

October 2009

Williamsburg, Virginia

Last Meeting: Our last meeting had 31 in attendance. Our program was presented by **Mr. Terry Thomann** - Director of "Civil War Life - The Soldier's Museum" Fredericksburg, Virginia. He presented an excellent and very interesting talk on "Photography in the Civil War."



Terry Tomann and Commander Don Woolridge

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be at "Hog Wild Smokehouse Restaurant" at 8864 Richmond Road, Toano, VA 23168 www.hogwildsmokehouse.com on October 28 at 7pm. Guest speaker will be **Jack Marlar** - SCV Field Representative will give a historical presentation on "The C.S.S. Submarine Hunley - Southern Ingenuity & Engineering Advances."

Executive Committee Meeting: The Camp Executive Committee met on October 14, 2009 at "Hog Wild Smokehouse." Members present were Don Woolridge, Ken Parsons, Jeff Toalson, Jerry White, Fred Boelt, David Ware and Steve White. The following topics were discussed;

- Status of dues payments
- Outstanding Camp Award progress
- Cemetery Projects Update
 - Fred Boelt will develop a register of known Confederate graves in James City, New Kent and Charles City Counties
 - Future work at Ft. Magruder and new gravesites
- Book placement in area High Schools and public libraries progress report
- Savings and bank account update

- State Fair report – Ken Parsons –Jeff Toalson
- Social/Welfare Committee discussion tabled until next meeting
- Book raffle volunteers
- Website recommendations – Adding Camp members ancestors
 - Photo gallery
 - Website tab added for “Honoring our Ancestors”

- Adopt a soldier or squad program recommendation
- Bus tour discussion for future camp activities

Executive Committee meetings will be published in the future and all Camp members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Commander Don Woolridge:

The continuing saga concerning our Confederate Battle Flag remains in the news weekly and sometimes daily. The articles more times than not contain negative and narrow minded comments. I can remember growing up in Petersburg merely a mile from where the Battle of the Crater took place and the Confederate Flag being a big part of my life. The Confederate Battle flag was and today remains an intricate part of the history of Petersburg. Our high school displayed the Battle Flag as the pep band played Dixie as the motivating song for athletic events. There came a time in latter years when the flag was no longer displayed and the band no longer played our beloved “Dixie.” Instead of marching on with the true history behind the flag, the politically correct decided to stop displaying it! When I see the Battle Flag it reminds me how proud I am of being from the South and being a true Southerner. I have never viewed the flag as racist or anything to promote racism. It is well known that certain groups have used the flag as their symbol and the fact remains that they never had heritage or history preservation on their agendas. As true Son’s of Confederate Veterans, we should on a daily basis promote and preserve the history of our Battle Flag. As I travel through the great States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and beyond, I see more and more Confederate Flags proudly displayed in yards, on businesses and on motor vehicles. It is apparent the heritage of our Confederate Veterans long lives in the minds of many true Southerners. I proudly display the Son’s of Confederate Veterans emblem on my vehicles and on numerous occasions a stranger will comment how much they admire the design on the plate. I am sure there are many people out there that appreciate our Battle Flag as much as we do.

Deo Vindice!

Adjutant Ken Parsons:

State Fair:

Ray Adams, Jeff Toalson and I worked the booth at the State Fair and had a really big day! There were 5 to 15 people at the tables all day long, we talked to hundreds of people about the SCV, sold about \$600.00 worth of merchandise for the Division, and referred many to SCV Camps near their homes. There were 3 or 4 men from nearby who will possibly show up at our

meetings and join our camp. The Virginia Division representatives were very pleased and said it was a record day for fund raising.

New members:

We are still waiting for new member certificates from headquarters for Norman Goodwin and Warren Raines. They have both been attending our meetings and I think it is safe to say we will soon have them as full fledged members. Please greet them as such.

We are currently working on 4 prospective members that I hope to introduce at our next meeting. They are Bill Walls, Ash Thumm and BillLee Watkins (Hogwild Smokehouse Owner), and John Shirley. Let's welcome these men as brothers to our Cause.

Dues for the current year:

The Membership has done a good job on supporting our organization by paying dues for this year. I have received dues from all except 4 members and hopeful they will remember to send theirs in to me soon. We currently have 36 members and 5 more expected soon. Our growth is a reflection on what a great camp we are becoming!

News from around the Virginia Division:

The agreement between the city of Richmond and the Virginia Division for the SCV to maintain and make improvements to the Confederate Section of Oakwood Cemetery has been signed. The first project to start will be for the installation of 10 upright markers for our soldiers are on order, next will be orders in batches of 75 each until all 10,000 plus graves will have proper head stones. Additional information including a list of names of the soldiers can be found on the Virginia Division website, The Courier and the Confederate Veterans Magazine. Installation will be announced upon arrival of the stones. Our help will be required as this project is moves forward.

A memorial service will be held at Hollywood Cemetery on October 24th at 12 noon for four brothers, the Woolfolk's from the Ashland area. All SCV and UDC members are invited to attend. This event is sponsored by The Gen. Robert E. Lee Camp #1589; hopefully some of our members can attend this moving ceremony.

I would like to recommend an internet site that has specific material on Southern and U.S. history and is written by Tim Manning, former Chaplin for the Virginia Division. His address is; tmanning1@triad.rr.com just put "archive" in the subject line and ask to be included on his email list. It's free and very non PC!

Past Commander David Ware: "The Cause for Which We Fought"

Slavery in America became a concern from its inception. The Agrarian culture of Western Europe did not include a history of slavery, rather a tradition of self sufficient farms where the principle of freedom was paramount. After the Dutch, the British became the principle traders of slaves to the colonies. Virginia attempted to outlaw the trade before independence but was overruled by England. In 1771, Virginia became the first land anywhere in Christendom to

outlaw the slave trade. By statute in 1641, the colony of Massachusetts became the first colony to protect and legalize the trade. In his original draft of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson had declared that the King “has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating its most sacred rights of life and liberty, in the persons of distant people who never offended him, captivating them and carrying them into slavery another hemisphere.” In collusion with the colonies of South Carolina, Georgia and New England, this clause was struck. After the revolution, Virginia ceded the Union the Northwest Territory won by the blood of her people. A special committee composed of Virginians Edward Carrington, Richard Henry Lee and Nathan Dane of Massachusetts prepared the ordinance of 1787 providing that slavery should never exist in all that wide territory. Author of the Bill of Rights, George Mason of Virginia, called slavery the “infernal traffic.” “Slavery,” he said, “discourages arts and manufactures; the poor despise labor when performed by slaves; they prevent the emigration of whites, who really strengthen and enrich a country. They produce the most pernicious effect on manners; every master of slaves is born a petty tyrant; they bring the judgment of heaven on a country; as nations cannot be rewarded or punished in the next world, they must be in this. By an inevitable chain of causes and effects, Providence punishes national sins by national calamities.”

These words were powerless over the combination of New England and the far South. Through their efforts, another twenty years was added to the legal slave trade in the United States. This, of course, dramatically increased the slave population making emancipation much more difficult. In this era of political correctness, where facts are trumped by “consensus opinion,” it is not widely known that our State of Virginia, led by her valiant sons, was by far the most aggressive opponent of the vile trade of slavery.

1st Lt. Commander Jeff Toalson: Book Auctions: Jeff will be conducting his book auction monthly and donating the proceeds to the Camp’s general fund. The October book will be “*Seasons of War: The Ordeal of a Confederate Community 1861-1865 - Culpeper, Virginia*” Hardbound, printed in 1995, 485 pages, by Daniel E. Sutherland who is Chairman of the Dept. of History at the University of Arkansas.



Jeff Toalson as “Richard Watkins”

"Richard Watkins, a lawyer in Prince Edward County and the former Captain of Co. K, 3rd Virginia Cavalry tells stories from the "recent unpleasantness." These stories and many more are contained in Jeff Toalson's recent *Send Me a Pair of Old Boots & Kiss My Little Girls - The Civil War Letters of Richard and Mary Watkins, 1861-1865.*"

Honoring our Confederate Soldier – September

Corporal William A. Fletcher Co. F – 5th Texas Infantry & Co. E – 8th Texas Cavalry

Born 1839 in Sandy Parish, Louisiana. Enlisted August 10, 1861 at Harrisburg, Texas at the age of 21.

October, 1861 – January, 1862 sick in Richmond hospitals.

August 30, 1862 wounded at 2nd Manassas. October 10, 1862 at Institute Hospital in Richmond with gunshot wound. October 19, 1862 admitted to Chimborazo #4.

October 23, 1862 at Chimborazo Genl. Hospital # 4 – age shown as 23.

February, 1863 promoted to Corporal of Company F

September 19, 1863 wounded in action at Chickamauga with GSW to his foot. In early October from a hospital in Augusta, GA he wrote; “*Gangrene in a few days set in where the bullet entered [my foot] and I was returned to the hospital for treatment. Here they burned the wound with acid and it was very painful. The first three applications nearly gave me the horrors . . . the treatment . . . was kept up for seven days . . . a hospital inspector stopped the burning treatment and had a warm poultice applied . . . in a few days the wound had sloughed and were healing nicely.*”

January 21, 1864 muster and pay records show payment of \$26 for 11 & 12 of 1863.

March, 1864 transferred to the 8th Texas Cavalry (Terry’s Texas Rangers).

Captured near Rome, Georgia and sent to prison in Chattanooga, TN. William recorded his thoughts of winter confinement: “*There was no provisions for heating, the weather was cold, the accommodations were crowded and we all knew how to lie hog in the bed style and passed the night fairly well. We received a small amount of fuel each day for fires. Our daily rations consisted of a small thin slice of poor Southern milch cow, without any semblance of fat, and 2 crackers 3 1/2” square by 3/8” thick. This was issued each day after daylight.*”

Arrived home in Beaumont , Texas in May of 1865 and wrote, “*When I got home to Beaumont I found my old stepfather and two half sisters. My brother and stepmother had both died of yellow fever and a young half brother had gone to other parts and had joined the sporting element as a race horse rider.*”

William was very successful in the retail and wholesale lumber business after the war. He died of pneumonia at his home near Beaumont, Texas on January 4, 1915 at age 76.

[Compiled Service Records CSA at United Daughters of the Confederacy in Richmond – Micro Copy 323, Roll 299; *A Rebel Private Front and Rear*, William Fletcher, Meridian, 1997, p. 105, 151 & 211.

JAMES CITY COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES

By Historian/Genealogist Fred Boelt

In the August and September issues of Picket Lines, we talked about the veterans buried in the Hubbard family cemetery adjacent to Olive Branch Church. This month we will deviate from our pattern a bit and talk about Dr. Charles Miles Hubbard, a supporter of the cause, who is also buried in this cemetery. It is rare to find dialogue from local citizens during the war years. Bill Reed of Knoxville, Tennessee sent me the following which comes from the War Diary of Events in the War of the Great Rebellion, 1863-1865 by George H. Gordon, Late Colonel, Second Massachusetts Infantry, Brigadier-General, and Brevet Major- General U. S. Volunteers in the War, published in Boston in 1882.

In early June 1863, Gordon's troops, including some cavalry units, began pushing up the peninsula in another attempt to reach Richmond. They came up through Yorktown, camped at Fort Magruder, moved on to Six Mile Ordinary [Lightfoot], and continued past Burnt Ordinary. There was a small band of Confederates dug in at Diascund Bridge that repulsed the Union army's first attempt to take their position. A few days later, the Union army succeeded in gaining the Diascund Bridge and occupied the Barhamsville area with plans to push on to Slatersville in New Kent County.

We pick up the story here: "In forward movements of cavalry to New Kent Court-House, and in the occupation of Barhamsville, I found that seizures of suspected persons became more numerous, and my duty more painful as I extended my lines. [June 18, 1863] In a long batch of prisoners, white and colored, melting under this hot sun at twelve noon, with his face flushed, coat on arm, trembling with unusual exertion and from advancing age, here is the most respectable functionary, the village doctor, puffing under a tramp of ten weary and dusty miles. With many others suspected and captured he has been sent down from Diascund Bridge by Colonel Porter, and with the rest he would have been marched off to Yorktown had not my attention been aroused by, 'There goes our doctor,' from my lynx-eyed landlady. 'Send the doctor to me.' 'Your name sir?' I asked. 'Doctor Hubbard is my name, sir!' 'How long have you been a prisoner?' 'I was arrested some four days ago, sir!' 'For what act were you arrested?' 'I do not know!' 'Where were you arrested?' 'On the road to Diascund Bridge!' 'Where were you going?' 'I was visiting my patients, sir, and came suddenly upon your troops. I did not know until then that you were in this part of the country.' (That speaks well for the secrecy of our movement, I thought.)

'Were you on horseback?' 'I was, sir.' 'Where is your horse?' 'Colonel Porter put a colored servant on him, and made me travel on foot for the last four days.' 'Do you not know why you were arrested, or what suspicions attach to you?' 'I do not, unless from the fact that my horse was covered with sweat, and that I was riding rapidly.' 'Why were you riding rapidly?' 'Well, sir, my son was wounded and is concealed. I had been visiting him as his father and his physician.' 'Is your son in the rebel army?' 'He is in the Confederate army.' 'Where was he wounded?' 'In a fight with your men.' 'Where is he concealed?' 'You will excuse me, General, if I do not tell you.' 'Yes, I will. I will not insist on an answer from a father. Your family, Doctor, feel much distress at your absence. I received a note from your wife yesterday, in which she begs me to release you; and I shall release you, upon your parole that you will not communicate any information you may receive of my movements to the enemy.' 'My sons, sir – I have two in the army,' replied the doctor, 'went into service without my consent; public opinion drove them in.' 'You may go home, Doctor; but you carry with you the

consciousness that if you in any manner, by word or otherwise, aided this rebellion, you are now reaping the fruits of your labor.' 'I have tried to remain loyal,' replied the doctor. 'But loyalty to you is disloyalty to Virginia; and I suffer from one or the other.' 'Suffer then, sir, for the right,' I replied; 'and you will then know that in being loyal to your Government and to my Government, you are not disloyal to Virginia.' 'We would remain quiet,' responded the doctor; 'but Jefferson Davis is deaf to our entreaties to allow us to remain quiet. He refuses to take away the men who skulk in the bushes and kill your soldiers. Though I have tried to remain loyal, my servants have been taken away by your troops; and I understood that President Lincoln gave assurances to those who remained loyal, that their slaves should be secured to them.'

'Yes; but the proof of your loyalty,' I replied, 'was to consist of electing a Union member of Congress from your district. This was done in Norfolk, and there the proclamation frees no slave. The strongest evidence of loyalty in any Southern district was to be found – so reasoned the President – in the election of a Union man to the Congress of the United States; and, on such proof, their slaves were to be as free from interference under the proclamation as is the personal property of citizens of Massachusetts.'

'I was not aware of that,' replied Doctor Hubbard, musing for a moment, and then continuing with, 'well, then, all we can do now is to remain quiet at home; and I pledge you my word that your confidence in me is not misplaced.' 'Before you leave, Doctor, I commend to you this subject for reflection: Whether the occupation of your country by our armies does not free your slaves in fact?' 'How can that be, General?' 'By martial law, under which we take your corn, your horses, your cows, - your everything essential to our salvation and your destruction. Thus your slaves are taken; and once taken, they are free; and once free, they can never be enslaved. Our martial law does not enslave, it frees.' 'Do you think this is possible without special proclamation?' 'Undoubtedly it is; and so I have always administered to martial law, long before the President's proclamation; calling slaves together wherever found in a State in rebellion, and freeing them as an act of our own preservation. My immediate commander, or the President of the United States could have countermanded my orders and remanded slaves to their masters; but he did not do so.'

'But you say the proclamation frees no slave in Norfolk?' 'Nor did it,' I replied. 'It did not in the President's view, because he found there in the election his proof of loyalty; and it did not in mine, because there were no slaves there for the proclamation to operate upon: they were freed men when General Wool marched into Norfolk at the head of his army of occupation.' 'Then what was the use of the President's proclamation?' inquired the doctor.

'In my view, sir,' I replied, 'it was to tell the slave that whenever and wherever the solid foot of Union troops is planted in the South he is forever free; to teach him that, in addition to withholding all aid from his master, he should give every assistance to the onward march of Union troops; that he should go to the Northern armies if he could: if not, that he should aid in getting the Northern armies to come to him; and that in either case freedom followed. It was to tell you Southern people that your longer continuance in this wicked rebellion would destroy the very institution which caused you to rebel. And more than this, it was to notify the civilized world that our war was a war for freedom. You are at liberty to go when you please. Think on this subject. Since General McClellan marched through here there have been no slaves among you; and may you live long enough to thank the Government that sent General McClellan.'

Hardly had the doctor turned his face homeward, when more cries for help were poured into my ears..." (pages 103-107). This is but a small tale of what our citizen ancestors suffered as well as those who fought in service of the Confederacy. Dr. Hubbard did survive the war and died on April 21, 1875. He was sixty-six years old when he died. Hardships endured during and after the war may have shortened his life, but he and his family were able to hold on to their land, something that many families were not able to do. Dr. Hubbard and his wife, Mary Ann Henley Hubbard, are buried in the Hubbard cemetery among several generations of their family. There are more Confederate gravesites to be explored in the coming months.

Current Cemetery and Camp Projects: 2nd Lt. Commander Steve White

Peach Park Cemetery, Little Creek Dam Road and Forge Road

- Expand brush clearing along Little Creek Dam Road
- First National Flag replaced August 11, 2009

Sunnyside Cemetery, Forge Road

- Winter maintenance

Cowles-Spencer Cemetery, Theodore Allen Road

- Winter maintenance, removal of large tree and repair the chain link fence

Fort Magruder, Penniman Road

- Winter maintenance of the berm and clean up of the moat area

Richardson Road Cemetery Site, Hockaday Farm, New Kent County

- Future assessment of the site for restoration and clean-up

Clean-up dates for the above projects will be scheduled in the near future.

Congratulations: to Graham's Battery, 1st Rockbridge Artillery for their 5th place medal at the N-SSA Fall Nationals in Class A-3 Musket competition held on 4 October 2009. Three SCV Camps are represented on the team; James City Cavalry, General John Randolph Chambliss, and Magruder-Ewell. If you are interested in firing Civil War weaponry, contact or see Robert Tuck our Camp Archivist. You can also visit their web site by logging on to <http://www11.brinkster.com/grambtry/>

Newsletter: "In an effort to help save on the cost of the newsletter, you can now have it e-mailed to you in an adobe format. E-mail Commander Don Woolridge at dsw317@earthlink.net to be added to this list." Newsletters are also posted on the website for your convenience.

Visit our website at: <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

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"We must expect reverses, even defeats. They are sent to teach us wisdom and prudence, to call forth greater energies, and to prevent our falling into greater disasters."

General Robert E. Lee 



CAMP JOURNAL

September 23, 2009

- **Meeting:** Held 7:00 PM at Hog Wild, James City County, VA
 - 31 attendees
 - Welcome given by Commander Don Woolridge
 - Invocation: given by Chaplin Fred Breeden
 - Pledge and Salute to the Flags: US flag pledge, Virginia flag salute, and CS flag salute by Camp members
 - The Charge: was read by Compatriot Jerry White
 - Recognition of guests by Commander Woolridge
 - Ancestral Memorial Candle: Corporal William A. Fletcher Co. F – 5th Texas Infantry & Co. E – 8th Texas Cavalry
- **Meeting Break:** 7:10 to 7:30
 - Compatriot Willard Gilley spoke of his recent trip and learning experience to see the CS Hunley
- **Meeting:** Reconvened at 7:30
 - Adjutant/Treasurer's Report: \$3226.52 as of 23 Sept. 2009
 - Adjutant Parsons reminded the Camp about delinquent dues
 - Camp savings account established
- **Announcements:**
 - Camp name tags are still available and can be obtained for \$8 from Adjutant Ken Parsons
 - Donations will be greatly appreciated for maintaining the Camp website which can be found at <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org/>
 - Volunteers still needed to man SCV booth at State Fair in Richmond. (*See Adjutant Parson's for details*)
 - Compatriot Fred Satterwhite convalescing
- **Upcoming events:**
 - Sept 30-Oct 4: 120th N-SSA Fall National, live fire of Civil War weaponry
 - October 16-18: Cedar Creek Battlefield VA. Battle of Cedar Creek 145th Anniversary
 - Oct 28: Monthly Camp meeting at Hog Wild
 - Oct 31-Nov 1: Reenactment at Walkerton, VA on Locust Grove Plantation
 - December 6: Mechanicsville, VA Christmas Parade
 - December 11-13: Christmas in the Field at Isle of Wight Cemetery & Ft Magruder clean up-dates to be announced
- **August Minutes:** Approved as published in *Picket Lines*
- **Committee Reports:**
 - None

- **Old Business:** The Executive Committee meeting held earlier in the month discussed the following and presented to members for consideration and action as required:
 - “Outstanding Camp Award” 14 of 18 goals have been met to date
 - Social /Welfare Committee
 - Chaplain Fred Breeden to take lead
 - Smoke free environment during meeting
- **New Business:**
 - Camp book auction generated \$65
 - Book donation funds were donated to Mr. Thomann (*guest speaker*) along with his \$25 Camp transportation donation. He will register it as a donation to the new museum building fund, matched dollar for dollar by our Yankee Government. Our \$90 in Yankee script becomes \$180 towards the new "Civil War Life - The Soldier's Museum"
 - Compatriots Robert Harcourt & George Bridewell inducted into Camp
 - Induction performed by Commander Woolridge, 1st Lt Commander Toalson and Adjutant Parsons
- **Program:** Guest speaker Mr. Terry Thomann - Director of “Civil War Life - The Soldier's Museum”; Fredericksburg, Virginia presented an excellent and very interesting talk on "Photography in the Civil War
- **Benediction:** Given by Chaplin Fred Breeden
- Adjourned at 8:47 P.M. Next meeting scheduled for 28 Oct 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Robert H. Tuck