



Letter From the President

There have been many developments since the last time that I had a chance to write to you. First, please note that Marilyn Lake of Mississauga, Ontario Canada has volunteered to take over as webmaster of the Federation's web page. We are currently up and running again, although there is still a lot of work to be done. Marilyn has redesigned the entire web site and has done a beautiful job. We welcome her and thank her for her hard work. Sadly, she has had to take some time off to be with her sister, who is ill in England. We wish her and her family the best. Note: We are now operating the web page at FMDAC.org. If you visit the old .com site it will redirect you to the new page.

On another sad note, we have learned that our former two time President of the FMDAC, Betty Weeks, is ill. We wish her and her husband the best. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her husband.

The Fall Convention has been proceeding smoothly, and we anticipate that it will be the best one in years! There will be many special guests, including a special display and presentation by Odyssey Marine. In addition there will be a special Saturday Hunt, along with a Kids Hunt and the results of the Kids Essay Kontest. It will take place on October 14, 15 and 16 at the [Edgewater Beach Resort, Panama City Beach, FL](#). I hope to see you there.

Until the next issue, I wish you the best. And good luck hunting.
Duane

FMDAC FALL CONVENTION 2005

We hope to see you at the Edgewater Beach Resort Casino in Panama City Beach, Florida from October 14, 15 and 16, 2005 for the Annual Fall Convention. For more details, see our new web site at www.FMDAC.org or see page 3.

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW WEBMASTER!

The search has been long but I have appointed a new Webmaster. Her name is Marilyn Lake and she lives in Mississauga, Ontario Canada. Marilyn is a Webmaster by trade and she most graciously volunteered to take over the site. In spite of some personal commitments Marilyn has gotten the website on line as of 07-28-05

Welcome, Marilyn. We hope to see you soon.

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FALL CONVENTION HUNT DETAILS:

FRIDAY NIGHT:

WE WILL HAVE A FREE HUNT ON FRIDAY EVENING FOR ALL REGISTERED HUNTERS. BE SURE TO ATTEND. ADDITIONAL DETAILS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE REGISTRATION DESK!

“SAND & SURF SEARCH” ON SATURDAY

SATURDAY MORNING:

THERE WILL BE A KNEE-DEEP WATER AND BEACH HUNT. REGISTRATION WILL BE AT 7:AM AND THE HUNT AT 8:AM.

2 BIG TREASURE HUNTS SUNDAY

Sunday morning at 8:30am registration will begin for the 2 big hunts. These hunts will be on the beach. Sand scoops and baskets are encouraged. ***Diggers will be limited to 3-inch wide blades***, no shovels, picks or large tools will be permitted. The hunts will be held rain or shine.

You must be a member of the FMDAC to enter these hunts. The hunts will consist of silver coins (no clad) and tokens. The top 40 prizes will be according to the number of hunters that attend. We will guarantee to give the Grand Prize of the \$1250.00 Treasure Chest and the First Prize of the \$750.00 Treasure Chest no matter how many attend. The remainder of the top 40 prizes will be given at the rate of 8 for every 50 hunters.

DISPLAYS WILL INCLUDE:

Odyssey Marine Exploration

**Come experience the tale of the
“S.S. Republic”**

**And it’s bounty of gold, silver & artifacts
Hear and see the epic story, buy a piece of history!**

**MANY OTHER SURPRISE GUEST SPEAKERS AND
DISPLAYS**

**Edgewater Beach Resort
11212 Front Beach Road
Panama City Beach, Florida 32407
1-800-331-6338**

TREASURE IN THE NEWS

OLD STOVE HOLDS TREASURE

A landlord in Central Fall, Rhode Island, sure is glad he looked in an old stove before he threw it out. Inside were vintage coins and nearly \$4000 of gold and silver bars. The man came across the stove when he was cleaning the apartment of a longtime tenant who had died.

He pried open the coal burning chamber and found several parcels and canisters. The cans had plastic bags with ancient (?) pennies—wartime zinc, Indian head and wheat. The brown paper packages had 133 1-ounce gold and silver bars. There were also \$5 bills printed in 1851 and silver dollars from the 1880's. The landlord says he'll make sure the valuables get to the tenant's relatives.

Mark Sutcliffe

From the Journal Inquirer

The Probe

Yankee Territory Coinshooters

##

JUST FOR FUN

Typoglycemia

Don't ignore this because it looks weird.

Believe it or not you can read it.

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly
uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The
phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid.
Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde
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can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is
bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey
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Amzanig huh? Yaeh and I awlyas thought
slpeling was ipmorantt.

Source unknown, a strange e-mail.

KIDS KONTEST 2005

To all Children of FMDAC members:

The annual Kids Essay Kontest is on once again.
This year's topic is: ***What is your favorite
place to hunt?***

The rules (there always have to be rules):

The essay contest is open to all children of FMDAC members from the ages of 5 to 15. The entry must include the child's name, address, age and parent's name and club name, for FMDAC membership.

Please include the child's sex (boy or girl). Any entries that do not include the above information cannot be accepted. Because of the wide range in ages, parents may help the children with their entries.

We are giving away two detectors, one for the boys' entries and one for the girls' entries. Each child may only win one detector, and their parent must be a current member of the Federation.

All finds must be received by October 10thth 2005, the day that I leave for the Convention in Florida.

Please forward all entries to:

Frank Colletti, 1439 Stephen Marc Lane, East Meadow, NY 1554 or e-mail them to:
treashunt@optonline.net

Thank you and good luck.

##

**Do it today!
Tomorrow it might be forgotten.**

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER REPORT

Southeast Chapter has been fairly quiet for a while now. The only complaint that I have heard about is a citation being issued to a detectorist in the Atlanta area for detecting on private property without written consent. He advised that he parked on the shoulder of a local road after checking the area for any fencing or posting of the property. The Georgia Bureau of Natural Resources issued the citation. It was violation of a law already on the books, which required the hunter to have consent from landowner in writing 5 days before entering the property. I contacted the Agency and determined that there would be little we could do and was assured that the fine in this case would be minimal since this individual has a clean record!

On the bright side the chapter does have the 2005 Fall Convention & Treasure Expo being held in Panama City Beach on October 14th, 15th & 16th at the Edgewater Beach Resort 11212 Front Beach Rd. This area has beaches as far as the eye can see and then some more! When you find some time to slip away from the convention you should have enough to keep you busy!

Although plans are still under way we do have Odyssey Marine Exploration on board with exciting displays and tales of their recovery of the SS Republic. Captain Carl Fisser, another professional treasure salver, will thrill you with his displays and hopefully his recent finds from a slave ship he is currently working! A private collector from one of the Florida clubs will be showing a large portion of his finds including artifacts from Revolutionary war and early Spanish Conquistador military artifacts and numerous period coins!

SE Chapter will have a large display area to show off their finds. If you're proud of it bring it in to display. It's always interesting to see what the clubs find that are unique to their area.. Recent conventions were out west where the specialty was prospecting but here in the southeast we cover the Civil War and shipwrecks like no where else!!

(Continued in Column 2)

(Continued from Column 1)

As chapter president I invite you all to come to Florida to enjoy the beach, sunsets and a thrilling history rich in Pirate bounty and early Spanish silver and gold!!!

Wally Swartz
SE Chapter

##

The Urban Treasure Hunter, redux

I received the following note from Michael Chaplin:

Re: Book sales my publisher says that sales are "steady and strong."

They have sold 1,955 units since February. That comes out to about 16 per day. Then I was interviewed in LI Newsday June 1 about TH law. Cheers, Michael

Good luck Michael, keep in touch

##

LOCKOUT TIP

For those of you who have a car that can be unlocked by that remote button on your key ring: If you lock your keys in the car and the spare keys are at home, and you don't have 'OnStar', here's your answer to the problem!

If someone has access to the spare remote at your home, call them on your cell phone (or borrow one from someone if the cell phone is locked in the car also).

Hold your (or anyone's) cell phone about a foot from the car door and have the other person at your home press the unlock button, holding it near the phone on their end.

Your car will unlock. Saves someone from having to drive your keys to you. Distance is no object. You could be hundreds of miles away, and if you can you can reach someone who has the other "remote" for your car, you can unlock the doors (or the trunk, or have the horn signal go off, or whatever!)

From John Hubley
The Probe
Yankee Territory Coinshooters

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS IN IRAQ

The South Jersey Metal Detecting Club Supports our troops in Iraq



M - 85 DIGGING TOOL

Rosenhayn, New Jersey, May 16, 2005 — George Lesche invented something that looks like nothing more than a gardening tool. In fact, it is a digging tool, but its strength and design, he says, makes it perfect for digging up landmines.

He believes it can save a soldier or Marine's life, so, he's been sending them to troops in Iraq. Action News caught up with Lesche at the Post Office in Rosenhayn, Cumberland County where he was shipping about 60 of the digging tools to troops- he's already sent about 40. He invented the tool in 1996 and sells it on the Internet; however, he's actually received "Thank You" notes from soldiers whose parents sent them one.

Lesche says they are perfect for the dangerous and delicate work of extracting explosives.

Lesche, who lives near Bridgeton, is a pipefitter at a local refinery and says many of his Union brothers and sisters have contributed money to pay for producing and sending the tools, which he simply calls "a digging tool"- no fancy name here.

For his work, George Lesche has been honored by local lawmakers, but he says the real thanks comes in the letters from troops.

In Rosenhayn, Cumberland Co. New Jersey,
Cathy Gandolfo, Channel 6 Action News.

##

LoBiondo honors toolmaker for helping soldiers in Iraq

By **DANIEL WALSH** Staff Writer, (856) 794-5111

George Lesche's bosses seem to like his work.

The Upper Deerfield Township toolmaker learned Friday that J.J. White Co., which employs Lesche, and the South Jersey Mechanical Contractors Association will donate a combined \$1,500 to pay for him to send specialized digging trowels to soldiers in Iraq who said they have had trouble digging up ordnance.

U.S. Rep. Frank LoBiondo, R-2nd, stopped into the Winslow Township union hall of Plumbers and Pipe fitters Local 322 to honor Lesche and help surprise him with the news.

"When a longtime friend does something like this, I just wanted to publicly say thank you," said LoBiondo, who's known Lesche for more than 20 years.

(Continued Next Page)

The union's members have already floated \$1,500 to pay for Lesche to devise and send digging trowels to the 163rd Mechanized Infantry, primarily a reserve and National Guard unit serving near Kirkuk. The new batch will bring the total to about 200 trowels.

One of the unit's members, Sgt. John M. Hawkins, had contacted Lesche several weeks ago, and they began talking about the difficulties his unit had encountered digging ordnance. Hawkins, a relic hunter while not on active duty, was familiar with Lesche's tools, something he devises as side projects for his wife's business.

The trowels are nonreflective, fully black, with no label and an army-style sheath. Lesche says they're "practically indestructible."

Lesche has made no profit on the trowels. The work takes up a good deal of his time, but as long as his wife doesn't mind, he said he'd keep on devising them.

"I'm going to do it as long as I can," Lesche said.

##

The South Jersey Metal Detecting Club is spearheading the efforts to help raise the money's needed to continue the M85 – Digging Tool project.

Kim "Streak" Cox, Joe DeMarco and too many others to list here deserve a special thanks for their individual efforts, hard work and dedication to supporting this project.

In July at Treasure Week 2005 there was a donation can set out for contributions to offset the cost of manufacturing these special M-85 Digging tools for use by the soldiers in Iraq. The total collected during Treasure Week was @ \$759.00 which was generously matched by Kim "Streak" Cox.

The Treasure Week Competition Hunters, Local 322 of the Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Union, and the Mid-Atlantic East Coast Chapter of the FMDAC are all working to support this Land-Mine (M-85 Digging Tool) For Our Troops Project.

You can help by sending your clubs or your individual donation to:

**Support Our Troops
C/O South Jersey Metal Detecting Club
Richard Sammartino – Treasure
18 Cherry Grove
Sicklerville, N.J. 08081**

All donations go directly to the manufacturer and shipping of these Digging Tools. This is a non-profit Labor of love by George Lesche.

Any Questions please contact the S.J.M.D.Club or
Harry Niemeyer –MAECC President at:
Ma-President@comcast.net

FMDAC HOSTS TREASURE HUNT FOR OWAA!

A team of Central States President Ron David and C. David Carter, Jr. competition team members hosted over 150 outdoor writers from all over America and Canada this past June, in Madison, Wisconsin.

Each year the Outdoor Writers Association of America holds their annual Convention and this year, as a new Supporting Member, FMDAC attended and presented an educational exhibit on opening day. The exhibit was viewed by all in attendance with 200 exhibitors showing both new and previous outdoor products.

The FMDAC exhibited various metal detectors, handed out Independent membership applications, magazines and presented a variety of items found by members of the hobby.

It was interesting to note the lack of knowledge most of the writers in attendance had regarding the hobby in general, metal detecting as a hobby, and especially the opportunities for freelance writers to contribute to a number of magazines. Many questions were asked and answered, metal detectors were held in hand and explained in detail, and overall, many new friends were made for both the industry and the FMDAC.

We moved Sunday to Dade County Law Enforcement Training Center for the "Shooters Breakout Day". The FMDAC under the guidance of Ron and David set up an outstanding "Coin Shoot", exhibit and prize tables, a variety of metal detectors, and opened for business with an outstanding field of coins and tokens.

Field of Dreams

It was interesting to see the blank faces turn to a sense of understanding and joy when each of the more than 150 writers including both men and women that followed instructions in using a metal detector for the first time. They were given the opportunity to recover three coins or tokens for prizes.

Recovery of coins and tokens is the key to success in competition, and it was clear that the majority of these writers had never attempted to recover a coin, let alone any object of metal in their lives. And, considerable help was required in getting them started. OWAA/FMDAC's Richard Cresson and his wife, Susan, worked very hard in the hot sun and contributed considerable assistance to both the OWAA members and the FMDAC.

About half way into the afternoon program, one of the writers, a woman, picked up the winning token and won the Treasure Chest. Many prizes including coins, knives, and a large variety of prizes were given out to winners. Overall, this was a great educational and learning process for those professionals that up to now didn't know much about the hobby or that the FMDAC even existed.

National Treasurer Jill McFeeders is sending a thank you e-mail or note to each of the participants that left their business cards in the treasure pot which was available for them both days of the FMDAC sponsored event. A number of writers requested literature so they could purchase their own detectors.

As a new member of this very elite group of writers and educators, the FMDAC held their own and in fact according to some OWAA members, "made their meeting".

At the Monday luncheon I was honored to present the top prize of a Tesoro metal detector to Terry Lewis, Chief of the Office of External Affairs, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, D.C., a member of the OWAA and a resident of Virginia. Second place was a prize of the FMDAC 20th anniversary Celebration silver round and the winner was freelance writer Henry Zeman of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Thanks go out to Ron, David, Richard and Susan for their professional efforts on behalf of the FMDAC, and for a couple of days, we presented a tremendous image of America's best kept secret, which by the way, is no secret anymore

Bob Clark
FMDAC Manufacturer/Industry Representative

CLOCK RAFFLE



THIS CLOCK WAS OWNED BY BETTY WEEKS, PAST PRESIDENT AND A GREAT PIONEER OF THE FMDAC. IT IS BETTY'S WISH THAT WE RAFFLE THIS CLOCK AT THE FMDAC FALL CONVENTION IN FLORIDA.

IT HAS 14 1992 & 1993 SILVER EAGLES ON IT AND IT IS ON A COIL COVER. IT WAS HANDMADE BY BILL CONK PROBABLY IN 1993 OR 1994.

EVEN AS SICK AS BETTY IS, SHE STILL IS SUPPORTING THE FMDAC.

TICKETS ARE \$1.00 EACH OR 6 FOR \$5.00. ANYONE WANTING TICKETS CAN CONTACT JILL MCFEEDERS AT jcseeker@core.com OR CALL HER AT (330) 364-1608.

THIS CLOCK WILL BE RAFFLED OFF AT THE FMDAC TREASURE EXPO IN PANAMA BEACH CITY, FL ON OCTOBER 16, 2005.

C/O DuaneBiller
184 Grange Rd
McClellandtown, PA. 15458



FALL CONVENTION & TREASURE EXPO 2005

At the Edgewater Beach Resort from October 14, 15 & 16, 2005

Edgewater Beach Resort
1121 Front Beach Rd., Panama City Beach, Florida.

All silver coins!

FREE HUNT ON FRIDAY EVENING FOR EARLY BIRDS!!!!

ACCOMODATIONS

There is a special room rate for the Fall Convention at the Edgewater Beach Resort. Efficiencies run from \$59 to \$79 and ocean front suites run from \$99 to \$139. This rate runs 3 days prior to the convention and 3 days after the convention. The resort is located at 1121 Front Beach Rd., Panama City Beach, Florida. Make your reservations early by calling 1-800-331-6338, tell them you are with the FMDAC. Reservations must be made by September 13th to get the discount.

SEMINARS AND DEALERS DISPLAYS

At the Convention there will be dealer displays & several seminars by some of the top people in our hobby and once again they will be free. This will start Friday at 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm and continue on Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

CAMPING

There are quite a few campgrounds in the area. You can call Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce for more info at 850-235-

AREA ATTRACTIONS

There are many exciting things to do in the area. However, the Resort spans 110 acres along Panama City Beach, guests have access to a 1/2 mile of private beach. If guests prefer, they can listen to the gentle surf of the Gulf shores by the [Lagoon Pool](#) complete with waterfalls cascading down rock formations, natural foliage reflection ponds and Jacuzzis. Edgewater Beach Resort also offers vacationers [36 holes of golf](#), and access to a rejuvenating [spa and fitness center](#).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need any info or have any questions contact: Wally Swartz at 727-647-2216 OR Duane Biller at (724)439-1380 or Jill McFeeders at (330)364-1608 or e-mail jcseeker@core.com