

# The Picket Post

*The Central Virginia Civil War Collectors Association*

*Established 1980*

*Volume 15, Issue 2*

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## *Membership Renewal*

Time again for the best \$20 you'll ever spend! And, for reasons explained in the president's column, the roster will now go out with the April newsletter, and will include only those paid for 2006. E at [envcons@comcast.net](mailto:envcons@comcast.net) if you wish that all or part of your contact info to be excluded. Renew by using the form from the January newsletter.

## *February Meeting*

Our February meeting was held at 7:15 p.m. on Tues., February 7, 2006, at the Hunton Recreation Center.

The results of last month's voting were the Monitor Museum for Best presentation of 2005, and Lester Robert's Texas local button took Relic of the Year for 2005.

**Best Dug Relic-of-the-Month.** Jack Mountcastle found a nice eagle breast plate and several Williams cleaners.

Pete Nicholson recovered a number of interesting items, including a cartridge box plate, an umbrella ink well, an Eagle A cuff, an ornate federal officers spur, and a canteen run over by a wagon wheel!

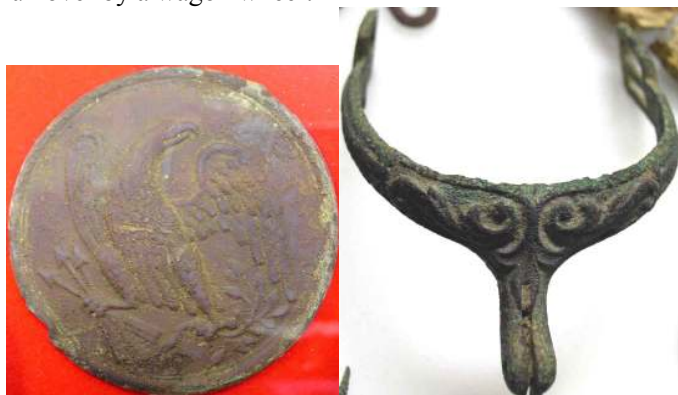


Pete Nicholson's tin cup and canteen.



Mark Ramer's winning GMI button and Walter Chalkley Jr's rare Voltigeurs button.

Mike Philyaw dug two I buttons, a Lined C, an 1840 Navy button, two NY buttons, a Maine three-piece and a Maine cuff.



Eagle plate recovered by Jack Mountcastle, and ornate officer's spur dug by Pete Nicholson.

Scott Pugh exhibited a lock plate, a CS spur variant, a sword hanger, a fuse, and several other items.



Mike Philyaw's Maine and Lined C buttons.

Greg Heath's finds included an Eagle button, several flat buttons, various bullets, a finial, a friction primer, two scabbard tips, and a lead squirrel and duck.



Greg Heath's lead squirrel and duck.

Jim Livesay dug some Eagle buttons,, a Block I, and an 182-40 Marine Corps button. He brought in several items that had been recovered by his son, including seven Gardners from a single hole, a Block I, and a CS tongue.



Block I and CS tongue found by James Livesay, Jr.

Dave Batalo dug a MA cuff, a quarter of a Spanish two reale coin, a three cent piece, a NC local, and a Scovill backmark silver SC button.



1820-40 Marine Corps button found by Jim Livesay, Sr. and SC button recovered by Dave Batalo.

Wesley Lubiartz recovered a number of items found in a fire pit. His display included a St. Christopher's medal, a kepi buckle, two canteens, a mess plate, a cartridge tin, a ration can with wire handle, a gun tool, two sword drags, a large CT button, and two large Vermont buttons.



Canteens recovered from a fire pit by Wesley Lubiartz.

**This Month's Display Items.** Ben Greenbaum displayed an 1842 pistol cartridge box with the small US plate, and a bugle and case with an 1840s shaiko eagle attached.



Ben Greenbaum's bugle & case with 1840's shaiko eagle.



Steve Schmit's field tourniquet.

Lloyd Goddard showed a collection of coffee pots and an 1855 foot officers sword with a naval cutlass guard.



Lloyd Goddard's coffee pot collection (top) and 1855 foot officer's sword with naval cutlass guard (bottom).



Allen Lane's Ames two-piece knife, fork, spoon set.

David Garnett displayed a case of Cold Harbor items, including a US plate, a picture frame that had been folded over several times (the result of a Dear John letter?), a handcuff key, a carpet bag lock, a knapsack hook with a star, an H. Brown, Co. I, 6<sup>th</sup> US Cavalry stencil from Meade's camp, an Oddfellows lodge pin, a cavalry-style CS fame buckle, a straight razor, and a small binoculars pin. Anyone

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with any idea as to the significance/origin of the binoculars pin, please e envcons@comcast.net.



John Frawner's early CS cap box with brass rivets  
Id'd to G. Kirk, and Gettysburg pickup  
Cummings & Wilkinson US cap box.

**February Program.** Our speaker was John Brayam who spoke on the Gaines Mill and Cold Harbor battles. John reminded us that it was Joe Johnson's being wounded in the leg that led to Robert E. Lee being placed in command and subsequently overcoming McLellan at Gaines Mill.

Two years later, the same ground was once again contended over in the battle of Cold Harbor. Grant's delays allowed the Confederates to dig in and repulse the Union advance. John's presentation also included slides showing period photos, as well as artifacts recovered from the battlefield. One period photo showed felled trees in front of the CS trenches. Another showed a gravestone in the Cold Harbor cemetery of one W. H. Smith of New York, and John speculated that those doing body recovery may have looked on the back of his belt buckle and thought that the maker was instead the soldier!

Some of the relics in the slide show included an 1840s US tongue with the US filed off, various buttons, stencils, and ID tags, McLellan pins, a CS pewter .69 cartridge box liner, a wreath made of braided copper wire with an F in the middle, a bullet-hit LA plate, a CS rectangular, and a shot tompion with the bullet attached.

## *Eastern Henrico Property*

After much discussion and consultation, in an effort to fulfill the expectations of the owners of the Eastern Henrico property and our club goals to remain a reputable organization comprised of concerned and upstanding collectors and artifact hunters, the duly elected officers of the club have compiled some expectations and confines for our members to follow, so that we can look for artifacts on the Eastern Henrico property. These expectations are to be implemented so that we can all act, in good faith, as promised to the owners, as good stewards of the history buried, waiting still to be excavated, as well as respectful and invited guests on someone else's property.

At our next meeting, notarized permission slips will handed out to those club members, in good standing (those club members who have actively supported the club with their membership by minimum attendance), who have been members

in the year 2005 or before and have attended at least two meetings, during that year. Those who receive these permission slips will need to present their membership cards (issued to all dues paying members) and record on the slip, their phone number, email address (if applicable), Virginia driver's license number and license number of the vehicle they expect to use to go to the property when hunting.

New members who may not fulfill the confines listed above (joined after November of 2005), who feel that they were misled and joined to participate in the hunting of this property, may ask our treasurer, Tom Carlton, for a full refund of their dues. We certainly hope that any and all who just joined stay as members, as we welcome you and want you to stay; we are a club run by and for Civil War collectors, diggers and enthusiasts, and always seek and welcome an influx of new membership. On the other hand, if you joined only to partake in the Eastern Henrico hunt privileges, we will offer you this opportunity to get your dues payment back. Again, we sincerely hope that you stay with us. We hope that this Eastern Henrico experience will run so smoothly that other opportunities may follow, in which recently joined members, excluded from this hunting site, could then participate.

This process of assigning permission slips will be explained again at our March meeting, immediately following our monthly program (Mike Singer's presentation about excavated insignia). By implementing this program, the club is not trying to attempt some sort of power grab or to be exclusionary, rather we are trying to insure that we maintain the very positive and impressive reputation we have worked so hard to establish both in the collecting community and amongst the public, at large. We truly want to continue to be perceived as models of historical stewardship, as well as remaining respectful of the wishes of private land owners. Only in this way, can we continue to enjoy our hobby as well as contribute to the respect and reverence of Civil War sites.

-- Ben Greenbaum, President, CVCWCA

## *Upcoming Programs*

**March 2005** – Mike Singer will speak on insignia. Please bring examples from your collections!

**April 2005** – Norman Schools will speak on the Moncure Conway house in Fredericksburg, where a number of soldier items were discovered in the rafters up in the attic.

**June 2005** – Craig Bell will speak on the Virginia Manufactory of Arms.

**October 2005** – Meeting at the Museum of the Confederacy.

**December 2005** – The legendary Dennis Madison Collection (tentative).

David Garnett continues to solicit your ideas for programs and speakers for upcoming meetings.



President  
Vice Pres./Show  
Vice Pres./Programs  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Ben Greenbaum  
Steve Sharpe  
David Garnett  
Bob Baird  
Tom Carlton



## Upcoming Shows & Events

*Remember, before traveling any distance to attend a show, be sure to call and verify the dates and time!*

**March 4, 2006.** Seminar, "Technology and Advancements in the Civil War," includes talks on balloons, railroads, telegraphy and more, in Farmville. Annual event co-sponsored by the Appomattox National Park and Longwood University. 9 am – 4 pm at the Hull Building, Room 132, at Longwood. Free. 434-395-2220.

**March 9-12, 2006.** Battle of Hampton Roads Weekend at the Mariners' Museum in Newport News. Keynote speaker James McPherson with a variety of living history, tours, lectures and much more. 757-591-7739.

**March 16, 2006.** Lecture, "Art in the Civil War South," at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond. Co-sponsored by the Museum of the Confederacy. Noon. Admission \$5. 804-649-1861.

**March 18-19, 2006.** Antique Arms Show, sponsored by the Maryland Arms Collectors Association. 950 tables, and exhibit area of Civil War artillery and historic arms. Held at Maryland State Fairgrounds Cow Palace, Timonium, Maryland. Saturday 9 am – 5 pm; Sunday 9 am – 3 pm. Admission \$5.00. For information, go to [www.baltimoreshow.com](http://www.baltimoreshow.com).

**March 24-25, 2006.** Seminar, "Blood on the Canvas: The History of Civil War Art," at Liberty University in Lynchburg. Presentations include talks, demonstrations and displays relating to Civil War art, photography and sculpture. Living history and a video of "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" also are featured. Admission \$55 (\$65 after March 23) includes all sessions, banquet and Saturday luncheon. One-day admissions are available. 434-592-4031.

### CVCWCA Newsletter

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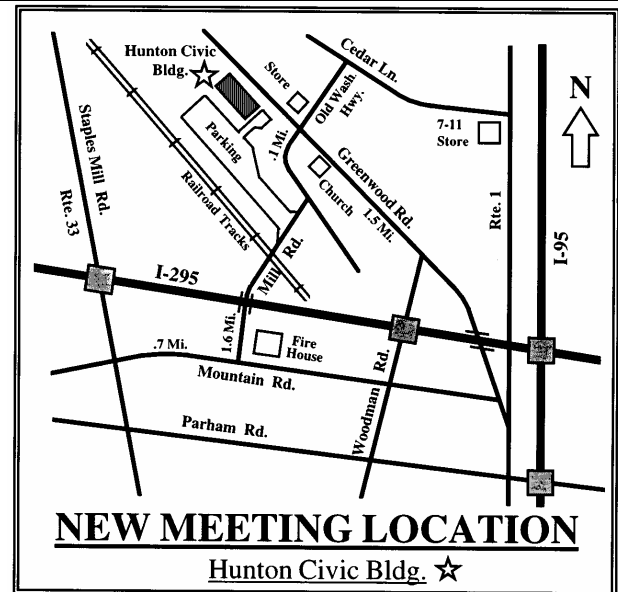
**March 25, 2006.** Civil War Relic Show sponsored by the Fredericksburg Civil War Relic Hunters Association. Held at the Eagle's Lodge, 21 Cool Springs Road, Fredericksburg. Artifacts, books, prints and more. 9 am – 5 pm. \$5. 540-372-6709.

**March 25, 2006.** Anniversary commemoration of the First Battle of Kernstown, just south of Winchester. Park tours and more are planned. Free. 540-662-1824.

**April 8-9, 2006.** 34<sup>th</sup> Annual American Civil War Show held at the Dulles Expo Center (south building) in Chantilly. Featuring over 350 tables of the finest Civil War and earlier military effects, memorabilia, relics, books, paper goods, photos, art, and antique weapons. Saturday 9-5, Sunday 10-2. 703-823-1958.

(Thanks to Dennis Madison for the calendar of events for this month's newsletter!)

## Map to Hunton Civic Center



MAP NOT TO SCALE