

December 2010

Williamsburg, Virginia

**Last Meeting:** Our last meeting had 28 in attendance. Our Speaker, **Professor Sean Heuvel, of Christopher Newport University, presented a most informative historical account of "The Old College Goes to War: The Civil War Service of William and Mary Students, Faculty and Alumni"**



Professor Sean Heuvel, Christopher Newport University

**Next Meeting:** Our next event will be at "Colonial Heritage Club" located at 6500 Arthur Hills Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23188 [www.colonialheritageva.com/club.html](http://www.colonialheritageva.com/club.html) on **January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.** Our Speaker **Mr. Will Molineux – will present "An Incident at City Point - May, 1862"**

**Commander Don Woolridge:**

As we near the end of another prosperous year for our Camp I look back on all the accomplishments we made. Our membership has grown and continues to grow. The Camp has done an outstanding job with maintaining our cemeteries as well as the Fort Magruder cleanup projects. We are going into the New Year moving our meeting location to Colonial Heritage Golf

Club due to the welcomed membership growth. I would be remiss if I did not mention how much we will miss meeting at Hog Wild Smoke House and the warm reception we enjoyed while there. Compatriot Bill Lee and Blanch Watkins could not have been more accommodating to the Camp and more especially good friends. Planning Committee meetings will continue to be held at Hog Wild.

On December 15, we had a wonderful Christmas Social at the Toano Women's Club. We had 56 Compatriots, Friends and Guest attend this event. I would like to commend everyone that worked in setting up, decorating and preparing the delicious Southern supper. We were treated to barbeque, Brunswick stew, ham biscuits and many other dishes, too numerous to name. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Jeff Toalson, Compatriot Charles Eugene Bush and Chaplin Fred Breeden presented a very moving Christmas story of our Confederate Ancestors during the War. This was the first Christmas social for the Camp and the first of many to come.

On behalf of James City Cavalry, I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and we look forward to the New Year with our Camp projects and fellowship. Our Ancestor's heritage is our paramount goal and we will strive to keep their legacy at the forefront for the future. We appreciate all the sacrifice's they made along with their families during the stressful times of the war. No matter what the outcome of strife and war, Southern Heritage will live on!

Merry Christmas and Deo Vindice!

### **Past Commander David Ware:**

#### The Spiritual Cause and Effect of the War to Prevent Southern Independence

The Spiritual Causes and Effects of the War to Prevent Southern Independence: wants vs. needs  
The Antebellum Southern, agrarian system is focused on needs. Food, clothing and shelter are the goals. New products and ideas are examined with a cautious eye as to how they fit into these parameters. Here, when an individual has the means to provide for himself and his family, he is successful. The Yankee/industrial/capitalist/socialist/communist doctrine is one of wants. Success is based on monetary wealth and material acquisitions. It revolves on the axis of advertising and sales. People have to be convinced to acquire things they don't need by convincing them that they do, indeed, need them. This doctrine, then, is based on a lie: the lie that we need something that we don't. This system has no use for or respect for truth. The recent flap over documents leaked by Wikileaks is proof positive. Yes, there are many reasons the liars tell us that we shouldn't have access to the truth, but none of them hold water when subjected to any analytical scrutiny. The selection of those to rule over us at all levels is based on a ritual called "elections" where those that can tell the biggest and most convincing lie wins. Unqualified support is continually drummed up by a media owned and operated by some eight entities slurping on the fruits of the tree of dishonesty: warfare, welfare, advertising and sales. Several decades ago Scott Peck wrote a book called "People of the Lie" which made the point that our culture places little value on seeking or receiving the truth. It has gotten worse. In this environment it is completely futile to attempt to tell the truth about our people and culture. We have to concentrate our efforts on the young who have not been thoroughly brainwashed by the liars and allegiance to them.

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Jeff Toalson: Book Auctions:** No book auction was held in December due to our annual Christmas Social.

## **JAMES CITY COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES**

**By Historian/Genealogist Fred Boelt**

Before we leave the Olive Branch Church cemetery, there are three other men to consider. One is definitely buried there, but his service record has not been proven. One has a proven service record, and it is probable that he is buried there. And the third is a bit of a mystery.

The first man to consider is John William Minor who was born in James City County on March 21, 1848. His parents were George W. and Elizabeth Richardson Minor. This family owned several tracts of land out on Bush Neck Road. One of these tracts is identifiable today as the Bush Neck “pick your own” berry farm. John would have been thirteen years old when the war began, and only seventeen years old at its end. A search of service records for him has yielded nothing. Yet, he is listed on the church veteran list as “Confederate,” and he was referred to as “Captain” in later newspaper articles and also in his obituary. It is a known fact that many under age men enlisted toward the end of the war when manpower was desperately needed, and that many records from the latter part of the war do not exist. This may well be the case for John Minor.

Around 1869, John Minor married Roselia A. Rogers, daughter of William H. and Jane E. Rogers, also of James City County. In 1870, John and Roselia were living with George Minor on the family farm on Bush Neck Road. They eventually had seven children, three of whom lived to maturity. John’s grandfather, William R. Richardson, left three tracts of land to his grandchildren. Several of the other grandchildren had intermarried with the Garrett family (*Picket Lines*, April 2010), and they, along with John and others were involved in a Chancery Case over the land for a number of years. John eventually got title to part of the Bush Neck farm and lived there for the rest of his life.

Newspaper articles indicated that John was a prosperous farmer and also served as secretary to the Electoral Board for twelve years. John died on May 15, 1919, and was referred to as Captain Minor in his obituary. But contrary to custom, there was no mention of his Confederate service or membership in veterans’ associations. It did state, “He was very patriotic, always standing by his flag and ready and willing to perform any act in his power for his community.” John Minor was laid to rest at Olive Branch along with several other members of his family.

The second man being considered is George A. C. Piggott who was born in James City County around 1843. He was the son of Fielding D. and Elizabeth H. Piggott who owned land adjacent to Captain Geddy’s White Hall tract. George enlisted in Williamsburg, on June 24, 1861, in Company W, 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Cavalry. Records indicate that he served through January 1861 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry, and that he later reenlisted in Company H, 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry at an unknown time and place as a private. His horse was captured in April 1863, after which he was promoted to 3<sup>rd</sup> Corporal. Rosters indicated his presence later in 1863 and early 1864, and he was issued clothing in July 1864. There is no further record for George Piggott after this clothing issue.

George Piggott did not appear in either the 1870 or the 1880 censuses. His sisters were named in a Chancery case in the 1870s, but George was not included. Colonel Allen listed him as “dead” in the roster that he prepared in 1896. It seems reasonable to assume then that George Piggott died prior to 1870. A listing of all veterans buried at Olive Branch that was prepared in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century has the following, “Cpl. G. A. Piggott, Confederate, (rusty fence around plot – no stone).” Based on this, it seems probable that George Piggott is buried there in a now unmarked grave.

The third man listed on the updated (1999) cemetery list is, "E. Rogers, Confederate, Unmarked and not located." As was stated above, John Minor's wife was Roselia Rogers. She had two brothers, John W., who served in the James City Artillery, and William E., who was born on March 7, 1852. He was only fifteen at war's end, and it seems very unlikely that he served at all. He and his wife are buried at Olive Branch. John W. Rogers was the second husband of Ella Hubbard (Alley) who is buried in the Hubbard family cemetery adjacent to Olive Branch. According to his obituary, John Rogers was buried in Yorktown. After researching the Olive Branch membership records for 1833 through 1920, this Rogers family is the only one associated with Olive Branch.

As we conclude our survey of veterans buried at Olive Branch, we include these men, Captain John W. Minor, Cpl George A. C. Piggott, and E. Rogers with the hope that some of our readers may be able to offer additional information about them.

**Newsletter:** "In an effort to help save on the cost of the newsletter, you can now have it e-mailed to you in an adobe format. Please e-mail Commander Don Woolridge at [dsw317@earthlink.net](mailto:dsw317@earthlink.net) to be added to this list." Newsletters are also posted on the website for your convenience.

**Visit our website at:** <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

### Camp Officers

Don Woolridge - Commander  
[dsw317@earthlink.net](mailto:dsw317@earthlink.net)

Ken Parsons - Adjutant  
[kparsons4@cox.net](mailto:kparsons4@cox.net)

Jeff Toalson - 1st Lt. Commander  
[troon24@widowmaker.com](mailto:troon24@widowmaker.com)

Steve White - 2nd Lt. Commander  
[garrettsgrocery@netzero.com](mailto:garrettsgrocery@netzero.com)

Fred Boelt – Historian/Genealogist  
[fboelt@yahoo.com](mailto:fboelt@yahoo.com)

Bob Tuck - Archivist  
[tnvols1971@cox.net](mailto:tnvols1971@cox.net)

Gerry White – Quartermaster  
[jerry47@cox.net](mailto:jerry47@cox.net)

Fred Breeden – Chaplain  
[flbreeden@yahoo.com](mailto:flbreeden@yahoo.com)

**SUPPORT THE TROOPS PROJECT:** Norman Goodwin's shelves are running low and he was only able to send one box to our troops last month . . . Norman especially needs . . . wet wipes, hard candy, slim jims, dental floss picks, bubble gum, disposable razors and Christmas cards with envelopes... Please bring a couple of items with you to the January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### Thought for the Month

**“But what a cruel thing is war to separate and destroy families and friends, and mar the purest joys and happiness God has granted us in this world, to fill our hearts with hatred instead of love for our neighbors, and to devastate the fair face of this beautiful world!”**

General Robert E. Lee 



### CAMP JOURNAL

November 24, 2010

- **Meeting:** Held 7:00 PM at Hog Wild, James City County, VA
  - 28 attendees
  - Welcome given by Commander Don Woolridge
  - Invocation: given by Commander Don Woolridge
  - Pledge and Salute to the Flags:
    - US flag pledge, Virginia flag salute, and CS flag salute by Camp members
  - The Charge: was read by Compatriot Ed Truslow
  - Recognition of guests and friends of the SCV by Commander Don Woolridge.  
*Guests:* Professor Sean M. Heuvel of Christopher Newport University and Mrs. Heuvel
  - Ancestral Memorial Candle Lighting: By Compatriot Sparky Harcourt honoring “*Corp. Wyndham R. Carper*”, Company “D” 11<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry. Candle lit with a prayer by Compatriot Jeff Toalson.
- **Adjutant/Treasurer’s Report:** Adjutant Parsons reported approximately \$1,452.88 in checking and \$2,500.00 in savings
- **Announcements:**

- Next SCV Camp meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in January at Colonial Heritage Clubhouse
- **Upcoming events:**
  - Christmas Supper at Toano Women's Club, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM. Bar-B-Q and Brunswick Stew will be provided by the Camp along with a beverage. Bring a side dish or dessert and a serving utensil for your dish. Also, tables will be provided to display any artifacts that you would like to share with the Camp. Dress is casual.
- **Committee Reports:**
  - Compatriot Steve White reported that cemetery projects will resume in January. Steve also reported that a donation to the Camp was found in the information box at Peach Park.
  - **October Minutes:** Approved as published in the November edition of "*Picket Lines*".
- **Old Business:**
  - Camp project, Support Our Troops continues to need items and is being actively worked by Compatriot Joel Norman Goodwin
  - New meeting location. The issue of a meeting place to accommodate our growing camp has come to an end. Starting in January 2011, our Camp will move its meetings to the Colonial Heritage Clubhouse. Meetings will continue to be on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.
- **New Business:**
  - Camp book raffle generated \$84. First drawing was won by Commander Don Woolridge, second drawing by Compatriot Sparky Harcourt and the third by Carey Williams.
- **Program:** Guest speaker was Professor Sean Heuvel of Christopher Newport University who spoke about the impact of the Civil War on the College of William & Mary as well as the service of W&M's faculty, students, and alumni during the war.
- **Benediction:** Commander Don Woolridge
- **Adjournment:** Camp adjourned at 8:30 PM. Next regular meeting scheduled for January 26, 2011 at Colonial Heritage Clubhouse.

Respectfully submitted,

*Christopher L. Hockaday*  
**Camp Archivist**

# 2010 Christmas Social





*James City Cavalry, SEV Camp 2095  
Williamsburg, Virginia*



Fellow Compatriots,

For those of you that are able to assist in the clean-up of the Fort Magruder site on Penniman Road in Williamsburg, the following work dates are scheduled:

January 8, 2011 at 1:30 PM

January 15, 2011 at 1:30 PM

January 22, 2011 at 1:30 PM

January 29, 2011 at 1:30 PM

If any of you would like to start working at Fort Magruder at an earlier time of the day, please contact Ken Parsons at 757-876-6967. He is our liaison for the access key for the site from the UDC.

Tools needed will be hand tools such as loppers, axes, pruning saws, chain saws, pole saws, rakes, and brush axes if you have any of them. Trash bags will be provided.

Hopefully, the moat area will not be as wet this year so we can advance toward the back corner from each end of the berm. In the event of inclement weather work days are automatically canceled. Thank you in advance for your help.

Steve White  
Cemetery Projects Liaison