



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



July 2018 Dispatch – Williamsburg, Virginia – <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

Camp #2095  1st 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, July 25th, 2018, 6:30pm

Colonial Heritage Club

<http://colonialheritageclub.org/home.asp>

6500 Arthur Hills Drive

Williamsburg, VA 23188



Meal Cost: \$17.00 Per Person

You must call or email Jon Holland (757 869-2774 / jonholland79@gmail.com) to make a dinner reservation. Attendees without a reservation are welcome to attend the meeting but will not receive a dinner.



July Guest Speaker

Mr. Fred D. Taylor
Lawyer and
Southern Patriot



*“English
Imports to the
Confederacy”*

Compatriot Taylor last spoke with us about the Point Lookout Prison Camp. The Cavalry is pleased to welcome Fred back to share his research on another key area of WBTS history. Although neutral, England proved to be a major source of war materials for the Confederacy. Fred will display some of the items England provided and discuss the importance of the materials imported from England to support the Confederate war effort.

Fred D. Taylor is a native of the Old Dominion, where his family roots go back to the settlement of Jamestowne in 1607. He grew up in the Tidewater region in an eclectic mix of rural farms and city life, and was blessed to be influenced by everything from fishing and crabbing in the Nansemond River, to studying law, history, and politics.

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held 27 June at 6:30PM at Colonial Heritage Club,
James City Cty., Va., **44** attendees

Pledge & Salute to the Flags
Aide de Camp Jon Holland

Blessing:

Given by Senior Chaplain Fred Breeden

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Quartermaster Joel Goodwin

Welcome given by Commander Fred Boelt

Letter Reading

Compatriot David Beish

Program:

1st Lt. Commander Jim Leach introduced the evening's guest
speaker: Mr. David Goetz

Mr. Goetz presented "*Col. Mosby and the Lincoln Conspiracy*", a
highly informative look at possible undercover activities in the
closing months of the war.



1st Lt Cmdr. Leach, Mr. Goetz and Cmdr. Boelt

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Old & New Business

- New flag and lanyard repairs at Peach Park
- Thanks to Joe Sanderson for his Peach Park mowing
- Legal Support for 'Tarp Removers in Charlottesville' – Adj. Parsons
- SCV Va. Heritage Defense Officer Frank Earnest updated us on key issues in the state

Heritage Report

Adj. Ken Parsons was awarded the Heritage Award for his contributions on heritage issues.

Book Raffle

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

Benediction

Given by Senior Chaplain Fred Breeden

Adjournment

8:20 PM



Camp Officers



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Chaplain Warren Raines
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Battle of First Manassas

July 21st, 1861



Commander's Comments

David Goetz drew a good crowd for his presentation at our June camp meeting. He has several well developed theories about Colonel Mosby's connections to the Lincoln conspiracies. His latest book, *Ever the Gray Ghost*, embellishes his points made in his lecture and is well worth the read.

Special guests at our meeting were Frank Earnest, Heritage Defense Coordinator, Virginia Division, SCV, his wife, Billie Earnest, and two of the friends. In addition to giving us an overview of the Charlottesville situation about the Confederate monuments there, he presented our own Adjutant Ken Parsons with a certificate of appreciate for his outstanding work in defense against the perpetrators of the destruction of our Southern heritage. No matter how hard they try, our history cannot be rewritten. The challenge though, will be to insure that the next generation coming up today will be allowed to learn the true story.

I have often wondered when and why a large portion of Fort Magruder was destroyed. A recent article about the development of Camp Penniman [present day Cheatham Annex] before World War I has shed some light on that. In 1916, a representative from DuPont began buying up land in York County for a munitions plant. This fueled a frenzy of land developers eager to capture the market to house the anticipated workers.

"By June 22, they had mowed down most of the earthworks at Civil War Fort Magruder, with one former slave who had helped build them taking part in the dismantling...before the Daughters of the Confederacy saved them" [*Daily Press*, June 17, 2018, p. 6]. Penniman Road divides James City County from York County; the southeast side being James City and the northwest side being York County. This land division may have spared the fort's total destruction. The James City area remained farm land until a developer bought it and deeded the balance of the fort to the Williamsburg Chapter, UDC, in 1951.

This is but one local example of how our heritage was destroyed with no thought given to the men who had lost their lives there. It is a known fact that human remains were unceremoniously disinterred during the leveling of the fort. We will never know how many undocumented casualties have been disturbed. Our mission is to honor all of the casualties by preserving their history.

Do not get caught up in the summer doldrums. Join us for our next camp meeting in July. The call committee will be contacting you. Please understand that Jerry Thompson has to give Colonial Heritage a guaranteed number for supper on the Friday preceding our Wednesday meeting. The favor of a timely response will be greatly appreciated.

We serve in their memory,

Fred Boelt
 Commander

Letter Reading

(Contributed by Compatriot Jeff Toalson)

“ . . . I was ordered to Kings Mill Wharf . . . in charge of all sick of our Regiment . . . ”

Letter from Lt. Richard Watkins, Co. K – 3rd Virginia Cavalry to his wife Mary

Charles City County
May 11, 1862

My own Dear Mary

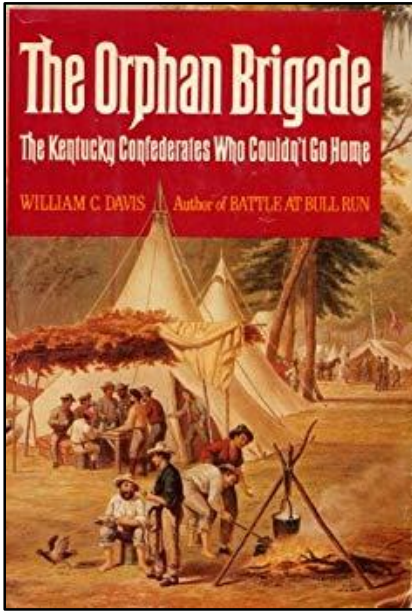
I have only time to write a very few lines this morning by a gentleman going to Richmond. It is the very first opportunity I have had since we commenced our retreat from Yorktown nearly a fortnight ago. I have undergone very great privations and exposure and passed through a fiercely fought battle but God in his infinite mercy still spared my life and health. . . . I have been able to perform my whole duty on this perilous retreat. Have remained with the troop all the time in the extreme rear of the army [rear guard] . . . We are now on the Chicahominy [Chickahominy River] near the Long Bridge about twenty miles of Richmond. No members of our troop has been killed. for although we were on the battlefield the whole of Monday in view of the contending forces with bombs bursting . . . and minnie balls in great abundance passing over our heads yet we were not called into direct action . . . On last Friday week before the rear guard of the army took up its march I was ordered to Kings Mill Wharf on the James [River] in charge of all sick of our Regiment. There I witnessed one of the saddest scenes ever witnessed in the army. Twenty nine hundred sick men were lying on the cold wet ground awaiting the boats. I had forty or fifty under my charge which I succeeded in getting off very soon but my orders were to remain . . . and I had to stay till Sunday. . . . On Sunday I left for Williamsburg in company with detachments from various companies who had been sent to the Wharf to forward Commissary stores. When within a few miles of Williamsburg an aid of Genl Stewart [Gen. J. E. B. Stuart] came by at full speed saying that his entire command has been cut off including our regiment . . . fortunately before going far we met the General and all were safe. The next day the battle commenced in earnest about daybreak and raged until nearly sundown . . . The next day we commenced our march again and have been right closely pursued . . . It can hardly be called a pursuit for we travel only 3 or 4 miles a day and the enemy very often in sight . . . I must close for want of more time . . . Oh I do want to see you too bad . . . since the battle Andrew Venable has been separated from me having been detailed with others to go in advance & get provisions . . . Good bye my precious one. Give much very much love to all.

Yr

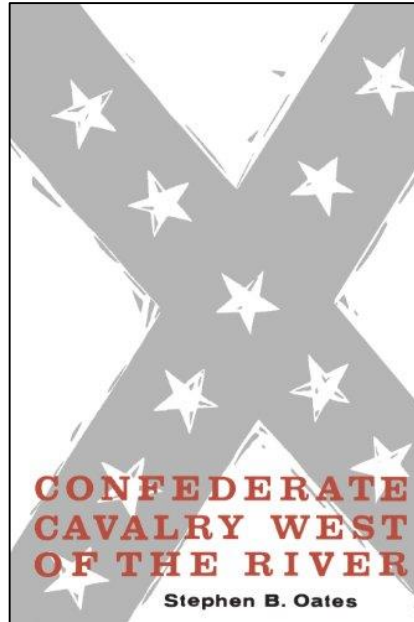
Richard 1

1. *Send Me a Pair of Old Boots & Kiss My Little Girls – Jeff Toalson, Bloomington, 2012, p. 87-88.*

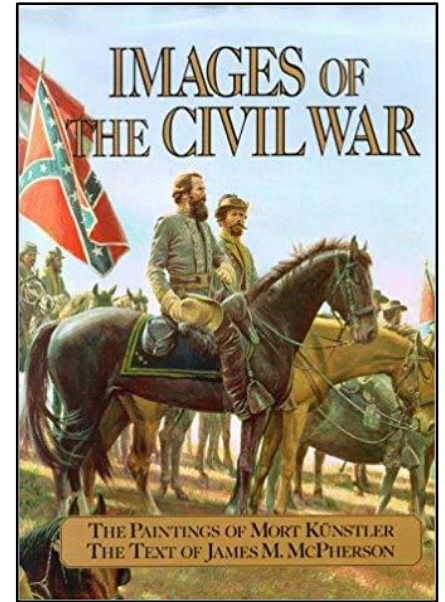
July Book Raffle



“The Orphan Brigade - The Kentucky Confederates Who Couldn't Go Home”
by William C. Davis



“Confederate Cavalry West of the River”
by Stephen B. Oates



“Images of the Civil War, The Paintings of Mort Künstler, The Text of James M. McPherson”



July Trivia Question



What female provided valuable service to both a Union officer and a Confederate general?

Honors & Awards



Compatriot Ian Pearce of the Isle of Guernsey (Great Britain) and Mrs. Billie Earnest. Ian, a member of the Norfolk County Grays, honors his ancestor who served in the 46th North Carolina Infantry.



Adjutant Ken Parsons received the Heritage Defense Award from Compatriot Frank Earnest.