



Rapidan River Relic Hunters Association

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President – Jim Lillard Vice President – Earl Mesimer

Treasurer – Gary White Secretary – Robert Painter

Chaplain – John Graham

“Find of the Month”



The July 12, 2011 meeting of the *Rapidan River Relic Hunters Association* was held at 7: p.m. at the Unionville Virginia Ruritan Building with 29 members and two guests present. Vice President Earl Mesimer presided over the meeting which formally began at 7:25 p.m. with a prayer by the club’s Chaplain John Graham.

The Association’s eight new members were recognized -- Ron Pritchett, Billy Hoyt, David Hubbard, Mike Smith, Walker Somerville, Steve Strickland, Shane Butler, and Steve Sylvia – Welcome Aboard! We now have 35 members.

Highlights from the minutes of the previous meeting were given by the Secretary Robert Painter and the minutes approved by the membership. Bob informed the members that the club newsletter would also be considered as the formal minutes of our meetings.

Membership cards were passed out during the meeting and others will be mailed to our far away members.

Treasurer Gary White reported the financial status with July receipts of \$675.00 and expenditures of \$109.86, leaving in our account \$565.14.

Expenditures included office supplies, copying, rental of a Post Office box, and keys for the Ruritan building.

The final draft Charter (By-Laws) with those modifications agreed to during our last meeting incorporated was brought forward. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made to approve the Charter, seconded, and passed with 27 members voting aye. A copy will be emailed to each member with a digital signature page.

Topics of discussion during the meeting were:

One member suggested we have a mini-relic show where each member brings in a show case (flat) of relics for everyone to see. This idea was well received and one should be scheduled for an upcoming meeting.

The upcoming local relic hunts being held by “Relic Rescue” were announced. That group will be conducting two invitational hunts for 100 persons each on September 16, 17, & 18 and October 28, 29, & 30. Relic Rescue’s site can be found at: <http://relic-rescue.org/index.html>.

Everyone was reminded of the pending North South Trader's Civil War Show on August 20 & 21 at the Showplace in Richmond, VA. Further information can be found at: <http://www.nstcivilwar.com> .

A local Relic Show to benefit the Rapidan Fire Department is slated for September 24th at Culpeper, VA. Additional information can be viewed at <http://centralvirginiacivilwarshow.webs.com/>.

Steve Sylvia announced that he would gladly photograph relics any member would like to have photographed following any meeting he is able to attend. He will inform the club Secretary as to which meetings he will be able to attend and this information will be included in the monthly meeting reminder email. Steve would especially like to photograph our recent finds for inclusion in the North South Trader's magazine as space allows.

A 50/50 drawing was held with \$41 dollars in the kitty. Congratulations to lucky Chris Hart who won \$21. Twenty dollars was submitted to the Treasurer. A number of donated door prizes were raffled off. Congratulations to our members who won: tickets to the Exchange Hotel in Gordonsville, VA; an unusual comic book style booklet on John Wilkes Booth; and, an interesting 1800s bulb bottom "ships" bottle found by and generously donated by Tim Baxter.

A number of great relics were recovered during the month. The relics that were submitted for "Find of the Month" were: a coat size South Carolina button dug by Scott Aylor; an Eagle Breast Plate dug by Don Echols; a coat size Georgia button dug by Matt Jennings; a U.S. Box Plate dug by Vernon Cross; and, a four-ring ring-tail sharps bullet dug by Earl Mesimer.

Congratulations to Matt Jennings for recovering the club's first "Find of the Month", a beautiful Georgia coat button. Matt was presented with a nice 12" X 18" wooden showcase. The other June/July finds placed on

the viewing table are pictured at the end of this newsletter.

Thanks to Warren Middlebrook (Corp Badges & Georgia buckle), Greg Heath (a couple of really rare bullets), and Shane Butler (recently excavated SNY buckle) for sharing some great both past and present recoveries.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:15 p.m.

/s/ Robert J. Painter – Secretary

Our next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2011 at the Unionville Virginia Ruritan Building at 7 p.m. Bring a guest as everyone is welcome.

June/July Recoveries & Meeting Pictures



June/July Recoveries & Meeting Pictures (Continued)



June/July Recoveries & Meeting Pictures (Continued)



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