



Maryland Free-State Treasure Club

Recovering & Preserving History

Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 5

May 2017

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.

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

Attendance: 48 members and visitors were in attendance as reported by **Dave Franz**.

Treasurers Report: \$4,534.75

Monthly Club Outing: Our club outing this month was attended by approximately 10 members. Many coins were found including some silver, a 2 cent piece and rings. The MARS club also hosted a hunt that was organized by **Barney Dolt**. Barney has donated and planted numerous civil war relics, coins and bullets from his private collection.

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 metal detectors to be raffled will be a Garret AT Gold and a Fisher F75. Remember to get your 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. The registration will be \$25.

Volunteers: A special thank you to **Gary Pennington** and his wife, and **Bud Lamb** for volunteering to sell tickets at the recreation center carnival located at Martin State Airport in June. Gary also mentioned that we have over 13 volunteers each month help out regularly in various positions to keep our club running smoothly. Since the 5 years since Gary has voted president, the club has grown to close to 100 members. A special thanks to **Steve Cunningham** for all his work in keeping the website up to date which is the main reason for our growth over the years.

Bylaws: Next month we will be voting on the revised bylaws. An email will be sent out later this month with the bylaws for everyone to review and be ready to vote at next month's meeting.

Club Auction: A big thank you to **Bob Horst** for leading our Annual Auction last month. The auction brought in \$359 to help with our upcoming club expenses.

Legal Beagle Report: **Phil Kolocotronis** brought to our attention of various cases where some detectorists took chances and caused issues with government authorities where it could affect the hobby and our rights to hunt. We need to always be vigilant and know the rules of where we hunt so that we don't break any laws and bring a negative image to our hobby.

Meet the Member: Our member, **Paul Sweeney**, has been an Architect for over 45 years, and he is the Secretary of the MARS club. He started metal detecting in 1985. His first detectors were a Whites 6000di and a Compass metal detector. He currently uses a Whites v3i. His favorite type of hunting is club organized hunts and seeded competition hunts. His favorite finds are when he has had the opportunity to help people find lost rings, which he said he has done about 6 times in the past. His best find was a 1787 NY half penny and his most memorable hunt was a 1994 club hunt when he won the grand prize which was a presentation plaque of civil war bullets. His bucket list consists of spending more time and hunting with his grandchildren and he hopes to find more civil war memorabilia. His advice to beginners in the hobby is to remember that most of what we do is luck, so stick with it and eventually you will find a treasure.

Hoover Boys: **Kurt Franz** and his "Hoover Boys" had the opportunity to field test the beta version of the AT Max. This new detector will be released in the next couple of months and is a reconfigured version of the AT Pro and AT Gold, combined. They were impressed with the depth, the wireless headphones and the backlight feature. Please remember to view their Youtube channel to the treasures they dug with this new machine as well as all their very informative and entertaining videos.

Research: Mike McDullough brought in a 1940 photo of a farm that he has hunted to show us how he uses old photos to help him find the location of old structures.

Baltimore County Parks: A representative from Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks was on hand at our meeting to sign metal detecting permits for our members. Baltimore County permits are valid for 3 months after the issue date.

Monthly Board Contest: **Eric Ritter, Matt St. Hours, and Kurt Franz** were all winners in the coin category. **John Curtis, Matt St. Hours, Mike McCullough** and **John Vice** were winners in the relic category.

Club Favorite Find of the Month: Silver Dollar Money Clip, by **Mike McCullough**

Raffle Winners: 50/50 – **James Foster** Silver Round: **Frank Ziemski** Leg of Gold Winner: **Mike Stinemire**

Door Prizes: **Dwayne Meanor, Paul Sweeney, Terry Miller and Jim Hooper** were all door prize winners.

Next Meeting to be held Thursday, June 29th, 2017 at 7:00 PM with a mini hunt starting at 6:30PM