

Maryland Free-State Treasure Club

Recovering & Preserving History

Volume 6
Issue 26
January 30, 2020

January Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President, Mike McCullogh. Mike introduced the new club officers: Gary Pennington - Vice President, Steve Cunningham – Treasurer and Web Master, Chris Wisnom, Secretary and News Letter. Mike acknowledged the many years of service that Gary provided for the club and presented a gift certificate in gratitude from the club. He also thanked all of the volunteers.

New Business: A new park in Bel Air. Currently has a ban on metal detecting. It is open for hiking, biking, nature walks, picnics, etc. This ban does not reflect the policy of all Harford Co. parks.

Special Guest: were Tom Salvatore and Mike Frechette, who presented the history and techniques involved in treasure hunting in a Privy. Their demonstration included the development and use of tools, and hunting tips. Multiple interesting finds were displayed with a discussion of their history. Both hunters have been featured on TV specials and YouTube. We were very fortunate to have them share their story, and would enjoy having them back at a future date.

Refreshments: . A special thanks to the Stinemire family who always provide a wide range of delicious food and snacks for our

meetings. January's refreshments were provided by President, Mike McCollough. He stated that he would like 4 people to assume the responsibility of providing refreshment for the club, and provided a sign in sheet for anyone who was interested.

Attendance: 48 that included members and guests.

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 \$1,689.79. 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 January 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, February 8, 2020. Members who signed up will be notified by email prior to the hunt.

Special Hunt: The 2020 Barney Dolt Appreciation Hunt, a two-club challenge, Mars/Maryland Free-State hunt will be conducted on February 29 at 9:00am (registration at 8:30am), at The Leakin Park mansion (Friends of Orianda House), 1901 Eagle Dr., Baltimore, MD 21207. Price is \$10, gift cards will be distributed as prizes.

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: Winner of the Coin contest: 1st place Mike McCullough, 2nd John Vice, 3rd Dwayne Meanor, Club favorite winner, Bob Rinker. Winner of the Relics contest, 1st John Vice, 2nd Mike McCullough, 3rd place tie, Dwayne Meanor and Gary Pennington. Congratulations to all of the winners.

Thanks to Dwayne Meanor for running our prize board, and Gina Stinemire and Abby Pennington for running the raffles.

Next Club Meeting: Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 7:00 PM, at Victory Villa Community Center, Middle River, 404 Compass Rd, Essex, MD. 21220, 410-887-0258.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.