



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



November 2023 Dispatch – Williamsburg, Virginia

Camp #2095  10th Brigade  Virginia Division  Army of Northern Virginia

A patriotic honor society dedicated to community service and the preservation of the true history of the War Between The States.

Next Muster – One Week Early!

Wednesday, November 15th, 2023, 6:30 pm
Colonial Heritage Club House
www.colonialheritageclub.com/find-us
6500 Arthur Hills Drive
Williamsburg, VA 23188



Meal Cost: \$20.00 Per Person
Payment by Check is Preferred

Non-camp members please contact Jeff Toalson (757) 220-0131 or troon24@cox.net to make a dinner reservation. Camp members will be contacted by the 'Call Team' for your reservation. Attendees without a reservation are welcome to attend the meeting but may not receive a dinner.

JCC Web Site: <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

To add or remove an email address for the Picket Lines distribution list, or for questions or comments regarding the newsletter, email to: jccpicketlinesdistribution@gmail.com. To email one of the camp officers directly, see **Camp Officers** on page 3.

November Guest Speaker

Thomas G.
Campbell

*“The Red
Rebel of San
Giovanni”*



Tom will share with us the interconnected story of 5 members of the greatest generation from Italy and France in WW2. Four of them were neighbors from Richmond, Virginia. At our meeting you will hear stories from their letters and postcards and stories from interviews with Tom. Harriet Vaden, her brother PFC Herbie Vaden, 1st Lt. Jimmie Monteith, 1st Lt. Richard Williams and T. Sgt. Donald Singlestad from Minnesota. Italy brought four of them together and the 'Red Rebel' connects all the stories. A story of infantry, bombers, donuts, prison escapes and a Medal of Honor.

T. "Tom" Giles Campbell was born and raised in Rock Hill, South Carolina. He received degrees in Electrical Engineering from The Citadel and V.P.I., and a degree in Business from Harvard Graduate School of Business(PMD59). He retired from NASA at Langley Research Center after 40 years, and lives in Williamsburg.

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held October 25th at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,
James City County., Va., **28** Attendees

Welcome given by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

Pledge & Salute to the Flags led by Aide de Camp Jon Holland

Blessing:

Given by Chaplain George Corbett

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Quartermaster George Bridewell

Program:

1st Lt. Commander Ron Perry welcomed Mr. Henry Kidd of the Dearing-Beauregard Camp of Petersburg. Henry gave us a marvelous program on the summer efforts in 1864 by Union forces to try to capture Petersburg. These efforts came to a dramatic conclusion with the tunnel under the Confederate works, the huge explosion, and resulting fiasco in execution of the assault by the Union forces. What well could have been a decisive moment in bringing about the fall of Petersburg and Richmond instead resulted in a stunning Confederate victory.



1st Lt. Cmdr Perry and Mr. Kidd

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Cemetery Report - 2nd Lt. Cmdr. Steve White

- Thanks to Joe Sanderson for mowing the grass at Peach Park. He does a great job and we appreciate his help in keeping the cemetery in shape. The 3x5 First National flag has been replaced along with the grave flag. Additional brochures were added to the information box.
- On Oct. 25 a Southern Cross of Honor was set at Olive Branch Cemetery by Dennis Dasher and me to honor Cpl. Southey Savage Hankins, Co. H - 5th Virginia Cavalry. This is the Cross that Compatriot Wert donated to the Camp. Joe will assist me in setting the second cross when his schedule allows.
- In early November we will brush hog the Hunt Farm Cemetery. An email will be sent to recruit the work party. Access closes to the land in late November so hopefully our weather cooperates.

Old & New Business

- Adjutant's Report – Adjutant Dave Watson
- Chief of Staff's Report – Chief of Staff Ken Parsons
- Future Speaker Leads – 1st Lt. Cmdr. Perry
- Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Denny Griggs
- Comments - Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

Book Raffle

Proceeds of \$51 were donated to the Camp Treasury for the raffle of the three donations.

Benediction

Given by Chaplain George Corbett



Camp Officers

Commander	Jeff Toalson troon24@cox.net
1st Lt. Commander	Ron Perry perryra@gmail.com
2nd Lt. Commander	Steve White garrettsgrocery@gmail.com
Adjutant	Dave Watson djwatson61@cox.net
Chief of Staff	Ken Parsons kparsons320@gmail.com
Treasurer	Denny Griggs dennisgriggs414@gmail.com
Chaplain	George Corbett georgecorbett@cox.net
Aide de Camp	Jon Holland jonholland79@gmail.com
Quartermaster	George Bridewell gbridewell@aol.com
Historian	Fred Boelt fwb@widomaker.com
Webmaster	Don Woolridge dsw1229@gmail.com
Archivist/Editor	Paul Huelskamp jccpicketlinesdistribution@gmail.com

James City Cavalry Nametag



Compatriots who need a nametag may stop by Fleming's Engraving, 103 Bacon Street in Williamsburg. They are open from 10 - 4 most days. Cost is \$14. They have the blank and all they do is add your name. If you are going toward Colonial Wmsbg. on Richmond Road you will find Bacon Street across from Food Lion one block after you have crossed through the Monticello traffic light.

Commander's Comments

How can it possibly be November? The goblins were just at the door looking for bite size candy bars, it is time to be thinking about turkey and pumpkin pie and that jolly fellow in the red suit is only weeks away from his journey from the North Pole.

Our November meeting is EARLY to avoid conflicts with family Thanksgiving plans. Mark the 15th on your calendar. The call team will be calling almost as quick as you get this newsletter.

Compatriot Tom Campbell will be telling stories from his recently released *The Red Rebel of San Giovanni*. There are 5 main characters from WW2 who shared their memories, letters, and memorabilia with him to create this book. Four of them are Virginians who had ancestors who wore the gray. These four all were from the same neighborhood in Richmond and knew each other prior to the war. Two of them were brother and sister. Four of the five were in Italy and are the heart of the story. One will be awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism at Normandy and one will be awarded the Italian equivalent for his remarkable service in Italy.

Come join us for our last meeting of 2023. We will be having turkey and other good foods for supper.

Jeff



Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

During the nineteenth century, it was still a fairly common practice for neighbors to marry neighbors. Courting was just more convenient within a radius of a few miles. Back in a *Picket Lines* article in March, 2010, we reviewed the lives and service records of several Taylor men. Perhaps a little can be added to that story now.

Richard Edward Taylor, born on December 14, 1829, in James City County, was most likely a son of Richard Taylor who had three more sons and a daughter. They lived at Drinking Spring farm. Identified today, this land is roughly bounded by Richmond Road, Norge Lane, north across the railroad tracks, and west of Coke's Lane toward Toano. In 1850, the two younger sons, Henley S. and Thomas Jones Taylor, were living with the Henry (Benskin Marshall) Richardson family at Cloverdale on Ware Creek Road. They and several other teenagers were listed as students, undoubtedly going to school at Cloverdale.

We have given Richard Taylor's service and life story previously. One of Richard's brothers, Thomas Jones Taylor, enlisted in Company H., 32nd Virginia Infantry, on May 16, 1861, in Williamsburg as 2nd Sergeant. This company soon became the James City Artillery. He was elected 1st Sergeant on January 7, 1862, and elected 2nd Lieutenant on April 30th of that year. He was present on all rolls through August 1863, but was marked absent/sick on the October roll. He was marked "present under arrest May 18, 1864" on the October 1864 roll. He was later marked present, commanding company on December 31, 1864.

Thomas Taylor was mortally wounded in the left arm and left hip at Five Forks on April 1, 1865. He was treated at a field hospital at City Point, where he died on April 17, 1865. Shortly before enlisting, Thomas Taylor had married Mary Virgilia Hankins (Gillie). She was the daughter of Alexander Hamilton Hankins, early captain of the James City Artillery, and his wife, Mary Brown Taylor. They resided at Moss Side (present day Kiskiack Golf Course), less than two miles from Drinking Spring. In her widow's pension application, Gillie indicated that Tom's remains had not been brought home.

And now Taylor cousins enter the story. William Pinkethman Taylor, born c. 1843, was the son of Pinkethman A Taylor and Susan Bowis Marston. They lived just to the east of Drinking Spring farm in the present-day area of Peninsula and Peach Streets in Norge. His life and service record have been previously given in *Picket Lines*. He enters this story here for he married Mary Virgilia Hankins Taylor, as her second husband on May 28, 1868, and they had five children. Again, Moss Side was nearby!

Cornelius Wesley Taylor, born May 5, 1841, was also a son of Pinkethman A. Taylor and his wife, Susan Bowis Marston. Cornelius Taylor enlisted at Williamsburg in the 32nd Virginia Infantry, on May 16, 1861, as 3rd sergeant. This company soon became the James City Artillery. He was defeated in reelection on May 12, 1862, and reduced to the rank of private. He was in Chimborazo Hospital # 1 in July 1863, and present on all rolls through December 1864.

After the war, Cornelius Taylor returned to James City County and the 1870 census listed his occupation as "clerk in store." He married Clarinda Lightfoot Hankins, another daughter of Captain Alexander Hankins of Moss Side, on November 27, 1873; they had six children, and were living on and farming his mother's land by the 1880 census. Cornelius Taylor died on October 25, 1892 and was buried at James City Chapel with his parents and extended family.

These Taylor – Hankins marriages simply add to the typical Tidewater family snarls, and explain why in days gone by, everyone was referred to as *cousin*!

CSA Battle Flags at the Virginia State Fair

(Contributed by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson)



As you can see we have Compatriots Campbell, Hayman and Turner wearing a logo cap with the battle flag of the 'Army of Northern Virginia' and Compatriot Toalson wearing a logo cap with the battle flag of 'Cowan's 1st Mississippi Light Artillery.' Compatriot Wert, not pictured, was also wearing the Cowan cap.

The Confederate Memorial Hall in New Orleans has the 2nd largest collection of Confederate battle flags in the country. The entire building is 100% Confederate history and is a marvelous museum to tour and also a major research archive. I have been a member for years. This is the Confederate Museum to support.

This cap is based on the Van Dorn pattern battle flag that was used by Cowan's Light Artillery. The flag photo is the restored flag from the Memorial Hall collection. You can visit the website at www.confederatemuseum.com and their phone number is 504-523-4522. The cap sells for \$20. Call or email Pat Ricci for orders for a cap or perhaps other items. On the website you will find order information and also membership information.

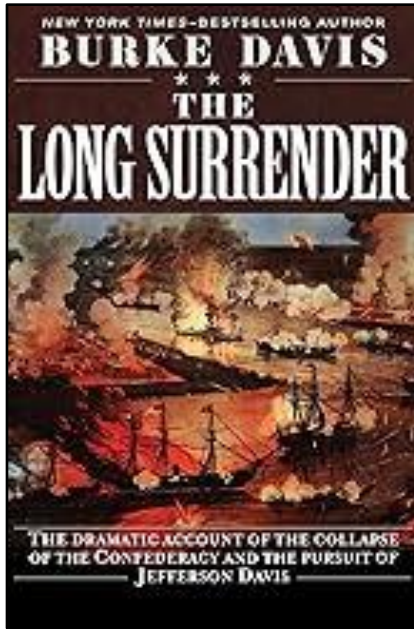


10th Brigade Traveling Trophy - The General Mahone Pistol

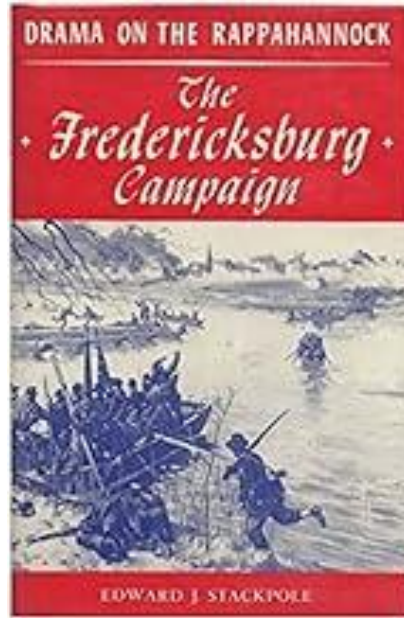
Brigade Commander Ed Whitley showed us the new 10th Brigade Traveling Trophy. This is earned by visiting the Camp that currently holds the pistol with your Commander and a posse of members at their meeting. The pistol then comes to your Camp awaiting visitors. Our Brigade Camps are in Isle of Wight, Newport News, Windsor, Mathews, Wakefield and Emporia.



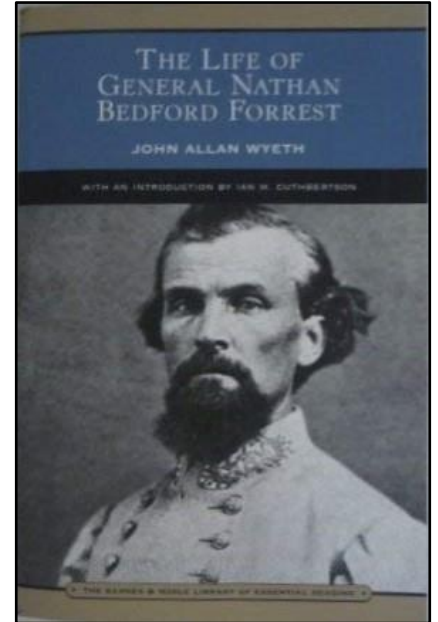
November Book Raffle



“The Long Surrender”
by Burke Davis

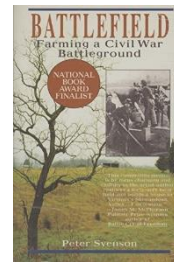


“Drama on the Rappahannock: The
Fredericksburg campaign”
by Edward J Stackpole



“Life of General Nathan Bedford Forrest”
by John Wyeth

Bonus Book:
“Battlefield: Farming a Civil War
Battleground”
By Peter Svenson



Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



<http://www.wcwrt.org>

On November 28th, 2023 - Frank O'Reilly
will present:

“Fredericksburg: Barksdale’s Brigade Delaying
the Union River Crossing”