



# Maryland Free-State Treasure Club

Recovering & Preserving History

## Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 2

February 2018

### February 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: 37 members and visitors were in attendance.

Treasures Report: Our treasurer, **Steve Cunningham** reported that we have a balance of \$3,227.97.

Meet the Member: **Alvin "Bud" Lamb** was born in Indiana and started metal detecting in the 1960's. He co-founded the MARS club meeting and he is a life member of the Maryland Freestate Treasure Club. Bud is a Vietnam Veteran and was station in various places including Fort Knox, Aberdeen, California and Fort Richardson Alaska. He was introduced to gold prospecting while in Alaska. Bud read an article in the "Readers Digest" about metal detecting and he was hooked, and he built his first detector from a kit. Bud enjoys all types of hunting and when he was younger, he would spend about 8 hours a day enjoying the hobby. Bud has estimated that he owns about 31 metal detectors. His favorite ones is the Minelab Etrac, CTX 3030 and Whites DFX. His gear consists of a walking stick which helps in standing as well as a Bowie knife for digging. His favorite find was a 14K Gold Necklace with a locket which contained a faded picture of a man. His best find was a 14K White Gold and diamond Ring which appraised for \$3,125. Bud enjoys competition hunts and his favorite hunt is was the 2013 Atlantic City Minelab Open Hunt. His bucket list includes finding a Shipwreck coin. Bud also has experience with bottle hunting. His research techniques includes reading historical newspapers and event flyers at the library to see where people used to gather. Bud's advice for new members is to get involved in the club to learn more about different types of hunting opportunities.

Legal Beagle Report: **Phil Kolocotronis** shared an internet story of a man who recently died in Yellowstone National Park while looking for the renowned hidden treasure of Forrest Fenn. Forrest Fenn was an antiques dealer who was rumored to bury a hidden cache of gold and jewels in the Park a few years ago. Apparently, many people have lost their lives looking for this treasure.

Monthly Club Outing: The February club outing in northern Baltimore County was well attended but not too much was found. Our next club outing will be March 17 with more information to follow.

Leg of Gold: This week's winner was **Wendy Huber**. Her entry and others to follow will be put in a drawing for a gold coin at the end of the year.

Open Hunt: This year's Open Hunt will be on September 30, 2018 and once again going to be held at Sandy Point State Park. The cost will be \$125 for the main hunt and the prices will go up to \$150 after August 1<sup>st</sup>. In addition to the main hunt, and included in your cost, we have added a new hunt called the "Old Timers" hunt which will contain "Old Time" coins. There will be a Big Silver hunt which will be an additional \$50 and the price will go up to \$75 after August 1<sup>st</sup>. We are planning on raffling off an AT Max, Whites MX Sport and a Minelab Equinox.

Closed Hunt: We have set the date for the closed "member only" hunt to be on September 15, 2018.

Gold Coin Raffle: We are selling tickets for a \$5 gold coin which will be raffled off after we sell \$400 in tickets. Tickets are \$1 each.

Monthly Board Contest: **Bill Hill, Matt St. Ours** and **John Manzari** were all winners in the coin category. **Kurt Franz, Andy Cooper** and **Bill Hill** were winners in the relic category.

Club Favorite Find of the Month: Cannon Ball found by **John Vice**. This was found at a civil war fort in Virginia. The cannon ball was buried about 20" deep. Because this was a live round, John took great care in transport and had it disarmed by Centreville Electronics in Manassas VA.

Raffle Winners: 50/50 – **Richard Aro** Silver Round: **Nathan Durman**

Door Prizes: **Dave Miller, Bud Lamb, Gina Stinemire** and **Mike Stinemire**.

The Meeting was closed at 8:45 PM.

Next Meeting to be held Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 7:00 PM.