very user friendly. Lee has, and is, doing a great job on our website. Thanks Lee for all your time and hard work!

And please remember that the FMDAC is "your" Club. Your Board of Officers is always open to your ideas and comments, both good and bad. If there is something on your mind, please do not hesitate to approach either myself or any one of our Board members. We are here for you and for your Clubs. Hope to see you in Mesa!

**Duane Biller,
National President**

FMDAC MERCHANDISE

Patches \$3.00

4" Stickers \$1.50

3" Stickers \$1.00

Lapel / Hat pins \$4.00

S&H \$1.00

*Hats and T-shirts will be
available at the convention*

Contact Jill McFeeders

7025 Dover Zoar Rd.

Dover, OH 44622

330 364-1608

jcseeker@core.com



HUNTS

All hunts will be at Goldfield Ghost Town, 4 miles north of Apache Junction.

There will be a free fun hunt Friday evening at 5:30 pm for all registered hunters.

A Gold Nugget hunt will be held on Saturday morning promptly at 8:00am. Registration will be at 7:00am. The two main hunts will be held on Sunday at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm, with registration starting at 8:30am.

They will be held rain or shine. You must be an FMDAC member to enter the hunts. We will have all silver coins in the paid hunt fields. There will be a free kid's hunt between the two main hunts on Sunday.

SEMINARS AND EXHIBITS

We will have displays by manufacturers and dealers, clubs and individuals at the Windemere Hotel.

Seminars on a variety of topics will run on Saturday.

The display area will be open Saturday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Registration will be open at the Windemere Hotel on Friday from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and then it will be at Goldfield Ghost Town from 4:30 to ??????

OPEN MEETING

There will be an open FMDAC meeting at the Cowboy Cookout on Friday evening. This cookout is open to all registered hunters and guests and will be

at 6:45 pm. You will be able to select from steak, chicken, fish or vegetable dinner which will include your drink of soda, coffee or tea. Also there will be a cowboy band on hand to entertain. Please plan on attending.

BANQUET

The banquet will be on Saturday evening and it will start off with a cash bar at 6:30 pm followed by a buffet dinner at 7:30pm. After the dinner we will have a guest speaker.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The convention will be at the **Windemere Hotel, 5750 E. Main St., Mesa, AZ 85205**. The rooms will be \$69.00 plus tax per night. (This includes a continental breakfast). That rate will be from May 4th to May 7th. To make reservations you can call 1-800-888-3561. Be sure to tell them you are with the FMDAC. You can check out this beautiful hotel at

www.resortmesa.com

CAMPING

There are lots of campgrounds in the Apache Junction, Mesa area. You can find them on the Internet or call Mike Smith at 866-983-7011. He will gladly help you out.

ATTRACTIONS

There are many things to do in around Mesa, Phoenix and Apache Junction. You are at the heart of Superstition Mountains. Goldfield Ghost Town is an 1890 Mining town with many shops and plenty to do.

TRAVEL

You can fly into Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix. The hotel is 15 to 20 minutes from the airport.

If you need any more info or have any questions then please contact

Mike Smith at (480) 983-7011 or
Duane Biller at 724-439-1380

All times and schedule subject to change.

The Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization.

ENTRY FORM REQUIREMENTS

This entry or a copy of this entry must be sent in with a check or money order, along with a business size,

self addressed, stamped envelope. Canadian members must pay with a US Money Order.

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

1. Registrants at the time of registration at Convention must present their current FMDAC Membership card.
2. Please fill out the form COMPLETELY, including The FMDAC club or Independent to which you Belong. Your signature is very important. If you do not sign the release; you will not be permitted to hunt.
3. There will be \$25 returned check fee.
4. Pack your tickets early. NO TICKET – NO ENTRY.
5. Hunt will be held rain or shine. NO REFUNDS. Please complete the form and make check/money order payable to the FMDAC and mail to:

**JILL MCFEEDERS
7025 DOVER ZOAR RD.
DOVER, OH 44622**

DON'T FORGET YOUR SELF ADDRESSED BUSINESS SIZED, STAMPED ENVELOPE –
(Tickets and info will be sent back to you.) If you do not send an envelope, your tickets will be held.

ENTRY FORM

I am a member of the FMDAC in good standing and I wish to participate in the following events.

FRIDAY NIGHT COWBOY COOK-OUT

of meals _____ (Until 4/1) \$23 _____
(4/1 to 4/15) \$25 _____ (After 4/16) \$28 _____

SATURDAY HUNT

of entries _____ (Until 4/1) \$40 _____
(4/1 to 4/15) \$45 _____ (After 4/16) \$50 _____

BANQUET

of meals _____ (Until 4/1) \$30 _____
(4/1 to 4/15) \$40 _____ (After 4/16) \$50 _____

SUNDAY HUNTS

of entries _____ (Until 4/1) \$85 _____
(4/1 to 4/15) \$95 _____ (After 4/16) \$105 _____

DO NOT MAIL AFTER 4/20/ 2007
PAY AT THE CONVENTION.

I have enclosed a check/money order (US FUNDS) in the amount of \$ _____

You do not have to be a member of the FMDAC for the Cow boy Cookout or the Banquet.

NAME _____
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____
CLUB NAME or INDEPENDENT _____
PHONE _____
E-mail _____

I acknowledge that I WILL NOT hold the FMDAC, Windemere Hotel or Goldfield Ghost Town, responsible for any injuries or accidents I may incur while participating in any of the above events.

Signature _____
Date _____

Confirmed speakers for Saturday seminars will be Jake Cruzen, Spanish Sign Interpreter. He will be talking about Spanish treasure signs and symbols of the southwest.

Jack San Felice, part owner of the world famous Silver King Mine will discuss the mine and bring some displays.

The Banquet speaker will be Bob Schoose, part owner of Goldfield Ghost Town (see front page) and the world famous Mammoth Mine. He is a long time treasure hunter who has worked on the Lost Dutchman, Lost Adams and the Knights of the Golden Circle Treasures and has appeared on national television shows.

- 2007 Convention Advertising
- Personal Ad \$2.00
- Frank Colletti
- Couple Ad \$3.00
- Mr. and Mrs. Carl McFeeders
- Three Line Listing \$10.00
- Treasure Hunters
- South One St.
- Anywhere, USA 00000
- Business Card \$20.00
- One Fourth Page \$35.00
- One Third Page \$50.00
- Half Page \$75.00
- Full Page \$100.00
- T-Shirt Ad \$25.00
- Table Rental Rates

FMDAC Club Rate \$25.00 per table
Retail Sales \$50.00 first table & \$35.00 each additional table

Metal Detector Member Certification Program

By Lee Wiese, FMDAC Western Chapter Vice President
leewiese@excite.com

This article involves responsible metal detecting and the community. While practicing the hobby of metal detecting there have been a number of issues and questions that continues to come to one's attention. These issues have been evident while metal detecting at large, at club hunts, in metal detecting conversations and during some recent club visits as VP of the Western Chapter. So what are the issues and questions?

Generally, it is the lack of knowledge by both new people to the hobby and some old timers. This lack of knowledge covers issues like where one can / cannot go metal detecting, proper methods of pin-pointing and minimizing ground cover damage during target recovery. I am sure that most everyone who metal detects has been exposed to similar situations and has seen first hand the results of very poor target recovery, or has talked to someone who has been asked to leave a specific detecting place due to lack of permission. As more people start to practice the hobby proper training and guidance will become essential for responsible detecting. Without proper education / training the result will be damaged property, public entities banning metal detecting, and arrests; all negatively impacting the reputation of the hobby.

These are the issues that have prompted me to suggest creating a club **Member Certification Program** at every metal detecting club. *I would like to put a disclaimer here: this is not a current FMDAC program or has FMDAC considered sponsoring such a program.* However, I am willing to work with a club or clubs to establish such a certification program for its members.

Let's explore what a possible club metal detecting *Certification Program* would cover. A certification program is meant to certify metal detecting club members in a classroom environment on responsible metal detecting. The class would be approximately 6-8 hours in length, would cover an **introduction** to detecting, **ethics** for detecting, **where** to hunt, **how** to use a metal detector, and recovering targets

Below is a four point outline for a club member certification program or some may call it a Metal Detecting 101 class.

- 1) The class would start with an **introduction** and discussion on:
 - The various Types of Metal Detecting (coins, jewelry, beach / water, prospecting, relics)
 - Who are the metal detector Manufacturers
 - General or Multi-purpose, Water, Prospecting, Relic Detectors
 - How to Purchase (local dealers, internet, etc.)
 - Equipment and other Detecting Accessories

- The Internet and Metal Detecting
- National and State Metal Detecting Organizations

2) Instruction and discussion on:

- Metal Detecting **Ethics**
- Acquiring Permission to Metal Detect
- Written and Verbal Contracts
- Research (old newspapers, library, photos, etc.)

3) The class would cover **where** you can & cannot metal detect:

- Local Public (parks, schools, public building grounds, beaches, pool areas, etc.)
- State (parks, recreation areas, beaches, historical sites, etc.)
- National (parks, forest, recreation areas, beaches, historical sites, etc.)
- Private lands, lakes, resorts and beaches.

The section on the Local Public area and State can be tailored to a specific club's location.

4) Next the class should cover **how** to:

- Turn-on and Setup a Detector
- Control Proper Swing and Coil Height
- Proper Pin Pointing of a Target
- Proper Recovery of a Target

Section (4) should be covered in a classroom and then practiced under classroom conditions in the field.

The certification class would be a requirement for every current member and every new member that joins a club. At the completion of the class there can be recognition, with a certificate of completion or some other award.

This program can be a great selling point to your community authorities. The certification program demonstrates the club's commitment to obeying laws, following good methods for practicing the hobby, and a willingness to reach out to educate its members and the community. The certification class can be used at schools to introduce students to the hobby, or offered as a metal detecting 101 class at your local community center.

In one case, I have witnessed a club that was able to get global permits for club members from city and school authorities by using a similar approach. In another case a club uses such a program to educate the community at large. It will work, and as more and more people join the hobby it will be a must in every club if the hobby is to continue to have access to public and private lands.

FILL THOSE HOLES!

From the editor:

I'm getting tired of being cooped up. Signs of spring are all around us. Hopefully we can get out and swing our coils real soon. I know you snowbound folks up north are probably ready to get out. Some brave hearts have posted some interesting photos on the Internet of winter hunts. They say once you get through the first 5 or 6 inches of frozen ground the rest is easy.

Those avid beach hunters go from diving boots / sandals and shorts to lots of layers of sweat shirts and coats / waders and sock hats. They still have some nice finds even though the beach goer's are not there in masses during the winter. My favorite is Virginia Beach Max. He always gives us a good "spin down the lane".

Wow! Here I sit at my computer and its 73 degrees outside. There are so many things we need to do with the arrival of nice weather. All those "honey do's", and honey just wants to go metal detecting. We better make sure we have our priorities lined up right. Then, go treasure hunting. The freeze and thaw will undoubtedly bring a few new targets to the surface, or closer. Take your time don't get so excited as to damage a nice coin or token getting it out of the ground. Being out of the loop all winter might have deteriorated your skills a little so be careful.

With the last issue I have included those hunters or advocates of our hobby in the new *Gone Hunt'n* section. This will let everyone know when someone has indeed gone hunt'n. I would like for anyone to submit a members name and birth / death dates. You will notice that there are a couple of birth dates missing from this issue. I just couldn't contact the right people to get the information before publish date.

I hope everyone is ready for the convention in Mesa, Arizona. Western Chapter President Mike Smith has informed all of us that hunt prizes are rolling in. Also there have been many nice gold nuggets purchased for the raffles. We have always had nice gold coins for the big raffle but this time we are trying out the nuggets. We hope everyone likes the idea. Needless to say it is going to be a real adventure for those that can make the trip.

Just remember, when going out to hunt think safety priority number one and always follow the code of ethics. From what I hear it does make a difference in the way people look at us. And also be alert to any legislative action needed in your area.

We're still working on our email list. Some of you have already received test emails from Lee. Once we get a complete list of our members we can save a fortune in postage. Don't worry we will still publish a printed edition of the Quest. Dave

Advertising

Your Advertisement could be right here!

Please contact Jill McFeeders, Dave Perry or any officer.

Your ad will also be included in the Quest that is sent to members by mail and email and on our web page at www.fmdac.org Your link will also be included at no extra Charge

Support your Federation

All advertising income supports the printing and mailing of the Quest.



Minelab USA Inc.
871 Grier Dr., Suite B1
Las Vegas, NV 89119 USA
T: 1-702-891-8809
F: 1-702-891-8810

GONE HUNT'N

Mary Frances Mancini
1900 – 2007

Dave Summers
-2007

Janet Derrenberger
- 2007

Please send any information about deceased members to Dave Perry at djperry900@peoplepc.com or address on pagetwo.

ASK PERMISSION!

FROM THE CHAPTERS

Mid Atlantic

Oh my, is it March already! We are that much closer to spring, right! In February we tried to keep warm and saved up to pay our gas bill. The Butler Club set up at a Sports Show in the area for 2 days and since I belong to the Club I helped out. We had a metal detector display and finds of our local Club members. We also had an area set up for kids 12 years and younger to try metal detecting at no cost. They got to keep what they found. Coins were donated by the Club members. We answered questions and even picked up a few new members for the Club.

The show was not really very well attended but gave us the opportunity to show the people what we do. I believe we picked up a new Club for the FMDAC, The Metal Detecting Association of the Carolinas. Look for their info to come this week Jill.

I (Cheryl) have been communicating with them for several months, answering questions and trying to bring them in. I think they may have belonged to the FMDAC before, as he talked about trying to get questions answered by Betty Weeks.

Hope to see you all soon, Vic & Cheryl Kamer

NORTHEAST CHAPTER

I was in contact with the New York Research and Recovery Club of central New York regarding joining the FMDAC.

I've been talking to some members of the Atlantic Treasure Club regarding joining as independents or forming another club. Their old time members still reject the Federation.

I also talked to a couple of prospects for independent membership. They look very promising.

Looking forward to spring, John Howard

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

From Sun Sentinel Website by: Suzanne Wentley

HUTCHINSON ISLAND -- Treasure hunters arrived on the Treasure Coast on Monday in search of what they hope might be a ship from a gold-filled fleet that gave the area its name.

The four-person crew of a lift boat named the Polly-L expects to reach Tiger Shores Beach, located just north of

Stuart Public Beach, this morning and begin looking for historical artifacts associated with a shipwreck possibly from the 1715 Spanish treasure fleet.

The search begins four years after officials with the Amelia Island-based Amelia Research and Recovery team first surveyed the shallow waters off Hutchinson Island for a stack of cannons that a local surfer discovered almost 30 years ago.

"I'm excited and ready to go," said Dave Jordan, a former Palm City resident and surfer who kept his discovery a secret for 25 years until his wife triggered the memory. "I want to see what's there."

So does Doug Pope, the president of Amelia Research and Recovery, who on Monday captained the four-story-high boat down the Intracoastal Waterway in Fort Pierce.

Pope and Jordan worked with the state to secure necessary permits to "dig and identify" the 42 targets they found during a 2005 survey about 200 yards from the beach.

Starting as early as today, professional divers will use metal detectors to rule out which of the targets are "modern junk" -- bridge parts or other metal debris -- picked up in the initial survey, Pope said.

Then they'll use a 6-inch vacuum dredge to determine what the remaining targets are. If they uncover an artifact of potential historical significance, the treasure hunters must first receive a permit to "salvage" the material.

"When the treasure gods start smiling, then we'll say we found something," Pope said. "They don't smile that often."

If Jordan's memory turns out to be accurate, Martin County historians say the shipwreck could be part of an 11-vessel Spanish fleet that wrecked in a hurricane in 1715.

So far, the ship from that fleet discovered farthest south was the *Urca de Lima*, found north of Fort Pierce's Pepper Beach Park, which now contains a state underwater archeological preserve around the wreck. Other ships from that fleet have been discovered in Indian River County.

While it is unlikely any gold will be uncovered in the search, officials with the Historical Society of Martin County are hoping historical treasures will be discovered and eventually displayed in the new Elliott Museum planned just yards from the possible shipwreck site.

Jordan, who has family in Martin County and is in the process of moving from North Carolina to Gainesville,

said he will likely stay on the Polly-L for a few days as the work begins. The project is expected to take about a month.

"It's important for me to find the cannons, but it's not about me," he said. "I'm excited Martin County is getting a chance. There's tons of history here. It's unbelievable."

CENTRAL STATES CHAPTER

From Ron Guinazzo, Midwest Historical Research Society

On February 15th when the new George Washington Dollar coins were released, I was taking change to the bank and asked for a couple of rolls of the new dollars. I figured "no better time to find an error than right from the Mint". Just for the record, this is the first time I have bought Mint rolls from the bank.

I get in my truck, open a roll and look at both sides of the coins and notice nothing unusual. (Ed. Note: there have been some blanks found) I throw those 25 into the coin bag and go home. When I got home I pulled out another roll, popped it open and looked at the edge of the roll. Something didn't look right! There was a coin with no writing on the edge. Upon closer inspection I realized that the motto's are on the edge of the coin. E Pluribus Unum, In God We Trust, along with the date and Mint mark were stamped around the edge of the coin. "But Wait! One is blank!" I got out my 10X glass and confirmed that there were no markings at all.

Getting excited I quickly opened the other roll. Nothing! Last roll! Then I remembered the roll in the truck. I retrieve the coins from the bag and the first handful had one with no markings. Now I'm really pumped up. I need to find out if these are possibly worth a lot, so I called the first person that came to mind, a club member and friend Reid Geisler. Reid has forgotten more about coins than I'll ever know.

After explaining what I had, Reid confirmed that I had made a great find. His words were. "Get it E-Bay Now!" To make a long story short, with that listing, I had 4150 different people looking my sale. Unfortunately the day before my sale was to end someone in Florida found and listed 8 more. I think this kept the bidding down but my coin still brought in over \$600.

Needle in a haystack, maybe. There have been 120 listed on E-Bay so far, all from the Philly Mint and mostly found in Florida. Treasure is where you find it. So keep your eyes open. I'm sure there are more out there.

From Mike Beaver, Northern Indiana Research & Recovery.

Modern "Humbug" Pennies.

The word "HUMBUG" is said to occur first in Fielding's Amelia, 1751. One writer suggests that it is a corruption of the Latin Ambages; another states that it is derived from a man named Hume, who, in olden time in Scotland, succeeded to the Bogue or Boog estate, and was known as "Hume o' the Bogue or Aum o' the Bug, who was so indined to the marvelous, that when any one made an extraordinary statement, it soon became common to style it "a hum o' the bug, which was soon shorted into hum-bug.

Another antiquary derives this word from a worthless coinage in use in Ireland under William III., which was called him-bog, pronounced oom-bug, ie; soft copper, worthless money.

Sure sounds like our modern money that can be corroded beyond recognition within just a few short years. I vote for the worthless money origin and just say bah-humbug.

But that leads to another question. Where did the "bah" come from? Did the Irish sheep of the day take a fancy to eating these soft copper coins when lost? And if so, couldn't these sheep be considered the first types of metal detectors?

WESTERN CHAPTER

FNDAC WESTERN CHAPTER 2nd Annual Diggin in the desert "In The Grass" Treasure Hut at the GPAA Gold Show was held in early march.

Mike Smith, Chapter President, wanted to thank his sponsors of the event. Les and Carol Berg, Garrett Metal Detectors, Apache Trail Tours, Bounty Hunter, White's of California, Action Mining, Lortone, Primer Publishing, Desert Outfitters, Wal-Mart, Minelab, Falcon Detectors, Pro Mack South, Lost Treasure Magazine, Western & Eastern Magazine, Superstition Mountain Historical Society, Jim's Detectors, The Gold Lady, Goldfield Ghost Town, 49er Mining Supplies and the Western Chapter FMDAC.

The event was very successful and enjoyed by all, especially the main winners. Dale Witter, Marion Hershner, Mike Hildago, Lorayne Christensen, Rick Costello, Jack Dyer, Ed Collins, Paul Schiflette, Brent Gutierrez, Howard Green and Mitchell French.

**THE FMDAC BOARD OF
DIRECTORS SAY
THANKS!**



Mark Schuessler

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The first part of 2007 has been a busy period on the legislative front. On the positive side of the issue there are two bills in state legislatures that actually benefit metal detecting. The first is in Washington. This bill's purpose is to open up more areas of the state parks to detecting and also to force those who are claiming areas are of archaeological significance to prove it.

A similar bill is in the Texas legislature. Their parks have been closed to detecting for many, many years. In both instances the bills are sitting in committee, with no movement and even being blocked by some self-serving politicians. If you are in those states then lend your assistance.

The bill in Arkansas that amended a previous law has passed both the house and the senate. It passed both by a wide margin. It did get amended from 50 to 100 years. That is a totally meaningless amendment. It only affects state controlled lands but could this have an effect on metal detecting in the state parks? We can only watch now.

Kentucky is still a battleground right now. The "permit" bill there has passed in committee with a favorable review. It is now in the appropriations committee and then will head to the full house. The sponsor of the bill actually made a public statement on a website called Kentucky Votes. He made a poor attempt at defending his position. All the comments on that site I read were against the bill. Apparently they have been blasted with negative comments on it. They have come from a variety of sources including the Kentucky Home Builders Assoc.

So what did the committee do? They completely ignored the voters and sided with the Kentucky Heritage Council. A contact in the archaeological community there has nothing nice to say about the KHC. In his opinion they are a self-serving group of power hungry hacks. Just having to hide this permit system inside another bill and writing it in a

way as to disguise it tells me all I need to know about the KHC. Hopefully when this bill hits the full house there are enough legislators with functioning brains to put this ridiculous bill in the garbage can.

You can read all about these legislative issues on the website. Look on the left hand column under "Alerts". And check out the forum for any discussions.

Mark Schuessler



White's Electronics

"See what's in the ground before you dig!"

PROUD TO SUPPORT THE FMDAC
www.whiteselectronics.com

**SPRING
CONVENTION
MESA, ARIZONA
HUNTS
SEMINARS
GOLD NUGGET RAFFLES
FOOD – FUN
SEE FLYER IN THIS ISSUE**

**TAKE YOUR TRASH WITH YOU
WHEN YOU LEAVE!
LEAVE AN AREA BETTER THAN
YOU FOUND IT!**

FMDAC - QUEST
C/O Dave Perry
603 W. State St.
Princeton, IN 47670-1347

THE FMDAC'S CODE OF ETHICS

I WILL ALWAYS CHECK FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY AND LOCAL LAWS BEFORE SEARCHING. IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO 'KNOW THE LAW'.

I WILL RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY AND WILL NOT ENTER PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT THE OWNER'S PERMISSION. WHERE POSSIBLE, SUCH PERMISSION WILL BE IN WRITING.

I WILL TAKE CARE TO REFILL ALL HOLES AND TRY NOT TO LEAVE ANY DAMAGE.

I WILL REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF ANY AND ALL TRASH AND LITTER THAT I FIND.

I WILL APPRECIATE AND PROTECT OUR INHERITANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, WILDLIFE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.

I WILL, AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR THE HOBBY, USE THOUGHTFULNESS, CONSIDERATION AND COURTESY AT ALL TIMES.

I WILL WORK TO HELP BRING UNITY TO OUR HOBBY BY WORKING WITH ANY ORGANIZATION OF ANY GEOGRAPHIC AREA THAT MAY HAVE PROBLEMS THAT WILL LIMIT THEIR ABILITY TO PEACEFULLY PURSUE THE HOBBY.

I WILL LEAVE GATES AS FOUND.

I WILL BUILD FIRES IN DESIGNATED OR SAFE PLACES ONLY.

I WILL REPORT TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES ANY INDIVIDUALS WHO ENTER AND OR REMOVES ARTIFACTS FROM FEDERAL PARKS OR STATE PRESERVES.