



May 2011

Williamsburg, Virginia

**Next Event:** Our next event will be our Confederate Remembrance Day Service and Picnic Supper on May 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M. The service will be held at the Richardson Family Cemetery on Riverview Road. Turn right off of Croaker Road (Garrett's Store) go 1.1 miles east on Riverview Road. The entrance to the cemetery is just prior York River State Park and will be marked with a Confederate Flag. Immediately following the service we will meet at Compatriot Fred Boelt's beautiful farm on Forge Road for our annual picnic supper. The farm entrance will be marked with a Confederate Flag as well. Our supper will be barbecue, baked beans, cole slaw, dessert and all the fixings. Cost for the supper is \$15.00 per person and \$25.00 per couple. All persons having intentions to attend should contact Adjutant Ken Parsons at [kparsons4@cox.net](mailto:kparsons4@cox.net).

**Last Meeting:** Our last meeting had 46 in attendance. Our Speaker **Professor Sean Huevel** of the Christopher Newport University presented a most informative program on;

***“J. E. B. Stuart II – Life in a Tall Shadow”***

The life and times of J. E. B. Stuart II (1860-1930). Young Jeb was only 4 years old when his father died at Yellow Tavern. He never had the chance to know his father but he carried the same name and lived his “life in a tall shadow.” A banker by trade, he served as a U. S. Army Captain in the Spanish-American War, was one of the founding members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and served in the political administration of President Teddy Roosevelt. During World War I he was a civilian government accountant for the U. S. Army and spent time in both England and France. Sean will take us on a journey through the life of the second member of the family to carry the name J. E. B. Stuart.

Professor Heuvel holds a B. A. in Government from William & Mary, a M. A. in History from the University of Richmond and a Ph. D. in Educational Leadership at William & Mary is in progress. Sean was our speaker this past November about “W&M – The Civil War Service of her Students, Faculty & Alumni.” He is the author of *Remembering Virginia's Confederates* and the **upcoming *Life after J. E. B. Stuart: The Memoirs of his Granddaughter, Marrow Stuart Smith.***



Professor Sean Heuvel

### **Commander Don Woolridge:**

Throughout the South during the month of May, we commemorate the soldiers who died defending the Stars and Bars. Some Southern states still to this day declare certain days in April, May and June as state holidays. In Virginia, we celebrate Confederate Memorial Day on Monday May 30<sup>th</sup>. James City Cavalry will start the Memorial Day weekend with a Remembrance ceremony at the Richardson Family Cemetery on Riverview Road, Friday May 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M. We will honor the service of five veterans buried there as well as all of our veterans resting throughout the South. With the sesquicentennial beginning this past April, it is a good time to re-energize our efforts preserving our Confederate Heritage. Recently, I read an article about “why even remember the War Between the States or in their words, the Civil War.” It made me think about who we are as Sons of Confederate Veterans and who would follow us with the charge of taking care of our veteran’s good name. It is generations that are following us. If we do not educate them with the true history, then without a doubt, no one will remember in years to come.

I have written in the past about “those people” that have issues with our Confederate Battle Flag and I feel a need to mention it once again. We all know that there have been radical groups with negative associations that have attempted to adopt the Battle Flag as their symbol. The flag belongs only to the men that fought and died for the Cause and those that are sincere about preserving their history. Unfortunately people who are uneducated in the history of the flag have taken open offense to its display and are “offended” by referencing those that the flag never belonged to and never will. It is the symbol of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and I personally am proud to display it on anything that it is appropriate. The original Battle Flag was only displayed during “battle” and not for normal display. The “battle” today is preservation of Confederate History! ❏

Deo Vindice!

On May 8, 2011, James City Cavalry participated in a Memorial Service at Fort Magruder. The service is held annually by the U.D.C. commemorating the Battle of Williamsburg. The Camp was recognized for its work at the Fort over the past two years. Many man hours went into the clean-up and beautification of the Fort. All of our ancestors would be proud of the way Fort Magruder looks going into the Sesquicentennial. Below is a picture of Adjutant Ken Parsons laying the memorial wreath.



**Compatriot John Shirley's Auction for May:** At the Picnic we will have the drawing for the mounted and framed Harper's Weekly engraving of the repulse of the Eighteenth Corps assault on Petersburg on June 17, 1864.

**Planning Meeting:** No Planning Meeting was held in May. Next Planning Meeting will be announced for June.

**JAMES CITY COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES**  
**By Historian/Genealogist Fred Boelt**

**CONFEDERATE REMEMBRANCE DAY, 2011 - RICHARDSON FAMILY CEMETERY**

There is a large Richardson family cemetery located off Riverview Road near Croaker. Land tax records indicate that 438 acres were purchased by Edward Richardson from Sylvanus Prince in 1788, and at least part of this tract has remained in the Richardson family to the present time. There was an 18<sup>th</sup> house located very near the cemetery that was well documented in the HABS study of historical sites. The tract of land was gradually divided among family members, but the cemetery continues in use for family burials.

There are five Confederate veterans, all members of the extended Richardson family, buried in this cemetery. Three of these men enlisted in Company H, 32<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Infantry, when the company was forming. This company became the James City Artillery, Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Artillery Regiment, and the fourth man enlisted after Company B was formed. George Washington Moore and Simeon B. Pitts both signed up in Williamsburg on May 16, 1861, the day that Company H was formed. Thomas O. Lawson joined them on June 24, 1861. Archer Clay Richardson united with these men in Richmond on May 23, 1862, when he enlisted in Company B. The fifth veteran, Allen Pitts, served in the 25<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Virginia Volunteers.

Thomas O. Lawson was born in York County in March 1824. He married Amanda Clopton Richardson, daughter of Archer C. Richardson [Sr.] and Martha Boswell, and they had fifteen children. Lawson enlisted as a private in Company H, 32<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Infantry, on June 24, 1861, in Williamsburg. He was absent, on the sick list from December 1861 through October 1862. His service record indicated that he was left on the peninsula on May 4, 1862, and that he was discharged on January 26, 1863. A farmer, Lawson returned to Richardson land that he held in right of his wife. He died on February 12, 1908, and was buried in the family cemetery.

George Washington Moore, born in March 1832 on Staten Island, New York, was listed as a waterman living in James City County in the 1860 census. He married first, Courtney Archer Richardson, also a daughter of Archer C. Richardson, [Sr.] and Martha Boswell. Moore enlisted as a private in Company H, 32<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Infantry, on May 16, 1861, in Williamsburg. He was present on all rolls through December 1864, and his pension application indicated that he was a prisoner at Point Lookout when the war ended. In this application, Moore also stated that his chief occupation had been “sailor” for thirty years.

After George Moore’s first wife’s death, keeping it in the family, he married Hettie Estelle Richardson, daughter of Archer C. Richardson, [Jr.] and Jane Frances Shell, on June 13, 1885. Hettie died five years later, and family tradition holds that an infant was buried with her. About 1905, still staying within the extended family, Moore married Grace Bryant, a granddaughter of Thomas and Amanda Lawson. “Cap’n Wash,” as he was called by his friends, died on February 26, 1907, and was buried in the family cemetery.

There were two Pitts brothers who married into the Richardson family. Both were born in King and Queen County, the sons of Simeon Pitts and Mary Frances Shackelford. Allen, the older brother was born in 1831. On December 20, 1860, he married Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Archer C. Richardson, [Sr.] and Martha Boswell. Mary Elizabeth was the twin sister of Amanda Clopton, who married Thomas Lawson. Pitts and his wife lived on the Richardson farm throughout their lives. Allen Pitts enlisted as a private in Company F, 25<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Virginia Volunteers, on January 8, 1863, in Richmond. However, his service was short-lived. He was discharged due to physical disabilities on May 14, 1863.

Mary Elizabeth Pitts died before the 1880 census was taken, leaving several children. On February 1, 1883, Allen Pitts married Eugenia Mitchell of New Kent County, and they had three sons before Allen’s death on June 5, 1890. He, too, was buried in the family cemetery.

Allen’s younger brother, Simeon B. Pitts, born in 1842, was the captain of his father’s schooner before the war broke out. He enlisted as a private in Company H, 32<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Infantry, on May 16, 1861, in Williamsburg, and was present on all rolls through December 1864. In his Parole of Honor, given on April 27, 1865, in Williamsburg, he stated that he was a prisoner of war. He was granted permission to return to his home in James City County.

Simeon Pitts was listed as an oysterman in the 1870 census. On May 9, 1877, he married Caroline A. Lawson, daughter of Thomas and Amanda Lawson, and they had one son, Howard. Simeon died in 1880 and was buried in the family cemetery.

Archer Clay Richardson was grandson of Edward and son of Archer C. Richardson, [Sr.] and Martha Boswell. He was born on November 28, 1843, and married Jane Frances Shell of York County. He enlisted as a private in Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Artillery, on May 23, 1862, in Richmond. Remembering that Company H, 32<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Infantry, had become Company B (James City Artillery), Archer would be serving with Lawson, Moore and Simeon Pitts. He was present on all rolls through October 1863, was furloughed in December 1863, and was again present on all rolls through August 1864. He was court-martialed on October 12, 1864, but was on a clothing receipt on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October.

Like the rest of these men after the war, Archer Richardson farmed the family land. He had five children before the untimely death of his wife Jane in 1877. He married Nannie Sarah Garrett in 1886, and they had five children as well. Archer Clay Richardson died on April 18, 1924, and was buried in the family cemetery. He was survived by his second wife, four sons and four daughters. Richardson and Moore already have veteran tombstones at their graves. James City Cavalry Camp, with help from the Richardson family, has applied for veteran tombstones for Lawson and the Pitts brothers.

**SUPPORT THE TROOPS PROJECT:** Be sure to bring items for the project to the Picnic Supper. Norman especially needs . . . wet wipes, hard candy, slim jims, dental floss picks, bubble gum, disposable razors... Please bring a couple of items with you to the May 27<sup>th</sup> Picnic Supper.

**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. Please e-mail Commander Don Woolridge at [dsw317@earthlink.net](mailto: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>

### Camp Officers

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### Thought for the Month

**“We may be annihilated, but we cannot be conquered.”**

**General Albert Sidney Johnston, CSA **



## CAMP JOURNAL

### Camp Journal

April 27, 2011

- **Meeting:** Held at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club, James City County, VA.  
46 attendees  
Welcome given by Commander Don Woolridge  
Invocation given by Chaplain Fred Breeden  
Pledge and Salute to the Flags  
The SCV Charge read by Quartermaster Joel Goodwin  
Recognition of guests by various members  
Ancestral Memorial Candle: The Joyner Family of Franklinton, NC  
Dedication read by Compatriot Charles Eugene Bush

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Confederate Remembrance Day will be Friday, May 27 at the Richardson Family Cemetery on Riverview Road. Our picnic will follow at Fred Boelt's farm.

#### **Program:**

**Professor Sean Huevel** of the Christopher Newport University presented a most informative program on;

*“J. E. B. Stuart II – Life in a Tall Shadow”*

#### **New Business:**

None reported at the present

**Benediction:** Chaplain Fred Breeden

**Adjournment:** Camp adjourned at 8:50 PM. Next event scheduled for 27 May 2011. Confederate Remembrance Day and Picnic Supper

Respectfully submitted,  
Don Woolridge, Commander

# Big Bethel 150th Anniversary Observances

## Big Bethel: The First Battle

June 10, 2011 6:30-9:00 p.m.

## Hampton History Museum

120 Old Hampton Lane, Hampton, VA



Lecture and book signing by  
**John V. Quarstein**

Obtain a signed and numbered copy of Quarstein's newest book  
*Non-Museum members will be charged a \$3 fee*

## Dedication of Big Bethel Union Monument and Pvt. Henry L. Wyatt, 1st NC Memorial Wreath Laying



June 11, 2011 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Big Bethel Park  
1701 Big Bethel Road  
Hampton, VA 23666

Free and open to the public

RSVP to 757.727.1610

