



Greensboro, North Carolina

Club Newsletter

October 2012

www.onsdclub.com

Volume 3 Issue 10

The President's Corner by William Purkey

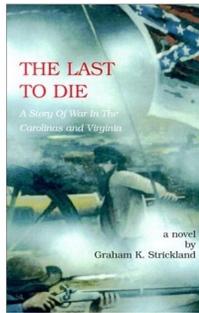
Hello, Detectorists,

We have an exciting series of events this fall.

On October 27th there will a short meeting and a club hunt at the site of a gold mining operation in Jamestown, NC.

On November 17th the club will travel to Madison, NC for a brief meeting and club hunt at a historic location.

On December 16th club members will enjoy a presentation by a very special guest speaker, Graham K. Strickland. Graham is a respected authority of the Civil War in North Carolina. His novel, "*The Last To Die: A Story of War in the Carolinas and Virginia*", is praised for its historical accuracy. You don't want to miss this memorable meeting.



Please keep a sharp eye in locating sites for group hunts. Also, look for places that would be suitable for club meetings. The availability of space in the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Library is somewhat unpredictable.

Keep the treasure hunting spirit.

William Purkey
ONSD President



How do you measure success?

The club turned out in force on September the 8th in an attempt to search for and recover two lost rings on one piece of property.

Jerry Dorsett had the find of the day, recovering the property owners ring that had been lost in the backyard for 8 to 9 years. But there's more inside...



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MINUTES OF ONSD CLUB MEETING - AUGUST 25, 2012

IN ATTENDANCE: (MEETING STARTED AT 9:00 AM)

ROBERT UNDERWOOD, WILLIAM PURKEY, MAC MCATEE, RANDY WOOLBRIGHT, DAVID PAYNE, JEFFREY BLACKBURN, T. E. METZ, BECKY CRADDOCK, SKYLAR CRADDOCK, RON WASHBURN, BILL BOOKOUT, BOB STEWART, TIM PIERCE, MIKE BECK, JACKIE DOLLAR, KEN KIRK, MAL KAPLAN, T. SMITH, JIM SPIVEY, JOHN YOUNG, CAROLE KAPLAN, GAIL SHEFFIELD, C. FORREST, JERRY DORSETT

GUESTS:

STEVE BATES

TIMOTHY CUMMINGS-JOINED AS MEMBER

PAM L. CUMMINGS-JOINED

NORM BIRDSALL- JOINED

GUEST SPEAKER: JULIA EBEL (LOCAL HISTORIAN)

OLD BUSINESS:

* TREASURERS REPORT: \$824.00 BALANCE; \$837. 24 (CHECKING)- BY RON WASHBURN IS APPROVED

* JERRY BARBEE DONATED TWO PAIRS OF HEAD PHONES FOR CLUB HUNTS

* RECEIVED LETTER FROM MENDENHALL MUSEUM BACK ON RECENT EXHIBIT

NEW BUSINESS:

* NEW AMENDMENTS TO CLUB CHARTER TO BE VOTED ON AT NEXT MEETING- SEPTEMBER 29, 2012 INCLUDES:

1. OMIT WEBMASTER POSITION FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (HANDLES ALL ELECTRONIC NEWS)

2. OMIT STANDING COMMITTEES-TO BE APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT WILLIAM PURKEY

* FLOWERS PRESENTED TO GUEST SPEAKER TODAY (JULIA EBEL) BY BECKY CRADDOCK--TOPIC: "LOCAL FOLKLORE HISTORY AND NC BIOGRAPHIES" (JACK TALES BY ORVILLE PIC)

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* CODE OF ETHICS READ TODAY AND IN FUTURE BY ROBERT UNDERWOOD-
 NEW SECRETARY

* ROCKINGHAM COUNTY HAS NEW MUSEUM OF ARCHIVES CALLED MARC
 WITH DIRECTOR KIM PROCTOR AND HISTORIAN-IN-RESIDENCE BOB CARTER
 (CHECK WEBSITE FOR LOCATION AND HOURS). CURRENT PROGRAM IS "THE
 JOURNEY STORIES". SPONSORED BY THE SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM
 THROUGH SEPTEMBER

* NEW MEMBERS NORM BIRDSALL, TIMOTHY AND PAM L. CUMMINGS WEL-
 COMED TO CLUB AND INSTALLED

* DISCUSSION OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2012 CLUB HUNT FOR LOST RING ON ESTATE IN
 EAST GREENSBORO, NC AND CONTEST FOR MOST INTERESTING FIND THAT DAY
 --100 PESO SILVER COIN PRIZE GIVEN BY ONSD CLUB

* DISCUSSION OF OCTOBER 27TH CLUB HUNT BY INVITATION OF SPEAKER,
 JULIA EBEL, OF HER FAMILY GOLD MINE/ PIT SITE
 (OLD NORTH STATE COPPER COMPANY) IN THE JAMESTOWN, NC AREA

* ONLY ONSD MEMBERS INVOLVED IN CLUB HUNTS

OPEN MIC:

* ARTIFACT DISPLAYS BY MEMBERS:

ROBERT UNDEERWOOD: BAUGHN HOMESITE IN MADISON, NC

TOM METZ: WOODEN BOARD DISPLAY OF CIVIL WAR ARTIFACTS FROM KEN-
 TUCKY AND MIDWEST AREA

REMINDERS:

FUTURE MEETING DATES (2012):

SEPTEMBER 29TH

NOVEMBER 17TH (MADISON, NC JORDEN HOUSE HUNT) AND MEETING?

DECEMBER 15TH

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY ROBERT UNDERWOOD (ONSD SECRETARY)

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Metal Detecting — More Than Just a Recreation

I've taken to writing in defense of having a recreation which is greatly misunderstood by many and unfairly threatened and discriminated against by most of the archeological community world-wide. More specifically I write about a recreation called metal detecting.

So what is the recreation of metal detecting all about? To me, it has been more than just a simple outdoor activity. It's a 44 year continuing journey to satisfy an intense desire to know first-hand my country's history, more importantly the people (our ancestors) who lived in and created it. It's the excitement of recovering something lost in the ground for centuries and knowing you are the first person since the last, to touch it again... My link to the past and the education it provides. We all inherited our past and no one person or group has the right to keep anyone from discovering it in a responsible manner and learning from it.

Many in the misinformed general public unfortunately tend to view we Detectorists as "scavengers", "looters", "grubbers", "pot hunters", "thieves", and greedy "treasure hunters". Fact is a lot of people are jealous of the recreation simply because they can't stand to see anyone profit from anything, even if it's one penny at a time. Many of us are just simply finding and collecting lost coins. In the many years I've enjoyed researching huntsites and operating a metal detector, the worth of anything found collectively would never equal the expense of owning the equipment necessary to do so. It's never been about profit for me in my pursuit of history. It's been about the rewards of educating myself and others about the items found and giving myself some quality time outdoors. It's also about rescuing these pieces of history from the ravages of time and acid rain destruction. In the years I've enjoyed my recreation, I've actually witnessed an accelerated degradation to metal finds. It's about time spent sharing friendship and comradery with people of similar ideals. It's honor and respect and returning a precious lost heirloom to someone who asked for your help and you never ask for anything in return. It's about volunteering our time to help law enforcement at crime scenes or to help anyone in need of our skills.

The only monetary profit I ever gained from my recreation was to write a book to help others enjoy the same recreation. The profits went directly into providing a living for my family when employment was just not enough. The true profit and satisfaction was knowing I taught others to use their equipment well and promote responsible use of a metal detector. Undoubtedly, there are some of us who would conceal a significant find from the rightful owner or do something illegal as a means to their end... But this is unfortunately human nature and this behavior is not exclusive to any recreation or our critics.

On a more personal level, the rewards of strenuous exercise and fresh air provided by this recreation far exceed the benefits of any pharmaceutical. Since childhood, I've had trouble controlling blood glucose levels. I have an occupation that confines me to a drawing board and in later years, a computer. Any weekend spent walking miles in the sunshine outdoors, bending over, kneeling, retrieving targets and standing back up again to do it all again countless times has a significant effect on glucose levels no pill or injection can compete with. My recreation is probably the reason why I'm still here to write this.

An association of metal detecting hobbyists

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For years, our detractors have continuously fought to restrict our rights and want eventually to make our recreation become illegal and give themselves exclusive rights to dig and touch OUR history. During this time, the majority of the archeological community has consumed precious public resources trying to eliminate our recreation and influence lawmakers. Many legislators are finally realizing we Detectorists are not the monster threat they were lead to believe. Currently a few lawmakers are seeing this "inquisition" as a self-preservation tactic to insure a livelihood. If our critics were to succeed, not only will they deny people a healthy lifestyle, they will destroy American metal detector manufacturers and the employment they provide.

Without metal detectors, the archeological community would not have the major discoveries made recently in Great Britain such as the largest cache of Saxon gold artifacts in modern time. Even before this grand discovery, the English government adeptly recognized the significance of the metal detectorist as an important resource... The British government has intelligently resorted to rewarding their responsible detectorists rather than prosecute them. They financially compensate the landowner and detectorist for the value of the find so it can be preserved for public view for ALL to appreciate and learn from. If the item has been found not to be a major significance, they allow the finder to simply keep what they found. A fair system we should adopt in the USA to get significant finds into daylight more quickly. Without this cooperation we shorten precious time in which great discoveries can be made. Conventional archeology in the U.S. today cannot compete with powerful swift commercial land development. Wait long enough and nature has a way of reclaiming historical artifacts permanently. Punishing a people's recreation is not the means to making great strides in archeology.

However, not all archeologists are our detractors, at least not the progressive few. Significant history changing data was gathered at the battle site of Little Big Horn because a few forward thinking archeologists realizing they could work with detectorists and harness our skill for the good of all. In effect, they made their own occupation easier, faster, and promoted good will instead of destroying it. The volunteer detectorists I'm sure made the project significantly less costly as well. Many of us, myself included, would be honored to serve on any project like that. This was a small step in the right direction, why is there not more of this happening today? In summation, I hope these words help to convince everyone we need to work together and not waste time before rescuing our history. When I became sixteen years old, I started in metal detecting because I knew my family's financial resources would never support the extended education necessary for my life's desire of becoming an Archeologist... Now you know why our "recreation" is so important to everyone.

— Robert H. Sickler

Author, "DETECTORIST, A How-To Guide to Better Metal Detecting"

This article has been reprinted with permission courtesy of Dick Stout. You can view his website at:

www.stoutstandards.com



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Recent Finds By Our Members & Friends



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Photo courtesy John Young ©2012

Member John Young dug this Eagle Button at the recent Uzzle House Hunt. He cleaned up the find and presented it to the property owners for their personal display. Here are his comments on the find.

by John Young

I did some research on the Eagle Button found on the Uzzle property and was able to locate some information. The button was manufactured by Horstmann. I was able to conclude this based on a few letters I could make out on the back. I can't make out any of the other letters on the back to conclusively narrow down the date. In general, this button dates post-Civil War (1865), but pre-WW1 (1914). This style eagle button is referred to as a General Service Indian Wars era, and was further narrowed down to the 1890's period. I hope they enjoy this find as a little part of their homes' history.

Description of items on the previous page include:

A brass locket piece with a heart emblem on it definitely dropped by a soldier and a "carved" .45-.50 caliber bullet found by Steve Cole
 Old jars found by Becky Crowder. Both have the words MASON'S PATENT NOV 30TH 1858
 Grommets intact in leather horse strap from Stadler Farm site south of Reidsville, NC
 Early window sash "tie down screw"
 Brass Flintlock "Frizzen" pan brush piece
 Brass spout dug in woods at Uzzle homesite on club hunt day and given to their collection
 Old Surveyor Compass spotted by Rodney Joslin with "Made in Guilford, NC" markings
 A fired .36 caliber musket ball and buck-n-ball
 Brass spout dug by Brent Beville at 1800's Stagecoach Inn site (Benaja, NC) that he said may be from a brass powderhorn flask
 One Pewter Colonial period "Tompac" coat button and one brass 1800's cuff button photographed together
 An iron hoof cleaner (18th-19th century) preserved by Brent Beville



TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

RONALD R WASHBURN
TREASURER



Starting Balance	Credits	Debits	837.24
Membership Dues	50.00		887.24
Gift for Speaker		-13.87	873.37
Ending Balance			\$873.37

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

www.onsdclub.com

The next club meeting will be held on
Saturday, September 29, 2012 at 9 am.

BUT REMEMBER...

We will meet in the picnic shelter to the
right of the library building.

Coming Up in the Next Issue of the ONSD Newsletter

We'll have a report on member Robert Underwood's latest showing of artifacts and relics which has been on display during the month of September at the Mayodan Library. Robert was asked to set up an artifacts exhibit of Madison area homesites (18th-19th century) similar to his last exhibit at the downtown Reidsville Public Library in May.

Included are relics from:

1. "Valley Field Plantation" (1783)
2. "Valley Home" (1795) of William Deering
3. "Baughn Family" homesite (19th century)
4. Moyer Road cabin site (19th century)
5. Crowder homesite (19th century) off NC Hwy 704 and a few others.

The display includes some military relics from the French & Indian War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War and will be on display through September 30th.



Monthly Meeting Time & Location

The Old North State Detectorists meet at 9:00 am on the last Saturday of each month at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library Community Room located at 1420 Price Park Road in Greensboro, NC.

Occasionally, a club meeting may be held at a hunt site. Check the ONSD website [Calendar of Events](#) page for the latest information.

The club membership fee is \$20.00 per year for individuals and \$30.00 for families which includes an embroidered hat and iron-on patch.

Guests are welcome.

ONSD Club Officers

President - William Purkey
Vice-President - Becky Craddock
Secretary - Robert Underwood
Treasurer - Ron Washburn
Sergeant at Arms - Thom Metz
Special Projects Liaison - Mac McAtee
Editor/Webmaster - Randy Woolbright

Publication Notice

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webmaster@onsdclub.com

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