



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



November 2020 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

Wednesday, November 18th, 2020, 6:30 pm
Colonial Heritage Club House
www.colonialheritageclub.com/find-us
6500 Arthur Hills Drive
Williamsburg, VA 23188



Meal Cost: \$17.00 Per Person

You must call or email Ken Parsons (757) 876-6967 or kparsons320@gmail.com to make a dinner 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

November Guest Speaker

Mr. Fred Taylor
Lawyer and Southern
Patriot

*“Through the
Lens: History
As Seen In
Period Images”*



The WBTS marks one of the earliest of wars to be documented on a wide-spread basis by the advent of photography. Tonight, Fred Taylor will provide an overview of early photography methods and image types, but also delve into individual images from his personal collection and how those images can launch research and preserve history.

It is quite possible that a photo of Thomas Mann, a man who was a pilot on more than 30 runs through the Cape Fear blockade, might be discussed. Perhaps some images of the Roanoke Minute Men of the 14th North Carolina could be in the program. Fred has collected more than 50 letters, new images, period and post war accounts and other minutia as he continues his research on this ‘ongoing’ book project. Those are just two guesses. You will have to come to the meeting and take a journey in personal photographic history.

Fred is a compatriot of the Tom Smith Camp in Suffolk. He holds a B.A. in History from O.D.U. and earned his law degree at Mercer. When not practicing law, he is following his love of history. He has been published in both *Military Images* and *Civil War Navy Magazine*.

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held October 28th at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,
James City County., Va., **40** attendees

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

Blessing:

Given by Compatriot George Corbett

Break for Supper

Welcome given by 1st Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Toalson.
(see photos of guests next page)

Program:

1st Lt. Commander Toalson introduced the evening's guest
speaker: Billie Earnest.

Billie returned as speaker to our camp to present "Remembering
the Veterans of World War I". She told interesting stories about
Hospital 45 but also uncovered other interesting stories that tied
into our collective Confederate heritage.



Heritage Defense Officer Earnest, 1st Lt. Cmdr. Toalson and Billie
Earnest

Committee Reports and Announcements:

General R.E. Lee Honoring Service

Camp Historian Fred Boelt discussed General Lee's valuable
service in the preservation of Washington & Lee College.

Old & New Business

- Confederate Shield Project – Billie Earnest and Lee Hart
- Virginia Heritage Update - Heritage Defense Officer Frank Earnest

Induction of New Camp Officers

George Corbett – Senior Chaplain

George Bridewell – Quartermaster

Rob Symer – Special Projects



1st Lt. Cmdr. Toalson, Spec. Proj. Officer Symer, Senior Chaplain
Corbett, Quartermaster Bridewell and H.D.O. Earnest

The Cavalry thanks Fred Breeden for his years of service as our
Senior Chaplain, Joel Goodwin as our Quartermaster & George
Bridewell as our Special Projects Officer. We welcome and thank
these Compatriots for stepping forward to serve the Cavalry.

Book Raffle

One book was awarded in a free raffle for all attendees.

Benediction

Given by Chaplin George Corbett.

Adjournment

8:15 PM

Special Guests at the October Meeting

We had many guests at last month's meeting. Here are a few photos of some of our guests. Thanks to all for attending!



Martha Frame (Capt. Sally Tompkins Chapter), Casey Frame (Lane-Armistead Camp) & Adjutant Ken Parsons



Cynthia Baker (President Jefferson Davis Chapter), Eric Richardson (Past Commander R. E. Lee Camp #1589) & Teresa Roane (General Stuart Chapter 2195)



Sherron Ware (F.O.C.), Ken Wood (Magruder-Ewell), Gwen Wood (Capt. Sally Thompkins Chapter), Marilyn Iglesias (President - Capt. Sally Thompkins Chapter) & Herman Iglesias



1st Lt. Commander Jeff Toalson with Past Commander Jerry White who has just moved back to Williamsburg



Dave Watson (prospective member) & Lee Hart (Tom Smith Camp)

Camp Officers



Commander (open)

Adjutant/Treasurer Ken Parsons
kparsons320@gmail.com

1st Lt. Commander (interim) Jeff Toalson
troon24@cox.net

2nd Lt. Commander Steve White
garrettsgrocery@gmail.com

Senior Chaplain George Corbett
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Aide de Camp Jon Holland
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Archivist/Editor Paul Huelskamp
paulhuelskamp@cox.net

Quartermaster George Bridewell
gbridewell@aol.com

Historian Fred Boelt
fwb@widomaker.com

Special Projects Rob Symer
symer@cox.net

Ironclad Victory

1st Lt. Commander Jeff Toalson (L) and 19 of his golfing buddies captured the U. S. S. Monitor on Saturday, October 15, and will have custody of the vessel until at least the end of the 2021 Ironclad Cup Competition next October. The annual multi-match Ryder Cup style format is a contest between the Deer Cove golfers of the Cheatham Annex Naval Station and the Spotswood Senior Golf Assn. The final total score of the three matches was 36 1/2 to 35 1/2. The trophy now resides in the Gold Course Clubhouse in Williamsburg.



November Comments

We truly appreciate the large group of guests from various local SCV Camps and UDC Chapters who joined us for our October meeting. Our editor has put together an entire page featuring our guests.

Billie Earnest, as always, gave us an interesting and educational talk on a topic that was totally new. We journeyed to a World War One hospital in France that was formed at MCV in Richmond, totally staffed by Virginians and led by Dr. Stuart McGuire who was the son of Dr. Hunter McGuire, the 2nd Corp Surgeon who served Gen. Stonewall Jackson.

We elected and inducted new Senior Chaplain George Corbett, Quartermaster George Bridewell and Special Projects Officer Rob Symer. The Camp would especially like to thank Fred Breeden for his years of service as our outgoing Senior Chaplain and Joel Goodwin for his past service as our Quartermaster.

Compatriot Lee Hart of the Tom Smith Camp and Billie Earnest of the Suffolk UDC Chapter 173 gave us the background and details of their almost concluded, multi-year, project to place 'Confederate Shields' on every veterans grave in the Cedar Hill Cemetery in Suffolk. You can see more details and pictures on page 3 in our May, 2020, issue of *Picket Lines*. Go to www.jamescitycavalry.org and open the *Newsletter* tab.

Our November meeting is one week early to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving. We are meeting on November 18 which is the third Wednesday. Mark your calendars. Our speaker will be Compatriot Fred Taylor of the Tom Smith Camp and you can depend on Fred for an interesting historical talk.

Camp 2095 Staff



Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

There are a number of men from the Williamsburg/ James City County area that served in the Confederate forces, survived the war years, but seem to have disappeared from the public eye later in life. One of these men was John T. Gilliam, step-father of Albert Crawley who was featured in an article in the June 2016 edition of *Picket Lines*. Albert's mother, Ann L. Crawley was widowed before the 1850 census was taken, but she had married John Gilliam by 1860. John was enumerated as a thirty-six year old waterman in that census. Ann's daughter, Sarah Victoria, and her son, Albert Crawley, were also living in the Gilliam household.

John Gilliam mustered into Company H, 32nd Virginia Infantry, under Captain Alexander H. Hankins at Burnt Ordinary on May 16, 1861. This company later became Company B, 1st Virginia Artillery (James City Artillery). It will be recalled that Albert Crawley also enlisted in this company in 1863, when he came of age.

Gilliam was marked present on the July-August roll with a notation that he was in Seminary Hospital in Williamsburg from July 4-10, 1861. Seminary Hospital was located on the site of the Colonial Capitol at the east end of Duke of Gloucester Street. He was on leave on the December 1861 roll, and was furloughed on the December 1863 roll. Gilliam was marked AWOL on the February 1864 roll, and per Confederate records, he deserted on March 8, 1864. It appears that he actually took the oath at Fort Monroe on February 28, 1864, when he was described as having a sandy complexion, blue eyes, dark hair and standing five feet, seven and one-half inches tall, and he was a resident of James City County.

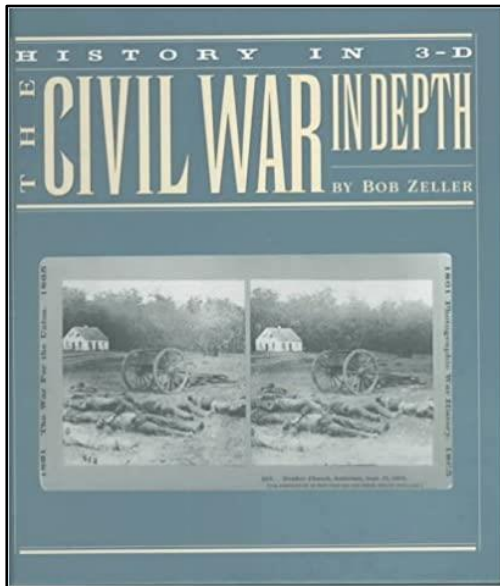
John eventually returned to James City County, and he and Ann were listed as residing there in the 1870 census, and John's occupation was "carpenter." Ann's older son, John Crawley, was also living in this household. John Gilliam was not included in the 1880 census, and it is assumed that he had died during the preceding decade. Ann was living alone in Williamsburg, and she was listed as a seamstress in the census. This is another example of a now unknown/ believed unmarked grave of a Confederate soldier.

Another case of a soldier whose life is somewhat shrouded in mystery is that of Benjamin L. Lee. It has been said that he was from James City County, but he seems to have eluded the census taker. He did enlist in Williamsburg on May 16, 1861, in the unit that became the James City Artillery. He was sick at the Bigler's Mills Hospital in December. This was a small mill village located in York County and the site is in present day Camp Peary. In January and February 1862, he was at home on surgeon's leave. Again, he was admitted to Chimborazo Hospital on June 18, 1862, for "debility."

After that, Lee was present on the rolls until December 1863. He was then listed as being sick and sent to Petersburg General Hospital on December 3rd. He deserted while on furlough to the peninsula. He entered Federal lines in Williamsburg, and later took the oath at Fort Monroe on February 28, 1864. He was described as being light complected with blue eyes and brown hair. He was five feet, eight and three-quarter inches tall and a resident of James City County.

Benjamin Lee has not been found in census records after the war. Did he die before 1870? We write to honor the service of these men and hope that some of our readers may ultimately shed more light on their lives.

November Book Raffle



"History in 3 - D, The Civil War In Depth"
by Bob Zeller

To reduce paper money transactions we will again have a free raffle open to all meeting attendees.

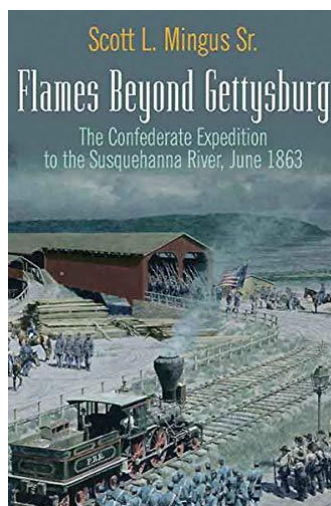
November Trivia Question

What Union monitor participated in actions against Confederate installations on the James River and later served in the French navy?

Answer to previous question: Gen. James Longstreet gave up poker after the deaths of three of his children.
Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Longstreet#Family_tragedy

Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



<http://www.wcwrt.org>

The next meeting is November 24th, 2020
Scott Mingus will present:

"Flames Beyond Gettysburg: The Confederate Expedition to The Susquehanna River - June 1863"

Note this will be a virtual meeting as the Williamsburg Library theater is not available.