

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE EMPIRE STATE METAL DETECTOR ASSOCIATION

<http://www.esmda.org>

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November 2010

Upcoming Meetings

November 29, 2010
December-No Meeting
January 31, 2011

Find of the Month Schedule

November: Toy
December: No Mtg.
January: Coin

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Raffle:

Drawing for a White's
M-6 detector to be drawn
at the May 23, 2011
meeting

Tickets for sale, \$5.00
for one, 3 tickets for
\$10.00.

President's Message

I had a famous archaeologist call me this week to see if he could get his metal detector fixed. When he told me how old it was, I told him that it was probably older than some of his relics and it would be easier to make a weathervane out of it. He was shocked and expressed such love for the detector that I relented and said that I would fix the detector for free, since I wanted to bridge the gap between treasure hunter and archaeologist. We got together and had a great time. He was impressed with my collection and record keeping. He doesn't know it yet, but he will be at one of our meetings to share his love for history. Thanks Bob Lavoy, Pres. ESMDA.

Agenda for the November Meeting

Our end of year program will be on tips for storing and cleaning your detector, looking at found items and research. Tim Myers, one of our seasoned veterans, will present the program. Bring a friend, since this will be a great meeting. Let's also be careful with batteries we take out of our detectors. A child died this week in this area from swallowing a battery. It's the most commonly swallowed hazardous item for a child under five. Bob Lavoy, Pres. ESMDA,

Come join us at the monthly meetings, 7 pm at the SW Pitts Fire Company located at 266 Old Loudon Road in Latham, for a great time. Don't miss the chance to meet with other club members to exchange tips, show off your finds and maybe win one of the nice coins available in the coin raffles. This month, the find of the month category is "toy". Bring in and enter your best toy item for a free chance to win in one of the raffles. Your entry should be one that was found since the last time toy was find of the month.

cont'd- The path to the outhouse was kept open in the winter and dug out in the winter; this could cause a slight change in the ground level, look for that and keep in mind that the outhouse could have been moved from time to time. Hunt along flagstones. If you get a signal from under, pry the stone up. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Minutes from the October 25, 2010

ESMDA Meeting

Treasurer's report read and accepted. The balance in the club's treasury is \$3,844. The 50/50 winner of \$67 cash was Mike Genier. A second drawing for an 1865 nickel 3 cent piece went to Tom Bradshaw, third drawing of a Minelab hat went to John Kotwas. Coin raffle prizes were: 1847 large cent, 1834 and 1858 half dimes and an 1852 3 cent piece. Thanks go to Jan Satterlee who donated his win of the 1858 half dime back to the club for our 2011 Treasure Chest. Entries for coin find category were: 1816 2 real, 1787/88 Massachusetts penny, Mount Vernon George Washington token, 1814 half penny / Wellington token. The Massachusetts penny find of John Kotwas was voted number one find of the month, the silver 2 real find of Angelo Primo was voted second place find and the half penny / Wellington token find of Pete Gallacchi was voted third place find of the month.

This month's program was presented by Pete Gallacchi on finding cellar holes. A good resource is Beers maps; maps made originally for insurance purposes which noted the owner's name, vocation and location of houses/buildings. A GPS could be used to program points in from a map and then travel to the site. Check road way and look for culverts to find former house locations. Northeast Metal Detectors website has a link to Beer's. By taking a present day topographical map and comparing it to the Beers map we can see roads and match up. When a curve occurs in a road it usually was where a house was. Look for overgrown bushes, such as lilacs or lilies. A lone locust tree could be a cue to where a house was as it was used as a natural lightening rod. Some cellar holes may be hidden, when a house has burned, the hole may be filled in. Look for rocks from the foundation, frost can change the surface, look for a rectangle. The depression can be dug out; there may be a lot of trash, but the effort can pay off. Pete starts at the hearth area where the stones are larger and sifts the dug earth to retrieve items such as clay pipes or inkwells. (Pete uses a 1/4 " screen using PVC floating frame and uses foundation stones to elevate) Cellar hole depressions will be easier to spot after a dusting of snow. Be cautious and look out for well or cistern holes. Hunt around the depression/hole and dig everything as it can help in dating the site, (even nails). Find the outhouse (downwind and back of house) and dig out, many finds have been dug from an outhouse site: change, poison bottles and buttons.