

# HUDSON VALLEY EXPLORER

<http://www.greattreasure.com>

Fall 2009

## From the Vice President's Desk

With election of officers due in November the P/WMD&AS Inc. is presented with a wonderful opportunity to grow, prosper and explore new vistas. While all members of the board except the vice president are able to serve another year they are also amenable to play a lesser role in governing the club's activities and perfectly willing to assist "new blood" in carrying the organization forward. Historically Ted and Frank laid a firm framework for the club's stability. P/WMD&AS is incorporated (no easy task), adequately insured, and well known to related publications such as Western and Eastern Treasures. Past officers have secured a number of renewable search sites and Rich has brought on line some very productive new sites. Paul has established a web site which is second to none in class and diversity. Conrad's record keeping is meticulous and Larry has kept our finances up to date and accurate. Those holding elected positions can be just as good teachers as they are leaders. They can not teach, however, if none are willing to step up and learn. It is a privilege to serve this organization and its members. While I must take a "back seat" for a while I look ahead to assist all who continue to direct the club in its future successes. If you can not run for an office PLEASE consider chairing a committee or at least volunteering for a committee. We will need a new Site Coordinator if Rich assumes the duties of VP. The Fall Classic will not be held in 2010 unless a committee is formed and chaired to run it. How about a small committee to research potential speakers for the club? Maybe a "New Horizons" committee could look into gold prospecting, gem hunting, or fossil collecting. Ladies, how about a "girls night out". We have a great club in Stamford (the Nor'easters) which has a number of duplicate members with P/WMD&AS. I have already approached them about a possible future dual hunt by which we could pool our joint resources for as Ed Sullivan would say, "a really big Shooow". Could be a spot for a Club Liaison Officer. Think big, act big, find big. There is a place for a number of people to help grow the club while the "old guard" is willing and able to help pass the torch.

## Officers

### **President**

Ted Izzo

### **Vice President**

Don Mayers



## **Putnam/Westchester Metal Detectorists and Archeological Society**

### **Secretary**

Conrad Rasinski

### **Treasurer**

Larry Cohen

### **Librarian**

Carol Mayers

### **Finds of the Month**

Todd Olsen

### **Site Research Coordinator**

Richard Markert

### **Newsletter Editor - Webmaster**

Paul Maloney

## Slate of Officers for November 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

## P/WMD&AS ON The Road

In the spirit of past events like the sojourn to Brant Lake, Putnam/Westchester members numbering 14 strong headed northeast in September to do battle with the elements on Cape Cod. As expected inclement weather was our constant companion. The saving grace of the rain and wind was the relatively low number of other visitors at the local beaches. While many members came away wet and empty handed some scored big with treasure bags heavy with gold and silver. The total take for the three days was 5 silver rings, 5 gold rings, 1 silver pendant, 1 collectible button and 2 silver coins. As always the group enjoyed good food at the local

## P/WMD&AS On The Road (con1)

eateries and relished the opportunity to hunt together in a relaxed atmosphere. This was the second trip in a row to the Cape and while attendance was up from last year the plan is to make the away event attractive to a larger number of members. To this end we are setting up a trip to Rhode Island for next September. The site selected is expected to provide beach, water, and land hunting as well as extended hunt opportunities to other popular RI beaches. Driving time from Brewster will be less than 3 hours. Members who choose not to stay overnight could do this hunt as a long day trip. Details will NOT be made available until next spring in an effort to insure that all members will be able to hunt on undetected ground.

## Treasure in the News

### **Housewife finds £250,000 treasure with metal detector**

***A housewife has discovered a 15th-century gold treasure valued at***

***£250,000 with a metal detector.***

By Ben Leach  
Published: 9:09AM BST 25 June 2009 <http://www.telegraph.co.uk>

The find is thought to be part of a high-quality reliquary or pendant, and depicts the Holy Trinity.

It is the first item of any real worth that Mary Hannaby has found in seven years of combing fields and beaches.

Mrs Hannaby, 57, from Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, made

the discovery while out on one of her regular six-hour Sunday detecting walks with her son Michael, a 33 year-old wood carver.

The treasure had been buried four inches below the ground for around 500 years - despite repeated ploughing and previous attempts by the Hannabys to unearth treasure on the same patch of arable field between Ashridge and Great Gaddesden.

"You get a buzz every time you get a signal, but chances are it won't be anything," said Mrs Hannaby, a former pub kitchen worker.

"This time, it popped up all of a sudden," said her son. "You can literally miss things by inches. We couldn't believe it. We always dreamed of finding treasure."

Under the Treasure Act of 1996, finders must report potential treasure such as gold and silver objects

more than 300 years old. Finders are offered the market value for their discoveries which museums have first option to buy.

Roger Bland, head of treasure at the British Museum, describes the item - which at 2.8cm by 2.3cm, is barely larger than a postage stamp - as an "important find", and said he regrets that the museum does not currently have the funds to buy it.

As one of only three of its kind to have survived, the find could be worth even more than £250,000, and its engraving is being compared to that of the Middleham Jewel, which sold at auction for £1.3million in 1986 and was later resold to the Yorkshire Museum for £2.5million. Sotheby's will auction it in London on July 9.

## Huge Discovery of Anglo-Saxon Gold

September 24, 2009 by [Andy Checkley](#)



Metal detector maestro Terry Herbert has made the largest ever discovery of Anglo-Saxon treasure in a field in Staffordshire.

Over 1,500 artefacts have been recovered, with experts calling the find a horde, rather than a burial as discovered in the Sutton Hoo burial ship in 1939.

650 items are fashioned with an estimated total of 5KG of gold and 1.3KG of silver are within the horde, which consists mostly of high-class war gear fitted with semi-precious stones, including sword fittings, sections of helmet (an extremely rare find) and sheet metal.

The seventh-century collection has been declared treasure by the South Staffordshire Coroner, cementing Crown ownership. It may take over a year to be properly valued, though current estimates suggests upwards of one million pounds. Both the field's owner and Mr. Herbert will be reimbursed with equal shares of the discovery's worth.

Dr Kevin Leahy, National Finds Adviser for the Portable Antiquities Scheme, catalogued the hoard. He said, "The quantity of gold is amazing but, more importantly, the craftsmanship is consummate. This was the very best that the Anglo-Saxon metalworkers could do, and they were very good."

"Its origins are clearly the very highest-levels of Saxon aristocracy or royalty. It belonged to the elite."

## Huge Discovery of Anglo-Saxon Gold (cont)

Mr. Herbert described his find as, "What metal detectorists dream of". He made the discovery in a field belonging to a farmer friend last July in an as yet undisclosed location around the Lichfield/South Staffordshire border, the heart of the Anglo Saxon kingdom of Mercia.

"My mates at the (metal detecting) club always say if there is a gold coin in a field I will be the one to find it," continued the 18-year treasure hunting veteran. "I dread to think what they'll say when they hear about this."

## Buried Treasure Found in Greene County after 17 Years

Mon, 12/22/2008 - 11:43 — greeneco

"Team Ria" Receives Jeweled Crown for Finding Missing Gold Coin  
CATSKILL, New York (December 19, 2008) – A treasure hunt that has lasted for nearly two decades in Greene County finally came to an end last week when Catskill resident Michael Reid found the buried gold coin that entitles him to a jeweled crown once valued at more than \$10,000. The River Street resident, who has been part of a team of people hunting for the treasure since October, found the gold doubloon buried on a small Hudson River beach at the village park, Dutchmen's Landing, on December 8. The team was presented with the gem-encrusted crown today at a ceremony on Main Street in Catskill. Martin Smith, who was a founding member of the Kaaterskill Foundation, one of the original sponsors of the treasure hunt promotion, made the presentation. Mr. Reid, his wife Laura and their extended family have been hunting for the hidden treasure in memory of Laura Reid's sister, Maria Ciancanelli-Kelly, who died unexpectedly in March 2008 and

had always loved pirates. Known as "Team Ria," the team of 15 adults and children searched for the missing coin nearly every weekend and spent "countless" hours trying to solve the clues embedded in the fictional story, "Captain Kidd and the Missing Crown.

"I'm thrilled that the hidden treasure has been found. It's especially wonderful – and not surprising – that people from the local area would be the ones to unlock the mystery of the clues and solve the puzzle," said Mr. Smith, who has safe-guarded the crown since 2002.

"Greene County is grateful to all who have visited here over the years looking for the lost treasure and have been impressed with what a beautiful part of the world this is, where the Catskill Mountains and Hudson River meet."

"We congratulate Team Ria on its diligence in searching for the hidden treasure. Their patience, persistence and teamwork certainly paid off. What an inspirational effort in memory of a loved one and a wonderful holiday gift for their family," said Wayne C.

Speenburgh, Chairman of the Greene County Legislature. The treasure hunt was launched in 1991 by the Kaaterskill Foundation and Trustco Bank as a means of generating tourism in Greene County. It followed an earlier tourism promotion that involved a gem-encrusted ninepin that was part of the lost treasure of Rip Van Winkle, as the fictionalized storyline went. It took seven years for a Connecticut man to find the ninepin high atop Evergreen Mount in Catskill Park. Both treasure hunts were the brainchild of former Greene County Administrator Bill Hagan, along with other members of the 20private foundation such as Greene County Judge George J. Pulver, Jr., according to Mr. Smith. Although the Captain Kidd treasure hunt promotion was officially discontinued in 1997 after the Kaaterskill Foundation dissolved, Greene County Tourism continued to mail and hand out the original brochure, with a hand-drawn map and the clue-laden story, to people who requested it. The 3,000-word story tells the colorful tale of the Scottish pirate, Captain Kidd, who was hanged in 1701, but not before he buried his trove of treasure, including the ducal crown of King

Henry V, "somewhere on the banks of the Hudson River." The final paragraph of the story tells how a young woman from Catskill "wandered down to the end of a fill where the Hudson is joined by the waters of Catskill Creek" and found the golden doubloon "in the shallows."

Interest in the treasure hunt was rekindled three years ago with the publication of the novel, "The Crazyladies of Pearl Street," which was written by the best-selling author Trevanian, which is believed to be the pseudonym of Jack Hashian, the now-deceased author of "Captain Kidd and the Missing Crown." More recently, several articles in local newspapers sparked interest in the buried treasure. As a result, there were many new treasure hunters coming to Greene County. One resident of Norfolk, Virginia, Stephen Brown, has been to Catskill more than 35 times since 1991 to hunt for the buried treasure, while Canadian Gerard Chuggia has been coming regularly since a year after the hunt was announced.

The treasure hunt did what it set out to do: draw visitors to Catskill," said Vince Seeley, Village President, Village of Catskill. "The fact that it lasted for 18 years may have been exasperating to some, but it was good for the village and for the county."

"Catskill has a very rich history and this quest for the missing crowns has revealed much of it to treasure hunters from far and near," observed Linda Overbaugh, Executive Director of the Heart of Catskill Association. Once a busy river port and commercial center, as well as one of America's first tourism destinations, Catskill has been revitalized in recent years with shops, galleries and restaurants and was recently named one of America's "Top 10 Cool Towns" by *Budget Travel* magazine.

"For nearly 20 years, the buried treasure attracted visitors to Greene County. Although no one discovered the coin until last week, almost everyone discovered something wonderful about Greene County in the process of looking for the treasure," noted Warren Hart, Director of Greene County Economic Development, Tourism and Planning. "It was a highly

## ***Buried Treasure Found in Greene County after 17 Years (cont)***

successful tourism promotion effort."

Michael and Laura Reid noted: "We learned a lot about Catskill and its history in hunting for the hidden treasure. We did a lot of digging around, both metaphorically and physically, and had a great time doing it. It really helped our family come together in a good way after Maria's death. It was good therapy," they recalled.

Sabra Ciancanelli, Maria's other sister, agreed that the treasure hunt helped the family heal after the sudden death. "Instead of always missing Maria and feeling bittersweet when we came together, we started having fun looking for the missing coin. We went on a lot of wild goose chases together and really bonded again as a family."

The crown, which measures about 21 inches in diameter and 5 inches high, is constructed of gold-colored tissue lame with a cloth liner, gold brocade, gold loop braid and appliques. It is decorated with 18 circular-cut diamonds and 53 colored stones, including amethysts, garnets, rubies and topaz. The crown was valued at \$10,600 the last time it was appraised in 1997. The crown was on display at the Catskill branch of Trustco Bank for several years and then held by Greene County Tourism until it was turned over to Martin Smith. Mr. Smith, who has kept the crown in a secure, undisclosed location, also checked periodically to ensure that the coin was still in its hiding place.

Mr. Reid found the coin buried in about a foot of sand in a remote beach at Dutchmen's Landing that is only accessible at low tide. He recalled: "I looked at the map from a fresh perspective and the clues just started coming together. In terms of the tide going out, I just happened to be at the right place at the right time. I think I had a little help from above."

When Mr. Reid first found the coin, which was affixed to a white plastic dish beneath a flat rock, he didn't realize he'd found the treasure, put it in his pocket and kept digging.

When he got it home and measured it, he realized that its dimensions matched the description of the coin and took it to Mr. Smith to be authenticated.

"This is the best Christmas gift ever," Mr. Reid said. He plans to have the crown appraised and will then explore the best ways to "unlock its value," he said. "We will do something wonderful to commemorate Maria's life." Mr. Reid and his wife Laura are aiming to open a new bakery and café in the former Brando's Alley on Church Street, off Catskill's Main Street, at the end of February. Named River Street Bakers for the name of the successful business they started selling artisan breads and baked goods at the farmers' market at Catskill Point, the bakery/café will also serve lunch. In addition to Michael and Laura Reid and her daughter Atticus, other members of the group who searched for the missing treasure in Maria Ciancanelli's memory included Maria's mother Linda Murphy and her partner Tim Haley; Maria's daughter Regina Kelly; Sabra Ciancanelli and Tony Bagge and their sons Henry and Solomon; Maria's brother Paul Ciancanelli and his wife Helene Tieger and their children, Shane, Ian Skye and Zachary; and Maria's cousin Rob Weidman. The team chronicled their search on a blog:

[www.teamria.org](http://www.teamria.org).

For more information on visiting Catskill and Greene County, go to [www.greenetourism.com](http://www.greenetourism.com) or call 1-800-355-CATS.

## ***Finds of the Month June 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 September 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

## Precious Metal Value Calculator

Weigh and then calculate the value of your finds at this web link.

<http://dendritics.com/scales/metal-calc.asp>

### **Metal Prices as of October 9, 2009**

<b>Gold</b>	<b>\$1048.90 /oz</b>
<b>Silver</b>	<b>\$ 17.70/oz</b>
<b>Platinum</b>	<b>\$1333.00 /oz</b>
<b>Copper</b>	<b>\$2.8199 /lb</b>

### **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.  
Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567

Or email the information to [pemalon@optonline.net](mailto:pemalon@optonline.net) Include pictures if you have them, hard copy or digital acceptable.

## Support Those Who Support Us

**American Digger Magazine**  
P. O. Box 126  
Acworth, GA 30101

**Lost Treasure Magazine**  
Box 451589  
Grove, OK 74345  
<http://www.losttreasure.com>

**Western & Eastern Treasures Magazine**  
P.O. Box 219  
San Anselmo, CA 94979  
<http://www.treasurenet.com>  
1-800-999-9718

**Hudson River Metal Detectors Detector Pro™**  
Innovative hunting concepts since 1996  
1447 Route 44  
Pleasant Valley, NY 12569  
<http://www.detectorpro.com>  
[info@detectorpro.com](mailto:info@detectorpro.com)  
1-845-635-3488

**Minelab USA**  
871 Grier Dr., Suite B1  
Las Vegas, NV 89119  
<http://www.minelab.com/consumer>  
1-702-891-8809

**White's of Long Island, Inc.**  
240 Route 112  
Pachogue, NY 11772  
Phone/Fax 1-631-447-7196

**Snows Metal Detectors**  
Authorized Tesoro Dealer  
1-860-488-5694 – Joe  
<http://stores.ebay.com/snows-metal-detectors>

**Kellyco Metal Detector Superstore**  
1085 Belle Avenue  
Winter Springs, FL 32708

**Valley Coins**  
Ed Zehall, Owner  
37A New Haven Road  
Seybridge Plaza, Rt. 67  
East Seymour, CT 06483  
[http://www.angelfire.com/planet/valley\\_coins/index.htm](http://www.angelfire.com/planet/valley_coins/index.htm) [zehallco@aol.com](mailto:zehallco@aol.com)  
1-203-888-1186  
Buy – sell – trade US & World Coins, Paper Money, Gold & Silver Coins, Bars & Scrap..Confidential Appointments  
Mon-Wed, Fri 10am – 5pm  
Thur 10am – 8pm  
Sat 10am – 4pm

**J-Tech Industries**

Custom Welding & Fabricating  
Steel, Aluminum & Stainless Steel  
130 Silvermine Road  
Seymour, Ct 06483  
Jason Lubinski  
(203)545-9828

## 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 2009\*

**\*contingent on finalization of search agreement**

Saturday, October 17, 9:00am  
Rain Date October 18,  
Sunday  
Search Outing Stormville, NY

Tuesday, November 3, 7:30pm  
Membership Meeting, Yorktown  
Heights, NY

Saturday, November 7, 10:00am  
Fall Classic Seeded Hunt, Fairfield,  
CT

Saturday, December 5, 7:00pm  
Annual Christmas Party,  
Ye Old Lantern Restaurant, 728  
Route 6, Mahopac, NY  
(845)628-7302