
The Ramrod

Volume 84

May, 2003

President's Corner

Ray McMahan

We are almost to the halfway point in our year with lots to look forward to. Planning for our annual relic show is underway and it looks like our show will be a big success. There is a lot to do, so I encourage all of you to volunteer if possible.

We have also begun planning our end of the year banquet. It will once again be held at the Brookstone Country Club.

There is so much for us to do and to look forward to for this year. I'm excited about our upcoming events as I hope you are. I'll see you at the next club meeting!

Club & Events Calendar:

Date	Event
May 7th	Business Meeting
Mar 21st	Find of the Month Meeting
June 4th	Business Meeting
June 18th	Find of the Month Meeting



New Members

Please welcome the following new members to the club:

James S. Norris
J. David Norris
William B. Coulter
Garrett Brumit



Marianne Masciantonio
William F. Gaines III
Chris Nicolaus
Christopher Benson

Find-Of-The-Month

For the benefit of new members, at the second meeting of each month members bring to the meeting items recovered since the prior month's award. Members then vote for the item they feel is the best find in the respective category.

A prize is given to those members who win. The find of the month in the single category then becomes eligible for the find of the year award.

Here are the results for the Single and Multiple Relics:

Month	Person	Relic Item(s)
Mar Single	G. Watkins	U.S. Cartridge plate
Mar Multi	G. Watkins	Bullets
Apr Single	B. Mull	Script A
Apr Multi	B. Ganues	Bullets, belt plate, butt plate

Here are the results for the Single & Multiple Coins.

Month	Person	Relic Item(s)
Mar Single	R. Baker	1877 Dollar
Mar Multi	L. Cooper	Wheat pennies, dimes
Apr Single	D. Shipp	1903 Barber Quarter
Apr Multi	K.Cochran	Mercury dimes, silver rings

To our "old" members – think about bringing in all of your finds from the previous month. Besides showing new members what kind of things can be found, it may give the rest of us some hope.

Note: Pictures of recent club finds can be found on the Club Web Site.

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Ideas for 2003 Relic Show

We are still looking for ideas for the 2003 Relic Show t-shirt. While you may think it is still early in the year to be worrying about this event, August will be here before you know it.

If you have any ideas, please let us know at a club meeting. We need your participation in making every aspect of the Relic Show a success. So bring your ideas and suggestions, and see you at the next club meeting.

Confederate Cemetery Clean-up Effort

On Saturday, April 26th, members of the club participated in the annual Marietta Cemetery Clean-up. This clean-up was done in celebration of Confederate Memorial Day.

Clean-up consisted of raking, cleaning out drains, weeding, and straightening flags. Thank you to those members who volunteered: Jim and Charlene Black, Dave Pashko, Jim Hammonds, Brian Copelan, Todd Lee, Dutch and Joanne Mersereau, Bill Swafford, Lori Herrin, Patti McMahan.

For those of you who don't know about the cemetery, it is the oldest and largest Civil War cemetery east of Vicksburg. The cemetery was founded by a military doctor on land donated by Mrs. Jane Glover.

The cemetery Association was incorporated in 1994 and raises the majority of their money from the sale of peanuts and jelly. They also receive grant money from the state government.

The association is currently raising money for their latest project. They are planning statues and a wall with the names of those buried. The association's goal is to raise \$1.5 million for this project.

Ten Commandments of Metal Detecting

Courtesy of Fisher Research Laboratory

With all of the "bad-talk" we seem to be getting lately about our hobby, I thought it might be a good time to remind everyone that sometimes, we are our own worst enemies. Therefore, here are some "commandments" that we have published in previous editions of the Ramrod that you should take a minute to read, and more importantly, remember while you are out there enjoying our hobby.

These are the judgements and edicts which should be obeyed by all those who wield detectors of metal:

1. Thou shalt not leave behind unfilled excavations.
2. Thou shalt not trespass or defy in any way the lawful decrees of thy city, county, state or country.
3. Thou shalt not harm vegetation, the creatures of the field, natural resources or the personal property of others.
4. Thou shalt not covet the finds of thy companion. Nor shalt ye covet his metal detector, digging tool or the hallowed ground in which he diggeth.
5. Thou shalt not ignore nor neglect thy family whilst in the endless pursuit of thy hobby.
6. Thou shalt assist the distraught owners of lost goods, and the archeologists, and the enforcers of law, and all others who may need thy skill as a metal detectorist.
7. Thou shalt return found treasures to the proper owners whenever their true identity can be rightfully determined.
8. Thou shalt report to the proper authorities any finds relating to criminal activity or of archeological significance.
9. Thou shalt be considerate of others on the beach and in other public places whilst waving thy search coil and digging holes in the sand and the soil.
10. Thou shalt speak out against the unjust laws and stand firm against the philistines who would cast out all those who use detectors of metal.

And if thou dost not abide by these Commandments, may you be plagued with the mineral-bearing rocks, hard-cracked soil, pestilence, serpents, locusts, poisonous vegetation and great multitudes of pull-tabs, bottle-caps and rusty nails. May you spend the remaining years of your wretched life digging signals of false origin. For thy iniquities shall surely bring the overzealous wrath of the ignorant, heathen bureaucrats down upon those of us who are innocent. For we are the righteous and the just, and ye who disobey the Ten Commandments of Metal Detecting are bad.

Grand Opening of Kennesaw Civil War Museum

On, March 31, 2003, the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History re-opened its doors after a massive expansion. The \$6 million renovation has

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resulted in a facility that is ten times the size of the previous building. The museum will continue to house its star attraction, the *General* and has also added two other permanent collections, including *Railroads: Lifelines of the Civil War* and *Glover Machine Works: Casting a New South*.

As a Smithsonian Affiliations program member, the Museum will present exhibits from the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), offer periodic guest lectures from the Smithsonian Institution historians, and display Smithsonian artifacts within Museum collections. Other distinctive exhibits will also be on display periodically.

If you haven't made a trip to see the newly remodeled museum, take some time and stop in for a look around. You'll be glad you did!

This Month in the Civil War

May 31, 1862 – The Battle of the Seven Pines begins when General Joseph E. Johnston's Army attacks McClellan's troops in front of Richmond and nearly defeats them. Johnston is badly wounded in the battle.

May 1-4, 1863 - The Union Army under General Hooker is decisively defeated by Lee's much smaller forces at the Battle of Chancellorsville in Virginia as a result of Lee's brilliant and daring tactics. Confederate General Stonewall Jackson is mortally wounded by his own soldiers. Hooker retreats as the Union sustains heavy losses. Seventeen thousand are killed, wounded, and missing out of 130,000. The confederates lost 13,000 men out of 60,000. "I just lost confidence in Joe Hooker," said Hooker later about his own lack of nerve during the battle.

May 10, 1863 – The South suffers a huge blow as Stonewall Jackson dies from his wounds. His last words: "Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees."

May 4, 1864 – The beginning of a massive, coordinated campaign involving all the Union Armies begins. In Virginia, Grant with an army of 120,000 begins advancing toward Richmond to engage Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, now numbering 64,000, beginning a war of attrition that will include major battles at the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, and Cold Harbor. In the west, Sherman with 100,000 men begins an advance toward Atlanta to

engage Joseph E. Johnston's 60,000 strong Army of Tennessee.

May 4, 1865 – Abraham Lincoln is laid to rest in Oak Ridge Cemetery, outside Springfield, Illinois.

May 1865 – The remaining Confederate forces surrender. The nation is reunited as the Civil War ends. Over 620,000 Americans died in the war with disease killing twice as many as those lost in battle. Fifty thousand survivors return home as amputees.

May 23-24, 1865 – On this day, a victory parade is held in Washington D.C. along Pennsylvania Avenue to help boost the nation's morale.

Relic Trivia...Test Your Knowledge!

1. Who was Greenville Dodge?
2. Who was Captain Thomas Nelson Conrad?
3. Where did Robert E. Lee attend school?
4. What nicknames for enemy soldiers did the North and South have?
5. Who was Clara Barton?

Answers will appear in the next *Ramrod* issue.

Answers to previous issue's questions:

1. What were the dates of the Civil War's beginning and end? **Began April 12, 1861 and ended April 9, 1865**
2. What were casualties of the North and South in the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain? **North 2,000 and South 270**
3. What was the total number of casualties from the Civil War? **Over 1 million Americans were killed or wounded. 622,511 soldiers died during the war.**
4. What was Gen. Lee's horse's name? **Traveler**
5. Where did the first Civil War battle take place and which side opened fire? **The Confederate army first opened fire at Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina.**

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A Friendly Reminder

Each member should have their own name tag. Please wear these at each club meeting so our new members can get to know each person. See Todd Lee to pick up your name tag or let him know if you need a new one.

Wanted Newsletter Articles

If you have any Civil War articles , or any other club related items that you would like to have published in The Ramrod, please let me or the other Club Officers know. You can also email articles to me by sending them to ToddCLee@cs.com

Club Web Site

The club web site continues to be updated on a regular basis. Take a minute and view the site and let us know what you think of it, and if there is anything else you would like to see done with the site

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

WWW.NGRHA.COM

**That's all for this issue.
See you at the next club meeting.**