



Greensboro, North Carolina

# Newsletter

## October 2010

[www.onsd.club.officelive.com](http://www.onsd.club.officelive.com)

Volume 1 Issue 6

### The President's Corner

by William Purkey

Hello, ONSD Diggers,

Let's work together to improve the image of metal detecting. Here are some things our Club can do to educate people about the value of what we do.

1. Carry some sharp objects in your apron. When you are approached by someone and asked "What have you found?", show them the broken glass, fish hooks, nails, tacks, needles, pins, ripped tin cans, knives, and countless other sharp objects. Explain how metal detecting hobbyists work to keep public areas clean and safe. Make a special effort to show these dangerous items to local lifeguards, park rangers, and police.
2. Work with Jim Spivey to create a "Bad Stuff" display board of hazardous items found. Bring in all your dangerous items to the next ONSD meeting on September 25th. We'll use this "Bad Stuff" bulletin board as a display at exhibits and club hunts.
3. Within reason, pick up trash and place it in a refuse container. Together, we can educate the public to know and appreciate the value of metal detecting.

Happy dig.

William W. Purkey  
ONSD President

### Results of the Old Grist Mill Hunt Jamestown, NC - August 28, 2010

Members searched the grounds and uncovered a few relics such as a very large hinge with nails attached, pottery



shards, oyster shells, clad coins, copper tubing, a spoon, and bits of iron. The club will return to the site after the 9:00 am monthly meeting on September 25, 2010 and attempt to locate additional relic items in an expanded search area. Please remember to bring some of your spare equipment as we may have some new members along on this hunt that might need to borrow some unused items.

### What's a Zincoln?

Did you know that prior to 1982 the Lincoln penny was 95% copper? Due to rising costs of the raw material, the US Mint changed the content to 97.5% zinc with a pure coating of copper. That's the reason you'll have two different readings on your detector for the penny. The "Zincoln", as it's called, rings up a notch lower than an older copper penny on detectors and enables a discerning detectorists the option to pass by the often corroded coin if they choose, but run the risk of overlooking some high-end gold items if done so.

# The Old North State Detectorists Club

## Newsletter for October 2010



### THE OLD GRIST MILL HUNT - AUGUST 28, 2010 - JAMESTOWN, NC



*A not-for-profit group of metal detecting hobbyists*

# The Old North State Detectorists Club

## Newsletter for October 2010



### The Future of Metal Detecting

By FMDAC Secretary and Newsletter Editor  
Jeff Beatty

Be sure to visit the Federation's web page [www.fmdac.org](http://www.fmdac.org) and take a look at some of the outstanding work that is being done to protect and promote our hobby. The Federation has hired a lobbyist and they have gone to bat for us in several states and towns that have had legislation proposed to limit or eliminate metal detecting. Some of our National officers took time from their personal lives to travel to these locations and attend these meetings. I always like to check out the Legislation Page on the Federation site. Mark Schuessler puts a lot of work into keeping up with proposed and pending legislation.

I hope all of you have been getting the legislative alerts that the Federation sends out and responding in kind to help protect our hobby.

[www.fmdac.org/legislation.htm](http://www.fmdac.org/legislation.htm)

Mark also has a MUST READ article in the October issue of Western & Eastern Treasures Magazine, page 26, entitled, "Internet – Boom or Bust?" He not only gives a legislative update but describes how a small number of detectorists posting their finds and site location information are having a negative effect on the way that the public, archeological professionals and city and state legislators view our hobby. Mark follows many of the internet forums and gives a bunch of examples. Every detectorist and club needs to take a look at this article. Thanks for all your hard work Mark!

### A Message from Josh Howard about the next Alamance Battleground Hunt on October 29-30, 2010

Folks,

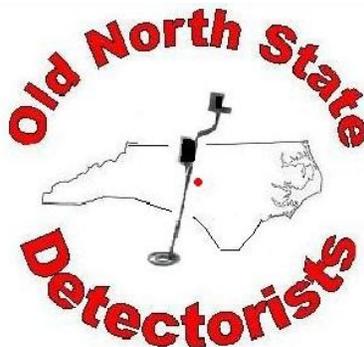
It's about that time again. We have planned the next dig/survey at Alamance to take place on October 29-30. As usual, we will start around 9 am on both days, and go until we're exhausted or we've exhausted the field. Hope everyone is well, and we look forward to seeing those of you who can make it that weekend. We had some great finds last time, and hope to continue with good luck. We have one more survey planned following this one, that is if we don't knock out the field all together this time. We're closing in on the finish line and it's definitely in sight. Hopefully the fall weather will hold up for us!



Best,  
Josh

*A not-for-profit group of metal detecting hobbyists*

The Old North State Detectorists Club  
 Newsletter for October 2010



## Minutes of ONSD Meeting – August 28, 2010

### Present:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Purkey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Spivey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Washburn
<input type="checkbox"/> Dennis Sides	<input type="checkbox"/> Tina Sides	<input type="checkbox"/> Mac McAtee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Randy Woolbright	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerry Gilliam	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeffery Blackburn
<input type="checkbox"/> R.H. Stewart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Kelton	<input type="checkbox"/> Kim Kirk
<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Wilson	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Herb Griffis
<input type="checkbox"/> Jerry Murphy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Payne	<input type="checkbox"/> Danny Shoffner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeremy Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nichole Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Moloney
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Hanes	<input type="checkbox"/> Tony Stevenson	<input type="checkbox"/> Margarete Basner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Furmage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Metz	

### New Attendees/Members:

- ✓ The meeting was called to order by President William Purkey at 9:00 a.m.
- ✓ No guest attended today
- ✓ John Hanes read the ONSD Code of Ethics

### Old Business:

- ✓ Ron Washburn read the treasure's report. June \$294.30 , August \$351.30
- ✓ Last months minutes were approved.
- ✓ Jim Spivey reported on special projects. The Greensboro library is a big success. It will run for another month. There will be a display in the Jamestown library starting in December.
- ✓ Randy Woolbright gave an update on the Newsletter, Website, YouTube

### New Business:

- ✓ William Purkey announced special thanks for Jim Spivey and Mac McAtee for the time they have put in for the special displays.
- ✓ William Purkey announced that Molly Froelich is to be an Honorary Lifetime Member.

*A not-for-profit group of metal detecting hobbyists*

# The Old North State Detectorists Club

## Newsletter for October 2010



- ✓ William Purkey discussed collecting found change for charity.
- ✓ William Purkey discussed the group's assisting with locating objects for the Guilford County Sheriff's department on a murder scene on Friday, August 27, 2010.
- ✓ William Purkey asked members to bring in monthly finds and show/discuss such.
- ✓ Jim Spivey discussed ordering club stickers at \$6 (large) and \$3 (small).
- ✓ Ron Washburn announced that the final payment to William Purkey for hats has been made.
- ✓ Jeremy Brown and Tony Stevenson to discuss Domain Name Server for the club.
- ✓ Jeremy Brown was given the Golden Detector Award for locating and returning a lost phone.
- ✓ William Purkey asked if we needed to order more Golden Detector Awards as we are down to 2 in inventory. It was discussed and voted to order 6 more for \$30 total.
- ✓ A 50/50 raffle was conducted and netted \$12.50 each for winner Jeremy Brown and the club treasury.
- ✓ Jim Spivey had the door prize drawing and was won by Randy Woolbright.
- ✓ The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m. and followed by a hunt at the Old Grist Mill in Jamestown, NC.

### Meeting closing remarks:

- ✓ The next regularly scheduled meeting of ONSD will be at 9:00 a.m. on the last Saturday of September. The meeting will take place at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 4404 Landview drive in Greensboro.

### Secretary additional Notes:

None

Respectfully submitted:      Jerry Gilliam  
Secretary

### Treasurer's Report as of August 28, 2010

Ronald R Washburn Treasurer

Starting Balance	Credits	Debits	\$294.30
50/50 split	10.50		304.80
Donation	2.00		306.80
Membership dues received July/Aug	60.00		366.80
Payment for hats – William Purkey		-100.00	266.80
Ending Balance			\$266.80

*A not-for-profit group of metal detecting hobbyists*

# The Old North State Detectorists Club

## Newsletter for October 2010



*A group photo of the participants who traveled to Iwo Jima to be a part of the 63rd anniversary ceremonies commemorating the battle. I'm second from the left, wearing the white hat.*

## A Visit To Historic Iwo Jima

By William W. Purkey

Treasures are not always in the form of gold coins, diamond rings, and "War of Northern Aggression" belt buckles. Sometimes, treasures are found in the form of a grand adventure. Mine was a visit to an eight square mile, lonely little island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Its name is Iwo Jima.

For younger readers who are unfamiliar with historic World War II Pacific battlefields, I want to give a brief history of the Iwo Jima battle. The taking of Iwo Jima in 1945 was the biggest battle in the history of the United States Marine Corps. For three weeks in early 1945, nearly 75,000 Marines were locked in a bloody struggle with 22,000 seasoned Japanese troops who were dug in to defend their fortress island to the last man. It was a colossal fight between two well-armed, battle-hardened forces.

Almost 7,000 Americans

were killed in action during the battle, with over 20,000 wounded. The Marines suffered the highest number of casualties in the Corps' history. Practically all of the Japanese defenders were killed.

The island is dominated by Mount Surabachi, a 454' dormant volcano. Mount Surabachi became engrained in world history as a result of the unforgettable photograph taken by Joe Rosenthal of the six soldiers raising the Stars & Stripes on the summit. This photograph was later modeled into a magnificent statue and etched into the minds of patriotic Americans for all time.

Recently, the heroic battle of Iwo Jima became the subject of two motion pictures filmed from the perspectives of both the Japanese defenders and the American invaders. These movies were directed by popular

WESTERN & EASTERN  
**TREASURES**

Western & Eastern Treasures Magazine  
<http://www.treasurenet.com/westeast/>

Hollywood actor Clint Eastwood and were nominated for the Academy Awards.

Now to describe my visit in more detail...

As our plane made its final approach to the small landing field on Iwo Jima, I expected to feel a sense of awe in visiting this epic battlefield. I certainly did, but more importantly, I experienced a great sense of gratitude, respect, and pride in the men of all the U.S. branches of service who fought in this historic battle.

I was indeed fortunate to take this journey to Iwo Jima. Other than the gallant men who fought in the battle, very few people have been allowed to visit the island. After World War II, Japan was given total sovereignty over Iwo Jima. Until a decade ago, the Japanese did not allow anyone to visit the island except for active-duty military personnel. Then a little-known provision in the Japanese/American Treaty was discovered that permitted veterans of the battle to go back to Iwo Jima.

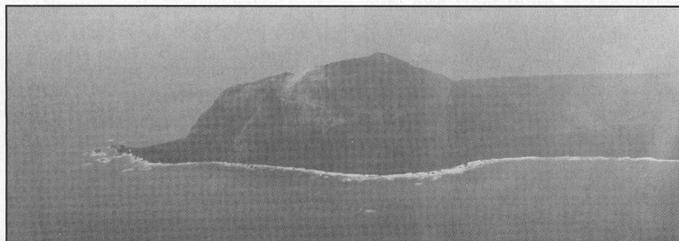
The combat veterans of the Iwo Jima battle who accompanied me on the trip made it possible for me to be part of the 63rd anniversary ceremonies commemorating the battle. These Iwo Jima veterans select those who are allowed to accompany them to visit the island. Although I am not a veteran of the Iwo Jima battle, I am U.S. Air Force explosive ordnance disposal specialist who served in the Korean War. There happened to be a last-minute cancellation of one of the 22 veterans, and I was selected to take his place. Now for a brief

WESTERN & EASTERN TREASURES 45

*A not-for-profit group of metal detecting hobbyists*

# The Old North State Detectorists Club

## Newsletter for October 2010



*This photo was taken from the window of the small aircraft approaching a rainy Iwo Jima.*

overview of why Iwo Jima was so important to both the Japanese and Americans.

The postage-stamp sized Iwo Jima was a major strategic importance to the Army Air Corps (now the United States Air Force) because it is situated halfway along the B-29 Superfortress bombing route to the Japanese mainland from the Mariannas. The island had to be taken to prevent Japanese fighter planes based on Iwo Jima from attacking the American bombers, and to destroy the Japanese radar installations that gave early warning of impending air raids on Japan. Moreover, taking the island would allow it to be used as an emergency landing field for American bombers returning from raids on Japan. By the war's end, a total of 2,252 B-29 bombers had made forced landings on the island. In fact, the bomber *Dinah Might*, a crippled B-29, made an emergency landing on Iwo Jima right in the mid-

dle of the battle.

Beginning in early December 1944 and continuing over ten weeks, American B-24 Liberator heavy bombers from the 7th Air Force flew in from the Mariannas almost every day to bomb the smoking island. At the same time, American P-38 fighters and other planes strafed and napalmed the island.

The result was the total disappearance of the Japanese garrison! The Japanese moved everything underground—command posts, barracks, hospitals, and massive gun emplacements. One underground installation ran seven stories deep in the soft but durable volcanic rock that made digging fairly easy. When a large Japanese underground hospital was discovered and opened in 1984, the cave contained the mummified remains of 54 Japanese servicemen and all their equipment.

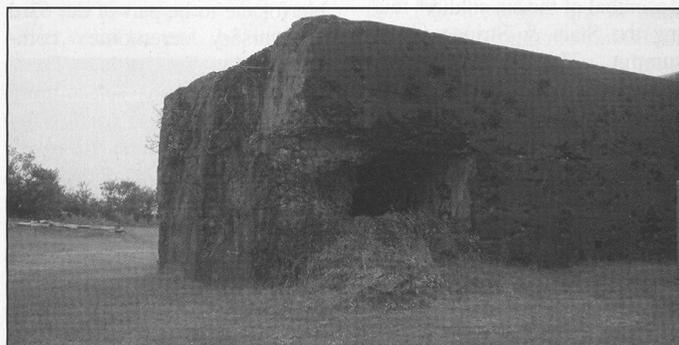
When I stepped off the plane upon arrival at Iwo Jima, my

impression was that it is an ugly, sulphur-smelling island of volcanic sand and rock. Iwo Jima is, in fact, an emerging volcano. Its steep beaches drop off sharply to meet a turbulent surf zone. The beaches are not sand at all. They consist of tiny volcanic cinders, soft and black. During the assault on the island, the softness of these cinders immobilized the wheeled vehicles and even caused some tracked vehicles to belly down. As the veterans describe the cinders, it was like “running in loose coffee grounds.” Another veteran said that trying to dig a foxhole was like trying to “dig a hole in wheat.”

When the first Marine assault wave struggled with the unforgiving beach, over 700 hidden Japanese gun emplacements awaited their arrival. Many of the placements were “hardened” casemates and artfully concealed. Most were impervious to the most intensive shell-fire from battleships standing only 2,000 yards offshore. It's been estimated that after weeks of shelling and bombing, over 75% of the fortifications remained operational.

Looking down on the landing beaches was Mount Surabachi. It was honeycombed with Japanese gun emplacements, from heavy machine guns to major artillery. The Marine veterans said that the sullen mountain seemed to take on a life of its own.

There is not room here to describe the awful carnage that occurred during the next three weeks as the battle raged. The Japanese were led by one of their most able soldiers, Lieutenant General Tadamichi Kuribayashi, Imperial Japanese Army. According to Colonel Joseph H. Alexander, U.S. Marine Corps, the Marines have rarely faced a tougher opponent. General



*One of over 1,000 gun emplacements, large and small, on Iwo Jima.*

# The Old North State Detectorists Club

## Newsletter for October 2010



Kuribayashi knew that trying to defend the island on the landing beaches would be impossible. Therefore, he moved his troops away from the beaches and prepared a vicious welcome for the Americans.

He supplemented all of the Japanese weapons by rigging enormous makeshift explosives, including 500 lb. unexploded bombs dropped by American bombers. They also buried torpedo heads, depth charges, and large artillery shells, each triggered by accompanying pressure mines. General Kuribayashi instructed his soldiers not to fire until the landing beaches were jammed with Americans. This way the Japanese would not give away their carefully concealed positions. When the Japanese finally opened fire, the destruction was horrific.

Readers might think that metal detectors would have been a valuable tool in locating the countless Japanese land mines and other buried explosive ordnance. Unfortunately, the cinders of Iwo Jima retained enough metallic substance to make metal detectors unreliable. Remember that this all took place in 1945, well before the development of more advanced metal detectors.

An unusual weapon employed by the Japanese was an enormous "spigot" mortar. These 320mm mortars hurled a 675 lb. shell a maximum of 1,440 yards. Unlike a conventional mortar, the shell was placed over a tube instead of being dropped down the barrel. Marines described this terrible tumbling end-over-end projectile as truly terrifying. It was like a wobbling airborne trash can. "You could see one coming," said one veteran, "but you could never know where it was going to land." Along with the spigot mortars the

This article from the June 2009 issue has been reproduced courtesy of Western & Eastern Treasures Magazine



Japanese timed air-bursts fired by Japanese dual-purpose antiaircraft guns.

The most memorable moments during my one-day visit came as we were exploring Japanese fortifications and looking at the entrances of burned-out Japanese bunkers, still scorched from the fury of Marine flamethrowers.

There were times when I wished I could have used my Compass metal detector, as I'm sure that there are military artifacts everywhere. But since over five tons of unexploded ordnance are discovered every year, I don't think I would have had the courage to go digging, even if it were allowed. The present Japanese security forces used their own detectors at the Iwo Jima Airport to ensure that we were not carrying any military artifacts when we departed the

island. Still, the thought of countless undiscovered caves filled with military artifacts is exciting.

Perhaps the day will come when all Americans are allowed to visit Iwo Jima. Perhaps, too, there will be a museum to honor the brave soldiers of both sides who fought and died there.

As our plane took off from the Iwo Jima runway and I looked back at forbidding Mount Surabachi, I thought once again of the heroic soldiers who fought in this epic battle, and how proud I was and am to be an American.

For details of my visit, please contact me at [wwpurkey@aol.com](mailto:wwpurkey@aol.com) □

#### Reference:

Alexander, J. JH. (2008). *Combat Veterans of Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor, 2008 Anniversary Tour: Iwo Jima: A Historical Guide*. Fairfax, Virginia.

# The Old North State Detectorists Club

Newsletter for October 2010



Have you clicked on the  
ONSD website for the latest  
news and events info?

[www.onsd.club.officelive.com](http://www.onsd.club.officelive.com)

### Members...

Please make sure your name is  
matched up to your email address in  
the club records and spelled correctly.

Secretary Jerry Gilliam has the  
membership list to check.

### \*\*\*Classified Ads\*\*\*

Send in your metal detecting items  
wanted or for sale to the Editor.  
You'll have the items posted in the next  
3 issues of the ONSD newsletter.

The ONSD Club is now on



[www.youtube.com/user/onsdclub](http://www.youtube.com/user/onsdclub)

### Golden Detector Award

The Golden Detector award is presented to  
the member who recovers and returns a valu-  
able item to its rightful owner.

Our newest winner is Jeremy Brown who  
recovered and returned a lost iPod.

Congratulations, Jeremy!

### Monthly Meetings

The Old North State Detectorists Club  
meets at 9:00 am the last Saturday of each  
month at the rear meeting room in the Golden  
Corral located at 4404 Landview Drive in  
Greensboro, NC. This is just south of the I-40  
and Wendover Avenue interchange. Member-  
ship fee is \$20.00 per year which includes a  
hat. Guests are welcome.

Following the regular monthly club meet-  
ing on September 25, 2010, we will again dig  
at the Old Grist Mill in Jamestown, NC ex-  
panding the search around the mill and  
house grounds for more artifacts. Please  
wear your hat and nametag and bring your  
headphones. As last time, parking is available  
next door at the brick building.

### ONSD Club Officers

President - William Purkey  
Vice-President/Treasurer - Ron Washburn  
Secretary - Jerry Gilliam  
Sergeant at Arms - Jim Spivey  
Newsletter Editor - Randy Woolbright

### Publication Notice

This newsletter is published monthly by  
the Old North State Detectorists Club and is  
distributed free of charge. Inquiries, omis-  
sions and corrections should be directed to:

[randwool@hotmail.com](mailto:randwool@hotmail.com)

Copyright ©2010  
Old North State Detectorists Club  
All rights reserved