



# Maryland Free-State Treasure Club

Recovering & Preserving History

## Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 1

February 2016

The January Meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

**Annual Membership Renewal - Now through March** : Every year we ask that our members renew their membership by paying the annual dues of \$25. We use this money for prizes, literature, refreshments and meeting room rent. Those who do not renew their membership will be dropped from our roster in April 2016.

Mini Hunts: Our pre-meeting mini hunts will resume next meeting, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016 starting at 6:30 PM.

## February Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by President, **Gary Pennington**. Gary introduced the club officers; **Howard Shettle**, Vice President, **Steve Cunningham**, Treasurer and **Dave Miller**, Secretary.

Treasurers Report: The current balance is approximately \$3,000.

Attendance: **Mike Stinemire** reported 58 members in attendance.

National Legislation Liaison: President, **Gary Pennington** announced that **Phil Kolocotronis** has volunteered to be the new Club National Legislation Liaison. Phil will be keeping us updated with current Medal Detector news and legislation.

Meet the Member: This month's Meet the Member is **John Manzari**. John is a Middle River resident and has been a club member for almost 2 ½ years. He has a large family of 4 children and is a grandfather of 13. John works as a manager of a stevedore company but in his spare time, in addition to metal detecting, he plays the electric guitar and also likes creating stained glass art. John has experience with many metal detectors including the Fisher CZ7, XP Deus, Minelab CTX and his current favorite, the Garrett AT Pro. Prior to joining the club, John mostly hunted beaches, but now, he has been introduced to relic hunting which he is very excited about. His key finds have been seated dimes, Indian head pennies, shield nickels. John reminded us that when metal detecting, some days are very productive and some days you won't find anything. Stay positive, don't get discouraged. Also, make sure that you cover ground in both directions because by changing directions you may hear a stronger signal that may have been masked previously.

Bob Taylor: Club member and local dealer, Bob Taylor, informed us about the upcoming XP Deus and Minelab FBS Bootcamps in Newark DE, on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Please see Bob's webpage for more

information. Garrett will soon be releasing the new ACE series of metal detectors and Whites new MX Waterproof detector will be coming out next month. More information will be forthcoming. Bob is also offering new metal detecting shovels. There are currently 2 versions being offered: Standard metal \$41 and a stainless steel \$55.

New Purchases: The club now owns a gold and diamond tester so bring in your gold and diamonds to see how much they are worth. See **Brad Johns** for assistance.

Monthly Club Hunt: Our February club outing was a great success. Once again members found some artifacts at the Benson-Hammond House which was donated to the museum. Many new members attended this hunt and were very successful.

Annual Closed Member Hunt: The 2016 closed hunt is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup> with registration beginning at 10 AM. The cost of \$25/person will be collected at future meetings and during registration on the day of the hunt. See **Andy Cooper** to register.

Annual Open Hunt: The 2016 Open Hunt will once again be held at Sandy Point State Park on October 9<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be \$100 for the two main hunts and two other optional hunts will be available: Club members voted to have a Team Hunt Option \$30/team and Big Silver Hunt Option \$50/person.

Club Auction: We will hold a club auction during next month's meeting. Bring in any unwanted metal detecting or household items and we will auction them off. This will be a great time to attend a meeting and walk away with some great deals.

Coin Board Winners: **Kurt Franz, Mike McCullough** and **John Vise** were all winners in the coin category. **Kurt Franz** and **Mike McCullough** were winners in the relic category.

Club Favorite Find of the Month: **Timmy Steaker** won the "Club Favorite Find of the Month" with his civil war era powder flask.

Raffle Winners: 50/50 – **Nancy Sommer** Silver Round-**Teri Graf**

Leg of Gold Winner: **Ron Riggs**

Door Prizes: **Cirilo Costilla, Nancy Jelich, Howard Shettle, Bill Phaff and Scott Horst Jr.**

The Meeting was closed at 8:40 PM.

Next Meeting to be held March 31, 2016 at 7:00 PM.