

DECEMBER 2020 RAMROD

CLUB MEETINGS AND COVID

Since we are still under orders from the Governor in regard to the COVID situation, we ask that all who attend observe the guidelines that have been put in place - including maintaining social distances of 6 feet apart (especially when looking at finds or in buying raffle tickets) and wear facial masks. The gym will allow us to spread out more, so this will help with the social distancing.

Please keep in mind that we have a number of elderly members and that you consider wearing a mask for their safety.

We will bring a bottle of hand sanitizer to the meeting so folks can use it whenever they touch something.

Again, if you are not feeling well, or if you have been around someone who has the virus (thus exposing you to the virus) please remain home so as to not possibly spread the virus to others in the club. Remember, we have a number of individuals who are considered in the "high-risk" category, so please be considerate of them.

.CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here are the dates for our upcoming club events. A reminder note will be posted to club members before each event, or you may go to our club website or Facebook page for additional information.

- December 1st – Business Meeting
 - Nominations of 2021 club officers from the floor may be submitted
 - Election of club officers for 2021
- December 15th – Find-Of-Month Meeting
 - December find of the month
 - Christmas Party
 - Change to annual Club's Christmas Party
 - The club will be having a modification to our annual Christmas party this year. Due to Covid concerns we will not have our regular Christmas party where the club buys food and members bring in side dishes.
 - The board will instead, take the money that we normally spend on food for the Christmas Party and purchase gift cards which will be donated to the church, which in turn will donate them to families in need during the holiday.

2021 Meeting Schedule

- January 5th – Business Meeting
 - Review overall 2020 finances
 - Review 2021 planned budget
- January 19th – Find of the month meeting

- February 2nd – 2020 Find of the year meeting
- February 16th – Find of the month meeting.
 - March 2nd – business meeting
- March 16th – find of the month meeting.

On the **first meeting of each month** we try to have a speaker to give a talk on subjects of interest to our members. Many times, these talks are given by the members of the club but we often try to bring in guests who have a specialty area to share.

The **second meeting of each month** is dedicated to the “Find of the Month”. This is an opportunity for each member to bring in items that they have personally found since the last Find of the Month.

Here are the club rules for find of the month entries:

1. You must be a club member before the Find of the Month meeting date to enter an item.
2. Items that are submitted for find of the month are subject to board approval.
3. Items found to be ineligible for judging will be removed from the table.
4. Items submitted are for items recovered after the last month’s contest.
5. Items should be mostly dug items but an item that has been found by sight can qualify.
6. Items must be old in nature
7. Items found must be found by the person entering the items.
8. You can only enter once in each category.
9. Person bringing in an item is responsible to sign-in the item
10. The board can request an item be relisted in a different category if the board sees fit.
11. Items should be placed on the table after being signed in.
12. Place item on table according to its category and number sequence.
13. Person bringing items are responsible for items well-being; including, picking the item up at the end of the meeting.

Members vote for their favorite in each category. The winner of the single relic and single coin can then be entered into the Find of the Year event; which will be held January meeting of the upcoming year.

Here are the winning entries at our November find of the month meeting:

- Single Relic – Maynard Ringenberg with an Austrian-Lorenze rifle hammer
- Single Coin – Ray McMahan with a 1907 Barber Half Dollar
- Multiple Relic – Anna Wing with bullets, shell fragments, and misc items
- Multiple Coins – no entries
- Jewelry/Miscellaneous – Cathy Granger with a silver necklace with a silver and gold cross pendant.

Note: Additional Pictures of the various finds can be found on the club’s Facebook Page.

Raffle Prize - At each meeting, we will have a raffle (\$0.50 per ticket) with two or three choices for the winner of the raffle to select. These items may include (but not limited too) Civil War Breastplates, Box plates, Bayonets, Union and Confederate buttons, artillery shells, and more. All attending the meeting may purchase raffle tickets.

- At our November 17th meeting, Ray McMahan won a 12-pound solid shot cannonball.

Door Prizes - Each attending club member is also entitled to a door prize ticket, where winning numbers are pulled for various items (such as book, bottles, pictures, relics, coins, and other items). Only club members who are at the meeting can participate in the door prize drawings.

CLUB RELATED ITEMS FROM DAYS GONE BY...

Finds of the year from 1988 – those were the days of relic hunting. Buying relics was also cheaper as the club was able to give out a US oval plate for the winner of the Single Relic find of the year; and the winner of the Single Coin received 5 silver dollars for his entry.

Advertisement for our 6th Annual Relic Show (and can you identify whose picture this is in the ad).

METAL DETECTORS: DON'T DIG HERE

Part of the code of responsible metal detecting is to only detect with permission of the land owner, and to NEVER dig on a National Park. In case you may have “wondered” what would happen if you were caught metal detecting on a National Park, here is information I pulled from <https://www.nps.gov/fosm/learn/management/metal-detecting.htm>

With the growing popularity of metal detecting, and the possibility of discovering treasures, one automatically thinks of exploring historical sites. Think again! Federal law prohibits the possession and use of metal detectors on federal property.

In addition to metal detecting, federal law also prohibits relic hunting, digging for artifacts, and removing artifacts or historical objects. These acts are illegal and can lead to confiscation of equipment, arrest, and prosecution as a felony under federal law. *Penalties may include fines of up to \$10,000 and possible prison time.*

Responsible digging tips:

1. Educate yourself before you dig. *Ignorance of the law is no excuse.*
2. Seek permission from the property owner.
3. Dig only where it's legal.
4. Don't leave behind a mine field of holes. *Always fill your holes.*

Metal detecting is prohibited in National Parks and also on many public lands including city and state parks. Be sure to check the regulations before you dig. When in doubt call and ask.

Legal Resources

36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.1(a)(7) - the possessing or use of a metal detector magnetometer, side scan sonar, other metal detecting device or subbottom profiler is prohibited.

Archeological Resource Protection Act 1979 - All natural, cultural, and archeological resources are protected and may not be removed or disturbed.

CIVIL WAR BOTTLES

You can go to the following website for some interesting pictures on Civil War Bottles

http://www.medicalantiques.com/civilwar/Civil_War_Articles/Civil_War_medical_containers_bottles_jars_tins.htm

American Civil War Medicine & Surgical Antiques

Surgical Set collection from 1860 to 1865 - Civilian and Military

Civil War: Medicine, Surgeon Education & Medical Textbooks

Dr. Michael Echols & Dr. Doug Arbittier

METHODS OF CLEANING ANTIQUE BOTTLES

The following information on cleaning antique bottles was copied from the following website.

<https://homequicks.com/ways-to-clean-antique-glass-bottles>

Note: there are probably other methods of cleaning antique bottles, these are just some of the methods.

What You Should Avoid

- Avoid using steel wool to scrub the glass as it might scratch with surface of the glass.
- Although many people suggest this, but avoid filling the bottle with BBs as it may damage the glass; use rice or coarse sand instead.

Imagine some gorgeous colorful bottles containing decorative fairy lights, or a brilliant blue-colored bottle with a candle in it gracing your dining table. Sounds pretty, doesn't it? Vintage bottles can make for some very creative and chic décor options, and at the same time not burn a hole through your pocket.

If you're on a mission to create your antique bottle decor or may be you want to salvage a long-lost family heirloom, we might suggest that you leave the restoration or the antique bottles to the professionals as you wouldn't know if you've damaged the bottle in your DIY project.

If the bottle only requires some minor cleaning, then here are some ways you could do it at home.

How to Clean Antique Glass Bottles

Soak 'em

We'd like to suggest the simplest thing first, just soak your antique bottle in water with some detergent for a few good hours, or maybe overnight. That followed by a good scrub should do the trick! If the dirt seems pretty stubborn you could also use a mixture of one part water and one part vinegar, or maybe, 1 part bleach and 12 parts water. Some people add denture cleaning tablets or powder to the water while soaking it. Just ensure that you don't soak the glassware in water that is too hot or too cold in order to prevent them from cracking.

Use Mild Acids

If your grandmother's vase that you love has developed these crusty white rims, just soaking it in some soapy water is unfortunately not going to help! These white crusts are called mineral deposits, and the only way you could get rid of these is with the help of some mild acids. Many people soak the glassware in acids like muriatic acid in its dilute form a few hours, or a day, before washing it. This acid can be corrosive to the skin, and its fumes may irritate your eyes, hence it is necessary that you wear rubber gloves and protective eye-wear before pulling off this feat! "Limeaway" is a cleaning product free of such corrosive acids that can remove these deposits easily.

Use Copper

If you've managed to dig out a cool bottle from your backyard and are scrubbing it day and night in order to get it squeaky clean, but just can't seem to get rid of this rust, then scrubbing it with a copper wool or by scraping the glass surface with the help of a piece of copper will surely make it clean.

Unleashing the Power of Potatoes

Cut a raw potato in half and sprinkle some baking powder and some coarse salt on its cut surface. Rub the potato with the salt-side on the rust spots. For the inner surfaces, cut the potato a bit smaller, jab a fork on its skin side, sprinkle some salt and some baking soda on its cut side. Now, insert this assembly into the bottle and rub it on the surface to remove the rust spots from the inside.

Getting Rid of Dried Paint

If you'd like to savage some antique ink bottles that have some dried ink on its walls, you could first soak them in soapy water. If this doesn't help, you could add a bit of nail polish remover or pure alcohol to the bottle, close the lid and keep it for a few hours. You could then drain the colored liquid out and scrub the bottle a bit and rinse. Your bottle will be squeaky clean.

Sometimes, antique bottles may develop white patches on their surface due to the process called etching, where the surface of the glass gets corroded. If you really want to remove these white patches, you may have to take your bottle to a professional tumbler.

CLUB OFFICER ELECTION FOR 2021

As noted in the "Calendar of Events" section (of this newsletter), the election of our club officers for 2021 will be held at the December 1st meeting.

Carl Dimare is on the nomination committee, and if anyone wishes to run for an office position, he or she can contact Carl (at a meeting or via email). We will also have nominations from the floor at the December 1st meeting.

Below are the articles in the Club's By-Laws that note the duty of elected officers on the board.

Article 5 – Officers

The club officers will consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The positions of Secretary/Treasurer may be combined by a majority vote of the members present. The President or President Elect, as appropriate, shall appoint an agreeable Club Member to serve a one-year term as Sargent-at-Arms.

Article 6 – Executive Committee

The above names elected officers shall comprise the Executive Committee. This committee shall direct and control the operations and activities of the club.

Article 7 – Election and Terms of Office

The President will appoint a nominating committee of at least three members at the first meeting in November of each year. The nominating committee will present a proposed slate of officers for the coming year at the first

meeting in December. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. Election of officers will be held at that meeting. A majority vote of the members present at the meeting is necessary for election. Only dues-paying members (one per dues paid membership) will be eligible to vote. The newly elected officers will take office effective the first of January and will serve the entire calendar year. In the event an office becomes vacant during the year, the Executive committee will appoint someone from the membership to serve in that office for the remainder of the year. Persons nominated for office must be present at the election meeting to accept nominations. No absentee ballots will be accepted.

Article 8 – Duties of Officers

- The President shall preside over all meetings of the club and executive committee. He/she shall represent the club in all matters relating to the association of the club with the Marietta Parks and Recreation. He/she will appoint a club member as chairman of any standing or temporary committee.
- The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the Absence of the President.
- The Secretary shall maintain a complete record of the club activities correspondence, including notice of meetings and special events. He/she shall maintain a roster of all active members and attendance records at the club meetings.
- The Treasurer will handle all financial matters for the club. He/she will keep appropriate records of all funds and expenditures. He/she will serve as custodian of the bank account maintained in the club's name.
- Only the Treasurer and the President are authorized to write checks or withdrawal funds from the club's account.
- Only the Treasurer, President, or Vice-President can handle funds for use in activities and operating costs for the club.
- The Treasurer will submit a financial report at each club meeting. This report shall be a verbal along with a written copy available for viewing and inspection by the membership at the meetings. All purchases made will be documented in the financial report.
- An inventory of prizes and artifacts will be maintained by the Vice-President. A written inventory will be available for inspection by the membership. Only a board member will keep of said items belonging to the club.

SPECIAL CLUB RAFFLE

To raise funds for our club, in lieu of our show being cancelled, we will have a special raffle starting at our August club meeting – and running through the year. This raffle will be for a professional framed picture (29 inches by 36 inches) entitled “The Christian General” – a painting of Robert E Lee (in uniform) reading a bible to a child.

You may purchase raffle tickets (\$0.50 per ticket) at all of our meetings, and we will draw the winner of the painting in December. You do not have to be present to win the painting, so we ask that you please print your name on the back of the ticket when you put it in the ticket-bucket.

Error! Filename not specified.

If you have any questions about this raffle, please let me know.

CLUB WEB SITE

The club web site can be viewed at the following address:

WWW.NGRHA.COM

This site is continually updated with club-related information, so we encourage you to visit to site to learn about the latest club activities and events.

CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

More club information can be found on the club's Facebook site. This site not only includes information on club activities, but also a variety of information regarding the Civil War and articles of interest relating to history and our hobby.

You can subscribe to our site on Facebook by going to our page at:

North Georgia Relic Hunters Association

Take a few minutes to subscribe and view this page.

You can also make posts to this page with anything that you think will be of interest to other club members – including online articles and information from other Facebook sites.

CONTRIBUTORS TO NGRHA

The North Georgia Relic Hunters Association (NGRHA) club and their members wish to thank the listed companies and individuals who have supported our club and the hobby of treasure seeking, metal detecting and the pursuit of history.

Through their donations and support and through responsible excavation, we are able to preserve, share and further the enjoyment of responsible collecting of Civil War relics, old bottles and coins as well as other items from years gone. We urge our members and others to support these supporters of our club. Thanks again to all!

- **Fisher Metal Detectors**
<http://www.fisherlab.com>
- **Minelab Metal Detectors**
<http://www.minelab.com>
- **Teknetics Detectors**
<http://www.teknetics.com>
- **Whites Metal Detectors**
<http://www.whiteselectronics.com>

- **Garrett Metal Detectors**
<http://www.garrett.com>
- **Kellyco Metal Detectors**
<http://www.kellycodetectors.com>
- **Nokta Detection Technologies**
<http://www.noktadetectors.com>
- **Bullet And Shell**
<http://www.bulletandshell.com>
- **Fisher Metal Detectors**
<http://www.fisherlab.com>
- **Minelab Metal Detectors**
<http://www.minelab.com>
- **Teknetics Detectors**
<http://www.teknetics.com>

The following club members have made donations to our club in 2020, therefore are listed here as club sponsors.

- Brian B. Waugh (Attorney at Law) – made a \$500 donation to the club
- James Grant – donated to the club the framed picture of Robert E Lee that is being used as a special club raffle.
- William McNamara donated \$100 to the Marietta Confederate Cemetery

FUTURE ITEMS

If you have items or ideas on what you would like to see added to the Ramrod, please let me know.

On Friday, December 4, 2020, 08:29:02 AM EST, bobby readid <bobbyreadid@bellsouth.net> wrote:

Thanks Jim.

On Thursday, December 3, 2020, 02:51:52 PM EST, James Hammonds <jhammonds99@yahoo.com> wrote:

Thanks for the update.

Will have to see why you were unable to open the ramrod past page 1. It may have been the pictures imbedded- if so - I will just copy all the text directly into the note for those who do not have Microsoft Word installed on their systems to view the actual the ramrod
Sent from my iPad

On Dec 3, 2020, at 8:47 AM, bobby readid <bobbyreadid@bellsouth.net> wrote:

I got the last Ramrod but was only able to open page 1. Maybe I did something wrong.

I thought I would let you know, I won't be attending the Christmas party. My family has had so many members contract the virus, and a few still have it. Cheryl and I have tested negative but that was two weeks ago. I don't want to endanger any club members by being around everyone. I'll be coming back when the vaccine is available for us older people.

Bobby

On Wednesday, December 2, 2020, 03:00:18 PM EST, James Hammonds <jhammonds99@yahoo.com> wrote:

Bobby

here is the information.

have you been able to receive the monthly Ramrod? Just asking to make sure you get it as this information is on page 2 of the Ramrod..

NOTE: You can always get the RamRod on NGRHA.com and view it there. No special software on your PC or phone is needed.

Here are the winning entries at our November find of the month meeting:

- Single Relic – Maynard Ringenberg with an Austrian/Lorenze rifle hammer
- Single Coin – Ray McMahan with a 1907 Barber Half Dollar
- Multiple Relic – Anna Wing with bullets, shell fragments, and misc items
- Multiple Coins – no entries
- Jewelry/Miscellaneous – Cathy Granger with a silver necklace with a silver and gold cross pendant

On Wednesday, December 2, 2020, 08:38:42 AM EST, bobby read <bobbyread@bellsouth.net> wrote:

Hey Jim. Could you tell me who won find of the month for November and with what they found?

Thanks

Bobby Read

On Friday, November 27, 2020, 12:27:31 PM EST, James Hammonds <jhammonds99@yahoo.com> wrote:

as a reminder, we have an upcoming NGRHA club meeting this coming Tuesday night, December 1st. The meeting will start at 7PM - and we are still meeting at the Mercy Hill Church off Mt Cavalry Road.

At the meeting, we will be:

- Holding the election for 2021 club officers
- Discussing on our revised Christmas Party event for our December 15th meeting
- Going over club charities for 2020
- Discussion on upcoming Wreaths Across America event - scheduled for December 19th.

In addition, you can follow the club on our club website (www.ngrha.com) or on our club's Facebook Page (North Georgia Relic Hunters Association).

If you have any questions on the upcoming meeting - or anything related to the club, - please let us know.