

DECEMBER 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

- December 7th – business meeting
 - Election of new board officers to serve in 2022
 - Club charity announcement for 2021
 - Buy, Sell, Trade and Swap meeting
- December 21st – general meeting
 - Christmas Party

2022 1st Quarter Meeting Schedule

- January 4th – business meeting
 - Review of 2021 club finances
 - Discuss 2022 club budget
 - December Find of the Month meeting
- January 18th – general meeting
 - Find of the month meeting for January finds
- February 1st – business meeting
 - 2021 Find of the Year Selection
 - Buy – Sell – Trade – Swap meeting
- February 15th – general meeting
 - Find of the month meeting for February finds
- March 1st – business meeting
 - Guest Speaker – Jim Hammonds; Grand Army of the Republic memorabilia
- March 15th – business meeting
 - Find of the Month (March Finds)

Important

It should be noted that currently, our area is seeing an increase in COVID cases, so we ask members coming to the meeting to please follow standard COVID instructions. Additionally, we ask if anyone who is running a temperature or not feeling well to please refrain from coming to the meeting so as to not possibly affect others (remember – we have many seniors in our club who are most at risk to the virus). We will have mask and sanitizing liquid available at the meeting (for those who wish to use them).

Welcome New Club Members

The following new club members joined our organization in November. Please welcome them when you see them at a club meeting.

- Greg Thompson

BUY – SEEL – TRADE – SWAP MEETING

As noted in the club calendar, our December 7th meeting will be a combined business meeting and a Buy-Sell-Trade-Swap meeting. However, **you cannot bring modern weapons** to this event (it is against the policy of the Church, which is allowing us to use their facilities for our club meetings).

We ask that you limit items you bring to those relating to our hobby – that is; relics, coins, books, prints that other club members may wish to have in their “collections”.

ELECTION - CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2022

As noted in the club calendar of events, we will be holding our election for club officers for 2022 at our December 7th club meeting. If you are interested in running for a position on the board, please contact Carl DiMare – who is heading the nomination board for the upcoming election.

DONATIONS - CLUB CHARITIES FOR 2021

With the success of our 2021 Annual Show, we will be able to donate money to various charities – returning to our normal end of year practice. At our December 7th meeting, we will determine the charities we will donate – and the amount of the donation – for this year.

Right now, we plan on continuing our yearly donation to the following organizations,

- Marietta Confederate Cemetery
- Marietta Parks and Recreation
- Mercy Hill Church
- Cavalry Children’s Home
- Wreaths Across America
- Hardy Camp SCV
- Cobb County Civil War Round Table

So please let us know of any other organization that you feel we should consider as part of our yearly charity event, and we will discuss it at that meeting.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CEREMONY

National Wreaths Across America Day has a simple mission: “Remember fallen U.S. veterans; honor those who serve; and teach your children the value of freedom.” This important day is an annual event that takes place every third Saturday in December at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as other cemeteries in the U.S., at sea, and abroad. Wreaths are laid as family and friends remember both those who made the ultimate sacrifice, and those who currently serve in the armed forces.

The annual Wreaths Across America ceremony will be held Saturday, December 18th starting at noon. This event is held across the US at various military cemeteries. For this ceremony, our club sponsored 40 wreaths to be placed at the Marietta Confederate Cemetery.

NOVEMBER RAFFLE PRICE 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 November 2nd meeting, Hannah Martin won a US Columbus Quincentenary 2-coin set (Silver Dollar and Clad Half Dollar).
- At our November 16th meeting, Lynn Ficquette won a US Breastplate.

NOVEMBER FIND OF THE MONTH WINNERS

- Single Relic – Ed Travis won with a Louisiana Button
- Multiple Relics – Ed Travis won with Eagle Buttons, New York Button, bullets and other miscellaneous relics
- Single Coin – Ray McMahan won with a 1898 Barber Half Dollar
- Multiple Coins – William Dorris won with 3 Lincoln wheat pennies



A RELIC FIND IN 2021 LEADS TO FAMILY HISTORY

By Anna Wing, NGRHA Member

In the summer of 2021, several members of our church community assisted a widow in preparing for the sale of her home in Cherokee County, GA. She and her husband Rick purchased the property in 1979. He had served as a Sheriff for Cherokee County until his death in 2002. Rick also served his community as a Pastor and associate pastor for a Methodist church in Cherokee County. He often led church services for inmates at the jail. Rick was sought after for his counsel as a very religious man for all his adult life.

While his widow's friends worked on the home prior to its sale, I was in the front lawn, raking and trimming around trees and flower beds. Suddenly, I spotted a bright sparkle in the grass, gleaming in the bright sunshine. Lying there was a lady's ring which I learned later was onyx and small diamonds set in gold. This discovery caused some concern that other valuable items might have been lost on that multi-acre property, and if so, most likely near the house. So, out came my metal detector which had thankfully been left in the trunk of my car after a recent hunt with NGRHA friends.

For nearly an hour, my NOKTA only found items of no interest or value. But then a strong signal came through. Unfortunately, it appeared to be tangled in the roots of a large oak tree. It took another hour to get down 6 inches to the relic. The treasure was found to be a man's high school class ring. After cleaning the ring carefully, markings to either side of the stone showed it to be a 1933 class ring from a school with the initials "SHS". A small gold bird is on the center of the blue stone. Also, "19" was on the left of the stone and "33" was on the right. Inside the ring's gold band are the initials "CIK JR".



Rick had been born in 1946, so the ring could not have been his. Family documents and the internet yielded the name of his father who had the initials "CIK JR" and the age that

would have been appropriate for a 1933 high school graduation. Further research into the family's history revealed that they originally came to the American Colonies as early as the late 1600's. The spelling of that family's names over the last 3+ centuries varied from Kerns, Karns and Karnes.

The ring's original owner was Charles Ingram Karnes, Jr., born in 1916 and passed in 1979. His father had the same name. The family's records showed their original residences to be in colony of "Virginia", which was divided in 1863 into the states of Virginia and West Virginia. Research yielded seven generations of Karnes men. These went back to Michael Gabriel Karnes (1729-1807) who fought in the Revolutionary War. He married Elizabeth Schaffer in 1760 and they had 17 children! He was later awarded a land grant in recognition of his service. One record indicated the grant may have been as large as 3,000 acres. In the early 1800's the acreage was divided amongst his many heirs.

Michael's son Moses may have fought in the War of 1812. One of Moses' three children was Henry H. Karnes (1816-1896) who fought in the Civil War (CSA). Henry was married twice and fathered 15 children including Gaston K. Karnes (1855-1934) who had 8 children including the father of the ring's owner, Charles Ingram Karnes Sr. who served the US during World War I.



The research to discover the name and location of Charles Ingram Karnes Jr.'s high school was hampered by the fact that the high school no longer exists. Most of the family lived in what is known today as Mercer County, WV. The only high school that once occupied the area near their homes was Spanishburg High School. It was converted into a primary school after the older students were transferred to another school. The WV Department of Education took some time to find the 1933 records but were able to confirm the initials on the ring to be that of Charles Ingram Karnes, Jr. Where is the ring today? Its new owner is Paul Karnes, grandson of Charles. Paul has served our nation for 17 years in the US Army since his high school years and is currently stationed at Fort Stewart, GA. Paul's father Rick Karnes enjoyed history and honored his military

heritage. Attached here is a photo that Paul had taken of his father in his CSA uniform.

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

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.

Happy Hunting !!!