



# The Staten Island Atlas

STATEN ISLAND HISTORY HUNTERS

METAL DETECTING, BOTTLE HUNTING, & SCUBA DIVING CLUB

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Well first I want to wish every one a very HAPPY NEW YEAR. Yes it's a new year and with any beginning there's always a feeling of renewal and excitement. And that's what this year is going to be full of excitement and events. No more of talking about things that don't concern detecting. No more nonsense. By the time you receive this Newsletter we would have already been on our first Virginia hunt and already have had our 3rd Holiday dinner were a long with other great prizes and give away's this year our top prize was a Whites Spectra V3L. This is the Flag-

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ship of Whites and has gotten very high reviews and raves. Still in the planning for this summer are things like a trip to Wild-wood for a week end hunt. This trip is going to be packed with lots of fun and adventure. A possible trip to Delaware to a place called Coin Beach, our famous BBQ at Pouch Camp, An evening at the ball park to watch the SI Yankees beat the Brooklyn Cyclones. You will be able to enjoy all the food you can eat, fireworks, free Baseball hat and more. Plus during the summer we will be enjoying Metal Detecting outings. What you have just read is just a sampling of what we are planning. At this time I need to thank some people. Our two new Event coordinators Carter Pennington, Keith Debes and Mike Burns for checking out areas for us to hunt and finding a great spot for us to hunt in Virginia. Thank You guys. I also

need to thank Allyson Cohen for taking of the demanding job of editor. With out her we wood have no Newsletter. I also need to thank Keith Debes for creating the new Web Site that we now have. Congratulations to the winners of our last election Bill Logue Vice President, Valerie Logue Treasurer, Tom Ratel Secretary, Richard Pupello Librarian, Event coordinators, Carter Pennington & Keith Debes Allyson Cohen who took over the Editors job and again Keith Debes who is doing the Web. Congratulations to all I would like to thank the fine Job that Les Huhn did. Les dropped out of the Editor & Web master position's due to my screw up. Sorry Les. My Heart filled Thanks to all. I very much look forward to joining all of you in this new year. John

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## SIHH MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Staten Island History Hunters Metal Detecting Club is to unearth Staten Island's past. From studying these artifacts and their origins, we can discover and trace the long trail of Staten Island's history from its distant past through today. All newly learned information will be posted on this web site for the benefit of all Staten Islanders. No Staten Island History Hunters Metal Detecting Club member shall search any property (Public or Private) without prior permission from the controlling authority. All recovered artifacts will be presented to the controlling authority to be disposed of as they see fit. All searched properties will be left exactly as found so that no evidence of our search will appear or alter the property in any way. We hold club meetings the last Wednesday of the month. Check the calendar for venues. It is open to anyone interested. Feel free to stop by have a cup of coffee and enjoy our monthly speaker.

~See you there.



# METAL DETECTING IN THE NEWS



*The 2' tall clay pot held about 52,000 Roman coins.*

## Found! \$5 Million Roman Coin Hoard

By R.D. Bennett

Until late April of 2010, 63-year-old British treasure hunter Dave Crisp was a regular hobbyist just like you and me. He enjoyed getting away from his regular job as a hospital chef to

swing a secondhand metal detector on the fields of county Somerset in southwest England. Nothing in his previous 22 years of hunting would prepare him for what was around the corner



*Treasure hunter Dave Crisp called in archaeologists to excavate the hoard site.*

for him.

On this particular day, as he worked over a nondescript field, he was about to realize the dream of treasure hunters everywhere. He got a "funny signal" and decided to dig down to check it out. About one foot deep, "I put my hand in, pulled out a bit of clay, and there was a *radial*, a little bronze Roman coin—very, very small, about the size of my fingernail," Crisp said in an interview with the BBC. The more he dug, the more coins surfaced. After unearthing 21 coins and the top of a pot, Crisp realized that his find might have significant historical value, so he called in professional archaeologists to excavate the site.

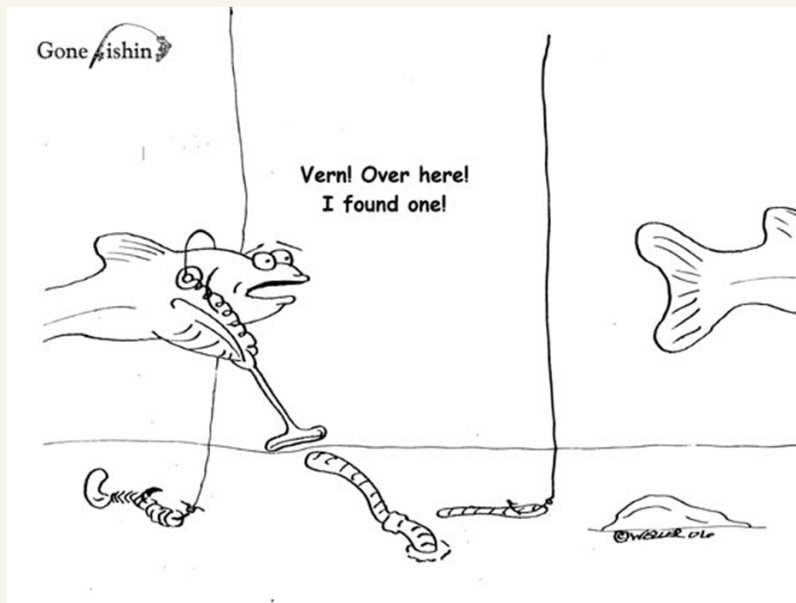
The find included about 52,000 Roman coins in a large pot, weighing more than 350 lbs. The coins date to the 3rd century, a 40-year span from 253 to 293 A.D. and are made of alloyed bronze and alloyed silver. The hoard was taken to the British Museum for cleaning and recording. It took a month to wash the coins and another three months to catalog them. The pot was 2' tall and 18" across, and was of a kind typically used for food storage.

According to Crisp, a Roman road runs by the site, but there is no evidence of any Roman village there. Crisp had previously found a small hoard of 60 silver coins in the same field before stumbling onto his big discovery.



*Valued at \$5 million, the incredible hoard of ancient bronze and silver alloy coins weighed over 350 lbs.*





An important feature of this find was the inclusion of more than 760 coins bearing the image of Marcus Aurelius Carausius, a man generally overlooked by modern history books. Born in Holland, Carausius climbed the ranks to become commander of Classis Britannica, a powerful fleet of 100 ships based in the Channel.

The 3rd century was a very tough time for the Roman Empire as Barbarian invasions and pirate attacks were on the rise, and the Empire was very dependent upon grain production from Britain. Carausius' job was to protect the grain trade from Saxon and Frank (French) pirates. However, rumors reached Rome that Carausius was not only wiping out pirate ships, but keeping pirate booty for himself.

Carausius was accused of theft, and a warrant was issued for his arrest by the two emperors then in power in Rome, Diocletian and Maximian. When Carausius heard of this threat in 287 A.D., he declared independence from Rome and announced himself emperor of Britain and

northern Gaul (part of France).

To save face, Maximian launched an attack which Carausius, with his huge fleet and four legions, easily beat. Carausius was an expert on politicking and public relations, playing on people's general unhappiness with the Roman Empire. His coins bear legends such as "Restorer of Britain" and "Spirit of Britain."

After seven years in power, his rule came to an ill-fated end in 293 A.D., when he was assassinated by his finance minister, Allectus, who claimed the throne for himself. This man remained in power for three years before being defeated by a Roman fleet, after which, Roman rule was restored for another 100 years. The Romans made a huge event over taking back Britain, as it was truly the bread basket of Europe.

Now what becomes of the treasure? In England, under the 1996 Treasure Act, anyone who finds a group of buried coins has to declare it to the coroner within two weeks. The Treasure Valuation Committee would recommend a value for the hoard in



*One of five rare silver denarii, the only known examples of their type, found among the hoard.*

October, which would be paid out when the finder, landowner, and museum agreed with the valuation. The British Museum has first shot at purchasing the coins, but second chance goes to the Museum of Somerset.

The reward will be shared between the finder and the landowner. That's \$2.5 million to each party. According to the BBC, Crisp said it wasn't the money that mattered. "I'll always be the finder, unless someone beats me of course. There are a lot more pots out there."

If you traveled to England this past summer, you may have seen a selection of the coins on display at the British Museum from July 22 until mid-August. A small selection of the coins will also remain on display at the Frome Library in county Somerset, located in southwest England.

### Sources

Excerpts from aolnews.com; The Associated Press; BBC NEWS; DailyMail Online; The Australian and Sam Moorhead, Roman expert at the British Museum.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January 28th:

**SIHH first Virginia Hunt**

### April 4th:

**We will be part of the first Staten Island Archaeological Fair**

### May 2nd:

**ECRDA 2nd Annual Beach Blast in Ocean City, NJ**

**Get in touch with Art Pearson at  
ECRDA-2010 Beach Blast  
P.O. Box 46  
Mt. Freedom, NJ 07970**

## BIRTHDAYS

### December:

Bernard Campbell  
Allyson Cohen  
Jerry Bolstein  
Kyle Schafer  
Guy Buono

### January:

Michael J. DiTrani  
Fred DeLise  
Frank Giambroni  
Carol Ciriaco  
Ed Franuzzi  
Anthony Petrelli  
Thomas Ratel  
Avery Marder



## 2010 TREASURES MIKE BURNS FOUND

This is my attempt at a 2010  
Christmas tree,  
or an airplane taking off into  
a snow storm.

All of these things are the bulk  
of the 2010 finds.

Except for the things that were  
removed from  
my possession  
by Alice.



**Happy New Year!**



## CHARLES K. HAMILTON COMMEMORATIVE AVIATION PIN

FOUND BY CARTER PENNINGTON:

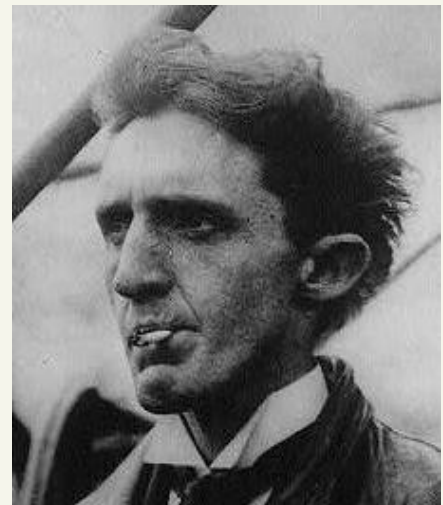
On June 13, 1910, Charles K. Hamilton made the first round trip airplane flight between New York City and Philadelphia, then considered a great distance. Taking off from Governor's Island in New York harbor at 7:30 am, he flew over New Brunswick at 8:14 and was met with factory whistles, fireworks, and shouts from thousands of spectators. Moving at 45 miles per hour, he disappeared quickly over the city's horizon. Hamilton landed in Philadelphia



The pin is about the size of a half dollar and previously had a straight pin on the back side. The salt water preserved the brass nicely.



On July 2, 1910 Charles Hamilton returned to his hometown, New Britain, to show the home folks what flying was like. An estimated 50,000 people gathered at New Britain to watch him make the first public flight in the State of Connecticut. Below is a post card that was mailed on July 2nd, 1910



Charles K. Hamilton

## STATEN ISLAND HISTORY HUNTERS METAL DETECTING, BOTTLE HUNTING, & SCUBA DIVING CLUB

Staten Island History Hunters meet on the last Wednesday of each month with the exception of November and December when we meet on the 3rd Wednesday. Our meetings are open to the public and welcome visitors. We meet at the Sea View and Home Rehabilitation Center at 460 Brielle Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10314 at 7:00 PM. See calendar on our web site for further details and venue changes.

**It's Time to Renew !!!!! You need a Permit to detect in some states and NY is one of them. Don't get a ticket. Be Prepared for the new season. In New York City it's still free.**

**You do not have to live in the city to get a permit to hunt our parks. Here is the address:**

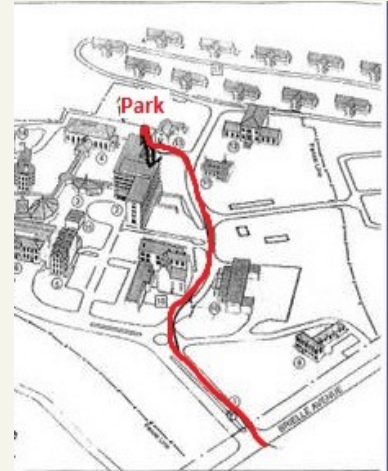
**Urban Park Service  
Arsenal North  
1234 Fifth Ave.  
Room 213  
New York NY 10029  
Att: Metal Detecting Permits**

**NOTE You MUST send in a COPY of your Drivers License**

**Please follow the directions on your old Permit. Include a note as to what your asking for.**

### DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING

Come to the Sea View main entrance and tell the guard you are with SIHH. At the circle take the 2nd road on the right called Corylos Lane. You will pass, on the right the FDNY. Take a left at a small pink building, the Sea View Playwright Theater. You will see the Lou Caravone Community House on the right, park in the lot across from it. The entrance is ground floor down the ramp.



### 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 AN AMBASSADOR FOR THE HOBBY, USE THOUGHTFULNESS, CONSIDERATION AND COURTESY AT ALL TIMES.**

**I WILL WORK TO HELP BRING UNITY TO OUR HOBBY BY WORKING WITH ANY ORGANIZATION OF ANY GEOGRAPHIC AREA THAT MAY HAVE PROBLEMS THAT WILL LIMIT THEIR ABILITY TO PEACEFULLY PURSUE THE HOBBY.**

**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 REMOVE ARTIFACTS FROM FEDERAL PARKS OR STATE PRESERVES.**



P.O. Box 141131  
Staten Island, NY 10314

[www.sihistoryhunters.org](http://www.sihistoryhunters.org)  
[sihistoryhunters@aol.com](mailto:sihistoryhunters@aol.com)

Staten Island History Hunters meet on the last Wednesday of each month with the exception of November and December. We meet at 7:00 PM at the Sea View Hospital and Home Rehab Center at 460 Brielle Avenue, Staten Island, NY. All information contained on this form is for the confidential use of this club only and shall not be distributed or used by anyone else.

Please carefully print all parts of this application and return to above address or come to a meeting.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B.: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number : \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Detector: \_\_\_\_\_ How long detecting? \_\_\_\_\_

Where do you prefer to detect: Beach \_\_\_\_\_ Parks \_\_\_\_\_ Trails \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

If other please identify: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this club? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a NYC Dept of Parks metal detecting permit? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Dues - Choose one - Individual \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Family (up to 4) \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Optional Federation of Metal Detecting Club Dues \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_ If Family Membership - List names below.

1 \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

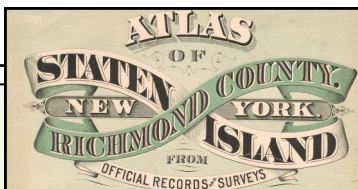
3 \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Officer's Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Officer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_





# STATEN ISLAND HISTORY HUNTERS

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