

HUDSON VALLEY EXPLORER

<http://www.greattreasure.com>

Winter 2009

From the Vice President's Desk

The early snow fall has put a certain finality on the 2009 detecting season. Generally when the Christmas Party is over there is still ample time to search the woods for a few weeks before accepting the fact that all that remains are trips to the snow free low tide zones to keep the "hope" alive. Now, more than ever, we are faced with time on our hands to either reflect on this past season or prepare for 2010. As Tom Massie of the GPAA often says, "It's not havin the gold that matters it's findin the gold". Reflection is fine but it doesn't help drop calories and it certainly doesn't help fill the old treasure pouch. So, as a club, what should we be doing to better our position for next year? Here are a few suggestions:

1. Read those back issues of the treasure magazines. As you do look for the "suggested reading" items most have. The club library is getting very little use. Some new material might spur more interest and we might even pick up a new idea or two. Jot down titles, authors and sources for the Librarian. Our finances are such that we should be able to add several new titles before the February meeting.

2. Do some research on Competition Hunts. The Fall Classic is one of our best attended events nevertheless there are always areas that members confess should be improved.

The Classic may well be put on the back burner for 2010 unless an active, energetic committee is formed before summer to plan and to staff the next seeded hunt. Give serious consideration to adding your name to that committee's organizational list.

3. Find hunt sites (not only for your own use). Travel consideration is NOT a major issue. If the round trip can be done in one day the site is CLOSE ENOUGH. Use your personal contacts. Surely a relative, a friend, a co-worker, a boss, someone has a farm or an orchard or a private beach. Maybe you have an "in" with someone in the local Land Trust. Is there anyone out there in real estate? These folks should have access to some interesting properties. If the site is too small for the entire club we can consider a "lottery system

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Finds of the Month

Todd Olsen

Site Research

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Paul Maloney

"or two separate sites visited on the same day. We spend a great deal of money for insurance. Let's get out there and make use of it!

4. Come up with ways to show off your finds. We may well do away with Finds of the Month as it has stood for many years. This will provide more time during our meetings for personal interaction and sharing information. It is, however, still a plus to be able to showcase our finds as a positive reflection of what we have accomplished as a club. Please consider bringing in your own display box along with general information (and a photo) to be shared with all and to perhaps be sent on to Lost Treasure or one of the other TH magazines to help give the club some positive press.

5. Finally, consider preparing a short article for inclusion in the Newsletter. This could be a hunt tip, a rare find, a bit of humor, a great photo. The Club has provided a wonderful forum for TH expression. Learn to take advantage of it. Carol, where are my hip boots?

Slate of Officers for February Election

All positions are open to nominations from the floor.

Please obtain approval from the nominee prior to their nomination.

President – Ted Izzo

Vice President – Rich Markert

Secretary – Conrad Rasinski

Treasurer – Larry Cohen

Librarian – Carol Mayers

Site Research Coordinator – TBD

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster – Paul
Maloney

Finds of the Month – Todd Olsen

Club News

2009 Christmas Party - The Tradition Continues

In spite of early predictions of cool but sunny weather for December 5th those THers in the know packed shovels, chains and foul weather gear in preparation for this year's annual P/WMD&AS Christmas Party. Their efforts were not in vain. Saturday afternoon began with a slow but steady snowfall which lasted well into the evening. The tradition continued uninterrupted; it always snows for our Christmas Party!

This year's event, hosted by Ye Olde Lantern Pub of Mahopac, NY was attended by 45 members and quests. Over \$1500 in raffle prizes were distributed as well as the \$125 50/50 drawing. The two big winners were

2009 Christmas Party - The Tradition Continues (cont'.)

Wayne Homan who took home the 50/50 cash



and Alex Buffi



who will be detecting (when the snow melts) with his brand new White's MXT. The success of this event is the result of a great effort put forth by many P/WMD&AS members. Special thanks are due to Joe Snow, Paul and Edie Maloney, and Patty Osmer for their generous donations of prizes. Additional kudos are due to our many corporate sponsors including Fred Krupowicz of White's of LI, Gary

Storm, John Housley of Lost Treasure and Ed Zehall of Valley Coins. Next year's event is already on the books at the Lantern Pub. Additions and or changes to the party's format will be discussed at the February meeting.

NY Button Found in Bedford, NY

December, 2009

Roy Roos found this early NY button in Bedford, NY. Roy believes it may be Revolutionary War or War 1812 artifact. It has N York 2d Bt on it & almost diameter of quarter, w/ welded shank on back. "It may be my best button to date" said Roy.



Finds of the Month **October 2009**

USA Silver Coin

1853 Half Dime
Roy Roos

USA Non-Silver Coin

1798 over 7 Large Cent
Roy Roos

Foreign Silver Coin

1918 50 Centime
Roy Roos

Foreign Non-Silver Coin

1700s Colonial Copper
Roy Roos

Gold Jewelry

10K Gold Ring with Sapphire
Conrad Rasinski

Silver Jewelry

2009 Sterling Silver Class Ring
Tito Arguinzoni

Token

Circa 1940 Grand Union Token
Roy Roos

Button

Colonial Era Flat Button
Fred Shipman

Relic

German Silver Antique
Necklace
Conrad Rasinski

Medal

King Olav the Fifth Silver Medal
Don Mayers

Buckle

Pat. 1869 Suspender Buckle
Don Mayers



Finds of the Month **November 2009**

Foreign Silver Coins

1862 Netherlands 10 cent piece
Carol Mayers

Foreign Non-Silver Coin

Counterfeit 8 reale cob
Carol Mayers

Relic

Cannon Ball
Ray Gonzales

Medal

Platinum Jesus Medal
Carol Mayers

Gold Jewelry

Diamond and Sapphire Gold Ring
John Condon

Silver Jewelry

Italian Sterling Chain with Cross
Don Mayers

Treasure in the News

DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK, California (AP) –

An archaeologist's search of a cave yielded a wooden chest filled with gold and silver coins that may have been hidden 149 years ago during an ill-fated Gold Rush expedition across Death Valley.

Archaeologist Jerry Freeman uncovered the treasure in November as he recreated the steps of a group known as The Lost Pioneers of 1849. He and four others retraced the entire journey in December.

"I was just blown away," Freeman said Monday. "Nothing prepared me for this."

The chest was propped up on boulders and a board but remained hidden, and was in mint condition. The find is worth an estimated \$500,000, said Freeman, a 56-year-old semi-retired substitute high school teacher.

The National Park Service is examining the find to determine if it is authentic but has not raised any questions so far.

With the coins were well-worn baby shoes, photographs and a letter documenting the wagon train trek of '49er William Robinson, who was among some 100 men, children and women seeking the gold-laden foothills of the Sierra Nevada. The group wound up in the merciless California desert.

The letter was tucked inside a small hymnal.

"My Dear Edwin," Robinson wrote. "Knewed, now we should have gone around.... Ifen I don't return by end of fifty I wont never come."

Robinson died 26 days later on January 28, 1850. According to journals, Robinson drank too much cold water at the first spring the party came to at what is known today as Barrel Springs near Palmdale. He lay down for a nap and never awakened.

The group, well-known to historians, was originally from the Midwest. The

pioneers started out from Salt Lake City in October 1849, on an ill-conceived attempt to skirt the southern end of the Sierra Nevada, and ended up crossing Death Valley.

Most of the rest made it to what is now Valencia, in Los Angeles County, some 300 miles southwest of their destination. Freeman said he believes 13 died on the trek.

The team found a manifest of the trunk's contents dated January 2, 1850, along with nearly 80 pieces of currency, including \$5 and \$10 gold pieces and a number of silver dollars. None of the money appears to have dates after 1849, Freeman said.

There was also a holstered pistol, a wooden powder horn, a locket adorned with pearls and china bowls. A knitted shawl covered it all.

Freeman said he hopes to donate the find to a museum.

November 2008 - AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS - A hobbyist with a metal detector struck both gold and silver when he uncovered an important cache of ancient Celtic coins in a cornfield in the southern Dutch city of Maastricht. "It's exciting, like a little boy's dream," Paul Curfs, 47, said Thursday after the spectacular find was made public.



Archaeologists say the trove of 39 gold and 70 silver coins was minted in the middle of the first century B.C. as the future Roman ruler Julius Caesar led a campaign against Celtic tribes in the area.

Curfs said he was walking with his detector this spring and was about to go home when he suddenly got a

strong signal on his earphones and uncovered the first coin. "It was golden and had a little horse on it - I had no idea what I had found," he said.

After posting a photo of the coin on a Web forum, he was told it was a rare find. The following day he went back and found another coin. "It looked totally different - silver, and saucer-shaped," he said. Curfs notified the city of his find, and he and several other hobbyists helped in locating the rest of the coins, in cooperation with archaeologists.

Nico Roymans, the archaeologist who led the academic investigation of the find, believes the gold coins in the cache were minted by a tribe called the Eburones that Caesar claimed to have wiped out in 53 B.C. after they conspired with other groups in an attack that killed 6,000 Roman soldiers. The Eburones "put up strong resistance to Caesar's journeys of conquest," Roymans said.

The silver coins were made by tribes further to the north - possible evidence of cooperation against Caesar, he said. Both coin types have triple spirals on the front, a common Celtic symbol. The two other known caches of Eburones coins have been found in neighboring Belgium and Germany.

Maastricht city spokeswoman Carla Wetzels said the value of the coins is not known - their worth is primarily historical. The Belgian cache of similar size was estimated at around 175,000 euros (\$220,000). The farmer who owned the land agreed to sell his interest to the city for an undisclosed sum. Curfs, a teacher at a nearby junior college, continues to own the 11 coins he found, but has lent them to the City of Maastricht on a long-term basis. The coins will go on display at the Centre Ceramique museum in Maastricht this weekend.

June 2008 - KEY WEST, FLORIDA - Shipwreck salvagers have recovered a gold chalice while searching for the wreckage of a Spanish galleon off the Florida Keys. The ornate two-handled

Treasure in the News (cont)

chalice stands on a gold base and is adorned with etched scrollwork on the upper portion. It was located by Blue Water Ventures diver Michael DeMar beneath about a foot of sand in 18 feet of water approximately 30 miles west of Key West. "Oh, my God," diver Michael DeMar said,



describing his discovery of the chalice on the site where the Spanish galleon Santa Margarita is believed to have gone down during a vicious storm.

Dented on a few sides and encrusted with marine growth, the chalice weighs more than a pound is etched with scrollwork and boasts decorative handles.

The wreck was from a Spanish fleet that sank during a Sept. 6, 1622, hurricane. Over the past quarter century, it has yielded the biggest treasure find in U.S. history.

The late Key West treasure hunter Mel Fisher began the search for artifacts from the Santa Margarita, which sank in 1622, more than a quarter-century ago.

Metal Prices as of December 14, 2009

Gold	\$1121.30 /oz
Silver	\$ 17.27/oz
Platinum	\$1439.00 /oz
Copper	\$3.1200 /lb

Call for Classified Ads

Have equipment you are looking to buy, sell, or swap? Want to arrange a car pool to the Membership Meetings?

Run your metal detecting-related classified ads in the Hudson Valley Explorer (the online version is included). It's **free**, and your ad will run for two issues (6 months) before it needs to be renewed.

For inclusion, Please send your ad to: Paul Maloney
26 N. Third St.
Or email the information to pemalon@optonline.net Include pictures if you have them, hard copy or digital acceptable.

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FMDAC Treasure

Hunter's Code of Ethics

I will always check federal, state, county, and local laws before searching.

It is my responsibility to know the law.

I will respect private property and will not enter private property without the owner's permission. Where possible, such permission will be in writing.

I will take care to refill all holes and try not to leave any damage.

I will remove and dispose of any and all trash and litter that I find.

I will appreciate and protect our inheritance of natural resources, wildlife, and private property.

I will, as ambassador for the hobby, use thoughtfulness, consideration, and courtesy at all times. I will leave gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only.

I will report to the proper authorities any individuals who enter and/or removes artifacts from federal Parks or state preserves.

Metal Detecting Permit Information

Take the time to renew your permits now for Spring! See the list of locations where you may send to receive yearly metal detecting permits below. If possible, call first for any updates or instructions.

1. Palisades Interstate Park
Commission
Permit Section
Bear Mountain, NY 10911-0427\$20.00
For: Harriman State Park (845)-786-2701

Lakes: Sebago, Tiorati & Welch

2. Long Island State Park Region
Beaches
Permit Office
PO Box 247
Babylon, NY
11702.....\$20.00
(631)-669-1000 ext. 223

3. City of New York Parks & Recreation
Arsenal North
234 Fifth Ave. Room 213
New York, NY
10029.....FREE
(212)360-2778
(MUST SEND IN COPY OF YOUR DRIVERS LICENCE)

4. Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
Taconic Region
Staatsburg, NY
12580.....\$10.00
(845)889-4100
For: Lake Taghkanic, Rudd Pond & Canopus Beach

5. NY State Offices Parks
Recreation & Historic Preservation
Central Region
6105 East Seneca Turnpike
Jamesville NY 13078-9516
(315)-492-1756

Tentative Schedule of Events for 2010*

***contingent on finalization of search agreement**

Tuesday, February 2, 7:30 P.M.
Membership Meeting, Yorktown Heights, NY

Tuesday, March 2, 7:30 P.M.
Membership Meeting, Yorktown Heights, NY

Tuesday, April 6, 7:30 P.M.
Membership Meeting, Yorktown Heights, NY

Saturday, April TBD, 9:00am
Rain Date April TBD Sunday
Search Outing TBD

Tuesday, May 4, 7:30pm
Membership Meeting, Yorktown Heights, NY

Saturday, May TBD, 9:00am
Rain Date Sunday, May TBD,
Search Outing TBD

Tuesday, June 1, 7:30pm
Membership Meeting, Yorktown Heights, NY

Saturday, June TBD, 9:00am
Search Outing TBD

Tuesday, September 7, 7:30pm
Membership Meeting, Yorktown Heights, NY

Saturday, September TBD, 9:00am
Search Outing TBD

Tuesday, October 5, 7:30pm
Membership Meeting, Yorktown Heights, NY

Saturday, October TBD, 9:00am*
Rain Date October TBD Sunday
Search Outing Stormville, NY

TBD, November TBD, 7:30pm
Membership Meeting TBD
The regular meeting place is used as Polling Place and not available the first Tuesday in November.

Saturday, November 6, 10:00am
Fall Classic Seeded Hunt, Fairfield, CT

Saturday, December 4, 7:00pm*
Annual Christmas Party
Ye Old Lantern Restaurant
728 Route 6
Mahopac, NY (845)628-7302

*Merry
Christmas,
Happy
Hanukkah,
Happy New
Year*

**See Page 6 for Fall
Classic Committee
Sign Up Sheet**