



Maryland Free-State Treasure Club

Recovering & Preserving History

Newsletter

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May 2016

May Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 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 \$3,223

Attendance: **Dave Franz** reported 49 members in attendance.

Meet the Member: This month's Meet the Member was **Phil Kolocotronis**. Phil has been metal detecting for about three years. Originally from Saint Louis, Phil currently lives in Columbia with his wife and two children. His metal detector of choice is the Garrett AT-Pro but he originally has experience with the Tesora Cibola, which is a good deep detector but isn't great in a trashy park. This detector runs on a single 9 volt battery and has good pin pointing features. Phil often uses golf tees to mark multiple targets and before digging them at one time. He says this is sometimes very useful when you find many targets in one area. Phil also recommends getting yourself business cards made up with your name and the title of Armature Detectorist. This promotes a professional profile and also lets those who you seek permission know that you are serious about your hobby. It should also contain your contact information and a notation of "Lost Items Found". Phil's favorite find was a sterling silver necklace.

Bob Taylor: Club member and local dealer, **Bob Taylor**, brought us up to date with the current metal detecting equipment news. Bob has lots of Pin Pointers in Stock at good prices, and is selling Coin Club mugs to our members at cost. Bob reports that Minelab prices on their metal detectors will be dropping soon.

Monthly Club Hunt: Our May club outing was a nicely attended but the hunting was difficult, due to fill dirt that was added to the 1809 house property. The find of the day was a large 10K gold ring

Annual Closed Member Hunt: The 2016 closed was held this month and was a great success. A special thanks to **Andy Cooper** for organizing and making it a day to remember.

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 September 7, 2016 for your chance to win a gold coin.

Ring Hunt: Club President, **Gary Pennington** was successful in finding the lost ring of a man who requested his detecting services. After about an hour and a half, he found on his way going back to the car to pack up. Gary posted a video of this adventure, as well as his others, on his You Tube Channel.

Display Case: The club will be setting up a display case in the community center to display items that we have found as well as information about our club.

Mini Hunt Winners: Our pre-meeting mini hunt winners included **Andy Cooper, Randy Powell** and **Frank Ziemski**. Be sure to participate in next month's mini hunt starting at 6:30 before the meeting.

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

Club Favorite Find of the Month: **John Vice** won the "Club Favorite Find of the Month" with his "Case Heavy Equipment" company gold ring.

Raffle Winners: 50/50 – **Bill Kalwa Jr.** Silver Round-**Carrol Rinker**

Leg of Gold Winner: **John Curtis**

Door Prizes: **Sharon Powell, John Gaver, Harry Morrison**, and **Jimmy Barton**

The Meeting was closed at 8:30 PM.

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