

APRIL 2023 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.

- April 4th – business meeting
 - Metal Detector and Pin-pointer demonstration
- April 18th - business meeting
 - April Find of the Month meeting
- May 2nd – business meeting
 - Presentation – Jim Hammonds on personal items identified to Civil War Soldiers.
- May 16th – business meeting
 - May Find of the Month meeting
- June 6th – business meeting
 - Presentation – Roy Thompson on beach hunting detecting tips.
- June 20th – business meeting
 - June Find of the Month meeting
- July 5th – business meeting
 - Presentation – Carl DiMare on Civil War Weapons
- July 18th – buss meeting
 - July Find of the Month meeting
- August 1st - business meeting
 - Presentation – Angela Schneider on the Cobb County Civil War Round Table

Note: if you would like to do a presentation at a club meeting, please let us know.

YEARLY DUES

It's that time of the year. The dues for the club remain at \$10 per year. Please see Jim Hammonds (Club Treasurer) to pay your dues or mail them to the club at:

NGRHA
PO Box 503
Marietta, Ga. 30061

Dues must be paid for you to be considered an active club member for 2023 – and thus eligible to participate in upcoming club activities (this includes our spring hunt in April).

SPRING CLUB HUNT

For those waiting for the club's Spring Hunt, scheduled for this coming Saturday - April 22nd - the wait is over

To participate in the club hunt:

- you must have attended one club meeting in 2023
- you must have signed up for the hunt at a club meeting
- your dues must be paid before the hunt. You cannot pay for your yearly dues at the hunt.

The hunt will start at 10AM, so we need for folks to be there no later than 9:30 so we can ensure all are signed in (and have paid their hunt fees) and so we can then give instructions about the hunt.

- **The fee for the hunt is \$20.** Children under 13 are free as long as they are accompanied by a paying adult family member that is participating in the hunt.
- All hunt fees must be paid before we can start the hunt
- we will start the hunt exactly at 10AM, so if arrive after that time we will already be in the field hunting for prizes and tokens

When the hunt has ended, any token for prizes that are found out in the field or that have not been turned in will become null and void.

No prizes will be given out until the hunt has ended.

If the member cannot stay until the hunt ends, you will have to forfeit your prize tokens or find someone who can turn them in at the end of the hunt for the appropriate prize.

additionally,

- you must sign a waiver (since we are on private property) at the beginning of the hunt
- you must cover your holes when digging for a prize token or actual relic
 - you will not need large shovels as items are buried close to the surface.
- you must ear headphones during the hunt. Due to the number of folks participating in the hunt, and the close area everyone will be in during the hunt, you must wear the headphones as it will be less distraction on other club members.

MARCH 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 March 7th meeting, Carl DiMare won a Breastplate
- At our March 21st meeting, Rod Hall won a US Buckle



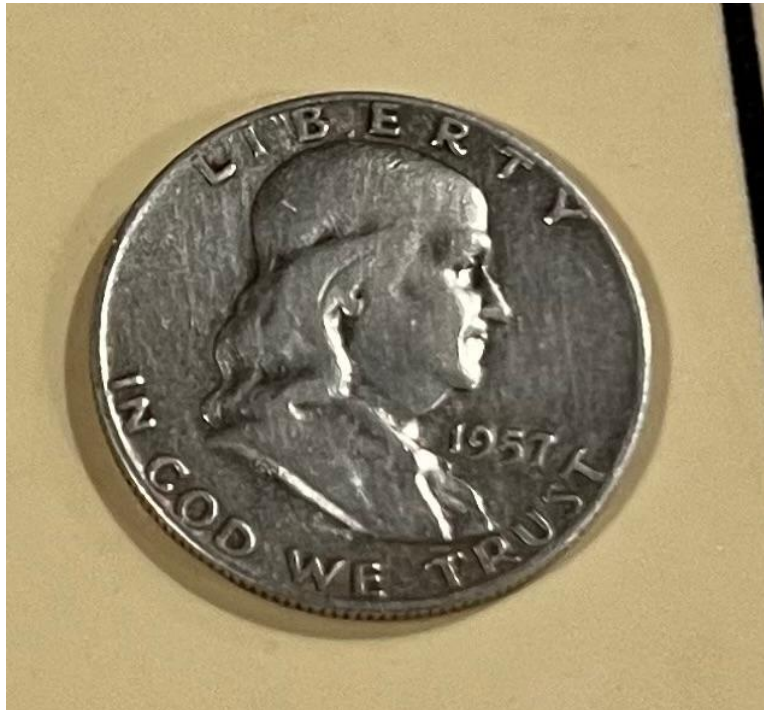


MARCH FIND OF THE MONTH

For the month of May, here are the winners for the find of the month.

- Single Relic – n/a
- Multiple Relics – Roy Baker with a display case of bullets
- Single Coin – Tony Watson with a 1957 Franklin Half Dollar
- Multiple Coins – William Dorris with buffalo nickels and a token
- Jewelry/Miscellaneous – Indian pottery and spear point

Pictures of the Find of the Month winning item (as selected by club members).



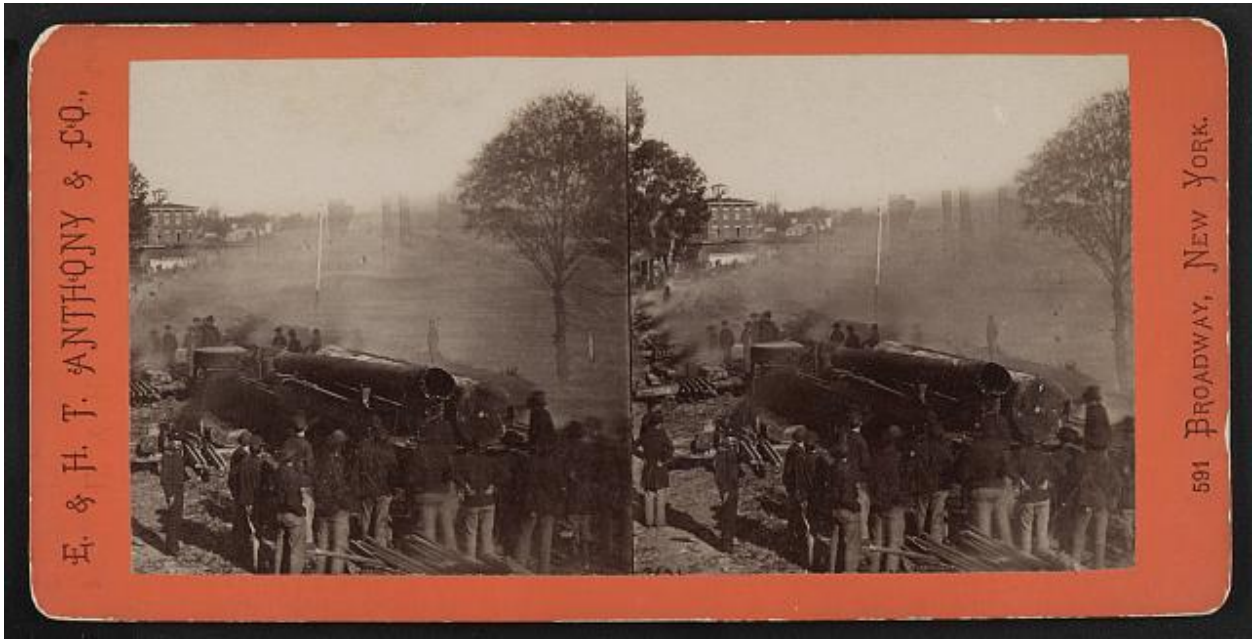


CIVIL WAR SOLDIER RESEARCH

If you have a Civil War ancestor that you wish to have more information about (ie; personal information relating to the soldier), then bring your request to the club's board. The club has access to some Civil War databases (which the club has paid for with a yearly subscription) and one of the benefits of being a club member is that we can do research to find information on Civil War soldiers (Union and Confederate).

PICTURES OF CIVIL WAR ATLANTA

The following picture, from the Library of Congress,



Gen. Sherman's men destroying the railroad, before the evacuation of Atlanta, Ga



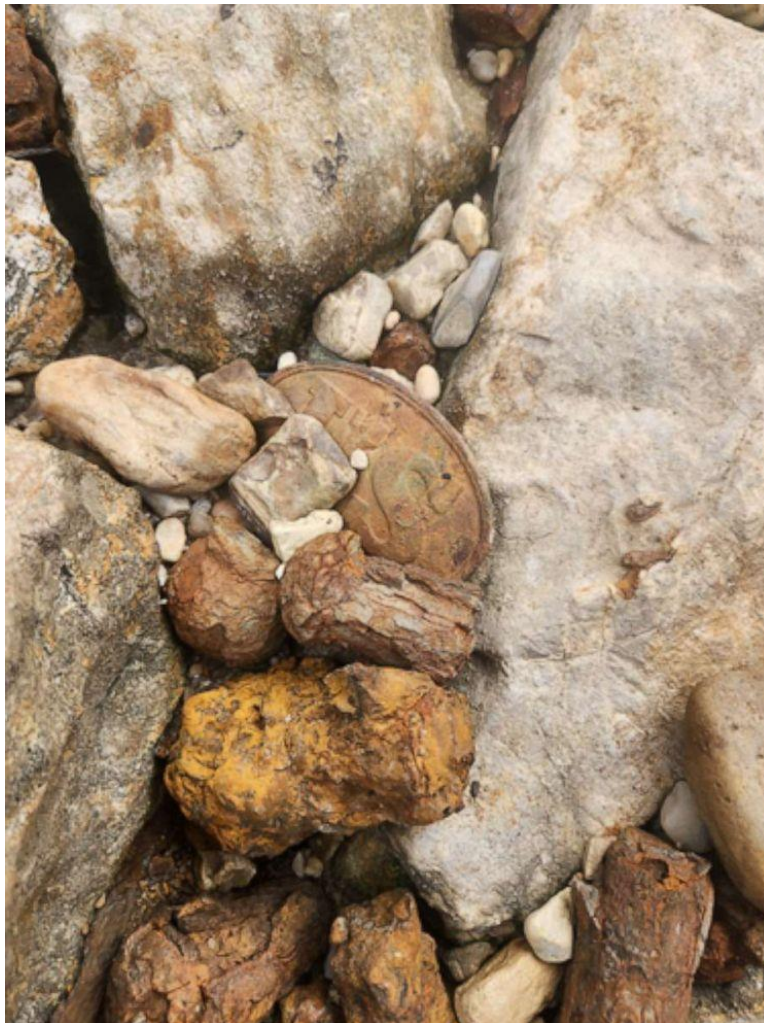
. General Sherman and Staff

CIVIL WAR RELICS FOUND UNDER MEMPHIS BRIDGE

Longtime relic collector Riley Bryant said he had a good hunch that he would find something interesting last weekend under the I-55 bridge in Memphis as the Mississippi River's water levels reached record lows.

But the 21-year-old student and videographer never expected to see such a treasure trove in plain sight along the rocky shoreline Saturday.

Civil War-era bullets and a union U.S. cartridge box plate were lying around the rocks, just waiting to be picked up, he said.



"To find it there in such good condition just lying there, it almost gave me a heart attack," Bryant told ABC News.

The location under the bridge used to be home to Fort Pickering, a base that was used for shipping first by the Confederates and later the Union after they took over the facility in 1862, according to historians. The Union army would continue to use the base until the end of the war and it was dismantled in 1866.

The bridge went up in the early part of the 20th century.



Bryant, who has discovered and collected over 75,000 historical artifacts from all over the country, posted videos of his discovery on his [TikTok](#) and [Instagram](#) pages and it quickly sparked interest from other local history buffs.

Bill Shaner, 63, a Civil War historian and lifelong Memphis resident, told ABC News that Bryant's discovery was very rare.

"They are in exceptional condition. It's hard to find a box plate that's that undamaged," Shaner told ABC News. "I couldn't believe it was sticking up in the rocks like that."

Shaner said other Civil War-era box plates, which were standard issue for troops, are usually discovered underground and not near river banks.

Bryant said the fort and the area near the bridge was frequently used for shipping so it was not uncommon for materials to be washed up and left behind in the water.



Another Union 58 caliber three ring minie ball washed out of the river bank.

"The water levels being at this low level is the reason that no one has found it before," he said.

The Memphis relic discovery is becoming a more common site around major bodies of water across the world as climate change, and droughts have brought up [various rare objects](#) and artifacts including dinosaur footprints in Texas.

The Mississippi River, following weeks of drought, hit a [record low](#) in Memphis of -10.71 feet last week, according to the National Weather Service.

Bryant said while he was excited to find the relics he also felt sad because of the state of the river.

"It's showing how much garbage has been thrown into the river and how polluted the river really is," he said. "The videos really show how much pollution is going on in the river along with the historical stuff."



In the meantime, Bryant, who works as a videographer for American Digger Magazine, said he never sells any historical find and instead travels the country to display his collection to anyone interested in history.

"I try to educate people about the history behind the relics," he said. "I try to do that in a way that has the context of where it's from."

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 (NGRHA)

Public group · 1.1K members

Join group



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.

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF COBB COUNTY

Another organization that you may be interested in joining is the Civil War Round Table of Cobb County. This organization meets the 1st Thursday of each month (except for July and August) at the Marietta Hilton Hotel.

As stated in the organization's bylaws, the purpose of this organization is:

- TO cultivate and preserve Civil War heritage of Georgia and to broaden the understanding of the Civil War era and its impact on our nation.
- TO explore the many facets of the Civil War from the battlefield to first-person narratives, including lectures by writers and historians and to encourage travel to locations linked to the Civil War.
- TO support historical projects and activities aimed at increasing awareness and appreciation of our Civil War history through sponsorship of various educational programs.

This club's next meeting will be March 2nd starting at 7PM at the Marietta Hilton Hotel

You can learn more about this organization by visiting the Facebook group page.

MARIETTA / SMYRNA COIN CLUB

If you are interested in coin collecting, another organization that you may be interested in joining is the Marietta / Smyrna Coin Club. This club meets once a month at the FOP lodge on Austell Road in Marietta, Ga.

There meeting are generally the 3rd Saturday of each month, starting at 3PM.

Their next meeting will be Saturday, March 18th at the FOP lodge on Austell Road (where our club use to meet in the past).