



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



December 2021 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.

No December Meeting

There will be no December camp meeting nor Christmas Supper this year.

The January 2022 camp meeting is scheduled as usual. Look for details in the upcoming January 2022 *Picket Lines*.

We wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all camp members and friends of the camp.

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

2022 Speakers List

(Contributed by 1st Lt. Cmdr. White)

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| 26 Jan | Marilyn Iglasias – “The Sweetest Thing - Valentines Day in the Confederacy” |
| 23 Feb | Doug Crenshaw & Bert Dunkerly - <i>Embattled Richmond 1861-1865</i> Co-Authors of “Embattled Capital: A Guide to Richmond During the Civil War” |
| 23 Mar | Marilyn Iglasias & Gwen Wood - “Magnolias & Muskets” |
| 27 April | Mike Block - “ <i>The Prospect of Striking A Blow: Lee, Jackson & the Defense of Richmond July – August 1862</i> ” |
| May | <i>Confederate Remembrance Service and Picnic</i> |
| 22 Jun | Fred Chisea – “From the Virginia Army to the Confederate Army” |
| 27 July | Dwight Hughes - “Unlike Anything That Ever Floated: The Battle Between the Monitor & the Virginia.” |

Speakers for later months in the year are still to be determined.

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held 17 November at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,
James City County., Va., **31** Attendees

Welcome given by 1st Lt. Cmdr. Jerry White

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

Blessing:

Given by Senior Chaplain George Corbett

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by 1st Lt. Cmdr. White

Comments by 1st Lt. Cmdr. White

Program:

1st Lt. Cmdr. White introduced the evening's guest speaker: Friend Of
Camp Mr. Bill Miller.

Mr. Miller presented "*Into the Valley of Death*", a haunting memorial to
Pickett's Charge with references to the Charge of the Light Brigade.



Mr. Miller and 1st Lt. Cmdr. White

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Cemetery Report

2nd Lt. Commander Steve White read some of the wonderful
comments left by some of the visitors to Peach Park. See page 6
for some selected comments.

Old & New Business

- There will be no camp meeting in December. January's meeting will be on the fourth Wednesday as usual.
- The UDC Chapter 637 President Gerry Waring presented nicely framed awards to several camp members for their efforts supporting the installation of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial at Ft. Magruder.

New Member Induction

Compatriot Justin Collier



1st Lt. Cmdr. White, Compatriot Collier and Treasurer Parsons

Book Raffle

Proceeds were donated to the Camp Treasury
for the raffle of the three donations and two bonus books.

Benediction

Given by Senior Chaplain George Corbett

Adjournment

8:35 PM

Camp Officers



| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Commander | Jeff Toalson troon24@cox.net |
| Adjutant | Dave Watson djwatson61@cox.net |
| Treasurer | Ken Parsons kparsons320@gmail.com |
| 1st Lt. Commander | Jerry White hfrog66@gmail.com |
| 2nd Lt. Commander | Steve White garrettsgrocery@gmail.com |
| Chaplain | George Corbett georgecorbett@cox.net |
| Aide de Camp | Jon Holland jonholland79@gmail.com |
| Archivist/Editor | Paul Huelskamp paulhuelskamp@cox.net |
| Quartermaster | George Bridewell gbridewell@aol.com |
| Historian | Fred Boelt fwb@widomaker.com |

2021 Book Raffles

Compatriots, we thank you for your support of our raffles this year. Not only did you win a wide variety of excellent books on the WBTS but the \$433 you donated helped defray Covid cleaning charges for our meetings and the meals we provide our speakers. We also thank the many folks who donated books to our raffle library. We have well over 150 books for use in 2022.

Rob Symer

Commander's Comments

Congratulations to my James City Cavalry compatriots for your accomplishments in 2021.

- Working closely with Williamsburg Chapter 637 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, we supported their efforts in finding a new home for the Williamsburg – James City Country Soldiers and Sailors Monument. It is now standing on the grounds of Fort Magruder honoring their service.
- Several significant items were contributed to the Swem Archives, at William & Mary, preserving Southern history. We began this annual project in 2016.
- We continued our work maintaining several abandoned James City County cemeteries.
- Support was provided to a variety of State and National SCV programs honoring our heritage.
- For 2020 we were awarded our 11th consecutive Outstanding Camp Streamer.

I would like to thank all of the officers of the Cavalry for their support during the year. The Camp could not function without your collective efforts. I would like to thank all of our Camp compatriots for your Camp support, each in your own way, which were so important to our success.

1st Lt. Commander Jerry White has begun work on our 2022 speakers, and in an enclosed article, you will see that he has already lined up 6 speakers on a wide variety of subjects. We had six fine speakers during our Covid shortened 2021 and Paul Huelskamp has created a page thanking them for their efforts.

Two of our compatriots deserve specific appreciation and acknowledgement. Compatriot Ken Parsons not only serves as our Treasurer but he also apparently joined the Williamsburg U.D.C. Chapter 637 and worked for them throughout 2021 as a General Contractor / Foreman on the monument project at Fort Magruder. Compatriot Tim Norman, master bricklayer, worked tirelessly in the summer heat doing the beautiful “basketweave design” brickwork on the new walkway at Fort Magruder. Well done gentlemen. You both bring great honor to your Confederate ancestors.

Proceeding into 2022, our guidance remains to remember that “We Serve in Their Memory.”

Jeff Toalson

Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

Again, looking at the Bloxton family, William Ashby Bloxton, Jr., brother of the whole blood, was born in Stafford County, Virginia, on October 16, 1844. He was the third son of William Ashby Bloxton and his first wife, Lucy Clift, who died in 1846. By the time that the 1850 census was taken, William was living with his maternal grandfather, Fielding Clift, in Stafford County. By 1860, he was living with his maternal uncle, Arthur F. Clift, and was listed as a laborer on his uncle's farm.

When the War Between the States broke out, William Bloxton enlisted in Company C, 30th Virginia Infantry, Corse's Brigade, Pickett's Division, Army of Northern Virginia. He enlisted on July 6, 1861, at Marlboro Point, Stafford County, Virginia. He was marked present on rolls from July through December 1861. William Bloxton was admitted to a hospital in Fredericksburg on November 20, 1861, no ailment listed.

On the February 1862 roll, a note was added that he had extended his enlistment for two years and a bounty of \$50.00 was due him. He later saw action at Sharpsburg on September 17, 1862. He was present on rolls in 1864, and he was paid for clothing in the third quarter of that year. The records of his service stop there. The 1865 records for many veterans are sketchy at best. A family record also stated that he served in the Stafford County Light Artillery, but no proof of this has come to light.

It is not certain whether William Bloxton returned to Stafford County after the war, or if he came directly to York County to work on his brother, Thomas Lawrence Bloxton's farm. At any rate, on December 1, 1868, he married Elizabeth Octavia Stamper, the widow of Michael Sherman [Corporal, Company F, 3rd Virginia Cavalry, discharged for disability on October 19, 1862. Died 1867, and was interred at Olivet Presbyterian Church Cemetery, New Kent County.]. Bettie, as she was known to family, was born in 1835 at Scottsville, New Kent County, Virginia. She had two daughters from her previous marriage when she married William Bloxton.

The 1870 census listed this family group in the Bruton District, York County, Virginia. Eventually, William and Bettie had a daughter and two sons. By the time the 1880 census taker called, this family had moved to St. Peter's District, New Kent County, Virginia, and William was farming. His brother-in-law, James W. Stamper [Private, 3rd Virginia Cavalry, paroled April 26, 1865 in Richmond], was also living with the family.

At some point, the family moved back to York County. William Ashby Bloxton died there on April 27, 1892. On her application for a widow's pension. Bettie Bloxton stated that he had died at Maple Grove farm near Williamsburg, in York County, of apoplexy (a stroke) brought on by wounds that he had received during the War Between the States. In one communication, this farm was identified as being in Skimino, a section of the Bruton District that today would be west of Camp Peary along the York River and Skimino Creek. He was buried at the Olivet Presbyterian Church Cemetery in New Kent.

In 1900, William's widow was living in a rented house next door to her brother-in-law, Thomas Bloxton. Thomas's home was in the vicinity of Mooretown Road near present day Sentara Hospital. Bettie Bloxton died in Williamsburg on January 24, 1909, and was interred next to her husband in New Kent County.

Thanks to Last Year's Speakers

Compatriot Lee Pelton kicked off the late start to the year with *"The Battle of Galveston, Dec. 31, 1862"*, an amusing discussion of Gen. Magruder's rag-tag army in Texas.



Larry Floyd presented *"Handguns & Rifles of the WBTS Navies"*, a look at some of the most popular personal firearms used by marines and sailors during the war, highlighted by his personal weapons collection.



Lee Ann Rose interpreted *"Hoop Skirts and Gunpowder"*. Appearing in first person as Margaret Ryan, she shared her memories of the Brown's Island Explosion.



Compatriot Charles Wood gave us a cavalry boot camp with *"Confederate Cavalry 101"*.



Rob Garnett presented *"Victims for the Grave: Cpl. Robert Gwynn – 26th Virginia Infantry at Elmira Prison Camp"*, a sobering look into one of the worst Union prison camps of the war.



Bill Miller took us *"Into the Valley of Death"* as Pickett's Charge tried to take Cemetery Ridge on July 3, 1863.



Cemetery Projects for 2022

(contributed by 2nd Lt. Cmdr. Steve White)

- Sunnyside – Set two Southern Crosses of Honor, cleanup leaves and weed-eat, and haul debris. Dec. or Jan.
- Cowles-Spencer – Weed-eat, haul limbs and trash to the dump. Jan. or Feb.
- Fort Magruder – Cleanup berm and moat area of limbs, litter and undergrowth. Place topsoil along side sidewalk edge. Jan. or Feb.

Adjutant/Treasurer Update

(contributed by Treasurer Ken Parsons and Adjutant Dave Watson)

The camp as of December 1 has 59 SCV members and 6 Friends of the SCV in good standing. We had 210 members and guests attend our 6 meetings for an average of 35 per meeting. The Camp is healthy, and it was great to have 6 meetings at CHCC after our extended Covid layoff.

Recent Cemetery Visitor Comments

(contributed by 2nd Lt. Cmdr. Steve White)

03/27/20 – Thanks for keeping this alive. Bill & Heather Saccarvli

03/29/20 – Driving country roads as some entertainment and fresh air during the Coronavirus lockdown. Sitting on the bench reflecting on our history and the current predicament. As a new resident in VA I am visiting various battle sites to better understand the conflict. They were a determined bunch of people on both sides! Thank you for maintaining this memorial.

05/23/20 – During a casual country drive we came upon this wonderful spot. Thanks to those who maintain this and those who remain here forever. H. Fahl

07/28/20 - “Known only to God”. Rest in Peace. Bob Merkel

08/30/20 – Thanks for this slice of history.

10/18/20 – What a wonderful cemetery restoration. I visited today seeking grave markers for: Daniel Jones 1817-1893, Lucy H. Allen Jones 1824-1891, Robert P. Taylor 1848-1912, and Mary Brown Jones Taylor 1861-1928. Finding IMO Lucy is great. Tricia Byrne, Major USMC (Ret.)

02/20/21 – Thank you for maintaining this piece of our history and honoring the deceased. So Very Wonderful!. Owens Family, Toano

05/08/21 – I’ve been in James City Co. all my life and never knew this was here. Thank you for taking care of our Confederates. Johnny Phillips

10/05/21 – Thank you so much for preserving our history. May the men who fought for the Confederacy may never be forgotten. Long live the South. Travis Kaplon