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# The Ramrod

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## Do You Have Spring Fever...Or Is It A Bug?

*As taken from I Dig It News*

Spring is in the air and you are feeling pretty good! Then this fever hits...or is it a strange Metal Detecting Bug?

If you experience any of the following symptoms, you may be catching that bug that's going around the Metal Detecting Community – and watch out – it's contagious!

1. You gladly get up at 5:00 a.m. to go detecting at the crack of dawn.
2. Batteries for your detector are a regular item on your shopping list.
3. You feel real withdrawal if you haven't swung that detector in a few days.
4. You begin to feel faint...then you realize you've had so much fun detecting you forgot to eat!
5. You plan your vacation to include hunting sites along the way.
6. You would rather go metal detecting than to the mall, to a movie, or to your in-laws.
7. In your dreams, visions of "Treasures" dance in your head.
8. Every time you hear a "beep-beep" you think it's your coin signal.
9. The back seat or trunk of your car is full of detectors, shovels, and probes.
10. You beg your spouse or significant other to stop everytime you pass a promising detecting site.

## NGHRA Website

Don't forget that we are now using a professional to maintain our website. Please take a moment and check it out and let us know what you think about the site and recommend any changes.



We are looking forward to these improvements and hope our website will provide viewers with more information about our club and our finds.

## Annual Relic Show

Don't forget—the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern Civil War Show and Sale is fast approaching. The show will be held August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at the Cobb County Civic Center. There will be over 220 tables of relics, weapons, books, prints, and tons of other items.

Even though the show is still 3 months away, it is not too early to start thinking about the show and how you can help to ensure it is successful. If you want to help out with any of the committees which make the show a success, please volunteer. Please try to help out the club as the show is our main fundraising event of the year. This show helps us to support all of our club activities and charities (to which we contribute to at the end of the year). The success of the show benefits everyone, so please volunteer and help out.

## Club & Events Calendar:

Date	Event
May 5th	Business Meeting
May 19th	Find of the Month Meeting
June 2nd	Business Meeting
June 16th	Find of the Month Meeting

## 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.

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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 & Multiple Relics.

Month	Person	Relic Item(s)
<b>Mar Single</b>	Charles Ross	12lb Boreman Ball
<b>Mar Multi</b>	Ben Martin	U.S. buckle, axe head, & Misc. relics
<b>Apr Single</b>	Ray MacMahan	Virginia Button
<b>Apr Multi</b>	Ed Wiggart	Bullets, plate, pan, bottle

Here are the results for the Single & Multiple Coins.

Month	Person	Relic Item(s)
<b>Mar Single</b>	Bill Mull	1832 Dime
<b>Mar Multi</b>	Roy Bakerr	1700's era coin and Wheat Pennies
<b>Apr Single</b>	Scott Riddle	Silver 3 cent piece
<b>Apr Multi</b>	Glen Daniel	Dimes, Quarters

Here are the results for the Jewelry and Miscellaneous category:

Month	Person	Relic Item(s)
<b>March</b>	Glenn Daniel	Medallions & pocket watch
<b>April</b>	Don Nations	Wedding bands, class ring

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.

## Southern Museum Employees Write The Southern Railway History Book

In between cataloging historic documents and taking care of exhibits, Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History employees Archivist Sallie Loy, Assistant Curator Dick Hillman, and Assistant Archivist C. Patrick Cates have found time to write a book on the fascinating history of the Southern Railway.

The new book, which hit local stores Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, is a collection of in-depth text and 200 vintage images chronicling the history of one of America's legendary railway systems. The book is part of the Images Rail series.

The Southern Railway will be available at the Southern Museum gift shop, as well as area booksellers, including Barnes and Noble, Borders, Waldenbooks, Books-A-Million, independent retailers, amazon.com, bn.com, and arcadiapublishing.com.

"Through our work with the Southern Railway Historical Association (SRHA) archives, Dick, Pat, and I uncovered some intriguing stories and images about the railroad that we thought would make a good book," Loy said.

A book signing is scheduled during the upcoming Kudzu Rails event, that is sponsored by the SRHA and other railroad associations. The signing will be held at the Museum May 21<sup>st</sup> from 3:00 – 5:00 and the public is welcome to attend. .

## Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson

As the anniversary of his death approaches, it is only fitting we should take a moment and learn about this great leader in our country's history.

Thomas Jonathan Jackson was born in Clarksburg, Va., on January 21, 1824. His father was a debt-ridden lawyer who died of typhoid fever when Thomas was two years old. When his mother died five years later, Thomas and his brother and sister were separated and raised by different members of the family. Thomas was raised by a bachelor uncle on a Virginia farm. He was admitted to West Point in 1842 though he had only the equivalent of a fourth-grade education. Through his tremendous powers of concentration and his grinding work ethic, Thomas Jackson steadily rose in the class rankings until he graduated 17<sup>th</sup> in a class of 59.

By this time Jackson was demonstrating many of the eccentricities for which he was noted after he became known as "Stonewall." He was a hypochondriac and very concerned about his digestive system and his diet. He would not eat pepper, for example, because he thought it made his left leg hurt. A tall rigid man, Jackson never let his back touch a chair; he sat bolt upright to keep his internal organs in perfect alignment. He was a very stern, silent man with little sense of humor.

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and would not drink, smoke, dance, curse, play cards, or attend the theater.

After his 1846 graduation from West Point, Jackson was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and sent immediately to an artillery unit fighting in the Mexican War. For his bravery during the siege of Vera Cruz he was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, and by the end of the war, he had earned the public praise of the commander of the American forces and had become a brevet major. Jackson stayed in the army until 1851, when he left to join the faculty of the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Va. His military service had revealed several more traits for which Jackson would become known. On the battlefield he was daring, calm, decisive, and tactically brilliant. In camp he seemed to believe his judgment to be infallible and was prone to become involved in drawn-out, prickly disputes with his fellow officers.

Jackson was seriously wounded by his own soldiers at the battle of Chancellorsville. Despite the efforts of pneumonia specialists, nothing seemed to bring relief to the General. Jackson observed, "I see from the number of physicians that you think my condition dangerous, but I thank God, if it is his will, that I am ready to go." On Sunday, May 10, 1863, the doctors lost all hope of Jackson's recovery, and the General was notified of his condition. But as Jackson grew physically weaker, he remained spiritually strong. "It is the Lord's Day; my wish is fulfilled," said Jackson. "I have always desired to die on Sunday." Jackson realized that desire at 3:15 p.m. with Dr. McGuire carefully noting Jackson's last words:

"A few moments before he died he cried out in his delirium, 'Order A.P. Hill to prepare for action! Pass the infantry to the front rapidly! Tell Major Hawks' – then stopped, leaving the sentence unfinished. Presently a smile of ineffable sweetness spread itself over his pale face, and he said quietly, and with an expression, as if of relief, 'Let us cross over the river, and rest under the shade of the trees.'"

## 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.

## This Month in the Civil War

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**May 31, 1862** –The Battle of Seven Pines as General Joseph E. Johnston’s Army attacks McClellan’s troops in front of Richmond and nearly defeats them. But Johnston is badly wounded.

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**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. Union losses are 17,000 killed, wounded and missing out of 130,000. The Confederates, 13,000 out of 60,000. “I just lost confidence in Joe Hooker,” said Hooker later about his own lack of nerve during the battle.

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**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.” “I have lost my right arm,” Lee laments.

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**May 4, 1864** –The beginning of a massive, coordinated campaign involving all the Union Armies. 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 (May 5-6), Spotsylvania (May 8-12), and Cold Harbor (June 1-3). 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.

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

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**May, 1865** –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. 50,000 survivors return home as amputees.

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**May 23-24, 1865** –A victory parade is held in Washington along Pennsylvania Ave. to help boost the Nation’s morale.

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## Relic Trivia...Test Your Knowledge

1. The artillery used round shot. Where did they aim when they fired it at the attacking troops?
2. What is an “abatis”?
3. What was the CSS Virginia before it became a Confederate Iron Clad?
4. What was the official name for Andersonville Prison and why did it have that name?
5. What Virginia born artillerist named four of his cannons Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John?

### Answers to previous issue’s questions:

1. What was the name of the play President Lincoln attended at Ford’s Theater on April 14, 1865?  
**Our American Cousin.**
2. Who was the Union General killed leading his men into the Battle of Gettysburg? **General John F. Reynolds.**
3. What two events happened July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1863 that, to many, doomed the Confederacy? **The last day of the battle of Gettysburg and the surrender of Vicksburg.**
4. Artillery used different rounds against attacking troops. One was the Canister and the other was Case shot. What is the difference? **The Canister was a shell made with about 96 iron balls held together by a tin cover. The case shot was a shell with a timed fuse that would burst over the attacking troops heads sending pieces of it into them.**
5. What war did Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s father fight in? **The Revolutionary War.**

Answers will appear in the next *Ramrod* issue.

## 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

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Ramrod, please let me or the other Club Officers know.  
You can also email articles to me by sending them to  
[ToddCLee@cs.com](mailto: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](http://WWW.NGRHA.COM)

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