



Maryland Free-State Treasure Club

Recovering & Preserving History

Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 7

July 2017

July Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM by President, **Gary Pennington**. Gary introduced the club officers; **Howard Shettle**, Vice President, **Steve Cunningham**, Treasurer and **Dave Miller**, Secretary.

A special thank you to **Mike** and **Gina Stinemire** who always provides a wide range of delicious food and snacks for the meeting.

Attendance: 42 members and visitors were in attendance as reported by **Dave Franz**.

Treasurers Report: \$5,071.23

Mini Hunt: Our mini hunt held prior to the meeting, starting at 6:30 was well attended. The winner who found tokens were **Phil Kolocotronis, Wendy Huber, Andy Cooper** and **James Foster**.

Gold Coin Raffle: A new gold coin raffle has begun. Tickets can be purchased for a future drawing for \$1 each.

Legal Beagle Report: **Phil Kolocotronis** reported that the Ocean City Police Department, Beach Patrol, in an effort to expand its community outreach, is now outfitted with a metal detector to help beach-goers find lost jewelry. Sargent Mark Paddack, who is an avid metal detector enthusiast, has organized this new service.

Monthly Club Outing: There was no club outing in July due to the dry field conditions

2017 Open Hunt and Closed Hunt: The date for the 2017 Open Hunt will be Sunday, September 17. We will only have two main hunts and the Big Silver hunt for 2017. Among the 7 metal detectors to be raffled off are a Garret AT Gold and a Fisher F75. Remember to get you registration forms in before July 31 so that you can be eligible for a gold coin drawing and also save \$25. See our website for more details and to receive your registration packet. The Closed Hunt, (Members Only) will be held on Saturday, Sept. 30 at the Victory Villa Community Center. This hunt promises to be loaded with lots of silver coins and your admission will qualify you for chance to win a Fisher F75. The registration will be \$25.

Monthly Spotlight: **Brad Johns** presented his passion of "Urban Treasure Hunting", without a metal detector. Brad says that he has always had an obsession for finding treasures everywhere he goes. His hunting takes him to yard sales, Goodwill and thrift stores. Brad was kind enough to share his tricks of

the trade. 1. Utilize your smart phone to Google items that you find to see what their market value is on Ebay and other retail sites as well as do any on-line research to help you identify value. 2. Items to carry with you: small digital scale to weigh gold/silver, Diamond Tester, and a magnet to detect non-valuable metals. 3. Research precious metal hallmarks so that you know what to look for when finding old silver items. 4. Buy junk jewelry collections if they are cheap enough. Many times there are 14K and silver items mixed in. 5. Look for trademark names such as "Tiffany", "Silpata", "David Yurman" etc. Brad shared many of his treasures that he has found over the years including jewelry, silver bowls and silver cutlery. Next month, we will have our show and tell when we will be bringing in one favorite find to share with the club.

Monthly Board Contest: **Dave Franz, Matt St. Ours, Mike McCullough** were all winners in the coin category. **Dave Franz, Mike McCullough, John Vice** and **Andy Cooper** were winners in the relic category.

Club Favorite Find of the Month: A Silver Spoon found by **James Foster**.

Raffle Winners: 50/50 – **Bill Pfaff** Silver Round: **Zack Brewer**

Leg of Gold Winner: **Mike Stinemire** – If there is no winner prior to December's meeting, all monthly winner's names will be put in a hat and a winner will then be drawn.

Door Prizes: **Brad Johns, Howard Shettle, Bill Pfaff,** and **Leo Pollock Jr.,** were all door prize winners.

Member Stories: **Mike McCullough** recently visited England and wasn't able to take his detector; however he found an old jar bottom along a river. **Dave Franz** had an encounter with the police as they checked him in Baltimore County, but because he had his permit, the police had no issues.

Next Meeting to be held Thursday, August 31st, 2017 at 7:00 PM with a mini hunt starting at 6:30PM