
The Ramrod

Volume 1 Issue 4

September 2009



President's Corner

Well, the 31st N.G.R.H.A. Civil War Show has come and gone. But we would not have been able to have the show without all of your support. A big thanks to Steve Beaver as this year's show chairman. He did a really great job for the club in making the show a huge success.

All indications point to a successful show. We had approximately the same number that we had last year, many dealers commented on the crowd, the steady flow coming into the show, and that they had a good show (translation – they sold a lot of stuff). And, this when many folks simply do their “shopping” on the web (nearly every dealer had a web page that they sell their relics on). Additionally, in light of today's economy, the number of folks at the show was a good indication that folks look forward to the event (and this is great news for the club).

A big thank you to the club officer's for being there during the entire show to help ensure everything went smoothly; and a nice pat on the back to all the club members who pitched in Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to work the show and get everything ready.

I hope all are looking forward to next year's show, and the continued success of our club's yearly show.

2009 Club Officers

President: Bill Mull

Vice President: Bill Swafford

Treasurer: Jim Hammonds

Secretary: Lynn King

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Club & Events Calendar:

Date	Event
Sept 2	Buy-Sell-Trade-Swap meeting
Sept 16	Find of the Month Meeting
Oct 7	Business Meeting
Oct 21	Find of the Month Meeting
Nov 4	No club meeting (due to upcoming club banquet)
Nov 18	Find of the Month meeting
Dec 2	Business meeting
Dec 16	XMAS party and Find of the month meeting

Buy/Sell/Swap Meeting

Mark your calendars for a special meeting to be held at the first meeting in September (9/2). It will be a “dual” meeting, combining our normal monthly business meeting with a buy/sell/swap session. For the first part, we will have our regular monthly business meeting.

For the second part, (the buy/sell/swap session), bring in any relics, books or other items that you would like to sell or swap with other club members. Or, be there to buy those items that you may need to fill your collection. We may be limited in the amount of tables we will have, so please contact one of the members of the board and let us know if you would like to participate.

Upcoming Club Hunt

We are planning on having our second relic hunt scheduled for either the end of September or the first week in October. We are trying to obtain a location for the hunt right now. Details of the hunt will be discussed at the club meetings in September, with the final determination of the date and location being made at the meeting on October 17th.

To participate in the club hunt, you must be a dues paying member before the hunt.

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Club Banquet

Our 2009 club banquet will be held Saturday, November 17th. The banquet will be held this year at the Governor's Mansion in Kingston (same place as last year). Costs for the banquet will be determined at a future meeting. For those members who worked the show, you will receive 1 free ticket for each shift that you worked. If you have any questions about the banquet, or need directions, please contact one of the club officers

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.

To all of our 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 at WWW.NGRHA.COM

Speakers Wanted

If you would like to be a guest speaker at one of our upcoming business meetings, please contact either Bill Mull or Bill Swafford. The club is looking for speakers who would like to talk about items relating to the Civil War or other issues relating to our hobby.

Club Forum

The club now has a forum on the internet. You can find it at: <http://www.mytreasurespot.com/forums/list.php?20> This forum is being furnished free of charge from Donnie at mytreasurespot.com. You can post messages and pictures about anything club related that you want. In order to post you will need to register with a users name and password. You do not have to be registered to look at the post. Please take a look.

Also, please take a look at the other forums to see what people are doing in other areas. We will post a link to the forum on our web page also. If you have any questions please contact me and I will be glad to help you get set up. cwspur@gmail.com

Besides this forum, you can also reference the clubs original website at www.nrgha.com for the most up-do-date information relating o our club – as it is updated weekly.

Club Officer Nominations for 2010

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As hard as it may seem to believe, it will soon be time for selecting officers for the upcoming year. Get involved with the club. Let us hear from you. Also, let us know if you are interested in becoming a club officer.

Club Web Site Survey

On the bottom of the clubs homepage is the question "WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?" Please click on this link and give us your answer. The club web site continues to be updated on a regular basis.

The club web site can be viewed at: WWW.NGRHA.COM

Horseshoes for Special Olympics

As many of you know Jim is always asking club members to bring to club meetings any horseshoes that they have dug. Jim works hard to clean these and donated them to a very special group. Once again Jim was able to donate 40 horseshoes the 2008 Special Olympics this year.

The children who receive these horse-shoes are thrilled when they get them, and they are grateful to the club.

Gifts of Charity

At the last meeting in December, we will take a look at the club's debit and credit sheets to determine how well the club has done fiscally. As is the practice of the club, we will then take the surplus money not needed for the operating expenses and donate them to local worthwhile charities.

For 2008, the club was able to donate a total of \$2,100 to several organizations. As always, we wish we could give more to additional organizations. That is why it is important for everyone to put on a good relic show, as this is where we raise all club funds.

So think about what charities you think the club should donate to, and let us know.

This Month in the Civil War

The Civil War – Day by Day

September 11, 1861 – Fighting breaks out at Cheat Mountain, western Virginia, between General Lee's forces and those of General John Reynolds. Although Lee has planned a surprise attack on Reynold's Union forces at Cheat Mountain and at Elkwater, sever precipitation and the difficult terrain prevent Confederates from carrying out the assault as designed. Federal troops hold their ground as the rebels pull back, and this Union victory at Cheat Mountain secures the area of West Virginia for the North.

September 13, 1862 – In what proves to be a stroke of luck for the Union forces, General Lee's orders for the Maryland invasion are discovered by Union soldiers. Due to this General McClellan is able to approach with more accuracy the Confederate positions near Harper's Ferry, where Jackson has been posted; Hagerstown, where General Longstreet is to be stationed; and Smith Mountain, the location of Jeb Stuart's cavalry. It is now clear that McClellan can take advantage of the divided strength of Lee's army.

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September 17, 1863 – Union troops move toward concentration around Lee and Gordon’s Mill on Chickamauga Creek. By the end of the day the divided forces are within supporting distance of one another. Bragg, now on the east bank of the creek, begins to develop his battle plan: he will turn the Union left flank and get behind Rosecrans’ army, cutting off the roads to Chattanooga. The stage is now set for the bloodiest battle of the war in the Western Theater. It is prophetic that the ancient Cherokee Indian name for this creek is *Chickamauga*, meaning ‘River of Death.’

September 8, 1864 – General George B. McClellan formally accepts the Democratic nomination for president. In his letter of acceptance, however, McClellan refuses to accept that part of the Democratic platform which labels the war a failure: “I could not,” he writes, “look in the face of my gallant comrades of the army and navy, who have survived so many bloody battles and tell them that their labor and sacrifice had been in vain.” Although he separates himself from the Copperhead faction of the party by this remark, McClellan makes it clear that his own ideas concerning the basis for peace between North and South are considerably different from those of the Republicans. In contrast to their demand for the unconditional surrender of the Confederacy and recognition of emancipation, the Democratic nominee insists only on reunion, and maintains that when “any one State is willing to return to the Union, it should be received at once, with a full guarantee of all its constitutional rights.”

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