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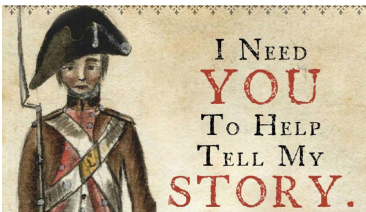
April 2026

No. 3

Continuing the Tradition ~ Preserving Our History

bvhsri.org ♦ 1873 Old Louisquisset Pike (Rte 246) ♦ PO Box 125, Lincoln RI, 02865

Learn to Transcribe Revolutionary War Pension Records at Workshop at BVHS Led by Allison Horrocks



Help to save the history of soldiers in the Revolutionary War by learning to transcribe their pension records in a workshop given by Alison Horrocks, ranger at the Blackstone River Valley National Historic Park.

People are needed to help transcribe the handwritten records to create a searchable database. In this workshop, you will learn about



Participants collaborating at a previous workshop

the historic value of revolutionary war pensions and hear service stories about patriots from the Blackstone Valley. The rangers will offer a training in how

to transcribe records online for this project. If you wish to participate, please join us at BVHS on Monday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m., and bring a laptop or a tablet.

Free Events

Monday, April 13
6:30 p.m.
Workshop: Learn How to Transcribe Revolutionary War Pension Records

Sunday, April 19
2:00 p.m.
Jim Bailey
From Pilgrims to Pirates to Patriots

From Pilgrims to Pirates to Patriots: Digging for History in Southeastern New England



17th-century Arabian coin found by Jim Bailey in Middletown

From Rhode Island farm fields to the woods of South County and the shores of Narragansett Bay, lost history awaits discovery. On Sunday, April 19 at 2 p.m., Jim Bailey will return to the BVHS to offer a new presentation, "From Pilgrims to Pirates to Patriots: Digging for History in Southeastern New England." An avid metal detectorist for over 40 years, Bailey will discuss his

most noteworthy discoveries dating from the mid-17th century to the Revolutionary War, including many museum-quality artifacts.

Going far beyond a look at the finds themselves, his talk will reveal the intriguing stories behind each artifact and the research that is needed to unearth their long-forgotten history. Bailey will also offer an insider's look at metal detecting as a hobby or, as Bai-

ley describes it, an obsession.

The presentation will also provide an update on the continuing recovery of 17th-century Arabian silver coins by detectorists in New England, including one coin found by Bailey in Middletown, RI. His research into the coins connected their distant travels to pirate Captain Henry Every's robbery of a rich Mughal ship off the west (*continued on p.2*)

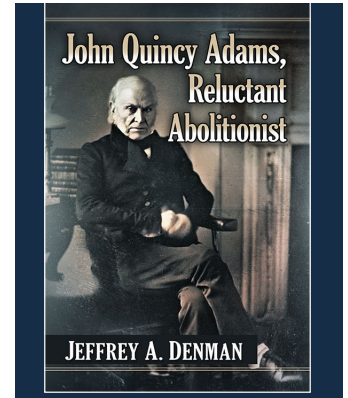
Upcoming Events

6:30 p.m., Monday, April 13: Workshop: Revolutionary War Pension Files Transcription, organized by **Allison Horrocks**, Ranger, Blackstone River Valley National Historic Park.

2:00 p.m., Sunday, April 19: “From Pilgrims to Pirates to Patriots: Digging for History in Southeastern New England,” **Jim Bailey**, the amateur historian and metal detectorist who found a 17th century Arabian coin in Middletown, will be returning to BVHS to update us on his latest finds, research, and discoveries.

1:30 p.m., Sunday May 17: BVHS annual meeting and board elections.

2:00 p.m., Sunday, May 17: **Jeffrey Denman** will talk about his book “John Quincy Adams, Reluctant Abolitionist” (Christine Nowak Lecture).



John Quincy Adams, Reluctant Abolitionist by Jeffrey A. Denham

From Pilgrims to Pirates to Patriots, continued

(continued from p.1)
coast of India in 1695—a contender for the biggest heist in the history of piracy.

After the heist, the notorious pirate became the subject of history’s first worldwide manhunt. Publication of Bailey’s work in a research journal revealed Every’s long-unknown voyage to Newport, RI, while on the run in the guise of a slave trader. “Pirate King” Henry Every’s unknown voyage to Rhode Island made worldwide headlines as the opening of the world’s oldest cold case in April 2021, and was covered by the Associated Press. It has since been the subject of further academic studies and television programs, in-

cluding “The UnXplained” on the History Channel.

About Jim Bailey

Jim Bailey is a lifelong Rhode Islander from Warwick. He is married and retired after 35 years of state service. He has a daughter, a son, two dogs, and three metal detectors. He is presently writing his first book with the working title, “From the Hands of Pirates: Henry Every, the Discovery, and History’s Ultimate Cold Case.” This narrative nonfiction work will offer readers the untold story of history’s most infamous pirate voyage under the command of Captain Henry Every.



17th century tomahawk found by Jim Bailey

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Discoveries by Jim Bailey: 18th century cufflinks, left, and right, an Oak Tree Shilling, a rare American colonial coin minted in Boston



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