



James City Cavalry PICKET LINES



June 2015 Dispatch – Williamsburg, Virginia – <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

Camp #2095  1st Brigade  Virginia Division  Army of Northern Virginia

A PATRIOTIC HONOR SOCIETY DEDICATED TO SERVICE AND PRESERVING THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

NEXT MUSTER

Wednesday, June 24th, 2015, 6:30pm
Colonial Heritage Club
<http://colonialheritageclub.org/home.asp>
6500 Arthur Hills Drive
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Anna Gibson Holloway
Washington, DC



***"The Confederate Navy in Hampton Roads:
The Fate of the USS Merrimack"***

Meal Cost: \$17.00 Per Person –
(genuine Confederate currency gladly accepted –
will reluctantly accept US \$5 notes)

Honored Confederate Soldier:
2nd Lieutenant Henry M. Talley
Company G
14th Virginia Infantry

RSVP Required

Compatriots' Ladies & Guests Encouraged To Attend

JUNE GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Anna Gibson Holloway
Washington, DC

***"The Confederate Navy in Hampton Roads:
The Fate of USS Merrimack"***

Confederate Secretary of the Navy Stephen Russell Mallory understood that while the Union had a fully-functioning navy, the Confederacy "had a navy to build." With the Union abandonment of Gosport Navy Yard, the Confederacy had the tools to build its navy - but first had to deal with the remains of the sunken *USS Merrimack*.

This presentation will provide brand new information on how that vessel was raised during the war and the choices made by the men involved. There will also be new information on the multiple efforts to raise the *CSS Virginia* after the conflict.

ANNA GIBSON HOLLOWAY is the Maritime Historian for the Maritime Heritage Program of the National Park Service in Washington, D.C., where she acts as an advocate for and provides expertise relating to NPS maritime history in all of its forms. She also conducts primary source research on topics related to American Maritime History for publication, and consults with and shares expertise with Federal, State, and private agencies.

She came to the National Park Service after 15 years of full-time work and 5 years of part-time contracting at The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, VA. There she served as Vice President of Museum Collections and Programs – overseeing the Curatorial, Collections Management, Education, Conservation, Photography & Licensing, *USS Monitor* Center, Online Resources, and Exhibition Design functions of that institution. Known as one of the leading experts on the *USS Monitor*, she has lectured internationally on the subject and has published several articles in national magazines and journals, with a monograph forthcoming from Kent State University Press.

This Winston-Salem native graduated from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro with BS degrees in English Literature and Medieval Civilization. She received her Master's degree in Tudor/Stuart History and her Ph.D. in American History from the College of William and Mary.

Bring a guest to our June 24th meeting. Supper will be served at 6:30 and we will introduce Dr. Holloway at 7:30. Our buffet costs \$17 per person. Non-members please contact Ken Parsons at 757-876-6967 or kparsons4@cox.net to confirm reservations.

- Lt. Commander Ed Engle

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Compatriots:

We had a wonderful Memorial Day ceremony at Peach Park. Charles Eugene Bush stepped in for Chaplain Breeden and did yeoman's work in designing a heartfelt and well paced service. He was assisted in his work by Jim Swords, Ed Engle, Fred Boelt and Ken Parsons. Steve White, Scott Summerfield and Ken Parsons pitched in to insure Peach Park was ready. Fred Boelt's Peacock Farm was magnificent, the weather was perfect and the birds provided their usual vocal entertainment.

Thanks to Sherron Ware, Marily Johnston and Wendy Blizzard for setting up the picnic area and having everything ready to serve everyone. The Cavalry very much appreciates Fred making his farm available for our picnic.

Thanks to the members of the U.D.C. and their

spouses who joined us for both our Memorial Service and the picnic.

Chaplain Breeden continues to improve. He is now back home and is doing a regimen of therapies as folks drop by to work with him on his rehab efforts. Fred is not ready for visitors but he and Sandy ask us to keep them in our prayers and thoughts.

June 24th we will have Dr. Anna Holloway, formerly of the Mariner's Museum, speaking to us about "Naval Actions in Hampton Roads during the WBTS." She gives an excellent talk. I expect a sold out house. I will be calling all members to confirm if you will be able to join us and if you are bringing guests. We will need a solid count both for food and seating. This is an excellent chance to bring your spouse to our meeting.

- Jeff Toalson



CAMP OFFICERS

Commander	Jeff Toalson troon24@cox.net
Adjutant	Ken Parsons kparsons4@cox.net
1st Lt. Commander	Ed Engle ece44@cox.net
2nd Lt. Commander	Steve White garrettsgrocery@netzero.com
Historian/Genealogist	Fred Boelt fwb@widomaker.com
Archivist/Editor	Jim Swords james.swords@cox.net
Quartermaster	Warren Raines warrenandpaula@verizon.net
Chaplain	Fred Breeden flbreeden@yahoo.com

UPCOMING SPEAKERS, ETC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND INVITE YOUR GUESTS

June 24th -

Dr. Anna Holloway - Historian
"Naval Achievements in Hampton Roads during the WBTS"

July 22nd -

Mr. Arthur Candenuist - Historian & Researcher
"The Great Train Robbery of 1861"

August 26th -

Mr. John Pelletier - Interpreter & Medical Historian
"Medicine & Medical Officers in the WBTS"

September 25th -

Next Meeting of the Williamsburg Civil War Roundtable
<http://wcwrt.org/>

September 23rd -

Ms. Teresa Roane - Archivist of the UDC
"Confederate Flags"

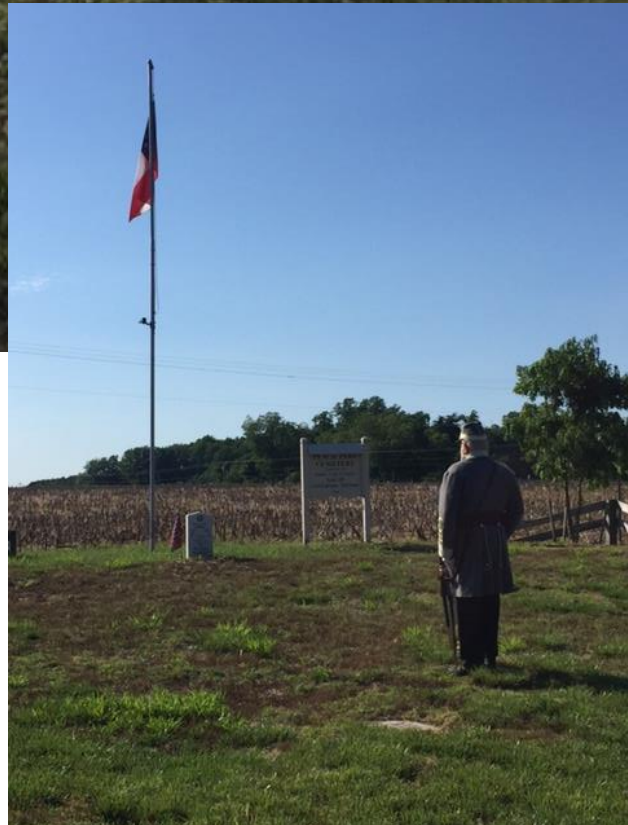
October 28th -

Mr. Mike Hendricks - Interpreter & Historian
"The Richmond Clothing Bureau & the Manufacturing of Confederate Uniforms and Accoutrements"



CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Peach Park Cemetery, Toano, Virginia
May 23rd, 2015





CONFEDERATE BARBEQUE PICNIC

Compatriot Fred Boelt's Farm, Toano, Virginia
May 23rd, 2015



CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES

(Contributed by Historian/Genealogist Compatriot Fred Boelt)

Thomas Henry Davis was born on December 15, 1844, in James City County. The Davis farm was located southeast of the Casey farm clearly marked on the Gilmer map of 1863. Later known as Casey's Corner, these farms were near the intersection of Longhill and Ironbound Roads. Thomas Davis's parents were Allen Davis (1804-1863) and his second wife, Lucretia Elizabeth Davis.

On February 6, 1864, Thomas Davis enlisted in Company B, 1st Virginia Artillery, also known as the James City Artillery, at Chaffin's Bluff. Present on all rolls, in June he was paid a bounty of \$50.00 due for enlisting. On August 17th, he was admitted to Chimborazo Hospital #2 in Richmond and on September 17th, he was granted a sixty day furlough. He was listed as absent, sick for the remainder of the year.

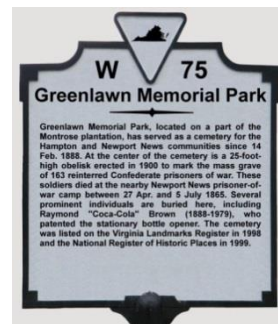
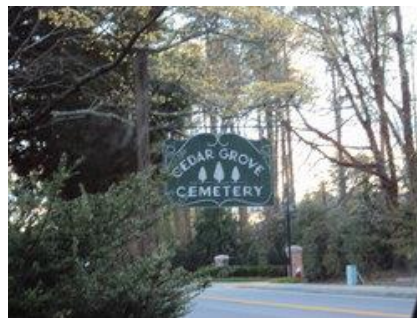
Davis was received at Camp Hamilton from Fort Magruder on February 24, 1865, and listed on the register of Rebel deserters. He was forwarded on the 25th to the Provost Marshall at Bermuda Hundred. The register reflected on the 26th that a deserter from the enemy had been received and was sent on to City Point on the 27th. The prisoner was then sent on to Colonel T. Ingraham in Washington, D. C. on the 28th. Davis was received there from the Army of the James on March 1st and on the 2nd, he took the oath and transportation was furnished to Fort Monroe, Virginia. His long siege of illness in the preceding fall may have prompted him to go home.

Thomas Davis was living with his older half brother, Benjamin Davis in James City County when the 1870 census was taken. His occupation was listed as "farmer." In 1883, he married Jane E. Griffin, daughter of Robert J. and Mary Griffin of Williamsburg. Robert Griffin was the local jailor in 1870, but had died before the 1880 census was taken. Thomas and Jane had two sons and two daughters. Their older son Richard lived for only two years, but their other three children lived to maturity. Thomas Davis supported his family as a carpenter for most of the remainder of his life. The Davises lived on Duke of Gloucester Street in a nineteenth century house no longer in existence.

Thomas Henry Davis died at his home on July 25, 1907. His funeral was held at the Methodist church and burial followed at Cedar Grove Cemetery. Among his survivors were his two sisters, Elizabeth and Lucy, who had married the Casey brothers, Robert and John. (*Picket Lines*, August 2011). Additionally, one of his half brothers also survived him.

John Wilmer Davis, born in November 1841 at the Davis farm, was the son of Allen Davis and his first wife, Mary M. Mahone (died 1843). John Davis enlisted as a private in Company C, 32nd Virginia Infantry, in Williamsburg on April 28, 1861. He was wounded in his foot around Fredericksburg on December 13, 1862, and was admitted to General Hospital No. 8 in Richmond where he remained until July 1863. He was absent in arrest in Petersburg on September 1, 1863. He was again sick from June 19 through July 29, 1864. He deserted on August 12, 1864, was sent to Washington, D. C. where he took the oath, and transportation was furnished to Chicago, Illinois. Why he chose this destination is unknown.

John Davis married Susan Charlotte Elliott, a native of Tennessee, around 1865/66, and they had nine children. When the 1880 census was taken, this family was living on Duke of Gloucester Street and John's occupation was listed as "retail grocer." In 1892, the family moved to Newport News where John worked as a watchman and flagman at the C&O Railroad piers. His death was the result of performing his duty there on October 31, 1910. He had just chased several boys who were smoking off the pier and went back to his office where he collapsed and died from a heart attack. He was buried in Greenlawn Cemetery in Newport News.



APPOMATTOX REVISITED

(Contributed by Compatriot Scott Summerfield)

On the weekend of April 11th and 12th my good friend and camp member Robert Tuck, Dale Smoot and my self participated in the reenactment of the battle at Appomattox, and then the formal surrender at Appomattox Court House. This was part of the State's "Long Road Home" 150th anniversary.



Robert, Dale, and I are members of the 1st Rockbridge Artillery, Graham's Battery in the North South Skirmish Association, and were invited by Captain Sheldon Bell of Company H ,53rd VA to muster in with their unit for the weekend. The 53rd is strictly reenactors. Although I enjoy all things pertaining to the war between the states, I have never reenacted before. This was a new experience and I enjoyed it greatly.

I would not normally want folks to know what I do in my spare time, but this was an especially meaningful and moving experience for us all who participated.

On Saturday the battle was recreated, and this was exciting. Lots of artillery, shooting and marching. The reenactors are special folks. All they do is as close to original as possible. It really felt like I was marching in long ago days. But the best part of the day was when we all made it back to camp. Captain Bell prepared a very special program for us all. Around 26 men total. As we all stood in ranks he gave us a piece of paper containing the names of six men.

We all read the names aloud as our turn came. These were the names of the men that made it to the real surrender from the 53rd. After this Captain Bell took the company's battle flag and cut it into small pieces, then called out each one of us to receive a part of this flag. Please understand that this is something that happened a lot that night 150 years earlier in the Confederate camps. Instead of surrender the flag the next day each man took a piece of their flag back home. I will always carry my part of the flag

in my uniform coat.

The next morning, was Sunday and it was a beautiful morning. All the Confederate units organized and marched in a very quite parade to meet the Yankees. I think there were around 3000 Confederates, and 2000 Yankee reenactors. The Yanks were already lined up in a large field, and we came in and lined up across from them. There was about 40 feet between the two armies and the line was 200-300 yards long. This is where we stacked arms, and then General Lee's final order number nine was given and read aloud. This too was very emotional and like my dad use to say could bring a tear to a glass eye.

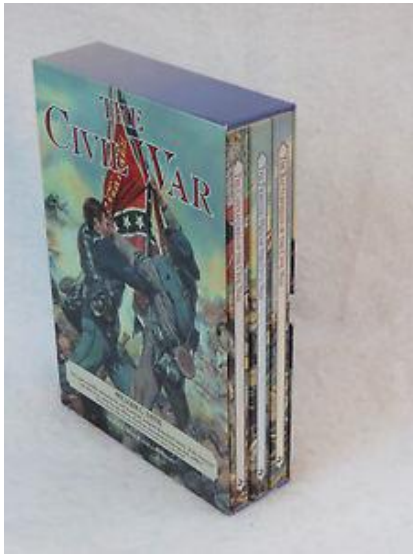
After the arms were stacked and the order from General Lee was read it seemed like the event was about over. We were standing at attention for a very long time. We were just looking at the Yankees and they were staring back at us and I was just thinking of how the Southern boys must have felt. Right before we marched off a gust of wind came up in an other wise still morning. Right across from me a Northerner was standing hold a American flag. I was really moved when I saw the flag standing out straight, and realized that we are all Americans now, and how much I do love our country. A lot of southern men have died and are still dying to protect our flag since 1865.



One other thing I would like to add is kind of interesting. Less than two weeks before Robert, a group from our camp, and my self were out at the Timberlake Cemetery in Barhamsville doing a clean up. This is a new project and none of us had been to this area before. Robert Timberlake is buried in this cemetery and guess what unit it was in. Yep the 53rd Virginia infantry. General Stone Wall Jackson would say that was providence.

- Scott Summerfield

JUNE BOOK RAFFLE



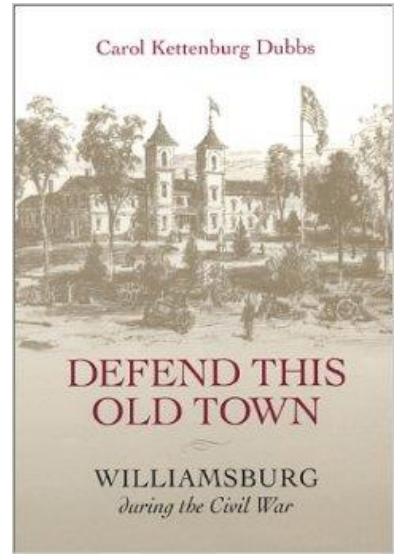
**"The Civil War" William C. Davis,
3-Volume Set,
Salamander Books Ltd.,
1999**

ROBERT E. LEE ON LEADERSHIP



EXECUTIVE LESSONS
IN CHARACTER,
COURAGE, AND VISION
H. W. CROCKER III

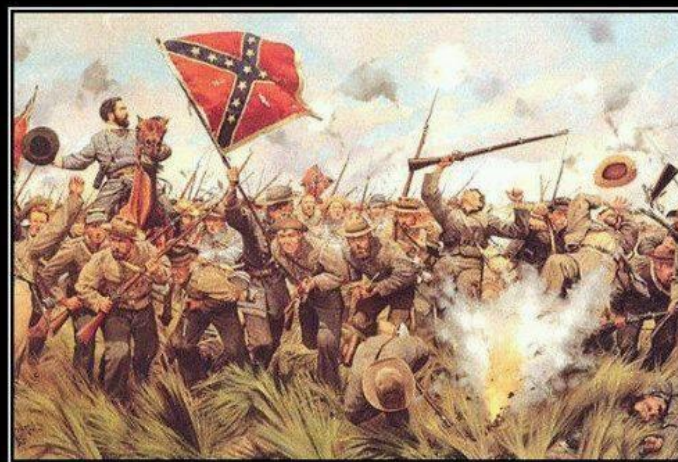
**"Robert E. Lee on Leadership:
Executive Lessons in Character,
Courage, and Vision" H.W. Crocker III,
Three Rivers Press, 1999**



**"Defend This Old Town:
Williamsburg during the Civil War"
Carol Kettenburg Dubbs, Louisiana
State University Press, 2002**

JUNE TRIVIA QUESTION:

Name three U.S. forts not seized by the Confederate Government at the beginning of the war?



CONFEDERATES
outgunned, outmanned, out-supplied, NEVER outfought

