

The logo is circular with a blue border. Inside the border, the words "MARYLAND FREE-STATE" are written in a curve at the top, and "TREASURE CLUB" is written in a curve at the bottom. In the center of the logo is a red and white cross with a yellow and black shield in the middle.

Maryland Free-State Treasure Club

Recovering & Preserving History

Volume 6

Issue 25

December 19, 2019

December Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President, Gary Pennington. Gary introduced the club officers: Howard Shettle - Vice President, Steve Cunningham – Treasurer and Web Master, Chris Wisnom, Secretary and News Letter. Gary presented a silver round to each of the officers and volunteers for their service during the year.

New Business: President: Gary Pennington introduced the new officers. Beginning in January 2020, they include: Mike McCullough as President, to replace Gary Pennington. Gary has accepted the nomination for Vice President, to replace Howard Shettle. Gary's invaluable experience and dedication to our club as president cannot be expressed in words, but is evident from the growth and success of our club. We express our gratitude to him, and his family, for all of his talent and enthusiasm. He will serve as VP and we will continue to benefit from his input. Steve Cunningham will continue in his role as treasurer, and web master. Chris Wisnom will continue her role as secretary and newsletter. We wish to congratulate all of the new officers; and express our gratitude to retiring V.P. Howard Shettle, for serving as V.P. for many years. He has done an outstanding job and has been dedicated to our club, and will continue as an important member of our organization.

Special Guest: Santa made a surprise visit to the meeting. He distributed gifts to the children and was received with a big round of applause from members, making the Christmas meeting memorable for everyone.

Refreshments: Christmas party platters were provided by the club. Club members provided deserts, fruit platters, drinks and multiple other goodies for our Christmas feast. **A special thanks** to the Stinemire family who always provide a wide range of delicious food and snacks for our meetings,

and to everyone who assisted in making our Christmas party a great success.

Attendance: 45 that included members and guests were in attendance.

Mini Hunt: The mini-hunt is currently not being conducted due to the ground conditions and reduced visibility.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Steve Cunningham reported that we have \$2,153.01. Members who have not paid their dues for 2020, should contact Steve Cunningham to do so. Steve sends out reminders to all members. We currently pay \$150.00 mo. Rent for the hall. Once per month, a representative from the club must attend a meeting at the Recreation Center.

Legal Beagle report: Ron Riggs – Cecil County parks are closed to metal detecting. Permission must always be obtained when hunting in construction or on private property.

Monthly Club Hunts: the club hunt in December was conducted at Leakin Park. Multiple items of interest were found. And it is being considered as a potential spot for future hunts. The next club hunt will be conducted on Saturday, January 18, 2020. Members who signed up will be notified by email prior to the hunt.

Our New Metal Detecting Dealer- is Joe DeMarco. Joe is graciously granting all club members a 10% discount on purchases, 15% to veterans. Shipping is also provided free, as is sales tax. Please consider purchasing your equipment and supplies from Joe. We are fortunate he is supporting our club, and we look forward to working with him for many years.

Raffles and Contest: the club finished the year with multiple contests and raffles. Prizes included a Suplex Metal Detector, silver coins, hats, a gold coin, and cash. Congratulations to all of the winners.

Thanks to Dwayne Meanor for running our raffles.

Next Club Meeting: Thursday, January 30, 2020 at 7:00 PM, at Victory Villa Community Center, Middle River, 404 Compass Rd, Essex, MD. 21220, 410-887-0258. Family members are invited.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.