

Maryland Free-State Treasure Club

Recovering & Preserving History



Volume 6

Issue 8

July 26, 2018

July 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 Chris Wisnom, Secretary.

A special thank you to Mike Stinemire who always provides a wide range of delicious food and snacks for the meeting. His daughter Gina, who volunteers with her dad each month, is vacationing in Germany.

Attendance: 43 members were in attendance.

Guests: William Antonio, Kris Neely and John Lewis.

Treasurers Report: by Steve Cunningham: \$6,658.21

Mini Hunt: Our mini hunt held prior to the meeting, starting at 6:30 was well attended. There were multiple winners who found tokens and other coins.

Ice Cream Social: An additional surprise for members was an "Ice Cream Social" provided during the break. One of the many perks of being a member.

Lost and Found: The philosophy of our club is to assist in the recovery of lost items for the community.

On Sunday, July 15, we were contacted by Mr. Scott Larner, who lost his wedding ring while working in his yard. An email was place to club members. Mr. Ron Rigs and Frank Ziemski both assisted in the search, and the ring was discovered and returned to Mr. Larner. Kudos to both of them for their time and efforts.

Scheduled Speaker: Mr. Steve Cunningham, Treasurer, will be presenting "Tips for Metal Detecting" on August 10, at 8PM, to the Gold Hunters of America Association, in New Market, Maryland. This is the second year Steve has been an invited speaker.

Legal Beagle Report (in absentia): No metal detecting is permitted at city parks during the months of July and August. Hunting at Sandy Point State Park is permitted from 6 to 10 AM only in the summer. Hunting at Rocky Point State park is spotty, based upon discussion with rangers.

Monthly Club Outing: No monthly hunts are scheduled in July and August due to the dry ground conditions and the parks being closed. On Saturday, June 30, a postponed hunt was conducted on South Mountain. A few members attended. It was rugged Terrain, and a member suffered minor injuries while hunting. First Aid was administered, with no resulting complications. Based upon this situation it has been determined, that it will be in the best interest of the club and its' members to avoid hunt sites that are potentially injurious. Members are encouraged to hunt at local farms and do "knocks" to establish new sites.

Tips for "Knocks" (permission to hunt): With many parks closed to hunting during the summer months, hunters were encouraged to obtain private permission to hunt new sites. Suggestions to obtain permission included: Begin by driving around properties with potential as hunting sites, look for owners outside on the property, stop in for a casual discussion (do not approach geared up with digging tools, belts with gear, etc.), explain the benefits of allowing permission to hunt, i.e. cleaning up the environment, explaining finds to owners who are interested in the historical aspects of the area, donating valuable finds to the property owner (lost rings, etc.), monetary compensation for the use of the property has also yielded positive results. Showing your gratitude for permission to hunt can also be demonstrated by a small gift to the owner. If the property owner cannot grant permission to hunt on their land, perhaps they can suggest another area, or refer you to someone. Stop by when not hunting to say "hello". Do not be discouraged if the initial attempt is unsuccessful. Many people are happy to allow hunters, who follow the ethical rules of hunting access to their property. Share other "knock tips" at future meetings.

Monthly Board Contest: Eric Ritter and Rick Campo were winners in the coin category. Eric Ritter and Mike McCullough won the relic category. Club Favorite Find of the Month: An "I Button" – found by Eric Ritter.

Our Annual Open Hunt: will be conducted on September 30, 2018 at Sandy Point State Park, Annapolis, Maryland. The fee for the hunt will be \$125.00 if postmarked by July 31. Registrations received from August 1 to the day of the hunt will be \$150.00. For the big silver hunt, the cost will be \$50 if postmarked by July 31, \$75 if received from August 1 to the day of the hunt.

Our Annual Closed Hunt: will be conducted on September 15, 2018 at Victory Villa Community Center, Middle River, 404 Compass Rd, Essex, MD. 21220, 410-887-0258. It will begin at 10 AM and run until around 2PM. Your entry fee includes a cookout lunch. All payments must be made in advance. No fees will be accepted the day of the hunt.

Next Club Meeting: Thursday, August 30, 2018 at 7:00 PM, at Victory Villa Community Center, Middle River, 404 Compass Rd, Essex, MD. 21220, 410-887-0258. Mini hunt starts at 6:30 PM, weather permitting. **Note:** The October meeting will be conducted on the third Thursday, October 18, due to a scheduling conflict. The October meeting is the "Auction" meeting. Please bring any items related to metal detecting to the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.