

FEBRUARY 2021 RAMROD

NGRHA MISSION STATEMENT

The North Georgia Relic Hunter's Association was formed in 1972 in partnership with the City of Marietta Department of Parks and Recreation. The association has over 120 members from all walks of life. The purpose of the North Georgia Relic Hunters Association (NGRHA) is to further the enjoyment of responsibly collecting Civil War relics, old bottles and coins, as well as other items from years gone by. The NGRHA is dedicated to preserving Georgia history through responsible excavation. Membership is open to all persons interested in relic or coin hunting and collecting.

Since 1972, the North Georgia Relic Hunters Association has dedicated itself to the preservation of artifacts of the American past. Through the use of electronic detection devices members have collected coins, jewelry and other memorabilia that illustrate in a tangible way, the history and progress of a growing new nation. Each member is a student of American history and collectively we strive to pass on the knowledge we have gained through school lecture programs, living history presentations, and relic shows – to mention a few.

From the beginning the founders of the association stressed the importance of respect for the property of others, reverence for federal lands and obedience of local and federal laws. Today, these ideals are still paramount.

Members of the association cover a wide range of vocations including law enforcement, attorneys, executives, blue-collar workers, technicians, and teachers, to name a few. All are dedicated to the idea that our local, state and national heritage is vitally important and that each person should make an effort to preserve what we can for future generations to enjoy. To this end, association members participate in historical organizations of many types and provide period relics – on a loan basis – to museums and libraries. They also give of their time and energy to preservation programs on a voluntary basis. The association is always ready to assist organized groups whenever possible.

Fund-raising efforts by the association (a non-profit organization) provides money for a variety of charities each year and budgeting for club events and functions. Integrity, honesty, and respect for the property and the rights of others is a code each member lives by. Those who don't are in the minority and are not welcomed in the North Georgia Relic Hunters Association.

CLUB YEARLY DUES

Please remember to pay your yearly club dues. For 2021, dues will remain at \$10 per person. Dues paying members will be able to participate in our club hunts, receive a free door-prize ticket at each meeting, and be able to attend our yearly relic show for free.

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.

2021 Meeting Schedule

- February 2nd – 2020 Find of the year meeting
 - See below for entries for this event
- February 16th – Find of the month meeting.
- March 2nd – Business Meeting
 - Guest Speaker – Steve Strickland; Georgia Civil War Relics
- March 16th – find of the month meeting.
- April 6th – Business Meeting and Buy, Sell, and Swap meeting
- April 20th – find of the month meeting
- May 4th – Business Meeting
 - Guest Speaker – Jim Hammonds; Civil War related letters and documents
- May 18th – find of the month meeting
- June 1st – Business Meeting
 - Guest Speaker – Carl Sitherwood; something Civil War Artillery related
- June 15th – find of the month meeting
- July 6th – Business Meeting
 - Guest Speaker – Ed Travis; Civil War Bullets
- July 20th – find of the month meeting
- August 3rd – business meeting and discuss the upcoming club show
- August 17th – find of the month meeting
- September 7th – Business meeting
 - Guest Speaker – Carl DiMare; Civil War Edged Weapons
- September 21st – find of the month meeting
- October 5th – Business meeting
 - Guest Speaker - Steve Strickland; Civil War Buttons
- October 19th – find of the month meeting
- November 2nd – business meeting
 - Guest Speaker – Jim Hammonds; Grand Army of the Republic (Union Civil War Veterans) related memorabilia
- November 16th – find of the month meeting
- December 7th – business meeting
 - Election of new board officers to serve in 2022
 - Club charity announcement
 - Buy, Sell, Trade and Swap meeting
- December 21st – general meeting
 - Christmas Party
 - Find of the month meeting

2020 FIND OF THE YEAR ENTRIES

The table below indicates the winners from our 2020 Find of the Months meetings. To be eligible for the Find of the Year, you must be present at the February 2nd meeting and display your item.

Note: I do not have the notes from January which indicated the winner for single relic and single coin; and I do not have the names of the winners for two of the Mary thru July entries.

Single Relic

Month	Name	Relic
January	I do not have the winner indicated in notes	
February	Bill Ganues	North Carolina Sunburst Button
March thru July (for when meetings were cancelled due to COVID concerns)	Joel Morey	Texas or Mississippi Rosette
	I do not have the winner indicated in notes	Eagle C Button
	I do not have the winner indicated in notes	Cast I Button
	Liz Vawter	Borman Cannonball
	Charlie Lumpkin	Eagle Breastplate
	Joel Morey	Hi-Band Parrott Artillery Shell
August	Barry Gore	Eagle I coat button
September	William Dorris	Borman Shell Fragment
October	Brad Leatherwood	Colonial Era Pewter Buckle
November	Maynard Ringenberg	Austrian/Lorenze Rifle Hammer
December	Ed Travis	Carved Bullet

Single Coin

Month	Name	Relic
January	I do not have the winner indicated in notes	
February	Ron Waddell	1919 One Franc Coin
March thru July (for when meetings were cancelled due to COVID concerns)	I do not have the winner indicated in notes	1876 Liberty Seated Dime
August	Ron Waddell	1858 Seated Dime
September	Lynn King	1865 Indian Head Penny
October	Jimmy Barry	1833 Bust Dime
November	Ray McMahan	1907 Barber Half Dollar
December	No entries	

ANNUAL CLUB SHOW

At this time, the Cobb County Civic Center has not yet opened – due to ongoing COVID restrictions. The Club's Show Chairman is monitoring this situation and as soon as he is informed that the Civic Center will be able to be opened and they accept reservation requests, we will move forward in getting our show scheduled.

We will keep everyone in the club apprised on this ongoing situation.

JANUARY FIND OF THE MONTH WINNERS

- Single Relic – Steve Cowart with a GMI coat button
- Multiple Relics – Larry Shirah with dropped and fired bullets, dropped Henry bullets, percussion caps, Eagle buttons, and miscellaneous relics
- Single Coin – no entries
- Multiple Coins – no entries
- Jewelry/Miscellaneous – no entries.

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

JANUARY RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

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 January 5th meeting, no meeting due to election runoff using the facilities
- At our January 19th meeting, Ray McMahan won the book "Plates and Buckles of the American Military (Kerkiss)

10 MOST COMMON METAL DETECTING MISTAKES

Take a look at the following mistakes that are common to detectorists. Avoid these blunders and you will enjoy your new hobby even more than you thought.

1. Trespassing

Ask any detectorist and they will tell you that the number one rule of **metal detecting is that you must get permission** before searching on any land. Yet, many people still just break out their equipment and start hunting without giving it a second thought. Getting permission isn't always easy, but you must do it. It will save you the heartache and hassle of getting caught and it will help ensure that other detectorists can continue enjoying the hobby as well.

2. Using the Wrong Digging Tools

There are many options for digging tools out there, from hand-held trowels to detecting shovels. Because leaving the sites where you dig in good condition is important, it's also important that you use the right size and type of digger. Also, remember to consider what type of ground you will be digging in, the hard desert ground will need a much stronger digger than the sand on a beach.

3. Not Doing Enough Research

The best searches are often the ones in which detectorists spend some time researching. While you may get lucky and find something of value randomly from time to time, knowing the area – and its history – you are searching for will make it much more likely.

4. Not Carrying Extra Parts

If you don't carry extra coil bolts, batteries, straps, and headphones, there will come a time that you regret it. It's really frustrating when you are in the middle of a successful hunt and you have to go home to retrieve extra parts.

5. Using Ineffective Search Patterns

It takes a while to get into the “swing” of detecting. Some new detectorists move their detector too fast or don't follow a logical pattern when they search. Determine what pattern works for you (many detectorists utilize a grid pattern) and move the detector slowly.

6. Not Devoting Enough Time

Like any hobby, metal detecting requires a certain amount of time. The more time you spend searching, the better you will get to know your detector and the more successful your searches will be.

7. Buying the Wrong Detector

Many people who decide to start detecting buy the wrong beginning detector. Some may buy one that is too complicated and get frustrated with all the settings, while others may buy one that is too much like a toy and get frustrated when they don't find anything. Talk with someone knowledgeable about metal detectors and find one that provides a happy medium.

8. Not Using a Pin-pointer

Using a pin-pointer metal detector to help you narrow down a target's location will make your hunting much easier. Metal detectors will alert you when they are over the target, but a pin-pointer will save you a lot of time digging and sifting for the item. Check out the White's Bullseye TRX or the Vulcan 360.

9. Cleaning Old Relics and Coins

Rookie detectorists are often tempted to clean their finds. It's understandable, especially if you want to display them. However, in some cases, cleaning an antique find or an old coin may greatly decrease their value. Before you break out the soap and scrub-brush, determine what exactly you have and if cleaning it is recommended. Online forums and metal detecting clubs will allow you to consult with other detectorists to find out.

10. Having Unrealistic Expectations

Metal detecting is meant to be a hobby, not a way to get rich. While you may find some truly valuable relics or jewelry and coins every so often, don't set your expectations too high or you are likely

to be disappointed. When you enjoy the process of metal detecting, you will find that it's a hobby that is rewarding whether you find lots of treasure or you don't.

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.

FUTURE ITEMS

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

Happy Hunting !!!