

# JUNE 2021 RAMROD

---

## CLUB 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

- June 1<sup>st</sup> – Business Meeting
  - Guest Speaker – Ed Travis; Civil War Bullets
- June 15<sup>th</sup> – find of the month meeting
- July 6<sup>th</sup> – Business Meeting
  - Guest Speaker – Carl Sitherwood; something Civil War Artillery related
- July 20<sup>th</sup> – find of the month meeting
- August 3<sup>rd</sup> – business meeting
  - Discuss the upcoming club show
- August 17<sup>th</sup> – find of the month meeting
- September 7<sup>th</sup> – Business meeting
  - Guest Speaker – Carl DiMare; Civil War Edged Weapons
- September 21<sup>st</sup> – find of the month meeting
- October 5<sup>th</sup> – Business meeting
  - Guest Speaker - Steve Strickland; Georgia Civil War Relics
- October 19<sup>th</sup> – find of the month meeting
- November 2<sup>nd</sup> – business meeting
  - Guest Speaker – Jim Hammonds; Grand Army of the Republic memorabilia
- November 16<sup>th</sup> – find of the month meeting
- December 7<sup>th</sup> – business meeting
  - Election of new board officers to serve in 2022 and Club charity announcement
  - Buy, Sell, Trade and Swap meeting
- December 21<sup>st</sup> – general meeting
  - Christmas Party
  - Find of the month meeting

## ANNUAL CLUB SHOW

Ray McMahan and the board met with Civic Center personnel on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and they told us we will be able to have our Relic Show this coming August. So start getting the word out about the show.



# 43rd Annual South Civil War and Antique Firearm

## August 14 & 15

Hours: Saturday 9-5 • Su

Cobb County Civic Ce  
548 S. Marietta Parkway, S.E., Mariet

- Dug Relics
- Guns and Swords In
- Books NGRHA
- Frameable Prints Attn.: Shov
- Metal Detectors PO Box 50
- Artillery Items Marietta, C
- Currency terryraym:
- Documents

\$8 Admission Fee. Free for vetera  
military personnel, and children

[www.NGRHA](http://www.NGRHA)

### **MAY 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, Civil War reference books, silver coins, and more. All attending the meeting may purchase raffle tickets.

- At our April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, Bill Gilmore won a Lined I Button
- At our April 20th meeting, Rod Hall won an iron-back Block I button found in Jonesboro

### **MAY FIND OF THE MONTH WINNERS**

- Single Relic – Dana Riddle with a Model 1840 Sword Pommel
- Multiple Relics – Dana Riddle with wooden-case of bullets, buttons
- Single Coin – no entry
- Multiple Coins – no entry
- Jewelry/Miscellaneous – Anna Wing with a marble Indian game ball

### **CLUB HUNTS**

**Spring Hunt** – The club held its spring hunt on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Forty members participated in the hunt.



For this hunt, we buried the following:

- 592 relics
- 170 tokens

Everyone found a few relics and tokens, so a good time was had by all.

After the hunt, we had a cookout for all with hamburgers and desert.

**Fall Hunt** – The club will hold its fall hunt towards the end of September, the exact date to be determined (and as soon as we determine the date, we will inform all club members).

### **CIVIL WAR PIPES**

One of the hundred or so collectible items from this war is the soldier's tobacco pipe. There is an interesting confluence between men in uniform and tobacco, war and pipes. A soldier's demand for tobacco is a notable fact of military life in every war. To him, tobacco represents comfort, convenience and consolation: The cigarette is an icon of glamour, the cigar represents victory, and the pipe signifies comfort and solace.

As to war and pipes, the proof is three distinctively different pipes associated with three 19th-century wars. There was the very popular German porcelain pipe, mass-produced during the Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871), the Reservistenpfeife (regimental pipe) a kitschy, complicated affair that exhibited all sorts of martial symbolism. The Oom-Paul, a deep-bent briar pipe popular during the Second Boer War (1899-1902), named after Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger (Oom Paul is Afrikaans for "Uncle Paul"), the State President of the South African Republic (Transvaal), who smoked this particular pipe shape.

English pipe factories sent Oom Pauls to British soldiers and Colonial troops in South Africa who then carved their personal messages—unit designations, battle dates, and other symbols—in English or Afrikaans into the bowls.

The pipe defies easy classification: Soldiers on both sides in camps and in prisons crafted hundreds, perhaps thousands, of personalized pipes between 1861 and 1865. The Regimental and the Oom Paul have their own dedicated following, while our own soldier-carved pipes have been an underappreciated and overlooked, relic from this war. More often, what have survived are the pipe bowls, absent their stems and mouthpieces.



### **Carving Pipes in the Trenches**

Clay tobacco pipes were abundantly available during the war, but most soldiers preferred to smoke a more durable, less fragile pipe. They scavenged for whatever hard woods were locally accessible and easy to carve: laurel, greenbriar root, hickory, holly, sweet brier root, rhododendron, walnut and burl, among others and, without trade experience or apprenticeship, using pocket penknives or hand tools forged from iron hoops, they carved, sculpted, whittled, etched, engraved and used . . . an unpretentious, utilitarian utensil that, like most all Civil War artifacts, symbolizes a tragic period in American history.

As Vishvajit Pandya (In the Forest) so aptly states: “Collecting tobacco pipes is a part of contact history and culture.” Every old object has — more precisely, tells — a story, and every decorated Civil War pipe that has survived tells a remarkable story, mementos recording the soldier’s patriotism, military experiences, and travels. They embellished their pipes with various emblems



— battle flags, cannon, swords, eagles, the names and dates of battles and their leaders — often adding self-portraits, scrolls, floral designs, pledges, and special inscriptions.



Whether considered trench art, folk art, the arts of survival, mementos, memorabilia, or combat clutter, what these soldiers accomplished — American ingenuity under duress — is an amazing feat of craftsmanship applied to a small chunk of wood that evolved into a tobacco pipe that offered utility, pleasure, comfort and decoration.

As Marian Klamkin (Wood Carvings. North American Folk Art Sculpture) asserted: “Southern prisoners carved their patriotic and political sentiments in elaborate and intricate patterns on pipe bowls. . . . Many of the Civil War pipes are tours de force that only someone faced with endless hours of idleness would attempt. The end product was certainly of less importance to them than the process. Carving and whittling was, for so many, occupational therapy.”

References:

- Civil War Tobacco Pipes - A Soldier Craft of Conflict\* - By **Ben Rapaport**

### **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 !!!