

THE STATEN ISLAND ATLAS

STATEN ISLAND HISTORY HUNTERS

LAND AND WATER METAL DETECTING & BOTTLE HUNTING CLUB

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TASK FORCE RALLIES IN NYC



Members of the Task Force for Metal Detecting Rights with supporters at the rally held at Central park, May 14, 2011.

If you want to metal detect in NYC Parks Currently, you are:

Not allowed in the woods;
 Not allowed in the ball fields;
 Not allowed on manicured lawns;
 Not allowed to hunt Prospect Park on weekdays?
 Not allowed in Clove Lakes Park;
 Not allowed to dig or probe within 50 feet of any flower bed;
 Not allowed to dig or probe within 50 feet of any shrub;
 Not allowed to dig or probe within 50 feet of and garden;
 Not allowed to dig or probe within 50 feet of any tree.

Because of this discrimination by the New York City Parks Department, The Task Force for Metal Detecting Rights (TFMDR) held two demonstrations in New York City, the first was on May 14, 2011, at Central Park, the second was on June 1, 2011 in front of the Arsenal @ Central Park.

The task force and supporters met to get the word out about our plight. Flyers were handed out to passers by and people coming and going through the park. Interested park visitors were unaware and surprised when told about the restrictions put upon us by the Parks Department.

The Staten Island Advance also did a great story on our hobby in their May 29, 2011 issue (*see page 2*)

What concerns me is the lack of attendance at the demonstration. This was a well advertised event, and a lot of detectorist's have expressed very strong feelings about the discrimination, yet those folks didn't bother to attend and show their support. There are some very dedicated individuals who are out there fighting for the rights that are being slowly taken away from "you", the detectorist, as an individual, as well as the hobby of metal detecting itself.

The mission of the task force is to "perpetuate the responsible enjoyment of the pastime of recreational metal detecting within all public parks and open lands". The task force depends on volunteers to support their efforts. We (and this means you) cannot afford to be passive about this cause. ~Allyson Cohen

ARTICLE FROM THE STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE, MAY 29TH 2011

A 8 STATEN ISLAND SUNDAY ADVANCE MAY 29, 2011

LOCAL NEWS



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE PHOTOS/JAN SOMMA-HAMMEL

In an attempt to "prevent damage to tree roots and other sensitive areas" the Parks Department has limited metal detectors to only Silver Lake and Willowbrook parks. But Thomas Ratel of Ocean Breeze shows how he and other metal detecting hobbyists "dig" for their finds. 1. Carefully cut into the grass. 2. Create a grass "hinge." 3. Open the hinge to find what they've detected. 4. Replace the flap so that no cuts are visible.

Metal detecting: Wholesome hobby or park damage?

WORKING THOSE HILLSIDES AND EMBANKMENTS FOR EARLY COPPER COINS

When you come across a hillside or embankment that may be difficult to detect, it may be worth making the extra effort.

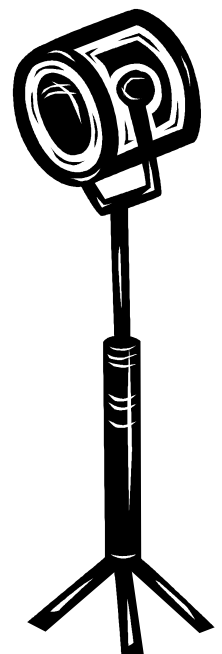
On flat lands, water tends to saturate the ground greatly accelerating to the corrosion of copper/bronze/nickel coins. If you are willing to work a little on the more difficult hillsides, you may be surprised how nice copper coins come out when there is no where for water to "pool up". The two coins pictured below were found recently on a steep hill near old foundations. Only a little hydrogen peroxide and a soft toothbrush were needed to clean these exceptional coins. Note the absence of green crusty corrosion. ~Carter Pennington



2 Cent piece and Indian Head Penny
Found by
Carter Pennington

JUNE'S SPOTLIGHT FIND

*Check out this
gorgeous
antique cuff link
Found by
Charlie Salerno*



IN THE NEWS

By MARTHA WAGGONER, Associated Press Martha Waggoner, Associated Press – Fri May 27, 7:57 pm ET

Blackbeard's anchor recovered off NC coast

MOREHEAD CITY, N.C. — Archaeologists recovered the first anchor from what's believed to be the wreck of the pirate Blackbeard's flagship off the North Carolina coast Friday, a move that might change plans about how to save the rest of the almost 300-year-old artifacts from the central part of the ship.

Divers had planned to recover the second-largest artifact on what's believed to be the Queen Anne's Revenge but discovered it was too well-attached to other items in the ballast pile, said project director Mark Wilde-Ramsing. Instead they pulled up another anchor that is the third-largest artifact and likely was the typical anchor for the ship.

Apparently, pirates had everyday anchors and special anchors just most people have everyday dishes and good china.

"That's a big ship to be putting that out to stop it," Wilde-Ramsing said admiringly as a pulley system of straps and men holding ropes moved the anchor from a boat to the back of truck. It's the first large anchor that divers have retrieved; they earlier brought up a small, grapnel anchor.

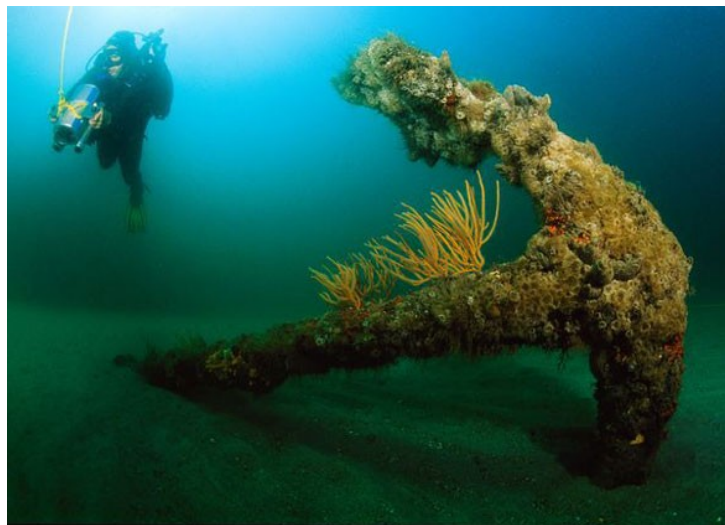
The anchor is 11 feet, 4 inches long with arms that are 7 feet, 7 inches across. It was covered with concretion — a mixture of shells, sand and other debris attracted by the leaching wrought iron — and a few sea squirts. Its weight was estimated at 2,500 to 3,000 pounds.

The anchor's size is typical for a ship the size of the Queen Anne's Revenge, while the two other anchors probably were used in emergencies, such as storms, Wilde-Ramsing said.

Archaeologists had planned to remove the second-largest anchor, which is 13 feet long with arms that are 8 feet across, from the top of the ballast pile. But it was too well-attached, so instead the divers went in from the side to retrieve the everyday anchor. That means that future dives may involve going in from the side of the shipwreck rather than the top, he said.

Divers will work four days next week, when they'll decide how to proceed.

State officials hope the anchor and other artifacts will attract tourists. The largest exhibit of artifacts from the shipwreck, which was discovered in 1996, will be shown starting June 11 at the N.C. Maritime Museum in Beaufort. Wilde-Ramsing has said the team hopes to recover all the artifacts by the end of 2013.



The 3,000 lb. anchor from Queen Anne's Revenge, which sank in the Atlantic waters near Beaufort, NC, in 1718 just before pirate Blackbeard was killed in battle. Image source: North Carolina

And the timing of the recovery of the anchor couldn't be better for North Carolina officials, trying to increase tourism interest in the shipwreck. The Disney film "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides" starring Johnny Depp was released earlier this month and features both Blackbeard and the Queen Anne's Revenge.

The only remaining parts of the ship — the wooden hull structure, ribs and a plank — are at the bottom of the pile, protected by ballast that kept the ship upright. Six cannon and three other anchors are also in the pile.

Wendy Welsh, field conservator and QAR lab manager, and archaeologist Chris Southerly dived in the Atlantic to hook up the anchor for its lift to the ocean surface. "It lifted great," said Welsh, who has worked with the project for nine years. "I didn't think I'd see this day so soon."

Southerly compared the retrieval to the child's game of Pick-Up-Sticks, where players toss plastic sticks on a hard surface and then remove them one at a time without disturbing the ones underneath. "It's really satisfying that I've had privilege of seeing it," he said.

In 1717, Blackbeard captured a French slave ship and renamed it Queen Anne's Revenge. Blackbeard, whose real name was widely believed to be Edward Teach or Thatch, settled in Bath and received a governor's pardon. Volunteers with the Royal Navy killed him in Ocracoke Inlet in November 1718, five months after the ship thought to be Queen Anne's Revenge sank.

The Queen Anne's Revenge shipwreck site, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Sites, has already yielded more than 250,000 artifacts.

CLEANING THOSE CRUSTY OCEAN SILVER COINS

Below are some silver finds from the Terra Marine earlier this year. As with most ocean silver, it tends to rot and decay with the elements. By using electrolysis and a rock tumbler, you can bring a shine back to these silver pieces.



First we start off with a basic 12v transformer. The one pictured below is from the 1960's and still works great. Along with a transformer, you will need small clips, a piece of scrap stainless steel and a cup with baking soda & water.



As shown below, attach the object you wish to clean to the NEGATIVE and the scrap piece of stainless to the POSITIVE. In a container this size, you should mix about $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of baking soda into the water.

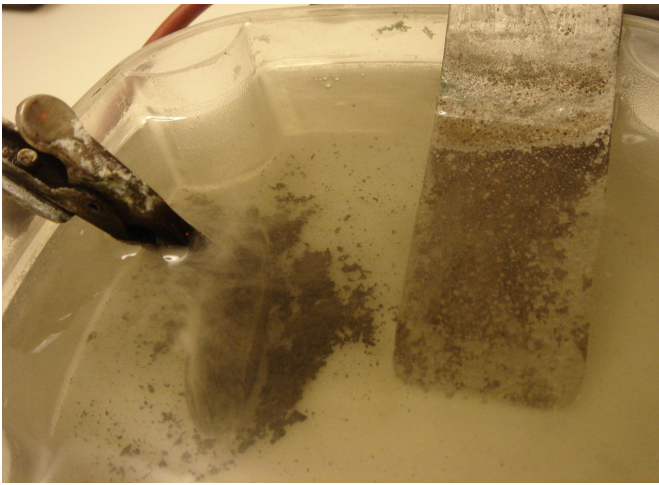


In this picture (below), the sterling silver religious medal was just inserted into the water and almost immediately you can see the crud start to break away from the medal.



IMPORTANT: be sure not to touch the object you are cleaning with the stainless steel. This may short out your transformer. I have blown a few fuses in my transformer accidentally doing this!

COIN CLEANING (CONTINUED)



After a few minutes, you can see all of the debris that has flaked away from the medal.



After cleaning several objects, the water will get dark but you can still use the dirty water. I would suggest doing this electrolysis in a well ventilated area because one small dime can stink up a whole room! You will be amazed.

After the debris is gone, wash the objects under water with an old tooth brush and they will appear to be a grey/white color as shown below. Now they are ready to spend a few hours in the rock tumbler.



Some of the silver has rotted away but what we have left shines very nicely!



~Article and photos by Carter Pennington

Calendar of Events

July 11th

Will be the starting date to teach the boy scouts.

July 16-17, 2011

Adamstown, PA Shupp's Grove 10th Annual Bottle Festival, Sat/Sun 6am-dark . Early buyers Fri 3pm. Info: STEVE GUION, (717) 371-1259, Email: affinityinsurance@dejazzd.com

July 23rd

Will be our annual BBQ with hunt's and surprises.

Aug. 5th

Will be our annual Baseball night out.

Sep 17-22, 2010

Harrisburg, PA All-Dairy Antiques & Collectibles 13th Annual Show & Sale, (Fri. 12 noon to 5 PM, Sat. through Wed. 8 AM to 5 PM), at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center, Harrisburg, PA. Info: GARY GOJSOVICH, PH: (717) 635-5067 or LOLLY LESHER, PH: (717) 787-2905.

Sept. ?

Will be our annual club hunt this will be bigger and better, date to be announced.

Birthdays



May

Vinny Volpette
Daniel Lewis
Tony Calvano
Scott Allen

Interesting Links

<http://www.statenislandhistoryhunter.com/index.htm>

www.mytreespot.com

<http://www.northeastmetaldetectingforum.com/index.php>

<http://health.wikinut.com/Great-Things-About-Metal-Detecting/.p-.kj0/>

<http://www.1uptravel.com/travellinks/outdoor-metaldet.html>

<http://umdca.webs.com/>



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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 _____

THE STATEN ISLAND ATLAS

STATEN ISLAND
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Stamp

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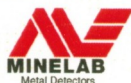
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