



THE NOREASTER

April 2007

The Presidents Column

If anyone receives this via United States Postal Service(not e-mail) and has an e-mail account, please let me know so I can e-mail it to you and save the postage. Thank you.

Any club wanting Hunts posted on the FMDAC website calendar of events, or the chapter news letter, send the information to me and I will see that it gets posted.

To all independents Please be sure your 2007 dues are in, or this will be your last newsletter.

Finally Spring is coming to the northeast. We can get the detectors out, put new batteries in it- or charge the re-chargeable batteries, and hit the dirt or sand. It's still too cold for water hunting up here. We can put to use all the research we did during the inclement weather.

In this issue of the Noreaster, I am including an article written by John Wacienga. John is one of our western New York members, and a member of the Niagara Frontier Relic Hunters and also the Genesee Valley Treasure Seekers. He is an avid detectorist that does a lot of research on sites to detect. He is in his mid 40s, healthy, fit, a non smoker, and recently had a **Stroke**. I think we all can get something from his article.

John Howard

Are we prepared !!!

By John Wacienga

When it comes to metal detecting, are we prepared when we step out into the field? That is the one question I ask myself... Going back to the beginning of January the weather here in the northeast was terrific. The whole winter couldn't have been better. with record highs and no snow, detecting was the plan of action each and every week. I have made my way out detecting with a few friends of mine on occasion. Each time we went out we had a plan, and in that plan we had supplies. Some of the items we had were maps, a cell phone, detecting equipment, enough gas in our vehicles, some food, water and all the things you would like to have when going out on a day hunt with friends. Now I consider myself well prepared and always have the necessary items, just in case someone runs into a problem. In my truck, I have what (I think) is everything I need to fix something..... like tape, extra plastic bolts, metal bolts, all kinds of tools, screwdrivers, wire or your choice, battery charger, road hazard equipment, chains to pull someone out of the mud or snow if they need it, jumper cables, batteries, flashlights, First -aid Equipment, Aspirin, Advil, Eye wash, surgical gloves if we need them, ice packs, flares, shovels, camera, lighters, bug spray, food, suntan lotion, eye protection, extra head phones, gloves(rubber, cloth) AC-DC adaptor (plugs in the lighter) plus a compass and GPS..... I'm sure there are a few items I have not mentioned. I think when it comes to needing something I have it. But let me say this, on occasion I have gone detecting by my self and have found some great sites, with some very nice finds. Most of the people I detect with know me very well, and that I love to go out in the woods and do some serious Relic hunting. But in the back of my mind it kind of bothered me. What if something happened? Thank God nothing ever did!

So with all that said my wife Cheryl and I decided to go detecting. It was January 10th and like I mentioned earlier the weather was just beautiful, it was in the upper 50s. So as we started detecting I noticed that a headache I had that morning was still there. I took a couple of aspirin; a short time later the headache was gone. After detecting most of the day we decided to call it quits and head home. On the way I mentioned to Cheryl about my head ache and that it was starting up again. Now I consider myself in great shape, I watch what I eat, my blood pressure is 120 over 80, cholesterol is 159, I don't smoke, Plus get plenty of exercise with the type of work that I do.... That evening we talked about it a little more, I said if it gets any worse I would call the doctor. I never get head aches so knowing how bad it iswas new to me. That Friday, now two days later I still had the pain and after I took a couple have Advil the pain was almost gone. That night I went bowling, out to dinner with Cheryl and my daughter we were having a great night, but by 10:00 pm that night the pain came back. I said right there " tomorrow I'm going to call the doctor". The next morning I got up to the sound of my daughters voice, so I got up and made some coffee like I usually do each morning. What happened moments later changed my life forever...In the middle of talking to my wife, only five minutes after just waking up? I stopped talking in the middle of a conversation and had a stroke. Yes that's just what I said ..." a stroke". Earlier I talked about my health and what good shape, I thought I was in. The stroke I had was a di-section of the cerotic artery. A tear in the inner layer was the cause. It is some sort of injury that causes that type of stroke. Now what caused the injury? You can stretch your neck, be in a car accident , getting hit in the neck or just pulling it while working. The inner layer tears, then flaps over and starts to clot, causing the stroke. The other type of stroke is the one related to health problems. High cholesterol, etc..... What happened scared me to death! No one would be prepared for what happened on that day.

I could sit and talk about that day and everything that happened, but I will say this....I walked away from it all, with no complications and I thank my wife Cheryl and the decisions she made, plus my Guardian Angel that looked over me.

The question I ask like I mentioned earlier...Are we really prepared? After what had happened to me , I asked myself that question and what I came up with was (NO)... There were holes in the plans we had. All the things I had mentioned earlier are sure good to have with you, but what I didn't have was the address to the nearest Hospital . We have never really thought about it. Sure we have an idea of the nearest towns we were in or the main routes to those towns. But when your down in the southern tier or what we call it (the sticks) on a Sunday morning with most places closed. Ask yourself this! **Where do we go if something should happen?** In our plans now , we will know where the nearest hospital or medical facility is located. Just in case the situation should come up and we need to get there as quickly as possible.

Another important part of any detecting trip is the cell phone, always have one with you and know if your getting reception. Some areas down in the valleys lose signal and not having a phone in an emergency could be devastating. Have it charged and make sure it is good working condition. Having two with your group is always better.

The final topic is what I feel is the most important . There were plenty of times I went out detecting by myself. Walking back in the woods, with just a cell phone and detector in hand.... What I'm saying here is "NOT ANYMORE!!!". Those days are over, four days before my stroke Cheryl and I were about 50 miles from my house. Detecting in an area with pretty good phone reception and some distance away from the nearest town. What if ?? What had happened to me, happened 4 days earlier on that old dirt road . With no one else there to help my wife. We had no knowledge of the nearest Hospital. How could she get me into my F-350 truck that is high off the ground. I weigh 200 pounds, I could not walk and was barely talking at the time. Cheryl only new the road we were on and none of the others , the outcome may have been much worse. Just thinking about what could have happened is un-thinkable.

I know one thing, I will never be detecting alone again! I will always have a good plan that includes knowing where the nearest Hospital is located and a good cell phone with reception just in case we need it. I hope everyone reading this can come away with a use for all the things that I have mentioned . I know I will..... and like my friends Jeff and Tim say "....." All those secret places you have been hunting alone, not anymore !! We have to go with you"..... HH to all.... ..

The Vice Presidents Column

I am happy to report that the bill in Kentucky, HB117, which would require a permit to conduct an archaeological excavation on private property, is apparently dead. It made it out of committee with a favorable ruling but has been tabled. This was told to me by a reliable source that has a tie to a KY legislator. This is the third attempt at a bill of this nature so I would expect it to surface again in the future. We can hope that maybe they have learned from their defeats and drop it altogether.

This type of state sponsored archaeological control of private property is a trend that is spreading across the nation. They are pretty much defeated in every instance due to their basic premise of attacking everyone's private property rights. There have been small instances of abuses getting thru where it has made it tougher to search private property. An example would be in VA where written permission is a requirement. Verbal can get you arrested. Someone I know from VA has joked that he could be cited for searching his own property unless he has written permission from himself!

There is a growing opposition to these bills and the forces behind them. More individuals and groups are finding out about them and starting to talk. These state sponsored agencies are beginning to get exposed for their true intentions. The Alabama Historical Commission took a big hit with the Steve Phillips deal and the Florida commission is under investigation at this time. I have word that the Kentucky Heritage Commission, who was behind HB117, is destined for the some scrutiny. Maybe the tide is beginning to change. Keep up the fight.

Mark Schuessler

Club News

Rainbows End Metal Detecting Club

2007 Club Snow Hunt

We had a great turn out (25 members participated) at our Club Snow Hunt that was held at Lowville Park in Lowville, Ontario CANADA at 11:00 a.m. on February 25, 2007. A total of \$400.00 was used to purchase silver for our hunt, a generous amount of clad donated by our participating members, and 31 token prizes. Some of our members brought along some treats to share with the group...it was definitely a very successful event.

Chapter Calendar

May 19th. Gateway Treasure Hunters "Onset Beach Hunt", Onset Beach , Mass.

<http://home.comcast.net/~gthclub22>

May 26th & 27th. - Stoney Creek, Ontario CANADA: 8th Annual Beach Hunt held at the Fifty Point Conservation Area in Stoney Creek, Ontario (sponsored by various Ontario, Canada Metal Detecting Clubs).

For hunt information, updates and registration forms, please visit our hunt website at:

www.metaldetectinghunt.com Contact Information: Sherry Cziraki at (905) 643-2668 e-mail:

czirakis@sympatico.ca or Marge Cleaves at dacmac@rogers.com For camping information at Fifty Point

Conservation Area, please call (905) 643-2103 or visit www.conservationhamilton.ca Stoney Creek is located about 40 minutes from Niagara Falls, NY border.

Sept.8th & 9th.—Derby, NY: 22nd Annual International Treasure Hunt, sponsored by the Niagara Frontier Relic Hunters Assoc., New this year, woods, field and beach hunt!
Free kids (12 & under) hunt each day. For more information and registration forms, contact Joe Cartonina at 716-632-6129 or kmch@adelphia.net or at our website, NFRHA.com.

September 22 & 23, 2007—Java Center, New York. 9th Annual Hunt, sponsored by the Genesee Valley Treasure Seekers. Free Kids hunt(age 12 & under) on Saturday.
For more information and Registration forms, contact John Howard at 585-663-7368 or jwhoward@rochester.rr.com or Bonnie Montgomery at 585-889-8436 or postmama@frontiernet.net or our web site www.gvts.org

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Any club or independent member wanting anything posted in the next newsletter, send it to me by the end of June.