

FMDAC Presidents Message 1st Quarter 2015

Hello everyone. Hope the New Year is going well for each of you and hope your pouch is filled with nice finds this year. This winter has been a nasty one here in the Western New York State area. I am sure looking forward to a nice warm day of swinging a detector.

Have several announcements to make. The first one is that we will hold a get together this year. It will be in the fall on the last weekend on October. The location is Gettysburg, PA. We chose this location for two reasons. First off is the obvious historic significance. As many in this hobby search for Civil War relics it lends an air of realism to the gathering. The battlefield is enormous. You can easily spend days trying to take it all in. Reason two is that there is Civil War and Military relic show occupying the Allstar Events Complex just outside of town. These two coupled together should make it a memorable weekend.

We have been looking to change up the gathering for sometime and here it is. We will have an informational table set up at the show where you can check in for the hunts. The Saturday morning open hunt will be held on the grounds where the show is held. Sunday will still feature two members' only hunts. There will be an open membership meeting and we possibly may have a seminar or two if we can squeeze them in. Mark your calendar. Flyers will be out soon. Please note that metal detecting on the battlefield will get you arrested, heavy fines and even jail time so if you plan on hunting while there then be sure you know where you are.

There will be a few raffles conducted this year. It is very hard to fund the organization on the \$5 membership fee. So we will be holding raffles to make up the shortfalls. The first one will kickoff shortly. It will be drawn on Sunday in Gettysburg. A long time member, Jack Beth, donated a fine historic book to us. American Soldiers and Sailors in War published in 1898. It is a large thick hard cover book filled with detailed military sketches. The most are of the Civil War. The book needed some repair and we have taken care of that. Tickets will be available shortly. We will be sending them out to the members. You can also get them in person at any hunts that an FMDAC officer attends and they will be available on the website. You may also find the book at a few hunts. We will put photos of the book and a more detailed description on the website. A few more prizes have been added to sweeten the pot. A 2 Peso Gold Coin has been donated by VP Ed Burke, an American Digger Magazine subscription has been donated by Butch and Anita Holcombe the publishers of the magazine, a Silver Eagle donated by Central Region Director Don Hayes and a silver round from Debbie Buxton the Northern Region Director.

One again I will reiterate what I have said many times. If you hear of a problem within the hobby then let us know. I am referring to any potential bans or legislation. Let us know so we can investigate and organize opposition.

If you have not sent in your renewals then please do so soon as possible. A last word concerns your contact information. Please insure that we have your correct info. We use it only to keep in contact with you. It is not given or sold to anyone. If you are not receiving anything from us then either you or your club has not provided it. If your club has not provided it to us then we can only send information to the contact person and they must send it out to you.

One last note is that myself and VP Ed Burke will be on the Relic Roundup internet show on Monday March 16. The show runs from 9:00 to 10:00 PM and you can find it at relicroundup.blogspot.com. Listen in if you have the time available.

Mark Schuessler
President

Happy 2015 to all FMDAC members. As a new year dawns, the officers of the Federation are planning for another year of progress. There were several issues in 2014 that were addressed and for the most part there were satisfactory solutions.

We had an election as well as a board meeting where many issues were addressed. Some of the topics were a location for this year's convention, and a national fundraiser.

I believe we are focused on preserving our hobby, what we truly need is our membership to follow the code of ethics that we have established. Our National treasurer office is one major change for this year. Jill McFeeders, who held that position for a number of years has retired, and John Howard has assumed that office. John was the Northern Region director, and Debbie Buxton will be our new NE director. I believe we are a very solid board and I look forward to 2015.

Ed Burke
VP

Central Region News

It has been quiet in the Central Region for the past few months. I am still waiting on feedback from Ken Weitlauf from Cincinnati on the status of the "Certification Program" he is trying to develop with the Parks Department there. If you know of any problems in your area that we can help with please let me know so we can try to stop it before it becomes a big problem.

Just to let you know we have a new webmaster Trinna Pitts and the website is back up and running. Please check it out at www.FMDAC.org. If you find problems let me know and I will forward them to Trinna and get them fixed. You can find the forms for memberships (club and individual) there. The FMDAC Facebook page is another great place to keep-up with fellow treasure hunters, ask questions and get help with identifying finds.

Until next time, stay warm and good hunting.

Don Hayes
Central Region Director FMDAC

Southern Region

I would like to thank everyone for supporting the FMDAC. This year, I will make an extra effort to keep in touch with all FMDAC Clubs within the Southern Region including independent members as well. It's important to me that I give my best attention to everyone that I possibly can this year and also moving forward.

There are some great things happening this year and hope many of us can continue an effort to support the FMDAC and support each other. Please take a moment and view the FMDAC web page at fmdac.org. We have a new web master and are slowly but surely re-vitalizing the site. There is a forum as well to provide as much information as possible about the Organization, hunts, events, legislation issues.

I am proud to have met so many friends doing what I enjoy as well. I will be asking clubs to share any stories they wish share with me. I hope to reach out to other clubs this year to help build membership.

I have several email addresses that are no longer active and through this email, it will give me a chance to capture those, go back to the active clubs and update as necessary. Not an easy task, but none the less, it will be important in order to keep information fresh. With your support, we can make this happen.

Thank you for your time, I appreciate your time. I can be reached at (843) 330 - 0016. I work during the day, as many of us volunteers do, but I will return phone calls as soon as possible or follow up with an email.

Art DiFilippo

"Southern Regional Director. FMDAC"

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Northern Region

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am Debbie Buxton from Holland NY. I became the Northern Region Director of the FMDAC on January 1st 2015. I am also the president of the Niagara Frontier Relic Hunters in Tonawanda NY. I have been metal detecting for over 10 years. I love the hobby and want to see it grow. We are all aware of the tightrope we are walking with state, county and local governments as they try to limit our access to public places. We need to stand together and work as a united team to protect our hobby. I am open to suggestions and ideas to help promote the hobby and encourage our young people to join our clubs. If there is anything I can do to help your clubs, please let me know.

In the near future, I would like to setup a web conference with all the presidents of the Northern Region. Please pass this on to your current club president.

Remember your FMDAC dues are due. I am asking each club to email me a current club roster, including the contact information for club officers.

I am available by email DJB2820@msn.com or cell phone 716-292-1759, home phone 716-537-2820. Address, P.O. Box 328 Holland. NY 14080

Debbie Buxton
Northern Region Director