



Maryland Free-State Treasure Club

Recovering & Preserving History

Newsletter

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June 2016

June Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 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 \$3,670.31

Attendance: **Dave Franz** reported 55 members in attendance.

Meet the Member: This month's Meet the Member was **John Vice**. John, a Maryland native, attended Loyola High School and Towson University, and is currently working in a local Office Supply Company. John began metal detecting in 1975 but recently has got back into the hobby. John also is a member of the Maryland Geological Society and is an avid Fossil Hunter. Because of his love of history, John's favorite form of metal detecting is relic hunting. His metal detector of choice is the Garrett AT Pro. Some of his unique gear includes a tactical pouch that holds many accessories as well as his soccer cleats which help keep traction on wet and steep slopes. John's favorite find was a clump of WWI buttons held together with a metal band which most likely was a memorial piece. His most valuable find is a 1623 Bavarian coin. His bucket list items include a 2 cent piece, half dime, silver dollar, and a 1700's coin. Some advice that John has for beginners in the hobby is to stay consistent, organized and listen for deep targets.

Bob Taylor: Club member and local dealer, **Bob Taylor**, brought us up to date with the current metal detecting equipment news.

Metal Detecting News: **Phil Kolocotronis** reminded us that Baltimore City Parks are now closed to metal detecting for the months of July and August.

Monthly Club Hunt: Our June club outing was a nicely attended. No great finds, plenty of wheaties and foreign coins.

Annual Open Hunt: The 2016 Open Hunt will once again be held at Sandy Point State Park on October 9th. 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. There will be a total of 8 metal detectors to be raffled. Please see our website for registration details.

Remember to register before August 1, 2016 for your chance to win a gold coin.

Volunteer Work: A big thank you to **Gary Pennington, Tim Lindsay** and **Laura Lindsay** who volunteered to sell tickets at the Recreation Council Carnival.

Notable Hunts: **Kurt Franz** was in Ohio recently and had the chance to hunt an 1859 house. He found many targets including a "4 seated dime spill", a Spanish Real, and a 2 cent piece. **Bob Horst** found a 23.6 ounce 18 K gold ring. The ring was buried next to a copper square nail, which registered on his detector as a tin can. **John Manzari** was in Ocean City on day when he was approached by some college students who asked him to try to find a lost necklace. This was a sentimental piece because it was made in remembrance of a friend who had cancer. When John found it they were very appreciative, and John was very pleased that he was able to help.

Mini Hunt Winners: Our pre-meeting mini hunt winners included **Gina Stinemire** and **Katherine Pfaff**. Be sure to participate in next month's mini hunt starting at 6:30 before the meeting.

Coin Board Winners: **Mike McCullough, Eric Ritter** and **Bob Rinker** were all winners in the coin category. **Mike McCullough, John Vice** and **Bob Horst** were winners in the relic category.

Club Favorite Find of the Month: **Bill Phaff** won the "Club Favorite Find of the Month" with his ornate sugar bowl. He found it about 6" deep and it looks as though it may be silver and is very old.

Raffle Winners: 50/50 – **Bill Phaff** Silver Round-**Bill Romjue**

Leg of Gold Winner: **Amy Taylor**

Door Prizes: **Randy Powell, Ron Riggs, Chris Wisnom, Sharon Powell, John Vice** and **Wendy Huber**.

The Meeting was closed at 8:45 PM.

Next Meeting to be held July 28th, 2016 at 7:00 PM with mini hunt starting at 6:30 PM.